



The Midwest membership has come through again in 1997. When members pay their dues, they have an option to pay the normal rate or to give towards a fund which goes to research and contributions. This year, \$7,100 was given. Some have thought that this money was used to support *On Course*. This is not true! Through this effort, we have been able to give more to several different groups. To date, the Midwest is given to the GCSAA Platinum Tee Club, the Musser Turf Foundation and the CDGA. Plans include continuing to support two different research projects at the University of Illinois: one for Tom Voight and the other for Dr. Bruce E. Branham. I will let these fine experts explain their projects in later issues of *On Course*.

The new Membership Directory was again in the hands of the membership in record time. A big "thank you" needs to go to not only our Executive Secretary George Minnis but also to his very understanding and helpful wife Karen. The directory would be able to be published even earlier if one thing happened. The information sheet and a dues check would be sent ON TIME! The MAGCS member roll at this point is nearing

600. Thanks to all who paid their dues in 1997 (on time!). I asked George Minnis to write an article for this issue. I am sure you will learn a thing or two from George. He truly continues to do an outstanding job for the Midwest.

For those of you who ventured out to Las Vegas, hopefully, you were able to visit what many felt was the one of the finest hospitality rooms ever. That says a lot due to the fact that many people such as Dave and Penny Meyer, Al Fierst, Albie Staudt and Bob Breen, Sr., did an outstanding job in the past and gave a lot of themselves in doing so. All of the credit for this year's room goes to Brian Bossert. The people who have done this task in the past know what a chore it is and the amount of work that Brian went through. The hard work was Brian's doing, but the financial backing is credited to the many commercial members who once again generously gave to the MAGCS.

THANKS AGAIN TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED THE ROOM!

Interesting items come in the mail every day. A lot of trees are wasted on some of the mail we receive at our clubs and courses. What a shame some people do not think about what they are mailing out or who they might affect. People need to be careful! Some people are wondering what the heck I am talking about. Give me a call, and I will fill you in. I have already wasted enough space on this topic.

"That guy is the consummate superintendent." I have spoken these words many times in the past about Bruce R. Williams. What more can you say about a guy who has done it all in the

ever-challenging world of being a golf course superintendent. Bruce has set the bar high (I stole that term from the GCSAA convention) and has leaped over it! The Midwest is losing a lot of its key people. Bob Maibusch stated that "Bruce will be on the West Coast, and Roger Stewart along with Len Berg will be on the East Coast. By the time they get through, they will have everyone in the middle of the country signed up as a member of the MAGCS!" I told Bruce that a lot of people will be his friend next year when we go out to the convention in Anaheim. Could I get the chance to play at Bruce's new course? Quoting Bruce, "Not a chance, Viking Boy."

All the best to you and your family in California, Bruce. We will truly miss you. Thanks for the many years of service not only to the MAGCS but also to the profession we all love.

Ed Braunsky, CGCS  
President, MAGCS