



*Don Ferreri
Seven Bridges G.C.*

As the daylight is getting shorter and summer is once again coming to a close, thoughts of putting our feet up on the desk are just around the corner. In my own experience and in talking to many of you up to this point, the golf season has been very rewarding. So I hope this column finds all of you enjoying many good times. As I write this, I am happy to be driving the Chicago Cub's bandwagon. I only hope as you are reading this that I'm not being run over by it!

This year, you have trusted in me with keeping the MAGCS finances I order (probably not a good idea). I do think I have been hiding all the problems well enough to pass them along to the next unsuspecting "volunteer." In all seriousness, the Midwest is ticking along like a finely-tuned watch. We currently have a system in place that works very well. Many of the thanks go to our Executive Secretary George Minnis. George handles much of the thankless, behind-the-scenes work of the association. He truly is doing a fantastic job.

My assignment, along with past and future secretary/treasurers, has been to pay the bills, keep the budget, make deposits and do the record keeping. With the aide of computers and Quicken, these

tasks have been greatly simplified. I am also responsible for the minutes of our monthly meetings and Board of Directors meetings. It is Albie Staudt's timeless job to dispense the reading of the minutes (very important to me).

We have applied with the Internal Revenue Service to be considered as a not-for-profit organization. For one reason or another, this was never accomplished in the past. It does appear that we will receive this designation for our association and thus clean up any taxing problems we have had in the past.

Another change approved last year was to move our fiscal year to coincide with the calendar year. This change will clean up any accounting problems we had with declaring annual membership dues and *On Course* ad revenues

dedicated for a precise year. There will, however, be a reflection on this new procedure this year. During the transition, it will appear that the association took in less money but spent more than in previous years. (This in no way will have anything to do with my house mortgage.)

When we say we are a not-for-profit organization, it is simply that we use a working budget and adhere as close as possible to it without incurring a sizable profit. The MAGCS runs all of its events (meetings, seminars, dances, etc.) as break-even occurrences. The association does have funds set aside in a certificate or a money market account for unforeseen events that may take place. But typically, we spend what we bring in. This is the premise, and it works quite well.

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Director's Column

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On a side note, this past weekend, I attended my twenty-year class reunion (Naperville North, 1978). Talk about bazaar! The men did not age anywhere near as well as the women did. It then occurred to me that those twenty years had passed by me very quickly, and so did many experiences and encounters along the way. I also realized that the next two decades will probably pass just as quickly. I am aware that we all have our trials and tribulations, some of us, unfortunately, more than others. But it also occurred to me in talking with former classmates how blessed I have been to have gotten into the golf course industry. I sometimes take for granted how it allows most of us the opportunity to work out of doors; the amenity of flexibility in our work day and family life; the excitement of new challenges almost daily; the ongo-

ing opportunity to play golf and fraternize with our good friends and fellow members during monthly, if not weekly, events and gatherings.

For these reasons, I am truly thankful, as time goes by all too quickly. We lose close friends and family, our children grow to adulthood and move on, and we sometimes do not relish the good things in our lives when given the chance. So as not to sound gloomy or corny, I wanted to extend a reminder to all of us not to get hung up on the little things that may go awry in our lives but to embrace each day with excitement and enthusiasm and the challenge to pass along a good intention or even a smile. I truly believe that if your priorities, whatever they may be, are kept in order, they will only allow us to live life to the fullest.



Dan Murray -N- Settler's Hill G.C.

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knowledge, Dan nailed down his first superintendent's job at Kishwaukee C.C.

Dan's biggest accomplishment to date is his family. Married for twenty-two years to his wife Jill, they raised three children: Shaun, 18; Kelly, 16; and Kyle, 13. In the evenings these days, Dan can be found on the soccer field doing Pele impersonations with his children. In the winter, you can find him snowmobiling across the snowless cornfields of DeKalb.




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