# THRU THE GREEN

## **GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting Summary**

By Pat Finlen, CGCS

On November 1st, 2nd and 3rd, I attended the GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting in Kansas City as our Chapter Representative. A number of topics were discussed, many of which are of significant importance to our association and membership.

The most surprising topic for the delegates was the announcement of a study

undertaken by GCSAA about a possible move of the GCSAA Headquarters. This study has identified a number of potential sites from a list of over 300 possible cities. Most notable was the current location in Lawrence, Atlanta, Dallas, Jacksonville, Orlando and Phoenix. If the association were to move from Lawrence to any location, a change in the Articles of Incorporation would have to be approved at the annual meeting in Atlanta. The Chapter Delegates overwhelmingly voted to place this item on the ballot in Atlanta.

The reasons for the study are summed up in the following statement by GCSAA, "The leadership of GCSAA believes today that to maximize the visibility of the association in the golf community, to continue to broaden the scope of membership services, and to continue to solidify its leadership role in golf requires a re-examination of the benefits to the membership of moving GCSAA to a high-traffic, golf intensive region."

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Other items discussed include the announcement of a dues increase. During the last three years GCSAA has operated its education programs with a carry over of funds (\$1,650,000) from 1999 & 2000. That carry over will run out this year. Last year GCSAA lost nearly \$800,000. A dues increase for superintendents from \$250 to \$300 will generate around \$800,000. This will be voted upon at the annual meeting in Atlanta.

PDI will take effect on July 1. Members should have received a PDI scorecard. With the implementation of PDI this July, many new avenues of education will be opened up to our members. GCSAA Board members travel and expenses were discussed. Items included in the discussion were the type of reimbursed expenses, spouse travel and what Board members attend which events during the year.

One final topic of most importance to us is the election of the Board of Directors for GCSAA. One of our own members, Gary Carls CGCS, is running for the board this year. Gary gave a great presentation to the Delegates as well as answered their questions during a break-out session. The key to helping Gary get elected is your support. You can help by calling your acquaintances in other Chapters soliciting their support of Gary. The more contacts we can make on Gary's behalf, the more likely he will be elected.

These and many other GCSAA issues affect us.

#### Your voice can be heard through your vote at the annual election.

47 of our members have chosen to vote independent of the Chapter. The entire board and I are open to everyone's thoughts and ideas. Please take the time to let us know what you think on these important issues before the GCSAA Annual Meeting in February, 2003.

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