



He's Baa-ack!

When asked to take a turn at writing a Director's Column, I called Brian Bossert to ask if there was anything in particular that he wanted me to talk about. He said to go ahead with anything I wanted. WOW—that could be dangerous. Still not knowing where to head with such creative license, I looked up what I had written a few years back. Yes, back in '97 I wrote a column. After re-reading it now, I am surprised that the MAGCS leadership would ever want me back as a writer at all. Trust me, the column was boring. I'm thinking that maybe I am on probation with this one, so I will try to be more interesting.

I'm still doing the paperwork and all that good stuff down the basement in the MAGCS office. Many a night I tell Karen that I'm just going to check the e-mail and phone, etc., and the next thing I know, I hear a voice saying, "When are you coming up for air?"

I am writing this in March with snow on the ground, so by the time this note is read, it had BETTER BE sunny and warm. (I'm sure it will be.) As some of you know, Karen and I are warm-weather people. We have been going to Phoenix for the past six years now with our traveling buddies, who live just down the street from us and with whom we have been the best of friends since high school. Last year we went the first week of June. I know, you're all saying, "THAT'S HOT!" and you would be correct. It's around 100 degrees at that time of year but with humidity around 20%, it's just right for us. We found a spot with a very large pool, a mountain in the middle with a waterfall on each side and lots of sun and shade where we can all camp out for the day. We do get out a few times on side trips but for the most part just lay around and act like bums. (Hint: If you swim under the waterfall, you find the bar. YES!)

Okay, back to work. MAGCS turned 75 this year and thanks to the help of John Gurke, we were able to find the names of all the past presidents. The new directory lists them all, as does our stationery, which features the 75th anniversary logo also.

I'm still doing the paperwork and all that good stuff down the basement in the MAGCS office. Many a night I tell Karen that I'm just going to check the e-mail and phone, etc., and the next thing I know, I hear a voice saying, "When are you coming up for air?" Computers can be addictive, as I have found out the last few years. I keep saying that one of these days I am going to cut back but that hasn't happened yet. For the most part, I still enjoy the work. Besides, with the stock market acting the way it has the last few months, it looks like I'll be working longer anyway.

One thing that will keep me busy this year is to research the implementation of e-mail for distribution of monthly meeting notices and job

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Ideas and/or work in progress includes:

- We hope to garner some coverage as the Midwest Golf House opens. It is my understanding that the Board of Directors will be invited to the grand opening later in the spring.
- I am looking for members whose courses have Web sites. I would like you to please consider adding our chapter Web site to your list of Web site links.
- I am working hard to make sure some members of the media attend a monthly meeting this summer. Despite some effort in the past, this has been difficult to succeed with. Additionally, do you know members of the media or someone that does? Invite them and a guest out for a round of golf at your own club. So many of these efforts can be done at the grassroots level.

- We are also working to have a superintendent as a guest on the local CLTV Friday night golf show. At minimum, developing a relationship with these groups may make this possible at a later date.

In closing, this has been a learning experience and I recommend you give one of these ideas a try. If you don't see anything that meets your fancy, GCSAA has a larger list of options. I would also like to thank Oscar Miles for mentoring me in this effort. I hope to look back on this and see some positive results. I'm writing this for the May issue, so it is still early. Reach out and touch your golfers while the season is young. Let them know that you help keep the game alive!



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referrals. There are a lot of questions to be asked, both in how to set up good procedures and what the membership would want and expect. Don't be surprised if I bug all of you a time or two with questions. I will welcome your help and suggestions.

And finally, just a friendly reminder to sign up as soon as you can when wanting to attend a golf outing. The sooner the better, as your host needs time to set things up properly. With that said, I hope each and every one out there has a great year and may the grass be greener on YOUR side of the fence.



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