

## ON COURSE WITH THE PRESIDENT

Gary Hearn Salt Creek Golf Club

## Involvement

The long days of summer have ended and cool temperatures have returned at night. All the turf has survived and the kids are back in school. There is no need for aerification or over-seeding this fall – riiight.

The PGA Tournament has come and gone and the Chicago area is back to normal. Baseball season is winding down and football season is breaking huddle. I hope everybody made it through the summer without too many problems. Personally, my tee banks had a lot of crabgrass and a couple of my greens had a touch of anthracnose this summer. Unfortunately, like most, my staff gets smaller during this time of year. This always makes aerification and planned projects even more difficult to accomplish. With golf leagues played into September, my aerification is pushed farther into late September or even early October.

As fall approaches, so does the MAGCS Championship on September 25th at Makray Memorial Golf Club. I had the chance to play there last month at a park district function and Superintendent Chris Blake has it playing well. I really like the layout and variation of holes. I hope everybody can take some time out of their busy schedule and make the trip to Barrington. Also, we will be playing at Tom Prichard's place – Ivanhoe C.C. on October 2nd for ITF/MAGCS combined college championship. Plan to come out and support the ITF and compete in this fun event. Next on our calendar is our big event, the Midwest Turf Clinic at Medinah. (I've been trying to get golf included that day) and it will be held on November 1st. Tony Kalina assures the day will be extremely educational with breath-taking entertainment. This event is our celebration for another year and the end of my Presidency even if we don't play golf.

I hope everybody enjoyed this golf season. The Arrangement committee did a great job covering both the south and north side of Chicago this year. Now, I urge you to think about getting involved with MAGCS. Join a committee or run for the Board. The 2006 elections are around the corner and we will have committee sign up sheets at the Midwest Turf Clinic. I have been involved for about ten years. I started on a committee and would suggest you do the same. The MAGCS is a strong Association because of its committee structure and involvement. The committees certainly set the tone and shape the Board of Directors. Committees are responsible for many projects and tasks: writing articles, setting up arrangements, seeking educational topics and speakers, meeting with other industry professionals, etc. If you have the desire and admiration to sit on the board, then make that commitment. This experience will be greatly rewarded.

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