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THRU THE GREEN

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From The President

Okay, now you've done it. For nine months, I've managed to keep this message light and mostly humorous. Now it ends. As much as I hate to do this, you've forced me to get up on my soapbox to preach.

I've got to tell you, I'm a bit dismayed at the apathy, or lack of participation that many of you show toward taking a leadership role in **your** professional association. You guys and gals should be standing in line to volunteer or run for a leadership role. I know you've got opinions on how things should be run; you've told me so. This isn't brain surgery; if you can read this message, and have an IQ of about 45, you're more than qualified to lead this association. Heck, we all know that our Executive Secretary does all the real work anyway!

I don't think that this problem is unique to our association. I know that the GCSAA has had similar problems in the past. I'll even bet that the Northern California Chicken Pluckers have problems getting people to serve on their board or committees. I used to belong to a ski club in a former life and we had similar problems. People used to say that they were too busy at work. Well folks, this is work,

Office Notes

By: Barbara Mikel

A reminder. The office will be closed from 2-5-96 to 2-26-96. The answering machine will **not take messages** so please give me a call after I return from Orlando, Florida.

If you move or change jobs be sure to send the current information to the office for the Membership Directory. We will be formulating the Directory

and this association, and the benefits that you derive from it, help you do your job better.

"I don't have the time," you say. You probably waste more time hanging out in the pro shop each morning that I put in on association business each day. "It's a lot of work," you say. Yea, it can be, but this message is the hardest thing that I've had to do as President. Let me fill you in on the negative aspects of volunteering time for this association. . . . You know, I really can't think of any. Let me tell you about the good stuff. First, you get a really neat phone company credit card so you don't pay for any of the calls that you make. And you **will** make lots of calls, which brings me to the second point. You will talk to, and make friends with colleagues around the area, state, and even around the nation. (Think of the possibilities if you play lots of golf.) You will discuss areas of common interest, needs and problems, and work toward common goals. The friends you will make will last well beyond your board service. Believe it or not, most of you guys are worth knowing and I value the friendships that I've made through this association. Most of us have chosen this profes-

shortly after the annual meeting in April. It is your responsibility to make sure we have current information. The information from your renewal questionnaire will be used. If you received a second request for the information questionnaire, please fill it out or the information in the Directory will be last years and will not include fax numbers or updated information.

sion because we really like what we're doing. Association service is an extension of this profession, and it really is rewarding.

Now I know, most of you have legitimate excuses, I mean reasons, that you can't take a more active role. Maybe your wife has just had triplets and you think that maybe they might take a little more of your free time, or maybe you're in the process of building a 36 hole golf resort, or just maybe you're finding it hard balancing your time between your wife and girlfriend. Well, give it a year or so, and then step forward. But what about the other 10% of you? You say you've never been asked? Maybe you don't know who to talk to? Maybe you've been waiting to be nominated by someone? Well consider yourself asked. Consider yourself nominated. Call our nominating committee chairman Randy Gai. I'll even give you his phone number, (510) 654-8972. If it makes a difference, call him collect if you like. Hey call him at home if you want. He just told me he's a light sleeper, so he might even answer the phone late at night. As they say on TV, **Just Do It!**

See you in Orlando,

Richard Lavine, CGCS
President

I hope you saw the notice in the last newsletter about our gift certificates being accepted by GCSAA. They do have quite a lot of quality education materials also. If you have received a gift certificate for the first time, a reminder; the certificates are redeemable at any pro shop. The certificates are PGA approved. The pro sends the certificate to our office for redemption.

