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President's Message

Nick Vance, CGCS

Writing this message has been the hardest thing I have had to do with this Association since I have been involved with it. I have had so many mixed feelings about what I want to say to the membership that I have had a very difficult time taking personal feelings out of it.

Having said that, and still not being able to distinguish between what is personal and what is professional, I am going to write what goes through my mind as the pen moves across the page.

To start with, having to cancel the July meeting at Wakefield Valley was an embarrassment to the Association. That meeting was set up as a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. We had an excellent speaker selected, a good day on the course and a great dinner planned. The Board of Directors thought all the superintendents and club officials would have had a great day, and we would have contributed to a worthy cause.

Even though we had to cancel the meeting, we are still going to fulfill our obligation to the American Cancer Society. In my opinion, the real embarrassment comes with having to tell the speaker, the American Cancer Society and, most of all, a dedicated Superintendent that put forth all the work to schedule a great day for us, that we can't get enough people together one day out of the month to give something back from the members of this Association.

Even though we are all part of some community or neighborhood, most of us are always too busy during the golfing season to give much back. This event is the kind of thing that can only help us. We all know people that have lost lives from the dreaded disease of cancer, and it should be the responsibility of everyone to do what we can for our relatives and neighbors to help find cures.

Another thing that has been bothering me is the lack of support that many of our members give one another and their own Association. Apathy really has no place in communities and organizations.

If something is wrong, get involved to help fix it. Don't take a back seat and find reasons to complain. Our elections are just a few months away, and the people on this Board of Directors are put there by votes



from the membership. You can either run for office or take the time to get to know your candidates and select the ones that you think will do the best jobs.

I could probably fill the newsletter with more of the same thoughts, but instead, I will close with a few "thoughts to live by" that I have posted in my office.

1. The world is not fair.
2. Everybody has a boss.
3. Living involves hassle.
4. Nobody is entitled to anything.
5. True pride is self-respect, and must be earned, not given.
6. Being loved is only free for babies-after that, reciprocity is required!
7. Everybody makes mistakes.
8. Everybody is laughable.
9. Staying happy involves work.

Enjoy the rest of your year and be an ACTIVE member.

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