



Accept the Challenge, Become Engaged

Winter is the perfect time for planning and preparation. Through out the winter most of us spend time developing programs for the year to come and working on office projects that we can never find time for during the season. This principal holds true for our association as well. During the off season committees work diligently to lay the ground work for the year ahead. This year the committee assignments are:

Recognize that if you are approached regarding service to the association then it is because your actions and character have already identified you as someone who is ready to serve.

- Strategic Planning - Tim Anderson
- Scholarship / Financial Task Force - Dave Braasch
- Secretary / Benevolence - Tony Kalina
- Education - Scott Witte
- Advocacy and Compliance - Paul Bastron
- Golf - Dan Sterr
- Membership and Unemployment - Tom Prichard
- Media and Public Relations / Bylaws and Nominating - Gary Hearn
- Arrangements - Todd Schmitz
- Editorial / *On Course* - Harry Lovero
- Class E Advisory / Hospitality Suite - Sharon Risenbeck
- Class C Advisory - John Ekstrom
- Past Presidents Council - Ed Braunsky

Last month I urged everyone to participate in the MAGCS in the form of membership renewal. This month I would like to take that idea one step further and urge all members to participate by becoming actively engaged in the association. Local chapters cite a lack of member involvement as their #1 concern. Members are the greatest resource that the MAGCS has to offer. It follows that engaging **all members** to actively participate in the association is the key to providing a valuable experience for the entire membership.

Participation can take many forms. For those that have the desire there is the opportunity to become active at the committee or board level. Often members are reluctant to volunteer for this type of service because they are not sure if they are ready. Recognize that if you are approached regarding service to the association then it is because your actions and character have already identified you as someone who is ready to serve. Feel good about the opportunity and accept the challenge. It is not too late to volunteer for 2007 committees.

Participation is not limited to committee service. Frequently participation is more event or task oriented. There are countless ways to become engaged. Volunteer to host a meeting. Work a registration table. Provide financial sponsorship at an event. Attend an educational seminar or golf event. Place an ad in the magazine. Utilize the employment service. Mentor an employee in the value of establishing a network of professional peers through association participation. Write an article for *On Course* or persuade an employee to write an article. Inform the association of illness or benevolence. Encourage a child to apply for a MAGCS scholarship. Donate to the scholar-

ship fund by participating in the raffle at the hospitality suite. Support the charitable activities of the association through participation at a betting hole. Support research through a gold or silver contribution. Attend a social event like the dinner dance, the hospitality suite, or the Cougars Game. Pass along a copy of *On Course* to an employer or fellow superintendent. Recruit a new member.

Most associations are based on the principals of networking, education, fraternity, and the philosophy of giving back. The same hold true for the MAGCS. The bottom line is that the MAGCS is founded on its members and your presence and participation is what allows the association to evolve. If even a single member forgoes the opportunity to be actively engaged then all members are denied the opportunity to gain from their experience and the association is not able to achieve its full potential.

In today's world we are all starved for time and overloaded with responsibilities. Proper planning allows us to cope with these challenges. This winter as you plan for the year ahead take some time to become engaged and plan your participation in the MAGCS.

The Golf Industry Show is scheduled for the week of February 19th - 24th. The MAGCS hospitality Suite is schedule for the evening of February 22nd from 6:00 p.m. til 10:00 p.m. at the Anaheim Hilton. A special thanks to the Gold Tee Sponsors for hosting this outstanding event. To those attending the GIS - have a safe trip.

See you in Anaheim!

Tim

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“...MAGCS is founded on its members...”

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Paul Frankowski
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