

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Bill Nigh, Pasatiempo GC, Santa Cruz

It's nice to return to Lake Tahoe for a joint meeting with the Sierra Nevada Chapter. I for one always look forward to this meeting. Our thanks to Richard Tokos and to the Tahoe-Donner Golf Club for making it possible.

I want to mention some projects that we have in the works. First of all, a committee has been formed to help Bill Davis in his planning for the Asilomar program. This committee does not want to do it alone--we want your thoughts and ideas. Second, we have nearly completed a new job description for Golf Course Superintendents--this paper will appear under the logos of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California and the Northern California Golf Association. A third project is an updated exam with accompanying readily available reference material. The fourth project is a training program for new persons entering the turf management field. At this time we have a rough draft of the training outline, covering all aspects of turf management and including irrigation, aquatic weed control, tree care, mechanics, building maintenance and so on.

These four projects alone require a lot of time and effort, and I just want to thank my Board members at this time for all their help.

Bill Nigh

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Our HOST FOR THE AUGUST MEETING, DICK AVEN.

Dick Aven has been at Marin Country Club since it was constructed in 1957. When construction was completed, he stayed on as part of the maintenance crew. In 1968, Dick was promoted to Assistant Superintendent. He held this position for five years. In 1973, the club appointed him Superintendent.

Marin Country Club was opened in 1958 with 200 members. Today there are approximately 600. Last year the membership purchased the club. The par 72 layout is located south of Novato in Marin County. The rolling terrain makes for a very fine course.

Dick gets his water from his own reservoirs and wells located on the property. With the drought situation very bad in Marin County, he is on a very strict water conservation program

By now everyone who attended the 1977 Golf Course Superintendents Institute at Asilomar has received their copies of the proceedings. Our many thanks to Bill Davis for a job well done.

departments with properly experienced and educated staffs are hard to come by and put great demands on manufacturers for their services. When measured, however, by the tremendous innovations in maintenance equipment being produced today, these departments are more than paying their way.

While not at liberty to go into details, we can assure you there are machines on the planning table and some already in test that would challenge the imagination. We look forward eagerly to the developments when we will see real progress at work.

The key to all this is to keep one's mind and body active and keep appraised of the situation with assurance that our manufacturers are wide awake and alert to our needs of today as well as preparing for the future.

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ELLIS ANTUNEZ from Sierra Nevada Golf Course Superintendents Association wrote this the beginning of last summer.

In this, the beginning of the summer season, the time for WORK, that nasty four letter word, is upon us. Have you ever thought of how many four letter words we can use out on the course?

Let's see, there's GOLF itself; you curse that little white BALL, that was hit by the FIVE IRON into the TRAP, that contains the fluffy SAND, that prompted you to buy the \$20.00 CLUB to blast it out with. You HEEL the SHOT and it ends up on the frog-hair. So you're going to PUTT it towards the HOLE, hoping the LINE is TRUE. So you take your GRIP and stoke firmly, but as it reaches the unrepaired ball-mark, it HOPS to the LEFT. This is the time you wonder why you ever took up the GAME. Was it for the exercise? Being able to WALK, pulling your CART or carrying your bag. Taking each HOLE a YARD at a time. To prove to yourself that, Jack, John and Arnie have nothing on you. So aim for the FLAG, hoping that you won't HOOK o FADE, but a slight DRAW would be nice.

If you survive the round, there's a COLD BEER waiting at the clubhouse so relax and enjoy the*!Cx GAME.

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