

## THIRTY YEARS AGO

(Editor's comment: I found a copy of this letter when going thru Ray Gerber's desk and thought it was still worthwhile to print today)

December 28, 1953

Mr. Herb Graffis,

The player can share in many ways in cutting the cost of maintenance on the golf course and also in leaving the course in better shape for those who are playing behind him. Consideration should start on the first tee. Usually off to the side of this tee or any other tee there is ample room for any practice swings or so-called warmup swings. It is a general practice that the first tee receives the most punishment, not only from practice swings but also by other players and their caddies who are walking on the tee waiting their turn to tee off. The soil becomes so compact, it is almost impossible for grass to live. Only one foursome should be allowed on this tee at any one time.

Repairing divots on tees is one thing most players neglect. I have not found the reason why. On short holes it is not necessary to take a divot if the player will use a tee pin. Many of our good players of today are using tee pins on short holes and have found their shots are equal to those who play the ball from the turf. It would be a great help toward better maintenance on the short holes if all clubs made a ruling that all players must tee their balls on a tee pin not only on short holes but also on every tee. While on the tee subject it may be a good idea to mention a word about the tee towels that are removed from the ball washers. This takes place more on wet days than on dry days. These towels are costly and surely do the following players no good.

Many players asked the same question, "Does it do any good to replace the divots on the fairways?" My reply is always yes. Even though they do not all grow, it will fill the divot hole and some other player's ball or maybe his own next time he is out playing will roll over this divot rather than come to rest in it. Where regular rules are being played he or she must play it out from the old divot hole.

Golfers in many instances neglect their responsibility to see that their footprints are taken care of in the sand traps. Many a player is compelled to play his ball from a hole in the sand made by a disrespectful player. Walking up the face of sand traps is a costly habit toward maintenance and to the players behind him. All golf players should learn how to properly repair ball bruises on greens. Throwing bottles and all sorts of paper on the club grounds is a bad habit by some people, and all clubs should make a strictly enforced rule against such a careless habit. Many late evening players who find sprinklers on the golf course at that time have a habit of turning the sprinkler off that seems to be in their way or moving it if it has a hose attached to it. I am sure if they knew the seriousness of this sort of thing, they would not do it again.

I hope some of the items mentioned will help for more pleasant and cheaper rounds of golf. Happy New Year to all.

Sincerely,

Ray Gerber



Mrs. Penny Meyer - Executive Secretary MAGCS



Mr. Ed Smith - Presiding at the election of officers and directors

### FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT — 1983

The financial condition of MAGCS is good. We have a balance in excess of \$10,000 when the books were closed October 31, 1983. We will be donating \$2,000 to the University of Illinois in the next fiscal year, leaving a balance of over \$8,000. The finance committee feels a continual balance of at least \$5,000 is in the best interest of the MAGCS. This provides financial security for unforeseen necessities such as additional funding for the University of Illinois, providing educational opportunities for our members, as well as other expenditures which cannot be predicted.

The finance committee is also continuing its investigation into the purchase of equipment which will aid our Secretary and our Executive Secretary and our Bullsheet Editor in keeping better track of our members and pertinent information about them, as well as making their operations smoother and more efficient.

The finance committee recommends that the Board of Directors continue to show the type of fiscal responsibility that has been exhibited during 1983.

Finance Committee — Messrs., Roger Stewart,  
Dave Meyer, John Stephenson, Tim Kelly