



Chris Gose Is All Smiles at Sunnyvale

By Ken Williams, CGCS

Chris Gose has been in the golf business for almost 20 years now. He's the one charged with keeping the Sunnyvale Golf Maintenance operations going day in and day out. If you know Chris, he's calm and cool and always greets you with a smile. I had to ask him how he keeps that smile going and Chris' reply was, "If you worked for a city there'd be a lot of things that make you shake your head and smile."

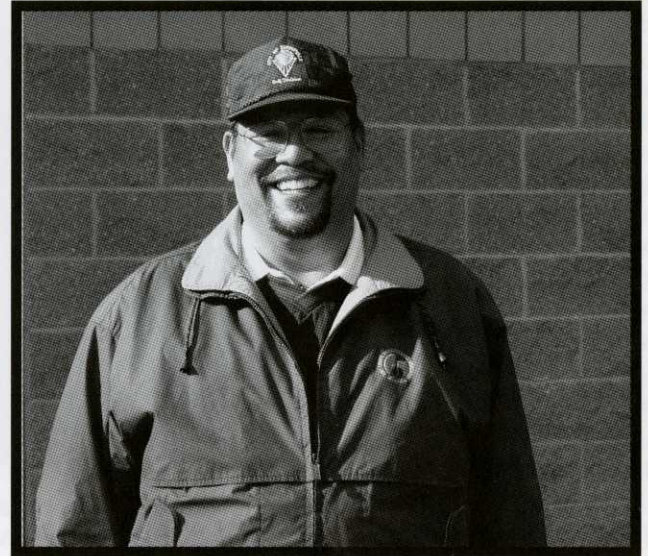
The City of Sunnyvale operates the 18-hole Sunnyvale Golf Course and the 9-hole

Sunken Gardens. Sunnyvale was designed by Clark Glassen and built by George Santana in 1968. It includes 80 acres of rough, 50 acres of fairways, 3 acres of greens, 5 acres of tees, and 5 acres of surrounds. One of the more interesting stories about Sunnyvale was that of an airplane crashing on the 12th hole during its first year of operation.

The course was renovated in 1989 where holes 8, 13, and 18 were rebuilt. A new irrigation system was also added at that time. Chris also helped renovate the tees at Sunken

Gardens and added an irrigation system there as well. Asked if

took over the Director's position in 1992. Gary Carls now



O'Brien Steps Down as GCSAA COO

Citing a desire to seek new challenges, GCSAA Chief Operating Officer Joe O'Brien announced his resignation Dec. 21.

A 27-year veteran of the golf industry, O'Brien came to GCSAA in January 1994 to manage the programmatic functions of the association such as education, career development, communications, research and membership, among others. He also made numerous presentations to the golf industry and represented GCSAA at a variety of golf's allied association events.

"We are indebted for Joe's service to GCSAA," GCSAA President R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS said. "While we are losing a valued team member, he will always be our friend. We wish him much success in his future endeavors."

O'Brien was also active in the Golf and Environment Initiative, which brought together golf's allied associations and members of the

environmental community to develop consensus on the issue. In February 1998, he was recognized for his work by then-GCSAA President Paul McGinnis, CGCS, with the President's Award for Environmental Leadership — the association's most prestigious environmental honor.

"I am appreciative of the Association and its members," said O'Brien. "It was rewarding to work with such an outstanding group of individuals who represented an honorable profession. I trust the Association and its members are better off now than it was seven years ago."

O'Brien began his career in the golf industry working for the PGA of America from June 1973 - July 1990, as assistant director of education, director of education, manager of membership services, and senior director for strategic planning. After leaving the PGA of America, O'Brien joined Marriott Golf,

See "O'Brien" page 9

he had made any mistakes during the process, Chris joked, "None that I'll admit to."

Born in San Jose and raised in Morgan Hill, Chris knows the area well. He attended Live Oak High School, went to Gavilan JC, and then to onto UC Santa Cruz majoring in Cultural Anthropology. Chris has been at Sunnyvale for 12 years. He started in the golf business in 1974 at Riverside Golf Course with Ken Sakai. Ken moved over to Sunnyvale as the Director and soon Chris followed suit. Chris worked under Ken until Curtis Black

occupies the Director's position and is benefiting from Chris' expertise.

Chris plays golf with Gary and friends and likes to go "RVing" in his spare time. He loves four-wheeling on his Honda Fourtrax. He's married to a wonderful wife of twenty years and has six grandchildren. "I love playing with those kids and even take them four-wheeling," claims Chris.

Chris is looking forward to hosting us in January. And if the City politics continue on as usual, I'm sure you'll find him smiling. /

Important Election Notice

Jason Green's nomination for GCSANC Director has been withdrawn. He is incorrectly listed on Proxy forms as a candidate. Please eliminate him from consideration.

Thank You