



## 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."

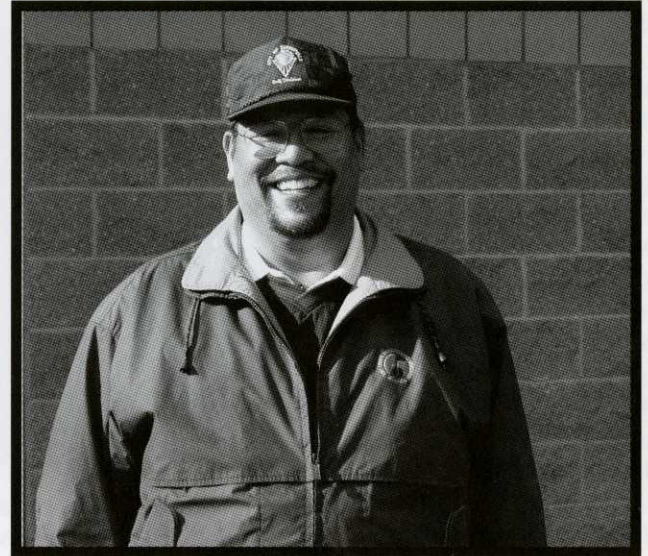
The City of Sunnyvale operates the 18-hole Sunnyvale Golf Course and the 9-hole

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 12<sup>th</sup> 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



## The Moment of Truth for The PDI

Significant time has been devoted during the last six months to explaining the framework and implications of GCSAA's professional Development Initiative (PDI). What has received little explanation is the voting procedure that will ultimately determine the future of PDI.

At the Conference in Dallas, GCSAA members and delegates will be voting on three ballot items related to PDI. The election is scheduled for February 13th and 14th

- The first ballot item amends the GCSAA Articles of Incorporation. This will add additional qualifications for Class A membership. Passage requires a two-thirds margin.
- The second ballot item modifies the GCSAA Bylaws by adding language that provides the framework for additional Class A qualifications. It also changes all Class B references to "Superintendent Member." This also requires a two-thirds margin to pass.
- The final item is a Ballot vote that is contingent on the first two items passing. It contains specific language regarding entry-level requirements, on-going requirements and the pesticide license/exam requirement. This item only requires a margin vote for passage.

At the November Northern California Board Meeting, the GCSANC Board of Directors voted to support the PDI. As a result, Chapter Delegate Bob Costa will cast all available chapter votes in favor of the proposed amendments and if necessary, the ballot vote supporting the PDI.

As a GCSANC voting member, you have several options in this, or any GCSAA annual election. You can choose to vote:

- **With your affiliated chapter** This means your affiliated chapter's voting delegate will attend the annual election meeting and cast all individual votes assigned to your chapter's voting block.
- **Individually** You must attend the GCSAA Annual meeting in Dallas and cast your own vote. You must register at the voter check-in booth at the Dallas Convention Center on either Tuesday or Wednesday between 7:30 am and 6:00 pm.
- **By Proxy** This means that a GCSAA member who is eligible to vote and will attend the Annual meeting and election, will cast an individual vote on your behalf. To designate a proxy, you must complete an official proxy form, which will be delivered by the proxy to the voter check-in booth in Dallas.

### Quick Quote

"If silence be good for the wise, how much better for fools?"

The Talmud

## O'Brien (Cont'd)

...serving as senior business developer until November 1992. Prior to coming to GCSAA, O'Brien was president of the American Hotel Foundation (November 1992 - October 1993), a fundraising and grant-making philanthropic organization dedicated to advancing the hospitality industry.

"Joe O'Brien's contributions to the GCSAA and its members

were considerable and lasting," GCSAA Chief Executive Officer Steve Mona, CAE, said. "His desire to seek new opportunities is consistent with his attitude at GCSAA. He was always working for the betterment of the association and its members. I appreciate his commitment and wish him all the best."

### Larry Lloyd Memorial Golf Tournament Results

Rancho Cañada West Course

Superintendent Gross:	1st	Mike Garvale	71
	2nd	Forrest Arthur	76
	3rd	Terry Leach	76
Affiliate Gross:	1st	Mike Ligon	80
	2nd	Mike Ginelli	87
	3rd	John Holmquist	87
Superintendent Net:	1st	Eric Greytok	63
	2nd	Blake Swint	64
	3rd	Dave Davies	64
Affiliate Net:	1st	Adrien Bertens	69
	2nd	Kevin Castle	71
	3rd	Don Naumann	71
Women's Net:	1st	Yolanda Pelsler	76
	2nd	Jenifer Babbit	78
Skins:	#2	Dave Davies	
	#7	Eric Greytok	
	#12	Mike Ligon	
	#16	Steve Franzen	
	#18	Mike Leach	

### Media Scorecard – November / December

- ◆ Press Release – Institute
- ◆ Press Release – Jeff Shafer Chapter Leadership Series
- ◆ Media Golf – Monterey Herald Golf Writers and Sports Editor Jerry Stewart, Ed Vyeda, Ken Ottmar, Joe Wolfcale @ Holiday golf tournament