

EDUCATION RECAP

Charles Anfield, CGCS, *Heritage Bluffs Golf Course*

Global Warming, A Conflict of Interest?

August Meeting, Sportsman CC

I attended the education portion of the August meeting and came away conflicted.

Herb Stevens, "The Skiing Weather Man," made a presentation disputing the concept of global warming made popular by Vice President Albert Gore and his documentary "An Inconvenient Truth". Herb has a B.S. from Penn State. He worked for the Weather Channel and spent some time caddying on the PGA Tour. He has recently formed his own company (Grass Roots Weather) providing weather forecasting service to more than 40 Superintendents on the east coast.

Currently the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) has ruled that global warming is being caused by the greenhouse effect where excessive transparent gases specifically carbon dioxide is trapped in the atmosphere causing temperatures across the earth to rise. The IPCC contends that the source of the excessive carbon dioxide is manmade, or anthropogenic.

Herb Stevens contends that global warming is a hoax. It is bad science. He supports the theory that the IPCC is making an incorrect assessment of the available data. He says that special interest groups are using the data to promote their own agenda, specifically to promote a global warming bias. He also says, research dollars are more available for scientists who will support the warm bias. It is corrupt research, ideologically driven by money.

Herb thinks that the more realistic cause of the current weather patterns are driven by cyclical factors. Some of the warming cyclical factors involved include: the solar cycle or sun spots, solar irradiance or brightness, ocean currents La Nina and El Nino, and current volcanic activity.

Herb thinks the data is miscued and he believes we are actually in an overall cooling trend.

Herb Stevens made a compelling argument. He says there is no consensus within the scientific community. The correlation between surface temperatures and excessive carbon dioxide is weak science. The doomsday scenarios just don't exist. Herb doesn't want to be misunderstood; he does care about the environment. He just thinks the IPCC is trying to fix a problem that doesn't exist. Herb can be reached at Grass Roots Weather. www.skiwxman@cox.net.

When science and politics mix it can be very confusing. I just can't help but to think about those poor Polar Bears swimming out to sea, chasing a melting iceberg. **-OC**

(ed note: MAGCS videotaped Mr. Stevens talk and will have it available for the membership. If you missed this presentation, you will be able to watch it on some frosty morning. Please contact luke@mags.org for a copy of the talk.)



Mr. Herb Stevens presents to the MAGCS a talk on global climate change at Sportsman's Country Club.

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