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Why I'm Supporting Don Rea for PGA Secretary

I'm writing today to share my strong support for Don Rea, PGA, as he runs for the Secretary position in the PGA. As a Southwest Section PGA member, I've known Don for many, many years, and personally know and appreciate his leadership in and passion for our organization. As our most recent District Director, he has done an outstanding job in including all the area Sections, in promoting them, and in keeping all members informed of National happenings. I've appreciated Don's leadership and approachability very much, and felt it helped keep me close to what my organization was doing on my behalf.

All PGA candidates promise to focus on the members, and I can tell you, Don HAS and WILL. This is what gives me confidence in personally endorsing him, and in promoting him for this very important position in our organization.

But beyond all that, here's what I think truly makes Don the candidate our organization needs as Secretary. I was honored two years ago, as LPGA National President, to attend National Golf Day in Washington, DC. As Arizona residents, Don and I were in the same contingent as we visited our state's Congressional and Senate leaders. I was IN AWE--literally in awe--of Don that day. Don spoke passionately, articulately, and with absolute clarity and knowledge of issues facing the golf industry in Arizona and nationally. As a golf course owner himself, he knows every issue inside and out, especially when it comes to water and land usage. Each and every Congressperson and Senator listened intently as Don spoke, and all made arrangements to discuss issues further after the meeting. I thought then and there, "We **need** Don Rea in PGA leadership."

Don is a passionate advocate for golf, for golfers, and for all those who work in the sport, but more importantly, he fully understands what our industry and our PGA professionals face, now and in the future. He is a spokesman NOW on issues that will be critical to us all in the coming years. As they say, "When Don speaks, people listen..." and I believe we need that as an industry, now more than ever.

Please join me in supporting Don Rea for PGA Secretary.

Marvol Barnard