



Stardate 6.2003

Believe it or not, my term as MAGCS president has already crested and is now on the downward slope to that past presidents' pasture in the sky. Time flies when you are having so much fun. The truth of the matter is, time flies when you are so busy you have no time to glance at a clock, much less a calendar. If I were to give myself a mid-term grade, though, I am afraid I could only muster a C+. Passing yes, but not quite what I hoped for when the gavel was passed onto me. Luckily, there is still time to raise my performance and accomplish a few more of the goals I had originally set for myself, for the directors and for our Association.

To help understand the goings-on of MAGCS, I can only compare us to a "Star Trek" episode, any "Star Trek" episode. As president, I of course would take on the role of Captain Kirk: strong, driven, overbearing at times.

At this time, I will not bore you with what the MAGCS Board of Directors has been up to. Now that we print up Board highlights in *On Course* and post Board meeting minutes on our Web page, saying it all again would just be redundant. No, I would much rather put a presidential perspective on the members that comprise the MAGCS cabinet: those distinguished individuals who represent themselves as my officers, directors and advisors, the "worker bees" that do myself and their Association proud.

To help understand the goings-on of MAGCS, I can only compare us to a "Star Trek" episode, any "Star Trek" episode. As president, I of course would take on the role of Captain Kirk: strong, driven, overbearing at times. Given just one simple goal, to carefully guide this vessel through the unknown, building a stronger foundation for a better tomorrow for our membership. Our eminent secretary/treasurer Phil Zeinert, as the consummate professional, unflappable, precise and logical, would be wearing the shoes of Mr. Spock. Never letting his emotions interfere with his analytical thought process, Luke Strojny as the immediate past president would have to be Dr. McCoy. "Bones" always seems to be lurking in the background, watching my every move, constantly offering worthwhile advice, reminding me continually of federation protocol. Then there is my proverbial right-hand man as vice president, Fred Behnke. In Trekkie lingo, I can only describe Fred as the "anti-matter" that everyone else fears, but I applaud him. His alternative viewpoint on just about every issue is exactly what I and the entire Board need when trying to arrive at a well-thought-out, rational decision.

As for the rest of my "Enterprise-ing" young crew, I originally asked them to look beyond our galaxy when issuing committee assignments last November. To improve upon the things we are doing well, and completely overhaul the things we were not. Keeping with the Trekkie theme, that of course meant, "To boldly go, where no Board has gone before." And in galactic terms, they all have gone well beyond the boundaries of my expectations.

Tim Anderson and his Arrangements Committee's encore performance after a very successful MAGCS hospitality suite in Atlanta has seen them travel light years ahead of their time by completely booking host sites for 2004, and

(continued on page 4)

they are now in the midst of scheduling 2005. Dave Braasch and his Editorial Committee staff have gone beyond the stratosphere as well. Their immediate mission encompasses determining the feasibility of giving *On Course* a whole new look for 2004 by having a strictly editorial-based magazine. The Education Committee, chaired by Luke Cella, has given us some wonderful educational opportunities in 2003 already, and surely will enlighten us at this year's Midwest Turf Clinic. Luke has accomplished all of this while volunteering for double-duty as our interim executive secretary with guidance from our ailing George Minnis. As George concentrates his efforts on life, we as a Board continue to search the stars for his replacement. The members of the unheralded Golf Committee, chaired by Tony Kalina, have set their "phasers" to stun by using their imaginations and creating some golf events this year that will be fair to all who participate. A thankless task indeed, trying to please everyone at a Midwest golf event. Gary Hearn and the Membership and Environmental Committees have advanced things

to warp speed with ever-increasing membership totals and this year's Bird-Watching Open attracting more participants than ever before. Beam me up, Scotty—Speiden, with his Public Relations and Long-Range Planning Committees, is seeing that the Association stays the course by gearing up for this fall's MAGCS survey. These completed surveys shall provide us with vital information for the future of our Association. On top of that, committee members are putting the finishing touches on our updated/revised standard operating procedures (SOPs) for each committee. When completed, the SOPs will even be standardized for the first time ever.

Filling out the crew would be our host of advisors. Ed Braunsky is in charge of the illustrious Past Presidents Council, which by all indications thinks we are heading in the right direction. If not, we hear about it faster than the speed of light. Our *On Course* editor Cathy Miles Ralston and "Bull Sheet" contributing editor John Gurke continue to do us proud by publishing great issue

after great issue of our Association magazine. As for Sylvia Lima and her Commercial Advisory Committee, their efforts and advice continue to build a stronger relationship between commercial and superintendent members. And hats off to the newest member of our team, Erwin McKone, the class C advisor, and his committee of young up-and-coming cadets. Their committee, through dedication and commitment, will insure the future of our Association is in good hands.

To the officers, directors, advisors and plethora of committee volunteers, I thank you all for your tireless efforts in aiding our Association's growth and stability. I am proud to be your captain.

Hope to see you all at Olympia Fields Country Club, the site of this year's U.S. Open, and again at Prestwick Country Club for the June golf meeting.



FULL SERVICE GROUNDWATER SPECIALISTS



MEADOW EQUIPMENT SALES & SERVICE, INC.

WELL DRILLING / PUMP SERVICE
27 W 021 St. Charles Rd.
Carol Stream, IL 60188

- Water Well Drilling
- Pump Sales & Service
- Maintenance Programs
- Design & Consulting
- Well Chlorination

- Water Well Rehabilitation
- Water Well Sealing & Capping
- AirBurst Technology
- Line Shaft & Submersible Turbines
- Booster & Recirculating Pumps

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE
Authorized Sales & Service for Leading Pump Manufacturers

TOLL FREE (800) 704-2415

"Where Meadow Goes, the Water Flows"