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The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California

A Tribute To The Old Timers

By Stephen L. Carlton, CGCS

In the past, some of the monthly superintendent's meetings that I most enjoyed were the ones which honored the "Old Timers" in the organization. Sometimes the meeting was just to honor old timers in general but more often than not the meeting was held to honor someone who was retiring after a long career as a golf course superintendent.

I have always enjoyed talking to the old timers and listening to their stories, but as I have matured and grown in this business I have come to realize that these people are a great source of knowledge and wisdom. Two things distinguish the exceptional old timers that I have had the pleasure to meet and be associated with over the past 25 years. First, they all have a great love, enthusiasm, and passion for their profession and the game of golf; and second they are willing and eager to share their knowledge with anyone who is interested. I would like to pay tribute to some old timers who have had a profound effect on my career.

The late **Jimmy Hines**, Professional Golfer - I met Jimmy in 1974 and he taught me the Strategy of The Game of Golf. It helped me to play better golf and it showed me how as a golf course superintendent I had a direct effect on how the golf course affected the golfers. I also admired Jimmy's optimism which was

typified when he and his wife Irene purchased a Lifetime Membership at Carmel Valley Ranch at the age of 75.

The late **John Roberts**, USGA Rules Official - I also met John in 1974 and he got me interested in the Rules of Golf. Knowledge of The Rules will make you a better golfer and a better superintendent. I still have the copy of the Rules of Golf which John used while officiating at the 1974 U.S. Open at Winged Foot Golf Club, Mamaroneck, NY.

The late **P. J. Boatwright**, USGA Officer & Chairman of the Rules Committee - I first met Mr. Boatwright in 1972 at Pebble Beach Golf Links during the U.S. Open and then I had the pleasure of attending a USGA/PGA Rules of Golf Workshop taught by him in 1983. It was a special privilege to learn The Rules of Golf from the man who "wrote the Book". He was an imposing man who could only be described as a true gentleman.

William H. "Bill" Bengeyfield - retired National Director of the USGA Green Section. As a USGA Agronomist Bill visited me at many golf courses during my career and he taught me how to grow grass under all types of conditions. More importantly, he showed me how to get things done diplomatically.

Sherwood A. Moore - retired Golf Course Superintendent. In 1987 Sherwood called on me at El Macero Country Club in the capacity of a

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Environmental Principles for Golf Courses Unveiled

More than 100 representatives of golf and environmental organizations participated in the second annual Golf and the Environment Conference March 10-12 in Pinehurst N.C. The culmination of the meeting was the release of a booklet titled, "Environmental Principles for Golf Courses in the United States". The booklet is intended to guide the golf industry into the next century. A group of leading golf and environmental organizations jointly developed a set of principles, with staff members from GCSAA playing an active role. Topics include siting, designing, planning, constructing, maintaining and operating facilities.

The principles are intended to provide a framework for environmental responsibility, assisting in the development of goals for existing courses and managing issues associated with new courses. They are designed to educate the public and relevant decision makers about environmental responsibility, and to help set goals for environmental performance.

Copies of the booklets are available by contacting the Center for Resource Management at (801) 466-3600.

Forrest Arthur New Director

Forrest Arthur, Golf Course Superintendent at The Links at Spanish Bay, was appointed as Director to fill the spot vacated by Blake Swint, who was elected Vice President at the Annual Meeting. Welcome and congratulations, Forrest!

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