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"It's a challenge for you, and I realize that," Sethi said. "You have to serve your employers and you are pressured by golfers for perfection. You must have patience in this effort. Communications will be important. You will have to demonstrate why a change of behavior is important. Use the tools out there that are available to help. I think what the association and you are doing is wonderful. As long as the association and you are committed to transparency and continuous improvement, then you can be successful against detractors."

First timers impressed

A format change that focused on creating opportunities for small group discussions, expanded time with the candidates and more opportunities for networking was well received, especially by first-time attendees.

"I was blown away," said Daniel Salois, GCSAA Class A member at Highland Meadows Golf Club in Toledo, Ohio, and delegate for the Northwestern Ohio GCSA. "This was a great way for me to learn more about GCSAA and all of the resources it provides for the members. We have a very sharp staff that is committed to serving the members. I am going to go back and share with my chapter just how much GCSAA can help them and their facilities."

Jay Eccleton, CGCS at The Emerald at Maple Creek in St. John's, Mich., and Michigan GCSA delegate, challenged his peers: "GCSAA puts it right there in front of us. You cannot blame them. Shame on us the member if we do not take advantage of the resources. I learned a lot about the election process and the association overall. I am impressed."

Other discussions included:

- GCSAA governance issues, including voting procedures, dual membership and the chapter affiliation agreement, which will be renewed Dec. 31, 2009.
- efforts by GCSAA to manage its expenses and generate new revenues. While the board will approve the association budget in December, the sentiment is not to raise member dues for 2010.
- the health of the GCSAA Education Conference and the Golf Industry Show, as well as the future rotation of the event.
- GCSAA advocacy efforts with lawmakers, media and other audiences.
- best practices by chapters to increase effectiveness and engagement.
- GCSAA membership recruitment and retention activities.

NOTE: Presentations from the Chapter Delegates Meeting are available at www.gcsaa.org. Detailed outcomes from the weekend will be distributed to delegates in the upcoming weeks for their use at chapter meetings.

Relatively speaking, whichever candidate, Sandy Queen or Pat Finlen that does not get elected to the Secretary/Treasurer position will most likely fill one of the spots for Director. This will leave only one spot available for Director of which four candidates are running. If you have any input, suggestions or questions regarding the upcoming elections please feel free to contact me by phone 410-239-3232 or email scottwunder@hotmail.com. Your thoughts will be taken into consideration when the Board of Directors meets to discuss the elections.

News & Notes

Congratulations:

To Steve and Beth McDonald. They are the proud parents of their first child, Nola McDonald born on October 14th at 1:53 P.M. She weighted 7 lbs, 9 oz and was just under 20 inches in length. Both mom and baby are doing great!

New Members:

Erik Mikkonen, Chesapeake Bay GC at NE Class A
Joe Haskins, The Woodlands/Diamond Ridge, Class SM



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