A few years back, a fellow named David McNally presented a powerful, inspirational speech during our annual conference. The sum and gist of his message was that we all have an inherent need to contribute our talents to something larger or more grand than our own basic survival needs. This concept explains why we volunteer for service work, join athletic teams or serve as Board members for our association. As most golf course superintendents would agree, the intrinsic value of providing the very best golf course possible — with all the natural beauty and color — is more valuable to us than monetary rewards. In other words, our contribution to making our two hundred or so acres a special place for others to enjoy is what really motivates us.

As members of the MGCSA, we need to thank those people who have, over the years, been inspired by this spirit of contribution enough to serve on our Board of Directors. Obviously they haven't done it for the money... there isn't any. They have served for one reason, and that is to use their talents for the betterment of our association. I would especially like to thank those Board members who are ending their term for their dedication and hard work. It has been a rewarding experience to work with (and learn from) these gifted gentlemen. So, to Charlie Pooch, Dick Grundstrom, Butch Greeninger, John Granholt and Kevin Clunis, good luck and Godspeed.

To round out the discussion on contribution, I must make a plea to all members to consider serving the association by either volunteering for a committee, or by considering running for the Board of Directors. I make this request with the knowledge that the nominating committee for the past year had a list of nearly 20 potential candidates and found only three actually willing to step forward and run. Fortunately, all of these individuals are both qualified and eager to go to work for the association. Please take a moment to look at your own situation, and ask yourself if you would have the time and expertise to aid in the administration of our association. I know that you would find the experience enjoyable and rewarding.

The new board is now up and running like the proverbial herd of turtles. The committee assignments (listed below) have been made, and directives uttered. I have a great deal of respect and admiration for all of the directors and fellow officers, and believe that this will again be a productive and successful year for the MGCSA. If you have questions or concerns about any issue, please contact any one of the board members or our Executive Director, Scott Turtinen.

The following is a list of committee chairs for 1997:

- Arrangements: Dave Sime
- Bylaws/Historical: John Queensland
- Editorial: Rob Panuska
- Education and Conference: Tom Parent and Steve Young
- Environmental: Bob Distel

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Inside This Issue of Hole Notes

1 MTGF Conference and Show
   Reach Record Numbers
   By Scott Turtinen

5 Turf Warriors
   By John Wiley

7 Where Are They Today?
   Clem McCann
   By Jack Kolb

9 Winter Social
   At Welch Village
   By Jeff Backstrom

11 MTGF Putting Green
   And Silent Auction

16 Special Golf Tourney
   At Somerset CC Earns
   $2100 For Scholarships
   By Ralph Turtinen

22 Job Openings

24 1997 MGCSA
   Board of Directors

Departments

3 From Your President's Desk
   By Fred Taylor

16 Membership Report
   By Dave Sime

23 National News
   By GCSAA

26 Editor's Corner
   By Dale Wysocki

Advertisers

Classifieds .......................................................... 18
Cushman Motor Co. .................................................. 14
Duininck Bros. ....................................................... Back Cover
Glenn Rehebn Companies ........................................ 19
Hedberg Aggregates ................................................ 20
Leitner Company ..................................................... 6
MTI Distributing Co. .............................................. Inside Front Cover
MTI Distributing Co. ................................................ 15
North Star Turf ...................................................... Inside Back Cover
Par Ex ................................................................. 20
Paskvan Consulting ................................................... 23
P&H Warehouse ....................................................... 9
Plaisted Companies ................................................. 25
Polhus Implement .................................................... 12
Precision Turf & Chemical, Inc. ................................. 10
Prisco ................................................................. 13
Rohling Green Corp. ............................................... 13
Superior Tech Products .......................................... 17
Turf Supply Co. .................................................... 8
Turf Supply Co. .................................................... 21
Twin City Seed ...................................................... 11
Williams & Gill ..................................................... 24

President's Report—
(Continued from Page 3)

Human Resources ........... Jeff Backstrom
Industrial Relations ........ Leif Erickson
Membership ................. Steve Shumansky
Public Relations ............ Jeff Backstrom
Research ...................... Jim Nicol, CGCS
Scholarship ................ John Queensland

The 1996 version of the MTGF Conference was again
a blockbuster event, with record-breaking attendance and
a superb trade show. The Conference Committee, comprised
of volunteers from all of the allied associations, again proved
that hard work and cooperation can lead to overwhelming
success. MGCSA representatives on the 1996 committee
include Leif Erickson, Pat Walton, Mary Berg, Patty Knaggs
and Jim Nicol. Scott Turtinen again played pivot man, filling
the needs of the various subcommittees and doing the lion's
share of the paper work. Thanks, folks.

Dale Wysocki is editing his final issue of Hole Notes
this month. It was a real act of generosity for Dale to step
in and take the reins for the last few issues of the year.
Thanks, Dale.

See you at Welch Village!

— Fred Taylor
MGCSA President

ATTENTION STODOLA SCRAMBLE
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The remote and instructions to the CD player that was
raffled off at the 1996 Stodola Research Scramble is
at the MGCSA office. Call (612) 473-0557 or toll free
at 1-800-642-7227 and we will send these to you.