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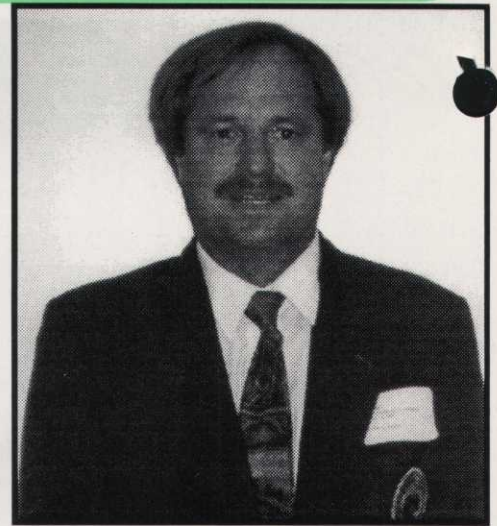
AFFILIATE ADVISORS

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From The President

Serving as president of our Association this past year has been an honor and privilege. I thank you for that opportunity. Whether you consider your job title to be Golf Course Superintendent, Head Greenkeeper, Director of Golf Course Management or Golf Turf Manager, you have my respect for the challenge you face daily as you carry out your duties. You are a remarkable person. I say this because of the many hats that you must wear to be successful at what you do. A growing number of people are realizing how difficult our job is and the importance of doing it well. Because of this, we each have the opportunity to humbly promote ourselves as remarkable individuals. We must realize that our success may only be achieved with the support of those we work for and a strong staff that will follow our direction. Having gained the support of others, the greatest factor that will lead to a golf course's success continues to be how well we do our job. Now is a good time for each of us to promote ourselves with those we work for.

Your Board of Directors this past year consisted of dedicated individuals that put in a great deal of time and effort to serve you. I thank them for doing a great job as they did most of the work. Barbara Mikel our Executive Secretary had to help me probably more than any previous President. I



Blake Swint, President

thank Barbara for her patience. I would like to thank our Affiliate Members that continue to financially support many of our events. In return, I hope we recognize that support and utilize their services.

I think good things are ahead for our Association. Better things may be ahead if more members become involved in determining how this Association may best serve its members. Next year's President, Mr. Dave Davies, CGCS, has told me that at each meeting next year there will be time for an open forum that will allow that to happen.

Thanks,
Blake

Office Notes

By Barbara Mikel

Well here we are again with another Annual Meeting behind us. With the changing of the guard comes a new directory so this is my final call for new clubs, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail and faxes, etc. Boy, if that list doesn't tell you we are living in a communication age, I don't know what will.

One communication function and information source for your Association is, *Thru The Green*. You have an excellent "volunteer editor" making sure you all "stay in the loop" and sometimes keeping you so well informed you think you can pass up those monthly meetings. You'll get more out of your Association if you can make these functions.

There have been some interesting forums on the GCSAA Web site lately. If you get a

chance and are online, go take a view. Speaking of items found online. I hope all members of GCSAA have taken a good look at the "Golf Links" Credit Union. They have been offering some real bargains!

We have just presented our 1997 Awards. The GCSANC application for 1998 should be available in August. GCSANC has been fortunate for the last four years to have one of our members on the GCSAA Scholarship Committee. It has brought invaluable experience to both organizations. I hope we can keep this going yet another year. Anyone out there interested? Just received a notice of Scholarship Competition for 1998 from GCSAA. I have applications in the office if you know of some deserving individuals. If you want them to call direct the Foundation number is 800-472-7878 (ext. 622).