

'Minnesota Delegation' Makes 'Rewarding' Trip To GCSAA Headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas

By SCOTT AUSTIN, CGCS
Midland Hills Country Club



Have you ever thought about visiting the new GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas to learn "first-hand" about the many services that your national association has to offer? And to visit with those individuals responsible for its successful operation?

This is exactly what a group of Minnesota Superintendents and Associate Members did recently.

The three-day (October 20-22) trip began and concluded with a nine-hour excursion in a 32-foot Winnebago "dream machine," complete with a TV and VCR. The highlights of our trip through Iowa were the sighting of a bull moose and observing Kevin Clunis looking for the "Field of Dreams" during one of our roadside stops.

The "Minnesota Delegation"—which included Scott Austin CGCS, Jeff Backstrom, Kevin Clunis, Stan Kinkead, Paul Mayes, Dan Miller, Monty Montague and Joe Moris—received a "red carpet" hospitality reception by GCSAA Executive Director John Schilling and his impressive staff during their four-hour visit.

The various departments, such as membership, education, marketing, etc., were allotted time to present their guests with

an overview of their responsibilities and to answer specific questions. It was rewarding to hear that self-improvement and continued education still is the main focus of our association as the national membership exceeds 11,000.

Our GCSAA visit concluded with a "nickel tour" of the new, four-story, 40,000-square foot headquarters. This building is very impressive, something of which every member can be extremely proud. It projects our industry with an instant, professional image. Our GCSAA Board should be congratulated for its vision and creativity. The headquarters will be complemented soon with the construction of an 18-hole, championship course. . . immediately out the back door.

The afternoon in Lawrence was occupied with a "friendly" game of golf at one of the three courses at Alvarado Golf & Country Club, where a good time was had by all.

The "Linn" group—Mike Leitner, Leitner Co.; Stan Kinkead, National Mower Co.; Tim Neary, Neary Mfg.; Monty Montague, Turfco Mfg.—deserves a huge round of applause for organizing such a rewarding trip and for their constant support of our association. They are all "top class" individuals.