



ON BOARD

Musing the Monthly Minutes

*By Jack MacKenzie, CGCS
North Oaks Golf Club*

Can you say PROGRESS? At the most recent BOD meeting many topics were discussed and addressed. Besides reviewing the status of the MTGF, the purpose of the Noer Foundation and upcoming events, the Board of Directors investigated the opportunities for investment into the TROE Center.

In an effort to encourage matching funds from other golf-related industries and also display to the University of Minnesota the MGCSA's strong support for the TROE Center, the BOD unanimously resolved to contribute \$100,000 to the program. By publishing our aggressive endorsement, it is felt that several other deep-pocketed organizations will take notice and step up to the tee, so to speak! The funding comes from the proactive attitudes of previous BODs who envisioned the need for supporting such a center and created financial vehicles for the development of resources. In my mind there couldn't be a better investment than the TROE Center.

We should all be very excited about our participation in the 2003 Green Expo. This event embraces the whole "Green" industry from cemeteries to garden centers. For those who have never been to the Expo Trade Show, you are in for a treat. It can only be described as bustling! Wall to wall displays of new tools of the trade and plant materials. Our industry is no longer just golf, we must broaden our horizons to include every facet of the business.

And to accomplish this task continuing education is a must. Be assured that there will be opportunities galore for filling your mind with ideas. Heads up, however; if you haven't received pesticide recertification for the 2003 season, you must either take a correspondence course or attend one of two sessions to be scheduled this fall by the MGCSA and the MTGF. As many of you are aware, with the combination of the industries, there will not be a Turf Show in 2002.

John Wiley from the Noer Foundation graced the Board with his presence and discussed the purpose of the foundation as well as thanking the MGCSA for its past support. O.J. Noer raises about \$50,000 annually and contributes between \$30,000 and \$60,000 dollars each year to help sponsor turf-related research projects at a national level. The MGCSA contributed \$1,000 this year.

And the MGCSA itself received a bit of cash as well. The Minneapolis City League donated \$250 dollars and Dave Wilson contributed \$25.00 to the to the research fund. Mark Sullivan added an extra \$15 to his already generous scholarship donation last fall. Thank you to all who have given so generously.

See you at St. Cloud on June 17th.

*— Jack MacKenzie, CGCS
North Oaks Golf Club*



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