



# Getting Older... But That's a Good Thing!

*You know you have gone through this scenario... an item comes over the radio filling you in on something that happened on this day in history. I must admit I am a pretty avid WGN radio listener. I also love PTI on ESPN. Both of these media outlets always seem to have a tidbit or two that I always find interesting. For example I heard that 40 years ago the first fight between Muhammed Ali and Joe Frazier took place in Madison Square Garden. 25 years ago Jack Nicklaus won the Masters at the age of 46 and 20 short years ago the Chicago Bulls won the first of their many NBA championships. It makes you stop and think how much older you are and how quickly times goes by.*

Old is not a bad thing. Some of the "old school" things that are still around are pretty important, but have been falling by the wayside lately. Take for example "Thank You" notes. We now live in a society that offers instant everything. The idea of writing a note on a card or a piece of paper may seem to be so yesterday but it still has a place in our busy world. At a MAGCS board meeting this year, those in attendance were asked to sign a thank you letter that was being sent to the sponsors of the Hospitality Room in Orlando. Many letters were sent around the table and everyone put their John Hancock on them. Soon to be Past President Dan Sterr makes it a point to send Thank You cards to monthly meeting sponsors. It is a nice touch that makes MAGCS what it is today.

There are plenty of ways you can continue this practice and insure to leave a positive impression. Playing a fellow member's track? Don't just show up, give a call and let them know you are coming. Afterwards, throw a thank you note in the mail and point out some positive things going on at their facility. Get a gift from someone? I always try to put a note in the mail the day I receive a gift from a club member. It is certainly easier to send off an email or punch out a text, but where's the effort? Take a little time to say thanks, it won't be forgotten.

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As the chair of the Past President's Council, I would like to extend my thanks to the current Board of Directors of the Midwest. They have done a great job running the Midwest and offering excellent education, great days of golf and camaraderie, publishing the magazine, directory and website, funding the scholarships for our children, contributing to the Wee One Foundation, the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation, the Environmental Institute for Golf, the Chicago District Golf Association, the Illinois Junior Golf Association and more each while managing their own facilities through two tough seasons in a row. Great work gentlemen. Your work and dedication is appreciated. **-OC**