



Candidate for President Bob Costa, CGCS

Never having aspired to serve as President of the GCSANC, I am somewhat awed to be nominated to serve as the leader of this association. In fact, had it not been for the persuasive powers of past president Dave Davies, I would have been content to relinquish my role as a Board member, at the January Annual meeting, and resume my status as a Class A member.

When I began my Board service in 1995, my interest was to assist President Rich Lavine. I felt we needed to provide quality services to our membership and to develop programs that would advance our profession. Through the collective efforts of those who have served with me, I am pleased to say that many of those goals we established have been realized.

During my tenure as a GCSANC Board member, I have gained valuable experience and knowledge while serving as the chairman of several committees, as well as Newsletter Editor, Media Director, Chapter Delegate, and member of GCSAA's Public Relations and Publication committees.

If I am elected as the 62nd President of the GCSANC, I will be asked to perform a new task that is of leader of this association. My goal will be a simple one, to create value for each and every member. With the assistance of a dedicated group of board members, I propose to identify the needs of each member group and strive to develop monthly events and programs that satisfy those needs. One member group that I am particularly interested in reaching is our Class C, Assistant Superintendents.

With the support of the membership and what will soon be a new Board, I look forward to the challenges that lie ahead and the opportunity to shape and direct the future of our association.

Naumann's NorCal News

Chuck Mustain has left Rancho Del Pueblo Golf Course in San Jose and is now working in another industry. Chuck's replacement has yet to be named....**Ray Leyland** has accepted the Superintendent position at Napa Municipal Golf Course. Ray is replacing **Jedd Noonkester** who has moved on to another position at Sonoma Mission Inn Golf Course with **Mark Bunte**....**Ray Davies** was recently named one of the most influential people in golf by Golfdom Magazine. Ray is the Superintendent at Crystal Springs Golf Course and is also charged with maintenance for all of the CourseCo managed golf courses. Both Rancho Del Pueblo and Napa Muni are CourseCo managed. Congratulations to Ray....

Candidate for Vice President Jeff Shafer

As the Secretary – Treasurer for the past year, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors. Having now served one year, I respect even more those whom have served before me, and have given their own time to this association. Additionally, I am deeply grateful to Barb Mikel, our Association Manager, for her steadfast dedication to the membership.

As a candidate for Vice President, I offer my continued time and effort to strengthen this chapter. As you may be aware, I am currently participating in the first Chapter Leadership Institute through the GCSAA. This 16-month program was established to strengthen the leadership abilities of the 17 individual participants throughout the USA and to strengthen the local chapters through assigning individual challenges for each association. For the next several years, I hope to be given the opportunity to work towards the goals of improving monthly meetings and membership participation. A plan, with specific goals, will be presented in an upcoming newsletter. I look forward to not only challenging you to challenge me, but I'd also like to see you challenge yourself to step up and make a difference in our chapter.

Thank you once again for your support and I hope this coming year brings you continued success.

Office Notes

By Barbara Mikel

Happy New Year! 2001 is here so where's "Hal"? The futuristic representations of "2001 a Space Odyssey" aren't entirely upon us yet. We aren't traveling in "magnet" shoes to far off planets this year but each time I get on the Internet I know it can't be too far off!

During this "slower" time of the year I receive calls about "education" and "green keeping" classes. Many call asking for a "quick" entry to the profession. Most just don't know where to begin a search for information regarding careers in the golf management business. I usually receive these calls from those who have worked on the course in some capacity but don't have any idea of "how to become a superintendent". Some are from institutional sources (job rehab counselors) looking for information. Some are from high school seniors. Most aren't looking for a four year college program. Some are looking for job information.

GCSAA provides a wealth of information on career educational opportunities. Online access to the Career Development section provides all kinds of information. A good written reference available for purchase is the GCSAA College Guide. It's organized by state and has listings from professional certificate program to doctorate degrees. There are several "certificate" programs in California. University of California Riverside offers a Certificate in Turfgrass Management and Landscape Management in the Southern California Region. If you're interested, give me a call.



Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer Bob Lopic

I've had the privilege of serving this organization as a Director for the past year. During that time I have learned more about how this group functions, then in my 20 years as a member. I encourage all of you to seek this opportunity yourselves.

I ask you to let me serve you again, in the next year as Secretary Treasurer. I have continued interest in trying to make our meetings both meaningful and affordable. I want to see our Media programs continue to grow and improve.

I'm employed at The Orinda Country Club. I live in Napa with my wife and our two children. Thank you for allowing me to serve this past year and for your consideration of my request for the future.

Candidate for Director Joel Ahern

I have been the golf course superintendent at San Jose CC for the past five years and a member of the GCSANC since 1993. I look forward to the opportunity of serving on the Board. I am very interested in helping our association move in a positive direction and dealing with issues that will help to improve our profession.

Over the past years, I have seen a need to help students in turf management programs benefit from our association both from scholarships and internships. These opportunities will help individuals to have a more balanced background in education and work experience. This will create a better field of applicants for future golf course management positions and strengthen the quality of the turf industry.

If I am elected as a Director on the Board, I will give my best effort and work with the other officers to make this a successful year. Thank you.

Candidate for Director Patrick R. Finlen, CGCS

I appreciate the opportunity to run for the Board of Directors of the GCSANC. I am a relative newcomer to this association, having been a member for just over two years since moving here from Kansas City.

While in Kansas City, I served the Heart of America GCSA as President, Board Member, Newsletter Editor, and member of various committees for over 8 years. In addition, I have served on four different GCSAA committees during the past eight years.

Many superintendent associations face similar problems, needs and issues. Member participation, meeting cost and PDI are just a few. As with any volunteer position, a strong commitment of time and effort is needed for one to be successful in dealing with these issues. I am willing to put forth that time and effort and look forward to working with you on these and all of the needs of the association and its members.

Candidate for Director Vince Keats

Hello! My name is Vince Keats and I am pleased to have the opportunity to run for the Board of Directors. I am also grateful to have the chance to tell you a little bit about myself.

I am a native of San Mateo. I graduated from Cal Poly, Pomona, with a B.S. in Landscape Architecture. I started my career in golf at the City of San Mateo Golf Course. From there I moved on to be assistant superintendent at Brookside Golf Course in Pasadena, Contra Costa County Club and Olympic Club. Presently I am Golf Course Superintendent at Napa Valley Country Club. Between Cal Poly and Brookside, I spent five years working for a landscape architect firm in Orange County.

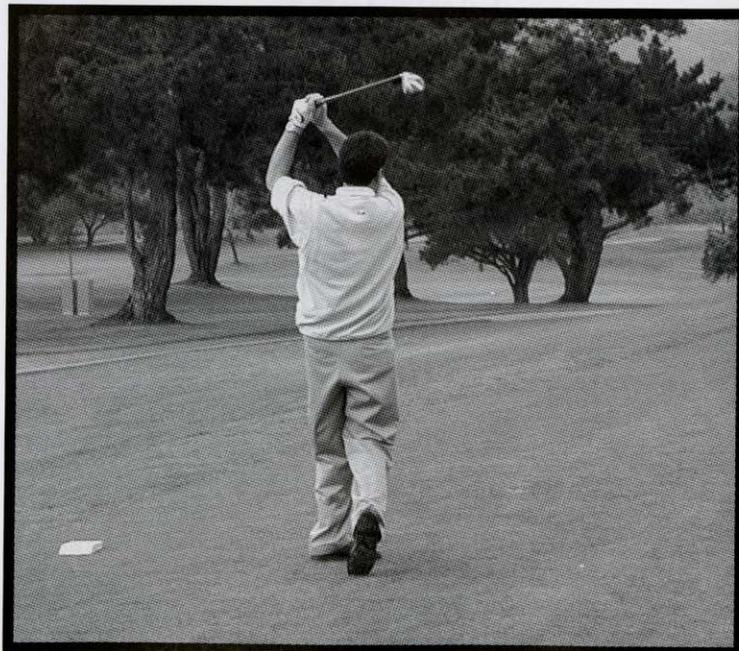
Campaign promises and long speeches? Save that for the professional politicians! I am seeking this position for a chance to become involved with the association and serve my fellow superintendents. Thank you.

Dear GCSANC Members,

During this past year, I have had the honor of serving the membership as a member of the Board of Directors. With one more year to go of my two- year term, I have decided to resign from my position. The Board of Directors has agreed to appoint a new member to serve out the rest of my term.

I encourage any of you who are interested in discussing the reason for my resignation to contact me directly.

Sincerely,
Gary K. Skolnik



Costa uncorks a tee shot in Palmer-like form.