Summer is in full swing and things are busier than ever. Superintendents earn every dime of their paycheck this time of the year while juggling several tasks and trying to keep turf grass alive in stressful conditions. We are a resilient group and our true colors are illustrated during the summer months. Keep things in perspective and don't hesitate to call your colleagues.

Pat Finlen, CGCS, The Olympic Club took time out of his busy schedule to attend our May Board Meeting at Presidio Golf Course. Pat reviewed our Strategic Plan with the board and offered helpful suggestion to reach our goals outlined in the plan. It was reassuring to see the progress our association has made since the plan was created in early 2005. Our current Board will continue forward and use the Strategic Plan as our roadmap.

The Superintendent Institute will be held at The Course at Wente Vineyards September 24-25th, 2007 in Livermore, CA. Steve Byrne of Mira Vista G&CC, Glenn Mathews and Gill Stiles of Santa Rosa G&CC (Past President) have been working hard on revamping the Institute. The Board decided to combine the Joint Meeting with the Sierra Nevada Chapter and the Institute this year. This should increase participation and provide education hours for several Superintendents. Monday will include a morning shotgun golf tournament followed by a vendor trade show, reception, and other fun events. Tuesday will be a full day of education. Please plan on attending. Details to follow soon.

The 75th Anniversary Celebration will be held at Sequoyah Country Club on Monday, October 15, 2007. You will not want to miss this event, so please mark your calendar today. Being one of our Charter Members, Sequoyah CC is going to be a great host. Look for e-mail updates on this event.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the future meetings.

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As I write this column, I'm hearing about drought conditions on both sides of the country. Water restrictions are beginning to increase pressures on golf revenues and it sounds serious. "Chicken Little" or "The Real Thing"?

You may get a better idea by visiting the Georgia GCSA web site where you will find the following (plus a lot more):

"Level 2 Drought Declared"

"Due to drought conditions across Georgia, the Director of the Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has issued a level two drought declaration for the entire state. The declaration requires that Georgians immediately follow a more stringent outdoor water use schedule. "The level two drought schedule is as follows:

Odd-numbered addresses may water only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays-12 midnight to 10 a.m.

Even-numbered and unnumbered addresses may water only on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays-12 midnight to 10 a.m.

*** This applies to Golf Course Fairways ***

So, that's Georgia not us. Well that's right... for now! It is definitely time to address this issue! We could actually use some eager, intelligent and hard working superintendents to join ongoing efforts regarding water and chemical use in Northern California. If you're interested, please give me a call.

On a brighter and more immediate note, GCSANC is celebrating its 75th year as a superintendent's association. It was originally organized and operated to address issues impacting the greenkeeping profession. A 75th Anniversary Committee co-chaired by GCSANC Director, Brian Morris, CGCS and Brian Bagley has formed and held its first meeting. Thanks to Superintendent Terry Grasso and General Manager Tom Schunn, Sequoyah Golf & Country Club will host our 75th Anniversary Meeting on October 15, 2007.