

## OFFICE NOTES



### BARBARA MIKEL

As I write this article, it has been the coldest, snowiest December in El Dorado County in 16 years. The power is out, the roads are impassable, and many offices are closed.

Living in California, most of us never really consider the impact of weather on our lives and our technological world. We rarely have weather so severe to put us “offline” or “off the road.”

What do you have as a backup plan for the occasional 20-year event? For the association office, it's backup, backup, backup. Office computers are on Auxiliary Power Units for a specific period, and then all systems are powered down. Telephones with conventional lines give way to “3G” and “4G” cellular technology. Internet access goes by satellite. While not as fast as other broadband services, satellite connections aren't dependent on conventional telephone or cables. Web or “cloud” based operations don't need to have a local server up and running in a powerless office. So for the week of Dec 7, operations of GCSANC continued from my home via generator, “3G” and satellite. The GCSANC office, after three days, finally had power restored. My staff was then able to continue to mail the 2010 election materials while I watched the snow and ice sickles from my home office.

Weather can halt economic activity for long period of time unless technology is put to best use. We have two options, stay mired in past technology or grow into the future. This usually means learning to be flexible, to experiment, and to try different things. If we fail to act, we can watch the technology parade pass right on by.

Congratulations to **Jim Husting**, CGCS for the well deserved GCSAA Distinguished Service Award. Jim has been at the forefront pending legislation, providing an “early warning” service to the golf industry on environmental and governmental regulation. It's no easy (or fun) task to make time to attend Sacramento meetings and hearings. On behalf of all of us, Thank You!

Hope all will make the time and attend the Annual Meeting at the Spring Valley Golf Course. I'm looking forward to this event. Some great awards will be presented to deserving members. I'm also looking forward to GCSAA's Mark Woodward providing a look forward for GCSAA and all the Affiliated Chapters.

## MEMBER UPDATE

Welcome, new members!

### SCOTT BROBECK

*Assistant Superintendent, Santa Clara Golf & Tennis Club*

### STRAUN EDWARDS

*Affiliate Member, Trees 360 Degrees*

### GARY OTTO

*Affiliate Member, John Deere Golf*

### MICHAEL ROTHENBERG

*Affiliate Member, Brookside Laboratories*

Congratulations on your reclassification!

### RODNEY MULLER

*Class A Superintendent, Tilden Park Golf Course*

### FERNANDO VILLAGRAN-COSTELLO

*Class C Assistant Superintendent, Tilden Park Golf Course*



Sorry we missed you!

Special “Thank You” and “Sorry we missed you” to Greg Fernald & Pete Bowman, Target Specialty Products for the Sponsorship and registration help at the 2009 Superintendents Institute Trade Show Exhibition



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