



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Blind Spot

By Richard A. (Rick) Traver, CGCS

A couple of years ago I was on my way to work and pulled up to the stop sign at the entrance to our neighborhood. As always I looked both ways, and seeing that everything was clear and, "possibly" being in a little bit of a hurry, started to pull out on my short trek to work. Seconds later I was reading the letters on some awfully big tires zinging past the front corner of my much smaller pickup truck. It missed me by about a foot or two but scared the heck out of me. Now my confidence level was really high with regard to how I was driving. I swear to this day that I did look in that direction, yet it seems impossible that I could have missed seeing that truck.

"With our jobs, how many times do we miss something because we are in much too much of a hurry or maybe we see it and plan to get back to it later only to get too busy to return. We take one of our many trips on the course throughout the day and because of what we have to do, or where we have to go, get on that same path that gets us there the fastest."

This event got me to start thinking about life and the many times that we take a glance to the left or right only to miss the "big things" due to that "Blind Spot."

With our jobs, how many times do we miss something because we are in much too much of a hurry or maybe we see it and plan to get back to it later only to get too busy to return. We take one of our many trips on the course throughout the day and because of what we have to do, or where we have to go, get on that same path that gets us there the fastest. Maybe I am alone, but sometimes I am out golfing and see areas of the course that due to my maintenance traffic patterns seldom ever travel. When I see these areas all I can do is shake my head and wonder how I missed checking an area that should have been looked at earlier in the day.

With our families, how many times do we get caught in a pattern and take for granted our relationships with our spouses or our children. I would love to say not guilty here, but I know it has happened with me. I love my wife and daughter, but things cause me to get tunnel vision, develop "Blind Spots" and miss big events in my daughter's life or not be the husband to my wife I should be.

This spring when the snow melts we will be running as fast as ever with staff cuts and budget cuts. Keep those "Blind Spots" in mind, especially when it comes to your spouse and children, but also visit those "Blind Spots" on the course, you never know what you may find.

Thanks to Paul Diegnau for an excellent Mini-Seminar, the water issues on the horizon loom big for our association. We will be hearing more about this topic shortly.

Have a great month!

-Rick

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