



*George Minnis
Executive Secretary*

Over the past year, a few changes have taken place in the office. The one that stands out the most was giving the membership the ability to use their charge cards for meetings and membership renewal. It started with the August '97 meeting at Bartlett Hills, and I'm happy to report it's been well received ever since. Around 40 percent of the membership charged their registration fee at the April meeting in Schaumburg.

November found Karen and me on our way to Lawrence, Kansas, to accept a copy of the Microsoft Office 97 software. The GCSAA has been offering a copy to 10 affiliates each year, and last year, MAGCS was one of those chosen. The MAGCS database was originally written in Microsoft Access, so the conversion was successful with only a couple of mistakes that I was able to fix manually.

In December, we purchased a new fax machine, one that takes plain paper. It's been great being able to receive a clear fax and not have to crawl under the desk looking for a rolled up piece of thermal paper, as was the case before.


The membership renewal process went well this year, and deadlines were again met. Because most of the directory is printed through database reports or word

processed files, the final result has become a lot easier to accomplish. However, a special thanks goes to Larry Leadley over at Castle Printing. Larry's the gentleman who picks up all the 8 1/2- by 11-inch pages the MAGCS computer generates and turns them into the great directory we have been sending out for the last 3 years now. Kudos to Larry and Castle Printing for a job well done. This year, only one major addition was made to the directory. We added a separate e-mail listing for all members who gave us the info on their renewal form. The listing was created in a word processed file; but I hope to incorporate this information into the database, which will help eliminate errors and extra work in the future. The listing can be found at the back of the A-to-Z section.

The membership grew again this year, but only by a few. The

large majority of those not wishing to continue this year were of class C, D, and E status. For your information, Greg Thalmann over at Fox Run Golf Links is in charge of new memberships for the '98 season, so if you know of anyone wishing to join, please give Greg a call. He can be reached at 847-228-3541.

Finally, just a hint about signing up for the monthly golf outings—DO IT EARLY. Last year, three events filled completely, and some members were unable to play. Don't let this happen to you. Preregister as soon as you can, and for your convenience, just remember, you can use plastic.

Questions, info needed, etc., give me a call. MAGCS voice mail is 630-406-5356. I'll get back to you as soon as I can. 

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