



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### To Walk on Water You Have to Get Out of the Boat

By Richard A. (Rick) Traver, CGCS

Greetings! I hope everyone had a great holiday season!

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I want to thank Paul Diegnau, Tom Proshok and the Education Committee for the great job and strong educational opportunities we were blessed with at the Expo. The session on green speed from Nikolai was excellent. Who thought you could spend five hours on green speed and keep everyone interested? There was a great slate of speakers and the quality we have seen at the Expo over the years has been magnificent. Thanks guys! Thanks as well to all those who attended the Expo, also to all the vendors who had booths and to all the vendors who participated in our 18-hole challenge. I know there are 12 guys who were pretty excited to get those gift certificates. What a great way to start off the year.

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My wife and I are about to start working on a bible study entitled "To walk on water you have to get out of the boat." The title really jumped out at me, as I am about to start my term as President of the MGCSA. When Jim Nicol contacted me about 10 years ago and asked if I would run for the board, this is not the path that I envisioned taking. However, at the time with a reluctant yes, I was off to spending a couple of years serving on the board, paying my dues and moving on. Now here I am "getting out of the boat" as well as "out of my comfort zone" to serve as President. Not to say that I will walk on water, heck just not drowning would be fine with me. It is an honor though to be given the trust from such a great group of people as our membership. As I looked through the past presidents list in the MGCSA roster, which by the way reads like a who's who of golf course management, it is an honor to know that my name will be on that list. I will do everything in my power to continue to maintain your trust in me as well as the integrity of the position.

\* \* \* \*

**Congratulations to David Oberle** for being elected to the board of directors as a vendor representative. Congratulations also to Paul Diegnau, CGCS for being elected Vice president, Paul Eckholm, CGCS to the office of Treasurer as well as to Scottie Hines, CGCS, Tom Meier, and Jeff Vinkemeier to Director positions. We do need to appoint one person to the Board of Directors to a one-year term replacing Paul Diegnau as a Director; if you have interest or know of someone, please contact us.

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Thank you all too who gave input with regard to the MGCSA considering managing the Mendota Heights Par 3. Our goal is to generate revenue for research and if possible generate enough money that we can use it as seed money for a turf pathologist. The overwhelming theme from the members was concern for the level of risk. I assure you we will keep this in mind as we move forward. Our hope was to open this process up to a member vote; however, due to the speed or lack thereof that cities move, we may not have time. Therefore, if you have any concerns, other than those already raised, please contact me, or any board member with those concerns.

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Finally, I hope you all get to spend some time with your families this winter, and for those of you who will be in Orlando, I'll see ya there!

- Rick

# HOLE NOTES

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