

## Chapter Delegate Report – Jeff Schmidt, CGCS

At the delegates meeting in Kansas City October 9<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> we were given a brief update on the association's financial situation. It was clear that the economic times have led to some streamlining at Headquarters much like what we've experienced at our facilities including some trimming back on programs and staff. This has been done in a way that will minimize the impact to the members in keeping with their motto that "Members Matter Most".

The main "economic engine" for the GCSAA is the annual conference and show which accounts for nearly half of the budgeted operating revenue. It is no surprise that the pressures on the future operating budget will hinge on the success of the show in San Diego. The revenue generated by the conference and show in New Orleans (net income 2.58 million) was down significantly from the 2008 event in Orlando (4.08 million). Trade show floor space sold was down in New Orleans and attendance was down about 30 percent. The projected income from the San Diego event is lower than New Orleans because of the continued recession, projected trade show space sales and projected attendance. That will definitely impact the future operating budget for GCSAA.

One of the highlights of the delegates meeting was listening to the candidates running for the GCSAA Board of Directors and the position of Secretary/Treasurer. We generally decide who to support at our annual meeting in January, but I'd encourage everyone to start thinking about which candidates they feel would best represent the GCSAA and specifically the Iowa Chapter over the next 2 months. The list of candidates is available on the GCSAA Website; visit: <http://www.gcsaa.org/about/governance/call.aspx>, you must be signed in to the GCSAA site to access this page. The candidate bios will be in the January issue of GCM, they will also be available to you at the December meeting at Willow Creek.

The deadline for submitting your committee service volunteer forms is November 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you've ever considered serving on a committee at the national level check out the opportunities available to you. The form and list of committees can be found under the "My Community" tab on the GCSAA website.

Visit: <http://www.gcsaa.org/community/volunteer.aspx>. We have had several Iowa Chapter members serve on committees over the years and I'm sure they would encourage you to get involved.

Look for an article in the Jan/Feb issue of The Reporter regarding some of the other items discussed at the Delegates Meeting and review the overview article of the 2009 Delegates Meeting under the "News" section of the website. Feel free to contact me at any time if you have specific questions about the meeting information.