

Guest Editorial

As I sit here I can't help but reflect back on the past year and what will lie ahead for me, my family, my work, my association and my friends. This past year has been one of fulfillment for me in many ways. My family has been healthy and happy, my work has been very demanding this year but extremely satisfying. My first year as a Director in the MAGCS has been an eye-opener in the amount of work that some of the Directors put into the association.

In reflecting back on our association meetings this past year—they were all well attended. But yet, when it came time for the educational part of the meeting, it seemed half the room got up and left for the bar. Why? And if they didn't get up and leave, then they held a conversation with their friends, making it difficult for the people who were interested to hear anything. Let alone making it difficult for the speaker to get his message across. At a couple of the meetings just plain rudeness prevailed. Again I ask why? Do you already know what the speaker has to say? Do you know the latest on the new variety of grasses, chemicals, or OSHA regulations? Or is the education session just boring and old stuff just being gone over again and again? If this last part is true, then get with it and let your wants be known. Just what does interest you? Do you want outside speakers, do you want round-table discussions, do you want to hear your fellow Superintendent?

At our last Midwest Clinic which was held at the Medinah Country Club we had an attendance of 137 people. This was our total attendance for the two days. The second day, though, only 67 people showed up, which is just less than half. With this type of a showing we are now in the process of deciding if our clinic should maybe cut down to only one day. Attendance itself at the last clinic is not the only reason for maybe cutting the clinic to one day. You have other turf conferences now being presented in our area that in years past didn't exist, like the Wisconsin Symposium, the University of Illinois, or even the Ohio Conference which a few of our members have attended. Another reason is the weather which many times is still good at that time of year and much work is still being done on the courses. Plus we are maybe going to have gas rationing to look forward to. What implications this will bring about is hard to tell. At any rate much thought will be given to this proposal of having only one day for our clinic.

If there are speakers or subject matter which you would like to hear at your meetings, please bring it to the attention of the Board of Directors or myself.

Fred Opperman, CGCS
Glen Oak Country Club

Bruce Sering is our Midwest Association voting delegate in Anaheim, Calif. Bruce will have a pocket full of votes and being a wheeler and dealer he will be willing to make a deal with other delegates. He always has a smile, especially when making a deal. Look him up and see for yourself.

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