



# Presidential Perspective

by Roger Stewart, CGCS Superintendent at TPC Twin Cities

**This will be my last President's Message and I want to thank all**

**continue to validate our efforts well into the future. I look forward to serving with Scottie as Past President.**

**of the members of MGCSA for their support during my time on the Board of Directors. The time spent as a Director and Officer of this association has been very rewarding for me, as I have watched and participated in a number of significant changes that continue to have a positive impact on the growth of this association. I thank all those members of the Board of Directors with whom I have served for their service and dedication to our association. In particular, I want to recognize the efforts of Scottie Hines CGCS for his vision and guidance over the past three years both as President and most recently as Past President. As President, and with the support of his ex-officio Paul Diegnau CGCS, Scottie guided the Board of Directors through the most significant period of change in the last twenty years or more when we decided to go in another direction with the management of the association. His vision and foresight are responsible for the framework of success that will**

**At the upcoming Annual Meeting at the Green Expo, you will hear about the many initiatives, successes and accomplishments MGCSA has had over the past year. Together, there are too many to mention here, but I would like to mention four that I feel have had the most impact on our association over the past year. The first is the successful initiation of the Member Driven Research, which will continue to pay dividends for every member well into the future, and enrich our strong relationship with the turf research program at the University of Minnesota. The second is the outreach program, which was developed out of our strategic planning meeting two years ago, and continues to grow our bond with our outstate members making MGCSA truly a state association. The third is our growing relationship with the Wee One Foundation, which has generously supported several MGCSA members and their families as they battle with serious illness. Our commitment to the Wee One event**

here in Minnesota grows every year and I thank those who participate and donate to this very worthy cause. The fourth is the ongoing effort by MGCSA and our allied associations of the MPGA, MGA, CMAA and MWGCOA serving on the Minnesota Golf Environmental Stewardship Committee. This committee has built significant relationships with Minnesota regulatory agencies to develop a Golf Course Environmental Certification program built on established and validated best management practices. Through these relationships, we can provide irrefutable evidence that golf courses are good for the environment and are good stewards of water and natural resources. Stay tuned for more information on this critically important work for our future.

The Board of Directors sets the course each year for our association and works diligently to ensure the agenda is followed and the goals are met. There is one person who carries out the plan and is ultimately responsible for the success of our initiatives and that is our Executive Director, Jack Mackenzie. What Jack has accomplished in the last three years is nothing short of amazing

and he deserves every recognition I can give him. His work on Rounds for Research, the Wee One outing, Environmental Stewardship Committee, Outreach, Member Driven Research, Stimpmeter, Hole Notes, building relationships with regulators, allied associations and legislators is the driving force that helps keep our association moving forward every day. Without his unrelenting energy and dedication to our association, we would fall woefully short of our goals. Please take the time to thank Jack for all he does for MGCSA the next time you see him.

On behalf of your Board of Directors, I am happy to tell you that the MGCSA is a strong association on all fronts. MGCSA is known nationwide as a progressive and proactive association that looks to the future and sees opportunity to build on their founding pillars of Education, Outreach and Advocacy. Because your Board of Directors seeks out the opinions of your Past Presidents every year, I can assure you that I will remain active as your President Emeritus. Members of MGCSA have much to be proud of and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to lead this great association.