



SPRINGTIME THOUGHTS

By David Brandenburg, Golf Course Superintendent, Rolling Meadows Golf Course

As spring approaches, I hope this message finds us enjoying warming temperatures and looking forward to a great start to the 2003 golf season.

Congratulations to Monroe Miller, editor of your Grass Roots, as the publication has won best content for a chapter publication with an unpaid editor from GCSAA. The recognition once is enough but Monroe has led our newsletter to this award for the 19th year in a row. Great job Monroe, and eternal thanks to you and Cheryl for your donation of time and talent to the WGCSA.



The WGCSA Board of Directors was reminded by Randy Witt a few meetings ago that for some of our members, the Grass Roots is their only source of association information. I will be honest that I had not thought of that detail and it made me appreciate the Grass Roots even more. Because of the geographic size of Wisconsin and the various budgets our members deal with, some of our colleagues rarely attend a meeting. For them the Grass Roots is their eyes and ears when it comes to association news and views. It is also the best record of chapter history we have.

Having shown you how important and valuable the Grass Roots is, I have a favor to ask you. As you read through this issue of the Grass Roots be sure to look at the ads. Read the columns, yes, but remember without the ads the columns would not exist. I need you as members to do two things. Thank the advertisers who you do business with and let them know how much their support means to our chapter and our members.

At the same time, think about the companies you deal with that are not in the Grass Roots. The next time you see that company's representative twist their arm a bit. Let them know how important the Grass Roots is to our members. Our ads are very economical compared to other advertising venues. For the entire year (all six issues) an eighth page ad is \$600 and a full-page ad is \$1,500. Let me know whom to contact, and I can send advertiser information and past issues for your vendor to see.

Most importantly though, "Thank You" to the current advertisers. Your continuing support makes the Grass Roots and the WGCSA what is today.

By now, our meeting agenda is out for the year. We have great sites again offered by gracious hosts. I

have been attending the meetings regularly for 14 years and I take something new home from every meeting that I can use at my course.

If you have never or rarely been to a golf / education meeting I invite you attend more this year. You do not need a foursome; we will pair you up so you meet some new people. You do not need a good golf game; we have all skill levels participating. You do not need to golf. We do have members who only come for lunch or dinner to network and enjoy the education.

The meetings are a great opportunity to learn from another's golf course, while supporting the host member and club. Networking with your fellow members is an educational and relaxing way to spend a summer day. I hope to see you there! ♣

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