

It's hard to believe that I am sitting writing my first president's message. With 2008 now in full force and spring quickly rearing its head. We will all soon be looking to aerification and gearing up for another season of excitement.

Excitement would be my word of choice to describe GCSANC thus far in 2008. We have some really exciting things that we are undertaking and we have a lot of people excited to be a part of the association again. To me, that is exciting! It is really a great thing. Being involved always provides a great return on your time investment, both professionally and personally. If you are thinking about being involved, pick up the phone and call a BOD member or Barb at the GCSANC headquarters!

To give some examples of the interest and what is going on in our association, we have had a lot of volunteers for the Education and Institute Committees and have a Past President's Committee with 15 Past Presidents and the three BOD officers to:

- 1) Evaluate our progress on the Strategic Plan
- 2) Help launch the Apprenticeship Program
- 3) Examine ways we can further our image and Public Relations dollars
- 4) Renew enthusiasm and participation in GCSANC

In addition, the GCSANC Board is continuing to look for ways we can enhance our programming and our service to you - the members. We will seek to provide more and better motivational/educational speakers for our events.

This past month in Orlando, I had the opportunity to vote as a delegate. I was proud to be a part of the governance of our Association. It was interesting to see how the process happens and to meet with all the delegates from across the country. It was very obvious to me that we definitely have unified team acting on our behalf at the Board level in the GCSAA. Even though we all hold departing GCSAA CEO Steve Mona in high regard, I honestly feel that the GCSAA BOD will make the right choice in our new CEO. And they continue to work at elevating our stature within this industry. They are focused on promoting the Class A status and our image. And they are backing it up with dollars and advertising. It's great seeing that the future of the GCSAA is looking, well, exciting!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



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OFFICE NOTES

Barb Mikel

GCSANC Association Manager

Just because your budget didn't allow for attending the GIS this year, don't fall "behind the curve." You don't have to spend time traveling to and from the education events designed to keep you informed and current. Check out these educational offerings below:

"Communicating Strategically to Get Your Way"
 "Bermudagrass Greens Water Management"
 "Bunker Sand Selection 2008"
 "Leading the Next Generation"
 "ID, Biology and Current Control of Poa Trivialis-2008"
 "Phosphorus Fertilizers and Pollution - What Turf Managers Need to Know"

Where can you find education topics like the above which will fit your schedule and location and cost only \$45.00? GCSAA web casts provide these and 90 other topics of interest for GCSAA members. They are taught by approved instructors and qualify for Certification and Continuing Education credits.

GCSAA's live education webcasts are about 90 minutes long and can be accessed by any computer with appropriate Internet connections. You can use a microphone to ask questions or participate using the text chat feature. A pre-event system check is available today to learn about requirements and test your system free of charge. You can have lunch or coffee break at the same time. And if you miss a live event, or have to leave before the conclusion, you can come back and access it later (for a specified time) with the "ON DEMAND" feature. So log-on soon and sample all GCSAA has to offer!



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