

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - by Michael R. Clark, CGCS, Oakmont C.C., Santa Rosa

Many thanks to Host Superintendent Merle Russill for our July meeting at Fort Ord. He and the staff did everything possible to make our day the success it was.

Our Speaker, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Executive Director Conrad Scheetz gave a very informative talk. His subject was what the G.C.S.A.A. is doing now and its future plans to upgrade the image of the golf course superintendent, not only to the people in the golf business, but to the general golfing public. He also answered many questions from the floor. Our thanks to Connie for taking a day of his vacation to be with us.

See you at Alta Sierra

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SCHOLARSHIP VALUE by Bob Ford

What is the value of a scholarship to a student working his way through college? I know, I received a scholarship from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America for my interest in turfgrass management. To me it meant there were people in the turfgrass field willing to help me gain more knowledge in order to upgrade their profession

At the present time our Northern California Chapter only gives and receives on the research end of turf management. My feeling, as well as that of others on the Board, is that we should develop a program with one or several turf schools to aid in the education of others coming into our field. With the added financial help to interested turf management people our association should grow to the prominence our group hopes to attain.

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WHAT ARE OTHERS DOING?

A NEW COLUMN hopefully ??? wishing ??? that interested superintendents will take time to write an article of the things they are doing--new tees, greens, sand traps, water systems, swimming pools, tennis courts, tree preventative measures (like published in last months Newsletter), etc. The article doesn't need to be long. If it is just one line send it in, others like to hear what you are doing.

Send to either Bob Ford, 6349 Lillian Way, San Jose, CA 95120 or

Myrtle Wagoner, 1233 Kansas Avenue, Modesto, CA 95351

YOU BE THE ONE this month to say "I'll do mine this month and not put it off and Let George do it". If we get 200 we will be able to have a back log to publish--THAT WOULD BE FANTASTIC.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR - Bob Ford

I found it a little strange, but last month I had absolutely no feed-back from our 200 plus members about anything in the Newsletter. No one offered a name for the Newsletter, and no one had any new projects or solved problems that others could benefit from. I did have two people at the Fort Ord meeting ask about my tree injection experiments.

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE SOMETHING! If you don't know me or can't get in touch, call Myrtle Wagoner (209 523-7141) because she is the real backbone of this publication and puts it into print for everyone to read.

For those of you who couldn't attend the Fort Ord meeting, it was announced that the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California was asked to host or help with the 1977 GCSAA golf tournament preceeding the conference in Portland, Oregon. The tournament will be held on a Thursday and Friday, February 3 and 4, 1977. Course sites selected are Spyglass and Monterey Peninsula Dunes Course for the men, and Rancho Canada for the ladies. An added incentive is no green fees. Our hat goes off to some of the people that made these sites possible, Bob Hanna, Frank Silva, John Zollar and Larry Lloyd.

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YOUR HOST SUPERINTENDENT - The last time we visited Lou Pohlson he was recovering from a heart attack. Lou has been at Alta Sierra for 10 years. The course has changed from a private to semi-private. His son Douglas is his assistant.

Lou says "Come play the 18-hole course tucked away in the hills". You will find it interesting and challenging.

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RIDING ALONG WITH 97 - by Frank J. DeCarli, Pen-Gro Sales Company

At Santa Rosa Country Club, Superintendent Harold Bratton, reports that his course is in real fine shape, but that his out-houses keep getting abused. Kids have burned down his second one in the last year. "Harold, you better start making them out of cement block."

At Torrey Pines Golf Course in San Diego, you can play 18 holes of golf with added hazards that aren't in the book of golf, i.e., men flying kites, winging their way over the golf course fairways talking to the golfers. When the game of golf gets dull for the kite pilot, he swoops down to the nude beach nearby and talks to the bathers - an added attraction at no cost.

At Oceanside 4 years ago, two farmers decided to donate 200 acres of farmland to the City of Oceanside in exchange for tax credit on their existing farmland. In agreement and exchange, the donated land was to be

built into an 18-hole golf course. As it turned out, the land donated was a dried-up lake that the farmers could not grow crops on. The City of Oceanside hired Superintendent Jerry Palmer to build the golf course. It has now been over 3 years that the course has been seeded and still not open for play -- with no revenue ever brought in. The greens are just great, but the fairways and tees are something else. Jerry has tried everything "in the good book" and he finally found the answer (he thinks and Hopes). They are presently taking out the dirt in each fairway and replacing it with river sand and rock. Jerry has finished 3 fairways and hauled in over 35,000 yards of sand already. At this rate, he should have the job finished in another 3 years and 200,000 yards of sand later moved onto the remaining fairways. Fairways are cut 18" deep and a 4" rock base applied, then 14" of sand.

Did you know, that San Geronimo National Golf Course in Marin County (Superintendent Ray Teters) has the first metric distance yardage markers?

From John Williams, Superintendent Edgewood Tahoe Golf Club, we hear that a Pears kite landed on his 17th green and did damage to his green with the skis. John was last seen chasing the culprit down the fairway and gaining.

Ron Roth is the new Superintendent at Bodega Bay Golf Club. Ron's big job is getting the new course in playing condition. Presently the fairways have been disced and seeded.

Frank J. DeCarli

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CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. & MRS. FRANK ANDERSON, Honorary member of GCSANC, who celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on June 19, 1975. He was the Park Superintendent for the City of Burlingame.

BOB LEWIS, De Lavega Golf Course, Santa Cruz has had a stroke. We wish him a speedy recovery.

MIKE CLARK - hope you enjoyed your golf at Ponderosa Golf Course.

JERRY HAMBÿ, Superintendent of Oakdale Country Club, opened the second nine July 4th.

Del Rio Country Club has recently constructed 4 tennis courts (Cliff Wagoner, Superintendent)

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Desiccation -- drying up

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