OUR HOST AND HIS GOLF COURSE

Denny Plato was born and raised in Alameda California. He began his golf career picking up balls at Airway Fairways Driving Range under the direction of Lucious Bateman. After a short time, Denny started taking care of the putting green. At the age of 17, he went to work at Blackberry Farms GC in San Jose. Within two years, he was promoted to superintendent and worked in this capacity until he entered the Marine Corps.

After completing his service obligation, he returned to Blackberry Farms. In September 1966, he moved back to Alameda to take a night irrigation position. In March of 1968, he became foreman under the direction of Earl Vargas and Chris Garcia.

Denny was promoted to Superintendent in 1970. His hobbies are golf, hunting, and fishing. The original Alameda Golf Course, built in 1922, was a 9-hole course. In 1955, an additional 9-hole course was added. In 1967, a 9-hole course was added to the original layout. The original Alameda Golf Course was remodeled and followed in 1962 with a Par-39-hole course. Now the complex consists of 300 acres, 45 holes of golf, lighted driving range, restaurant, lounge, and pro shop.

The Earl Fry Course plays over 100,000 rounds per year, the Jack Clark Course over 80,000 and the Mif Albright Par-3, approximately 50,000 per year.

Jack Theilade is the head professional and Fred Framsted is the General Manager of golf operations.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

DROUGHT... A key word we have been hearing a lot this year, and one which we will become more familiar with as the growing season progresses. As turf professionals, we are going to be in the limelight regarding water conservation measures since our large expanses of land require major quantities of water in order to maintain the “green effect” that golfers are accustomed to seeing and playing on.

Since the water problem is of grave concern at this time, we have changed our original program scheduled for this month’s meeting at the Alameda Golf Complex. Originally, Carey Krefft was scheduled to speak on new sprayer technology. However, due to the urgency of the drought situation, Bob Dauterman, our program coordinator, in conjunction with Cliff Waggoner, and Ali Harivandi, have put together a timely program concerning the effects of reduced irrigation on turfgrasses and landscape plants. They will touch on subjects ranging from what the short and long term effects will be, to some helpful hints on how you can modify your irrigation system. To any Golf Course Superintendent who has gone through a drought, or has experienced manatory rationing, we can use your experiences and information to share with other superintendents. Please call Bob or Cliff. Your input will be more than helpful regarding what to expect in the months to come. This will be a very interesting program, and I urge everyone to attend.

OUR OBJECT: The Collection, Preservation and Dissemination of Scientific and Practical Knowledge, and to Promote the Efficient and Economical Maintenance of Golf Courses.

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John Winskowicz, left, West Star receives congratulations from Emil Yappert, Moyer Chemical, and Bob Pedersen, H.V. Carter, on being selected for the "Class F Merit Award".

George Santana, center, receives the first "Distinguished Service Award" given by the CGCSNC from Paul V.P. Pete Bibber, right, looks on.

Michael Garvale, CGCS, left, is honored with the 1988 "Excellence in Golf Turf Management" Award from Corey Eastwood, CGCS.

Steve Carlton, CGCS receives the "Superintendent of the Year" Award for 1988 from the President.

The 1988/1989 Board of Directors
DATES TO REMEMBER
MAY 10 (TUES) ALAMEDA
MAY 15-16 (S-M) SAN LUIS BAY
JUN 21 (TUES) SARATOGA
JULY 12 (TUES) GREEN HILLS
AUG 16 (TUES) FOUNTAIN GROVE
SEPT
OCT 3 (MON) ANCIL HOFFMAN

WE NEED A GOLF COURSE
JULY 28th
for our GCSANC sponsored junior
golf tournament. Contact Corey
Eastwood, CGCS, at Green Hills if you
can provide a place for the kids to
hold their 2 Man Better Ball Tourney
for the '88 season.

Thanks to Pat Sullivan, writer for
the San Francisco Newspapers, for
attending our last meeting and giving
us some ink in the April 16th
Green Sheet.

MEMBERSHIP
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
Larry Johnson, Mather AFB
Club, Mather AFB—Class D.
Robert Neal, Reed Equipment,
Stockton—Class F
Glen Bell, Golden Bear Equipment,
Martinez, Class F
*******
MEMBERS-30 DAY WAIT
Byron Yoshimura, Santa Clara G&T,
Romain Roberts, Bay Meadows GC,
San Mateo
Kathy Hesketh, Sierra Chemical,
Milpitas
Carey Krefft, NSTC/Farmtec, San
Leandro
Jerry Zella, Sprinkler Irrigation
Specialists, Dublin
*******
PENDING EXAMS
Thomas Nowak, Van Buskirk GC,
Stockton
Carol Lozito, Bishop GC, Bishop
Edward Ferreira Jr., Royal Vista GC,
San Ramon
Darren Markus, Gilroy G&CC, Gilroy
Cliff Rourke, Riverside GC, Coyote
*Must take exam this month or
remain a Class D
James Mannion, Lincoln Park, SF
Sean Sweeney, Sharp Park, Pacifica

“One day someone will wake up and
make the greens playable. Putting on
tricked up greens like this is no fun
at all. Now you just tap the ball and
pray to God to get within 10 to 12
feet. If that's golf, I'm in the wrong
league.

Fuzzy Zoeller

What they said about the
greens at Augusta

Masters Chairman Hord Hardin made
one brief statement: "The players on
the tour have been playing so many
courses not set up like this that they
are not used to it since the last
major."

Curtis Strange, 1987 player of the
year, "I have to question if Mr. Jones
would've wanted it this way. I just
wonder. I don't feel like I'm out of
line. I'm no greenskeeper, but the
greens are burn't up. Some have no
grass."

Tom Watson, twice a winner of this
tournament, is a staunch supporter
of Paul Latshaw, course
superintendent at the National.
"The greens are fair. This
man knows what he is
doing," Watson said. "He's not gonna let the
greens get away from him.
Six time Masters champion Jack
Nicklaus agrees there is reason for
concern (con't next page)
Masters con’t

but didn’t lash out at tournament officials. "When they changed the greens in '81, they only rebuilt some of them,"
Nicklaus said. "Because of the difference in substructures, it causes them to dry at different speeds. They went to bent
grass in an effort for more consistent putting surfaces. Because of the substructures, they still aren’t consistent.

"They try to prepare a perfect golf course on every hole. The problem is they single cut one, double cut one, and
triple cut another. That makes all the greens have different speeds. But they try to do the best job for us."

"Every time you hear complaints on the first two days, they put a little water on the greens. They’ll be fine for
Saturday." (Thanks to Mike McCraw, Superintendent at Aptos Seascape, for bringing back this information from
Augusta.)

In answer to the charges that the attempts to make the course too tough only in the last couple of years, here is

"Our overall aim at Augusta National has been to provide a golf course of considerable natural beauty, relatively
easy for the average golfer to play, and at the same time testing for the expert player striving to better par
figures..... Obviously, with a course as wide open as needed to accommodate the average golfer, we can only tighten it
up by increasing the difficulty of play around the hole.

"This we attempt to do during the tournament by placing the flags in more difficult and exacting positions and
by increasing the speed of the greens...... Additionally, we try to maintain our greens of such a firmness that they will
only hold a well-played shot and not a ball that has been hit without the backspin reasonably to be expected, consider-
ing the length of the shot." That pretty well debunks the theory that fast, hard greens are new.

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ALAMEDA, CA 94501

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS
ASSOCIATION
OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

NAME
CLUB OR BUSINESS

city

I will attend _____ yes ____ no play golf _____ yes ___ no

MEETING AND LUNCH MANDATORY TO PLAY GOLF

Guest Name
Foursome Preference

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