Rossylin and Dr. Joe Vargas really got us thinking about things like water quality and future availability and a potential problem with Bacterial Wilt Disease down the road. Dr. Doug Brede presented interesting results on his Poa annua/Bentgrass completion study. I recall at one point in our keynote address, a motivational Jack Lamier had a room of 250 people in dead silence. All our speakers did a superb job on some very timely and occasionally humorous subjects. I was particularly impressed with the quality of the food and food service afforded us by the staff at the Radisson Hotel. Congratulations to Chris, Jim and Scott for helping to make our conference a huge success.

January is a time when most of us upper midwest superintendents are not only able to relax a bit but need to get out of the office for awhile. Our January meeting is coming up soon. This year it will be hosted by George Jennrich out at Woodhill Country Club in Wayzata. George tells me there are several winter activities available to us including ice skating, cross-country skiing and platform tennis. There is also a group of superintendents trying to form a couple of teams for a hockey game. Bring all your safety gear if you're so inclined. It should be an enjoyable day. Look for the meeting notice and get it sent back.

Due to the difficulty the last two editorial committee chairmen have encountered in obtaining HOLE NOTES articles from members, the board has decided to reduce our HOLE NOTES publication to 10 issues per year. And rather than requiring a single chairman to obtain all the articles, the new Editorial Committee chairman will be organizing a committee of 3-5 members who will assist in canvassing for article contributors. In the future, if contributors become more abundant and willing, we'll consider returning to the 12-issue format. If you get contacted by one of these committee members, please give strong thought toward helping that essential publication.

Finally, I'd like to wish the MGA staff, board and entire membership and their families a joyous Christmas holiday season.

HOLE NOTES RECEIVES AWARD

The 1986 GCSAA Affiliated Chapter Newsletter Editors Contest Awards have been announced and HOLE NOTES is one of the winners! Selected by a panel of four highly qualified judges, the winners were chosen from newsletters published by 48 affiliated chapters. HOLE NOTES was chosen to have had the Best Editorial Content for 1986. Recognition of the award will take place at the International Golf Course Conference and Show in Phoenix during the Editors/PR Seminar at 8:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 28, in room 28. In addition we will be recognized at the show's opening session, Thursday, January 29 in Symphony Hall. An article will be published in the January issue of GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT magazine on the winners and the details of the contest.

The award reflects the fine job Editorial Chairman Randy Nelson turned in the last year. Although the effort to obtain articles was sometimes a bit like pulling teeth, it paid big dividends. It shows that people find plenty of interest in what we have to say. Let's hope 1987 will find more and more articles finding their way in so HOLE NOTES can continue to improve on its fine record.

SO LONG NOTE

by PAUL G. MAYES
Golf Course Superintendent
Midland Hills Country Club

I am writing this letter to thank all of you for your friendship and kindness during my employment in Minnesota. The past three years have been a wonderful experience in this beautiful state. I have an opportunity to further my career goals at Green Acres Country Club in Chicago. I will miss you all and wish you the very best. I am not saying goodbye because I hope to see you at educational conferences. If you are ever in the Chicago area, please get in touch with me. Good luck in the years ahead and cheers to productive careers. Happy Holidays!