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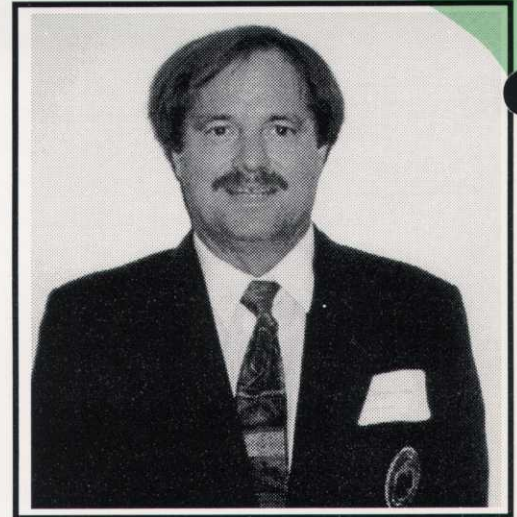
THRU THE GREEN

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

From The President

I look forward to serving as president of our Association until next April. Our Association membership total has surpassed 500. The demands of serving a greater number of members will require the support and involvement of individuals willing to serve on one or more of our committees. To serve on a committee one should expect to attend committee meetings three to six times per year, depending on the needs of that committee. All of our committees are the responsibility of an individual Director, or Officers.

Dave Davies, CGCS, Vice-President, will chair the Public Relations Committee, serve as our chapter liaison with GCSAA and will represent our Association as a Board Member of the California Golf Course Superintendents Association. Gary Carls, CGCS, Secretary-Treasurer, will continue to chair the Program Committee. Bob Costa, CGCS will continue to serve as Education-Publications Committee Chairman and Newsletter Editor. Wayne Lindelof, CGCS, will chair the Scholarship-Research Committee. Forrest Arthur will chair the Tournament Committee. Mike Nunemacher will chair the Membership Committee during his one year appointed term. Past President Joe Rodriguez, CGCS, will chair the Bylaw, Nominating and Auditing Committees. Affiliate Representative John Holmquist and Jim Karrick will organize and run this years Scholarship, Research and Education



Tournament that will take place September 8th. Feel free to contact a Board Member if you are willing to help. Serving on a committee is an excellent way to get involved and also help one determine one would like to serve on the Board in the future.

It's not too late to register to attend the State Conference in Santa Clara. Contact D. J. King at the CGCSA office, (619) 566-3400. For those that are attending, let's be good hosts.

I wish you well,

Blake Swint
President

Office Notes

By: *Barbara Mikel*

Another very successful Annual Meeting is behind us. I would like to say thank you to the one departing Board Member, Rich Lavine, CGCS and welcome to Mike Nunemacher. Rich has been on the board for a long and successful tenure and I hope he can be persuaded to continue to serve the Association in the future. I am looking forward to working with this year's Officers and Board of Directors. There is always something new and beneficial from each "changing of the guard."

Please take the time to read and record your answers.

1. We mail monthly meeting notices to each member so you can:
 - a. Use if for scratch paper
 - b. Use it to remind you to call in your reservation
 - c. You don't know why
 - d. To mail late so it arrives the day after the meeting

- e. To make your meeting reservation, provide the Tournament Chairman with your request for golf foursome and indexes, and to give the Host Superintendent's Club house and Pro Shop advance notice of how many steaks and how many carts we need so they can make preparations in advance.

I know the last notice actually requested you to call for cart reservations by that is exceptional.

Seriously, we are all busy this time of the year. If you find the form on the bottom of your basket fax it to the office, then mail your check and reservation form. I will have the information from the fax and there is no need to use your time and mine playing phone tag. Check with your requested foursome to make sure they are going to the meeting. If you have a question make a note on the reservation form if necessary. I often read those things!

A great big thank you to the 90% who don't need this test because they pass every month by mailing the registration form and check early.

**Congratulations
Award
Winners**

Congratulations to those
GCSANC Award Winners:

Rich Lavine, CGCS
Superintendent of the Year
Pictured far left.

Clifford Wagoner, CGCS
Distinguished Service Award
Pictured above with Randy
Gai, CGCS and Joe Rodriguez,
CGCS

Tony Steers
Turfgrass Excellence Award
Pictured below

Mike Ligon
Affiliate Merit Award
Not pictured



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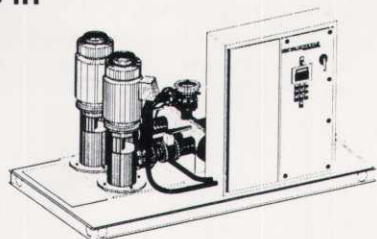
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USGA

What's Up Doc? Part II The Rest of the Story

By: Mike Huck - USGA Green Section, Western Region

Since Pat Gross has been preoccupied with the arrival of his second child, Brian Patrick, a bouncing 8 lb. 6 oz. little guy, I will be writing "back to back" in regard to our monthly articles. Continuing on with notes from the spring of 1997 conferences.

Weed Control

Dr. Clark Throssell at Purdue University has been studying fall preemergence applications. It was reported that *Barricade* applied at the 65 lb. ai / acre in mid-November gave up to 80% control of crabgrass and goosegrass the following spring. Control increased to 90% when a spring follow-up application of 0.25 lb. ai / acre was made

Dr. Nick Christians of Iowa State University has been investigating the control of crabgrass with corn gluten meal. This is an update on a project that began several years ago. The material actually acts as a growth regulator on the root system as opposed to a herbicide. Combined with other environmental stresses, it causes a rapid decline of grassy seedlings. Large scale application may not yet be practical as 20 to 40 lbs per 1000 ft/sq ft are required for control. It was also reported to provide "progressive control" where control increases each season with repeated use. Besides crabgrass, *Poa annua* and dandelions also appear to be susceptible to this material.

For those of you who would rather fight Kikuyugrass than give in, there may be great news on the horizon. It is rumored that BASF is again pursuing registration of *Quinclorac* for turf! For those of you who

don't contend with Kikuyu (consider yourselves lucky!) this product also controls clover and crabgrass postemergence. Keep your fingers crossed that we will be able to get it in California.

New Grasses

Dr. William Meyer of Rutgers Univeristy reported that a great deal of effort will be placed upon identifying transition ryegrasses with low heat tolerance and high mowing quality. This is some great news for you folks in the desert areas.

Biological Control

Dr. Peter Dernoeden reported poor results with his irrigation injected biological control evaluation at the University of Maryland during the summer of 1996. His feeling was that many of the problems may have been related to poor application efficiency of the irrigation system. He did note a 3 to 5 day extension of fungicide control and feels that there is justification for ongoing research in this area which will continue during the summer of 1997.

Soil Amendments

Dr. David Miner of Iowa State University reports that porous ceramics and calcined clays reduced the incidence of localized dry spots on high-sand-content greens. Increased nutrient retention was also noted and, in particular, some potassium was retained that would otherwise move through the soil. He found that the calcined clay is prone to breaking down during freeze and thaw cycles and the porous ceramic products were very stable under the same condition. One other interesting observation was the

plots containing these materials (versus unamended plots) held down cover longer. This phenomenon is related to these products holding more water, freezing, and staying cold longer.

Hazardous Trees

Dr. Martin McKenzie, a forest pathologist with the USDA Forest Service, offers the following advice: Inspect nursery stock closely before purchasing. Look for a strong union (U-shaped branching) and trim out V-shaped branching immediately. Feeder roots extend 1.5 to 2.5 times the height of the tree. If root pruning is to be performed use the drip line of the tree as a perimeter. Root pruning inside the drip line will eventually lead to decline. When root pruning, there is no need to go deeper than 18 inches as 90% of the roots are contained within this area. Trees cannot heal damaged sites, they can only seal it off with additional growth. Painting tree wound will not help a tree. A serious wound is an indication that the tree should be taken down. Most importantly, trees must be looked upon as "renewable resources," not monuments. If a tree is damaged or in a state of decline, trimming a tree will not change the genetic makeup of the specimen. Take it down and plant a new tree! (I figure that everyone can always use some "ammo" to help them get a few trees cut down!)

Well that pretty much covers the highlights (that pertain to the Western States) of various turf conferences that our staff has attended across the country this season. I hope you found this information both useful and interesting. Feel free to give our office a call if Pat or I can help supply you with any additional information. We wish everyone has a great summer without turf loss.



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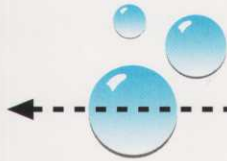
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Naumann's NorCal News

P J Spellman is the new superintendent at Gold Creek Golf Resort in Placerville, California. Gold Creek is a new 27 hole project that is still under construction. The first 18 holes will be open in August of this year. P J will oversee the construction of the final nine holes. P J was the assistant at Poppy Hills Golf Course in Pebble Beach prior to his move . . . **Bret Wolf** is the new Superintendent at San Geronimo Golf Course in San Geronimo, California. Bret was an assistant in Austin Texas prior to his promotion. San Geronimo GC is owned by Evergreen Alliance. This group manages many golf courses throughout the southwest, midwest, and now California. They also oversee the golf course at Stanford University . . . **Ken Linvill** is the new superintendent at Ruby Hill Golf Course in Pleasanton. Ken was the assistant under John Jorgensen prior to his promotion . . . **Tony Schuster** is the new superintendent at Carmel Valley Ranch Golf Course in Carmel. Tony was working at Castle Pines prior to his move to God's Country. He is replacing **Scott McBeth** who has moved to be the superintendent at the Boulders Golf & Country Club in Arizona. Both Carmel Valley Ranch and The Boulders are managed by the same company under the agronomic direction of **Ed Miller**.

Did You Know?

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California will be 65 years old on June 6, 1997. Formed under the name Northern California Greenskeeper Association, the first meeting took place at the Presidio Golf Club.

Quick Quotes

"I was going to buy a copy of **The Power of Positive Thinking**, and then I thought: What the hell good would that do?"
— **Ronnie Shakes**



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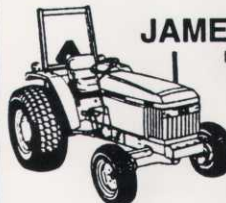
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Congratulations Scholarship Winners

Scholarships were awarded to six of this year's 14 recipients.

Pictured at left:

Kurtis Wolford, Roger Martinez, Robert Cadwell, Jefferey Sunseri, and Jason Green.

Not Pictured, Ben Fish.

NorCal Members Qualify For Cash

A new program has been announced, which could pay each participating NorCal member up to \$100 in cash. All that is required to collect is the publication of an article in "Thru The Green." Hopeful of increasing member participation in the newsletter, the Board recently approved a proposal by Bob Costa which provides members a cash payment of \$50.00 for each article published during the calendar year. (Payment will be made for a maximum of two articles per year.) The new program replaces the previous incentive program which awarded \$500.00 annually, to the member chosen to have written the best article.

A summary of the program rules follow:

1. A check for \$50 will be awarded to qualified members for articles which appear in the GCSANC newsletter, "Thru The Green."
2. Payment will be made to the author, for a maximum of two articles per calendar year.
3. All members in each membership classification qualify. Current Board Members are exempt.
4. Articles must be non-commercial in nature.
5. Articles submitted will be used at the discretion of the Board of Directors and the newsletter editor.
6. Authors must be a current member of GCSANC to receive payment.

In Memory

I was saddened to hear of the passing of Andy Wheeler on February 21, 1997. Andy is survived by his wife Ardyth "Artie" and three sons, David, Doug and Scott. In his eight years with Water Utilities Services, Andy established many friendships within the turfgrass industry. I'll always remember him for his resemblance to Jonathan Winters and his smile which was always present whenever he came calling. Even when he was stricken with cancer last year, he didn't let that stop him, continuing to deliver the service that you could always count on. It was a testament to his fighting spirit which was a part of his life, having served as a gunner in the Air Force in WWII. Although he has left us and will surely be missed by all of his friends, he will always be fondly remembered.

— Ken Schwark

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Boardroom Briefs

◆ Past President **Rich Lavine, CGCS** reported that a check for \$1,150 was received from the GCSAA for the two regional seminars hosted by the GCSANC in January.

◆ A membership drive is being coordinated by membership chairman, **Wayne Lindeloff, CGCS**. The goal is to contact potential NorCal members via a letter, combined with the new GCSANC brochure, by May 1st. Wayne will be working with **Mike Ravel** in this effort.

◆ **Bob Costa, CGCS** reports the Institute committee has developed a topic list for the annual November conference. Through the efforts of **Gary Carls, CGCS, Dave Davies, CGCS, Ray Davies, Brian Bagley** and **Dr. Ali Harivandi** the committee has developed a program which is centered on renovation and the masterplan process.

◆ In a related note, the Board held preliminary discussions on the possible use of a sponsor for major events such as the Institute. A suggestion was made to solicit the input of the membership by way of a survey on this potentially controversial subject.

◆ A new Newsletter Article Incentive Program was proposed by **Bob Costa, CGCS** and approved by the Board. The program

features the payment of cash for articles used in the newsletter. (See article on page 6 for details.)

◆ A proposal was approved to increase the ad rates for advertisements appearing in the newsletter. The increase was proposed to help defray some of the costs associated with the production of the newsletter.

◆ The board approved a recommendation to modify the letterhead on the GCSANC stationery. Gone are the objective statement at the bottom, along with the slogan "To Make More Abundant The Pleasures of Golfing." Added will be the GCSAA mission statement and the GCSAA affiliate logo.

◆ President **Blake Swint** proposed a 50/50 raffle at all regular monthly meetings. 50% of the purse will go to the individual with the winning ticket with the remaining 50% subsidizing the reduced fee program for Class A Life and Retired members.

◆ **Dave Davies, CGCS** has been named chairman of the newly founded Public Relations Committee. The committee is being formed to provide opportunities for the enhancement of the superintendents public image and enhance the professional status of the Golf Course Superintendent in the golfing and non-golfing media.

State Meeting Offers It All

The upcoming State Superintendents Meeting, May 18th and 19th offers a little bit for everyone. Whether it be education, golf, social activities or family fun, this year's program has it all. The weekend begins with special discount coupons available for use at Great America. Saturday night, preceding the conference, the California GCSA will be hosting a hospitality Suite at the Westin Hotel. Sunday it's back to business for the Conference and Trade Show, but by evening it's time to relax in style at the gala outdoor barbecue hosted by Savannah Channel Vineyards in the Saratoga Foothills. On Monday, it's time to play again, this time it's golf at Santa Clara Golf and Tennis. So whether it is family, golf or education on your agenda, take advantage of this great weekend and be a part of the California Golf Course Superintendents Annual Meeting.

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