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THRU THE GREEN

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From The President Meeting Highlights (Cont'd)

As I write this, I am preparing to head for Las Vegas and the 68th International Golf Course Conference and Show. If you have never attended a conference, you should really make the effort to attend one. Just the trade show itself is worth the trip. The educational opportunities are unsurpassed and the camaraderie you share with your peers from around the world is a great experience.

In regards to the National Association we still have many members of our local chapter who are not members. Membership in the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America is a definite plus and has much to offer the Superintendent. One of its main objectives is to inform and educate its membership and strive for the betterment of the Golf Course Superintendents future. Among the pluses are educational seminars, a reference library, and Golf Course Management magazine as well as other timely publications. There are also other special services such as a merchandise program, insurance, travel services, employment referral and admittance to all major golf tournaments. Another important facet of membership is the Certification Program, where you can earn the title of Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS). This is only after you have completed a rigorous program of study and testing in all phases related to golf course maintenance and history. The CGCS accreditation means you have achieved a high standard of professional excellence in your chosen field.

This is also the time of year to start thinking about what you want to do with all that spare time on your hands. One suggestion I have for you, is to get involved with your local Association. Run for office and be a part of this great organization. There really isn't a good excuse for not participating. The best excuse is "I don't have the time." As one of my colleagues so aptly put it, you probably waste more time hanging out in the Pro Shop each morning than I put in on Association business each day. This is my second time around and I don't regret it one bit. I have met people from all over the country and made some life long friends. I would not trade the experiences I have had by being an officer of the GCSANC for anything. By not fully participating in all facets of our Association you are depriving yourself and not utilizing the full potential of your membership.

See you in Vegas
Joseph Rodriguez, CGCS
President

Dues Increase: Mona stated that the immediate financial health of the Association was not in jeopardy and failure to approve a dues increase at this year's conference would not likely result in any immediate cutbacks in member services. If a dues increase was passed, Mona said, it would be earmarked for future projects, programs and service enhancement. Mona noted that other sources of revenue; such as advertising in GCM, Conference and Show and sponsorships have grown significantly in recent years.

Education: Mona stated that in spite of the financial loss which results from the education program, it is one of the highest priorities as a membership service and efforts will continue to be made to improve the quality of GCSAA seminars.

Mona closed his discussion with a story which told of how a hotel executive's success was the result of his genuine care for his customers. Mona likened this example to the staff at GCSAA who he also said is committed, and cares about the needs of the membership. ▶

Rick Key Attains CGCS Status

Rick Key, Golf Course Superintendent at the City of Salinas Fairways Golf Course and Sherwood Green Golf Course has been designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent by the GCSAA. Key has served as the Golf Course Superintendent at the Salinas courses since 1993. As part of the certification process an on site inspection of Key's golf course operation was conducted by two certified golf course Superintendents; **Paul Dias**, CGCS Palo Alto Municipal Golf Course and **Jeff Markow**, CGCS Cypress Point Club.

Cal Poly Alumni Breakfast Scheduled

A breakfast for Cal Poly, SLO and Pomona alumni has been scheduled at the GCSAA Conference in Las Vegas. The breakfast will be held at the MGM Grand Hotel Studio 10, at 8:00 a.m. on Monday February 10th. Advance reservations are required and can be made by contacting Dave Wehner (805) 756-2279. Cost of the breakfast is \$16.00.

A Closer Look — NorCal's Barbara Mikel

By: Bob Costa



Most of you know her from that familiar response, "Golf Course Superintendents this is Barbara," or perhaps you have seen and met her at monthly events, painstakingly handling the registration. She's Barbara Mikel, Executive Secretary, and stabilizing force of the GCSANC. She's served in that capacity since 1990 and it was a

strange twist of fate that led her to our doorstep.

It was June of 1990 when Barbara was first introduced to Jean LaDuc. The chance meeting occurred because Barbara's business, Easi Data Processing, maintained an office adjoining the GCSANC office in San Jose. "It so happens that the current Secretary had suddenly left," Barbara recalls. "As a result, Jean, who was serving as a Board Member at the time was making frequent trips to the office." When Jean shared her plight, Barbara offered to assist with some computer work on an interim basis. Before long she presented a formal proposal for her services to the Board, which they wisely accepted. The rest, to our benefit, is history.

For a considerable time Barbara's work was behind the

scenes so to speak. She regularly attended Board of Directors meetings, as she still does, and quickly became aware of the needs and functions of the Association. Barbara credits Cliff and Myrtle Wagoner and Jean Laduc for shortening the learning curve. "Their help was invaluable," she said. "They never failed to come to the rescue whenever I had a question."

The position of Executive Secretary for an Association with over 500 members is much more complex than it may appear. Aside from the normal bookkeeping, accounting and reporting function of the business, there is a lot more required to keep an Association of this size running. In a given day Barbara may handle membership questions, ques-

tions from the public, job referrals, write her newsletter article, interface with Board Members, all of which makes for a non dull office environment. "Maybe that's what originally attracted me to the position," she said. "Being a Gemini, I like variety and this position has never failed to provide that." Preparing monthly meeting notices, mailings and handling reservations provide the most interesting part of the job for her, and attending the monthly meetings gives her the opportunity to do the two things she truly enjoys, flying and meeting the GCSANC members.

Her love for flying began out of necessity she told me. "In the early 70's I owned several outdoor advertising companies

See Barbara Mikel on page 4

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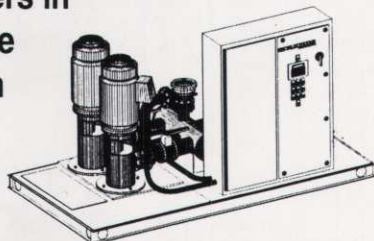
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Water Everywhere And Not A Drop To Drink!

By: Mike Huck, Agronomist, Western Region

I wish there was no reason to write on this subject matter, but under the circumstances I feel it is most appropriate. The floods that have hit the north central portion of California and the Reno/Tahoe Nevada areas are truly a disaster. Many people's lives have been affected by this unusual weather pattern with countless dollars of damage and loss. Those of us unaffected by the floods should all count our blessings.

Golf courses will be cleaning up and repairing damage for a long period of time to follow. Direct kill of turf due to submersion may not be too severe since most of the flood water was very cold, the result of snow melt. The amount of submersion damage, however, will vary depending upon the following six factors:

- (1) Turfgrass species
- (2) Total amount of time submerged
- (3) Depth of the water
- (4) Light intensity
- (5) Physiological condition of the turf
- (6) Temperature

There is also a real potential for problems to develop from silt and soil deposits that may not be realized until the stress of summer arrives. A layer of fine particle soil deposited over a sand putting green will seal off the surface if not adequately cleaned. Large deposits should first be removed by shovel on greens and tees. Then I would strongly recommend that contaminated greens and tees be washed thoroughly to remove any silt or soil before play commences.

Large deposits of sand, silt and soil that

may be left behind on fairways and roughs will require a lot of time and labor to remove. A tractor with a grading box is the best method to begin the process of removing the "bulk" of the material. Hosing fairways clean after the bulk of the material is mechanically removed is not practical. Power bunker rakes and plow blades are excellent for finishing the job without causing too much damage to the turf. At the very least enough of the soil must be removed so that a majority of the grass blades are exposed to sunlight.

These fine silt and soil particles can cause problems in fairways where a layer is left behind in the thatch. Irrigation becomes difficult and localized dry spots often surface. About all that can be done is to aerate fairways often and pulverize the cores. This will blend native soil with the silt deposits and over time break up the layers. Slicing fairways is a quick way to open up problem dry spots as they develop. During the coming summer slicing may become a nonstop program in worst case scenarios.

Replanting may be required of some areas and at this time of year you may be forced to use some grass varieties you would normally not consider. Perennial ryegrass will make a relatively quick, playable fairway, but if your desire is to return to bermudagrass, the transition may be painful and slow. You may want to consider using a fine fescue or redtop as a nurse crop and then begin overseeding common bermudagrass back into the stand when soil temperatures begin to reach the mid-sixties.

These two grasses will not provide the quality of fairway in the short term that ryegrass will, but over the long run, the bermudagrass will reestablish more rapidly within either of these turfs.

Finally, communicate with your golfers regarding what they can expect this coming season and it would be a great idea to begin this process now. If you feel posting this article where golfers can read it would be beneficial, please feel free to do so. Good luck to all of you in your golf course recovery efforts and one last thing, please mark your calendars for our upcoming regional conferences. ▶

Barbara Mikel (Cont'd)

based in the San Fernando Valley and Bay Area." Tiring of the commute along highway 5, she decided to learn to fly her own plane, and obtained her license in 1977. She recalls one occasion when past Association President, Brian Bagley flew with her to a meeting in Napa. "Brian maintained total composure until landing. That is when I heard this long sigh. I don't think he was critiquing the landing, I think he was happy to be on the ground again."

Like Brian, who was grateful for a safe landing, as an Association we too are grateful for the many contributions and professionalism Barbara has brought to our Association. Through her guidance, dedication and direction we have been able to assume a position of leadership within our industry. Thank you, Barbara, and perhaps we should thank fate as well. ▶



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We are now very pleased to announce that this product has been developed. Below you will see a comparison of the old 30X50 and our new product, *Shelton T.S.-1*.

SAND PARTICLE SIZE COMPARISON

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Sample I.D.	% Sand	Silt and Clay	Gravel 2.0 mm	Vry. Crs. 1.0 mm	Coarse .5 mm	Medium .25 mm	Fine .15 mm	Vry. Fin. .05 mm
30X50	96.5	3.5	0.1	2.9	52.9	31	7.7	1.9
TS-1	98.2	1.8	0	2.7	53.1	31.6	7.7	3.1

As you can see, these two sands are very nearly identical. The primary difference is that the TS-1 has less silt and clay than the 30X50, but, correspondingly more very fine sand. These two sets of data are similar enough to have come from the very same sample.

We hope that you will be as pleased with this development as we are. This material has excellent consistency and long term availability, making this an excellent choice for top-dressing those greens that were built with 30X50. Or, replacing the 30X50 you were using as top-dressing for greens built from similar materials.

Please call for your individual price quote or to discuss this situation in more detail. As always, we appreciate your business.

Sincerely,

M.D. Moore

Matt Moore

See you in Las Vegas. I'll be in booth #1633/1635 with Stabilizer.

1996/1997 Scholarship Recipients

The GCSANC is please to announce our 1996/1997 Scholarship Recipients. We recognize these students for their academic achievements as well as their commitment to the golf course industry.

- Jeffrey A. Sunseri
- Rogelio Martinez
- Stephen W. Leas
- Lester J. Morales
- Nyles Gregory
- Ronald L. Fish
- James M. Paresi
- Kurtis A. Wolford
- Jason Green
- Robert Cadwell
- Robert Gary Budelli
- Trent Barr
- Christopher William Hogan
- Gregory J. Orsik

The Scholarship Committee would like to thank those members who recommended applicants, for their involvement in this process. Through your support of these individuals we felt we were able to assist many students already employed within our industry in furthering their education. In the future this can only be a positive benefit to our group as a whole. We look forward to strengthening this program even more in the future with your continued support. Thank you.

1996/1997 Scholarship Committee —
 Gary K. Carls, CGCS
 John Holmquist,
 Steve Franzen
 Curtis Black



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Boardroom Briefs

- ◆ Scholarship Chairman, **Gary Carls** announced the 1997 Scholarship winners. 14 recipients were selected by the scholarship committee which included **Curtis Black, Steve Franzen** and **John Holmquist**.
- ◆ **Dave Davies**, Research Chairman announced a proposal for a joint bentgrass research project involving the USGA, GCSAA and the NTEP. The project will have 15 sites nationally, and will likely include 1 site in California.
- ◆ After continued discussion, the Board has asked Membership Chairman **Wayne Lindeloff** to draft a set of guidelines for membership classification. The guidelines are expected to assist the Board in the classification process.
- ◆ **Blake Swint** who is coordinating the upcoming State Meeting, announced the meeting location is set for the Westin Hotel, located in Santa Clara, on May 18 and 19. **Don Naumann** has made arrangements for the BBQ to be held at a Saratoga winery. **Bob Costa** who is chairing the educational program stated that the education committee hopes to have the educational program completed by the upcoming January 29th meeting.
- ◆ Plans for the 1997 Christmas party have been assigned to Tournament Co-chairman **Forrest Arthur**. Possible sites included the Aquarium.
- ◆ Discussion continued on the proposal to modify the meeting registration costs for retired members. A formal draft of the amendment will be prepared for a Board vote at the February meeting.
- ◆ A 65 year committee has been sanctioned by the Board. The committees function will be to plan activities throughout the upcoming year to promote the 65th Anniversary of GCSANC.
- ◆ A formal plan was unveiled for sale of NorCal logoed merchandise. After months of review, **Forrest Arthur** and **Bob Costa** presented to the Board a program which will make available to the membership a limited line of merchandise, four times per year. Sales will be conducted during registration at the Annual Meeting, Scholarship Tournament, Golf Course Institute and General Meeting.

- ◆ Judging for the 1996 Newsletter competition will occur at the February Board Meeting. The winner will be the recipient of a \$500.00 check presented at the Annual Meeting on April 14th.
- ◆ The Board reviewed the 1997 proposed budget and recommendations were made to work towards increasing the revenue generated by the Scholarship Tournament while reducing the expenses associated with the Christmas Party and Superintendent Pro Tournament. ↗

Naumann's NorCal News

John Redmond has accepted the Superintendent position at Almaden Country Club in San Jose. John was the Assistant under **Mike Phillips** prior to his promotion . . . There has been some reshuffling at Santa Teresa GC and San Jose Muni Golf Courses. **Jim Ross** has been promoted to special projects and construction superintendent for both facilities. **Gary Carls, CGCS** was the Superintendent at San Jose Muni is now at Santa Teresa in a similar position but is also in charge of both facilities as the Director of Grounds Maintenance. **Joe Vollaire** is the new Superintendent at San Jose Muni. Joe was the Assistant at Quail lodge prior to his move **Jeff Shafer** is returning back to the Bay Area as the Superintendent of the new Wente Golf Course in Pleasanton. Jeff has spent the last year or so as Superintendent at Morgan Run CC in So Calif. Prior to that, he was the Superintendent at Hiddenbrooke CC in Vallejo . . . **Leonard Theis** is the new Superintendent at Ford Ord GC in Monterey. Leonard was the Superintendent at San Mateo Muni.

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Dues Increase Highlights GCSAA Ballot Issues

A dues increase of 20% for all member classifications will highlight a list of election issues at the upcoming GCSAA annual meeting in Las Vegas. The ballot question will be put before the membership following the recommendation from GCSAA chapter delegates during their September meeting. The recommendation to raise the Annual Dues was made to the GCSAA Board of Directors so GCSAA can maintain it's level of service and to progress with new programs and initiatives for the future. The last dues increase occurred in 1990.

Also on the ballot are four bylaw changes. They include: An amendment which would waive the membership dues for Class AA-Life members. A new member classification - Class C-v for Assistant Superintendents with more

than three years experience. This membership classification would give the Class C-v members a right to vote. They would be required to pay the same dues as Class A and B members and be bound by the same dual membership requirement. A third bylaw amendment would result in a technical change in the wording of the dual requirement bylaw, stating that dual membership shall be required upon joining and **maintained** thereafter. The last recommended bylaw change concerns adding a second option to the retired membership classification. Retiring members who have completed a minimum of 20 years in any member classification may retire in that classification and maintain all the privileges the Association affords that classification. Each of the recommended bylaw changes require two thirds vote of all members present and voting at the Annual Meeting.

Survey's Suggest Stress Relief

A recent survey which asked the membership for input on the selection of GCSAA regional seminars proved to be a success. Over 45 responses were returned with the January meeting registration form. An overwhelming majority of the respondents preferred a one day seminar, with stress management being the popular topic. **Personal Stress Management** and **Turfgrass Stress Management** were the top vote getters, suggesting the membership is

concerned about stress and is looking for some relief. The results of the survey were reviewed by the Board at the January meeting and a recommendation was made to schedule these seminars on January 7th & 8th, 1998. The consensus amongst the board was that these seminars provided a good mix of both management and agronomic topics. A final schedule will be released pending GCSAA approval. Thank you to those who participated in the survey.

Meeting Sites Wanted

Gary Carls, recently appointed as the Program Chairman, is in the process of developing the 1997 event schedule. If you have an interest in hosting a monthly meeting, give Gary a call at (408) 453-5530. Meeting sites are available beginning in March 1997.

Did You Know?

In a recent survey conducted by Golf Digest, 500 subscribers were asked the question; **Who is the most important person at your club or course?** 48% responded the Golf Course Superintendent, while 25% chose the Club Pro.

Quick Quote

"He's Gone" - 49ers owner Ed DeBartolo when asked the future of 49er offensive coordinator, Marc Tressman.

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