

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

**THRU THE GREEN**

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It won't be long and I will be able to turn this job over to my successor, the new President of the Association, I'm counting the days. I will admit that my term has been enjoyable and thanks to the rest of the board and Barbara Mikel everything has run quite well. I am looking forward to hosting the annual meeting at Diablo Creek G.C. on April 21. It will be a shotgun start at 1:00 pm and the more the merrier so I hope you plan on attending.

I have spent the last three months beating the bushes for candidates to run for positions on the board. Candidates for the board are a very elusive prey. Tough critters to corner. I know that everybody in this business has a lot of responsibility, too little time and an ogre for a greens chairman but, please make a promise to yourself that someday you will say yes. You will find the experience rewarding and have the opportunity to influence the perception and the reality of our profession.

I would also like to remind the Affiliate Members of the new format for the Annual Meeting. For the first time the representative to the board from the Affiliate Members will be elected rather than appointed. The election will take place during the concurrent affiliates meeting on April 21st. No formal candidates have been announced and nominations from the floor are required. The term will be for two years and we promise to work you to death, so give it some consideration and take one step forward.



My only regret during my term is my failure to revise the Constitution and the By-Laws of the Association. The original Constitution and By-Laws were adopted in 1932 and amended 1972, 1987 and 1990. It is as they say about constitutions a "living document" with specific rules and a formal method for change. It was my intention to present to the membership some proposed changes at the annual meeting. Well to make a long story short I didn't get it done in a timely manner. After witnessing the disaster with the proposed changes to the GCSAA where large changes were requested with insufficient communication maybe a go slow approach is the way to go.

I have a problem with some of our classification requirements which I feel are too restrictive. For instance, is it really necessary to require a certified superintendent to take our Class A exam to become a Class A in our organization? Or should a superintendent who has hosted an Open or Ryder Cup be required to take our exam? I don't think what is the point? Most other chapters and the National assume we have all passed numerous tests or we wouldn't have the job to begin with. I would hope we can begin a process which would result in some changes to our Constitution and By-Laws. Give it some thought, read them, they are located in every Membership Directory, let me know what you think.

Rod

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