

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

It was nice returning to my old stomping grounds--Marin County. Even though Marin is very dry, Dick Aven had the golf course looking very good. Our thanks to Dick and the Marin Golf and Country Club for being such good hosts. Speaking of the meeting, I for one like these programs where the superintendents get involved. We've got a great bunch with a world of knowledge stashed away, and I really appreciate it when we get together and share our knowledge.

A REMINDER - On October 5th the Northern California Turfgrass Council in conjunction with U. C. Cooperative Extension will be holding their "Irrigation for Drought Survival" seminar. It's a very worthwhile program, so please mark that day on your calendar.

We've lost another good friend. First Don Lancaster moved to Modoc County, and now Frank Silva is going to Massacre Canyon Inn (MCI) Golf Course, Gilman Hot Springs, which is close to Hemet, California. We're going to miss that guy, but wish him the very best.

One last item--after much consideration, your Board of Directors voted to increase the membership dues by five dollars. Operating expenses have risen to the point where we found it was necessary to have this increase.

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OUR HOST FOR SEPTEMBER - Glenn Welsh of Corral De Tierra CC started in the golf business 55 years ago in Erie, PA. In talking with Glenn, where he has been you might say, you name it and if it is in the United States, he has been there. Glenn comes from the old school of pro-superintendents that you find more in the eastern part of the country, and is a life member of the P.G.A. In 1950 he was pro/supt. at the San Angelo CC, Texas; 1954 at the Plairmount CC, Altoona, Pennsylvania. After moving around for a number of years, he settled at the Continental CC, Flagstaff, Ariz. Two years ago Glenn came to Corral De Tierra.

The course was built in 1959 in the rolling hills area between Salinas and Monterey. Glenn has completed a conversion to a Toro Automatic irrigation system. He said he has been able to hold his own with water this year. Everything is green. Glenn is real proud of the sand filter system he has installed on his pumping stations. He says anyone who is interested he would be most happy to show and explain to them at the meeting.

Thank you, Glenn.

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Surface Sanding by Bob Livesey, Plaza Golf Course, Visalia

After the meeting at Marin Country Club I ran across an article by Dr. William Daniel of Purdue University which related to sands. I thought it would be appropriate at this time. The article is in the August 1977 issue of Western Landscape News.

Dr. Daniel states that adding a sand layer to an existing soil has been developed as an improvement and management program in Scotland and California. This involved additions of sand applied to the surface of an existing turf area gradually over a period of time. The sand reduces compaction of the surface of the existing soil, greatly improves infiltration, augments removal of excess water and increases usability of the turf area.

I started this type of program on fairways this past spring more to fill and smooth out areas that had settled from construction. Using river sand, we dressed the fairways from tee to green. To this date we have found the above statements to be true on the 10 fairways that were dressed. Our root depth has increased, the burmuda is more drought tolerant which has allowed a cut back on these particular areas in irrigation by 25%. With the heavy soil that I have, I feel that the sand program is going to eliminate a great number of problems we have.

It is interesting to note that since Bill Davis and Dr. Madison started working with the sand program, more of the University research areas in turf from the eastern part of the United States have found it to be an excellent program.

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WILLIAM S. MAYO, 78, of Reno, Nevada passed away August 23, 1977. Bill was a Charter member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California. He was the superintendent at the Presidio Golf Club in San Francisco where the first meeting was held to organize the Northern California Greenkeeper's Association on June 6, 1932. He has been superintendent at many courses but has spent the last 40 years around the Reno area. At the time of his retirement and Class A-Life classification he was in charge of the Brockway Golf Course. Our deepest sympathy to his wife, Mabel, at 1400 Palisade Dr, Reno, NV 89502

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Thanks to George Finnin for sending in the above information.

THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA TURFGRASS COUNCIL in conjunction with U.C. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION presents the 1977 Irrigation Seminar "Irrigation for Drought Survival" on Wednesday, October 5, 1977, Oakland Hilton Hotel, #1 Hegenberger Road, Oakland, California. The purpose of the program is to increase and broaden the technical knowledge and abilities of individuals responsible for the maintenance of irrigation systems. Fill in the registration form and return for the Irrigation Seminar

REGISTRATION FORM

Agency or Company: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Name(s): _____ Job Title(s): _____

Pre-Registration Cost: \$12.00 per person. Pre-Registration Deadline: **September 30, 1977**

Registration fee includes lunch, coffee & program.

Total Registration Fee Enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks payable to NCTC. Mail to: NCTC, P.O. Box 268, Lafayette, CA 94549.

GCSAA 49th International Turfgrass CONFERENCE AND SHOW

February 12-17, 1978

San Antonio, Texas

Brochures and registration materials for GCSAA's 49th International Turfgrass Conference and Show will be mailed to all GCSAA members

Others may send request for materials to GCSAA Headquarters

Send name, address, city State, zip

1617 St. Andrews Drive

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THE SPECIALISTS AGE by Jack Baker, H. V. Carter Co., Inc. Oakland

Whatever happened to "Handy-Andy?" Fortunate is the organization today who employs the man of many talents - he's the biggest time, labor and expense saver yet probably the one that is least appreciated. To begin with, there just are not too many of them around in this day when everyone is a specialist. Not so long ago the "maintenance" man could handle any problem, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, blacksmithing, carpentry, you name it and he could do it.

We compromise arguments by saying that today our needs are so sophisticated in operation and design that it takes a trained "specialist" in his particular area of education, to handle the problems. While some of this is true, how great it would be to offer a willing and helpful hand whatever the problem or particular job to be done. If it means going through a learning process there are more than adequate channels of education and the more well-rounded background a fellow achieves the more he will be in demand and up-grade his salary requirements and value to his employer.

Maintenance and repairs are by nature "dirty" jobs and unless the individual responsible is commended and properly acknowledged for his ability he can easily feel dejected and low in spirits. Pride of accomplishment in giving new life to a piece of equipment that has been out of adjustment and out of service is something to be acknowledged and appreciated.

Much of the progress made in industry today in the development of machinery has come from experiences in the field through suggestions made by the men charged with the repair and maintenance. We take off our caps to our repair men - may they always be appreciated.

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SAFE PESTICIDE USE PROGRAM SUSTAINED - The California Department of Food and Agriculture has received a court opinion which sustains its program for safe pesticide use in California.

Monterey County Superior Court denied a request for a permanent restraining order. Food and Agriculture Director Richard Rominger says this court ruling "clears the way for the orderly implementation of the closed pesticide mixing requirement designed to improve the safety of the working environment for pest control employees."

Growers, governmental agencies and other employees covered by the regulations have to provide their employees with closed mixing systems after July 1.

In hardship cases, the July date may be postponed, if evidence can be shown that the required systems meeting Departmental criteria are on order or being built. No postponement will be allowed after December 31, 1977.

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THRU THE GREEN EDITOR Robert E. Livesey, CGCS
415 N. Akers Road Space 19
Visalia, CA 93277

Deadline Date Fifteenth of Each Month

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NEWS FROM INDUSTRY

For the superintendents who have had problems with 2, 4-D's high volatility causing injury to nearby plants, a new non-volatile form has been approved by EPA. The product is in the form of crystals which go into solution readily and stay in solution. One of the big advantages is that spraying equipment can be easily washed out and used for other purposes. One of the four general categories that the product can be used in is recreation areas, which are parks, golf courses and landscaped areas open to the public. As of this writing, it is not known if the product DEFY has been cleared for use in California. REL

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Look for a knock-down drag-out over Senate Bill 670. This bill is an attempt to transfer responsibility for pesticide programs from the Food and Agriculture Department to the Health Department. At the recent Ag commissioners annual meeting it was found it was thumbs down as is the Food and Ag Department on this bill.

If Senate Bill 670 should pass, I wonder how many more regulations it will bring to our industry. REL

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Frank T. Silva, new address, P. O. Box 2716, Hemet, CA 92343 714 658-4890

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PESTICIDE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION TRAINING MATERIALS is a University of California Cooperative Extension study packet that includes an illustrated basic text covering areas and important concepts required for certification as a commercial pesticide applicator. A set of chapter questions are provided as a study workbook. Guides included to help prepare for specific category certification are: aquatic pest control, forest pest control, industrial and institutional pest control, ornamental and turf-grass control, right-of-way pest control, veterbrate pest control and seed treatment. Also included is EPA's manual, "Apply Pesticides Correctly a guide for commercial applicators." The packet price is \$5.00 California residents add sales tax. Orders of less than \$10.00 must be (on back page)

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