

the Bull Sheet

Official publication of the MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.

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President's Message



by Timothy Kelly

I hope that the entire MAGCS membership had a very enjoyable holiday season. During the holiday season, our time was best spent in putting our families first, and our golf courses second. It is a good time of the year to reflect on our many blessings that God has given to each and every one of us!

I would like to congratulate the ITF for the fine educational programs, that were recently provided at the NTCE. On behalf of the MAGCS, I presented a \$2,000.00 check to the ITF, designated for research. I want to thank Dave Blomquist for organizing the MAGCS sponsored portion of the education, at the NCTE — the Round Table Discussion of Pesticides. Dave did a fine job also as the moderator of this round table discussion.

During the Round Table Discussion of Pesticides golf course superintendents were able to get a glimpse of an extremist viewpoint, and an anti-perception of pesticides within our industry. This illustrates the importance for each and every golf course superintendent to do the following: use, handle, and store all pesticides properly. Incorporate IPM into pesticide programs, and use alternatives whenever possible. We should make sure that each golf course is operated within EPA & environmental, compliance.

It is also important that all of us should inform the public about the positive environmental aspects golf courses provide. Golf courses are part of the green belts within urban areas. The turf and trees provide: oxygen, filter pollutants from the atmosphere, and check erosion. Golf courses provide habitat for birds and wildlife. Yes, we do have many birds on our golf courses! Golf courses are not toxic waste sites, they are healthy alive oases in the urban sprawl. For example, pesticides are applied to only 23% of my golf facility on a regular basis to: greens, tees, and fairways. This potential application takes place only for six months, with one additional application in November. That means that for five and a half months there are no pesticides applied. A herbicide is applied to another 25% of the golf course, the in-play roughs, on a infrequent basis (every 3 to 4 years). Consequently, every three to four years, 77% of my golf course will not have any pesticides applied. Additionally, 52% of my golf course never has pesticides applied to it at all!

Our industry is committed to ensuring the health and well being of the environment. Strides are being made, and as research and development continues, safer pesticides, and alternatives will be developed. As golf course superintendents we must continue to learn and stay abreast of new developments and products. Venues like the NCTE, MRTF, GCSAA Conference & Seminars are all excellent examples of opportunities to learn.

The January MAGCS meeting will be held on January 11th at Arrowhead G.C. This meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m. with education, followed by lunch. The MAGCS business meeting will follow the lunch.

The MAGCS, with the support of our generous commercial members, will again sponsor a hospitality suite at the GCSAA convention at Anaheim. It will be located at the Anaheim Hilton & Tower, the headquarters hotel. Further details — specific days, time, and room location will be presented as soon as they are available. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the GCSAA Conference & Show.

Director's Column



Resolutions

by Donald A. Cross, CGCS

I hope all of you had a very Merry Christmas and are enjoying the relaxation, re-acquaintance with family and friends, and the beauty, that this season brings.

It's hard to believe but another year is now upon us. Time to begin looking forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead. Time to make those resolutions for a better year in 1993. I read a quote somewhere that you might enjoy: "May all your problems last as long as your New Year's resolutions". If this were true most of our problems, I suspect, would be quite brief.

In spite of the quote alluding to a lack of duration in our resolve, why not consider the following for 1993:

Look at difficulties not as problems but as opportunities. We all have our share of dilemmas both at work and at home. Keep an open mind, don't overreact, look at the potential for making the best of an otherwise unpleasant incident. If you think you have trouble, there are a number of events you can recall, locally to globally, which make our mishaps miniscule by comparison.

Be as quick to praise as we are to reprimand, offer compliment more often than criticism, and have compassion instead of objection. The mid-season stress, both physically and psychologically, takes a toll on our staff and families, as much as it does on us. We often have little patience and can become disagreeable in short order during this time of the year. Try to be more cognizant of the feelings of others. Remember that without the support from our families and friends and the dedication and determination from our staff, our achievements will decline.

Improve our environmental stewardship. We all know the consequences of indiscriminate plant protection and irresponsible product use. I believe we have made great strides in minimizing the environmental impact of these products. Practicing IPM (we have all done this for a long time), improving the education of our staff, and reducing product use in non-essential areas, have all helped in this regard. We could all, however, further improve our care of Mother Earth. Thorough monitoring to determine where maladies most frequently occur and then treating only these specific areas is one such way. Purchasing products with packaging that is recycleable, returnable, reuseable, or of a very low waste load, is another way. Think about it and you will surely come up with numerous ways to be a better steward.

Finally, let's all resolve to participate more in MAGCS activities, attend as many educational events as is possible, promote the positive attributes of golf courses and turfgrass, be more understanding of the irate member or customer, patronize the advertisers of **The Bull Sheet**, and last but not least take some time to "smell the roses". We are only here a short while so we should enjoy life while we can!

I wish all of you a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year! May all your resolutions come to pass!

MAGCS Committee Assignments 1992/93

December 8, 1992

Executive Committee — T. Kelly (Chairman), A. Fierst, J. Purpur

Finance Committee — A. Fierst (Chairman), T. Kelly, J. Purpur, R. Schmitz

Arrangements Committee — K. Czerkies (Chairman), E. Braunsky

Golf Committee — E. Braunsky (Chairman), K. Czerkies, K. Blatteau (MAGCS Merchandise)

Education Committee — K. Blatteau (Chairman), D. Blomquist
ByLaws Committee — R. Schmitz (Chairman)

Employment Committee — A. Fierst (Chairman), T. Kelly

Membership Committee — M. Bavier (Chairman), R. Schmitz (Directory)

Long Range Planning Committee — D. Cross/D. Blomquist (Co-chairmen), T. Kelly, A. Fierst, J. Purpur

Public Relations Committee — D. Blomquist/D. Cross (Co-chairmen), J. Purpur, A. Fierst

Editorial Committee — F. Opperman (Chairman), D. Smith, R. Stewart

Past Presidents Council — R. Stewart (Chairman)

Commercial Advisory Council — J. Lebedevs (Chairman)

Benevolence Committee — M. Bavier (Chairman), D. Smith, A. Bertucci, P. Vandercook

TEMPORARY COMMITTEES

Computer Committee — A. Fierst (Chairman), J. Purpur, T. Kelly, R. Schmitz, D. Blomquist, K. Blatteau, R. Hahn, P. Meyer

Contractor Committee — T. Kelly (Chairman), A. Fierst, R. Schmitz, J. Purpur, D. Blomquist

OTHER ASSIGNMENTS

Executive Secretary — P. Meyer

Bull Sheet Editor — F. Opperman

GCSAA Hospitality Suite — P. Meyer, D. Meyer, A. Fierst, T. Kelly



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"Heart Attack"

by **Marty Baumann, Fresh Meadows G.C.**
EMT-P West Dundee Fire Dept.

Heart attacks happen on golf courses! We see our customers under stress everyday. Most people think a round of golf is relaxing, serene, calming. Well, not from my point of view ... I know of three attacks this year in the northwest suburbs of Chicago.

How many of you know CPR? Do your rangers, employees, starters? How many of your Spanish workers know of the 911 emergency access number? Do you have oxygen in your shop or starter shed? Do you have a first aid kit?

80% of all heart attacks give the recipient an identifiable warning. Heavy sweating, chest pain or pressure, numbness or tingling in the left arm, jaw pain or a feeling of indigestion — any combination of these symptoms can spell heart attack. These symptoms alone do not mean that the person is having a heart attack at that moment, just that one may be on the way soon if situations don't improve.

So what can you do to help your potential victim? First, call 911 immediately! Always activate EMS, they are the patient's best hope. But after the call, you may still have 3-5 minutes in which to make a big difference between life and life-threatening injury or death. Encourage the individual to sit down right where they are — do not try to move them unless it is essential to their health. Make the person comfortable. Give them oxygen — a heart attack is simply the lack of oxygen to the heart muscle. The more oxygen you give the individual, the better they will do in the long run. Loosen their collar and belt, encourage them to relax.

The individual may have a feeling of impending doom, the feeling of being closed-in, or a gripping pain in the chest. These feelings are all very real to a heart attack victim — anything you can do to keep them calm will help.

Finally, if the person loses consciousness or passes out, you should start CPR immediately. The victim has only 2-6 minutes once the heart stops beating to avoid life-threatening injury and you will make a difference if you start CPR right away.

I would recommend, as part of your Spring Safety Training, to spend at least 3 hours in March with your crew learning CPR. Your local fire department, Red Cross office or emergency room at a local hospital will have trained CPR instructors available. It saves lives and only costs you 3 hours of time once a year.

Last of all, be prepared to act fast. If you or anyone on your crew recognizes an employee, volunteer or customer with symptoms of a heart problem, act now. Call EMS, give them comfort and if necessary, start CPR. If it ends up being nothing, you cost someone a couple of hours in an emergency room. But it only takes 2-6 minutes to pass the point of no return ... be prepared and save a life.



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Have You Ever Wondered —

by Frank E. Lamphier

- How many actual A & B members there are in the GCSAA?
- Why if something isn't broke, there is always someone who wants to fix it?
- Where the "best" candidates for GCSAA office come from — Chances are at one time they were delegates, learning the ins and outs of our association.
- Why it costs so much to attend a seminar?
- Why it costs so much to become certified, and how expensive it is to remain certified?
- Why seminars that are already filled, might not always be filled by our Class A and B members first.
- Why if through proper planning (at least 1 yr. ahead), everything has to be done yesterday and can't possibly wait for the next annual meeting, where the membership can also cast their opinions and ideas, no matter how silly they may sound.
- Why you, as a member, have a difficult time getting a straight answer to anything.
- Why, if our opinion differs from that of the "powers that be," can't we have our opinions expressed in "our magazine" and not just selected depositions.
- What is being done with the former headquarters building, and what is it costing us annually to maintain it?
- What is the new expansion (approx. \$1.5 million) to our new headquarters building all about, or is this just a rumor?
- Why everything is a deep, dark secret within the board. Are they sworn to secrecy, blood oath, or what? We are paying the freight.
- Why the board seems to want the power of just setting the dues, with no input from the membership as a whole. What are they afraid of? Only once in my 30 yrs. in the association has a dues increase been shot down, and that was instituted a year later. Again, plan ahead, and the membership will back you 100% through individuals and delegates.
- What is wrong with a 2/3 vote to amend the by-laws? Let the directors sell their ideas to the membership, both individually and through the delegates, instead of mandating them.
- What are we paying yearly for legal council — to defend us from what? Are we afraid of something or someone? If so, we want to know!!
- What are our key personnel being paid, and how many do we really have on the staff. Are we being governed by the assistants-assistants?
- Finally, it has often been stated, "The best **government** is the least government." What is wrong in this country today can usually be traced to too much **government**. Take away the voice of the people, and you can count us along with the countries in Europe that have failed in the past 2 years. Are we about to let ourselves fall into this trap? I hope not. We, as an association have too much to offer in a positive manner. Let's not try to be everything to everyone. The last time I looked, we were still the "GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA".

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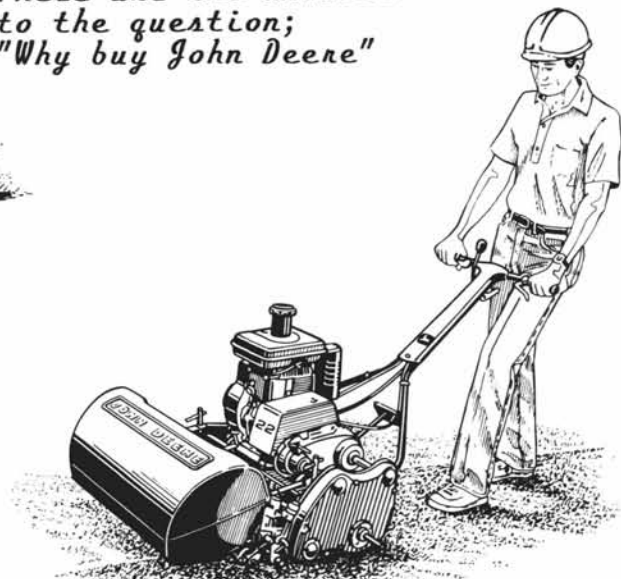
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Early Returns Are In

by Ray Schmitz

Preliminary results of the MAGCS Survey sent to GCSAA voting members on the proposed "Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws Amendments".

Ballot A — Address our profession as turfgrass manager instead of greenskeeping and includes increased emphasis on management toward environmental responsibility.

Yes - 62 No - 14

Ballot B — Change voting procedure from 2/3 majority to a simple majority to adopt an amendment resolution of the Certificate of Incorporation.

Yes - 10 No - 66

Ballot C — Dispense with the voting delegate procedure.

Yes - 15 No - 61

Ballot D — Allow the date of the annual meeting to be changed to give more leeway to the scheduling of the annual meeting.

Yes - 41 No - 35

Ballot E — Allow the Board of Directors to establish new membership classes.

Yes - 28 No - 48

Ballot F — Set up new membership classes.

Yes - 33 No - 43

Ballot G — Allow the Board of Directors to set the amount of the GCSAA membership dues. Previously voted on by the members in attendance at the annual meeting.

Ballot H — Individual membership voting. One man, one vote concept.

Yes - 20 No - 56

Ballot I — A majority vote of all eligible members the only requirement necessary for the adoption of any amendment. Presently a 2/3 vote is necessary.

Yes - 16 No - 60

We received a 28% response as of 12/18/92, 275 mailed out and 76 responded.

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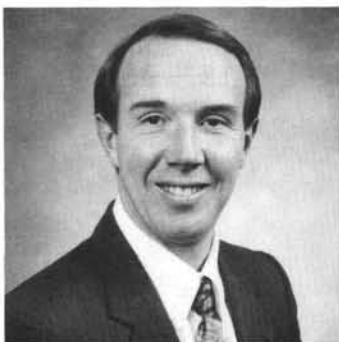
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If You Have No Critics You Likely Have No Successes



by Bruce R. Williams, CGCS
GCSAA Director

Recently, the GCSAA members of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents have been provided an opportunity to evaluate a number of proposed by-law changes. It was the intent of the current Board of Directors of GCSAA to present these proposals in advance of the GCSAA annual meeting to encourage dialogue and that has been accomplished. The membership will make the final decision on these by-law proposals in Anaheim. Contrary to what some may think, the Board of Directors works on behalf of the membership and tries hard to be visionary and develop plans and programs that will benefit our profession. I have been pleased with the number of GCSAA members that have called me regarding the issues and other concerns within the association. These calls have not been limited to solely MAGCS members but have been from all parts of the country. Every call was productive and helped to establish a factual foundation for a sensible exchange of ideas.

Unfortunately, there are some members of GCSAA who choose to find fault with most everything we do. Those individuals never comment on the excellent quality of our educational offerings, our great magazine, our outstanding government relations program, the premier conference and show in the turfgrass industry, a strong certification program, and a development department that continues to raise significant funds for scholarship and research. These are only a few of the major functions of GCSAA. We are a clearinghouse for the collection and dissemination of information that will help our members better manage their respective golf courses. This is our mission and I know that we are accomplishing our goals.

The question had been posed lately as to whether we are an association or a business. There is no question in my mind that we are both. An association is an organization formed for a common objective. A business is defined as a trade or profession, and an environment for the exchange of goods or services. It is very clear that we are a group that was organized with a common goal and we are operating in today's business environment. As your Board of Directors, we must make logical business decisions, with the future of the association in mind. We must also continue to provide service to the membership of the organization.

(cont'd. page 10)

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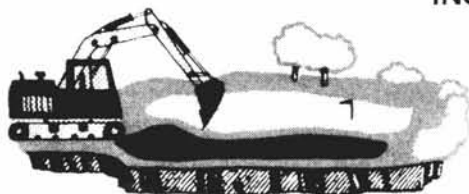
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(Bruce Williams cont'd.)

I would be remiss if I did not respond to some of the statements made in last month's **Bull Sheet** as many of these comments were based on emotion rather than fact. I wish that the author had approached the issues with an open mind and had sought the facts rather than basing the article on unfounded personal opinions. The author should have taken a few minutes to ask the members of the Organizational Study Committee or the Standards Committee why they proposed the by-law changes. To my knowledge, the author did not discuss the issues with any of the GCSAA Board of Directors or staff but has established his opinions for personal reasons without taking the time to discuss the issues.

The GCSAA has no desire to become the USGA, PGA, CMAA, etc. as the author queried. We need to look at other membership classifications though. It is our hope that we could provide education and information to others in the golf industry in addition to our core membership of golf course superintendents. Few members would dispute the need to send our message out to groups other than golf course superintendents. The golf course superintendents will continue to be the nucleus of our great association and will be the individuals who will set the tone for our activities with their right to vote. As far as GCSAA Scholarship and Research is concerned, we have expanded our fund raising efforts over the past few years and we have employed a full time individual to direct these activities. The results from this have shown a minimum of \$88,500 in new revenues for Fiscal Year 92/93. We have built up about \$350,00 in the Robert Trent Jones Endowment Fund and are currently undertaking a fund raising effort to support research in a toxicology study of golf course superintendents and applicators. Any way you choose to interpret the financial statements of GCSAA S&R we are doing very well in our efforts to support education and research. I suppose the author of last month's article would prefer to see us raise \$13,000 and hand out \$13,000 in scholarships and research grants rather than raise \$208,000 and have expenses of \$95,378 netting \$112,622 and not including an additional \$53,480 that was committed to the RTJ Endowment Fund. The reality is that we are operating quite well in the S&R subsidiary of GCSAA and that can readily be seen in the GCSAA financial statement.

The profession of managing golf courses has been acknowledged worldwide and GCSAA now has 970 members outside of the U.S. This accounts for 8% of our current membership. There have been requests from other countries to bring our programs and educational offerings to them. In doing so, we can help enhance the knowledge required to maintain the many new developing golf courses in different parts of the world. We go where we are invited and have no desire to force ourselves on any foreign country. We have been well received in the areas of the Pacific Rim, and those operations will not, in any way, influence the day to day operations of GCSAA. We are providing a conference and show and developing a membership base in the most rapidly expanding part of the world for golf course development. Who is better suited to offer the education and services to these areas than GCSAA?

As far as the regional staffing concept is concerned, it has appeal in many parts of the country as a liaison to help coordinate government relations activities. Many chapters have re-

(cont'd. page 11)