

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

Very glad to see the big turn out at Sharon Heights (92 members) and our THANKS to Roy King for making arrangements run so smoothly. The only problem was that our meeting was scheduled the same day as the Northern California Turfgrass Council field day. We plan to work closer with them so that we can schedule better.

A word on Asilomar -- a committee under the guidance of Bill Davis has been set up to develop a new Institute program. We hope to put together a new 3, 5, or 7 year package and draw from all over the state. To this end your board asks that you make known your ideas on subject matter for Asilomar -- WHAT DO YOU WANT??

*Bill Nigh*

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RICHARD "DICK" TOKOS, Superintendent of Tahoe Donner G & CC started with Lou Pohlson at Alta Sierra as mechanic, working up to Assistant Superintendent. Dick was hired at Tahoe Donner as superintendent at the start of construction in 1974. The 6500 yard course was designed by the late Joe Williams. Dick planted the front nine which was opened 2½ years ago While bringing this nine along Dick was finishing the back nine which was opened in 1976.

The fairways at Tahoe Donner are a Fylking and Manhattan mix, the greens average about 7000 square feet and are Penncross Bent. The course elevation runs from about 6500 to near 7400 feet.

At the present time Dick says that there is no water problem. Thunder heads start building up late in the afternoon and by morning there is usely a good shower. Quite often it will be a real down pour.

For the fellows that are going to be playing golf, let Dick know ahead of time if you want a cart, they may be in short supply the day of the meeting.

Bob Uhland has asked that when you sign up to play golf at the meeting PLEASE PUT YOUR HANDICAP DOWN ON THE SIGN IN SHEET

Received a letter from Jim Bantrup from Manteca. As most of you know the City of Manteca has been contemplating expanding the existing nine to eighteen holes. Bert Stamps has been awarded the design contract. Construction is to start in September. Jim also commented on the fine turn out we had at Sharon Heights C.C. From all indications quite a few of the fellows got a good insite on what you are up against when you have to file an environmental impact statement.

Understand that Jack Baker has 48 years with H. V. Carter Co., and Bert Graves is contemplating on making him a permanent employee. Good Luck, Jack.

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We have a couple of articles from JACK Baker, H. V. Carter Co., Oakland  
Thanks Jack and keep up the good work.

PROFESSIONALISM IN ACTION - Our dictionary defines "PROFESSIONAL" as having great skill or experience in a specific field of endeavor, one who has an assured competence in a particular occupation. Too often we tie this label on athletes but we should broaden the base and see how it applies to our Profession - Golf Course Superintendent.

Some years ago our Association upgraded us from "green or greenskeeper" deciding our training, skills and competence entitled us to become "Golf Course Superintendent." Many are actual working Superintendents while others because of certain educational and administrative abilities oversee, direct and supervise the many and varied tasks involved in creating the beauty of today's golf courses.

To borrow a phrase from an article in the University of California Cooperative Extension Service letter, "a supervisor can't take a good job for granted." It is well to keep the Club management fully appraised of the daily work program and any project being planned and/or developed, log the work for each day so the crews will be aware of what is expected of them and how their particular and individual skills are being applied.

Motivating people to get done what you want to accomplish is a measure of the successful Superintendent and the special talent of the "Professional Superintendent" and brings about the desired result. While it might seem quicker to invoke a "put-down" without taking time to explain in a constructive way how to correct a mistake, it tends to make for unpleasant relations and bitterness. The Professional Superintendent establishes harmony with all parties concerned by exhibiting his "PROFESSIONALISM" in his daily contacts. only YOU can be a "PROFESSIONAL SUPERINTENDENT."

WATER - The "American Heritage Dictionary" defines this "priceless" necessity as a clear, colorless, nearly odorless and tasteless liquid as "essential" for most plant and animal and human life.

With today's ever-present drought all about us Water becomes more precious to the human and anything that grows than the most costly of

commodities including gold or silver and yes, even diamonds. Preservation of what we have available and conservation methods are challenging the best of our scientific experts and we are trusting that out of the mystery of it all a shining light will provide an answer - but nothing appears on the horizon thus far.

If we have learned some lessons and adopted some of the more practical water-conservation practices in our homes and on our jobs - then we may be better able to cope with the situation. Sharing what we have in greater abundance with those less fortunate is vitally important and confirms the so called old fashioned American Spirit that has been lying somewhat dormant these past several years of plenty.

With all our modern technology and advances in scientific discoveries - no one has yet been able to completely harness and/or control the weather so what is the solution? Might I offer a suggestion? How about universal prayer for showers of blessings to once again fill our dams and reservoirs to heal a dry and thirsty land of grass, trees and flowers - it's an idea who's with me?

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M. DOUG CARLSON, Elanco Area Representative, has accepted a new assignment as Marketing Associate, Marketing Planning-New Products, Agricultural Chemicals in the home office in Indianapolis. He and his family will be making their home in Zionsville, Indiana.

He is introducing Mike Edminister, 1975 Cal Ploy graduate who has been working for a Santa Barbara Elanco distributor for the last 2 years.

A California licensed pest control advisor, Mike will be Area Representative for the Pacific Northwest handling Spike Industrial along with all other "green label" specialty and tech products. Mike will be living in Lafayette, California

Ray Ford has been named Evansville District Manager, Agricultural Chemicals. Ray was Western District Manager, Specialty and Tech Sales and is moving to Indianapolis.

Good luck Doug and Ray on your new assignments.

AUBREY "DOC" BABSON of La Rinconada Country Club is retiring July 1, 1977, after 35 years of serving the golfers' needs.

Doc has been associated with the GCSA of Northern California since 1934; he served as president in 1963. In his earlier years with the Association he was Secretary-treasurer for seven years in a row. He was Superintendent at the old Hillview Course in San Jose from 1933 to 1942. During the war years, Doc served in the Navy. After service he went to the San Jose Country Club 1946 - 1950. In 1958 Doc moved to the Marin Country club where he stayed until 1968. Then on to greener fairways - Carmel Valley 1968, then to La Rinconada in 1969.

Doc has been a strong member of our Association and a great supporter of National. He and Martha will be moving to their home in Pacific Grove (181 Ocean View Blvd, CA 93050) Being a member at Spyglass, he will be able to do things up right.

May you never have a bad lie in the fairways and the greens putt true. Best of everthing, Doc.

Bob Tipton is now Superintendent at La Rinconada Country Club. Bob has worked under Doc Babson the past 4 years. Good luck, Bob.





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