

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

August - The Superintendents Lament - Seems as though every August turns out to be the same, problems on top of problems. Backhoes that have an attraction for main irrigation lines and underground controller wires - hot spells that defy you to keep your turf green - equipment break downs with the nearest repair parts in Los Angeles - algae that covers your lakes the night before a tournament - then fungus shows up just before quitting time Friday. I'm sure that the list could be lengthened by many, but would any of us change jobs? Not me, for one.

While at Alta Sirra for our last meeting I came away with what I thought was a useful idea. If you find a lost golf club on the course and turn it in to the pro shop they give you a new golf ball. The person claiming the club pays for the new ball. I'm sure this insures a good percentage of lost clubs getting turned in. You might want to share this with the golf professional at your club.

See you at Howard's, *mike*

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September's HOST SUPERINTENDENT - Howard Fisher has been at Mt. St. Helena for 15 years. He is in charge of the golf course and pro shop. He also has a football field, campground and racetrack to maintain..

Mt. St. Helena Golf Course is a county owned golf course built in 1954. Before Howard took it over it was a par three course. Since then it has been extended to 2500 yards par 33. It was the first golf course, nationwide, to be built inside of the track on any fair ground. During the summer months 15 car races will be held.

Come Camping - Play Golf - Attend Meeting

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Editor BOB FORD'S Comments

It has been brought to my attention by some Association members that they felt the Board of Directors wasn't passing on enough information of what transpires at the Board meetings. After a lengthy debate about the problem, several alternatives were discussed further. It was noted that in past years many members stated they didn't want to be a part of the business meeting, hence, the Board of Directors holds the business meeting at another time.

The immediate action taken was to state the time of the meeting on the front of the newsletter and welcome all members and their participation.

FROM GCSA OF AMERICA NEWSLETTER

EPA DEVELOPING LIST OF RESTRICTED PESTICIDES --EPA is now in the process of developing their list of restricted pesticides. Pesticides will be classed by their active ingredients. So far, of the 117 active ingredients reviewed by the EPA, only ten (10) have been tentatively listed as restricted for all uses. 31 others may be restricted for certain uses and 76 are being considered for general use. As soon as the EPA issues the final listing, we will send it on to you.

EPA ACTION ON CHLORDANE --As you probably know, EPA has recently stopped the sale of Chlordane. The reason EPA gives is that it has found Chlordane to cause cancer in "test" animals; thus, is a danger to human health.

A number of turf people have indicated that there are several materials that can be used in its place. We suggest you contact your local extension turf specialist for suggested alternatives.

NEW SERVICE TO GCSAA MEMBERS COMING SOON --Several excellent books dealing with turfgrass and turf management will soon be available for purchase from GCSAA Headquarters. GCSAA members and Chapters will be sent a list of titles, cost per title, and order forms when the books have all arrived from the several publishers. All of these texts are recommended reference materials to be used in preparation for certification.

NEWS***** Dave Porter, formerly with Pebble Beach, is back in the area at a new golf course at Discovery Bay. Architect Robert Muir Graves completed nine holes last spring and started moving dirt (soil) for the back nine last month.

This course is located 16 miles west of Stockton, and has the added attraction of waterfront lots.

ASILOMAR***** The 1976 GCSA Asilomar Institute will be held in March again. Business Management and Budgets are the main topics.

By the request of many Superintendents, the 1977 Asilomar Institute will be in January in hopes of a greater turnout.

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE GCSA ASILOMAR INSTITUTE IN MARCH

ROGER LARSON'S name has been submitted by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California as a nominee to the Board of Directors of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

PLEASE NOTE * NOTE * NOTE * Bob Ford has a new address 1214 Diablo Way, San Jose, CA 95120 Same phone (408) 997-2081 PLEASE USE OFTEN

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA TURFGRASS COUNCIL -- The third annual N.C.T.C. Irrigation Seminar is to be held on September 5-7, 1975 at Asilomar Conference Grounds in Pacific Grove, California.

This years program will be built around Phase III of the Evolution on an Irrigation System. Other topics to be explored are "Selecting the Contractor, Specifications, Contract, Moisture Sensing, Fertigation, Specialty Valves, and Metrics". The keynote speaker will be Mr. Tom Mascaro of the Safe-T-Lawn Company.

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"WHAT ARE OTHERS DOING?"

Equipment Pool Speeds Greens Aeration and Topdressing

Golf Course Superintendents in the northern Sacramento Valley area face a critical timing schedule during the season when they plan to aerate and topdress their greens. In addition to the normal playing pressure, wet weather conditions can delay the work schedule on any course over an extended period of time.

Three golf course superintendents in the northern Sacramento Valley have developed a system to avoid delays and minimize the time required to aerate and topdress the greens on their individual courses. John Engen, Sr., Butte Creek Country Club, Chico, Griff Taylor, Kelly Ridge Golf Links, Oroville; and Steve Flatt, Wilcox Oaks Golf Course, Red Bluff; have been pooling their aerating and topdressing equipment and their staff members into a super-efficient, smooth-working team. These three superintendents have developed a close-working relationship that has resulted in a minimum of delay during a very time-consuming operation.

Equipment and staff pooling arrangements might be the answer for other golf course superintendents when limited equipment and staff extend a work project beyond the time scheduled.

Carl M. Wick, U.C. Farm Advisor - Turf
Butte County Cooperative Extension, Oroville

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BUD GALLI, Sequoia Forest Products reports the Sequoia Forest Products Division of Wickes Forest Industries is building a new bark plant in Oroville, California. This gives Sequoia 3 bark plants to service golf courses and nurseries in 3 states. We will have 3 sizes of bark-forest humus, and turf and tee, in bulk or bags.

We will have enough turf and tee or forest humus for any job large or small.

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GERMINATION -- The beginning of growth

Aubrey Babson sends in this from the "OUT OF THE DITCH" La Rinconada C.C.
July issue

THE ONLY WAY TO FLY - Everyone should ride in a golf cart when playing golf. Walking makes the blood circulate too fast, causes deep breathing and forces the lungs to expand, opening them up for T.B. germs, cancer and other pulmonary diseases. Walking also can cause hardening of the arteries, vericose veins, fallen arches and bunions. If you must exercise, jog four miles in the early morning and ride around the course later

Many golfers do not know how to use a golf cart properly. First of all, the golf cart paths should be used sparingly as excessive use will wear them out and repair and replacement is expensive. It won't hurt the grass to drive over it.

Car signs should be obeyed only when it is convenient to do so. You pay a lot of money to belong to the Club and should be entitled to break a rule now and then. Besides, what is so great about having good grass around the greens -- if you hit the shots right you should be on the putting surface anyway. You can play winter rules if necessary or bump the ball if no one is looking.

Golf is a companionship game and one should sit in the golf cart while his partner hits his shot, then both players ride to the other ball, discuss which club the shot calls for, then select the proper club for the shot to the green.

Although this procedure slows up the game and might cause some delay to the following foursomes, it is the right way to play the game. In this fast moving world, one should pause and observe the beauties or nature and you are doing a good deed when you allow the players behind you ample time to do so.

Always pull off the cart trail when parking next to a tree or green. Although this causes ruts and wears out the grass next to the trail, it has the advantage of allowing fire trucks, police cars and other emergency vehicles to pass by without undue delay.

Above all, remember you are out on the course to enjoy yourself and your personal comfort is more important than keeping the course in good playing condition. Let the other guy replace your divots, repair your ballmarks and rake out your footprints in the sand traps.

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

Bob Dauterman has been appointed the new Superintendent at Sequoyah Country Club in Oakland. He was formerly a salesman for Pen-Gro Sales Co. in the Los Angles area.

Sandy Sandnu has been appointed the new Superintendent at Orinda Country Club in Orinda. He is replacing Ken Stohl who is retiring after many years as a salesman and a Superintendent.

At Incline Village, Earl Kukler, Superintendent reports that two of his greens on the Incline Course never fully recovered from the late freeze and late spring snow. He is now in the process of rebuilding them

Superintendent Ron Taborski reports that the townhouse models being built around the golf course at Half Moon Bay Golf Links are priced at \$75,000 to \$95,000. The first home has been finished and two more are started all within the reach of all retiring Superintendents starting at \$100,000 to \$150,000.

Richard Tokos at Tahoe Donner Golf Course reports that the front 9 was opened in July for play; the back 9 is scheduled for September opening. This course has to be the highest elevation in the Sierras. The course is located 3 miles from Truckee atop of Donner Summit. The shop area is one of the largest around. Its prime purpose is to keep the snow-blowing equipment in shape, keeping the roads open in winter - this is a full time job which can't afford a breakdown.

One of the most challenging golf course holes I have ever seen is the 15th hole at Lakeridge Golf Club, Reno, Nevada. Superintendent Jim Jackson, who built the course with Bill Hull, is to be complimented on such a fine golf course. The 15th hole tee is elevated on a side of rock hill nested between sage brush, 218 yards away sits a 11,000 sq. ft. green in the middle of a lake; the green is well sand trapped. There are three trees nicely placed in back of the green. Access to the green is by a well constructed bridge. The bridge was built large enough to accommodate a Greens Mower Triplex and also a Bank Triplex Mower. Jim has a network of streams running through the course. One stream is directed to the front of the pro shop where he has made a series of ponds and waterfalls. The next time you see Jim Jackson, ask him how many sticks of dynamite he had to use to make the back 9.

My last trip to Arizona was a real experience you should know about ---At Apache Wells Golf Course in Mesa, Arizona - Superintendent Gary Fox) has his own fertilizer plant. His course is surrounded by 400 house trailers, owned by retired people from all walks of life. All sewer lines lead to the golf course maintenance area where they have a sewage treatment plant. Can you imagine what it's like when it gets to 112° in the shop and a little breeze comes up!!!

After leaving Mesa, we took a back road to Tucson, Highway 89 out of Apache Junction and headed South. At a rest stop, we came across a statue of Tom Mix out in the middle of nowhere. (A memorium.) Brought back memories!!! Dark clouds were seen in a distance - shortly the wind came up to the point it was hard to see and control the truck; next came the lightning and thunder. A sand storm was moving fast and toward us and before we knew it, we were trapped! We found shelter behind a large apartment at Oro Valley Country Club and watched the golf course being

T H A N K S to these SUPPORTERS of the Newsletter

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Pebble Beach 93953

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NORTHRUP, KING & COMPANY
P. O. Box 12123
Fresno 93776

H. V. CARTER COMPANY, INC.
1700 East 14th Street
Oakland 94606

OCCIDENTAL CHEMICAL CO. INSTITUTIONAL
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DIVISION

A.L. CASTLE OF STOCKTON, INC.
5700 Cherokee Road
Stockton 95205

PEN-GRO SALES COMPANY
212 Ryan Way - Box 2326
So. San Francisco 94080

EWING IRRIGATION PRODUCTS
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RAIN BIRD SPRINKLER MANUFACTURING CO.
7045 N. Grand Ave
Glendora 91740

GERMAIN'S INC.
San Jose - Fresno
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SCOTTS PROTURF
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GRANITE ROCK CO.
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TORO PACIFIC DIST. - S.F.
1501 Adrian Rd
Burlingame 94010

WESTERN LAWN EQUIPMENT COMPANY
146 So. Blvd
San Mateo 94402

destroyed in a matter of minutes! The trees were being up-rooted, branches ripped off, benches and ballwasher stands flying through the air. What a giant Top Dressing program? The next day I went back to Oro Valley and talked to Superintendent Otto Grieshaber. He said he lost from 35 to 40 trees blown right out of the ground and every tree suffered wind damage. Looked like a Battle Field after World War 2!!! The storm was a Hurricane with Winds at 75 mph. The temperature dropped from 100° to 70° in 4 minutes and did \$1,000,000.00 Plus - damage to Tucson in 90 minutes! What an experience for us going through this - - - and seeing it all happen!!!! This is something we have never seen before!!!