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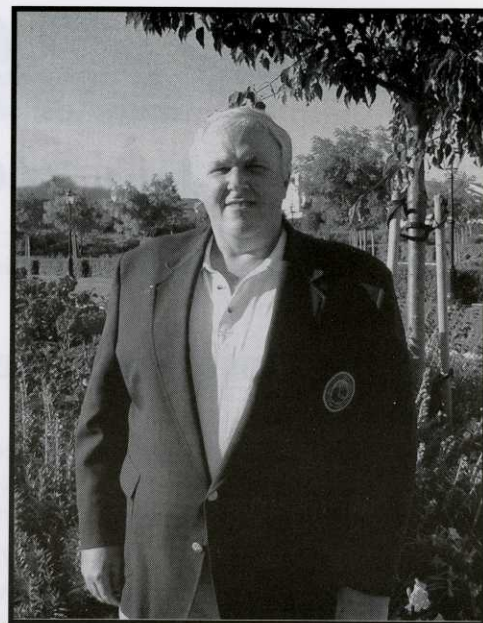
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Association of
Northern California

From the President

It's hard to believe but another month has passed and it's time to create another monthly column. Hope everyone has got his or her turf off to a flying start as we head in to summer. Summer brings us the annual edition of the Superintendent/Pro event at the superb Green Hills C.C. for what is shaping up to be a quality event. You can also check out the 100th version of the U.S. Open at Pebble Beach. Be advised in the policy change that has been instituted by the U.S.G.A. that only allows the GCSAA gold card member admission (no spouse or family privileges as in the past) on a daily basis.

As the PDI and other items are discussed on the GCSAA website and other forums I would like to make an editorial comment. I see the discussion forums as a great place to share knowledge and new ideas. I don't see them as a place to make personal attacks on individuals or organizations. As I have become more involved in these forums it amazes me how personal a lot of the attacks are. There are cases of misinterpretation of what is being written, so I try and be very clear of my intent before I post an item. There are some serious issues that effect us all that can be great discussion topics on these forums. Let's hope for the good of all, we don't have to be in the position where we post items using abbreviations, which are obvious to all, to make personal attacks. Let's all be civil and discuss the issues and not get personal. I encourage everyone to visit the California website and participate in a constructive manner. We need to know what you think.

The State Chapter (CGCSA) will be discussing the State Meeting at its next board meeting in June. San Diego was a great host but attendance was poor. We will be discussing all of the factors involved including location, cost, time of year and education. If you have any ideas or thoughts please let us know. A lot of effort goes towards planning these events



President Gary Carls, CGCS

and we need to try and figure out a solution that is best for all.

In the months ahead, I encourage everyone to try and get out and visit some of your neighbor's courses. We all know how much more fun it is to go play somewhere different. In the city, we call it benchmarking. You could also call it networking. It's a long summer ahead but take some time to be with family and friends. It was once written about our work, "Do the best job you can, and then go home". None of us can work miracles no matter how hard we try. Take some time and enjoy. Until next month

Office Notes

By: Barbara Mikel

About three and one half years ago, the GCSANC Budget Committee reviewed the Association's budget and future membership requirements. Part of that discussion was a need to proceed with certain technology driven innovations modeled on those of the GCSAA. At the time, few of the Board of Directors or the general membership used a computer for much except irrigation work on golf courses.

Today the entire board is "internet

Office Notes (Cont'd)

literate". The general membership is also becoming more and more "wired". A quick review of the membership directory will document the advent of a fax machine in the maintenance office and also the arrival of email and the computer age in the superintendent's workplace.

Looking back, the Board's willingness to look to the future has meant a great deal. Today, service has been improved and large amounts of time and money have been saved. I hope to implement additional technology improvements in the areas of dues renewal, meeting reservations, membership updating and listing. One of the most important improvements to the Association business office is communication. As we pursue more avenues to that end, the better the membership will be served.

Gary Carls, CGCS Receives Environmental Certification

Gary K. Carls, CGCS at Sunnyvale Golf Course has earned Environmental Management Specialist Certificates from the GCSAA for completing specialization programs in Employee Safety and Right-to-Know, Golf Course Development, and Water Quality and Application. Carls has now successfully completed all six specialization areas for Environmental Management Program certification. Congratulations, Gary!

US Open (Cont'd)

variety ways, including tasks like raking bunkers and top dressing divots. "Our core staff will continue to perform most of the mowing and course set up activities he said. "Together, we will all be working very closely with the USGA staff."

Why so much help? "It's the US Open" said Horton "expectations are high". "A lot of the staff's time will be spent simply mowing the golf course each day, except the rough of course," he says smiling.

Media Scorecard

- *Press Release - Palo Alto Jr. Golf donation*
- *Golf Column - SJ Mercury - Audubon Program*
- *Awards Section - Superintendent Weekly - Jr. Golf Contribution*
- *Golf Today - Question of the Month*

Naumann's NorCal News

Mark Logan is the new Superintendent at Myacama Golf Course near Santa Rosa. This is a new Jack Nicklaus Golf Course under construction right now.....**Gil Styles** has accepted the new position at Summittpointe Golf Course in Milpitas. Gil was the Superintendent at Hiddenbrooke GC in Vallejo prior to his move.....**PJ Spellman** has been a little busy as of late. Since taking over the reins from **Rich Scholes** at Corral De Tierra last year, he has renovated nine holes. The work included new tees, reshaping bunkers, fairways and a few greens.....

Superintendents Show Support for Palo Alto Juniors

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California continued their support of junior golf by recently contributing \$465 dollars to the 7th Annual Celebration of Jr. Golf, held at Palo Alto Golf Club on Saturday, May 6th. The donation was raised at the GCSANC Annual meeting this past January.

Saturday's tournament, sponsored by the City of Palo Alto, raises funds to support the East Palo Alto Junior Golf Club. The annual event, which has raised over \$100,000 dollars since it's inception, is coordinated by Bob Hoover and Palo Alto Golf Course PGA professionals, Hank Pollex, Rich Bin, Brad Lozares and course superintendent, Dave Davies. Davies, the GCSANC past president and Paul Dias, Director of Parks and Golf were instrumental in spearheading the superintendents fund raising efforts.

"Having been apart of this event for several years has been a rewarding experience" said Davies. "One of our chapter goals, beyond providing services to our members, is to look for opportunities to contribute to the community. Supporting Junior golf is a natural fit"

CGCSA Elects Officers

Sam Williamson, CGCS of the Ojai Valley Inn and Spa was elected President of the CGCSA at the Annual Meeting in San Diego. **Pat Gradoville** of Palos Verdes GC was elected Vice-President. **David Kovac** of GolfQuest Management in San Diego was elected Secretary-Treasurer.

Required Reading

Mike Huck, USGA Agronomist

USGA Green Section — Southwest Region

Recently I read the book *“Tapped Out - The Coming World Crisis in Water and What We Can Do About It”* authored by former Senator Paul Simon. The book discusses current and future problems that we face with water shortages, not only in the West but other parts of our country and the rest of the world.

According to Mr. Simon, there is not a region of the United States (or the world for that matter) that will not face serious water shortages within the next twenty years - with or without a drought occurrence! The problem stems from a combination of things including worldwide population growth, increasing living standards that consume more water per person and a finite supply of fresh water. In short, we are using our potable quality water sources faster than nature can replenish them.

Other issues highlighted include the influence that global warming could have on coastal water supplies as rising ocean levels result in greater seawater intrusion. Another concern is the effects of ongoing irrigation in arid climates contributing to salinization of both soils and groundwater. (Anyone familiar with the problems on the western side of California’s San Joaquin Valley realizes this potential.) The former senator paints a rather bleak but (I feel) realistic picture of where we are heading with regards to water. He warns that the next war

in the Middle Eastern nations will more likely take place over water, not oil. To be honest, it opened my eyes as to how serious of a problem we all could face very soon.

Mr. Simon recommends various strategies to address the problem, the first being funding research for more efficient desalinization techniques. In his opinion that this is the only realistic long-term solution. Pollution management is also mentioned, linking water quality to water quantity. Finally a “short term” solution recommended is conservation. Most in the golf business, and particularly those of us located in dryer climates, understand this concept and can predict that the use of reclaimed or other alternative water sources will soon be the norm in our industry no matter where we are located.

The point of this entire discussion is that very few politically influential people in this world appear to recognize that we are headed toward a worldwide water crisis. In such a water dependent industry as golf, we need to educate ourselves on this issue and plan ahead. With this in mind, I encourage each and every one of you to get a copy of this book and read it. In fact get several copies and encourage your general manager, golf professional, green committee and board of directors to read it before it is too late and your irrigation supply is *“Tapped Out!”* /

Pesticide Ban Gains Momentum in Sonoma

By Matt Weiser

Reprinted from the Santa Rosa Press Democrat

Sonoma is moving ahead with its own proposal for a ban on pesticides. The Sonoma City Council is set to form a committee to develop a proposal to end the use of pesticides and herbicides on city property.

During debate on the subject during a recent council meeting, a majority of the council appeared to support the idea, which was proposed by Councilman Ken Brown.

The City of Sebastopol adopted a ban on pesticides on May 2nd and also established a voluntary toxics-free zone citywide to encourage private property owners to reduce their use of yard chemicals.

Brown said he’s not yet ready to take the idea citywide but said city government should set an example for the public.

“It’s the duty of city government to show the way,” he said. “We have control over our fate with regard to pesticides and

herbicides on city-owned land. It’s important because people are extremely sensitive to the use of these products — philosophically and physically.”

Critics say it’s going to take longer with Sonoma because it’s a more conservative community and a more conservative City Council. We know the City staff has some problems with it because it’s going to mean more work for them.

The City of Arcata, who banned pesticides this past year, says it actually saved money by eliminating pesticides and herbicides because it no longer had to do the training and record-keeping required by law when chemicals are sprayed.

But Sebastopol estimates it would have to spend \$30,000 on an extra full-time employee to equal the maintenance levels achieved with chemicals. The city also hopes to deploy volunteers to pull weeds instead. /

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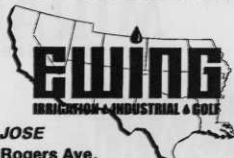
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Boardroom Briefs

♦ **Bob Costa** provided the board with a detailed summary of the media program in the wake of Greg Crawford's resignation. Costa who received approval from the Board to act as the Media Director was optimistic about the future of the program. "I'm convinced that we have the attention of the media and combined with some events we have planned for the summer will make an impact". To chronicle the association's media activity, Costa announced the formation of a Media Scorecard, which will appear monthly in the newsletter.

♦ **Mike McCullough** the NCGA's Director of Turfgrass Services made a presentation to the Board of Directors outlining a preliminary proposal for joint research venture. The proposal would form a partnership between the NCGA, GCSANC, Sierra Nevada and Central chapter and target short term research projects. Together, the group would formulate ideas for research projects which would then be conducted by independent contractors. Funding such a program, appears to be the greatest obstacle.

♦ **Bob Costa** recommended that the Board consider conducting another salary survey noting that the last one was completed over two years ago. **Jeff Shafer** volunteered to develop the survey questions and will develop a draft for

board review.

♦ **Gary Carls**, acknowledging the unanimous support amongst board members of a proposal to consider voting rights of Affiliate Board members recommended that the topic be an agenda item at a future board meeting

♦ Plans for the 2000 Institute are underway reported **Gary Carls**. Speaking on behalf of Institute chairman **Gary Sayre** Carl's confirmed November 13th and 14th as the dates and offered the Santa Cruz area as the location

♦ State Vice Presidential nominee and past GCSANC President **Dave Davies**, informed the board that he and other state board members are challenging the nomination of **Corey Eastwood** as State President. The basis of the challenged Davies said was Eastwood's inability to lead the chapter in light of his strong position on PDI and his request that the GCSAA Board resign. The hotly contested issue has left Davies future with the State Board in question

♦ Tournament chairman **Gary Skolnik** has officially cut the cord (previously attached to Terry **Grasso**) and will assume responsibility for GCSANC golf events. His first assignment, locating courses interested in hosting 2001 events. As for Grasso, he's offered to assist when and if needed.

BUNKER SHOTS

A mishmash of editorial ramblings by Ken Williams, CGCS

The USGA revokes Superintendent spouse privileges at the US Open..... Doesn't a spouse of a superintendent take enough abuse already?

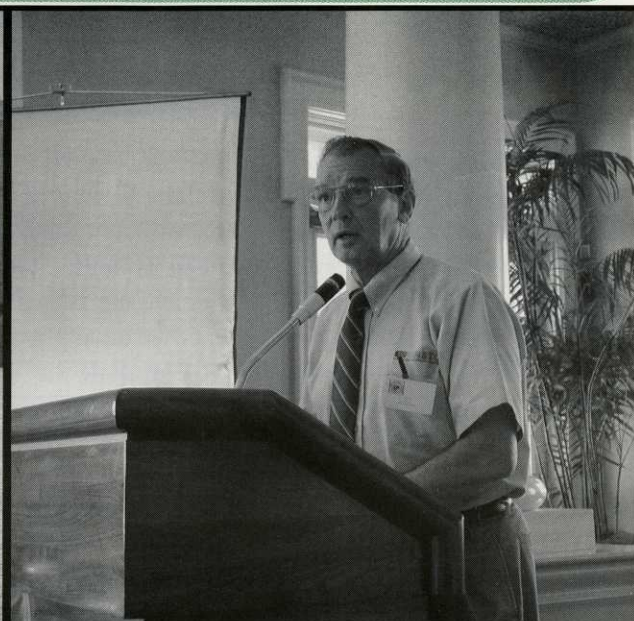
Pac Bell Park opens and is mowed without any fancy mower striping..... Well I guess it wouldn't be San Francisco if things weren't well..... different!

Oh look what just came in the mail, another GCSAA survey. I used to diligently fill them out..... until I started receiving them every week. Now I can't find the trash can quickly enough.....uh, for the envelope of course! Now I'm waiting for the survey they send to evaluate the surveys!

What's up with the State Chapter? Corey Eastwood isn't confirmed as President after being nominated to run unopposed. Things sure changed quickly. I guess a lot of it was his stand in opposition to the GCSAA's PDI. Too bad the whole idea of presenting the PDI at this point was to encourage healthy debate.....

The other day I was trying to find one of my employees at work on the course. I wasn't having any luck so I got this brilliant idea to call him on his cell phone. So I look up the number, and make the call.....and it's busy! So what did I do? I left him a NICE little voice mail message!

THRU THE GREEN



*Above Left: Workshop attendees view field demonstrations.
Above Right: Dick Dubey of NSTC speaks on Washwater Laws and Regs. at the workshop. Left: Dick Dubey describes the Washwater Recycler at Ruby Hill.*

Quick Quote:

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— Shirley Chisholm —

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Thanks from the Board of Directors!

We would like to thank **Rex Gentry** of H. V. Carter Company, Inc. for hosting the first three Board of Directors meetings this year. **Dave Graves** and the entire **H. V Carter Company staff** have made the Board welcome members of the Monday routine at their Livermore Office.

Field Workshop a Success at Ruby Hill

The second annual Superintendent's Field Workshop went off without a hitch last month. Superintendent Mark Licon of Ruby Hill GC in Pleasanton hosted the event. Approximately 70 GCSANC members listened to morning speaker presentations and then viewed field demonstrations on the golf course and maintenance facility. The theme for the event was bermudagrass management and attendees got to witness firsthand the considerable bermudagrass renovation procedures used at Ruby Hill.

Dick Dubey of NSTC also gave a good presentation on equipment rinsewater laws and regulations. He noted that technically, any rinsewater coming off of equipment cannot be discharged directly to ground without a permit. He also gave an informative demonstration of the rinsewater recycling equipment in use at Ruby.

By the time the golf event began, temperatures were near 100 degrees. Still, about 40 brave souls ventured out to play. A big thanks go out to Far West Equipment for supplying the beverage cart for the round. There were many of us who probably wouldn't have made it around without them! /



GCSANC Members Walk the Fairways at Ruby Hill

