## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

# Thank You!

## By Jeff Millies, Certified Golf Course Superintendent, Edgwood Golf Course

At the Fall Business Meeting/Election, I will have completed my 10th year of involvement on the Board of Directors. I still remember the first time Mark Kienert asked me to serve on the board. I was thinking to myself how could I do that, I don't have the time, and my kids are still young. I then made up some excuse about the timing not being right and said maybe in the future. It wasn't until I told my wife about the offer that with her encouragement I stepped out of my comfort zone and was on the board the following year.

My involvement has been very educational and rewarding. Being part of an association that continues to evolve and try new ideas to best serve its membership is inspiring. Status quo is not the normal attitude, but rather what can we do to improve and grow the association. I have learned a lot from previous board members and I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve the WGCSA members.

The board is always looking for members who are willing to serve. It is an opportunity I would strongly recommend. It is easy to make excuses why you can't volunteer your time, but the rewards are not something you realize until you've been part of the process.

During the last 10 years the WGCSA has gone through many changes and faced many challenges. One of the best decisions the board made was four years ago to hire a Chapter Manager, Brett Grams. Brett not only handles the day to day activities associated with the chapter, but also enables the board to implement new ideas that continue to enhance your association. Thank you Brett.

I would also like to thank John Jensen from Reinder's who has served as the vendor liaison on the board for the last two years. This position on the board started back in 2006 and has developed into a key role within the association.

The WGCSA is doing well during these tough economic times and I am confident the gentlemen succeeding me will continue to grow your Association.

This of course is only possible with the continued support of our membership and vendor sponsors. Please remember to take notice of the advertisements within *The Grass Roots* and support these businesses when making your purchases.

Upcoming events include the Wisconsin Hospitality Room at the GIS in San Diego. This will take place on Wednesday, February 6th, from 6-9pm at Bootlegger located on 804 Market Street within the Gaslamp Quarter. Also, on Monday, February 25th will be the WGCSA Spring Businesses and Education Meeting in Fond du Lac.

Once again, thank you, it has been a pleasure and an honor to serve the members and participate on this Board. I wish you all a wonderful holiday season and happy new year.

### WGCSA MISSION STATEMENT

The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association is committed to serve each member by promoting the profession and enhancing the growth of the game of golf through education, communication and research.

#### **WGCSA VISION STATEMENT**

The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association is dedicated to increase the value provided to its members and to the profession by:

- Enhancing the professionalism of its members by strengthening our role as a leading golf organization in the state.
- Growing and recognizing the benefits of a diverse membership throughout Wisconsin.
- Educating and promoting our members as leaders in environmental stewardship.
- Offering affordable, high value educational programs at the forefront of technology and service.
- Being key to enjoyment and the economic success of the game of golf.