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**President's Message**

I just returned from San Francisco in time to write another timely message.

This year's show was another shining example of what the G.C.S.A.A. has the ability to put together for the advancement of all its participating members. It combined an outstanding selection of talks and speakers; that again included several members of our association, a bigger and better trade show. (we not only saw the equipment — the age of videocassette now allows us to see them in action. Amazingly they all perform perfectly in front of a camera. I may start filming the crew every morning), and of course, the lure of San Francisco; cable cars, fine dining, excellent wine and a short trip to Monterey for professional golf at its finest. All in all a good time was had by all.

Now back to reality. The start of the season may be just around the corner, along with the continuation of our educational endeavors. The opportunity to test our new knowledge, adding our own personal touches to an idea that sounded interesting enough to try or venturing into unknown territories that may bring us to the speakers podium at the conferences of the future. Another aspect of this continuing education is participation in the monthly meetings. With interest at an all time high I will not dwell on this, I would just like to make comment on the record attendance at the January meeting and highlight the fine educational program the committee presented.

In reflecting on the growing interest in M.A.G.C.S. activities, class A and B members will soon be receiving a follow up survey similar to the survey conducted two years ago. Many members found the results of the last survey invaluable. More participation will give an even better indication of the economic environment in Chicago. Prompt response will make the survey committees job easier.

On another note, the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation is about to embark on a full scale membership drive. They hope to increase the current membership of approximately 300 to at least 500. It behooves all of us to support the I.T.F., after all turfgrass research and scholarship funding is the backbone of our livelihoods. Making the University of Illinois the front runner in this area should be a common goal of everyone in the golfing community throughout the state. So, please give your support and encourage others to do the same.

Finally, special congratulations to Bill Roberts of Wisconsin on his election to the G.C.S.A.A. board of directors. His election and the re-election of Jerry Faubel from Michigan gives the Midwest excellent national representation. Do not hesitate to let these two leaders know how you feel about the future of the G.C.S.A.A.

In closing, the dawn of spring brings an old adage someone once told me, "when the snow melts and the other man's grass seems greener, don't be downtrodden - it's probably poa."

**David R. Behrman, CGCS**