

Make Your Membership More Valuable

What are *YOU* doing to improve the value of your Chapter and GCSAA membership? Have you taken an active part in the functions of these organizations? Have you volunteered to work on any of these organization's many projects and committees?

As a member of a professional organization, either locally, regionally or nationally based, there are many things that you might want to consider as an individual member to make membership more valuable to you and your fellow members. The following list is just a starting point, but it may give you some ideas from which other helpful methods will arise.

1. *When you have a problem, do you:*
 - a. Call fellow members of your organization for suggestions?
 - b. Check through back issues of your Chapter newsletters, "The Golf Superintendent," or the GCSAA Conference "Proceedings" for articles relating to your problem?
 - c. Discuss this problem at your next meeting?
 - d. Check the programs of up-coming conferences and other meetings to see if your problem will be covered either directly or indirectly?
2. *Before going to a meeting, do you:*
 - a. Plan in advance to talk about specific professional topics?
 - b. Make plans to talk with someone before, at, or after the meeting?
 - c. Anticipate how you can apply the speaker's talk to your situation?
 - d. Plan to participate in the program, either by asking or answering questions?

e. Plan to volunteer for an assignment to help your organization?

3. *When a fellow member telephones you with questions or problems, do you:*

- a. Call him back with the information you promised?
- b. Offer to help, regardless of your own problems?
- c. Respond to all questions in a helpful, friendly and professional manner?
- d. Remember that other members volunteered to take time to help you solve your problems?

4. *When asked to serve your organization in some manner, do you:*

- a. Accept the assignment, even though you may be busy?
- b. Offer assistance on projects in which you may not be directly involved?
- c. Recognize the opportunities for individual and group exposure and growth value by participating in any such capacity?

Remember, your professional associations should be a dynamic part of your overall growth plan. Volunteering for a more active role can provide you with greater membership benefits, particularly when you and the members of your local organization contribute as a unit for the betterment of GCSAA.

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Clifford A. Wagoner, CGCS who is National Affairs Chairman writes During the month of July a packet of information was mailed by GCSA of America to all non-National members in California for the purpose of advising them of the advantages of belonging to GCSAA. In a cover letter President Charles Baskin extends an invitation to all non-members to join and enjoy benefits of GCSAA members. I encourage all of you to carefully read and consider how becoming affiliated with this Association can influence your future.

If you did not receive the packet you may by contacting me at 1233 Kansas Avenue, Modesto, CA 95351 or GCSAA at address above.