



MAGCS Will Keep “Making Change”

On November 7, at the culmination of the Midwest Turf Clinic at Medinah, the membership of MAGCS elected new officers and two new Board members and reelected one incumbent Board member. On my part, I would like to thank the membership for having ample confidence in me to elect me to the presidency. I gladly take on the responsibility. In the past, I never thought of myself as a leader; however, through my years on the Board and as a superintendent, I feel I have developed the skills and insight to move our fine organization forward. I am ready for the challenge. Mistakes will probably be made, but we will learn from them and try not to let them happen again. Once again, I would like to thank the membership for the opportunity to serve as your president.

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As with any organization that achieves 75 years of age, our Association has witnessed many changes and will continue to grow. Even in the next few years, the MAGCS will be moving forward. One of our biggest steps will be the establishment of a physical presence at the Midwest Golf House. In the next year, we will finally have a real office—a true home base. We will be investigating use of the staff at Golf House to perform some of our time-consuming administrative functions, such as typing and mailing the job referrals, meeting notices and other communications. A facility second-to-none for education, the Golf House will host our March 2002 meeting. It will most likely become the permanent site for one of our winter meetings and possibly GCSAA seminars as well.

In other developments, George Minnis, our executive secretary, has begun work on sending MAGCS communications via e-mail for those who want to receive such items electronically. The MAGCS scholarship program continues to grow; in fact, in 2002 we will be adding a third scholarship—the John Buck Memorial Scholarship, which will be totally funded by the John Buck Foundation and offered to the entire membership. In addition, scholarship funding continues to grow. The first-ever MAGCS Scholarship Golf Outing was held in October at Geneva Golf Club. My good friend Ed Braunsky did an outstanding job with golf, food and floor-show. I hope this will become an annual event in addition to our regular meetings.


We must establish a new long-range plan; I believe the last plan was done five years ago and its objectives have mostly been realized. *On Course*, too, continues to change. The addition of full-color capability ensures a visually stimulating publication along with excellent editorial content.

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As you can see, some very positive changes are coming. However, the Board needs the members' input to keep the MAGCS moving progressively forward. I strongly encourage all of our members to consider hosting a meeting, serving on a committee or offering ideas to

enhance our forward momentum. As for any who are contemplating running for the Board in the future, please let Brian Bossert know. I am sure that you, like me, will find serving the Midwest to be an educational and rewarding experience.

The end of the season is finally here. YES! I hope you all enjoy the off-season. My big project will be trying to figure out topics for my next 11 president's messages.

On that note, happy holidays to all. 

There Is Life After the Golf Course (continued from page 9)

wake up and discover "nothing." Nothing is planned for that day. If your wife has become accustomed to being home alone for all those years, she is now finding you underfoot. So, you should cultivate other interests while you are still working. Become involved in outside activities. And seek out some activities both of you will enjoy together. Volunteer—numerous organizations need your help and expertise. Give something back to your community and fellow man.

Prior to retirement and while you are still covered by a medical insurance plan, take care of any health needs. Correct any dental problems, have your vision checked and order new glasses, if needed. Schedule complete physicals and related testing. Take care of as many health needs as you can at least six months before your retirement date. Believe me, you may not have a mortgage after retirement, but your medical insurance may be more than any mortgage you once had. It's guaranteed, insurance costs will continue to increase.


To fully enjoy retirement, you need to stay healthy, and to stay healthy you need to keep active—physically and mentally. Eat properly, quit smoking and drink moderately. (That's alcohol, not water.) This is where your hobbies or other interests come into play. And play you should; you worked many hard years and gave up many personal activities and too much of

your family home life. Retirement is your opportunity to make up for those missed opportunities.

When Judy and I retired, we sold our home, packed all of our belongings, said all of our goodbyes and left for Montana. We were moving to a new and strange place. We had visited Bozeman a couple of times and decided it was where we would like to live, but we had no home to move into, no friends here or family, just the two of us. I had anxiety attacks the first couple of months. No job, no activity, living in a rental condo with all of our belongings in boxes packed to the ceiling—I felt lost at times. Sure, we had our retirement funds paying the bills, but there were too many hours in some days. Only after buying a home did the anxiety attacks cease, for I became too busy getting the house in order, both inside and out.

Since then, we have joined a church, joined the Montana

Wilderness Association and participated in weekly hikes with them, become involved in Habitat for Humanity by helping to build homes (Judy and I are co-editors of their newsletter), and joined a snowshoe club for those winter treks. We also take in various sporting events at Montana State University and have season tickets for the Bozeman Symphony Orchestra. I try to fish one day a week, and believe me, the fly-fishing outfit that the Association gave me has had a workout! There is also my woodworking shop to make those woodchips fly. Traveling is truly a wonderful experience. We've explored New Zealand and have toured the Scandinavian capitols and St. Petersburg, Russia.

Now there aren't *enough* hours in a day! This feeling will be your reward, too, if you take the time now to plan for your own active retirement. 

A Midwest Memory . . .



Technology advancements brought the bunker rake which has changed very little in 30 years.