



THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE

Bob Williams *Retired*

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- From my personal observation over 60 years, people from management and executive positions in industry are historically the most successful green committee chairmen at private country clubs. People with professional backgrounds, especially doctors and lawyers, are generally the weakest prospects as green committee chairmen at private country clubs.
- Most daily decisions by a golf course superintendent pertaining to the conditioning of the golf course, are generally the most critical to the club's daily overall operations. Decisions by a general manager or club owner could supersede, however.
- Every superintendent should accept the responsibility of developing his course in addition to maintaining it. "Status quo" will not cut it in the long run. Keeping up with the most modern technology is a must in our profession.
- In my opinion, golf courses should present the golfers with both active and passive recreation. The active phase is obvious. The passive benefit comes from their appreciation of the landscape features, terrain, lakes, flowers, wildlife, trees, etc. I believe that most golfers feel that a golf course is a little bit of paradise.



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

At its meeting on July 18, 2002, the MAGCS Board of Directors:

- Registered thank-you letters from Kara Meyer, recipient of an MAGCS Scholarship; Lincoln School, for a donation in memory of Drew Bemis, son of Dean Bemis; Juanita Ebel, for support and comfort during John's illness and upon his passing; and Ken and Paula Hearn, for a contribution to the Derek Hearn Scholarship Fund.
- Noted that Zach Behrman, son of Dave Behrman and recipient of an MAGCS Scholarship, has earned a \$1,500 Legacy Scholarship Award. These grants are funded by Syngenta to benefit GCSAA superintendents and their children and go to students pursuing careers beyond the turf industry. The MAGCS congratulates Zach on this honor.
- Discussed current registration protocol for monthly golf meetings. Noting that registration for the July meeting at the Merit Club had prompted some concerns from membership, the Board decided to try a new approach for future meetings. Instead of registration commencing immediately when forms arrive in the mail or via e-mail, registration will begin on a designated date several days AFTER all members will have received their registration notices. It was reported that in the interests of allowing as many senior members as possible to participate in the Merit Club senior championship, several Board members had given up their spots for this particular monthly meeting.
- Voted to fund the purchase of a plaque honoring all past presidents of the MAGCS. The plaque will be on display at the 50th Annual Midwest Turf Clinic and thereafter, at Midwest Golf House in Lemont.
- Noted that the directory update will be coming out in August.
- Noted the October 7th deadline for applications or nominations for the Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards (ELGA).
- Affirmed that opportunities remain to host a monthly golf meeting in 2003. Interested superintendents should contact Mike Mumper.

