



ON BOARD

MUSING THE MONTHLY MINUTES

By Jack MacKenzie, CGCS
North Oaks Golf Club

Holy Bananas! There are some wonderful and exciting things happening at the MGCSA Board of Director meetings. And it is not because I am now on board, but rather the Directors of the association really do complete a lot of business for the members. In fact, I was impressed with the integrity and continuity of topics discussed.

Boards, both present and past, have been working hard to promote and enhance the value of the MGCSA. Did you know that several years ago the association set aside over \$ 100,000 in anticipation of the development of a turf research facility? And how about the "Drive For the U" program? The in-kind fund raising program is evidence that all participants in the turf industry, be they individuals, clubs or business associates, are willing to step up to the plate and prove to the University of Minnesota that we take our turf seriously. To the tune of over \$115,000! I extend a very hearty thanks to all involved who waited so long for the dream to come to fruition and who had the foresight to make it happen.

This adds up to the financial support and interest necessary to make the Turfgrass, Research, Outreach and Education Center a success. The TROE Center was a pipedream until just nine months ago when Dr. Brian Horgan, the new Turfgrass Extension Specialist at the University of Minnesota, came aboard, realized the need, developed a plan and presented it along with the many helping individuals who belong to the Turfgrass Working Group. Way to go folks! Thank you for your efforts.

Just imagine NTEP plots, runoff studies and nutrient and plant protectant evaluations. The list of opportunities goes on to infinity. As do the list of topics discussed by your BOD.

Brought up at the meeting was the cost of recent participation in the Mini-Seminar. While perhaps spendy for clubs with multiple attendees, the BOD didn't think the cost prohibitive. In fact, considering the discount afforded to student members, the risk of poor attendance due to weather, the quality of the meal served and the most excellent of speakers (myself included!), the price really wasn't too bad.

Another issue touched upon was the creation of a "Members Only" page on the MGCSA website. To facilitate the employment opportunities in state, the BOD is reviewing the application of a general password page where only people with the correct information can sign on. An individual password per member was way, way, way too expensive for consideration.

And finally, the concept of a year-end 75th Anniversary Banquet was evaluated. All present were in agreement that a celebration would be nice for the recognition of award winners, scholarship earners and the presentation of distinguished members of our association. The party would be a dress-up affair and include significant others as well as the families of scholarship recipients, special guests and dignitaries. It will be almost as rewarding as putting down your final snow mold application of the season!

Thank you to Jeff Johnson and Rick Fredericksen for the opportunity to work on the Board of Directors and participate in the advancement of the MGCSA.

See you at The Ridges!

--Jack MacKenzie, CGCS

POINTS TO PONDER

The 10 Most-Used Excuses:

- 10.....I forgot
- 9.....No one told me
- 8.....I didn't think it was important
- 7.....That's the way we have always done it
- 6.....There's nothing I can do about it
- 5.....I was waiting for approval
- 4.....It must be stuck in the mail
- 3.....That's not my department
- 2.....My computer was down
- 1.....What memo?

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Profitable Principles

Every problem is an opportunity.
Problems present possibilities

Smile. Be polite. Don't argue.
Don't burn bridges.

Take problems seriously
and yourself lightly.

If you are ultimately going to do
something, do it now or as soon as possible.

The only right way to do anything
is the way that works.

Effort is important, but don't confuse
effort with results.

Efficiency means doing things right.
Effectiveness means doing right things right.

Don't try to do it, just do it.

You get what you expect.
Expect success.

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