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It's been several years since I have been "out to pasture" from the board of the Midwest, but I guess I'm still an easy target because, well, why else would I be writing a **Director's** Column? I guess it is because I still enjoy volunteering my time and staying involved with our great superintendents' association.


As the 1998 chairman of the Past Presidents' Council, it was an honor for me to organize a gathering of the past presidents of the MAGCS and take part in a meeting for the purpose of critiquing Midwest operations. Even though the meeting took place in mid-March, a busy time for superintendents, there were 10 past presidents of the MAGCS in attendance. Much of the evolution of the association was represented by the past presidents in attendance.

It is our objective as a committee to provide suggestions and guidance for the present Board of Directors. It has never been the intent of the Past Presidents' Council to **tell** the board what to do. In the past, the Board of Directors has shown respect for the opinions from the PPC, which gives the committee a sense of worth. Also in recent years, the tone of the committee has been very upbeat with many more positives than negatives in viewing the way our growing association has been managed. We must continue to realize that change is inevitable, and we must change with the times.

As members of the Midwest, it is easy to complain when details get fowled up or we don't get what we want. Mishaps and oversights are common in any large organization. Not to say that mismanagement or neglect are acceptable, but we must also keep in mind that almost all of

the planning and implementation for our organization is done by volunteers. We really do get a lot for our money. Try going to any golf course without telling them you are in the business. Play golf with a cart, have a couple of meals, buy some type of golf merchandise and see what you end up spending for the day. Our meetings really are a great value.

We should continue to take the elections seriously. The individuals desiring to help run our organization on their own time take on a great responsibility. If we as members care so much about our association, why are there only small numbers who attend our annual meeting to cast votes for the directors whom the future of our association will depend on?

The Past Presidents' Council realizes that the operations get more complicated and involved every year. We are encouraged in the direction that the association is heading. With devoted individuals helping directors at the committee levels, much has been accomplished and the horizons hold great promise. Give something back to the association by volunteering to help on at least a committee level. Working together, we can keep the Midwest a first class and well run organization which sets the standard for our industry. 

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