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MAAGCS Newsletter

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and articles to MAAGCS, 12704
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Ladies Night

Ladies Night this year promises to be a gala affair. It will take place on Saturday November 16 at Turf Valley Hotel and Country Club in Ellicott City, Md. from 7:30 to 11:30. Hors d'oeuvres and cocktails will be served before the dinner of mesquite grilled chicken breast and Maryland crab cakes. "Final Touch," the three-piece band, will entertain. Two night clubs stay open for after-hours entertainment, and hotel rooms are available on request. Call 301-465-1500. Watch for your announcement in the mail.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This month I have had a very difficult time putting down my thoughts for this space we call "The President's Message." A lot of the things I would like to say can't be printed, and some of them would serve no purpose even if they are true.



After a season like the one the Mid-Atlantic has had, we would all like to complete our renovations, prepare for winter and be ready for a welcome new season in the spring.

Some of us are not that fortunate. Some folks are having to sharpen up their resumes to send to every golf course in the area that is looking for a "new" superintendent to do the job the other person couldn't do this year. Why??

Not why do it. We all know why we are in this business. The question is "why do we have to?" Is it something we are doing wrong, something we are not doing, or do we have any control over the situation at all?

The one thing that has me most concerned is the lack of loyalty in this industry these days.

If someone loses their job because they are not doing it properly, what great change can they make overnight to give them the ability to move to another place with the same problems and perform there? If there is not an obvious answer to that question then maybe that person was doing the best that could have been done under the circumstances.

Again, if that is true, where is the loyalty. Although we would all like to be able to trust *all* the people we work for and with, and

we would like everyone to be up front with us, that seems to be unrealistic. This is a business, and like all businesses, it has its share of people who will sidestep moral issues to get something they want.

We can't stop a lot of that from happening, but maybe we can help our own cause. Perhaps one thing we could do is learn to call on others for help if we think we need it. Pride is a good thing, but it can be very dangerous.

Also, we are all responsible for our own actions, and maybe we could or should have been better prepared for tougher conditions and situations.

Jobs, like marriages, need understanding from both parties. And, like marriages, when things are tough we don't need that third party making waves. When that

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does happen, though, we can still decide our own fate. The one thing we must be prepared to do, however, is walk away with the understanding that it probably wasn't a good relationship anyway. Somehow the trust was destroyed.

In any case, if we are going to keep these relationships alive, we must realize that the way we perceive things and the actions we take to correct the things we see as being detrimental to that relationship, rest totally on the individual. We can't always help being blindsided, but we can look from side to side to see what might be there.

*Nick Vance, CGCS
President, MAAGCS*