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THRU THE GREEN

Published monthly by the
Golf Course Superintendent's
Association of
Northern California

From The President

Superintendent, Pete Bowman, CGCS and the staff at Diablo Grande did a wonderful job of hosting the Annual Scholarship Research and Education meeting. Two of the adjectives that come to mind when trying to describe the course are **spectacular** and to me **overwhelming**. It was a great day for golf and the Scholarship Fund. The Association is also grateful to all the tee sponsors who were so generous in supporting this tournament. Credit is also due Mike Ligon from H.V. Carter and John Holmquist, Automatic Rain, for getting it all organized.

By now all the members should have received their new membership directory for 1996-1997. Please check if your information is correct. Every effort has been made to furnish up to date and accurate information. However, if the members don't officially inform the office of occupational and employment changes it cannot be input. This is your responsibility.

Included with the Directory was a Scholarship application and information. Please share it with your crew members. The Scholarship Committee Chairman, Gary Carls, is working to target individuals specifically in the golf industry.

I have had a couple of comments regarding my President's Messages. The opinions expressed were, I was preaching and trying to tell members how to dress and act. Maybe I was. If I offended you, I apologize, but that doesn't mean I won't say something again if it needs to be said.

I have asked Robert Costa, Newsletter Editor, to print the GCSANC Code of Ethics in this Newsletter. Ask yourself this question. When was the last time I took the time to read the Code of Ethics? Here I go preaching again, anyway, please read it. My favorite is number seven. It says it all.

See you at the next meeting.

Joseph Rodriguez, CGCS
President

Office Notes

By: Barbara Mikel

Due to the overwhelming response to the San Juan Oaks meeting and the necessity of limited play, I would like to review the Association's guidelines for meeting reservations, guests, and payment.

Each meeting notice includes a deadline cancellation date and time. Don't expect a refund if you cancel your reservations after that date and/or time. The Board of Directors is historically unsympathetic to any deviation on this matter.



Barbara Mikel, Executive Secretary and Robert Costa, CGCS, Program Chair enjoy San Juan Oaks meeting.

We send out meeting notices with directions, prices, schedules and a return envelope. I would prefer receiving your reservation on the meeting notice form with payment by the deadline date.

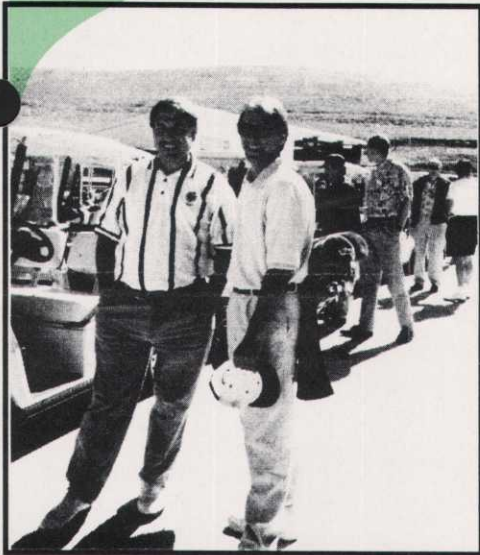
If your dog ate the notice, fax me your reservation and mail your check. Don't assume because you faxed your reservation that you are confirmed. A mailed reservation with check will take priority over any faxed reservation I receive. I also prefer not to collect money (cash or checks) at the meeting. I prepare in advance a receipt for your benefit I should not have an amount in the "Due" column.

Check in with me prior to the meeting to collect your receipt. I know getting your Tee assignments and pairings from Tom Jackson is more important than getting your receipt, but Tom does not always have the most current information regarding last minute reservations. Typically the reservations are faxed to him two or more days prior to the meeting to allow him to begin working on them. Last minute arrivals in the mail get added later (more reason to get your reservation in by the deadline date so you will be on the list).

Lastly, guests — the Association allows a member to bring one guest unless otherwise indicated on your meeting notice. You should include payment for your guest. You and your guest should check in together. If you are in a foursome preference is listed on the meeting notice. Confirmed means you have all made reservations to attend and play together. If you hope to play with Joe and John, don't list them in the confirmed foursome, that only confuses the issue if they don't come to the meeting. Providing an index is to your advantage. There is no way of knowing your golf ability and you may be paired with a player of varying skill unless you tell us how well you play.

(Continued on page 3, col 1)

THRU THE GREEN



Office Notes (Cont'd)

Walk in reservations are strongly discouraged. We work with the host superintendent and his/her staff to provide reliable numbers for lunch, golf etc. In the case of the San Juan Oaks meeting, box lunches were provided by an off-site vendor based upon numbers provided to them. It is not possible to accommodate unknown attendees under these circumstances.

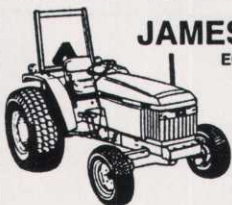
Golf at San Juan Oaks on September 12, 1996 was met by Association members with rave reviews. The course was beautiful with its old oaks and wandering streams. The club house, pictured above, is still under construction, but is most impressive as it nears completion.

Pictured at left, golfers gather for the shot gun start at 10:30. 70 golfers enjoyed brand new golf carts, a delicious box lunch and fairways unmarred by divots. Those who played expressed appreciation for the opportunity to play this brand new course. Mild temperatures and a calm day with slight breeze picking up mid afternoon made weather conditions ideal for the round of golf at San Juan Oaks.

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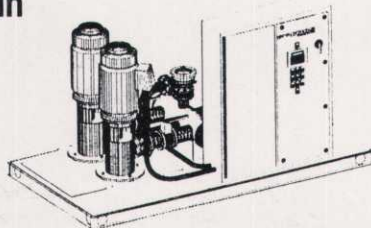
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Boardroom Briefs

- Bob Costa announced the completion of the Superintendent Institute brochures and anticipates mailing to occur in mid September. The Bodega Bay area, which was being considered by the Education Committee as a possible site for the 1997 Institute appears unlikely.
- The board unanimously recommended that a General Meeting, again be scheduled for January. The meeting would include an educational program, open forum discussion and dinner. A location for a suitable site is being explored.
- The education committee will meet on September 25th to begin developing a program for the 1997 state meeting.
- Gary Carls announced the distribution of scholarship applications to numerous colleges. In addition, a scholarship application was included along with the recent mailing of the Membership Directory.
- Dave Davies continues to gather information on turfgrass research projects and plans to summarize his findings in a future newsletter article.
- Rich Lavine reported the affiliation process with the GCSAA has been completed, GCSANC is one of only eight chapters nationwide to have done so.
- Dave Davies, fresh from a trip to America's Heartland provided the Board with a written summary of the Chapter Relations meeting. One of the more lively issues discussed was a proposal to increase the annual GCSAA dues.
- Details for the upcoming December meeting are being finalized according to Blake Swint, Tournament Chairperson. A meeting was scheduled the following day to finalize costs, etc.
- Appropriate pictures for the forthcoming GCSANC promotional brochure are being sought. The text has been completed and there is hope the brochure may be completed in November.
- Forrest Arthur provided costs for logoed merchandise through a prominent vendor. A possible arrangement with GCSAA is also being explored.
- A financial report, for publication to the membership, is being prepared by Association Secretary Treasurer, Dave Davies. Look for Dave's report in an upcoming issue of *Thru The Green*.
- Preliminary plans were discussed to promote the upcoming 65th anniversary of the GCSANC.
- The Board unanimously approved a motion to establish a dress code for Board Members. A jacket and tie will be required for all

monthly meetings, as well as Board Meetings conducted at a golf club.

- The Board requested that editorial review of all advertisements conducted and apologizes for the questionable content of the ad which appeared in the September issue.

GCSANC Code of Ethics

This Code is established to promote and maintain the highest professional standards of service and conduct among the Membership of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California (GCSANC).

As a Member of the GCSANC, I accept and fully agree to abide by this Code and pledge myself to:

1. Recognize and discharge all my responsibilities and duties in such a fashion as to be a credit to this Association and profession.
2. Act and speak in a manner which will not cause discredit to our profession or Association.
3. Make my presence known to the home Superintendent when visiting a club and to not abuse the privilege of playing golf at any member's club by bringing uninvited guests.
4. Refrain from expressing opinions to, or visiting with, golf club officials or members in regard to maintenance practices without the express permission and knowledge of the Superintendent of the club in question, whether or not a member of the Association.
5. Refrain from applying for a position without the definite knowledge of its vacancy.
6. Base endorsements, either written or verbal by means of any medium, strictly upon satisfactory personal experiences within the item identified.
7. Lend my support to, and actively participate in, the efforts of my local chapter and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) to improve public understanding the recognition of the profession of golf course management.



Tom Jackson
Don Naumann
Ron Seibel

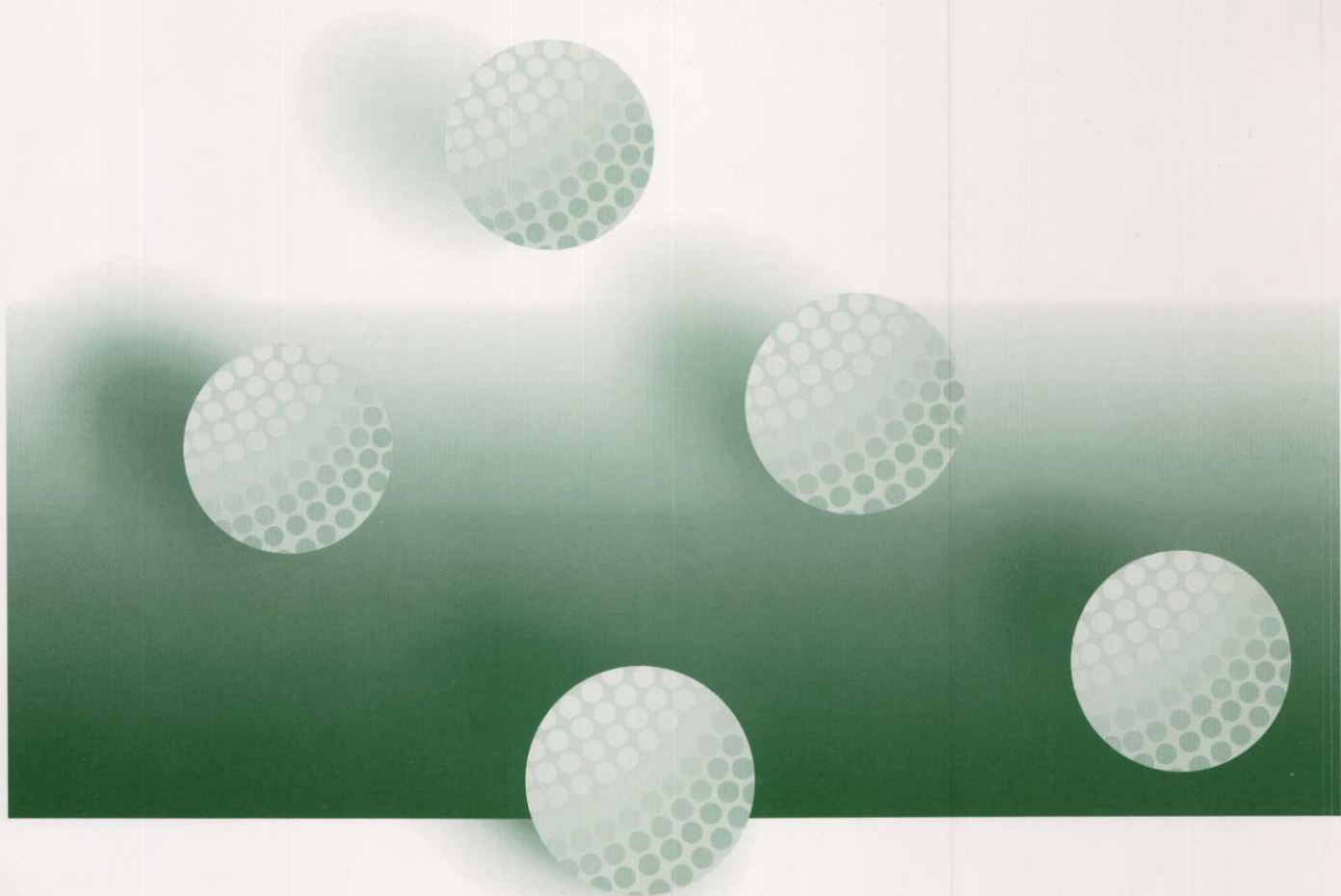
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Horticulture Conference Scheduled for November

The 1996 Environmental Horticulture Conference has been scheduled for Thursday, November 14th. The conference, featuring topics on general horticulture, turfgrass and laws and regulations will be held at Centennial Hall in Hayward. Cost of the seminar is \$30.00 and includes refreshments and lunch. For more information, contact Darrell Ledford at (510) 373-5745 (4.5 CDFA hours have been approved)

Scholarship Campaign Begins

An effort to seek college students worthy of GCSANC scholarship funding has been launched with the recent mailing of the scholarship application form. Scholarship committee members Gary Carls and John Holmquist have made a concerted effort to make it known to college students that money is available through GCSANC. In order to qualify applicants must be currently enrolled in college, have an interest in turfgrass management and be a resident of Northern California. If you are aware of anyone who may be qualified, make the scholarship application you received with your Directory available to them or contact Gary or John directly.

GCSAA Regional Seminars Announced

GCSANC will play host to two GCSAA sponsored seminars in January of 1997. **Golf Course Safety, Security and Risk Management** and **The Superintendent as a Grow-In Manager**, both one day seminars have been scheduled for January 8th and 9th at a site yet to be determined.

Quick Quotes

"The secret of managing is to keep the guys who hate you away from the guys who are undecided."

— Casey Stengel —



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GCSAA Chapter Relations Meeting Summary

By Dave Davies

The GCSAA Chapter Relations Meeting was held September 7 and 8 at the Association Headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas. A number of important issues were discussed as well as a report by GCSAA staff on the current condition of the Association.

The issue of primary concern to our membership is the proposed dues increase for 1997. GCSAA has introduced a number of new educational programs, entered the World Wide Web and addressed the issues brought forward in the 1993 Arthur Andersen Report. This report was instrumental in the reorganization of the Association's business structure. As a result of restructuring staff responsibilities, challenging current business practices and focusing efforts in the direction of Board mandates, the Association has been able to forego a dues increase for the last 6 years. A great deal of discussion took place among the delegates with opinions ranging from "no increase" to "why has it taken so long" and "it should be more". The GCSAA Board expects to have a proposal for an increase to \$250 for A and B members at the conference in Las Vegas.

A progress report on the current status of Chapter reaffiliation was given. I was pleased to see that our Chapter was one of only 8 nationwide that has completed the process. Congratulations to both last years and the current board for the timely completion of this process.

Membership standards were another not item for discussion. Currently GCSAA has no standards for membership. Upon successful completion of a specific number of years of service, members are advanced to the next level of membership. It is the feeling of the delegates in attendance that GCSAA should establish standards for education or chapter involvement to maintain membership status or move on to the next membership level. Specifics for the standards have not been discussed and the membership committee has been given a timetable of 5-7 years for implementation. Delegates voiced a desire to accelerate that schedule if at all possible. President Bruce Williams, CGCS, noted the priority will be to do a thorough job of setting up the standards so they are easily recognizable by the public as well as allied associations in our industry. This will help our membership in attaining the recognition as professionals in our industry. This will help our membership in attaining the recognition

as professionals in our industry.

In addition to membership standards, there is a desire on the part of GCSAA to standardize the logo used by chapters. The purpose of this is to make our logo more recognizable as the standard for golf course superintendents, in much the same way as the PGA logo is now used. Image and public recognition are prominent items in the current boards agenda. Discussion by delegates centered on ways to develop logos that allowed individual chapters their own identity while still maintaining a common GCSAA logo.

The C membership classification, changed during the election in Orlando, is under review by the membership committee. There is a desire by some current C members who are "career assistants" to retain their right to vote. A survey was sent to all C members prior to the conference and the results of this survey were used in the discussion regarding possible classification changes. The membership committee is expected to have a proposed bylaw change ready for a vote in Las Vegas. Details for the change are not complete but should involve an opportunity to upgrade to a new voting classification after three years service. This upgrade will also include a dues increase to the current A rate.

A number of issues that you may read about in the upcoming issues of Newline are the new GCSAA web site, the chapter seminar rebate program, member service center, a member credit union, changes in member health insurance and the code of ethics.

The most permanent theme of the conference was the continuing efforts on the part of GCSAA to enhance and improve our level of professionalism through the advancement of our educational opportunities. Public perception of our industry continues to be less than desirable from the non-golfing community and we as an industry need to continue to improve our position in the professional arena.

I was impressed with the number of very creative, hard working individuals that have the best interests of our profession in mind. It is important to remember than opinions need to be voiced to your current board, questions should be asked and information should be made available to all those affected. Without these avenues of communication we have no association and we lose the trust and faith we need to have in each other. **Get Involved!!!** ♦

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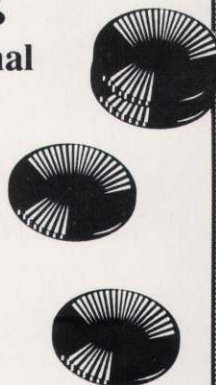
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Golf Results

Gross Teams

First Place	John Holmquist / Dave Bingham	66
Second Place	Mike Garvale / Tim Long	67
Third Place	Mike Ligon / Bill Davis	67
Fourth Place	Craig Kilcoyn / Rod Kilcoyne	68

Net Teams

First Place	Ken Schwark / Jim Duhig	49
Second Place	Dave Graves / Mike Eastwood	50
Third Place	John Parodi / Tim Smith	52
Fourth Place	Jack Kincaid / Jeff Jones	54

Closest-To-The-Hole

Hole # 4	Mike Eastwood	5' 4"
Hole #7	Bob Old	8' 6"
Hole #11	Ben Oller	11' 8"
Hole #17	Dave Bingham	3' 6"

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Naumann's Norcal News

Lou Tonelli, Superintendent at Lake Merced G & CC in Daly City, is in the midst of a total reconstruction of all 18 greens and five sets of tees for each hole. Included are new bunkers and fairway modifications. The design was by Rees Jones . . . Peter Galea is the assistant superintendent at Half Moon Bay Golf Links new course, South Wavecrest. Peter is the man in charge of the construction and will stay on after to maintain the new course. He is working with Superintendent Dan Miller . . . Things are also fast and furious at Spyglass Hill GC in Pebble Beach. Superintendent Eric Johnson reports they are in the midst of a major drainage project which includes raising all 18 fairways a minimum of four inches with sand and resodding. There is also some tee modification work going on . . . Northern California lost two of its more respected superintendents with the passing of Roy King and Lou Poulson. Roy was the superintendent at Sharon Heights G & CC prior to his retirement a few years ago. Lou was the superintendent at Riverview CC in Redding before leaving to go into sales. Lou was instrumental in starting the Sierra Nevada GCSA. Both men will be missed. ♦



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