

It's in the Hole

BASF Rewards MGCSA Member Paul Wohlert with \$1,000 Worth of Insignia®

BASF Corporation recently announced that Paul Wohlert, assistant golf course superintendent at Monticello Country Club in Monticello, Minn., is a BASF Solutions Challenge prize winner from the Golf Industry Show held in Orlando, Fla., in February. Wohlert is one of 17 Solutions Challenge prize winners and will receive \$1,000 worth of Insignia® fungicide for use on his golf course.

"I haven't used Insignia before and am excited to try it on the course later this spring and in the heat of the summer," Wohlert said.

Lohman Redeems Accolades® Points, Donates Proceeds to the MGCSA

Guy Lohman, Voyager Village & Country Club, generously donated \$35 to the MGCSA through the Accolades® rewards program and Bayer

Environmental Science. Lohman redeemed his Accolades points in order to make this donation. More information about the Accolades program can be found at accoladesrewards.com.

Mark Stennes Joins S & S Tree And Horticultural Specialists

Mark Stennes, a leading authority on managing Dutch elm disease, has joined the staff at S & S Tree and Horticultural Specialists as the Director of Plant Pathology. His main duties will be expanding the company's tree and turf care divisions.

Stennes has received numerous industry awards for his innovative approaches on dealing with tree health issues. He is viewed by the tree care industry, locally and nationally, as a top expert on Dutch elm disease and oak wilt.

Stennes pioneered and deciphered the use of fungicides in preventing the spread of Dutch elm disease. His research led to

the high label specifications for two of the most commonly used fungicides in the industry, Arbotect 20-S and Alamo. Stennes has been involved in the tree care industry for over 25 years. He is a graduate of the University of Minnesota with a Masters Degree in Plant Pathology and a Bachelors Degree in Forest Science.

19th Annual MGCSA Turfgrass Research Benefit Week Set June 6-10

Money generated from the MGCSA Turfgrass Research Benefit Week goes into the MGCSA Research Fund. Over the years this money has funded many timely research projects which directly benefits all golf courses. This Research Fund also insures that state specific problems are researched and the Research Trust Fund that continues to grow will guarantee continued dollars into the future.

Nineteen area golf clubs are participating in this year's event. For more information, visit www.mgcsa.org.

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YOUR RIGHTS UNDER USERRA

THE UNIFORMED SERVICES EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ACT

USERRA protects the job rights of individuals who voluntarily or involuntarily leave employment positions to undertake military service. USERRA also prohibits employers from discriminating against past and present members of the uniformed services, and applicants to the uniformed services.

REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

You have the right to be reemployed in your civilian job if you leave that job to perform service in the uniformed service and:

- ☆ you ensure that your employer receives advance written or verbal notice of your service;
- ☆ you have five years or less of cumulative service in the uniformed services while with that particular employer;
- ☆ you return to work or apply for reemployment in a timely manner after conclusion of service; and
- ☆ you have not been separated from service with a disqualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions.

If you are eligible to be reemployed, you must be restored to the job and benefits you would have attained if you had not been absent due to military service or, in some cases, a comparable job.

RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION

If you:

- ☆ are a past or present member of the uniformed service;
- ☆ have applied for membership in the uniformed service; or
- ☆ are obligated to serve in the uniformed service;

then an employer may not deny you any of the following because of this status:

- ☆ initial employment;
- ☆ reemployment;
- ☆ retention in employment;
- ☆ promotion; or
- ☆ any benefit of employment.

In addition, an employer may not retaliate against anyone assisting in the enforcement of USERRA rights, including testifying or making a statement in connection with a proceeding under USERRA, even if that person has no service connection.

HEALTH INSURANCE PROTECTION

- ☆ If you leave your job to perform military service, you have the right to elect to continue your existing employer-based health plan coverage for you and your dependents for up to 24 months while in the military.
- ☆ Even if you don't elect to continue coverage during your military service, you have the right to be reinstated in your employer's health plan when you are reemployed, generally without any waiting periods or exclusions (e.g., pre-existing condition exclusions) except for service-connected illnesses or injuries.

ENFORCEMENT

- ☆ The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS) is authorized to investigate and resolve complaints of USERRA violations.
- ☆ For assistance in filing a complaint, or for any other information on USERRA, contact VETS at **1-866-4-USA-DOL** or visit its **website at <http://www.dol.gov/vets>**. An interactive online USERRA Advisor can be viewed at <http://www.dol.gov/elaws/userra.htm>.
- ☆ If you file a complaint with VETS and VETS is unable to resolve it, you may request that your case be referred to the Department of Justice or the Office of Special Counsel, depending on the employer, for representation.
- ☆ You may also bypass the VETS process and bring a civil action against an employer for violations of USERRA.

The rights listed here may vary depending on the circumstances. This notice was prepared by VETS, and may be viewed on the internet at this address: <http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra/poster.pdf>. Federal law requires employers to notify employees of their rights under USERRA, and employers may meet this requirement by displaying this notice where they customarily place notices for employees.



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Publication Date—February 2005

Biting Flies

By JOE KEHN

Superintendent/Owner
Windy Hills Golf Course, Easton, NY

By 2001 the biting flies on our course were so bad that we had seriously discussed selling the course that took us five years to build. The flies not only were driving our staff crazy but, worst of all, were affecting our golfers, resulting in fewer rounds and lost revenue.

We solved the problem and wrote about the solution in the January 2003 issue of *Golf Course Management*. Since then I have received many "how's-it-going" inquiries and felt that an update four years later would be helpful to those with a similar problem and for those who might have missed the original article.

Our course, Windy Hills Golf Club, in Easton, N.Y. is surrounded by many natural wet areas along the Battenkill River. It so happens that wet areas are the kind of breeding grounds that his family of flies seeks. Although our particular problem

was deer flies, other members of this family of biting flies are the horsefly and yellow fly. My initial investigation of how to address our fly problem was discouraging. Because insecticides are ineffective, many of the entomology web sites (and fellow superintendents) said that there was no solution to the problem. You just had to wait the season out. This turned out not to be true.

Fortunately, in 2001 we found a trap on the web that effectively trapped biting flies and purchased six of them. We placed the traps where flies were most numerous and out of the way of the golfers. That first year we estimated we trapped between 600 to 700 flies each day. It is dramatic to see the many dead flies in the trap, but the real biological significance is that none of those dead flies will be laying eggs for the coming season.

That first year we reduced our deer fly problem by about 75%. It reduced our number one complaint to a tolerable problem. The increase in green fees that first season quickly paid off the expense of the traps. The traps have required virtually no maintenance and with proper winter storage will be in good shape after five seasons.



Subsequent seasons have seen a steady reduction in the number of biting flies to the point where they are no longer a significant issue for our customers or staff. Continuing to use the traps each year has allowed us to keep the fly problem from recurring. Last year the traps continued to catch biting flies, although at a reduced rate given the lower number of flies that appear each year. After five years we remain very pleased with our solution.

(Editor's Note: Go to www.bitingflies.com or call 1-888-685-2244 for more information.)

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In Bounds

By JACK MACKENZIE, CGCS
North Oaks Golf Club

"If you always do what you have always done, you will always get what you always got," quoted a man I greatly respect. It is interesting how this simple 17-word sentence can provoke an introspective search for answers to recurring problems.

Two issues I have had in recent years are sinusitis and spring damage to my greens. Directly related you ask? No not at all, but by applying the "If you always do..." concept I was better able to successfully address my dilemmas and in the process open my mind to new ideas, and the opportunities from embracing a professional peer group for answers and suggestions.

Sinusitis can be a real pain. What I once attributed to a bad hangover I can now say is really an infection in my upper respiratory system that at times feels as though someone smacked me between the eyes with a baseball bat. The symptoms

typically occurred at least three times per month and caused me to be very irritable, unfocused and fatigued. None of which was pleasant for me,

my associates and especially my family.

Over the counter drugs touted for the relief of sinusitis did cut the edge off of my pounding headache, but the thought of taking drugs regularly made me feel uncomfortable. Much discussion with my dear wife led me to try an old ancient remedy, the Neti, also called the Jananeti, Pot.

This device, shaped like a small teapot, is filled with warm salt water and used to irrigate the nasal passageways. In one nostril and out the other! YUCK! Or so it sounds, but talk about instant satisfaction. After my first treatment I could feel an immediate loosening of something, only God knows what, all the way up to my eardrums. Repeated treatments only improved my head health. And after several weeks of cleansing my sinuses I have eliminated the use of over the counter drugs, improved my breathing and have only had one short-lived headache.

By opening up my mind and doing something untested by me, yet tried and true by others, I was able to broaden my horizons and improve my well-being. In a different yet similar vein of thought I tried something else new this spring.

Actually the recovery process wasn't terribly novel, but my process of achieving the desired end took a twist. For the past several years I had addressed my limited putting surface damage with gardeners, seed, top dressing and maybe the application of a remnant cover but only after green up and

always with an attitude that with time will come recovery. I never contacted anyone and just went with what had worked in the past. But 2005 held a surprise of damage beyond anything I had ever experienced or had witnessed before.

For the first time in my career I really opened up my attitude toward asking for help. Sure I have my close peer group whom I can bounce ideas off of, but the green restoration program my staff and I were embarking upon was of huge proportions. I needed help. Looking outside the box I sought professional guidance from my peers who had at one time been in a similar position.

History indicated that my best resources would be those injured last year by the use of non-insulated and water impervious plastic covers. It is suspected that water condensation underneath the plastic covers had actually created a crown hydration situation not unlike what my course had experienced this past February. I also spoke with those who had suffered minor winter damage in recent years and had some sage advice to offer.

Again, I needed help. And for once wasn't going to do what I had always done because the magnitude of the end results were critical. I needed experts, so I picked up the phone and gave them a call.

Michael Brower, Superintendent at Minnesota Valley Country Club, told me to get started sooner rather than later. "Don't wait; get on the program right away. Keep play limited until your plants are mature. And don't be in a hurry to get onto the new surfaces."

Another experienced Superintendent, Dale Caldwell, CGCS, from Minneapolis Golf Club, indicated not to be shy with the seed, fire up the irrigation early and keep the establishing turf wet, wet, wet. Do not allow it to dry out.

Rolling Green's Superintendent Drew Larsen expressed thankfulness for the spring recovery green covers he was loaned from other local Supers last year. "Get 'em down (the covers) as soon as possible, keep the greens covered and don't be in a hurry to open them for play," were his words of wisdom.

And perhaps the best information was gleaned from Jeff Johnson, Superintendent at The Minikahda Club, regarding green restoration. Jeff shared the importance of monitoring the temperatures beneath the recovery covers as the warmth can soar under the blanket this time of year, thus damaging the tender

(Continued on Page 35)

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In Bounds—

(Continued from Page 34)

plants and increasing the disease pressure. He also warned me of being too free with the top dressing sand. And finally, like the others, he suggested that I wait as long as possible before opening them to play and once I do, keep the turf long and healthy, gradually bringing the height of cut down and speed up.

Alone, none of these suggestions was earth shattering and taken in total they reflect basic common agronomic sense. However, as a turf professional facing a daunting task, I needed and relished the suggestions of peers who had experienced what I was about to undertake. The empathy, support and encouragement afforded me the energy I needed to sell my final plan to my BOD and implement the program in a timely basis.

By not doing what I had always done and getting what I had always got, I achieved some impressive results. Utilizing the support system inherent within our professional organization I did not go it alone. Thanks guys for your insights. I really appreciated them.

So, today the sun is shining, my grass is growing well and I can finally smell the lilacs, courtesy of my new Neti Pot. I am comforted knowing there are resources available at my fingertips when I need them. All I have to do is take a different approach to a standard procedure and open myself to a world of diverse, better possibilities.

Audubon International Update

As a part of Audubon International's ongoing Golf and Environment efforts -- from our Fifty in Five goal to improved service and environmental education throughout the industry -- we offer an update on our current activities.

Audubon International continues to see upward movement in ACSP and Signature Program membership numbers, with growth in both areas. Perhaps more importantly, a significant number of members are working towards certification. Over half of all current golf members have begun the certification process and almost 25% have been designated as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary.

MGCSA support will help us reach our ambitious "Fifty in Five" goal of having 50% of all golf courses in the United States enrolled and active in our environmental programs by the end of 2007.

Audubon International works with golf courses of all sizes, expectations, and budgets. From a nine-hole course located on a mere 4 acres to the expansive courses, we are helping courses to reduce risk, save money, protect water quality, conserve water and enhance wildlife habitat.

Our ongoing collaboration with GCSAA and the Environmental Institute for Golf (EIFG) continues, with President & CEO, Ron Dodson, serving on the Environmental Programs committee and Program Manager Joellen Zeh, serving on the Wildlife and Habitat Management Task Group of the EIFG.

(Editor's Note: You can reach Audubon International at 518/767-9051).

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SipCam - Post Patent Fungicides

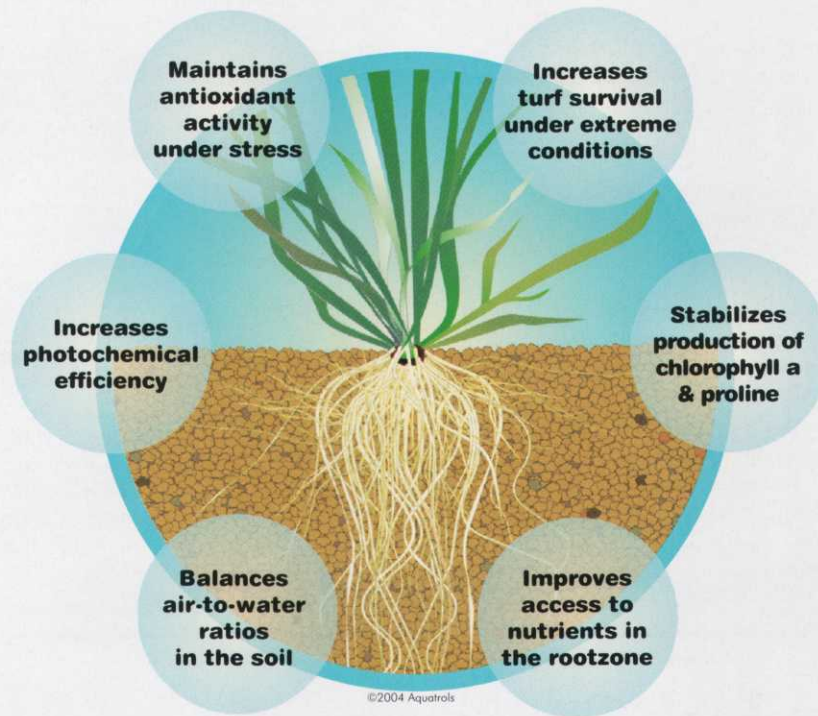
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Musing the Minutes

By **SCOTT TURTIMEN**
Executive Director

The April 25 Board Meeting was called to order 8:00 a.m. at North Links Golf Course. Board members attending included Rob Panuska, James Bade, Paul Eckholm, CGCS, Brad Zimmerman, David Oberle, Paul Diegnau, CGCS, Eric Peters, James Gardner, CGCS, Rick Fredericksen, CGCS and Scott Turtinen.

Dues continually arrive at the MGCSA office. The association will have no problem meeting budget. Expenses also are running as budgeted.

Rob Panuska reported that the Turfgrass Forum, co-sponsored by the Minnesota Golf Association, will take place on May 6 at Midland Hills Country Club in St. Paul.

The University of Minnesota is enrolling the MGCSA into the U of M Trustee Society. A certificate will be presented at the upcoming Research Scramble.

Nineteen clubs are participating in the 19th Annual MGCSA Turfgrass Research Benefit Week held June 6-10.

The new Membership Roster will be mailed to the membership in late May.

The regular membership stands at 622 as of this printing -- 76 members from 2004 have not paid dues for this year. The Affiliate membership totals 151 -- 15 affiliates from 2004 have not yet paid 2005 dues.

The current bylaw changes were handed out and will be available for vote at the 2006 Annual Meeting is set for Thursday, January 7 at 1:00 p.m. The Past Presidents Luncheon will be held at 11:00 a.m.

Candidates for 2006 directorships are Scottie Hines, Tom Proshok, Jeff Vinkemeier and Tom Meier. A notice will go in *Hole Notes* asking if any other members would also like to serve on the Board of Directors of the MGCSA.

James Gardner, CGCS would like the MGCSA to produce a booklet that would include contacts, phone numbers and e-mails for human resource items.

A bill is sitting in committee about reporting of application of pesticides. Another bill states the non-reporting of applying pesticides. First bill began with the farmers reporting. If they do everyone would have to. Both bills are currently in committee.

Fore Golf Show now has a MGCSA banner ad on its website at www.foreminnesota.com.

A Research Committee meeting was held on April 8.

Horgan gave an update on the U of M. The University wants to combine some colleges together. The University is talking about this but nothing is official. The endowment fund is spendable money. It is earning more interest than the stocks and money market it use to be in. Horgan controls the fund and Bev Derkin signs off on any projects. Guarantee is 5% interest.

Dr. Brian Horgan received 60 responses about his survey on turf damage. Horgan would like to get clubs to help with field research. Clubs would send in weather data for the time period that a disease came up. Horgan would compile it. Horgan hired a research assistant for the maintenance of the turf plots.

Do You Check Your E-mails on A Regular Basis?

*MGCSA e-mails continually
come back to the MGCSA office
due to a "full mailbox."*

*It is best to file or delete e-mails
on a regular basis to allow new
e-mails to enter your computer.*

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CLASSIFIED ADS

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1996 Toro Greens Aerator with some repair parts. Good condition. \$3,500
1998 Toro Greens Aerator with some repair parts. Good condition. \$3,500

Contact: Jared Finch
Giants Ridge
218-865-3022

Posted April 20
FOR SALE

1995 Terra Briggs Broom Set
5 hp Briggs Engine
in excellent condition
\$1,500 or best offer
Contact: Mike Hansen
River Falls Golf Course
715-425-2838

Posted April 20
FOR SALE

5 LTC Irrigation Clocks
- 16 stations per clock.
Contact: Terry Negen
The Crossings Golf Club
320-226-2887

Posted April 19
FOR SALE

Two Toro Network LTC satellites
16 Stations
Make Offer
Contact: Joe Otto
Red Wing Golf Club
651-388-9524 Ext.129

Posted April 13
WANTED

Used set of Verticut Heads
Contact: Bruce Leivermann
Montgomery Golf Club
507-364-5602

Posted April 5
FOR SALE

5 hp Briggs & Stratton
pull-behind Sprayer
with 100-gallon tank and 200 ft. hose.
New/seldom used: \$2,000
Contact: Julie
Wayzata Country Club
952-473-6955

Posted March 17
FOR SALE

1999 Jacobsen GK IV greens mower
with 2,142 Hrs. Excellent cond. -- \$2,500
12 Toro Veritime mechanical clocks.
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Contact: Kevin Rue
218-847-8070

Posted March 17
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750E, 12 - 2" elec. Valves,
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w/lids, 4" flow meter, 9 garbage baskets,
9 benches. 1979 - GM 3 runs good
- Valve bank needs some work
1981 - GM 3 runs good
3 - 8 blade reels ground & ready to cut
Call for pricing

Contact: Lynn Richert
Angushire Golf Course
320-252-9208

Posted March 10
FOR SALE

223D Toro Fairway Mower 1992,
4-wheel drive
8-blade reels sharpened,
4,445 hours -- \$2,500
Contact: Barry Provo
Deer Run Golf Club
612-518-2435

Posted February 28
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'03- Honda Foreman S ATV (LOW
Hours/ Brand New) \$4000
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Great Shape

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with bucket and bottom scraper
3,521 hrs. \$25,000 o/bo 2002
Navy Blue Chevrolet 2500HD;
63K miles; great shape,
4DR 4x4 with Linex bed liner.

Contact: Jeff Reich
First Tee of Blaine
651-260-6250

Posted February 25
FOR SALE

1997 National 68" deluxe trim
mower, price \$800 or obo.
1984 Jacobsen walking greens
mower, price \$500 or obo.
Contact: Bill Brooks
Rose Lake Golf Club
507-235-3981

Posted February 21
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1990 Greensaire 24, very
good condition \$1700
1998 ABB V.F. Drive, 480v 3-phase
for 60hp motor \$1200
12 480v 1000w metal halide light
fixtures \$150 each obo
40+ 30-foot metal light poles
call for pricing.
Berko 480v 10Kw 34130
Btu heater \$200
Contact: Jay Johnston
Country View Golf Course
952-432-6452 or 952-210-2864

Posted February 18
FOR SALE

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Spooner Golf Club
(715) 635-6438

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scott@mgcsa.org
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ON THE WEB
AND HOLE NOTES

Membership Report

New Members - April 2005

Paul S. Bauer

Class C - GCSAA (pending)
Baker National GC
Medina, MN
W: 763-694-7664

Andrew Buchholz

Class C - GCSAA
Legend @ Giants Ridge
Biwabik, MN
W: 218-865-3001, ext. 3435

Ryan Kappes

Class C
Legacy Courses at Cragun's
Brainerd, MN
W: 218-825-2751

Jordan Kuzma

Class C - GCSAA (pending)
Legends Golf Club
Prior Lake, MN
W: 952-226-6069

Chad Zachmann

Class C
Legacy Courses at Cragun's
Brainerd, MN
W: 218-825-2751

Matt Zwilling

Class C
Fox Hollow Golf Club
St. Michael, MN
W: 763-428-8449

Derek J. Devine

Class D - GCSAA
Legacy Courses at Cragun's
Brainerd, MN
W: 218-825-2751

Jeff Fredeen

Class D
Tartan Park Golf Course
Lake Elmo, MN
W: 651-736-8000

David Garibaldi

Class D
Eagle Lake Golf Center
Plymouth, MN
W: 763-694-7820

John Miller

Class D
Legacy Courses at Cragun's
Brainerd, MN
W: 218-825-2751

Bret J. Kirchner

Student - Anoka Tech. College
TPC of the Twin Cities
Blaine, MN
W: 763-785-0696

Don Halla

Associate
Halla's Chanhassen Golf
Course, Chanhassen, MN
W: 952-445-6555

Wayne Heintz

Affiliate
MTI Distributing, Inc.
Brooklyn Center, MN
W: 763-592-5746

Mark Follmer

Affiliate
Superior Tech Products
Minnetonka, MN
W: 952-546-3678

James Schmitz

Affiliate
Turfwerks, LLC
St. Paul, MN
W: 612-790-0752

Mark T. Simeon

Affiliate
GreenImage, LLC
Hastings, MN
W: 651/437-7747

RECLASSIFICATIONS

Maurice Anderson

A to Retired
Princeton, MN
H: 763-389-2770

Bryan Breaw

B to A - GCSAA
Cloquet Country Club
Cloquet, MN

William Brooks

C to B - GCSAA
Rose Lake Golf Club
Fairmont, MN

Daniel W. Augdahl

Class C to Affiliate
Turfwerks, LLC
St. Paul, MN

Mike Olson

Class A to C - GCSAA
Landmark Golf Management
Silver Rock Resort

Troy Carson

Affiliate to Associate
The Toro Company

Dan Miller

Affiliate to Associate

*Respectfully submitted,
Eric Peters
Membership Chairman*

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