The Izaty’s meeting held on January 13th was a great success. Fifty-four comrades in turfgrass management attended to swap stories about the quickly approaching golf season, what the family did over the holiday season and the most famous story about the monster walleye that got away. Many thanks to the fine staff at Izaty’s for letting us use their fine facility.

With spring just around the corner and with our thoughts turning towards staffing our maintenance crews and setting attainable goals for ourselves and our golf courses, have we thought of how we communicate our ideas to our staff or of the policies that are set forth by our individual golf courses? It may be late winter, however, and as we know that we are also personnel managers as well as turfgrass managers, maybe it is a good idea to put together a book of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for our staffs. If our staffs know what is expected of them and know how to do a task properly, it could lead to a smoother running season.

With thoughts of spring also come thoughts of MGCSA monthly meetings. Our monthly meetings are an important part of our association. We get together to listen to an educational speaker, get a chance to view and operate equipment and see what’s on the forefront regarding safe pesticide handling or storage. We get to talk to the superintendent just down the highway, and maybe you will just pick up a new idea for your golf course or how you maintain your equipment.

When you decide that you are going to attend one of the MGCSA monthly meetings PLEASE pre-register. Pre-registration assists the Arrangements Chairman (Bill Whitworth) in ordering the correct amount of meals and setting up golf events. It helps him stay organized.

When pre-registering, please fill out the form correctly, enclose a type of payment (check) and send the form to the MGCSA office. A form sent without a check will not be considered proper pre-registration nor will calling in your pre-registration. Now to make sure that you get your pre-registration well enough in advance, Bill Whitworth has said that the pre-registration forms will be mailed out from the MGCSA office at least 30 days prior to the event. Together we can make our monthly meetings a stellar success.

The distribution of the December-January issue of Hole Notes was not acceptable to the membership. Members residing on the East Side of St. Paul did not receive their copy of Hole Notes on time.

In most cases it was 10 to 14 days late, and in some cases it did not arrive with the inserts that were put into it. This was not the case of Hole Notes being mailed out in shifts. The newsletters are mailed out together. The publication will be bundled differently with a second-class mailing permit affixed to it. The tardiness of Hole Notes should not happen again.

One thousand pardons to James Gardner of Rochester Golf & Country Club for omitting his name off the Board of Director roster on page 3 of Hole Notes. Jim was elected to the Board during the November Annual Meeting.

Esther Senneseth, spouse of Herman Senneseth, passed away in January. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Herman in this very difficult time.

Christmas was very special for Scott and Lisa Ann Austin. William Eli Austin became a special gift, with his delivery on Christmas Day at 5:18 a.m. Congratulations!

Turf Supply Company welcomes Dale Parske to its staff as a sales representative.

Lapel Pins may be purchased by contacting Mike Olson at Golden Valley Country Club.

Final thoughts: There are times when the day looks bleak. It could be brought on by how we look at things. Do we look at everything with a negative “down in the dump” syndrome or do we pick ourselves up by our bootstraps and accept the challenge before us? Remember that how we act under stress affects those around us, and frankly there isn’t a challenge that a golf course superintendent can’t defeat. Let’s make 1992 the best year ever.

On behalf of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Hockey Club, we would like to thank the following Associate members who made it possible for us to get together during the winter. Thanks to Tom Haberman and Butch Greeninger of MTI Distributing; Dale Parske and Tom McCann of Turf Supply Company and Steve Garske of Par Aide Golf Products. Thank you, gentlemen.

—Dale Wysocki