For those of you that could not attend, The Annual CGCSA meeting in Temecula was a great success. We had a wonderful location and with the exception of a few raindrops Monday, the weather could not have been better. The San Diego chapter did a wonderful job. We had some very good speakers dealing with topics such as nozzle technology, stress and even a weatherman to completely confuse us about our weather. The facility could not have been better; I could walk out the back door of my hotel room right onto the first tee.

A special thanks goes out to Mark Grund for all his hard work, not only on this event but also for his years of service to the State Board of Directors. As the Southern California affiliate, Mark has been a driving force behind our wonderful California Hospitality Suite the last few years and a huge factor in the success of the State Association. Now retiring from the Board, he will be missed greatly. In addition, I would like to thank all the vendors for their participation, without them we could not have such wonderful events.

As we move into summer, hopefully everyone has caught up after our late start to the season. The GCSANC Board is putting the finishing touches on the Compensation Survey and will have it out soon.

Mark you calendars for Monday, August 14th. Lou Tonelli will be hosting our Scholarship and Research Tournament at Lake Merced Golf Club. This is a great venue plus you might want to call Lou a get a tour of the new Golf Course Maintenance facility completed last year by DBD Structures. If you have some gems for the auction, please contact John Holmquist or Craig Zellers. Hopefully we can raise a lot of money for our scholarship and research funds. Remember the format is a vendor/superintendent team, so contact your favorite salesman or saleswomen and get your team together.

I hope everyone is able to enjoy the summer and look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting.
Barb Mikel,
GCSANC Association Manager

The May 2006 meeting of the California Golf Course Superintendents in Temecula is history and was historic also. It actually rained in Temecula for the education sessions! But overall, this was a very good venue for the CGCSA Annual Meeting.

Water and environmental issues continue to be the focus of the golf industry for the future of the game. The “About Face” article by Hope Yu, Environmental Specialist for the City of Golden, Co., pleasantly surprised me. (Find it in the “On the Road” Quarterly Bulletin http://www.ncga.org/turf/onroad.htm April 2006) It quotes an actual study of Fossil Trace Golf Club. This club was built on the site of an old mining operation and the article concludes that the course and its management practices actually create a desirable environmental and water asset for the community!

The “French Solution” to water issues was another surprise. (GCSAA Newsweekly http://www.gcsaa.org/newsweekly/this_week/divmix.asp) The R&A is reporting that irrigation to greens on French golf courses is now guaranteed even during drought conditions. Questions are asked about water source, storage capability and the implementation of water use economy measures. Further it questions potential pollution sources, details of chemicals used to treat turf and other methods employed for dealing with pests, diseases and weeds. I believe a well-served golf industry would utilize financial resources to accomplish the needed studies by unimpeachable researchers to confirm best management practices. Not to do so invites other than rational investigators to substitute opinions & speculation.

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