

Dave Groelle, CGCS Royal Melbourne Country Club

## Time to Move

What a difference a year makes! We went from the warmest spring ever to the coldest spring in 20 years. I'm sure I speak for everyone when I say that we can't wait to get back to "normal." Whatever that is!

How are we doing? My first message as President I spoke of accountability. Our first goal was to improve the timeliness of our publication *On Course*. To accomplish this several changes were made. The first was to hire a new printer. The second was to create an editorial calendar. This essentially sets up each publication in advance. We began asking for articles now instead of later. Some have asked, "Why do you need my article now if it is not going to be published until July?" The reason is very simple. Most of our content is not time sensitive. In other words, the articles we receive can be read and are pertinent at any time of the year. Second, the offseason provides most of us ample time to write. We have seen that if allowed to wait until summer, work seems to get in the way. By having as much of the content available earlier, we can set up each month in advance. This helps us get the finished product to the printer in a more timely fashion.

The other change that was made is the Luke Cella is now in charge of the layout of the magazine. Essentially we are completing everything in house now, with the exception of publishing. This allows for much more efficiency. By the way did you notice the new layout and design? What do you think?

You may have also noticed a digital version of *On Course* is now available. It is available to all members via the website. If you have a chance, check it out! It is great. For those not ready for a digital version don't worry, we'll still be sending a hard copy in the mail. The digital version however is available much sooner. We anticipate that you will have access to a digital copy on the website the first week of each month. The hard copy will usually arrive a week or two later. That explains some of the delay in getting the magazine delivered. Printing and postage can take about two weeks. So, to get you an issue on time in the mail we need to submit a finished product to the printer two weeks prior to first of the month. This is why we need the articles sooner. Make sense? I am very pleased with what we have accomplished so far. With your help it can only get better. Thanks to all of those who have contributed to *On Course* by writing an article. As always, we continue to need more, so think about writing an article soon.

To close, I recently had the opportunity to attend the 2013 Chapter Leaders/Executives Symposium that was held in Lawrence, KS at GCSAA Headquarters. I traveled with Luke Cella and it was my first time to the home of the GCSAA. There were 50 people in attendance from different 30 chapters all

around the country. I took many things away from the event. What I was most proud of was the strength of MAGCS. It was very clear to me how blessed we are to have the membership we have: members who are willing to participate and contribute to the growth of our chapter as well as the game of golf. We are in a great place professionally and only getting better. So I encourage you to take advantage of all that MAGCS has to offer. Come out to a meeting, participate on a committee, write an article, volunteer to be a Board Member. It is our members that make us great and will continue to move us forward. Here's to a great season.



Dave poses with Old Tom outside GCSAA HQ.