

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE by John Engen, CGCS, Butte Creek C.C., Chico

For those of you who did not make it to Tahoe Donner meeting in Truckee-- you missed an excellent superintendents meeting.

Many thanks go to Dick Tokos and the Sierra Nevada Golf Course Superintendents Association for organizing everything so well. After the weather was so bad for 3 weeks it turned out to be a perfect day for golf. The golf course was beautiful nestled in an among the pines. I know what a challenge it is to build a golf course in that Truckee rock pile. Joint meeting such as this are good in many ways. Meeting old friends that have moved to another area, discussing the difference in problems such as Monterey and Reno, even the pesticide regulations which seem to be quite different in Nevada than those in California.

The educational portion of the meeting was presented by Dr. Wally Miller, University of Nevada. Dr. Miller spoke about a new material called "Rozol" that is being used for ground squirrel control. Dr. Miller discussed and showed some slides on fertilizer trials they have been working on in the Reno area which was quite interesting.

Be sure and check with the Agricultural Commissioner in your area before applying any chemical.

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ASILOMAR INSTITUTE - JANUARY 9-14, 1977 - Bill Davis, University of California, Davis, will be mailing notices of the Golf Course Institute very soon. Each year this program has attracted more participants so register early so you can be included.

The Institute will be held January 9th thru the 14th, 1977 to give superintendents the advantage of the slow season to attend. Seek out a fellow superintendent who has attended and get his opinion on the benefits of this week long education program. Do Not hesitate to ask your club officials because a big majority of them have knowledge of it through the regional TARP meetings and I'm sure will approve your request to attend and financial assistance.

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YOUR HOST SUPERINTENDENT - Steve Carlton is a fourth generation Californian born in San Francisco on August 24, 1946. Happy Birthday Steve. He has a Bachelor of Science in Agronomy from the University of California, Davis in 1968 and did graduate work in Turf in 1972. He started in the cut flower business growing Gerbera Daisies in 1969 and 1970. He worked at Pebble Beach and Spyglass Hill and Del Monte C.C. in 1971-72 during the Crosby and United States Open. He was assistant superintendent at Almaden G & CC, San Jose 1973-74 with Bob Ford. He has been Superintendent at Carmel Valley Golf & C.C. for two years.

Carmel Valley Golf and Country Club, which just celebrated its 12th year, is a good example of a successful non-proprietary private club. It was built and organized by the same team that still manages it today. There are no committees, and Steve Carlton, the golf course superintendent, reports directly to the President, Ed Haber. The staff, remaining constant, does not have the same problem as most clubs that have changing Boards of Directors every year or two. Golf Course equipment, for example can be bought without waiting for any committee decision.

The Club recently was the site of the USGA Senior Amateur Championship, and is particularly noted for its 10 lakes, which have been made into game bird sanctuaries. Also on the grounds, and owned by the Club, is Quail Lodge, the only resort hotel in California with the Mobil 5 Star Award.

Because of Quail Lodge, there are a great many celebrities who play golf at the Club, and during the Crosby Pro-Am such players as Gary Player, Arnold Palmer, Johnny Miller, Doug Sanders, David Graham and Bob Charles have played the course.

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Members of the Sierra Nevada GCSA are invited to attend the meeting at Carmel Valley Golf & Country Club.

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PROGRAM - Mr. Tom Simmons, representative from Mission Insurance Company, who carry compensation coverage on a large number of clubs will speak on safety practices on the course which can reduce accidents. Mr. Simmons has had a great amount of experience with golf course accidents so his message should be of interest to all.

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It was good to see Bill Mayo, who is a charter member of GCSAof Northern California back in 1932, and George Finnin a member since 1953 retiring in 1974. Both live in the Reno area.

Steve Flatt, Wilcox Oaks is buiding a new 9 which is under construction now.

Griff Taylor, Kelly Ridge Golf Links, is repairing damage done by recent rains.

Del Rio Golf & C.C., Modesto, Cliff Wagoner, Superintendent, hosted the United States Golf Association Junior Girls Championship.

The following week Del Paso Country Club, Sacramento, Tom Unruh, Superintendent, hosted the United States Golf Association Womens Amateur Championship tournament.

Allan C. Mooser is located at Hidden Valley Lake Golf Course, Box 628
Middletown, CA 95461. Phone 707 987-3513.

Bob Livesey, Thru the Green editor has a change of address to 415 N. Akers
Rd., Space 19, Visalia, Ca 93277. Same phone number. He says "Come on
fellows, take time to let us know what you are doing."

Bill Nigh's address change is Pasatiempo Golf Course, Box 535, Santa
Cruz, CA 95061, phone office 408 426-3622.

Terry Duggan address change is 11622 Lampson, Garden Grove, CA 92640

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Contact Olie Sights phone 209 599-3747 Club

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A FEW COMMENTS ABOUT R E T I R E M E N T by a recent retiree Blake Taylor

From my standpoint it's great. I recommend it to everyone. At least
everyone who has enough income to live comfortably on.

Unless a person has extravagant tastes and wants to live "high off the
hog" he can get by on considerably less income than he thinks he can.
In my case with Social Security and my state pension due to my last
superintendents position with the City of San Mateo, I have an adequate
income to live comfortably on and even save a little. However, I
strongly advise you superintendents, especially those within ten years of
retirement, to put away everything you can in some kind of pension plan
as Social Security will come no where near supporting your present style
of living.

Medicare and an over 65 supplemental health insurance relieves one some-
what of the thought of being completely wiped out by some catastrophic
illness or accident also.

As to working--I thought before retirement I would miss it. I haven't.
Lying in bed another hour or two or even three has become an easy thing
to get used to. And staying up for the late show if I desire to do so
doesn't bring guilt feelings the next day for feeling less than "up to
par." I also haven't missed the fungus attacks or the fertilizer burns
or the loss of the "POA" during the heat spells. Also worm casts and
weeds haven't caused me any loss of sleep lately. That's retirement.

Keeping busy is no problem. Besides keeping up the house and yard,
playing golf three days a week keeps me in reasonably good shape. And
a three or four day trip now and then to Reno, Tahoe or Northern Calif

helps to make for a pleasant life.

For me, freedom from "the clock" and the ability to do what I want to do when I want to do it, that's RETIREMENT. It's Great.

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WATER! HAVE WE ENOUGH? by Bob Livesey

This past winter was one of the driest in years. Water conservation measures have been taken in many areas. Some of our superintendents can attest to this.

How many recall when the irrigation for greens and tees was a 3/4 inch hose bib set off the area of play? A few lengths of hose and a home fan nozzle was used as the sprinkler system.

Later on the water systems were upgraded with better pumps and a quick coupler replaced the hose bib. They even put them in the fairways. This is when watering of golf courses changed. No longer did the American golfer have to play on dry fairways hoping for the summer rains to keep things green.

After a number of years the so called ultimate in irrigation, the automatic systems were installed. Now we are able to have lush, green turf from tee to green, rough included. In fact we have been able to create casual water all over the course. You would think the summer rains are back.

Some of the superintendents are taking a step back in time. In some areas the water districts won't let the automatic system be used. They are back to the old hose on nozzle on greens and tees. In other areas the sprinklers in the rough are being blocked off. One thing for sure, the casual water has disappeared.

What is going to happen if we have another dry winter? It's possible! Some of the clubs have thought of it. They are trying to come up with plans to cut back and conserve. Now is the time to find out what we can do with the minimum amount of water and still maintain a decent turf.

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WHERE ARE THE RAINS? by Bill Nigh, Pasatiempo Golf Course, Santa Cruz

After hearing various rumors and stories, I really wonder what is happening around Northern California insofar as water rationing. Pasatiempo has had its water problems in the past, but these were minor compared to today's. We have never really worried about our supply as we do not have the problems of lakes, ponds, streams or wells--we take directly from the City water system--just like turning on the faucet at home.

But no more. Santa Cruz County, like many other area, is facing a real water shortage, both now and long range. What have we had to do? First of all, we have turned off 420 sprinkler heads out of approximately 961. This means we are not watering our rough, to the rear of several greens and the first one hundred to one hundred fifty yards of our fairways. We have also gone to more hand watering of tees and greens, and we no longer use soakers to supplement fairway watering. Needless to say, Pasatiempo looks sad, but we are very much playable.

I have talked to Dave Griffith in Pacific Grove, but I would like to hear from others. How does your course stand during this trying period? Write to "Thru the Green" Editor or 1233 Kansas Avenue, Modesto, CA 95351 so the information can get to all.

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PASATIEMPO by Bill Nigh

Nineteen seventy-six has been a busy year at Pasatiempo Golf Course. There have been three major changes this year--a new General Manager appointed, a new clubhouse opened, and a new maintenance center built.

In 1930 the original Pasatiempo Clubhouse was built, and remained the clubhouse until 1941, at which time it was sold for a private residence. It has remained that until 1973 when Pasatiempo purchased it back. Now, after extensive remodeling, the building has once again reopened as the Clubhouse. A new cocktail lounge, remodeled dining room, a completely refurbished kitchen, and clubrooms for the men and ladies are contained in the building.

The other big change is the new John Cotter Maintenance Building--named after our mechanic who has been employed here since 1935.

The new building is 136 feet by 30 feet, containing 3300 square feet of storage area. Included in this area is a repair shop with storage shelves, grinders, work benches, a portable hoist and overhead heating. Adjacent to this area is an office section. This area is composed of a large locker room, a complete kitchen, separate bathroom facilities for men and women, and an office. It's a far cry from the old horse barn we used to work out of.

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IF YOU LIVE WITHOUT WORK, YOU MUST LIVE WITHOUT FOOD.

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RESERVATION CARDS WILL NEED TO BE MAILED IMMEDIATELY TO BE RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 4th the last date mail will be received before meeting

T H A N K S to these SUPPORTERS of "THRU THE GREEN"

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5700 Cherokee Road
Stockton 95205

R. V. CLOUD COMPANY

3000 Winchester Blvd
Campbell 95008

CUSHMAN-KIRBY EQUIPMENT CO. INC.

2419 Sellers Way
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St. Louis, Missouri 63147

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Specialty Products Division
1310 Bayshore Highway
San Jose 95108

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA GOLF ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 1157
Pebble Beach 93953

OCCIDENTAL CHEMICAL COMPANY

P. O. Box 198
Lathrop 95330

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