NORTH FLORIDA

by: John P. Hayden CGCS

When I arrived at San Jose Country Club in March of 1977 the basics of a good maintenance building existed. Namely a building that contained approximately 5,500 square feet under one roof. As we worked that first few years we cleaned and generally tried to organize the building into a workable situation.

It was very difficult to work in the wire caged shop with poor lighting surrounded by the varied collection of outdated parts and used turf equipment that had accumulated over the years. Searching for something, stumbling around in the dark while it was either hot, or cold, best exemplifies our old work area. Maintenance productivity was not on an even keel through out the year.



As I got to know my club officials better we presented them with plans for amore efficient and modern work area and shop. In the spring of 1980 they gave the go ahead to proceed on renovation of our maintenance facility. One of the first and best things we did was to hire a local architect to work with myself, my assistant Eddie Snipes and my service manager Bob Houser. With the four of us each putting in our ideas a workable set of plans were drawn up and put out for bids in the early fall of 1980. Work commenced in November, 1980 and was completed in the spring of 1981. The first two areas of renovation was our staff lounge and the enclosed shop area. Prior to the lounge completion our men ate lunch while sitting on the equipment, combating flies and extremes in temperatures. This was bad for good employee relations and did not produce a good working attitude to begin their afternoon jobs. Both the lounge and the shop area were totally redone with heating and air conditioning included in the original bid of approximately \$35,000. Also included was new wiring, new lights, new lockers, eyewash and drench shower for chemical use and the painting of the new areas.



In the winter of 81/82 we completed the rest of the renovation which included painting the outside and the inside of the maintenance facility. The enlargement of my office and the addition, in the rear of the building, of more covered space for storage of large equipment was also done during this period.



With a total renovation cost of just a bit over \$40,000 I feel that San Jose Country Club has as modern and efficient maintenance building as those costing \$20 to \$30 per square foot that are bring built today.

For those of you considering renovation or the building of a new maintenance facility I can truthfully say that the pride and morale of all employees is greatly enhanced with the knowledge that their employers DO CARE and want the best for them.