

## President's Message WITH EXUBERANCE!

What an exciting prospect! Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association member and officer Bill Roberts — GCSAA Director; it is a dream that can become reality, if we want it to. And my sense, after untold conversations with our members, tells me that we **do** want it. We want it not for Bill, not for the WGCSA, but for the GCSAA and for the welfare of our profession.

It is a natural. First and foremost, we have an ideal candidate. Bill is bright, hardworking. and devoted to whatever cause he assumes. He chose his education curriculum at Penn State with one goal in mind — proper training for golf course management. He knew at an early age what he wanted to do with his professional life, he prepared himself for it, and has become one of Wisconsin's (and America's) premier Golf Course Superintendents. He has shown the capacity and ability required of a GCSAA Director through his activities as a Director and Officer of the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association. His base of experience in our state organization has prepared him very well to move on to the GCSAA level.

And although we all have great respect and affection for the GCSAA, there is always room for improvement. This is true for any organization. There is always a place for that exceptional and farsighted member. There is always a need for creative and imaginative input. It will always be necessary to choose the very best people to guide and direct a professional

association — not just the GCSAA, but any professional group. Bill Roberts is, quite simply, among the best that our profession has to offer.

We have the organization and leadership to accomplish our dream, to make it become a reality. From Bill himself to the election coordinator, from the committee chairs to the committee members themselves and through our entire membership. I see one overriding trait - commitment. It is a commitment that is complemented with exuberance. Commitment in the final analysis to the GCSAA, where it belongs, and a commitment that is manifest in our candidate. If we do not succeed in our goal, it will not be for a lack of effort or a lack of ideals. If we falter it may be a result of our naiveness or our inexperience in national politics or our relatively modestly sized chapter. But it will not happen because we lack that sense of dedication and commitment or because of a shortfall in excitement or exuberance. That is our inherent nature and our state of mind in this cause, or any other cause we choose to undertake. We don't know how to do it any other way.

The WGCSA has an edge that I feel will carry us to success and victory — we are hard working, and there is indeed a lot of hard work to be done in this endeavor between now and convention time. This may be, curiously, the easiest part for us. The hard work that has to be done will get done. And our participation level will undoubtedly spread the work load on enough shoulders so that no single person or small group of members will have to do the lion's share of the work. It will not be a lonely battle!

There are many other reasons why this campaign should follow a path to success fruition. Bill has the total support and encouragement of his employer. SENTRY-WORLD officials recognize the importance of professional alliances and are enthusiastic about his determination to become a GCSAA Director. Pat has given Bill the kind of help and understanding any candidate would like to have from his wife. She understands the time and travel requirements are in addition to those already required of a demanding profession. Bless her heart! The staff that Bill supervises in managing SENTRY-

WORLD are fully prepared to do what they have to during a term of office as a GCSAA Director, and have expressed to me the same kind of excitement and hope for Bill that I hear from our WGCSA members.

It also seems to me that there is another logical reason that Bill's candidacy should receive serious consideration. It may be an tangential reason and one that is dwarfed by the fact that Bill himself is the principal reason for election, but the WGCSA has not had an elected member of the Board of Directors of the GCSAA in a long time. It has been about fifty years since Ray Rolfs, the "Greenkeeper" at North Hills C.C. in Menomonee Falls was a Director of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America. We are also proud that Mr. Harry Hanson was a founder and charter member, but that was even longer ago. So it seems to me that this puts tradition on our side, along with the "fairness" issue.

The stage is set; the goal is clear; the responsibilities are defined; the workload is understood. Let's go for it!

With exuberance!

Monroe S. Miller President

## There's No Time Like The Present...

to join the GCSAA. The benefits to you are enormous, and every vote for Bill Roberts is needed. So if you've been putting off sending in a membership application, get Bill to sign it and mail it to the GCSAA today.

"It is well for a man to respect his own vocation, whatever it is, and to think himself bound to uphold it, and to claim for it the respect it deserves."

—Charles Dickens