

EDITOR

Kenneth D. Williams, CGCS
650-323-0937

OFFICE

Barbara Mikel - Executive Secretary
550 Main St., Suite G
P.O. Box 3360
Diamond Springs, CA
95619
Phone: (530) 626-0931
Fax: (530) 626-5132

MEDIA DIRECTOR

GREG CRAWFORD
Phone (503) 234-1670
email GMCOLF@compuserve.com

PRESIDENT

DAVID R. DAVIES, CGCS
Palo Alto Muni Golf Course

VICE-PRESIDENT

GARY K. CARLS, CGCS
Santa Teresa Golf Course

SECRETARY/TREASURER

MIKE NUNEMACHER
Blackhawk Country Club

PAST PRESIDENT

BLAKE SWINT
Castlewood Country Club

DIRECTORS

ROBERT COSTA, CGCS
Laguna Seca Golf Course

GARY SAYRE, CGCS
Oakhurst Country Club

KENNETH D. WILLIAMS, CGCS
Stanford University Golf Course

TERRY GRASSO
Burlingame Country Club

AFFILIATE ADVISORS

STEVE FRANZEN
J. R. Simplot/Best

CRAIG KILCOYNE
H. V. Carter Company, Inc.

PUBLISHER

Jo Harlow - Key Publications
Phone: (925) 827-9676
Fax: (925) 674-1688
email - keypub@ncal.verio.com

THRU THE GREEN

Published monthly by the
Golf Course Superintendent's
Association of
Northern California

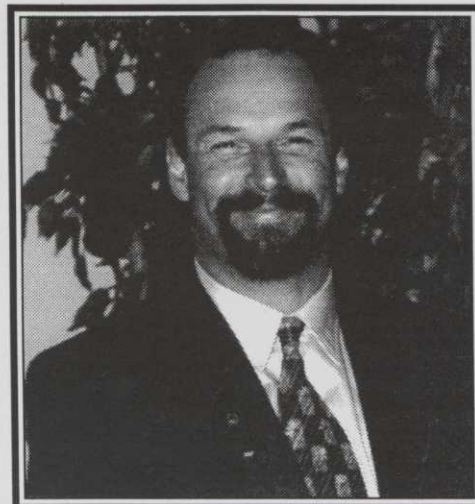
THRU THE GREEN

From The President

The joint meeting with Sierra Nevada is in the books and some thank yous are in order. First and foremost, Gil Stiles and the entire staff at Hiddenbrooke CC are to be commended. The new clubhouse was wonderful, the food and service were great and the golf course was in beautiful shape. We may have to review pin placements but I know our group wasn't fazed by any slopes or ridges. Great job Gil. How about that speaker! Tom Wolff from Snoqualmie Ridge. He certainly had some great insight on major tournament preparation, membership opinions and dealing with the media. Final thanks go out to our event sponsors from Rainbird Golf, Normac and Sierra Pacific Turf Supply.

The meeting also saw a presentation by Dave Berger, Chairman of the University of California at Davis, Department of Environmental Horticulture. Dave is presenting the possibility of a renewed Turf program at UCD. There is a great deal of history through this University (ever heard of the California Greens construction method?) For a number of years there have been complaints within the industry that there is not enough "local" research. This might be a good match for our industry and the University. Dave can be reached at (530) 752-0398 for more information.

I would like to make a few reminders for those of you looking to fill in your schedule in January. We have our annual meeting at Palo Alto GC on the 18th. This will be an opportunity to hear first hand the latest information on the GCSAA Professional Development Initiative. It is critical that we get member participation and input on what is being proposed. There is a great deal of misinformation circulating and this may clear up some questions. A full copy of the current proposal is available on the GCSAA Website. There will also be seminars presented by GCSAA in Pleasanton. Those looking for recertification credit,



Dave Davies, CGCS

QAC hours or maybe some new information are encouraged to attend. There should be registration information in the mail in early November.

The GCSANC Board has been discussing a way to promote junior golf for the last three or four months. There has been some information made available on the Junior program in Alameda run by Jerry Berrow. We will be soliciting donations of any new or used golf equipment over the next few months. Look in your garage, closet or the corner of your shop and see if there isn't something that you no longer use, or in my case would be better off not using, that could be of use to Jerry and his kids. This is a great step towards promoting the future of the game that provides for our livelihood. Quoting Winston Churchill, "we make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give."

We will begin accepting donations at the December meeting at Del Monte and at the Annual meeting in Palo Alto. We hope to have Jerry in attendance in January for a presentation of the goods.

A final thought. I have had conversations with a few superintendents regarding comp golf for GCSANC members. We are all well aware of the need to notify the host superintendent when you are playing at their course. It is a Bylaws issue and listed in the Code of Ethics. Most superintendents want to be notified

Continued on page 3

President's Message (Cont'd)

prior to you getting the starting time especially if you would like the round to be complimentary. Talk to the potential host before making any arrangements. This will allow your host to explain any restrictions that might apply. I may also allow him or her to get you a better time. It is always tough to establish a policy that works all the time, but courtesy to your host is always a good start.

Dues statements will be out soon. Prompt returns, with current information, updated phone numbers and e-mail will allow for an accurate resource for your own use. Keep those opinions rolling in (I received three this last month!) ↗

Office Notes

By: Barbara Mikel

November 1999

Fall at last? Sure seems like late summer to me. The air-conditioning is still in full swing and I have yet to see any "wet weather". Maybe soon!

At this time of the year, you can count on the annual renewal processing beginning. Each year we mail invoices and a job description update to each one of you. The year 2000 dues are paid in advance and are due by December 31, 1999. Come January, there is a \$20.00 late fee charged to those not yet renewed. After January, you are dropped from the association membership lists and have to reapply. That is costly! \$150.00 to \$175.00.

Failure to renew can also jeopardize your GCSAA membership. Unless you were "grandfathered" in 1997 you must maintain both memberships.

Since our annual meeting has changed to January, I hope to have an updated directory out by March 2000. I know promises, promises but I can only try! The lack of delay will mean a longer period when telephone numbers and club are accurate providing you get those questionnaires back to me! ↗

In Memoriam

The GCSANC lost a devoted member last month. **Al Deschene** passed away on October 4th. He was 50 years old. Al was affiliated with Farmload Distributors/Floratine Products and All Grow Supply & Service. He will be missed.

Harivandi Starts Ryegrass Trial

UCCE's Dr. Ali Harivandi has begun a perennial ryegrass evaluation trial at the Sunnyvale Golf Course. Dr. Harivandi and his staff will evaluate all commercially available perennial ryegrasses at the site. He also hopes to find grasses which show resistance to Gray Leaf Spot, the disease that has devastated the Midwest. For more information, contact Ali at the UCCE. ↗

Time to Reserve Your Room For The Holiday Meeting

This year's Holiday meeting is being held Friday December 10th at the Monterey Beach Hotel (yes, they've been kind enough to have us back!) Golf follows the next morning at the beautiful Del Monte GC. This is a meeting you don't want to miss.

Reservation deadline is November 19th

Monterey Beach Hotel

(831) 394-3321

(800) 242-8627

Oceanside

Single/double \$109.00

Additional person \$10.00

Gardenside

Single/Double \$79.00

Additional person \$10.00

Tournament Tips

By Terry Grasso

Christmas is just a few weeks away. I'm sure that new golf equipment is on everyone's wish list. So, save all of your previously used equipment (drivers, bags, putters, etc.) and bring them to the GCSANC Annual Meeting in January at Palo Alto.

The GCSANC is hoping to make a generous contribution of both used equipment and driving range credit to Jerry Berrow and the Alameda Junior Golf Program. This program was featured back in the September "Thru the Green" newsletter.

If you have any questions about this very worthy program, or would like to make a contribution through your company or club, call me at (650) 343-3147.

Personally, I have a golf bag, two wedges, and three putters that I don't wish to look at any more. And maybe one driver.....if it lives until January!

Online Resources for PCAs

Topics

California Code of Regulations
 Chemical Companies
 Contacting DPR
 Continuing Education (CE) Classes
 County Agricultural Commissioners
 County IT Resources
 E-mail Subscriptions
 Endangered Species Project
 Licensing Requirements
 News releases
 Pest Management Program
 Pesticide Laws
 Pesticide Links
 Pesticide Safety Info Series
 Product/label Database
 Publication List
 Renewal Applications
 Search
 USEPA Pesticide Database
 Visitor Information

Subtopics

Pesticides and Pest Control
 Name, number, and Address info
 Feedback form, address, phone #s
 Approved classes and schedules
 Ag Commissioner contact info
 Link to Electronic Data Transfer System
 Free automatic e-mail of news, notices, etc.
 Database of maps, pesticide use info, etc.
 Link to specific requirements and renewals
 Current news releases
 Info on IPM, RFP's, Beneficials
 Pesticide references in the Code
 Links to gov. agencies, laws, Universities
 PSIS leaflets in English or Spanish
 Search for pesticide products
 Order DPR publications
 Renewal app.'s for PCA's
 Search DPR's website
 Search for Federal information
 Location, directions, maps, parking

URL (all start with <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/>)

[docs/inhouse/calcode/3ccrcovr.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/inhouse/calcode/3ccrcovr.htm)
[docs/label/numbk.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/label/numbk.htm) and [docs/label/comp.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/label/comp.htm)
[dprcontact.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/dprcontact.htm)
[docs/license/classes.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/classes.htm)
[docs/counties/caclist.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/counties/caclist.htm)
[docs/county/comenu.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/county/comenu.htm)
[docs/listserv/listdesc.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/listserv/listdesc.htm)
[docs/es/index.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/es/index.htm)
[docs/license/apcainfo.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/apcainfo.htm)
[docs/pressrls/presmenu.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/pressrls/presmenu.htm)
[docs/ipminov/ipmmenu.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/ipminov/ipmmenu.htm)
[docs/fac/fac.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/fac/fac.htm)
[dprpestlnk.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/dprpestlnk.htm)
[docs/whs/psi2menu.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/psi2menu.htm)
[docs/label/labelque.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/label/labelque.htm)
[docs/dprdocs/dpr003.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/dprdocs/dpr003.htm)
[docs/license/renewpca.html](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/renewpca.html)
[cgi-bin/www.pl](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/cgi-bin/www.pl)
[docs/epa/epamenu.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/epa/epamenu.htm)
[newicons/map2.gif](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/newicons/map2.gif)

UC Davis to Hold 1999 Pest Science Conference

The 1999 Pest Science Conference is designed to present the latest research in pest science and includes more than 40 speakers from nine UC Davis campus departments and programs. The conference addresses pest management problems relating to field and vegetable crops; deciduous orchards and vineyards; and turf, greenhouse and landscape environments. Several hands-on workshops are featured to enhance the learning experience. Coordinators are Clyde Elmore, Ph.D. and James MacDonald, Ph.D. The conference is scheduled Tuesday December 14, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and Wednesday, December 15, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Ten hours of DPR Continuing Education will be offered. Fee is \$125. For more information, contact the UC Davis Extension at (530) 757-8899. /

Free Computers Offered to Superintendents Who Participate in Trial

G-Support.com is offering to install free Pentium III computers with Hughes high-speed satellite connections for 50 Northern California Superintendents. G-Support.com is a web site developer who is seeking to provide superintendents with a full service golf course site. The site is intended to eliminate searching the Internet for turfgrass information and other superintendent friendly information. The site will eventually enable the superintendent to conduct e-commerce, track inventory, research turfgrass information, and keep personnel and management records. It is intended to be a one-stop site for everything we do. The trial will entail logging on to the site once a week and providing some feedback on the content. Superintendents without prior computer or Internet backgrounds are especially welcomed. For more information on this program, check the web site at <http://www.g-support.com>. You can also contact National Sales Manager Mike Trompeter at (800) 809-5666 or mtrompeter@g-support.com. /



FORE!
 Join us as the FUTURE of
 golf course irrigation
 PLAYS THROUGH.

**SOLTIS
 GOLF**

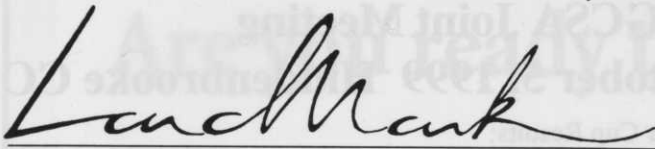
We welcome inquiries: 909.949.6210 or www.soltisgolf.com

Quick Quote

The optimist feels that we live in the best of all possible worlds. The pessimist fears exactly that.

— James Capel —

Terry Leach



LANDMARK ■ Golf Course Builder, Renovation, Irrigation Projects

P.O. Box 924
Novato, CA 94948
Phone: 415-898-9419
Fax: 415-898-9281

LESCO

We're Here For You.

A Team of Professionals Serving Your Turfgrass Needs
Throughout Northern California

**Turf Seed • Fertilizers • Repair Parts
Golf Course Accessories • Equipment**

800/321-5325

TORO



WEST STAR DISTRIBUTING, INC.

2438 Radley Court • Hayward, CA 94545-1159
11373 Sunrise Gold Circle • Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

HAYWARD
(510) 887-1222
FAX (510) 785-3576

RANCHO CORDOVA
(916) 635-3232
FAX (916) 635-3348

Southern Links

8561 Younger Creek Dr. #6
Sacramento, CA 95828



Michael Hartshorn
Steve Kent

Toll Free: 800-405-4657
Fax: 916-381-5778

WHEN IT MATTERS.

Supporter Listing

RUSSELL D. MITCHELL & ASSOC., INC.

Providing quality irrigation design and consultation services including bid document development, hydraulic analysis, and field staking.

510-939-3985 FAX 925-932-5671

Bay Irrigation & Turf Supply Inc.

Providing one stop shopping for sprinklers, valves, pipe, fittings, sod, seed, stakes, drainage and lighting.

Our 25th year of service to Northern California.

Jeffrey Jones, VP/Sales 800-622-TURF (8873)

Spot Water
MANAGEMENT



1875 S. Bascom Ave., #116-153
Campbell, CA 95008

aslack@spotwater.com

voice 408.288.8153 fax 408.288.8156

Irrigation Central Computer Consulting



For Deep Drill Aerification in just one day Call the Pros!

FM 24 - Drill & Fill Aerification System

Complete soil amendment fill up to 8"
Changes soil profile up to 5% ea app.
Penetrates Hard Pan

FM 60 - Deep Drill Aerification System

Drill up to 10"
Penetrates Hard Pan

To Schedule Demonstrations or Service Call:

Larry Lane - (800) 994-0004 or

Bay Area - Mike Willis (707) 253-8225

DELTA BLUEGRASS COMPANY



**Quality Golf Course
Sod Blends & Services**

BLENDS: Penncross, Dominant, Hybrid
Bermuda, Baby & 419, Blue Rye 50%/50%
& 90/10, 100% Rye and 100% Bluegrass

SERVICES: Hybrid Bermuda Row
Planting, Deep Tine Aeration, Slit Seed,
Green and Fairway Top Dressing

800-637-8873
Contractor's Lic. #C-27 553999

Alan Heath @ 916-768-0132

Naumann's NorCal News

Dan Miller, Superintendent at Half Moon Bay Golf Links, has started a complete renovation on the old Links Course. Arthur Hills, the architect that did the new Ocean Course, has redesigned the Links Course. Plans are to rebuild nine holes this fall and nine holes in the spring..... **Dick McAllister** has recently installed the siphon drain system on two holes at Santa Rosa Golf & Country Club. The work is being installed by Turf Drainage West..... **Kevin Hutchens**, Superintendent at the Presidio Golf Course in San Francisco is in the process of rebuilding greens. The project is currently underway and is an attempt to combat parasitic nematodes. The Presidio, being a federal site, is highly restricted in the use of chemicals. They have decided their best alternative was to replace the greens with bentgrass sod and new sand.....

Correction

A sentence was inadvertently left out of Naumann's NorCal News in the last issue. The column should have read as follows: **Chris Dahlheimer** is the new superintendent at Carmel Valley Ranch. Chris was the assistant at Pebble Beach before moving out to the Valley.

New Continuing Education (CE) Renewal Schedule

A-L: All CE hours must be completed by December 31, 2000 for all year 2000 renewals.
M-Z: All CE hours must be obtained between January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2001 for all year 2001 renewals.
Important Reminder: Any person who fails to renew their license or certificate through continuing education must reexamine, but is not required to repeat the minimum qualifications (e.g. education or experience) that were in effect when the license or certificate was issued.

For additional information contact the DPR Licensing & Certification Division, 830 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Phone (916) 445-4038

Tournament Results GCSANC/ SNGCSA Joint Meeting October 5, 1999 Hiddenbrooke CC

Ryder Cup Results:

Aguilera/Montgomery (SN) def. Barber/Nickels (NC)
Eastwood/Grant (NC) def. Bowman/Francischine (SN)
Legarra/Quinday (SN) def. Shafer/Green (NC)
Johnson/Blume(SN) def. Davies/Basile (NC)
Lapic/Brownlie (NC) def. Gardner/Miller (SN)
Sayre/Willis (NC) def. Iocca/Teixeira (SN)

Totals: NC 3 SN 3

Gross:

- 1) Roger Gozler (SN) 75 \$125
- 2) Mike Hartshorn (NC) 76 \$100
- 3) Bob Baker (NC) 77 \$75
- 4) George Claus (NC) 78 \$50

Net:

- 1) Rex Gentry (NC) 69 \$125
- 2) Mike Blume (NC) 69 \$100
- 3) Ronnie Rogers (NC) 69 \$75
- 4) Steve Legarra (SN) 72 \$50

Closest to the hole:

- #3) Richard Soderborg (NC)
- #6) Kevin Eppich (NC)
- #13) Terry Leach (NC)
- #17) Rob Rosson (SN)

All ties broken by matching cards.

All prizes paid in merchandise orders.

Important Change to DPR Renewal Procedures

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) has announced the elimination of the re-licensing 'grace' or 'probation' period. In the *Pesticide Enforcement News Bulletin* (Summer 1999) DPR stated that they will "no longer allow CE credit to be accrued for renewal unless the hours are obtained while the license/certificate is valid; there will be no 'grace' or 'probation' year for CE." License and Certificate renewal applications postmarked after December 31st which have met the CE hour renewal requirements during the time their license/certificate is valid, will be accepted. However, a \$10.00 late penalty payment must be included with the renewal payment.

You've served our local chapter — Are you ready to serve the national?



You don't need to know a secret code or handshake to be involved on a GCSAA committee. If you're interested in committee service for next year, all you need to do is submit the volunteer interest form by Oct. 1. Then, GCSAA will request evaluation information from your chapter president. All this material will be compiled for the incoming chairmen and president to review, and then committee and resource group appointments will be announced in early April.

Responsibilities

A committee member is a **representative** of the members, a **leader** of the association, and a **worker** for GCSAA. Responsibilities include:

- Preparing for and participating in one committee meeting and/or one or more conference calls. Meetings are typically one to two days and are usually held at GCSAA headquarters. GCSAA pays travel expenses.
- Responding to phone, fax and/or E-mail requests for information and feedback throughout the committee year.
- Communicating ideas and relevant issues to the committee chairman and/or staff liaison.

Rewards

When you are selected to serve on a GCSAA committee or resource group, you may justifiably feel good about it. Rewards for your involvement include:

- Networking with other GCSAA leaders from around the country.
- Knowing that you are contributing something significant to enhance the quality and value of membership in GCSAA for yourself and your colleagues in the golf course management profession.
- Honing communication, planning and analysis skills that can enhance your own career.



How to Volunteer

You can volunteer today by submitting the online volunteer interest form in the committee directory section of GCSAA's Web site at www.gcsaa.org. You can also obtain a form by contacting GCSAA's service center at mbrhelp@gcsaa.org or by phone at (800) 472-7878.

Life is short.

SOD IT!

The official
sod suppliers to the
San Francisco 49ers.



GROWERS AND
INSTALLERS OF
PREMIUM QUALITY
SOD AND STOLONS

www.westcoastturf.com

Wade Alexander 209/669-5252

Greg Dunn 888/893-TURF



Milliken Chemical M-402
Division of Milliken & Co.
P. O. Box 1927
Spartanburg, SC 29304
Phone: 1-800-845-8502
www.millikenturf.com



Boardroom Briefs

By Ken Williams, CGCS

- ◆ The State GCSA was discussed. Association manager DJ King has been relieved of her duties. Her assistant Brenda has taken over the interim work. Vanessa Rangel is now editing California Fairways magazine. She takes over for Nina Kokotas.
- ◆ Mike McCulloch has been hired as the NCGA agronomist. Mike comes to Northern California from the Midwest. He will be overseeing research projects for the NCGA, running the internship program, and consulting on new projects. He has offered to write articles for the "Thru the Green" newsletter. The Board agreed to extend him a complimentary membership.
- ◆ The Board finalized a plan to accept donations for Jerry Berrow's Alameda Junior Golf Club.
- ◆ The Board discussed upcoming vacancies on the Board and possible candidates for the January election. Anyone wishing to run for a Board position should contact Dave Davies, CGCS.
- ◆ New GCSANC members will be required to attend at least one meeting in their first two months of membership. They will be introduced and receive their association paraphernalia at that time.
- ◆ Greg Crawford and the Media program were discussed. Greg still needs newsworthy items he can pass along to the media. The Board also would like to see a log/scrapbook from Greg.
- ◆ The Board discussed a letter from Stan Burgess. The letter opposed a possible by-law change that would create one Affiliate vote on the Board. More discussion is planned on the issue. The two Affiliate representatives currently on the Board have only an advisory role.
- ◆ The Board voted to contribute \$300 to the Diaz Family Memorial Fund. The fund was established for members of David Majors' (Del Mar CC) crew who were killed in an auto accident following a SDGCSA sponsored Padre game.
- ◆ Bob Tillema, CGCS is working to develop an area for vendor's information on the CGCSA web page.
- ◆ Penn State's David Huff submitted a proposal to the Board for funding of a nematocide research trial. The Board discussed the issue but declined to fund the work. The high travel costs of using an out of state researcher made it economically unreasonable for the Board at this time.

Rutgers Offers Three-Week Professional Golf Turf Management School

From January 17 – February 4, 2000 Rutgers University will offer a comprehensive preparatory course designed specifically for the golf turf professional. The course is designed for those who do not wish to attend a two-year program but who want to strengthen their skills in turfgrass management. The program will also prepare those interested in advancing to a more intensive two-year certificate program. The three-week program serves as an introduction to turf and landscape management for those individuals who want to pursue a career in fine turf management. Topics include employee communications, golf course construction and irrigation, turfgrass agronomics, and those skills necessary to create and maintain a golf environment. For more information on the program, contact Keith Wilson, Assistant Director at (732) 932-9271 extension 617 or at ocpe@aesop.rutgers.edu.

Writing on the Web

By Ken Williams, CGCS

"In cyberspace, you are what you write," says technology author Charles Rubin. Whether you've created a Web site or written an e-mail, you should pay close attention to the words you use. "People's opinion of you online is determined to a large extent by your command of the written word," Rubin says. Writing on the web is different from what you may have learned in English class. You need to grab the reader's attention and make your main points immediately.

People on the Web have short attention spans. If you don't hook them quickly, they'll be off to any of the millions of other sites just a few clicks away. For most people, reading on the Web is more difficult than reading from the printed page. Studies have shown that reading speeds are around 25% slower on a monitor. Try to keep words, sentences, and paragraphs short. Use meaningful, not necessarily clever, verbiage. Make sure your spelling is correct. And remember, the person on the other end can save, share, or do just about anything with your work.

Tips from the USGA

Begin Communicating and Cutting Trees Now For a Better Outcome Next Season.

Mike Huck - Agronomist - USGA Green Section Southwest Region

1999 Overseeding - A summer success or future problem? Compared to many other parts of the country the southwest fared well this summer. Cool temperatures, courtesy of La Niña, made management of cool-season grasses less difficult this summer compared to past seasons. Coastal locations are singing the praises of their fairway overseeding success, with little or no transition damage this year as much of the overseeded ryegrass hung on through the summer. Turf managers in the "Bermuda triangle" of Palm Springs, Las Vegas and Phoenix/Tucson actually wished for earlier heat and more extreme temperatures to improve transition.

The weather is always the uncontrollable factor in the turf management equation and can determine success or failure in a given year. Looking towards the future, the cool summer of 1999 could be pivotal should extreme heat be experienced in 2000. A bad, really bad, transition may await us due to thin underlying stands of bermudagrass or kikuyugrass resulting from the competition of lingering ryegrass.

With this in mind, it may not be a bad idea to begin communicating these potential problems to your clientele and management immediately! Warn them that more bare areas could be lurking ahead this coming summer and be prepared for the worst.

Research demonstrates that establishing a complete cover of bermudagrass once the rye fades is most greatly influenced by time, temperature and ryegrass competition. If you refer to the August issue of *Golf Course Management* "How to kill perennial ryegrass in overseeded fairways" the authors report how overseeding inhibits bermudagrass shoot development during spring green up and temperature limits the percentage of ryegrass disappearance. Consistent with similar studies, their conclusion finds that cultural practices intended to reduce ryegrass populations are ineffective when hot weather is delayed. Intermediate ryegrasses, as discussed in the July 1999 issue of *Golf Course Management*, may ease this problem in the future, but we are not quite 100% there yet.

Pink Snow Mold, Shade and Frost - Pink snow mold will become active as winter rain and snow occur. This disease is most destructive in wet shady environments during low to moderate temperatures. As opposed to responding by

immediately running out to the chemical room for help, you may wish to consider cultural methods that may reduce disease pressure.

Research performed by Dr. Roy Goss at Washington State University some years ago demonstrated that light applications of soil sulfur in the Pacific Northwest climate reduced snow mold incidence as well as *Poa annua* seed heads. (USGA Green Section Record September/October 1984- "Sulfur the Fourth Major Element".) Consider trimming or removing trees that shade greens and prolong wet conditions, or keep snow from rapidly melting off should also be considered. To steal a famous quote from our Mid Atlantic Region's Director, Stanley Zontek, "The three best fungicides available are Stihl, McCulloch and Poulan". And the good news is these three "fungicides" won't be regulated by the Food Quality Protection Act!

Tree removal can also help reduce frost delays when the sun is positioned low on the horizon. Long shadows cast from trees shading eastern and southern exposures have a significant impact on how quickly frosted putting surfaces will thaw and become playable. Cutting these trees can reduce tee time delays (not too many golfers would be against that early on a Saturday morning!) Reducing early morning shade not only melts frost and gets players on the course sooner, but it helps maintain warmer soil temperatures and improves growth. There is scientific evidence that early morning sunlight is extremely important for growing healthy turf and deep roots. Providing additional sunlight to greens offers season long benefits, as greens in open areas enter the summer in a more healthy condition and often survive season long stresses better than their "shady" counterparts. ♣

Thanks! - I would be remiss not to take a moment to thank those of you who sent cards, e-mails, phoned or left messages at the office following my surgery. You don't know how much it meant to me to hear from you all, I never realized how many friends that I have out there. I'm back to work, not quite at 100% yet, but working on it. Thanks again.

From The Media Director

By Greg Crawford

The GCSANC Media Program is working well in its first year. Articles about the Association or its members have appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle and Examiner, Contra Costa Times, Monterey Herald, Santa Rosa Press Democrat, Golf Today and Sacramento Bee. In addition, John Abendroth has been kind enough to interview two superintendents on his KNBR "Hooked on Golf" radio show and we have had three television stories, including information on the Golf Channel. I know I have left something out, but you get the picture.

With all that said, I am still not satisfied. I think the program has much room for growth. The first year of any media program is always the toughest. As I have said before, this is strictly a team effort and I am asking for more of our team (GCSANC Members) to step forward. I know there are success stories out there that I am not hearing about. I need to hear from you in order to promote you.

To help you in these efforts, we will be sending out a media bio sheet and hope you will return it to my office in a timely manner. This information will not only assist me and the GCSANC, but the superintendent profession in general. It will also provide a barometer of the types of stories we can present to the media.

In the future, look for more of our successful media stories to be printed in the newsletter. The media is interested in stories about our side of the golf business and it is my responsibility to get the media the information they require. Finally, if you have ideas on things the GCSANC should do for the 100th U.S. Open at Pebble Beach next summer, please contact me or any board member. As the host superintendent's association for the event, it should be an excellent opportunity to promote our profession. Please stay in touch. And as always, a big thanks to those of you who have called with ideas or support, it means a lot. ♣

GCSAA Education



Sustainable Golf Course Landscape Design: Enhancing Aesthetics, Function and Maintenance

Wednesday, January 5, 2000; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Code: 00RS229-04; 0.7 CEUs

Lake and Aquatic Plan Management

Thursday, January 6, 2000; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Code: 00RS034-03; 0.7 CEUs

Member Fee: \$110.00; Nonmember Fee \$165 (per seminar)
The Pleasanton Hilton at the Club; Pleasanton, California
Brought to you by the GCSA of Northern California
Sponsored by Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products

For more information or to register (800) 472-7878

When it comes to fertilizer

Some are less, Some are more

We are the



The Final Word in Turf Nutrition

Steve Franzen, Area Manager
209-858-2511 office
209-601-9181 mobile
web site-www.bestfertilizer.com