OUR HOST FOR JANUARY - Paul Dias, Golf Course Superintendent

Saratoga Country Club was established in the "Blue Hills" of Saratoga in 1958 as a 9 hole golf course. Originally open to the public, the club is now a private profit making corporation, aimed at providing a complete recreational complex for its members. The existing golf course is built on 50 of the 100 acres of land that the club owns. Many problems confronted the original club founders, the most significant being the loss of several greens and tees due to irrigation problems and then torrential rains. The irrigation system, designed by the then National Rainbird Sales, is an automatic system. Greens are controlled individually, while tees and fairways are controlled by a multi-valve arrangement, several different areas watering simultaneously. In 1970, the club embarked upon a major program of building 6 tennis courts and an additional level to the clubhouse. During construction of the tennis courts, a temporary tee was built due to the elimination of a fairway. This "temporary" tee is still in use (there is a lesson to be learned here) as the long range plan has not beem implemented to date. Presently several new master development plans are under study for complete renovation of the golf course and the addition of several new holes.

Origin ally taking the position as the Golf Course Superintendent in 1969, I have had to develop new skills to meet the demands of a young and growing club. After a long tutelage under George Santana and a brief stint at Palo Alto Hills, the challenges and rewards provided here have been numerous. The diversity of the job became most evident when the tennis courts were being built, as I became the on site superintendent for construction. As the club grew, so did the responsibilities as the maintenance of the courts, swimming pool, clubhouse were incurred. Along with this went an involvment in the general administration of the club, relating to the daily management of the operations. Primary emphasis on the golf course has been the implementation of a maintenance program geared to improving the existing turf conditions, installation of cart paths, and drainage improvements. Working with a small but efficient crew has provided a constant challenge in trying to meet the needs, and I have to give much credit to these people for making this a successful operation.

= -= ----THRU THE GREEN EDITOR Stanley Burgess == -= Claremont Country Club = = = -= 5295 Broadway Terrace = = = Oakland, CA 94618 = = = ------DEADLINE DATE FIFTEENTH OF EACH MONTH -= We THANK the following Class F members who contributed to our December meeting. The donation helps to provide the fish feed, cocktail hour and gift certificates--the party would not be the success it always is.if it weren't for these friends.

Automatic Rain	Moyer Chemical
Best Products	No. Calif. Golf Association
Keith Braman & Associates	Nunes Turfgrass
H. V. Carter Company	Pen Gro Corporation
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Chem Spray	Rainbird
Duke Equipment	Scotts ProTurf
	Shelton Transfer
Eagle Chemical	C. M. Volkman
Ewing Irrigation	Warren's Turf Nursery
Germains	Western Lawn Equipment
	WesToro
L & V Farm Sales	

Thanks to Murray Nonhof for collecting the monies and to Mrs. Nonhof for printing the sign from the contributors.

We had 149 people attending, 59 played golf. We thank Doug Swineford, Professional for setting up our golf tournament and compiling the scores. Thanks to Carl Miller, Club House Manager and staff for the fish feed and excellent dinner. Then a very special thanks goes also to Larry Lloyd for coordinating everything and making all the things fall together.

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU from the people who attended the meeting.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!!

Norm Stewart, has been appointed the Awards Chairman Recipients in the past for the SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR AWARD have been Cliff Wagoner, CGCS, John Engen, Kaz Maseba, Bob Livesey EXCELLENCE IN GOLF TURF MANAGEMENT AWARD-Gurmit Sandhu, Bill Nigh Ea Watson, Bob Ford.

CLASS F AWARD-Joe Sheffield, Chuck Mangold, Jack Baker, John Steiner.

Fellow Members April is fast approaching and this means our yearly awards are again to be presented to the worthy individuals. Please us this handy prepared blank and get your feelings down on record. Deadline March 16, 1979. Any forms received after this date will not be counted.

There are many deserving people in our Association that merit this

award no matter what category, so let's get some real input this year and make this awards year of 1979 a real challenge.

Thanks Norm Stewart, 1979 Chairman

1979 AWARDS

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR

TURFGRASS EXCELLENCE

CLASS F

COMMENTS: Please enter your comments regarding your selection (s)

Your Name

Please return Promptly to

Norm Stewart 791 Wolfe Road Sunnyvale, CA 94086 408 738-1645

MEMBERSHIP PLAQUE AND PINS AVAILABLE

The plaques are 8 x 12 inch plaque board with a black border with gold plaque class and date plates added. It has the GCSANC emblem and seal on the plaque and reads "GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA IS PROUD TO HONOR name AS A MEMBER since year IN GOOD STANDING, AND AS SUCH IS ENTITLED TO ALL THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF THIS ASSOCIATION" "TO MAKE MORE ABUNDANT THE PLEASURES OF GOLFING"

TO ORDER

Print name as you wish it to appear on plaque Address for shipping purposes city, state and zip The plaque will be shipped directly to you.

Your check of \$16.32 must accompany an order MAIL to GCSA of Northern California 1233 Kansas Avenue, Modesto, CA 95351

PINS are styled after the emblem with green hole and trees and gold filled and available for the price of \$13.00.

You will be able to see the pins and plaques each meeting

SOME WORDS OF WISDOM from Jack Baker, Vice President of H. V. Carter, Co Oakland

THE GREAT "PUT-DOWN"

It's getting to be common-place to employ the "put-down" when considering individuals or issues of the day. This is another form of being critical rather than taking the time to be constructive. We see it all around us from the man-in-the street to the man at the top. The President of the country or the top man in the company attempts to negotiate for settlement of an issue and rather than give him support it is found easier to use the "put-down" sometimes because it seems the popular thing to do. Anyway you look at it this is plain and simply negativism and comes up "zero" in accomplishment.

1979 DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE

1979 plates for plaques (for those persons having them) and current membership card have been mailed to persons whose dues have been received

Now is the time to also be sure that addresses are current, change of positions noted because the new directory will be going to print the middle of February

REMEMBER TO make plans to attend the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's 50th Internationl Turfgrass Conference and Show in Atlanta, Georgia the week of February 4-9- 1979. Besides the four days of education sessions there will be over 200 exhibitors with the newest and the best in turfgrass equipment, products and services.

PRESSURE - PRESSURE by Jack Baker

Have you had your blood pressure checked recently? Might be a good idea to get into the practice of regular check-ups. The pace we're traveling today keeps one so busy that the tendency is to get 'up-tight' and "zoom" goes the blood pressure. It is estimated there are some twenty million Americans living with high blood pressure needing regular monitoring and they are actually making "do-it-yourself blood pressure kits" available. Normal blood pressure is 120/80. What's yours?

In Hawaii they have the expression: "hang-loose" - might be good practice for us, right? Let's relieve those tensions.

Remember January 24-25, 1979

Northern California Turfgrass Council Exposition San Mateo County Fairground

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

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