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Just Check Your Pillbox

Recently I turned the “Big 50” and this has given my wife more ammo to make fun of the all the “old guy” stuff I do. Some of you know what I am talking about. It seems like you get to a certain age and the old man things just start happening:

All of a sudden you are brushing mysterious flakes off of your clothes. You make strange sounds with your mouth like a dog lapping up water. Your flatulence has increased while your ability to control it has decreased. Your dress code is more like Grandpa than GQ. You get upset when you leave your cheaters in the car and can't see the menu. Words like colonoscopy and fiber are part of your dinner conversation with friends.

My memory, from what I remember, is worse. I think. This may be one of the reasons old people listen to radio stations that repeat the news every eight minutes for hours on end. One of my wife's greatest lines of all time occurred while on a trip to Cabo San Lucas. I asked her, “What day is it?” and she quickly responded, “Let's just check our pillbox!” Yes, we have a pillbox and one day, you will too. As we age, there are more pills to take, combined with that memory thing, a pillbox is the answer. Our slow season is a great time to catch up on our own health care.

It seems each winter I spend a lot of time at the dentist. My teeth have always been an issue. As a result of an old CYO injury I get to take some of mine out at night to soak them in Efferdent. When was the last time you heard CYO? I stopped drinking about four years ago (I can hear you're happy for me). That was one of the better old guy things I have done. I didn't want to add more pills to the pillbox.

Recently, (I think it was recently) a group of Past Presidents of the Midwest met at my beloved Geneva Golf Club. This group included: Tim Anderson, Mike Bavier, Kevin DeRoo, Don Ferreri, Al Fierst, Ed Fischer, Gary Hearn, Tony Kalina, Bob Kohlstedt, Peter Leuzinger, Bob Maibusch, Joel Purpur, Dan Sterr, Luke Strojny, Dave Behrman, Scott Witte, Fred Behnke and Dave Braasch. Several members of our current board were there including: President Dave Grolle, Secretary Treasurer Chuck Barber and Director Jim Pedersen and Executive Director Luke Cella. I knew I would forget someone. I was there too.

The Board of Directors looks forward to what transpires at the Past President Council meeting each year. The Council is given the chance to hear a review of the past year's activities of the MAGCS and initiatives the board is currently working through. Well thought suggestions and comments are given to the board from the perspective of those that have a history of also caring for this fine Association. This year we discussed the editorial changes to *On Course* and the new digital version that is now offered to the membership. We talked about the relationship with GCSAA as it continues to move forward. We reviewed the finances of the Association as well as the membership lists. One change that was put to the Council (via email) was the College Championship that MAGCS runs each fall at the October meeting. The golf committee is looking to spark more interest in the event and is thinking about changing that competition to be more inclusive. Since the College Championship has been around for a while, the committee wants the feedback from the Past President's before moving forward with a different or adapted event. This is the type of issue where the current leadership respects the opinions and historic point of view offered by their elders. Change is often good, and even better when it is communicated in an open venue like the Past President's meeting.

We wrapped the day with a steak and lobster lunch, actually it was more like salad and chicken. We need to watch our cholesterol and make sure we get enough roughage throughout the day. For me, the best part was after the meeting and lunch; I saw several conversations going on between young and old superintendents. This is something else us old guys do well. 