

The light is beginning to shine at the end of another season's tunnel. Very soon will be the Institute and the close of another season. I'm sure this is a comforting thought to those of you battling water restrictions. Hopefully 2009 will bring adequate rain - in a gentle form.

Speaking of water, and the industry's most important issue to date, you should plan on attending the Institute at The Course Wente At Vineyards this year. We will discuss water and energy conservation, two things guaranteed to affect your decision making and bottom line. There are a bevy of informed speakers scheduled from various water districts and PG&E. Not only will you get the chance to play a beautiful course, but also you will have information to leverage on your budget dollars for the remainder of this year and the upcoming years.

The Board decided at a special August Newsletter meeting to switch to a web-hosted format. The switch will ideally take place around January but there are still details to work out. It will create significant savings that can be put into other member-oriented services. We are also gathering cost estimates to create our own website and online directory. The printing and shipping costs of the current directory are huge. A savings there would represent an opportunity to have significant cash assets to apply to other areas and allow your association to investigate services we previously could not offer.

Lastly, most superintendents would agree that one of our greatest strengths is our commitment to helping those in our association. On our dues renewal forms is an opt-in box for our benevolence fund that gives us the opportunity to provide modest, but important support to members in need or worthy organizations. For those of you that donate, thank you! Please know that a donation was recently made to a GCSANC member who suffered a family tragedy. Having this kind of fund and the commitment of the BOD to use it, made me proud to be the association's representative of giving. Not only was I able to convey money, but the thoughts and prayers of some 450 members.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



BRIAN NETTZ, CGCS
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