

Hyatt Has “Room” for Golden Tee Club Member’s Hospitality Event

I arrived in Atlanta on Wednesday, figuring it would be a good idea to arrive a day early to make sure everything was set for the Hospitality Reception. Little did I know that was going to be the least of my worries! As many MAGCS members learned, the Hyatt Regency was overbooked and there were no rooms available. As Mike Bavier and I waited in line (thank you, Mike, for staying with me to make sure I got as many vouchers as humanly possible!) to see if they were really going to send me away, my hopes were quickly diminished. Right before my eyes, I saw Steve Van Acker, Bob Lively, and Paul Schaefer get into a cab bound for their hotel accommodations in Marietta, GA! If these guys couldn’t get a room, I knew my chances were slim to none! To make a long story short, I spent a wonderful night at the beautiful Days Inn by the airport, where they only require a \$10.00 deposit for a phone and/or iron! I quickly signed up for the frequent guest program and settled in for a peaceful “Lysol-scented” night.

Thursday turned out to be a terrific day. My room was ready at the Hyatt and they confirmed they were all set for the Hospitality Reception. Even though they ran out of cold beer, they did a terrific job and the room was beautiful. It accommodated our “larger than expected” crowd easily, and I believe all who attended enjoyed the camaraderie, as well as the delicious food.

This event, of course, would not be possible without the generous support of the 56 members of the MAGCS Golden Tee Club. These generous supporters contributed more than \$44,000 for this year’s event. Please take a moment to look at the full-page thank you advertisement listing these sponsors, and remember to support them throughout the year. We were very fortunate to have six brand new sponsors this year: Dow AgroSciences, Griggs Brothers, High PSI, Legacy Products, Pearl Valley Organix, and Phoenix Environmental Care. Thank you so much for sponsoring one of the year’s biggest events. To the Superintendents who are reading this article: Please extend your thanks to our sponsors, and if you are in the market for a new product or service, please consider one of these fine companies.

One important aspect of the Hospitality Suite that should not be forgotten is the MAGCS Commercial Committee. This great group of people had to complete the task of contacting each and every class E member to solicit contributions. The MAGCS committee consists of Keith Copersmet of Palatine Oil, Sylvia Lima of Prime Turf,

Howie Shuck of BTSI, Scott Spier of Arthur Clesen, Steve Stewart of TPEC, Marsha Traves of Burriss Equipment, Rick Uthe of J.W. Turf, Beth Whitehouse of Dow Agrosciences, and Sam Wineinger of Lesco. Thank you for all your time and effort!

I also would like to thank all the volunteers who helped at the welcome table and “manning the door.” These people are to be commended for giving

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Erwin Mckone proves once again his high maintenance needs on travel as Sharon tries to alleviate his pain, Dan Anderson (R) just wonders.

up their free time after a long day at the trade show/seminars: Garry Anderson of Arthur Clesen, John Anderson of Arthur Clesen, Dan Anderson of Phillips Park Golf Course, Paul Bastron of Glen Flora, Ed Braunsky of Geneva Golf Club, Keith Copersmet of Palatine Oil, Joe Etten of TPEC, Brett Grams of Wau-paca Sand & Solutions, Steve Junk of DryJect Midwest, Dan Kissee of Rabine Paving, Kevin Knudson of Arthur Clesen, John Lamkin of Arthur Clesen, Chris Lombardo of Rabine Paving, Erwin Mckone of Briar Ridge Country Club, Todd Schmitz of Phillips Park, Howie Shuck of BTSI, Tim Snell of TPEC, Ted J. Soenksen of TETA, Scot Spier of Arthur Clesen, Steve Stewart of TPEC, and Beth Whitehouse of Dow AgroSciences. A **double thank you** to Brett Grams, Beth Whitehouse, Dan Kissee and Chris Lombardo who

pulled "all-nighters" for me—never leaving my side for an entire night!

Of course, Luke Cella, once again, gave me tremendous support and help with collecting and tracking all of the contributions, and mailing out the guest vouchers to all of our sponsors. Thank you Luke; I don't know how you manage to keep taking on more and still remain calm, cool, and collected.

Special, special thanks to Sylvia Lima, who created the outstanding PowerPoint presentation. This is a lot of work and we should all be grateful to have such a talented individual to put this together. Thank you, Sylvia!

Our scholarship raffle once again was a huge success! I am happy to report that this year's winners were on the "superintendent" side of the business. The first night we received a staggering \$2980, and turned over

\$1490 to Dan Stahl, Assistant Superintendent at Orchard Valley Golf Club. The next night, despite the lower attendance, still yielded a substantial amount: \$1640, half of which—\$820—was given to an ecstatic Dennis Buck, Superintendent of Dwight Country Club. Thank you once again to all who participated in the raffle. Because of you, we have secured \$2300 for the scholarship fund!

Some facts about the Hospitality Suite:

FIRST NIGHT	SECOND NIGHT
275 people.....	170 people
1979 beverages totaling \$16,000 (an all-time high!)	895 beverages
\$11,000 in food.....	\$7,300 in food

Superintendents and their Assistants represented the majority in the room each night.



In years past, we have always had an open door policy, but with rising costs (average drink, with taxes and gratuity, is \$8.18; each morsel of food about \$6.50). We instituted a couple of changes this year. Guests were asked to “check in” and also were required to wear a wristband, to ensure that only MAGCS members and their guests were in the room. This proved to be a prudent move. We had an increase in attendance from the prior year; yet we were confident that all in room “belonged” in the room. I know this required waiting in line to enter the suite and I apologize for the inconvenience. It is a necessary evil and we did stop many a “crasher” with this new procedure.

All in all, the Hospitality Suite’s total outlay was \$45, 000. Once again, THANK YOU, SPONSORS!

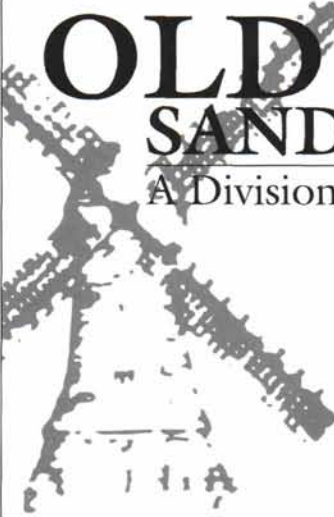
Please keep your eyes open for a survey requesting your input on the Hospitality Suite. We are looking into

making a few changes/improvements, and your input will impact the look and feel of future Hospitality Receptions.

On an ironic note, I just attended my children’s school fundraising auction last night. This event offers many different items that are donated by parishioners. It is always fun and I love bidding on the various

items, but there was one item that I did not bid on: a two-night stay at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta.





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