

# President's Corner

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**H**i, it's us again, the TUG gang! Do you remember us? It's been so long, you may have forgotten already. Almost three months without the privilege of your reading presence. It was like a mini-vacation for us. Vacation from writing, I mean – not vacation from TUG happenings. In fact, the last three months have been busy as usual for this time of the year. TEC 2001, ShowCase, the May Meeting of Members, and the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Classic, are all events that we organized for your benefit and enjoyment. "That was no vacation" for us, but it was fun to prepare.

TEC takes about ten months to prepare and runs for two days every year in the April/May time period. It always has been a success, and this year was no exception. Along with TEC was the "Vendor Showcase" – also quite popular, and this year we had an expo as no other expo in the past. The May Meeting of Members, with **Greg Gulyas** and **Kimberly Stevenson** also attracted its regular MoM

attendance. On Friday June 8<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00PM, the horn sounded for 144 golfers. They were the participants in our 13<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament. The horn was the signal to a shotgun-style tee-off. I will not elaborate more on the previous events, since the following pages of this magazine will tell you more about them.

I will, though, talk about the TUG board elections. This year, we had an excellent and interesting election race. As you may know already, six Directors had to go through the process of renewing their director mandate for another two-year term. Three additional TUG members decided to challenge them. So, we had an election presenting **nine (9) candidates for six (6) board seats.**

Once the ballots were counted after a very tight race, **Ron Anderson, Dan Duffy, Eveline Gaede, Ed Jowett, Bob Lesiw and Anna Musella-Chiasson** came out on top. **Stephen Collins, Gerry Hoffe and Alkarim Sachedina** gave them quite

a fight for those precious seats. Congratulations to the newly elected directors! Stephen, Gerry and Alkarim, will have another chance to run again next year, but in the meantime –don't go too far... TUG still needs you as volunteers!

As you can see, we had not publishing a magazine in the last three months but we were still very busy. I think we should go on vacation now! Well, maybe... But we still have to set the foundation for TEC 2002, prepare the budget for the next TUG fiscal year and start the process for the September Meeting of Members. Once that is done, then maybe we'll take some time off.

Many of you will travel this summer, for vacations, for business and/or for both. But all of us though, should make a point to visit the newest nation on earth. Visit it and also become one of its citizens. Where is it, you ask? You should know by now! On May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2001, the same day the Version 5 Release 1 of the OS/400 operating system was announced, the iSeries Nation was born. The iSeries Nation is "a global community that shares a common bond: an understanding and appreciation of – even a passion for – the IBM iSeries and its unique benefits." (<http://www-1.ibm.com/servers/eserver/series/nation/>). Later in these pages, Matthias Schmidt will present more details about the iSeries Nation venture. Take a look and have a nice trip – it will be very rewarding, but it won't cost you a nickel.

To all of you, have a great summer! And we'll see you back here in September (it's only two months away) for the start of another exciting TUG season. TUG

