

# THRU THE GREEN

April, 1999

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California

— Committed to Responsible Turfgrass Management —



## GCSANC Annual Meeting To Be Held At Shoreline Golf Links

By: Sean Nicholson

This year's annual GCSANC meeting on April 20, will be held at little known Shoreline Golf Links located at the South end of the San Francisco Bay.

For those of you unfamiliar with Shoreline Golf Links, it may interest you to know that the golf course was constructed on a landfill in 1983 and was designed by Robert Trent Jones II. Shoreline was the first design by RTJ II associate, Gary Linn who has recently helped form a new architectural firm along with two other past RTJ II associates. Shoreline has also helped start the careers of Mark Brenneman, head golf pro at Spyglass Hill Golf Course and more notably Gary Carls, CGCS, Director of Golf Course Maintenance at San Jose Municipal Golf Course.

Shoreline Golf Links has been in the hands of several operators since opening in 1983, the latest being the City of Mountain View. Mountain View has had the maintenance operation and golf shop for the past three years hoping to establish a more perdurable situation one day. The City of Mountain View basically bought out the previous lessee at the end of 1995 and has since been giving Shoreline a gradual face-lift. Through many course improvements, landfill upgrades and substantial equipment purchases, Shoreline Golf Links has begun to receive positive recognition. In fact, Shoreline has seen its annual rounds of golf increase from 65,000 in 1995 to almost 80,000 in 1998.

Like any golf course, Shoreline has its challenges. However few courses have quite the conditions that exist at Shoreline. Blue

## Big Names To Speak at Field Workshop

The Superintendent's Field Workshop May 4th at Crystal Springs promises to be a great day of education. The Workshop will allow attendees to visit the USGA /NTEP bentgrass trials and view the exceptional wildlife enhancement and IPM projects at the course. The list of speakers is impressive and includes: Dr. Mike Kenna, head of research for the USGA, Dr. Jeff Nus, Research Director for the GCSAA, Kevin Morris of NTEP, Dr. Chip Howard of TurfScience, Dr. Jeff Drier of Wetland Research, and our own Dr. Ali Harivandi of UCCE. .35 PDU's have been approved by GCSAA. DPR and PGA credits are pending. Send in your registration today and see you at Crystal Springs!

methane gas flames shooting out of the ground are now a thing of past, but having certain areas drop a foot or two during the winter is still common place. Concert going Dead Heads camping out on the golf course have all but disappeared with the passing of Jerry Garcia, but the first hole has become the launch site for a popular Forth of July fireworks display. The red foxes that once built dens in the side of bunkers have been removed, yet several thousand coots still call Shoreline home every winter.

Hopefully, most of you will take the opportunity to enjoy a beautiful, Northern California spring day and play a round of golf after your meeting. Shoreline Golf Links was once truly a dump, but has been renewed to become a very popular venue to practice, play, and simply enjoy the game of golf.

## GCSANC Election 1999

Election '99 for the GCSANC will be held at Shoreline GL on April 20. On the ballot is a By-law change to move the GCSANC Annual Meeting and elections from April to January. The change, recommended unanimously by the Board of Directors, would allow the fiscal year to match the actual year, help get current information into the Membership Directory, and improve attendance at the Annual Meeting.

There are two vacancies on the Board where Bob Costa, CGCS, Gary Sayre, CGCS, Gary Skolnik, and Tony Steers will be vying for two director's positions. The Board Officers will also be elected. It is important that you vote either by proxy or in person. Hope to see you at Shoreline!

## Congratulations!

Congratulations go out to Course Co. and Crystal Springs Golf Course. They have won Golf Digest's 1999 Environmental Leader Award. This is the second major environmental award for Crystal Springs this year. Look for a write up in the current edition of the magazine. Way to go, guys!