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President's Message

Dean Graves



Can you believe the holiday season is only a few days away? Time seems to really pass quickly as the years pass. I hope this letter greets everybody in good health and with great encouragement for the holidays.

The Board of Directors has been very busy and believe it or not our time has been dedicated toward productive issues. We have felt for sometime that the Association has not fulfilled the needs of our members. The membership needs have changed and we want to make sure the Association has made changes to parallel those needs.

Mr. Lynn Matson with Mr. Harry Fridley and Mr. Rick Fritz have volunteered their time to evaluate the needs of Class F (commercial) members. They have given the BOD very valuable information regarding the perceptions of the Association. The BOD has spent many hours digesting this information and have made appropriate alterations at our chapter meetings and the way we conduct business. One of the most notable remarks from the Class F feedback is they want to "help the Association grow" via education. Class F members want to help us be better consumers by educating us on timely topics. They would prefer to get away from the hole sponsorship type monetary support and back direct educational seminars. The BOD thinks this is great and has setup a special committee to help make this come true for the 1998 season. I want to say a special thank you to Lynn, Harry, and Rick for their time and continued support to the Association. Mr. Mike Gilmore gave these three individuals

the task of evaluating the commercial members and they provided the BOD some very interesting information. Without their help the Association would not have the opportunity to grow and improve. It is reassuring to know that we have friends we can call on in any situation for help.

The BOD is presently formulating focus groups of Class A, B, and C members to best evaluate our needs. Once this information is gathered and compiled we will implement the needs of the membership. This will hopefully align the Association to the true needs of the group and enable us to have healthy growth in the future.

I want to express my sincerest thank you to Mr. John Haley for hosting the October chapter meeting and Annual Golf Championship. The course was in great condition; greens were like pool tables and pin placements were all on the opposite side of the green from where my ball was hit. The entire club made us feel very welcome and extended a gracious hand of hospitality. John, thank you for a wonderful day of golf and evening of elegant dining.

It has been brought to the attention of the BOD that some fellow Superintendents have been playing golf without prior notice to the host superintendent. It is clearly stated in our By-Laws Code of Ethics "When visiting other golf courses for a non-Association event: I will call on the Superintendent of the golf course." Please take a few minutes to call



Mid Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents

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