



Balance Continued

How bout that last act Ladies and Gentlemen, Mr. Tim Anderson our outgoing President. Let's give him a round of applause! I have followed Tim all the way through the ranks of the MAGCS Board of Directors and let me tell you, he is not an easy act to follow. I would like to congratulate Jim Keith and Bob Kohlstedt, our newest Board members. Welcome gentlemen! I would also like to congratulate Dan Sterr to his reelection. An interesting historical fact has been brought to my attention by some colleagues and that is that I am the first MAGCS President that actually resides and employed outside of the state of Illinois. That being said, members of the Board fill YOUR gas tanks and securely fasten YOUR I-PASS's to the windshields. I've been doing it for five years; you can do it for one. You had your chance to make a nomination from the floor for a different President and you blew it.

I would now like to pick up where the Turf Clinic left off. A definition of Balance is defined as "a state in which various parts form a satisfying and harmonious whole and nothing is out of proportion or unduly emphasized at the expense of the rest." How many of you honestly have this in your life right now? I know I don't and the Turf Clinic was some food for thought on my 2 hour ride home. What conclusions did I come to?

Work = unbalanced: I need to delegate by means of becoming a better teacher. I often find myself taking on tasks that could easily have been done by another staff member if I had just taken the time to teach them. I could imagine that by not giving them that task that I instilled them with a sense of distrust. On the other end of the spectrum I have now deprived myself of time to accomplish tasks such as coding invoices, meeting with vendors, setting up irrigation, etc.

Family = mostly balanced: I do more than my fair share of cooking, cleaning, grocery shopping, and spending a well above average amount of time with my son. There are those times though that I get the tug on the shoulder followed by the phrase "daddy read book" (mind you he is only 2½ years old) and I toss the book aside and say "daddy's watching TV now!" What a jerk I am telling my son I'm busy doing something unimportant. The TV will be there forever but will I? I have made a vow to myself to spend more time reading him books, going to the park, taking him on wagon rides and to set my selfishness aside.

Personal = semi balanced: I have a tendency to start things and not complete them in the timely manner in which I intended to (Luke can vow to this as my Presidents message is already late). This is usually caused by poor planning, getting side tracked, losing interest, or becoming frustrated at the task at hand. I need to do the obvious here and that is to improve my time management skills and planning.

Professional affiliation (MAGCS) = mostly balanced: The MAGCS Board of Directors has analyzed it's committees and functions and one of it's decisions we came up with this year is to "Balance" our monthly publication *On Course*. For starters you will no longer see a monthly Presidents message as it will be included on a quarterly basis only. Whew! The second task that we are going to accomplish is by strategically placing Directors columns as they pertain to upcoming events or summaries of an event. The reasoning behind these two changes is that we felt we were falling into a mode of repetition and intern making the magazine unbalanced. We hope you find these changes more appealing and balanced to read.

The conclusion I came up with that makes "Balance" in our lives contains three main components: Time management, goals, and being a team player. I hope many of you walked away from the Turf Clinic analyzing your "Balance" in life as I did and that you will make the necessary changes to make it happen. **-OC**