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FOREWORDS

As I pen my last Presidents Message and reflect on this past year, I can say without a shadow of a doubt that I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to serve

Pride, Profession, Responsibility and Opportunity

each and every one of you. The sense of pride I wrote of in my first message is as strong now as it was then. To have had the chance to lead this association will be something that I will appreciate for years to come. I believe the most endearing aspect of our profession is you, my fellow superintendents and assistants. When you have the opportunity as I did to work closely with your peers from around the state and to

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Geoff Coggan,
CGCS, MG

have had the support of two very informed and loyal employees like Joel and Marie it's certainly all been worthwhile.

The one goal I did set for myself was to try to visit every chapter, and I am confident that by the time you read this, I will have visited you all at least once. I was not trying to set a precedent for my successors, far from it; I was just lucky enough to be in a position that allowed me to do this. However in talking to Vice President David Court, CGCS, and Secretary/Treasurer Greg Pheneger they too would like to visit other chapters during their terms as their schedules allow.

My time in office was made easier and more enjoyable thanks to the support I received from our board members: Darren Davis for his guidance and for his tutelage on Roberts Rules of Order; Vice President David Court, CGCS, who will be a more-than-worthy successor. His commitment to this association is second to none and he will lead us well; Greg Pheneger,

who has been instrumental in developing a five-year financial projection plan for the association recently, and has demonstrated his mastery of the Power Point presentation software.

The committees, some of which have more active roles than others, have all played their parts and I have appreciated all the committee chairs' involvement and input. I would like to recognize the work of two committee chairs in particular: Craig Weyandt (Research Committee) and Joe Pantaleo (Membership). Thanks to their efforts we had a new research proposal funded and kicked off a new membership campaign that we hope will continue to increase - if not surpass - the positive gain in members made this past year.

Joel and Marie continue to work diligently on our behalf and have always been there whenever I have needed something; particular credit goes to Joel who has had the task of editing my messages from Old English to the more understandable version you get to read. A gentleman we all should be thanking - I not the least - is Tim Hiers, CGCS. Tim and his family just recently took time out of their family vacation to drive from Naples to Nebraska so that Tim could represent us at The Golf Summit and then on to their intended vacation in the Carolinas.

I have met some great people as I traveled around visiting your local chapters, the welcomes I received were very much appreciated and I hope that I have served you all well.

In closing I can only reiterate what I have said all along, that this is your association and your profession. You owe it to yourself and to your fellow professionals to get involved. Fill out those surveys. Attend those meetings. Make yourself aware of the issues, and be proactive. You bear a considerable amount of responsibility for the future of our industry from your application of pesticides to your conservative use of our state's water resources. Let us show that we are environmental stewards and, above all, let those in elected office know what a huge economic impact we make to our state's economy.

Thank you once again for this opportunity.

Geoff Coggan, CGCS, MG