FROM YOUR PRESIDENT'S DESK

Proud of Our Past,
Thankful for Our Present,
Look Forward to Our Future

The holidays are always a time to reflect on the PAST, give thanks for the PRESENT and make wishes for the FUTURE.

It’s hard to believe that GCSAA’s past trade show (1976) was held in the old Minneapolis Convention Center in an area not much bigger than today’s. Praises should be presented to all the associate members who made this year’s trade show a big success! Upon initial glance, I thought I was at the National in Orlando. Fred Taylor and the Conference Committee worked diligently to give us a great “biodiversity” of speakers and topics that transcended all professions and participating associations. The future looks bright for continued growth of the conference through the persistent support of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents’ Association, Minnesota Turf and Grounds Foundation and the Trade associates.

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It is great to see past recipients of MGCSA turf scholarships progressing in our industry and contributing to its future. Congratulations to those students presented with 1995 MGCSA scholarships as you proceed with your educational and professional goals. As we look to the future, the MGCSA looks forward to helping promote and support the Trans-Mississippi Turf Scholarship Fund on a Minnesota level.

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As our profession has benefitted from past MGCSA funded research, we look to our present GCSAA, USGA and University of Minnesota research to bear dividends that will help our golf courses become even greater recreational and environmental assets. Minnesota’s turf research looks bright with visions of a University of Minnesota Rosemount Turfgrass and Grounds Research & Education Center becoming clearer and clearer each day.

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The MTGF has passed its infancy and presently encompasses nine allied associations representing a unified Minnesota Green Industry. MGCSA hopes to continue to be a part of and embrace the MTGF as it matures into a future educational and research leader of the turf and grounds industry.

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I would like to thank the MGCSA past presidents for their continued support and input into our association. And as Kevin Clunis presented me with the MGCSA gavel, I offer my gratitude for his investment and leadership of the MGCSA in 1995. Thanks also to Bill Cox, Tom Kientzle and Monty Montague for their insight and involvement on the Board. I look forward to working with the recently elected and current Board Members to continue to serve the members of the MGCSA. Please contact me if you are interested in serving on any committee.

Our future depends on your input.

So, as you have read, the MGCSA is proud of its past, thankful for its present success and looking forward to an exciting future! SEASONS GREETINGS!

James D. Gardner, CGCS
President

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