

Letter from the Editor

Summer is upon us. Soon we will be feeling the pressures of our positions of keeping the grass alive in an unknown weather pattern of the Transition Zone. I wanted to take a different direction with a note on something which may affect some of us. It is the importance of remembering our priorities in life to not leave the family behind.

It is easy to find one self consumed with our positions within the golf course industry, whether we are the Director of Golf Course Maintenance at a multi-million dollar facility, Superintendent at a small public course struggling with the present economy or even a Sales Representative consumed with pressures of sales and office visits. Our goals in life are similar, we want to be successful and provide for our family. We work hard to impress those who control those goals. Sometimes however, this extreme focus puts a spouse, child, friend or other second to something we feel is priority. If there have been changes in your life, the birth of a new child or some other life event, it is important to keep the family priority number one. Recognize the addition stress these life events may bring and share in the effort to accomplish all which is needed. Far too many times, assumptions are made where ones feels the other can do it all. Relationships work better as a team. Good communication is a key to expressing both of your needs and wants. If you have observed changes in behavior or in your relationship overall, make sure you identify and communicate them sooner than later. The longer you do not recognize these changes; the potential for the relationship to end becomes easier.

Our positions will not last forever, but your relationships will. Make sure you do not become blinded by the need to be successful and leave the family behind. There are ways of achieving both and it starts with communication and a plan. Establish your goals together and have an understanding of what it will take to achieve them. I feel family should always be priority number one with everything else coming in a close second, third, forth, etc. Make it your focus with love and attention. From there everything else will naturally fall into place. The hard part is separating oneself from the pressures of our careers and our obligation to spouse, family and home. So, when you go home tonight, give your spouse a hug and remind them they are number one.

Brett Post,
Newsletter Editor MAAGCS

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MAAGCS & VGCSA PLAN FOR '09 GIS

Plans are already underway for the 2009 GCSAA Conference and Golf Industry Show in New Orleans, Feb. 1-7, 2009. The Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents and Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association of America have made plans to strengthen their partnership for the event.

In an effort to facilitate networking opportunities, the two organizations have designated the same host hotel, the Astor Crowne Plaza on Bourbon Street. A joint room block has been reserved, available on a first-come, first-serve basis for members of either association. The block will be managed by Golf Industry Travel, with more information due out around September 1, 2008. Reservations must be made by November 7, 2008.

In addition, the two organizations are planning a joint social event for the evening of Thursday, February 5, 2009. Details on location and time have not been finalized.