

Research Update: FUNDING THE TROE CENTER

By *Scottie Hines, CGCS*
Windsong Farm Golf Club

In the current economic down turn we are all seeing budget cuts. We are being asked to do as much or more with less. We are finding ways to make our operations work more efficiently. Cuts are being felt from our jobs to our homes and everywhere in between.

The MGCSA is a large contributor to the operating budget at the University of Minnesota's TROE Center. The MGCSA contributes approximately \$25,000-\$30,000 each year to fund research and operations at the center. In recent years, we have been putting out more dollars than the research account has been bringing in. Obviously, this is not a sustainable situation.

Our biggest source of research money is the annual MGCSA Turf Tourney. We set two new Turf Tourney records this year: Sold the most times ever and brought in the highest money total to date, \$18,520. The Stodola Research Scramble brings in, on average, \$3,000 for a total of approximately \$21,520.

This is \$3,480 short of our annual contribution to TROE of \$25,000.



As Chair of the MGCSA Research Committee, I have been trying to come up with new ways to generate the funds to bridge that gap. At the last Research Committee meeting we decided to think outside the box a little. The committee made two funding proposals to the Board – Hole-in-One Insurance and Raffle Tickets – and they were approved.

Hole-in-One Insurance

From now on, at all MGCSA golf events, we will be selling Hole-in-One insurance. This is a voluntary program that will work like this: at all golf events you can purchase Hole-in-One insurance for \$5. If you have a hole-in-one, the insurance money will be used to offset your bar tab. If no aces are had at the event the insurance money goes directly to the

Research account. You must buy the insurance to get the pot if you have a hole-in-one. Again, this is a voluntary program.

The money generated may be a drop in the bucket, but every drop helps.

Raffle Tickets

For the first time ever we will be conducting a Gun Raffle to benefit TROE Center research. Tickets will be out soon at all MGCSA events. Ticket prices will be one ticket for \$5 or three for \$10. We will draw the winner at the fall mixer at Minnesota Horse and Hunt Club, assuming we have sold enough tickets. If you are not a gun fanatic you will have the option of \$400 cash. Please note that the winner of the gun must meet all state and federal requirements to take ownership of the firearm. The gun is a Smith and Wesson M&P AR-15 in .223 Remington.

If you would like to purchase tickets, contact me (Scottie Hines) directly at shines@wsfarm.com or 763-479-6524, go to www.mgcsa.org or make a copy below.



MGCSA Gun Raffle for Research

Smith and Wesson M&P AR-15
.223 Remington/5.56 NATO or \$400.00 cash
\$5.00 donation per ticket or 3 for \$10
PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT RESEARCH AT TROE CENTER



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Winning ticket drawn at the MGCSA Fall Mixer, October 17, 2011 at Minnesota Horse and Hunt Club.

Winner need not be present to win.

** Winner MUST meet all local and federal criteria to claim firearm **

MAKE A COPY, COMPLETE FORM AND MAIL TO: MGCSA GUN RAFFLE, P. O. BOX 617, WAYZATA, MN 55391