(Past President's Message continued) will continue to do so, escalating, as we know, in an ever upward spiral. So too are the expenses of present day MAGCS operations as well as additional membership services. The time is at hand for an adjustment in the dues structure. And the time is now for the MAGCS membership to do something about it. Our fiscal position to manage the MAGCS simply does not provide for the range and depth of services of an association of our size. Period! We cannot afford to continue to exist with our existing dues structure. It does not fit us, we've outgrown it, and we are in danger of not being able to meet our obligations — either to ourselves or others.

The time is now for the MAGCS membership to do something about it.

It is time to address the strength of our future as an association. We will do so during the Annual Meeting at Medinah with the election of those individuals we deem to be desirable as strong leaders. At the same time, we should also insure that those leaders have the fiscal strength in place to carry on the fine legacy of the "Midwest". We need to become the benefactors of our own vision, not to become the "victims of our own creation".

The Proof of a Golfer

by Edgar Guest

The proof of the pudding is the eating they say,
But the proof of a golfer is not
The number of strokes he takes in a day
Or the skill he puts into a shot.
There is more to the game than the score which you make
Here's a truth which all golfers endorse:
You don't prove your worth by the shots which you make;
But the care which you take of the course.

A golfer is more than a ball-driving brute
He is more than a mug-hunting czar.
To be known as a golfer, you don't have to shoot,
The course of your home club in par.
But you do have to love every blade of the grass.
Every inch of the fairway and greens.
If you don't take care of the course as you pass;
You're not what "a good golfer" means.

Just watch a good golfer some day when you're out, And note what he does as he plays, He never goes on leaving divots about, 'Till the grass is put back, there he stays. Observe him in traps as he stands for his shot, Then note when the ball has been played, He never unthinkingly turns from the spot, 'Till he's covered the footprints he made.

You may brag of your scores and may boast of your skill, You may think as a golfer you're good;
But if footprints you make, in traps you don't fill, You don't love the game as you should.
The proof of a golfer — now get this my boy, Is the care that you take of the course.

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- 11 hours of concurrent educational sessions featuring nationally recognized specialists in all areas of turf and landscape management
- ☑ GCSAA Human Resource Management Seminar on Tuesday Jan. 23
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