



ON BOARD

Musing the Monthly Minutes

By Rick Traver, CGCS, Monticello Country Club

Hello everyone! You voted me in as Secretary and thought that you were done seeing my ugly mug in *Hole Notes*. Well guess what? While as secretary I am responsible for recording the minutes of the monthly meetings, it also appears the Secretary's SOP is changing to include a column. This will include reporting the highlights of the monthly Board Meetings. If you are looking for entertainment value, you may want to look in a different direction. I will, however, try to keep you as informed as possible.

This report is on the January 15th meeting at Woodhill Country Club.

We started out with welcomes from our president Rick Fredrickson, CGCS to our new board members, Brad Zimmerman, Barry Provo, Mike Nelson, Jon Almquist and Mike Kelly. Rick also thanked the exiting members, Dan Swenson, Barry Hines, Mike Brower, Steve Shumansky and Ted Schirck for their service to the association.

The Treasurer's report discussed the finances for the 75th anniversary gala, the meeting at the GCSAA Show, and finished with some discussion of changing the fiscal year of our association to more correctly align the expenses with the revenues. I won't bore you with the details.

The Arrangements Committee reported that all sites have been secured for the 2003 golf meetings. However, we are looking for speakers for the May and October meetings.

To find those sites look at the web site or in upcoming issues of *Hole Notes*.

Business Office reports that memberships are down about 50 from 2001. A number of factors could be involved, such as a weak economy leading to poor club revenues.

There was also approval to change the membership roster from its current form to a small three-ring binder. It was felt that this would ensure that the roster would remain accurate over a longer period of time due to the ease of updates. It will be about a thousand dollars more the first year, but will save thousands per year in postage each year thereafter.

The Conference and Education Committee reported on the MN Green Expo. Most felt the first year of the collaboration between the MNLA & MTGF was a positive experience; however, there is some work to be done, and due to the way the show is billed ie: ala carte, many vendors may alter the way they present in the show.

We discussed the upcoming GCSAA seminars in January and the MGCSA March Mini-Seminar.

Editorial report had new editor Jack MacKenzie, CGCS, with many new ideas for the *Hole Notes*. Some included getting vendors to write topics without allowing them to be too commercial, and a column dealing with personal issues for the members of the MGCSA.

The Environmental, Ex-officio, Human Resources and Industrial Relations committees gave short reports.

The Legislative Committee discussed the new legislation concerning the low voltage technicians' license. It seems the law's intent was to regulate installers, not superintendents; however the wording was such that we were included.

MTGF Committee reported that the \$90,000 model for the MN Turf Expo had been met and while there are some adjustments to make, all were happy with the success of the Turf Expo overall.

They also reported that the candidates for the Horticulture Department head at the U of M were being interviewed in the next month or so.

Dr. Horgan reporting on the U of M also stated that while there were 20 candidates for the position to replace Dr. White, that had been narrowed to four and they were being interviewed in February.

-- Rick Traver, MGCSA Secretary

2003 MGCSA Committee Chairs

ARRANGEMENTS

Brad Zimmerman

BYLAWS/HISTORICAL

Mike Brual

CONFERENCE AND EDUCATION

James Bade / Barry Provo

EDITORIAL

Jack MacKenzie, CGCS

ENVIROMENTAL

Mike Kelly

(Bob Atol)

HUMAN RESOURCES

Barry Provo

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Joe Churchill / Jon Almquist

LEGISLATIVE

Paul Eckholm

(Mike Kelly)

MEMBERSHIP

Mike Nelson

RESEARCH

Rob Panuska

(Mike Brual / Rick Traver)

SCHOLARSHIP

Jack MacKenzie, CGCS

(Mike Nelson / Brad Zimmerman)

WEBSITE

Jack MacKenzie, CGCS

DRIVE FOR THE U

Paul Eckholm

TROE CENTER FUNDING

Greg Hubbard

(Rob Panuska, Paul Eckholm, Joe Moris)

* * *

(Note: Names in italic are MGCSA members helping with the committee.)

TROE FINANCING CONCEPT

"THE HOLE-IN-ONE DAY"

GOAL: To create an annual income stream for the benefit of supplementing the annual cost line item dedicated to the operation of the University of Minnesota's Turfgrass Research Education and Outreach Center.

CONCEPT: Encourage at least 100 golf course superintendents to sponsor a "hole-in-one" event at their respective course one day each summer. Cost to enter the event would be 10 dollars per player. A quick estimate of funds generated would be 10 dollars per 100 players per 100 courses for a gross gain of \$100,000.

PRIZE PACKAGE: Grand prize for hole in one to be valued at \$5,000 (plasm flat screen television set?). Random draw prizes available to all who participate would include a \$2,000 first place value draw prize. Other draw prizes would be dependent upon contributions from the U of M fund raising group, donations from "golf" related vendors (golf clubs, soft goods) and perhaps contributions from resort courses. Participation prizes would include a free ball to be donated or subsidized by Syngenta Company, a "TROE" Center ball mark and an MGCSA ball mark repair tool if the player hits and holds the green. Potential cost for this event would probably not exceed \$20,000. This assumes that the MGCSA and TROE Center would self insure the contest.

NET GAIN POTENTIAL: \$100,000 - \$20,000 = \$80,000

BENEFITS: Generate immediate interest in the TROE Center and the U of M Turf Management Program. Provide an opportunity for the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent to schmooze with their cliental. Embrace the golfers in an ongoing turf grass research program (in future years the promotional pamphlet would include project results and industry gains). Showcase the relationship between the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association and the University of Minnesota's TROE Center program.

PLAYING OUT THE CONCEPT: Selecting one busy day during the third week of June, each volunteer course would choose a par three hole with a minimum length of 180 yards to be used as the "event" hole. For the whole day, the superintendent, assistant or both would station themselves at the hole to solicit participants. Informational brochures would be provided by the University of Minnesota to describe the attributes of the TROE Center and its relationship to golf courses. After contributing a tax deductible amount of \$10 to the MGCSA and filling out a draw prize form, the participant would have one shot, preferably a Syngenta donated golf ball, to get a "hole in one". If they land upon the green, they would be supplied with a ball mark repair tool courtesy of the MGCSA to fix their ball mark. If they miss the green, they walk away with a new golf ball. And if they make a hole in one, they will win a Plasma T.V. set. Everyone will be entered into the draw prize contest to be selected the first week of July. Winners would be notified shortly after that.

WHERE DID THIS IDEA COME FROM? Todd Locke from Syngenta proposed the concept after participating in a similar event in Las Vegas. Also, the University of Minnesota was able to generate funds last year when promoting the U of M Golf Team budget crisis. And finally, it is pretty typical for assistant golf pros to operate at least one of these events annually. Now is our turn.

Imagine the opportunity to visit one-on-one with your players, every player, at least once in the season. What a great chance to promote your management practices, not to mention the prospect of embracing the new advancements in turf science to be achieved at the TROE Center. Advancements totally applicable to Minnesota golf and golf courses. And wouldn't it be exciting if one of your players nailed a hole in one while you were there to see it. Of course you would take all the credit because it is on your perfectly maintained green!

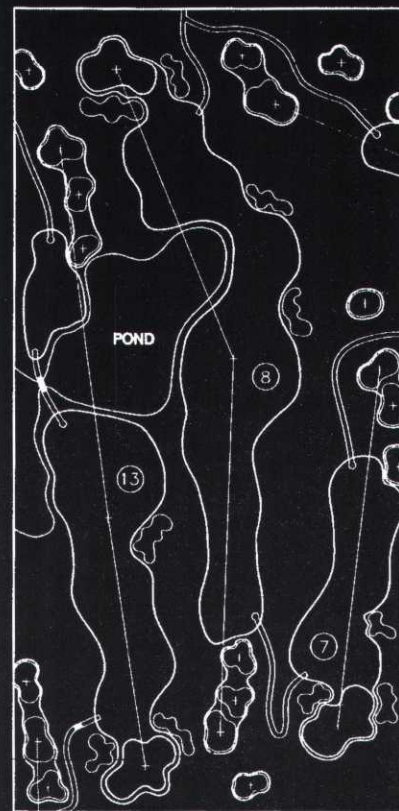
The annually generated funds would supplement the operational costs associated with the day to day management of the TROE Center. Expenses such as the employment of a full time turf manager capable of maintaining the 16 acre center as well as help conduct experiments. Building operation costs, and electricity, irrigation and ground maintenance expenditures would also be funded by the hole in one event.

PLEASE THINK ABOUT AND PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS EVENT! Further information will be made available soon as the plans come together.

Thank you for your consideration and enthusiasm as we continue to embrace Dr Brian Horgan and the continued improvements at the TROE Center.

Yours truly,
MGCSA Board of Directors

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SYNERGY

Combined Green Expo Excels!

By JAMES BADE

Conference and Education Chairman

"Strength in numbers", is an old saying and was a real truism at the Minnesota Green Expo. The MTGF had a good show in December and the MNLA had a good show in January. Both offered educational opportunities and vender exposure. Combining them seemed like a natural fit to pool resources and have one big conference for the benefit of the Green Industry.

Paul Olson formerly with Lebanon Fertilizer and currently with Fosters Inc. commented, "Ten years ago when I sold to the turf community I saw lots of blue jeans and seed caps. My how things have changed. Today many have sport jackets on and that is very professional, very impressive. The MGCSA adds considerably to the Green Expo. It is good to see so many familiar faces."

The goal was an attention grabbing conference with a win-win objective for both the vender and the attendee. With a continued combined show, there will be an increase in educational opportunities and thus bring in more new faces to the trade show floor. This will keep the MGCSA on the cutting edge of industry technology.

"I made it to the turf show for several years and I was very, very impressed with the trade show. Lots to see and do." said Justin Gustafson, Superintendent at Ely Golf Club. "The show was HUGE!"

For those of you who tank mix for a synergistic effect, you understand the reasoning behind the new Big Show. The first combined conference was a learning experience and will only get better with time.



MIKE KELLY, Glenn Rehbein Companies, offers a donation to Brian Horgan and the University of Minnesota.



HAVING A GOOD TIME AT THE GREEN EXPO are, from left to right, Leif Erickson, Tom Johnson, George Norman and Joe Moris.



STEVE GARSKE AND DAN BROWN conversing at the Par Aide Products booth at the Green Expo in January.

MGCSA Announces New Board at Annual Meeting

Rick Fredericksen, CGCS, golf course superintendent at Woodhill Country Club in Wayzata, MN, has been re-elected president of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association.

Fredericksen, who was president in 1992 and 2002, was elected at the association's 75th Annual Business Meeting on January 9 in Minneapolis.

Other officers elected were Richard Traver, CGCS, Montecello Country Club, Secretary. Robert Panuska, Waseca Lakeside Club, Waseca, remains as Vice-President. Mike Brual, Faribault Golf & Country Club, Faribault, remains Treasurer. E. Paul Eckholm, CGCS, Heritage Links golf Club, Lakeville, remains on the Board as an ex-officio member.

New directors elected were: Mike Kelly, Edina Country Club, Edina; Mike Nelson, Dacotah Ridge Golf Club, Morton; Barry Provo, Deer Run Golf Club, Victoria; Brad Zimmerman, Boulder Point Golf Course, Elko. The new vendor representative is Jon Almquist, MTI Distributing Co, Brooklyn Center. Remaining on the Board are James Bade, Somerset Country Club, Mendota Heights; Joe Churchill, Simplot Partners, Roseville; Greg Hubbard, CGCS, Manitou Ridge Golf Course; Jack Mackenzie, CGCS, North Oaks Golf Club.

The MGCSA wishes to thank Michael Brower, Minnesota Valley Country Club, Bloomington; Barry Hines Wild Ridge & Mill Run Golf Courses; Ted Schirck, Hydrologic, Plymouth; Steve Shumansky, Perham Lakeside CC; Dan Swenson, for their time and effort on the Board.

The MGCSA handed out its Watson Award at the Annual Meeting to Jack Mackenzie, CGCS, for his insightful articles the past year.

This year we had 10 members of our association to honor for the dedication they have shown to the profession. Jim Lindblad, 40 years; Ron Bloom 35 years; Steve Young, Dennis Hendrickson, Johnny Helget, Ron Steffenhagen, 30 years; Maurice Anderson, Fred Taylor, CGCS, Mike Kasner, and Doug Hausman 25 years.



THE MGCSA BOOTH AT THE GREEN EXPO was a popular spot for members to stop by and visit. Pictured in the booth is MGCSA Executive Director Scott Turtinen.



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DRIVE FOR THE "U" PROGRAM

The Drive for the U is a program designed for in-kind donations to the University of Minnesota Turfgrass Research Center. All donations are tax deductible and will help to build the research center into a top notch facility. Contact: Paul Eckholm, CGCS, Heritage Links Golf Club. peckholm@msn.com

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E-Z-Go Golf Cars	Workhorse	\$3,500
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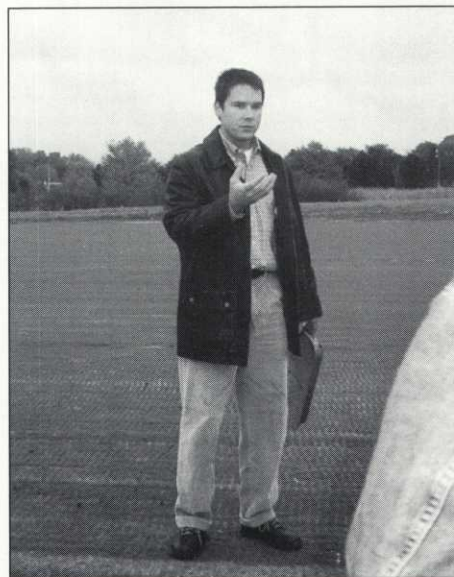
Join Us On-line at www.turf.umn.edu And Talk Turf With Other Industry Professionals

Have you been utilizing Turf Talk? This University of Minnesota interactive website services all facets of the turfgrass industry. This website serves as the focal point for the turfgrass science program at the University of Minnesota and is equipped with an interactive message board called "Turf Talk in Minnesota".

This message board will be moderated by Dr. Brian Horgan's research and extension program and will encourage discussion on current topics facing the industry.

"Recognizing that it will not be possible to answer every question from industry representatives, I developed 'Turf Talk in Minnesota' which will provide a forum for turfgrass managers to answer each others questions. Hopefully this will enable turfgrass managers with relevant information to help create a more educated practitioner", said Dr. Horgan.

Other general information on faculty members that participate in turfgrass management; links to important University websites, regional turfgrass programs, and regional and national associations; research projects completed and presented at the 2001 Minnesota Turf and Grounds Foundation Field Day; University requirements for undergraduate and graduate education within the department of Horticultural Sciences; provides resources for homeowners; and a calendar of events can all be found on the new University of Minnesota turfgrass website.



Dr. Brian Horgan
on the new green at TROE Center

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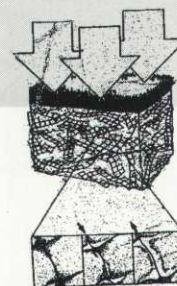
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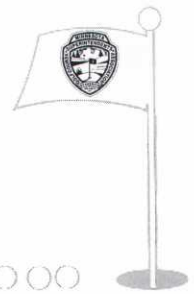
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IT'S IN THE HOLE



Congratulations go out to **Dick Grundstrom** on his recent retirement. Dick has been an active member of the MGCSA for over 35 years and was the Superintendent at Indian Hills Golf Club for over two decades. Also on the move with relation to this club is the promotion of **James Gardner, CGCS**, former Superintendent at The Wilds Golf Club. He is now going to be Director Of Grounds at both Indian Hills and The Wilds. The new superintendents are to be Charlie Schultz at Indian Hills and Wes Stoneback at The Wilds Golf Club. Good luck in your new positions!

* * * * *

Also retiring is **John Nylund**, Superintendent from Braemar Golf Course. Joining him in retirement is his mechanic **Don Klingelhoets**. Combined, these two professionals have contributed over 65 years to Braemar Golf Course. **Thomas Swenson** will be taking over as the new Superintendent.

* * * * *

Jim Nicol, CGCS is pleased to announce a major management change at Hazeltine National Golf Club. **Mark Storby**, Jim's former Assistant, is moving onto the esteemed position of Superintendent at Oneida Golf and Country Club in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Replacing him as Assistant at Hazeltine National will be **Joseph Maloney**. And moving into the foreman position will be **Steve Geisen**. Jim is excited about Mark's opportunity, but will miss his nine years of experience at Hazeltine National.

* * * * *

Another new Packer fan will be **Jeff Gajdostik**. He is moving from the Assistant Superintendent's position at Stillwater Country Club to the Amery Golf Club in Amery Wisconsin. Go Vikings!

* * * * *

A warm Minnesota welcome goes out to **David Von Schmittou**, the new Superintendent at Baker National Golf Course. David hails from Fort Walton Beach, Florida where he was Superintendent for four years. Tagging along with David to the "great up Nort" is his wife Tawnya, and children Dixie Anna, Scarlet, Griff and Peter. Good luck Gang!

* * * * *

Some folks just know the right people! Kudos are in order for **Michael Brual**, Superintendent of the Faribault Golf and Country Club, **Norma O' Leary CGCS**, Superintendent at Silver Bay Golf Club and

Jack MacKenzie, CGCS, Superintendent at North Oaks Golf Club for their recent nominations as Superintendent News' Superintendent of the Year Award. Extra congratulations go to Norma for making it to the finals.

* * * * *

Mike Klatte, CGCS, received a 25-year certification award at GCSAA in Atlanta. He was certified in 1977 and was one of twelve nationally to receive this award.

* * * * *

Northway Irrigation, an 18-year-old residential-commercial irrigation contractor is expanding into the golf irrigation market. **Bob Reihe**, who has over 30 years of golf irrigation experience in sales, design and installation and will manage this new golf irrigation venture. Bob may be reached at 763-786-4379.

* * * * *

Turf Bowl results: A total of 71 teams were represented from many universities and colleges. Team 1 (**Grant Blumrich, Mike Bratvold, Andrew Carlson, Neil Roberts**) placed 18th which was just 9 points from the being in the top 10. Team 2 (**Matt Smith, Justin Funk, Kyle Fick, Jeff Reich**) placed 23rd. Team 3 (**Sam Bauer & Aaron Karn**) placed 28th. Team 4 (**Tony Dutchin, Gabe Klaassen, Justin Ellison, Corinne Radatz**) placed 54th.

* * * * *

Thank you to the **Simplot Partners Management Team** for helping compile information for this article.



SUPERINTENDENTS TIE SERIES AGAINST THE PROS by beating the golfers at the Blaine Super Rinks on February 19th. This event was sponsored by MGCSA affiliate members Brad Smith and Dave Krupp from Precision Turf and Chemical, Inc.

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In Play

By Jack MacKenzie, Jr., CGCS
North Oaks Golf Club

The other day I had a massage. A deep muscle massage to ease some minor aches and pains I had developed from too much time at the desk and not enough time on the course. Well, it is that time of year you know! Before you folks start calling me a "femboy", let me explain my thought process behind the buff and puff.

For over two months I have been suffering from what I thought was a sciatic pinch pain from my right rump cheek down my right leg to my ankle. Having suffered from lower back pain previously, I thought a couple of chiropractic adjustments would take care of the problem. Imagine my surprise when I was told my back was in good shape and that my problem was a bit lower. In my gluteus maximus to be exact.

Forced to think outside the box, I paid a visit to my new massage therapist. Please picture Fred Flinstone's mother-in-law, or maybe not. After two sessions, a pamphlet on butt stretches, instructions on nutritional improvements and moving my wallet from my right pocket to my left, I am doing well. In fact the only pain in my a** is a year old golden retriever named Nugget. But that is another story.

The moral to this tale is "Think Outside The Box." Massage therapist? Not for me until recently. A same old same old *Hole Notes*? Well not for you any longer. This publication will be "outside the box" from now on.

As a readership and advertising base you are entitled to quality articles on a timely basis. A well-written publication will be well read and thus improve advertising potential. Timely information will be saved and referenced for future use. Member written articles and affiliate background stories will inspire thoughtfulness, debate and future articles. University studies and regulatory notification will be disseminated along with relevant MGCSA and GCSAA Board information.

Future periodicals will be topical. Each month the bulk of the content will be based upon one theme. For example, April's *Hole Notes* will be dedicated to Summer Diseases. Already, several associate and member articles have been committed to this issue. Other issue will focus upon the TROE Center, Irrigation and Drainage, Superintendent Idea's and Construction.

You have all heard the phrase "garbage in, garbage out." This will not apply to our magazine. Together we will produce articles of interest, generate new ideas and share pertinent information. Notice the word OUR? Besides searching for and reproducing web-generated information, I expect some help from you to develop an educational base.

Who else has a feel for the pulse of the industry?

Hole Notes is your magazine. Don't be surprised if I approach you and solicit an article about your particular situation. And affiliate members, if you see something happening that needs publication, it is in your best interest to let me know. Here again, you want your advertising seen. Only by generating an interesting magazine will we embrace a captivated audience.

As I have said before, I am not a clairvoyant! (My former wife knows all about that!) I need help with getting information to paper and then onto press. Any ideas will be evaluated. In fact, even a fun column called "It's In The Hole" has been developed to notify our members about the lighter side of life. Wedding announcements, births, promotions and anniversaries are important. Let's get the word out. And send those photographs! How about pics of the curling tourney or the record fish caught while away from the course. These items will only strengthen the publication!

And speaking of pictures, it is my dream to someday go color throughout and produce a publication worthy of the coffee table in your clubhouse lounge. Impossible? Not hardly. Just imagine the impact this magazine could have on your image.

Our association is only as good as our image. I feel strongly that by promoting our image through the publication of a quality, member-created magazine we can heighten our professionalism to never before achieved limits.

Well, it is high time I get off my butt and do some more stretches. Together, let's think outside the box. Join me in taking this educational and promotional tool to the next level. If you have any concepts, stories or fun facts to share and trade, then drop me a note at jmackenzie426@msn.com



JANE MACKENZIE, president of the Fairway Foundation, accepts a donation from MGCSA president Rick Fredericksen, CGCS. Pictured on the right is Fairway Foundation officer manager Jane DiMenna.