Personal and personnel management were the main topics at the March Mini-Seminar. Don Wohlenhaus brought home the impact of today’s information-driven society and how it impacts all aspects of our business. From hiring and motivation of employees to considering a prospective employee’s emotional intelligence (E.Q.), Vic Osteen gave us some insight on how to balance our professional and personal lives. Some days the bowling ball can seem quite heavy, but if you can always count on the lighter side of life (golf ball) coming around in the circle, it puts it all in perspective.

Ross Galarneault, executive director of the MGA, gave us a maiden presentation on the proposed Golf/Research Complex in Empire Township. This joint venture between the University of Minnesota and the MGA would be a self-supporting center that would provide multiple benefits for the entire golf course and green industry. From research development by the U of M and the USGA to an 18-hole championship golf course that can be used for many of the MGA championships, to education and outreach. This world class facility would be a great asset to the entire Minnesota Green Industry. The MGCSA strongly supports this project and looks forward to being a key player in its success.

Another major player in the Golf/Research Project is the MTGF. At the March MGCSA Board of Directors meeting the decision was made to strongly support the MTGF in the task of administering and coordinating the annual conference and trade show in December of 1996. Any proceeds of the conference would also be handled by the MTGF. MTGF’s top priority is to continue to make the conference grow both qualitatively and quantitatively. This decision was not made overnight but was the culmination of a couple of years of many meetings, volunteer hours and insightful visions. The MTGF conference committee has already made some great logistical improvements for the 1996 conference to include the trade show being open for both the first and second days. The MGCSA has representatives on both the MTGF Board and the Conference Committee.

With the MTGF taking over the running of the Conference and Trade Show, the MGCSA Board of Directors will concentrate and continue to provide the membership with increasing value and services. This year the MGCSA will be offering Legacy Scholarships for children of members in non-turf related studies. The details will be coming out shortly. Also Hole Notes will contain Committee Updates to inform the membership of current programs and future ideas and plans.

If anyone has any questions concerning MGCSA business, please contact any board member or myself and we will get you an answer.

May the spring of 1996 be warm and we will see you at Southern Hills.

— James D. Gardner, CGCS
MGCSA President