

OUR HOST FOR APRIL - WILLIAM (BILL) SMITH

Bill started 22 years ago as a Maintenance Man at Castlewood Country Club, under George Finnin. In July of 1973 when George retired, Bill was appointed to the position of Superintendent. With the help of his able assistant Gene Gordillo and an 18 man crew they maintain 36 holes of golf, club house grounds, sewer and water service to 130 homes that are built around the course.

Bill says they are in the process of having an automatic Rain Bird system installed on the Valley course. A 1½ million gallon lake has been built for the storage of effluent water.

With the water situation that we have had the past few years quite a few courses are going the effluent route due to availability and cost.

Castlewood was organized in 1924 with the Hill course. The old club house that burnt down 7 years ago was the home of Phoebe Hearst. When Bill came to work for Castlewood the Valley course had just gone under construction.

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Menlo Country Club hosted the March 16th meeting. Thanks to Frank Olivera, Host Superintendent and Joe Rocha for some great hospitality. Since many years had passed since we had a meeting at Menlo, it was good to be welcomed back.

Bill Davis, Environmental Horticulturist at University of California, Davis, gave a talk on tree maintenance. He said to be very careful in selecting material from the nursery. So called bargains are not always the right way to go. He warned to be careful in planting trees to be sure the augur does not compact the sides of the hole. Also staking is very important. Do not try to immobilize the tree trunk. It should be allowed to be flexible. Some trees have forks which split more readily than others. Try to encourage spacings of at least one foot between limbs on the trunks. Bill said there was not much one can do with the grown trees to eliminate the disaster of the last winter. He encourages everyone to be more careful with new plantings.

Pamphlets are available from the Extension Service on tree care. Bill encourages everyone to contact their local Extension office to get advice from the Extension personnel and to take advantage of the printed material.

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BILL DAVIS was honored at the GCSA of Northern California meeting in March. He was praised by Dr. John Madison for his ability to attack scientific problems in a very practical manor. He also is able to disseminate this

information in a way that can be understood. Bill has been the back bone of T A R P (Turfgrass Adaptive Research Program). Carl Dawson, Green Committee Chairman from the Northern California Golf Association complemented Bill on the service he is giving to golf thru the regional meetings and the Golf Course Superintendent Institute which was held for five years at Asilomar.

A plaque was presented to Bill from GCSA of Northern California with the following inscription " Honorary Award, awarded to William B. Davis in appreciation for his special contribution to golf and the golf course superintendent"

Bill has given beyond the call of duty to make all of us richer in knowledge. Our thanks to him for his contribution.

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Bob Ford and his committee have submitted the names of candidates for the upcoming election

Norm Stewart and his committee have submitted names of the annual award recipients

The audit committee is getting ready to go over the books -- WHAT DOES THIS ALL LEAD UP TO?

Another year for our Chapter is coming to an end. Forty-six years ago April 1932 our constitution and bylaws were adopted. Much has transpired over the years. We have come from a small group of dedicated men who got together to exchange ideas and fellowship--Today we are one of the largest Chapters in the nation. Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California is recognized as a leader in upgrading superintendents through education. Through the efforts of this and other Chapters, superintendents have come from the so called peon image to a recognized professional. There are still many things that can and have to be done--like many things it takes time. As you can see it has taken almost a half century to get this far.

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Bob Ford, Nominating committee chairman reports the following nominees appointed for President - Bob Livesey

Vice President - Grady Simril, Jim Ross

Secretary-Treasurer - Jack Jagur, Norm Stewart

Board of Directors - Stan Burgess, Aart de Vos  
Leonard Walsh, Ed Watson

Nominations can be made from the floor

Exercise your right and come and VOTE. REMEMBER IT IS YOUR ASSOCIATION

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A BRIEF REPORT ON THE NATIONAL CONVENTION AND SHOW

This report is a month late, which I apologize for. With the rains and working up budget there was not enough time in the day.

This years program and show was one of the best that I have seen in quite sometime. Overall the education program was excellent. Figures show that more superintendents attended these than ever before. The equipment show was the largest that has ever been put on. From nosing around the equipment show when time would allow, I think you will see quite a bit of new things and improved modifications of some of the standard things in use today. Some of these will be coming on the market now. The new things range from the soil profile probe, that has been off the market for several years to a 5 gang hydraulic mower that can be handled by most of the mediam powered turf tractors.

At the membership and chapter relations committee meeting many good items were discussed. There is not enough room in this news letter to cover each and every one. A few of the things that were discussed and passed on to the board for further action were, golf tournament geing held in the same city as the conference, if possible, conference to be held at the MGM Hotel in Las Vegas in the near future, better room rates, filling superintendent vacancies to involve chapters and their membership, have chapters pick their own membership and chapter relation committee representative.

One of the more important things that took place. The night before the annual meeting, the delegates from California sat down and discussed each of the candidates running for office. This is the first time that something such as this has taken place in several years. The California group has been divided on many issues, if not all of them over the years. At the end of the get together, the group was united. If this can continue, I look for the Federation to come back stronger than ever.

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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

REMEMBER TO PLAY GOLF MEMBERS AND GUESTS MUST ATTEND LUNCH

NORM STEWART, Chairman of Awards Committee reports the selections for Superintendent of the Year, Excellence in Golf Turf Management and Class F awards have been completed and will be given out at the annual meeting.

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WANTED ASSISTANT GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT at San Jose Country Club  
Contact Gordon Brinkworth 408 258-4901

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STEVE KILMER has established his own business "Green Pastures" in the neighboring area of Contra Costa County.

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Our deepest sympathy extended to Walter Boysen in the loss of his wife Nina.

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B V D - by Jack Baker, H. V. Carter Co., Oakland

Years past this has been the standard tab attached to men's underwear, but in the broader sense we find it best applies to a solid business organization who bases B V D on:

- B - Benefits and advantages exclusive in our products and services
- V - Value of the product or service
- D - Dependability and/or long life of the product

To go a little further, BENEFITS are most important when one considers what the product can do to make your job easier and better.

VALUE many times can get bogged-down in a price hassle - perhaps the buyer thinks the price is "too high" - while a closer look might show that while the price is higher you are getting a greater "value" for the amount to be spent. DEPENDABILITY becomes tied into this phase as it can spell longer life, higher quality, better service, etc.

Your supplier's reputation, policies, experience, honesty and dependability are most important and always should be weighed when negotiating prices.

THE HAND OF IMPORTANCE - by Jack Baker

Ever think about your hand as something more important than conveying food and drink to your mouth? Hands serve so many other more vital purposes - it's the first extension of recognition and communication with a new-found friend and the renewing of fellowship with old friends and customers. It has been said that a firm handshake shows genuine concern and intent.

Hands, directed by our brain through a series of nerves and muscles are

responsible for the genius of the inventor, the artist, the musician, technician and other skilled and experienced craftsman and with the proper tool in hand can be the instrument that keeps our expensive turf and grounds maintenance equipment operating to it's full efficiency.

While we are taking time for regular check-ups let's be sure we are giving care to our hands. They truly project our ability to communicate and maintain contacts in our daily lives.

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Northern California Turfgrass Council Field Day - This year the NCTC will stage it's annual Field Day in the Fairfield area. For those of you that may face the use of secondary effluent on your course in the future it will be of particular interest. We will visit the newest treatment facility in Northern California. The Fairfield-Suisun Wastewater Treatment Plant tour will include a lecture by the operations manager and a guided tour of the facility. Then we will move across the road to Warren's Turfgrass Nursery, which is a prime user of this effluent, for a look at their growing grounds and equipment. The day will also include a panel discussion by golf course and park superintendents that currently use secondary effluent. And as always we will have our rib barbecue again this year.

Therefore, mark June 14, 1978 on your calendar for this informative trip. Pre-registration will be required due to the size of the facilities. Hope to see you all there. Mike Dempsey, NCTC Field Day Chairman

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#### TARP (TURFGRASS ADAPTIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM) Regional meetings

Invitations and programs will be sent to club officials and superintendents of clubs in the area where TARP meetings are being held. Bill Davis will be conducting the educational portion of the program. This is a united effort of the Northern California Golf Association, University of California Davis and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California. Be sure and encourage your green chairman to attend with you.

- April 6, Monterey Peninsula Country Club, Pebble Beach
- May 9, Crow Canyon Country Club, San Ramon
- May 18, Sierra View Country Club, Roseville
- June 6, Baywood Golf & Country Club, Eureka
- June 8, Riverview Golf & Country Club, Redding
- July 6, place to be announced
- July 7, Del Rio Golf & Country Club, Modesto
- July 11, place to be announced
- July 25, Meadow Club, Fairfax

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