

# The Joseph S. Garske Legacy Scholarship ... The Story Behind It

By Steve Garske  
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In 1990, my father, Joseph S. Garske, was honored with a MGCSA tournament in his name, The Garske Scramble. This tournament was initiated primarily as a fund raiser for scholarships to turf students with a format that would allow the opportunity for Superintendents to spend a day with key staff on someone else's golf course.

Throughout the year, I will typically have someone refer to the Garske Scramble as MY tournament. It's not, it's yours. My only connection is that I happened to be on the Scholarship Committee the year it was started and I had been offering a scholarship annually in my dad's name.

Joe Garske started Par Aide in 1954, with an idea and a challenge to make a "good" ball washer. He was a foundryman and an avid golfer but he knew nothing about the golf business. In fact, with a patent pending on the Par Aide Ball Washer (not much different from what we call our master Ball Washer today), and strong interest received at his first GCSAA Annual Conference and Show in 1955, he tried to sell the design, tooling etc., to the two accessory companies at that time: Standard Golf and Lewis Line. Turned down by both and the rest, as they say, is history.

In that my father was so much older than I, I never had the opportunity to work with him and, quite frankly, I have had to rely on the memories and stories of our MGCSA senior members to learn what I know about his involvement in the MGCSA.

However, outside of our industry, I do know that while he never felt college was necessary for an individual to be successful in life, he did provide financial assistance to students who wanted the education. Raised as an orphan, with only a 6th grade education, he was always self-conscious of what he thought was his lack of formal schooling. He passed away in 1982 at the age of 76.

I am pleased on behalf of Joe Garske and Par Aide to provide for the first Joseph S. Garske Legacy Award for the 1996-97 school year. This is a very satisfying announcement for me personally. In this day and age, the superintendent's job has become ever more demanding and yet still remains generally unrecognized. It's a labor of love. For many superintendents, providing a college education for their children requires true sacrifice. I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity and ability to not only help those who have helped make Par Aide successful but whom I also consider friends.

I thank each of you for making this possible.

## Legacy Scholarships Awarded

The MGCSA is pleased to announce that two Legacy Scholarships have been awarded for the 1996-97 school year. In accordance with the criteria provided, the Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America has selected Tamara Johnson to receive the Joseph S. Garske Legacy Award and Andrea Rosales Smith to receive a MGCSA Legacy Award.



Tamara Johnson

**Tamara Johnson** is the daughter of Bill and Joanne Johnson. A long time member of the MGCSA, Bill recently retired from Edina Country Club after 30 years of service.

Tamara will be attending the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse with her major field of study being pre-physical therapy. She is a graduate of Robbinsdale Armstrong High School where she was named to the National Honor Society (2 years) and to the Spanish Honor Society (3 years). She was captain of her school's golf team which won the region in 1995 and was Lake Conference runner-up, and earned personal recognition for sportsmanship. Ms. Johnson also found time to dance competitively for many years and to volunteer extensively for the past three years at the Animal Humane Society, a local food shelf and other community organizations.

**Andrea Rosales Smith** is the daughter of Mark and Elsa Smith. Mark has remained a member of the MGCSA since 1972 and was a superintendent in Minnesota for 12 years. He is currently superintendent at The Quarry at La Quinta in La Quinta, Calif.



Andrea Rosales Smith

Andrea will return to Bethel College in St. Paul this Fall for her sophomore year. She is pursuing a major in Spanish and Communication. She graduated from Desert Christian High School (Bermuda Dunes, Calif.) in 1995, having received her school's Principal Award in her senior year. In her first year at Bethel, she played varsity level softball for the college. In addition to her studies and other activities during the upcoming school year, Andrea will also be serving as a Spanish tutor.

Congratulations to two very deserving young women as they continue in their academic pursuits. Best wishes for a wonderful future.