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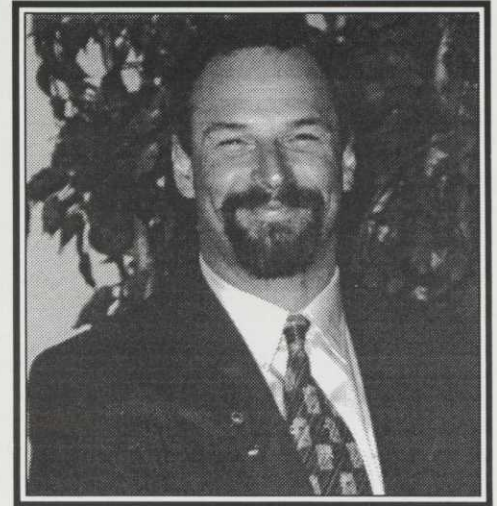
THRU THE GREEN

From The President

The most difficult part of the office of President is dealing with the monthly President's message. I have spoken with a number of people that have served different associations and this may be the only point we all agree on. There are a number of subjects that can be dealt with, volunteerism, looking toward the future, current events or even the weather. I think I have touched on all of those, so let me take a few sentences to reflect on some changes that will have a dramatic effect on me personally and in some part on other members of this Association. The look of the Board will not be changing immediately, however, Bob Costa has given notice that the March newsletter issue will be his last as editor. I think perhaps the new baby at the Costa household may have played a part in the decision. Congratulations Anita and Bob. Bob has done a fantastic job putting together the information every month and has worked equally hard on establishing advertising programs for the publication. I can't say enough about the effort Bob has put into our newsletter.

Forest Arthur will be leaving Spanish Bay effective December 1. He will be taking on the responsibilities of a new course construction in the Monterey area. Although this is a great opportunity for him personally, it will again put the nominating committee in a difficult spot trying to fill an officers position on the Board. Forest has been committed to supporting the media director position since discussion first began and was the driving force behind establishing a merchandise program. We hope to see Forest back on the board in some capacity as his schedule allows.

The final change has little to do with the Association, but everything to do with what goes on at our facility. Those of you that have lost a staff member to promotion know what I mean. There is a great sense of pride in seeing someone you have worked with and have great respect for advance in the industry. Without sounding too corny, it's like watching part of your family move away. My assistant has left for the greener pastures of a life as a superintendent. I wish him all the best and have supported him throughout the difficult process of interviews that have led him to this exciting new



Dave Davies, CGCS

challenge. It has taken me almost a week to realize how much trust and responsibility I had placed on him. Without the help of others we have a more difficult road to achieve the goals we set for ourselves. Look around, make sure those around you know how much you appreciate their support.

Have a very happy holiday season.

Dave Davies, CGCS
President

Did You Know?

Five CGSANC members have been selected to participate in the GCSAA Ambassador's Speakers Program, Rich Lavine, CGCS, Ray Davies, CGCS, Dave Davies, CGCS, Gary Sayre, CGCS and Bob Costa, CGCS will join twenty two other GCSAA members nationally in the joint outreach program between PLCAA, RISE and GCSAA. The program was launched in November 1996 with a goal of motivating and preparing industry representatives to educate the public about the green industry's environmental benefits and to address consumer concerns.

Office Notes

By Barbara Mikel

Well, some days "Murphy's Law" really does apply. I find myself writing this article late and having the topics I wanted to review sitting on a computer that is "out to lunch". I am using old software on my notebook computer which I have almost forgotten how to use! I am sure we all go through these moments but why do they have to show up just before a holiday (Thanksgiving)?

The "Murphy" principle was certainly at work when some members received their 1999 cards with 1998 expiration date. Oops! For those of you kind enough to call, rest assured we will be forwarding cards with 1999 expiration dates. We'll hold all other renewals until we receive corrected cards with 1999 expiration dates. Looks like Murphy visited our card supplier as well!

One place Murphy wasn't this year was in Santa Cruz for the Superintendent's Institute. From all reports received those in attendance were extremely satisfied with the speakers, topics and Trade Show exhibits. Everyone associated with the Education Committee, (Bob Costa, CGCS, Brian Bagley, Dr. Ali Harivandi, Gary K. Carls, CGCS, Dave Davies, CGCS, and Bruce Olson) should be congratulated on a job well done!

Glad to see you are sending email addresses with your renewals. I would like to publish these in the next directory. I know once you get "hooked" to email and Web access the harder it is to return to "conventional" methods of communications. I wonder how many of you need to get a NCGA Handicap? Please call the office to get yours established. Reminder — dues are delinquent if not received by December 31, 1998. A late fee of \$20.00 will be charged in January, 1999.

Congratulations!

Affiliate member, Gachina Landscape Management of Menlo Park came home with their hands full from this year's 43rd annual CLCA State Trophy Awards Ceremony held on October 30th in Santa Barbara. Gachina received five awards, making a total of 30 local, state and national awards won over the last eight years.

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WHEN IT MATTERS.

Expect the Unexpected — It's Winter (Concluded)

neously they ask, "How does it look out there, are we ready to go?" As your grip tightens on your coffee cup, you smile and say, "I'll let you know."

Tuesday — The annual leaf drop has begun in earnest. It's a process you have become all too familiar with at Fallenleaf Country Club. During your morning staff meeting, you instruct four employees to blow leaves from the fairways and greens, it's critical that they are removed to accommodate early morning play and so mowing can occur. By six o'clock your blowers are in action. After a morning trip around the golf course you're back in your office, "might as well start organizing those files," you say. "Tomorrow I'm going to organize those pictures, they've been on my desk all summer." Stopping only briefly to check your phone messages you quickly realize your morning plans have changed. It's an angry resident who was awakened shortly after 6:00 by the sound of "those damn blowers". He wants it stopped. Nothing before eight o'clock he screams. "I'll call the county," he threatens, as the call abruptly ends. Next message, it's the head professional. "Just wanted to let you know," he says, "We've had a few complaints from some of the members the last week or so, the leaves are starting to become a problem." Attempting to gain your composure you nervously run your hands through your hair, not much there you think.

Wednesday — You are awakened by the sound of water running through your gutters. Startled, you think, "I thought the rain wasn't supposed to begin until late afternoon." Squinting at the clock you realize it's only 3:00 a.m. Am I dreaming? Glancing at the clock again, you realized it's now four o'clock and you haven't slept a wink. It's raining harder and all you can think about is that tee that you were supposed to sod this morning. You've got 3,000 square feet of sod at the shop ready to install. Everything was ready, now it's all mud. "I can't sleep," you mumble, "I might as well just take a shower and go in early." As you bend over to kiss your wife good bye, she says, "What time is it?" "4:30," you say. "Didn't you promise me that as soon as winter arrived there would be no more early days?" She says. "I promise, this is the last time," you respond as you gently close the door.

Thursday — As you read the morning paper, you shake your head. The headlines read, "Biggest Storm of Season Surprises

Forecasters" Two inches of rain in 24 hours, and the forecast was for around a half inch. "How do these guys keep their jobs?" you wonder. Three hours later your worst fears have been confirmed. Eight trees are down, branches and leaves are strewn everywhere, everyone of the sixty-five bunkers have water in them and much of the sand has been washed from the face. The tee that you had spent \$2,000 dollars to laser level eroded so badly, the drainage is exposed. Shaking your head in disbelief, you try to regain your composure as you lean up against one of the six pallets of sod that rest nearby.

Friday — It's decision time. There is a break in the weather. The long range forecast calls for clear skies today and Saturday, but more rain is due to arrive late Sunday. Glancing at the tournament schedule you note that the Holiday Classic is scheduled for Sunday. Your dilemma is that much of the course is still to wet to mow. Ideally you would like to wait another day, yet you know Saturday is likely to be busy. A short walk on the course confirms your decision. You decide to delay all fairway mowing until Saturday, greens won't be mowed until Sunday. In a move that is guaranteed to cost you a few percentage points in the latest job approval ratings you decide to install temporary greens on four holes. Your objective — to try to have the course in the best possible shape for Sunday.

Saturday — It's your weekend off, you deserve it. While cooking breakfast for your family, the phone rings. Your daughter, as is usually the case, races to answer it. "Dad, it's for you," she says. "It's the golf course." "Don't mean to bother you at home," your assistant says, "but I thought you would want to know the fairway mower got stuck at the top of the hill on #1. We tried to pull it out with the Tractor, but it got stuck too, so then . . ."

** This article was written for the NCGA News and will be appearing in the NCGA News Winter Issue. ↗*

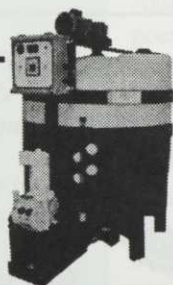
Turf Program Added At January Show

If summer represents the time of year to focus on getting the job done, winter is the time for professional development. Beginning with the Institute in November, and ending with a GCSAA regional seminar in May, Nor Cal Superintendents have plenty of opportunities for continuing education, and now there is more!

Beginning this January, The GCSANC will be participating in the Northern California Turf and Landscape Council's annual show in Santa Clara. The educational program is scheduled for Thursday, January 21st and will include three sessions.

"We were looking for opportunities to partner with the allied associations," said program chairman, Gary Carls, CGCS. "This just seemed like a natural. The NCTLC has historically not been an event that superintendents attend, we're hoping a program designed specifically for golf will provide some additional incentive." Carl's, who was instrumental in putting the program together says the show and the educational sessions are available to all golf industry personnel at no charge.

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Educational Program
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Session # 1

7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - NCTL Laws and Regulations Session

Session #2

20:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

A "Computerized Central - What's Out There?"

Speaker - Mr Andy Slack - Spot Water Management

B "Benefits of Deep-Drill Aerification"

Speaker - Mr. Larry Lane - Pro Greens Turf Services

C "Aquatic Habitat Management"

Speaker -Mr. Terence McNabb - Resource Management Inc.

Session #3

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

A "GPS/GIS For Golf Course Maintenance"

Speaker - Mr. Terence McNabb - Resource Management Inc.

B "Grass Closing And The Gene Gun"

Speaker - Dr. Kevin Turner - The O.M. Scotts Company

C "Bioorganic Products - Good Or Bad? Serious Solutions To Serious Problems"

Speaker - Mr. Bill Nolde - California Turf Products Co.

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USGA

Be Forewarned — Gray Leaf Spot May Be Moving West

By: Mike Huck - USGA Green Section

At our annual fall staff meeting a topic of discussion was the increasing spread of Gray Leaf Spot (*Pyricularia grisea*) disease on perennial ryegrass fairways and roughs. Severe damage from this disease was first noted three years ago in the Mid-Atlantic Region. This past summer the occurrence spread as far west as Illinois. In some cases, the disease pressure was nothing more than a nuisance, while in other situations major areas of fairways and roughs were destroyed.

The question now becomes "Will the spread continue farther west into overseeding and high desert climates where perennial ryegrass is commonly cultured?" It seems it may be possible since disease occurrence has been noted where extreme heat, drought stress, and dryness are occurring in combination. Humidity enhances disease development and spread but may not be a requirement for infection to take place.

This disease has the potential to affect stands grown perennially or as winter overseedings. It can be perceived as

helpful at the time of bermudagrass transition by knocking out then unwanted rye with the arrival of heat. However, seedling injury has been noted at infected sites as late as October during reestablishment of damaged areas. This could potentially raise havoc during the fall overseeding or reestablishment where perennial rye is the primary turf.

The Mid-Atlantic Green Section office describes the progression of damage as follows:

- The symptoms begin as reddish-brown spots or wilted turf, which easily can be confused with brown patch or Pythium, but no mycelium will be present.
- Leaf lesions can be brown and resemble *Helminthosporium sp.*
- The turf appears to be under wilt stress, but does not respond to water.
- Characteristics of gray leaf spot include a distinct twisting of the leaf tip often resembling the shape of a fishhook.
- The disease initially (but not always) begins in the rough, or intermediate rough and progresses to fairways.

Gray leaf spot can be controlled with fungicides. However, spray intervals need to be compressed and/or longer lasting, more expensive systemic fungicides must be used. It is expensive to control this disease with some programs costing upwards of \$50,000 this past year. Not a great amount of information is available regarding cultural practices recommended to avoid leaf spot development other than:

- Watering deeply and infrequently during the daytime since spores are blown by wind and splashed by water with disease development primarily occurring during evening.
- Avoid soluble nitrogen applications or excessive nitrogen applications.

A few perennial ryegrass varieties offering some gray leaf spot resistance have been identified by the University of Maryland and if you are interested in this information, please contact our office.

Hopefully, the western states will not have to contend with this disease, but just in case, be forewarned. ↗

Naumann's NorCal News

Forrest Arthur has left the Links at Spanish Bay to become the Superintendent at the Preserve in Carmel Valley. It is a new course in the hills above Carmel designed by Tom Fazio . . . **Frank Zamazal** has left Oakhurst Country Club to become the Superintendent at Eagle Ridge G C. It is a new golf course in Gilroy and is being managed by Crown Golf . . . **Simon Summerville** has accepted the Superintendent position at Mountain Shadows Golf Resort in Rhonert Park. He is replacing **Tom Brower** who has moved back to Washington. Simon was the superintendent at Lake Sherwood C C in Thousand Oaks . . . **Cliff Rourke** is the new superintendent at La Contenta C C. Cliff was the Superintendent at Summitpointe GC in Milpitas prior to his move . . . **Bob Franchine** is back in Northern California and has accepted the Superintendent position at San Geronimo G C . . . **Mark Bunte** is the new Director of Golf Course Maintenance at Somoma Golf Club. Mark was the superintendent at Lake Wildwood C C in Penn Valley. Replacing Mark is **Ken Wolford**. Ken has been the assistant at Palo Alto Muni Golf Course before making the move to the Gold Country.

Boardroom Briefs

- President Dave Davies, CGCS, scheduled the annual budget committee meeting for Thursday night, December 10, 1998, prior to the Christmas meeting. Dave will be joined by committee members Gary Carls, CGCS, Barbara Mikel and Bob Costa, CGCS.
- New additions to the web site are forthcoming. Look for the information on the sponsorship/advertising program, and information on the Media Director position.
- Blake Swint proposed a bylaws change that would allow for the current board to be expanded to 9 members with the term increased from two years to three. The add a person, add a year concept will be floated by Terry Grasso at an upcoming meeting at Burlingame CC.
- A Public Relations strategy and planning meeting has been tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, January 6th in Pleasanton. The meeting will include a visit from Greg Crawford, who will work with the committee in the development of a 12 month public relations working plan.
- Director Ken Williams, CGCS, will chair a committee who's responsibility it will be to plan an educational field day scheduled for May 1999.
- The NCGA is about to make a selection for the newly created Turf Advisor position. Dave Davies, CGCS, who recently attended a breakfast at the NCGA annual meeting informed the board that the NCGA's decision was imminent.
- Terry Grasso announced that San Jose Country Club's Joel Ahern has agreed to host the Superintendent/Pro golf tournament on June 7, 1999.
- Bob Costa, CGCS, reported that in spite of a disappointing turnout, the Institute was both an educational and financial success. Costa recommended to the board that consideration be given to reserving management topics for other educational activities and that a change in the Santa Cruz venue might be in order. Costa's recommendations will be taken before the Education Committee when they reconvene in March.
- Vice President, Gary Carl's, fresh from a weekend State Board of Directors meeting, informed the Board that the State Superintendent meeting has been scheduled for May 17 and 18, 1999 at the Nugget in Nevada. Gary also reported that funds are being solicited by the State Association from the NCGA and SCGA to assist in financing an economic impact study to demonstrate golf's impact on the California economy.
- Wayne Lindelof, CGCS, and Chapter Certification liaison's request to show the recently released GCSAA Certification video at the annual meeting in April was approved.
- Newsletter Editor, Bob Costa, CGCS, announced to the Board that he is resigning as newsletter editor effective March 1st. Costa who has served as the editor for the last three years is likely to be replaced by Director Ken Williams, CGCS.

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