

THE BULL SHEET, official publication of the MID-WEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPER-INTENDENTS.

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President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Very often, editorials are critical writings. They may be constructive, mind you, but critical just the same. They are meant to help us, our organization, or even, pray tell, the game of golf. However, I must say that I am amazed at how few positive items I read. Whether it be the local paper, or a monthly periodical, we are drenched with whatever is wrong. Even the TV and its deluge of evening news programs has the networks competing to see whose "bad" news can attract the larger audience. It's too bad things have to be this way.

I have been reminded from time to time, especially when a bit "down", that, for the most part, I am a positive person. (She has never lied to me before.) This gentle reminder is intended to cheer me up, and for some reason, it does. It helps me stop worrying about yesterday's problems. I am able to shift gears just long enough to look forward to tomorrow's challenges. (This is not intended to sound prophetic, just honest.) This is the positive thinking that gets things done. Positive thinkers welcome day-to-day challenges. They don't have time to grumble. The grumbler makes himself miserable and sometimes contaminates the very people he lives and works with. What an awful situation! Here we are, feeling sorry for ourselves, while grumbling about every obstacle that confronts us. But, just when we start feeling a little better, the people we work with are feeling so rotten that the whole day becomes a waste, having to associate with such poor company. (Did I say prophetic or pathetic?)

Unfortunately, we are not programmed to "stop and smell the roses". Instead, we have been programmed to hurry, to do it fast, to do it effectively, to do for the "me" group, the "I" group, and the "other" group. We have been programmed to do it to the other guy before he does it to us. And worst of all, we have been programmed to think that nothing is more important than "The Job". Sometimes we forget that we started out doing what we really like to do - provide. We provide our services and expertise for others to enjoy. We provide for and enjoy the family, the community, the church, and the school. And sometimes, in spite of all the hub bub around us, we are able to de-program just long enough to look and see what we have in our profession. It's our own little world - the golf course. And, in this isolated area, we have the golden opportunity to provide so many positive things for everyone, including ourselves. It's a place where day-to-day changes make each day unique. We have the chance to help Mother Nature grow. Our golf courses are clean places, so different, so quiet, compared to the Metro.

I'm glad she reminds me to be positive. I really do feel better about what I'm doing today. I hope that others around me feel better too.

Pete Leuzinger

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