

the Bull Sheet

Official publication of the MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.

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On Course With The President

This is the time of the year when many of us are beginning to focus toward Dallas, Texas for the latest edition of the GCSAA International Turfgrass Conference. This year the conference calendar promises a wide range of intellectual and participatory activities for the those choosing to attend. There are this year, as was the case in Anaheim, the issues of GCSAA by-law proposals that must be discussed, as well as finally put to rest. Also, as in past years, the MAGCS has a candidate for GCSAA office from it's ranks. As usual it bodes to be a very busy conference and, no doubt, an interesting one as well.

The list of candidates for GCSAA office has long been completed and Bruce R. Williams, CGCS, has been formally slated as a candidate for GCSAA Vice-President. The Midwest Association strongly endorses and supports him in his quest for this position. Throughout his tenure as a GCSAA Director,

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Bruce has been instrumental in the many moves to deliver the internal management of GCSAA to it's present, more aggressive and efficient level. There is always a need for dedicated Board members such as Bruce to see these actions through to an ever higher level of association member services. Bruce tells me there is a renewed sense of vitality within the association and the new management team is very positive. So too is our positive feeling toward Bruce's ascendancy through the board level positions of the GCSAA. The Midwest Association as a group supports Bruce for the office of GCSAA Vice-President and I encourage you as individuals to support him as well.

While there are only a few weeks remaining before the conference, there remains plenty of time to settle any GCSAA/MAGCS issues or questions you may have. The appointed GCSAA voting delegates for the MAGCS continue to be Roger A. Stewart, Jr., CGCS and Robert J. Maibusch, CGCS. These individuals have taken the time to attend voting delegate meetings in Lawrence, Kansas with the single purpose of returning the details of pertinent GCSAA issues to our chapter. Each delegate has devoted an extensive amount of their time to bring the message of GCSAA to our membership. It has not been an easy task for these individuals to digest and disseminate the information and to pull the salient facts from all the verbiage of the issues and the by-laws documents. There is also somewhat of a thankless task since not only do they, as voting delegates have to accurately present the details of the issues, they must do so in a pragmatic manner so as not to unduly influence any individual opinions. Roger and Bob are to be commended for their dedication and efforts. Our membership should show their appreciation of the delegates efforts by inquiring of them the details of issues that shall shape the future of the Golf Course Superintendent. They are the ones that know ...

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(On Course with the President continued)

There is another individual that tirelessly works in the background on behalf of the MAGCS. This dedicated and persistent person is the primary reason the MAGCS voting strength is at an all-time high. Nobody knows how he is able to garner each proxy vote of so many new GCSAA members or how he even knows who they are, but somehow he does. Without his

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persistent pursuit of the vote of each and every new GCSAA member, the voting strength of the "Midwest" surely would be far less. Largely through his efforts, we as a chapter, have gained over 30 votes since the GCSAA conference last year. AT 330 votes, that makes the "Midwest" one of the strongest single chapters in the association. A congratulation of "Great Work!", and a nod of due respect should be afforded to Len Berg the next time you see him. He performs a unique, time-consuming and truly essential background role for the Midwest Association. Thanks, Len!

See you in Dallas...

ATF

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Director's Column

by Joel Purpur

Time flies when you're having fun! I can't believe that it is January 1994 already. Working as Secretary/Treasurer during the past year has been a challenging but rewarding period for me. Assuming many of the duties of the Executive Secretary during the transition taught me quite a bit about the Association and our membership. There is more to running an association of our size than most people realize.

You may have heard that the MAGCS now has a new computer system. With the new programs, we are starting a new data base from scratch utilizing the return information from the dues notices and the postcards. The new data base will make it possible to produce an up to date membership directory at a moments notice. There is only one problem, delinquent payments of dues ... again. I always thought of the MAGCS as being made up of responsible professionals, but the number of late dues makes one wonder.

As was stated on the dues notice, dues were to be paid by December 1, 1993. As of December 10, 1993 only about 300 of the 600 members have paid their dues. This makes planning very difficult for the board of directors, who are trying to voluntarily manage the association for you. Membership cards have to be made. How long do we wait to print them? How

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long do we wait before we print the membership directory or send out the meeting schedules? Many people complain about how long it takes to get an updated membership directory or membership cards. How can we provide these and other services if we only have about half of the membership who pay their dues and give us the information we request on time? Do we keep sending the **Bull Sheet** to members that don't pay? Each issue costs us over \$2,000 to produce.

Some use the argument that their club has to wait until their new fiscal year to pay, but many in that situation write a personal check and get reimbursed when the time comes. Our dues are not that high and it shouldn't break anyone's bank for a month and a half. In the December **Bull Sheet** Fred Opperman printed a notice in the Midwest Breezes to check with your club or business, so you know where you stand.

Since we have such a great number of late dues, the board decided to wait until January 1, 1994 for the cut off date on renewals. After the time we will do our best with what we have to work with and get the membership directory printed, membership/name cards made, meeting schedules sent out, and so on. Oh well, enough preaching.

Financially our Association is doing very well working with a break even budget. We are able to contribute to many worthy causes to better our profession. Last year the MAGCS

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