



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you, Membership, for Two Great Years!

By Richard B. (Rick) Traver, CGCS

One of the hardest things I have to do as president is write a monthly column for this fine publication. I can jabber on for hours if you want to talk politics, sports or turf, but having to put something down on paper for two years that sounds presidential is a little difficult. I have a hard time coming up with the topics, so thank goodness this is my last issue. I do want to thank all the people who have complimented me on the content of this column.

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I would like to thank the membership for allowing me to hold this position for the last two years. It has been quite an honor. I doubt that my presidency will go down as the greatest era in the MGCSA, nor was I your guy if you were looking for "change." I do hope however that you all felt comfortable knowing the association was in good hands. It has also been an honor to serve with and get to know the gentlemen who have also been on the board during my tenure. They are a hard working dedicated group of people you should be proud to have at the helm of the MGCSA.

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Coming up at the MGCSA Annual Business Meeting is a vote on several bylaws changes. The first is a change of wording to create continuity throughout the bylaws. There are 35+ places where the term Executive Board and Board are used interchangeably, and those will all be changed to Board of Directors. The second bylaws change creates a designated position for the Class C members on the board of directors. This position will be voted on solely by the Class C members much like we do with the affiliates. The Class C members will still be able to run for Directors positions; however Article VI of the bylaws states that a majority of the board must be composed of Class A members. The third bylaws change allows the affiliate members to become life members. If anyone has any questions with regard to these changes please contact me @763-271-0167.

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Thanks to Tom Proshek for the great job he has done all year on the MGCSA Arrangements Committee. We have been looking at alternative activities for some of the monthly meetings, and Tom was responsible for organizing the outing at the Minnesota Hunt Club and it was a fun time for everyone who shoots skeet. I wasn't able to stay and participate, but it sounds like it was a blast and I will certainly be a part of it next year.

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Thanks also to the members of the board who will be leaving this year. First and foremost a thank you goes to **James Bade**. He has served for over 10 years and his wisdom and insight will be greatly missed. Thanks also to **Jeff Vinkemeier** who introduced the Environmental award to the MGCSA, and also to **Tom Meier** who was instrumental in seeing our scholarship program through some tough times. Thank you all for the time you have served, it has been a joy getting to know you.

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I want to say a special thanks to Jack MacKenzie, CGCS as well for the nice article he wrote about my family and me in the last issue, but also for continuing to serve as editor of the *Hole Notes*. He is a talented writer and could have certainly made that his career if he decided not to be a superintendent.

*- Respectfully
Rick Traver*

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