

MESSAGE FROM THE
PRESIDENT

Nothing I have ever done has given me such a sense of pride and purpose as the founding of the Shivas Irons Society. This endeavor has and continues to bring great changes to both my personal and professional life. With Shivas as my mentor, giving me strength and inspiration, I work toward expanding my understanding of The Game, and through it my life and the world around me. "Nowhere does a man go so naked as he does before the discerning eye all dressed for golf..." says Peter McNaughton. As I share my thoughts with you, in this, our first newsletter, I offer myself to your discerning eye and I encourage you to be in touch, to join me as we advance into the Kingdom.

For me, *Golf in the Kingdom* is very much a work in progress. It is an opening to the possibilities for the future. "SHIVAS LIVES" says the button I often wear. It is amazing how many knowing smiles and looks this simple phrase elicits. It is comforting to know that you are out there, you who have been touched by this amazing book. It is for you as well as myself that I have created The Shivas Irons Society. I see the Society as a

way to meet at the crossroads of our personal journeys, each in our own stride, each seeking fulfillment in our own way. I hope that by bringing us together, this organization will manifest that extraordinary energy Michael touched that fateful night at "Burning-bush."

We can make a difference. We want to bring the Kingdom to those who might otherwise never experience it, to the inner cities and to those isolated or separated from their environment. We want to teach golf where there are no golf courses and to use the game itself as the "mighty teacher."

The Shivas Irons Society is for those who somehow know that Shivas does live and "true gravity" does exist. In helping to define the mission of the Society, I am grateful to golf writer and journalist Lorne Rubenstein for his kind words:

"...such are the links we make through golf and which the game allows us to make. Golf opens us up to something quite sweet, and when we meet a kindred spirit in the game, we respond. We become fast friends... I am confident the Society will sprout as yet undreamed of possibilities... We,

scattered around the world, will become hooked into something that perhaps only golf allows... and in our association, I am certain we will even find a newness in ourselves, an awakening to those of us who willingly enter the Kingdom. Michael opened the door to the Kingdom for me many years ago, now Steve is opening it further. May I only say that Shivas will find a home through this door, and that we will meet him wherever we play the game in the spirit of Michael's enduring work."

I invite you to create and suggest ways to take the Society out into your world, and I am asking you how we can support you in doing so. Together we shall be in a Kingdom without boundaries.

Before closing, it is also necessary to point out, that despite all our noble ideas and goals, it is Shivas himself who reminds us to raise our glasses in that most wonderful tribute to self-improvement. "Fuck our ever getting better!"

My special thanks to all of you who have helped me reach this place and a warm welcome to all of you who are joining us!

Steve