



Commitment

First of all let me begin by thanking the Board of Directors, President emeritus Gary Hearn, and Phil Zeinert for their support and confidence in considering me for director of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents. It is indeed an honor, and I am humbled to be in this position.

As the title states, my column is about commitment. I know that we speak about this subject year in and year out, but let us explore some of the widely used excuses for not committing to serve on a committee or the board.

Here is my Top Ten list of reasons why I cannot serve:

10. I can't leave my drinking buddies alone that long.
9. It's just a job for me.
8. I can't leave my family alone for that long.
7. And I don't see them as it is during the season.
6. My wife will surely divorce me.
5. I attend enough meetings during the season.
4. My club won't allow me to.
3. I have enough to do during the season.
2. I have too many home projects.

And the number one reason why I cannot serve on a committee or the board is:

1. I don't have the time!!!!

None of us has the time, but we do it anyway, and we hope that our families will continue to understand and support us. Serving and making a difference in people's lives is something that makes you feel good inside. We are 800 members strong, but you would not know that if you looked at how many are involved within the association. Remember we are here to serve you the members, get involved, and make a difference. If you don't like the direction we're taking or are a constant whiner about things that you do not like; join up; together we can make a difference. I turned 50 this past January and have started my 32nd year in our industry. It took me that long to get involved in our association. Don't you wait that long. My door is always open, my e-mail and cell phone are listed in the membership directory. Feel free to use them whenever there is something that you need to talk about. We, as your board, are here to serve you. And to those of you who have made the commitment to serve, thank you! And to those of you who are contemplating the move, do it! You'll be glad that you did.

As a side note, I am the Editorial Committee Chairman as many of you know. Please try to commit (there's that word again) to an article for your magazine, On Course. We also take pictures. It doesn't have to be a technical article. It can be of personal interest, or a human interest story, or just something that you would like to share with your fellow members. A lot of you say that you cannot write. You would be surprised at what you

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can do. If you have an idea for an article, put some thoughts down on paper and forward it to Luke Cella or me. We would be glad to look at it and get back to you with any help that we can provide. You won't know until you try it!

In closing, I look forward to serving my board and my members this season and, I hope, for many seasons to come. Thank you, and continued success for the rest of the season.



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