



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Plan to Attend MGCSA Events This Year Beginning with the April 25 Spring "Assistants" Mixer at North Links GC

By Robert Panuska

The MGCSA had a great turnout in Orlando for our association social gathering during the GCSAA Conference and Golf Industry Show. Scott Turtinen and I estimated that about 100 people attended the open-air event at Adobe Gila's. A special thank you to Jon Almquist for making the contacts and reservations required well in advance. We shared the facility with our neighbors to the south from Iowa and while there was not a great deal of intermingling, I did have the opportunity to meet the president of the Iowa association. He offered up an idea that I in turn offer to you, the MGCSA membership. He floated the idea of a tri-state (Minnesota, Iowa & Nebraska) golf tournament. I think it would offer us a great opportunity to meet and network with others in our region. No details have been put together at this time. However, if you have a desire to see this happen and would be willing to help organize the event, please contact Scott at the MGCSA office, or Arrangements Chairman Matt McKinnon at the Legacy Courses at Craguns.

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Please take a minute and look over the list of meetings and events for this year and make plans now to attend as many as possible. Added to the "traditional" venue this year is an April mixer dedicated to our assistants. The speaker for this event will be Dr. Janna Beckerman from the University. Dr. Beckerman is an extension pathologist at the University of Minnesota and has a great talent for making a rather technical and sometimes dry subject very interesting and informative. While this event is open to all MGCSA members we would like to see as many assistants attend as possible. Thanks in advance to Eric Peters, North Links Golf Club in Mankato, for hosting this mixer. Eric also wrote an article (*page 22 of this issue*) about his experience in a fire mishap.

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As a follow-up to my comments last month regarding the financial situations of a couple of our member clubs, I would like to ask for input from our membership. Please give some serious thoughts to your own situations and "special" attributes, actions, situations and/or innovative ways you have found successful in your career that have "demonstrated" to the leadership at your facility the value that you bring to your position as Superintendent. It may be great project management that saves thousands of dollars for your club. It could be innovative labor management or fertility management or equipment maintenance. I am looking for very specific ideas that we could share with your fellow Superintendents as well as others such as club managers, greens chairmen, club presidents, golf professionals and members in a brochure type format. I envision that this could be posted on our website, sent to every facility posting a job through the MGCSA as well as provided to our membership to offer thoughts and ideas on how they can convey their value to the people they work for. Please e-mail or send your thoughts and ideas to the MGCSA office. Rest assured all responses will remain totally confidential and we will contact you for permission before using any of your thoughts or ideas.

Until next month,
Rob

HOLE NOTES

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