

GCSANC News

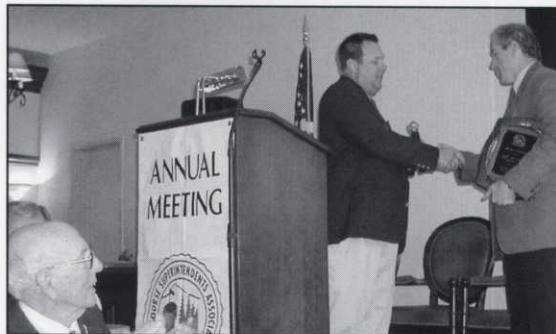
GCSANC Elects Officers

By Ken Williams, CGCS

The GCSANC recently elected its 2004 Officers and Board of Directors at their Annual Meeting at Orinda Country Club. Elected President was Pat Finlen, CGCS of The Olympic Club. Elected Vice-President was Vince Keats of Napa Valley CC. Elected Secretary-Treasurer was Michael Hill, of Moffett Field GC. Bob Lopic of Orinda CC stays on, serving as the immediate Past-President.

Elected to two-year Director terms were Jason Green of San Jose CC and Gill Stiles of Santa Rosa Golf and CC. Appointed to a one-year Director's term was Chris Dubas of Santa Teresa Golf Club. Terry Grasso of Sequoyah CC remains on the Board, serving the second year of his two-year term.

The Affiliates also elected a new Board Representative. Len Tallow of Lawson Products was elected to fill the spot vacated by the departure of Andy Slack. Andy spent three years on the board. Greg Fernald of Target Specialty Products remains on the board, serving the second year of his two-year term.



Pat Finlen of the Olympic Club kindly thanks Jeff Shafer for being honored as the GCSANC Golf Course Superintendent of the Year.



Pat Finlen and staff wave hello from the Olympic Club.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Pat Finlen, CGCS
Olympic Club

Thank you for the honor of serving your association as President for the coming year. There will be many issues to discuss and resolve during this year.

I, along with the rest of the Board of Directors, will do our best to run the association in a professional manner, displaying integrity and respect for all of our members.

While we all face many challenges with our jobs, it is comforting to know that we have an outstanding association there to serve us. The GCSANC has benefited its members for many years in a variety of outstanding ways. We have many talented members of the association who have a wealth of knowledge on many issues who have shared their experiences and thoughts. Whether it is golf during a monthly meeting or one of the educational sessions offered by the association throughout the year, the opportunity is there for you to participate in whatever manner and level you choose. I have no doubt that at whatever level you participate within the association, you will be happy with what you get back.

With the rapid changes that have been made in our industry during the past ten years and the ever-changing economy, there is the need for long-term planning for our association. During this year, the Board of Directors, with the help of several Past Presidents, will meet to develop long-term goals for the association. It is my belief that these long-term goals will enable us to continue to be a fiscally responsive organization that offers as many educational and professional opportunities as possible for our members.

We have many wonderful affiliate members who sponsor our monthly events. Take the time to thank them for their participation and sponsorship. Without their help, much of what we are able to enjoy would not be available. Again, I invite you to participate and enjoy what your association has to offer. We welcome your comments (positive or negative), and I look forward to seeing each and every one of you during the year.

Pat

Strictly Business



OFFICE NOTES

Barb Mikel,
GCSANC Association Manager

San Diego was great! Hopefully, the GCSAA Convention and Show will return more frequently to this venue. I was only there Wednesday and Thursday, returning to the "hills" of El Dorado County Friday. Fortunately, we (Wayne and I) had excellent flying weather both directions. It isn't often you can fly from El Dorado County direct to San Diego County with clear skies and a tailwind in both directions. The Los Angeles basin was clear due to winds the previous few days so we could see the entire area. The only green belts in that area are so obvious you can clearly see they are either large golf courses or large cemeteries. I have always wondered what the migratory birds do in those areas, so the opportunity to speak with both Joellen Zeh of Audubon International and Dave Weineke of the USGA gave me some answers. The need for Audubon Sanctuaries is obvious for the southern part of the state. The Northern California regions have large migratory habitat in the north & central valley thanks to the efforts of Fish & Game, National Wife Federation, Central Valley Farmers and groups like Ducks Unlimited. But not all the migratory routes are down the central valley. For more information about the program the USGA Web site www.usga.org or Audubon International www.audubonint.org are two very usefully tools for the Cooperative Sanctuary System.

The Chapter Managers session was held in San Diego on Thursday. This is a great opportunity to meet other chapter executives and GCSAA staff. PDI implementation, External Education, and Membership issues were the highlighted topics. An afternoon Career Form was so popular it was "standing room only." Actually, people were even standing outside the room. This seminar needs a larger venue next year. The California Hospitality Suite capped Thursday night with a HUGE crowd from the all across the Golden State.

Special congratulations go out to Gary Carls, CGCS who now sits on another Board of Directors, the national GCSAA. Having worked with Gary for many years on the local Board, I have absolutely no doubt the job will be "well done" in Kansas. Congratulations also go out to Sean A. Hoolehan, CGCS elected Secretary/Treasurer as well as Mark Woodward, CGCS, President.

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