THE BULL SHEET, official publication of the MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.

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Bull Sheet printed by Ever-Redi Printing, La Grange, Illinois 60525. Phone: (312) 352-4378.

The Bull Sheet is published once a month. All articles are required by the 10th of the month to make the next issue. Advertising is sold by the column inch, by the quarter page, half page, and by the full page. All artwork to be finished and in black and white. Circulation is around 500 issues per month.



PRESIDENT' MESSAGE MARCH 1984

My congratulations to GCSAA for an excellent conference show in Las Vegas. Like many of our members, I participated in a pre-conference seminar and was very pleased with the content and the presentation by the instructors. I can't recall anyone telling me that they hadn't gained some information and insight into their profession from those seminars. Congratulations to Pete Leuzinger and the people who helped him for all their successful effort in coordinating the GCSAA Disease Seminar at Pheasant Run. It set a GCSAA record for attendance at a nonconference seminar and I'm sure we will see a seminar in our area again next year.

On behalf of the MAGCS, I would like to thank Paul Boizelle for all of his years of service to GCSAA. The MAGCS is proud to have supported all of his efforts and endeavors during his tenure on the GCSAA Board of Directors. Behind every cloud is a silver lining, and our silver lining is having Paul Boizelle a little closer to home to share his knowledge and expertise with us here in Chicago. Welcome back Paul!

While in Las Vegas, I attended a luncheon for CGCS members. I can tell you that this controversial form of recognition is as strong and vibrant as ever. A long range plan has been drawn up for the future of this program, and it is an exciting one! The long range will improve the integrity, exposure, and accreditation, of the title CGCS. The CGCS program will remain a voluntary program while increasing the standards for those who wish to aspire to this mark in their career. It will not hamper anyone in becoming or remaining a viable member of GCSAA. The long range plan, presented to us in rough draft at the luncheon, has some inadequacies and is inconsistant in some areas in this form. Those problems present very small obstacles to overcome. The overall direction that the certification program is taking is right on course and headed for bigger and better things. We will see an increase in the number of GCSAA members who will want to participate in this program as the program's growing pains begin to subside. My hat's off to the Certification Committee for their forthright perseverance under sometimes unrelenting criticism.

Now Fred tells me I have run out of space so I have to climb down off my soapbox until next month.

Roger Stewart, CGCS