

Director's Column



Dust Off Your Clubs!

by Kerry Blatteau
Golf Committee Chairman

It's golf season again. Dust off your clubs, groove your swing and get ready for another season of interesting, exciting, challenging and WELL ORGANIZED M.A.G.C.S. golf events.

As our monthly meetings have grown in the number of participants, the need for a much more planned, organized event has become evident. It is not uncommon to have over 100 players at a given event and to adequately run the golf event using individual handicaps, team handicaps, gross and net winners and the pairing of players by class or flight, has become impossible to organize adequately on the day of the event. As a result of these needs, it was recommended by the golf committee and accepted by the M.A.G.C.S. Board of Directors to require pre-registration for all golf events. The pre-registration will work as follows:

Anyone wishing to play in the golf event for a given month must phone my office at Oak Brook Hills G.C. by the Friday before the event on Monday. The number is 708-323-7633. If there is no answer, an answering machine will answer and ask you to give the needed information for yourself or your foursome. You will then be registered for the golf event. All participants will be faxed to the club on Saturday for their preparations. I will then be able to determine the amount of prizes for the type of event, the scorekeeping sheets can be prepared and the pairing sheets can be prepared and be available when everyone signs in on Monday.

If you decide on Monday morning that you can play and show up at the sign up table, there will be a golf committee representative at the sign up table who will be able to get you into a foursome. You will not however be able to play in the golf event and your fee for the day will be the same as everyone else. Think of it as a late sign up charge as we have at nearly all functions we participate in.

The only exception to this program is the annual M.A.G.C.S. championship in September when you will be required to pre-register by mail rather than by phone by the Friday before the meeting. I hope this program is not a major inconvenience to anyone. Please remember we are doing this to provide you with a better, more enjoyable event at our meetings. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me. Good luck this summer, play well, live long and prosper, beam me up Scotty.

About Tomorrow Today

Part II in a series of environmental awareness articles
by Scott Witte, Asst. Supt., Barrington Hills C.C.

Last month in the **Bull Sheet**, I brought up the fact that our current landfill situation is on the brink of a crisis. If you have not already read last month's article, I invite you to do so, and also to continue on now as we explore some solutions to the landfill dilemma.

Recycling is the obvious solution. Of course, many have been recycling paper, glass, and aluminum cans on a small scale for decades. The problem is that our society has grown accustomed to a very wasteful way of living. For example, the average person drinks about a liter of liquid each day. For 245 million Americans, this daily consumption amounts to some 1.3 million barrels of liquid. That a significant portion of this fluid should be packaged in single-serving containers that are used once and then thrown away is bizarre. It is difficult to imagine a more costly, and wasteful way to distribute fluids.

Although many of these beverages in nonreturnable containers appear to be priced competitively on the market shelf, there are other costs as well. These containers constitute some 6 percent of all solid waste, and about 90 percent of the nonbiodegradable portion of roadside litter. The broken bottles are responsible for innumerable cuts and other injuries, not to mention flat tires. These containers are also environmentally undesirable because both the mining of the materials they are composed of and the manufacturing process create pollution. All of these are hidden costs that do not appear on the price tag. We as consumers not only pay with taxes for litter cleanup, but also suffer the cost of treating injuries, flat tires, environmental degradation, and so on.

So what has stopped the implementation of recycling on a large scale? The fact is that there are some impediments to large scale recycling, but once they are recognized and understood, they may be overcome.

Some impediments to recycling are:

SORTING: Whatever used to be conveniently thrown away in one container must now be separated in the home, or by some other means after collection.

REPROCESSING: There must be companies capable of receiving the materials collected, and converting them back to salable materials.

MARKETING: There must be consumer markets to buy the products made from recycled materials.

INTEREST IN THE STATUS QUO: What the heck does that mean?! Well, there are tremendous profits that may be maintained indefinitely in manufacturing and selling bottles, cans, and other items that are used only once and then thrown away. The vested interests who profit from this "throw away society", have been a potent force against implementing any form of recycling.

HIDDEN COSTS OF TRADITIONAL DISPOSAL: Since refuse disposal is financed out of tax revenues, people generally do not realize how much they are paying. Environmental costs such as ground water contamination, cleaning up a hazardous site, or monitoring such a site forever and ever, are not tallied

(cont'd. page 4)