



GCSANC Members prepare for a wet afternoon.



↑
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THRU THE GREEN



GCSANC Elects New Board At Annual Meeting

By Ken Williams, CGCS

The GCSANC held its Annual Meeting on January 23 at Sunnyvale Golf Course. Included in the meeting were the 2001 elections. Elected President of the Association was Robert J. Costa, CGCS. Costa, Director of Golf Course Management for the Lombardo Group in Monterey. Bob has served on the Board the previous six years and he served as the GCSANC's Vice-President and Director of Media Relations in the year 2000.

Elected Vice-President was Jeffery Shafer of The Course At Wente Vineyards. Shafer served as Secretary-Treasurer in 2000. Robert A. Lopic, Director of Golf Course Maintenance at Orinda CC was elected Secretary-Treasurer.

Three new Directors made it to the Board at the Annual Meeting. Patrick R. Finlen, CGCS Director of Course Maintenance at Bayonet/Blackhorse and Vincent Keats, Superintendent at Napa Valley CC, were elected to two-year terms. Joel K. Ahern, Superintendent at San Jose CC, was appointed to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Gary K. Skolnik.

Andy Slack of Spot Water Management was elected to the Board by the affiliate membership as Affiliate Representative. Andy will serve a two-year term. In addition, two By-Law changes were approved by the general membership.

The changes will allow the Affiliate Representatives to the Board votes in Board decisions.

The GCSANC also presented their Annual Awards at the meeting. Superintendent of the Year went to Raymond G. Davies, CGCS for his hard work and help with GCSAA's Professional Development Initiative. Affiliate of the Year was awarded to Russell D. Mitchell. Russ provided the Association with an excellent presentation at The Institute in November and was thanked for his many ongoing contributions. The award for Turfgrass Excellence went to Walt M. Barret of Green Hills CC. Walt provided the Association with immaculate turfgrass conditions at Green Hills for the Superintendent/Pro event in June. The GCSANC's George Santana Distinguished Service Award went posthumously to Herbert Graves of the H.V. Carter Company. Bert received the award for his tireless lifelong contributions to the Association. Bert's son Bruce graciously accepted the award.

Host Superintendent Chris Gose was presented with a plaque for hosting the event. The GCSANC also awarded 25-Year Pins to association members. The recipients included John Grant, Ted Moore, Ernie Martin, Edward Munnelly, Mike Ravel, Hiroshi "Russ" Tsutsui, and Emil Yappart. Outgoing

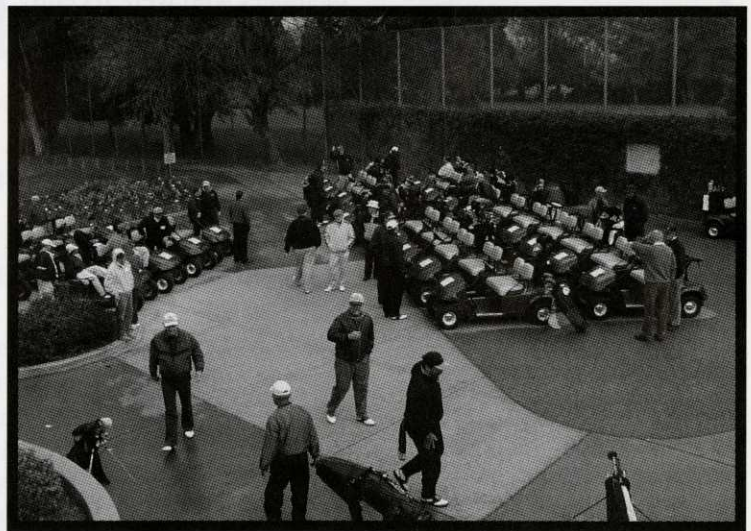
President Gary Carls, CGCS also noted that Clifford A. Wagoner, CGCS had earned his 50-Year Pin that will be awarded at a meeting later in the year.

Jeff Shafer gave the Treasurer's Report for 2000. The GCSANC had total assets of \$117,000 and total liabilities of \$28,000 as of December 31, 2000. The liabilities were high due to previously unpaid bills for the Institute and Holiday meetings.

Bob Lopic gave the Membership Report. Bob listed the numbers of members in each category and noted that GCSANC membership has stayed level with numbers from the previous year.

Rich Lavine, CGCS gave the Annual Bookkeeping Review. Rich and Dave Sexton, CGCS visited the GCSANC office and review the bookkeeping procedures. Rich stated that the review was just that and not an actual audit of records. They reviewed the Association's check register, voided checks, accounting procedures, and tax filings with Association Manager Barb Mikel. Rich appeared to be satisfied that things were running in proper order.

In conclusion approximately 60 brave souls battled the blustery, rainy weather to take on Sunnyvale GC.



2001 GCSANC ANNUAL MEETING GOLF
(Scramble Format)

1st Place (won scorecard playoff)	GROSS	NET
Mike Hill	58	58
Ross Brownlie		
Gary Sayre		
Jeff Shafer		



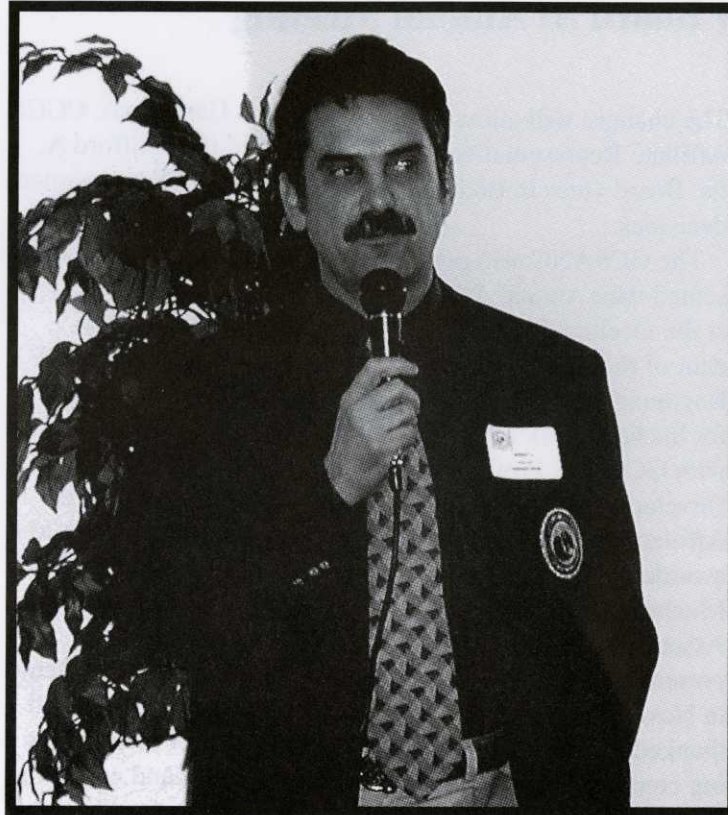
President's Message

By Bob Costa, CGCS

Although my approach to serving as GCSANC President is to lead with vision, it seems appropriate to begin my first Presidents message with a brief look back. At the recent Annual meeting at Sunnyvale Golf Course we said good-bye to four board members who served this association well. I would like to personally thank Directors **Steve Franzen, Gary Skolnick, Gary Sayre, CGCS** and past President **Dave Davies, CGCS** for their contributions and most importantly, for the friendship we established as a result of our service together on the Board.

Viewed from a distance perhaps the common perception is that the Board members of GCSANC really don't accomplish much, and in some respects you may be right. Much of what we do is refine existing programs and services, tweak it here and tweak it there. From my perspective, what Board service demonstrates, whether by a Superintendent member or Affiliate member, is a commitment and concern for our profession and industry. Regardless of what those, who have served this association since it's inception, may, or may not have accomplished, each of them should be applauded for their dedication and passion to this profession we are all proud to be a part of.

With that said, I would like



to take this opportunity to welcome our four new board members who were recently elected or appointed to Directors positions. Joining the Board are Superintendent members **Vince Keats** from Napa Valley CC, **Pat Finlen, CGCS** from Bayonet/Black horse Golf Course and **Joel Ahern** from San Jose CC. Joel was appointed to a one-year term. **Andy Slack**, from Spot Water Management joins the board as the Affiliate representative.

An apology is also in order to **Jason Green** whose name as a candidate had to be withdrawn at the last minute. Jason, who was attempting to become the first Class C member ever elected to the Board, was declared ineligible due to the membership bylaw, which prevents Class C members from holding office. In spite of his disap-

pointment, Jason has agreed to volunteer as a member of the Institute Education Committee and will also be chairing the committee whose responsibility it will be to plan the Assistant meeting in July. One of the items that will be put before the BOD very shortly is drafting a bylaw change that will allow Class C members to hold office.

Finally, congratulations to **Jeff Shafer** and **Bob Lopic** on their election as Vice

President and Secretary Treasurer.

With respect to my goal as President, I intend to challenge the members of the Board and the various committees to develop programs that create value for each and every member. Shortly, I will be proposing; the development of new research alliances, changes to the sponsorship program that will allow greater flexibility in newsletter advertising, means of expanding the media program, broadening educational opportunities for Assistant Superintendents and Mechanics, increasing the involvement of Class C members, and enhancing the value of our web site.

With the collective efforts of the current board of directors, combined with those who will volunteer their service as committee members, I am hopeful that we can build upon the accomplishments of the past and continue to create an association that provides value while meeting the needs of all it's members.

My sincere thanks for the opportunity to serve as President; I hope to serve as well as all of those who have come before me. /



Outgoing President Gary Carls, CGCS addresses members



2001: A Turfgrass Odyssey

By Mike McCullough, NCGA Agronomist

The age of information technology has reshaped the way people, societies and countries do business. Fortunately or unfortunately, depending upon your technological savvy, these innovations apply to turfgrass managers as well. Frequently, individuals mistake the latest gadgets, machinery or toys as the answer to all or most of their turf problems. Unless sound agronomic principles are followed on a daily basis the new and improved technology or tools are useless.

However, what happens when some of the technology being developed today aids in providing sound agronomic management techniques? Such is the case with several new advances.

Researchers at Oklahoma State University are perfecting a vehicle-mounted optical sensing unit that reduces nutrient losses to surface and ground water. The sensing units detect turf areas that are nitrogen deficient or excessive. Optical sensors on the front of the vehicle individually control spray nozzles at the rear of the unit. The nitrogen status of each square foot of turf is measured and sprayed with up to 15 different rates of fertilizer. This technology could drastically improve turfgrass management techniques by accurately placing nutrients only where needed. This could lead to

substantial economic savings for fertilizers, reduced nutrient losses to leaching and runoff, more uniform turf appearance and improved stress tolerance.

Faculty in the Department of Horticulture at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville have been working on digital photography and image analysis to help in determining turf color, the diagnosis of turfgrass diseases and calculating the percent turfgrass cover. The use of digital photography will be of value for multi-site turfgrass cultivar evaluations. Researchers can utilize the digital camera and related software to obtain the same data as compared to the traditional method of subjective analysis.

Determining turf color has become easier with the use of digital photography. Turf plots can be photographed and analyzed with appropriate software to determine the exact color in relation to the industry standards: color chips. Again, turfgrass cultivar evaluations will benefit the most from this development. Scientists from around the nation can establish a set of color guidelines based on the results of the digital images and information generated from the data, not from a set of evaluators' personal preferences.

The use of digital image analysis equipment and software is being used to

accurately determine the amount of blighted turf in test plots. Determining the exact amount of diseased turf in a defined area is virtually impossible with the naked eye. Obviously, this technique is only helpful when looking at turfgrass diseases that produce noticeable differences from healthy turf. Disease prediction models could utilize the data generated from the digital photographs to aid in management decisions for fungicide applications.

Another benefit from the use of digital photography is determining the percent of turf cover in a given area. Evaluating turfgrasses for establishment purposes is often difficult to assess based on the existing labor-intensive methods. Digital image analysis can quickly and accurately determine the progress of establishing a given plot.

Additional research is being conducted at the University of Arkansas with the digital image analysis tools to monitor nutrient levels in turf. This technology will use the color analysis software to detect different amounts of chlorophyll in the turf. The benefits of this research could be similar to the Oklahoma State research, reduced fertilizer inputs in turfgrass management programs.

Southern Illinois University and USDA – Natural Resources Conservation

Service scientists recently showcased another interesting tool that utilizes ground-penetrating radar to investigate the subsurface features of putting greens. This machine can be used to determine compacted areas, drainage lines, wet areas, subsurface layers and rootzone mixture thickness.

The researchers know this technology is not the final answer when it comes to determining if a green needs to be renovated, but it can aid in troubleshooting any problem areas that constantly give the superintendent headaches, without having to rip up the entire green.

All of these research findings and developments are very promising. Yet, it is going to take more time and studies to define the technology as well as the equipment. The impact of these devices may not have dramatic effect on the way turf is being managed right now. However, the next generation of turfgrass managers may be armed with these devices and tools and make management decisions with just a click of a mouse.

Welcome to the next turfgrass odyssey.



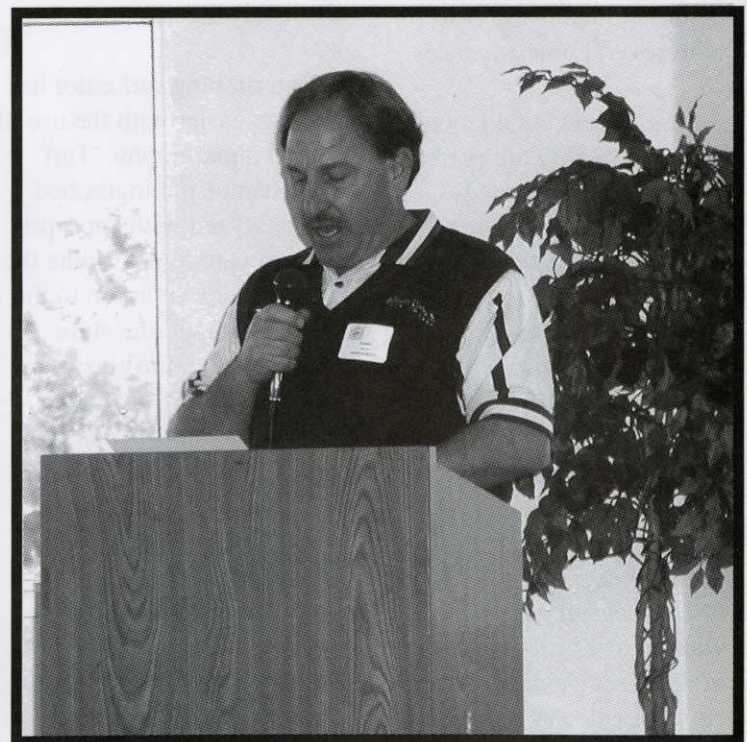
GCSANC Annual Meeting and Election of Officers for 2001



The unflappable Davies ran the election



Shafer and Davies scrutinize the ballots



*Above: Rich Lavine reads bookkeeping review
At Left: Bob Lopic reads membership report*

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Scholarship Contribution - Level 3, 2, or 1 (select one)	\$300, \$200, \$100
Christmas Meeting Contribution - Level 1, 2 (select one)	\$100, \$200
Total (less 10%).....	\$ _____

Eagle Package

Business Card Ad - 12 issues of "Thru the Green"	\$450
Insert - 1 issue of "Thru the Green" (month _____)	\$425
Scholarship Contribution - Level 3, 2, or 1 (select one)	\$300, \$200, \$100
Christmas Meeting Contribution - Level 1, or 2 (select one)	\$100, \$200
Total (less 10%).....	\$ _____

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Total (less 10%).....	\$ _____

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Scholarship Contribution - Level 3, 2, or 1 (select one)	\$300, \$200, \$100
Christmas Meeting Contribution - Level 1, or 2 (select one)	\$100, \$200
Total (less 10%).....	\$ _____

One Putt

- Scholarship Contribution - Level 3, 2, or 1 (select one) \$300, \$200, \$100
- Christmas Meeting - Level 1, or 2 (select one) \$100, \$200
- Insert - 1 issue of "Thru the Green" (month _____) \$425
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- Membership Directory \$325
- Institute (negotiable) \$1,500 minimum
- Member Listing \$225
- NorCal/Sierra Nevada Joint meeting \$1,000
- Half Page Ad - 6 issues "Thru the Green" \$525
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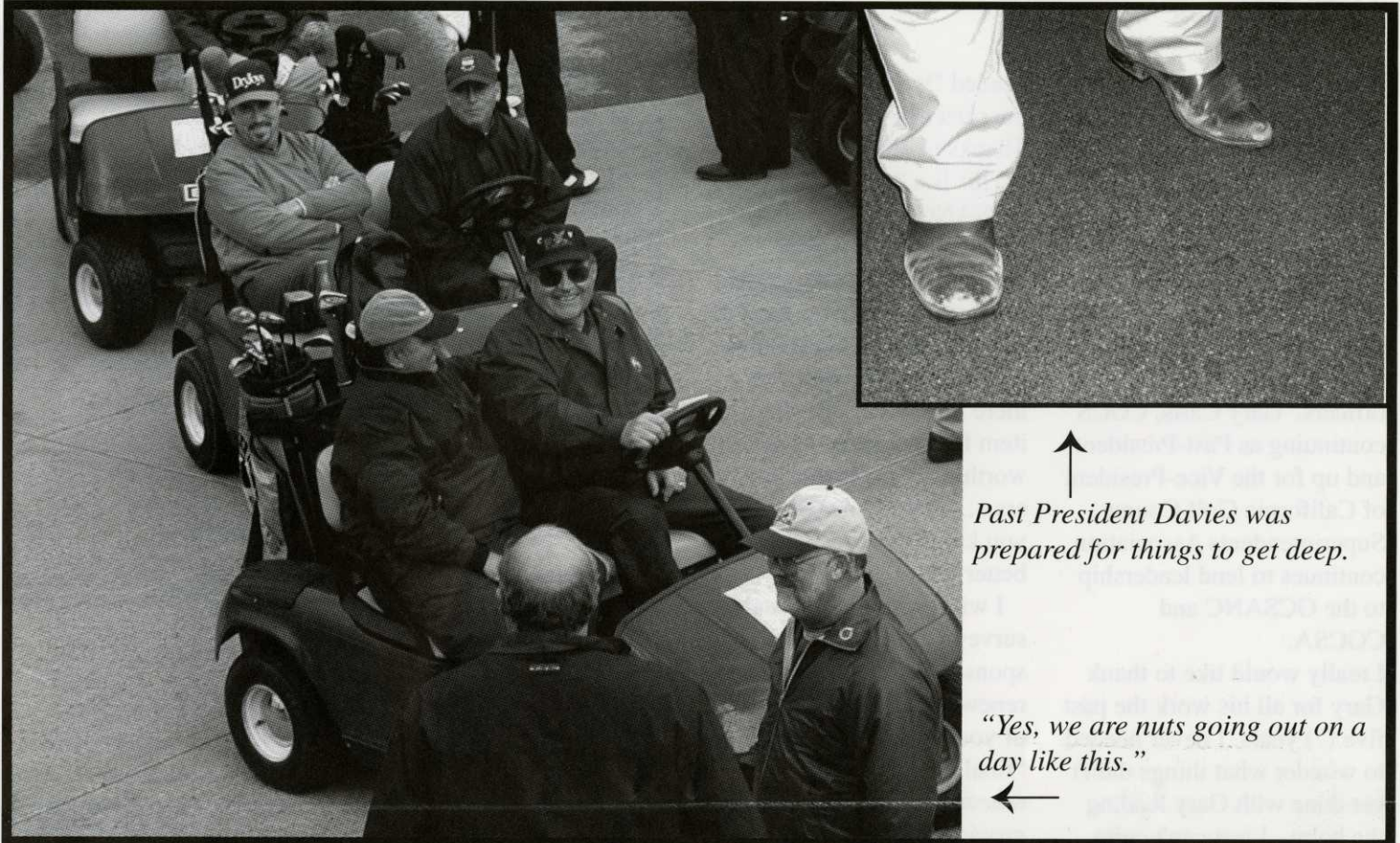
Total.....\$ _____

Total Due:\$ _____

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↑
Past President Davies was prepared for things to get deep.

“Yes, we are nuts going out on a day like this.”



Steve Franzen announces the results of the Affiliate vote.



Golf Chairman Robarge discusses the day's format



Office Notes

By Barbara Mikel

GCSANC has new officers and directors! Welcome to all incoming Board of Directors, Joel Ahern, Vince Keats, Patrick Finlen, CGCS, and Andy Slack. I look forward to an exciting year. Bob Costa, CGCS, Jeff Shafer and Bob Lopic make for a dynamic trio as 2001 officers. Gary Carls, CGCS continuing as Past-President and up for the Vice-President of California Golf Course Superintendents Association continues to lend leadership to the GCSANC and CGCSA.

I really would like to thank Gary for all his work the past five (?) years. I never needed to wonder what things didn't get done with Gary leading the helm. I just can't quite figure out where he finds the time for all he does and still makes the "rounds" for various golf outings? What's the secret?

I am hopeful of continuing support from outgoing board members Gary Sayre, CGCS, Gary Skolnik, Steve Franzen, and Past President Dave Davies, CGCS. As a matter of fact Dave has undertaken to "supervise" the December 2001 Holiday event. Last year Beth Davies and Dave made the sacrifice of attending a Casino Night party just to see how good the event would be! Actually, Beth was responsible for the idea in the first place. Affiliate wives, Joyce Ligon, Mrs. Rex Gentry and Debbie Franzen again provided much

needed "womanpower" for the prizes in December. Thanks to all of you!

This is a "quite" month for GCSANC activities in the office. End of the year requirements for the government entities take up most of January and well into February. Seems like each year there is always "one more" item for someone. Some are worthwhile programs others..... well I know all of you know that story much better than I.

I will be mailing the salary survey, affiliate newsletter sponsorship packages & renewal stickers for the back of your membership cards and "final notices" to all non-renewed members. Those not providing dues renewal by the end of February will be required to reinstate their membership with a new membership application. So please get those checks and forms into the office ASAP! The Board of Directors will review a proposal for credit card processing via virtual terminal and Internet Web meeting registration March 6th. I hope to have credit card processing in place for the April 30th meeting at Sequoyah Country Club and on-line reservations shortly thereafter. I have had continued requests for credit card processing and the previous board has tentatively approved the use of credit cards for payment of all association billings. This will make life easier for you and me! /

Naumann's NorCal News

Jay Abbott has left Contra Costa Country Club and is the new Superintendent at PGA West in the Palm Springs Area. He is in charge of both the Nicklaus Private and the Weiskopf Private courses. **Steve Groves**, the assistant at CCCC, is the Interim Superintendent until Jay's replacement is named...**Mike Orren** has left The Bridges at Gale Ranch. His assistant, **Lincoln Wallace**, is the Interim Superintendent.... **Mike Barber** is the new Superintendent at Stockdale Country Club in Bakersfield. Mike was the Superintendent at Blackhawk CC in Danville prior to his move...**Campbell Turner** is now the Senior Grounds Superintendent at UC Davis (I am told it has nothing to do with his age). Campbell was at Riverview CC in Redding prior to his move...

Davies Selected as GCSANC's Superintendent of The Year

Ray Davies, CGCS, Director of Golf Course Maintenance and Construction for Bay Area based management company CourseCo, was selected as the Superintendent of the year by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California, at their annual meeting on January 23rd. Davies, a 5 year member of the GCSANC, was recognized for his contributions to the Professional Development Initiative, which is being proposed by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

"Ray's dedication to the industry and role as a leader on a national level were instrumental in his selection" according to GCSANC past president Dave Davies, CGCS. CourseCo's Davies was also recently recognized by GolfDome, an industry

publication, as one their People of the Year.

Davies, in accepting the award, expressed both surprise and gratitude and was quick to credit the Membership Standards Resource Committee, whose efforts during the last four years helped shape the current proposal.

Also acknowledged by the GCSANC were; Walt Barrett, of Green Hills Country Club who received the award for Turfgrass Excellence, Russ Mitchell representing the firm Russ Mitchell and Associates was recognized as the Affiliate of the Year and Herbert Graves of the H.V. Carter Company received the Distinguished Service award posthumously. Bert received the award for his tireless and lifelong contributions to the Association. His son, Bruce, graciously accepted the award. /



Wente's Shafer Participates In Leadership Training

By Bob Costa, CGCS

Jeff Shafer, Director of Golf Course Maintenance at the Course at Wente Vineyards is one of 19 members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America who has been selected to participate in the association's Chapter Leadership Institute. According to Shafer, the CLI is designed to provide the necessary skills for each participant to become effective leaders of their local chapters. Shafer, who currently holds the position of Vice-President for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California, recently returned from a two-day workshop at GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas.

"Success in this profession dictates learning the skills and

obtaining the knowledge necessary to become an effective leader," says Shafer, who is enthusiastically looking forward to the 16-month training program. In addition to the recent workshop, two more group meetings are scheduled at the 2001 and 2002 GCSAA Conference and Show. Those sessions are to be supplemented by web site discussions and a mentoring program.

In spite of the significant commitment required, Shafer sees a big payoff as a result of his involvement in the program. "Not only will my value as a leader to our local Chapter increase," says Shafer, "I expect my value and skills as a manager at The Course at Wente Vineyards to be enhanced as well." ↗



Jeff Shafer reads Treasurer's Report at GCSANC annual meeting.

GCSAA membership reaches all-time high of 21,000

Continuing a trend of strong membership growth that began in the mid-1990s, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) President R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS announced the association's membership has climbed past the 21,000 mark.

Since January 1994, GCSAA membership has grown 58 percent (up from 13,300). Membership totals are computed on the last day of each month and include all membership classifications.

The GCSAA membership reflects a broad spectrum of professionals, including superintendents, assistant superintendents, golf course management executives, educators, students, corporations, industry representatives and others with a vested interest in golf course management. Members enjoy the numerous services and benefits provided through GCSAA membership. A professional staff of 120 serves the membership from association headquarters in Lawrence, Kan.

"GCSAA is a member-driven association, therefore, I believe the increase is a testament to the direction the members have established," said Woodhead, certified golf course superintendent at Valley View Golf Club in Bozeman, Mont. "Superintendents are joining the association because of the positive contributions it can make to their careers."

Since 1926, GCSAA has been the leading professional association for the men and women who manage and maintain golf facilities in the

United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to more than 21,000 individual members in more than 65 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. Visit GCSAA On-line at

www.gcsaa.org ↗



Lebanon Turf Announces Funding For Superintendent Associations

Lebanon Turf Products announced this week the details for a funding program geared toward local golf course superintendent associations in its market area. Lebanon will donate \$25 to the local association for each golf course that purchases three or more tons of Lebanon branded products from January 1, 2001 through June 30, 2001. The brands covered are Country Club, IsoTek³¹, NX-PRO, and Par Ex. Also included in the program is Lebanon's new PERK Stress Relief controlled-release organic iron.

"Lebanon Turf Products is pleased to offer this program as a means of supporting golf course superintendent programs, and their efforts to educate superintendents at the local level. This is just a small way for Lebanon to show its appreciation for the

role superintendents play in professional turf management," said Gary Neyman, Golf Product Manager.

Superintendents may claim their donation by completing a form and sending proof of purchase to Lebanon's business office. The form can be obtained from any Lebanon Turf Products representative or a distributor of Lebanon products. It can also be downloaded from Lebanon's web site at or taken from advertisements featured in local association newsletters.

Checks will be issued in July and sent to each local association for the total amount accumulated by the association's membership. For further information, contact a Lebanon Turf Products representative or call 1-800-233-0628.

GCSAA to sponsor PGA Senior Tour great Jim Colbert in 2001

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) announced today that it will sponsor Senior PGA Tour professional Jim Colbert for the 2001 season.

The agreement calls for the 34-year PGA Tour member to feature the GCSAA logo on his shirt and bag at all Senior Tour and other "official" events. In addition, he will serve as a spokesman on selected association issues, make special appearances on GCSAA's behalf and advise the association on various matters. The agreement marks the first time the association has sponsored a Tour professional.

"GCSAA is fortunate to have a friend in Jim Colbert," GCSAA President R. Scott Woodhead said. "Jim has worked with the association on a variety of projects and it is obvious he is a strong supporter of the golf course superintendent and the association. Jim's relationship will add a special touch to GCSAA's yearlong celebration of its 75th anniversary."

Colbert, who also operates a golf course architecture and develop-

ment business, has a combined 27 victories on the PGA (8) and Senior PGA Tours (19). He was the leading money winner on the Senior PGA Tour in 1995 and 1996, and has finished in the top 35 on the money list in each of his nine years on the Senior Tour.

"I'll have the GCSAA logo on my bag and on my shirt because I believe in the association and I believe in the golf course superintendent," Colbert said. "The GCSAA is first class and has made tremendous advances for its members and the golf industry. As a player and a businessman, other than myself, no person is more crucial to my success than the golf course superintendent."

Among the projects that Colbert and GCSAA have collaborated on is the golf management education program at his alma mater, Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kan. The program includes hands-on experience at Colbert Hills Golf Course, designed by Colbert and Jeffrey Brauer, ASGCA. GCSAA has also been involved in the First Tee National Academy developed by Colbert and the university at Colbert Hills.

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Our sincere apologies . . . for the late arrival of your newsletter the past few months. We are aware of the problem and are communicating with the Post Office to solve it.

Your newsletter should be sent first class mail and should reach you within 3 days from the date of mailing.