

It is quite an honor to serve as your BEGA president in 2013. Over the years, BEGA has grown to become an excellent golf association serving golfers from across our nation. When we started BEGA in the 1980's, we had no idea that it would grow to become the type of association it has grown to become today. While we should be thankful for this growth, we must also be aware that we must continue to evolve BEGA if it is to continue to serve our golf needs and fellowship as we experience it today. I am committed to continuing this growth, and I ask that each of you work to find ways to improve and grow our association.

As always, we have a lot planned for the coming year. I will serve as the BEGA President and the Travel'N'Golf President, Ralph Thompson will serve as the BEGA Vice President and Secretary, Steve Ellzey will serve as the Tournament Director and Finance Manager, and Rick Rush will serve as our BEGA Web Master. League Presidents are Dave Hull for the Monday league, Harry Wiley for the Tuesday league, Larry Bryan for the Wednesday league, and Steve Ellzey for the Weekend league. This group of BEGA members as a whole make up the BEGA officers for 2013. Thanks to all that have agreed to serve and lead BEGA.

I am sorry to report that we lost George Williams late last year. You will remember George as our Monday league president. George was a great friend and BEGA supporter, he will be missed.

We ended 2012 with a good financial situation but our reserves are starting to be reduced. Boeing no longer provides financial support to BEGA, we are completely on our own for finances. The BEGA directors met and decided to make a minor change to the BEGA membership dues. We are going to require all BEGA members to pay dues of \$25 in 2013. The primary group of people that this will affect are the Boeing retirees who have enjoyed BEGA membership for several years for free. Given that we need to raise a little more money this year and the dues are the only means BEGA currently has for revenue, the directors felt it would be unfair to ask Boeing employees to pay more in dues while the retirees didn't pay anything. This is the reasoning behind the change in the dues policy for Boeing retirees. Associate member dues will be reduced from \$30 to \$25, the reason behind this is that since Boeing does not provide any financial support it makes no sense for associate members to pay more than other members.

Another task the BEGA directors must take on this year is to revise the BEGA constitution. We have reviewed current Boeing policies against our constitution and there are clearly changes that we must make if we are to stay associated with Boeing. One of the options we are considering is to break away from Boeing. We discussed all of this at our directors meeting and decided that we just don't know enough right now to make these decisions so we tabled the discussion to allow for more research prior to resuming our discussion. More to come on this, I will keep you posted as this evolves. The requirement to change the BEGA constitution requires it to be voted on by the BEGA membership, so this will not be something that will be changed without your knowledge and approval. A change to the BEGA constitution also requires approval by Boeing. Given that the percentage of our members that are Boeing employees has reduced and retiree/associate members have grown, I expect we are going to have a

tough time getting Boeing to approve any change to the BEGA constitution. You will hear much more on this over the next several weeks or months.