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MGCSA Upcoming Schedule

Tuesday, March 6
MGCSA Mini-Seminar
 Minnesota Valley Country Club
 Bloomington
Host Superintendent: Michael Brower

Monday, May 14
MGCSA Spring Mixer
 Deer Run Golf Club
 Victoria
Host Superintendent: Barry Provo

Monday, June 18
MGCSA Scholarship Scramble
 Greystone Golf Club
 Sauk Centre
Host Superintendent: Hugh Lynch

Tuesday, August 28
MGCSA Championship
 Hillcrest Golf Club of St. Paul
Host Superintendent: Thomas Schmidt

Thursday, September 13
University of Minnesota Field Day
 University of Minnesota St. Paul Campus
Hosts: Dr. Brian Horgan and Larry Vetter

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About the Cover

Norma O'Leary's interpretation of Dr. White's adage: "When life serves lemons, make lemonade." Norma is Superintendent at Silver Bay Golf Course and enjoys curling in her spare time - even on the golf course!

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What is Going to Be Your "Magnum Opus" in 2007

By James Bade

Salutations, I hope you had a great start to the New Year. Hopefully you had some time off during the holidays to rest and relax. I was able to stay at home, get up with the kids, go out to breakfast, and see Charlotte's Web at the movie theatre while I ate lots of popcorn. We did a lot as a family except go sliding and ice skating. Ironically, to find a place for winter activities one has to go to New Mexico. The "greens" at Somerset were as brown as I have ever seen them. For the last five years I often think of the UPS slogan, "What can brown do for you?" Hopefully this spring our browns will turn a nice green again. But in the meantime I will enjoy January, February and March.

Thanks to Paul Diegnau, Tom Proshek and the Education Committee for the strong educational opportunities at the Green Expo. To hear people like Gausson, Tredway, Shetlar along with all the other practical sessions is invaluable. To take those nuggets back to the work place is a great help. Thanks to all those who participated from attendee to vendor, the Green Expo was a great success again. There were lots of nice comments about the MGCSA lanyards; we hope you enjoy them and use them here and at the national show. But I still believe the best lanyard of all is the way we dress with our coat, tie or nice sweater. Thanks for keeping our image a professional one.

Congratulations to Mike Knodel on his election at the Annual Meeting and a big thank you to Eric Peters for his service the past two years. Congratulations are also in store for Matt McKinnon, Paul Diegnau, Jack MacKenzie and Tom Proshek for their re-election and their willingness to serve again for two years. We have already had our first board meeting of the year, so committees are being formed for the next year. If any topic is of interest to you please contact the committee chair.

The President's Annual Report (See Page 5) given at the Annual Meeting has been reprinted for two reasons. First, my voice started to give out and secondly, the message shows how many people are involved within the association to make it what it is.

At Charlotte's Web I heard the Latin phrase again, magnum opus, meaning "great work." What is going to be your great work in 2007? Maybe it will be on the golf course, or maybe serving on a committee, or maybe volunteering somewhere outside the world of golf. Maybe your great work is in the everyday life of dealing with those around you. Words like magnum opus just seem to have a stronger meaning when you hear them in a different language. So viva bien! "Live well" in 2007 and have a great work in mind that brings you satisfaction, peace and contentment.

- James

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President's Annual Report

By James Bade
MGCSA President

There is an African proverb that says, "it takes a village to raise a child." The same can be said of our association, it takes a lot of dedicated individuals to keep our organization going strong.

Here are the examples:

In January the MGCSA plays an important role in regard to educational opportunities at the Minnesota Green Expo.

Educational opportunities continue later in the month with GCSAA seminars. The beginning of the New Year means the state legislature is in session. Paul Eckholm is our watchdog on issues that affect our industry and he does an amazing job.

In February we meet at the National conference and show due to the efforts of the Industrial Relations committee. Our affiliates have generously supported this outing. Kevin Clunis has graciously given his time to be our voting delegate with the GCSAA. Also in February is the Minnesota Golf Show where we have a booth to promote our professionalism.

In March we hold our mini-seminar. Here we often have the opportunity to discuss issues related to the Department of Agriculture, Labor Department or the Department of Health. Paul Diegnau has done a great job of keeping us informed with regulatory issues. The Board tries to be proactive with these groups.

The past few years there has been a MGA Turfgrass forum. This has been a great opportunity to help educate those we work for and with by bringing general managers, green chairmen and golf pro's along. We are fortunate to have a strong relationship with the MGA.

Spring marks the beginning of our golf events. The spring and fall mixers have been free of charge to encourage participation. Another golf outing we are fortunate to have is the BASF tournament raising extra funds for the greater good of the association. There has been a vendor appreciation day to keep our lines of com-

munication open with those who support us. The other three big tournaments are the Scholarship scramble, Research scramble and MGCSA Championship. The flier that lists the tee sponsors for these tournaments is taped to my office door. Plus a thank you goes to Tiziani Golf Car for sponsoring the carts at the Championship.

In July the U of M holds its Field Day.



President James Bade, speaking, along with the Board of Directors at the MGCSA Annual Business Meeting in January in Minneapolis.

The TROE Center is a facility to be proud of. The research done by Dr. Horgan, Dr. Watkins and the grad students is well worth the trip. We are fortunate to have quite a selection of NTEP studies, experiments with low-input grasses, a nutrient fate study in process, water use efficiency experiment and much more! Look for the Field Day to be in September this coming year.

The late summer also brought the U. S. Amateur to town. Congratulations to Jim Nicol, Mark Moers, their staff and all the members of the MGCSA who volunteered to make the tournament a rousing success. The members at Hazeltine and the Chaska Town course should be commended for their commitment to the game of golf.

You, the member, belong to an association that has had an award-winning periodical, *Hole Notes*. Jack MacKenzie, Scott and Jeff Turtinen have done a fabulous job...Congratulations. This year we even

had articles from Iraq and Hong Kong. The Web site for the MGCSA is a very good one. There is a lot of information available at mgcsa.org.

December brings with it the awards banquet. The banquet is something we want to hold annually. This year's Distinguished Service Award went to Rob Panuska. The other service awards went to many familiar faces showing their involvement within the MGCSA. And thank you to Larry Thornton who gave a donation to support the special evening.

This year the association is finishing the fiscal year in the black. This is due to cutting back on expenses wherever we can. The GCSAA sent a chapter assessment tool to gauge how we are doing as an association. Our chapter is a very strong one, and the assessment gave us some ideas for improvements.

After the regular business was taken care of a new opportunity arose. The Board of Directors looked into managing a golf course with the end goal of raising funds for our own turf pathologist. Furthermore, a golf course would be a place for larger scale research.

Even though the Castlewood adventure didn't come to fruition, the concept is still being put together, so if the right opportunity comes along things will be in place for a membership vote.

As you can see it takes a village to run this association. I want to thank the membership at Somerset Country Club and my staff for holding things together when I am gone. Thanks to the Board of Directors and their committees for their time and commitment.

I conclude with a quote from this year's Nobel peace prize winner: "We can achieve what we really want to; if we don't achieve great things it's because we haven't put our mind to it." Past boards of directors have done a great job of taking business to the next level; let's strive for that in 2007 as well.

MGCSA Holds Elections and Raises Dues

*McKinnon, Diegnau, MacKenzie, Proshek and Hartman Re-elected
Along with New Board Member Mike Knodel*

Matt McKinnon, Superintendent at Legacy Courses at Cragun's, retains his spot as MGCSA Secretary. McKinnon was secretary last year and elected to the board in 2005.

Directors elected were Paul Diegnau, CGCS, Keller Golf Course, St. Paul; Mike Knodel, Oakdale Golf Club, Buffalo Lake; Jack MacKenzie, CGCS, North Oaks Golf Club, North Oaks, and Tom Proshek, Brackett's Crossing Country Club. Jeff Hartman will serve another term on the Board as Vendor representative.

MGCSA Treasurer E. Paul Eckholm, CGCS proposed to the membership a dues increase. In 1999 the Board of Directors recommended and the membership approved a motion to have a modest dues increase every other year to help keep pace with inflation rather than a large increase when the Association gets behind. This has not been done since that time. Therefore, The Board of Directors recommended a dues increase of \$5.00 U.S. for all classes effective for the 2007 dues billing period continuing until the membership approves a different amount.

A proposed addition to MGCSA bylaws -- the definition of a golf course Superintendent -- was also approved. The definition of a golf course Superintendent is one who is entrusted with the management and operation of the tract of land defined as a golf course, including involvement in construction and maintenance of golf courses and related equipment.

The MGCSA sincerely thanks the following 19 MGCSA affiliate companies participating in the 2007 Booth

Challenge: BASF Corporation, Glenn Rehbein Companies, Green Image, Hartman Companies, Herfort Norby Golf Course Architects, Hydrologic, Lesco, PBI Gordon, Plaisted Companies, ProSource One, Pudenz Irrigation, Sports Turf Specialties, Superior Tech Products, Superior Turf Services, Sustane Natural Fertilizer, Tee Shot Marketing, Turfwerks, Twin City Seed Company, and Versatile Vehicles, Inc.

Over 60 members completed the MGCSA Booth Challenge that took place during the Green Expo Trade Show. The Booth Challenge Grand Prize winner was



A well-attended Past President's Luncheon was held before the MGCSA's Annual Business Meeting on January 4. From the left, Larry Vetter; Jim Nicol, CGCS; Doug Mahal, CGCS; Greg Hubbard, CGCS; Tom Fischer, CGCS; Dennis Hendrickson; Kevin Clunis, CGCS; Scott Hoffmann, CGCS; Jerry Murphy, CGCS; Rob Panuska; Fred Taylor, CGCS; Rick Traver, CGCS (current vice-president), and current President James Bade. Attending the lunch but not in the photo were Paul Eckholm, CGCS, and Matt McKinnon (current secretary). The current MGCSA Executive Committee was invited.

Jim Nicol, CGCS, Hazeltine National GC. Nine more winners were **Gary Rossi**, Riverwood National GC; **Brian Boll**, Interlachen CC; **Scott Nelson**, Austin CC; **Mike Ligday**, Manitou Ridge GC; **Erin McManus**, Medina Golf & CC; **Jeff Ische**,

Golden Valley G&CC; **Greg Hubbard**, CGCS, Manitou Ridge GC; **Nate Uselding**, The Bridges GC, and **Craig Vigen**, Fargo CC.

All winners received Best Buy gift certificates.

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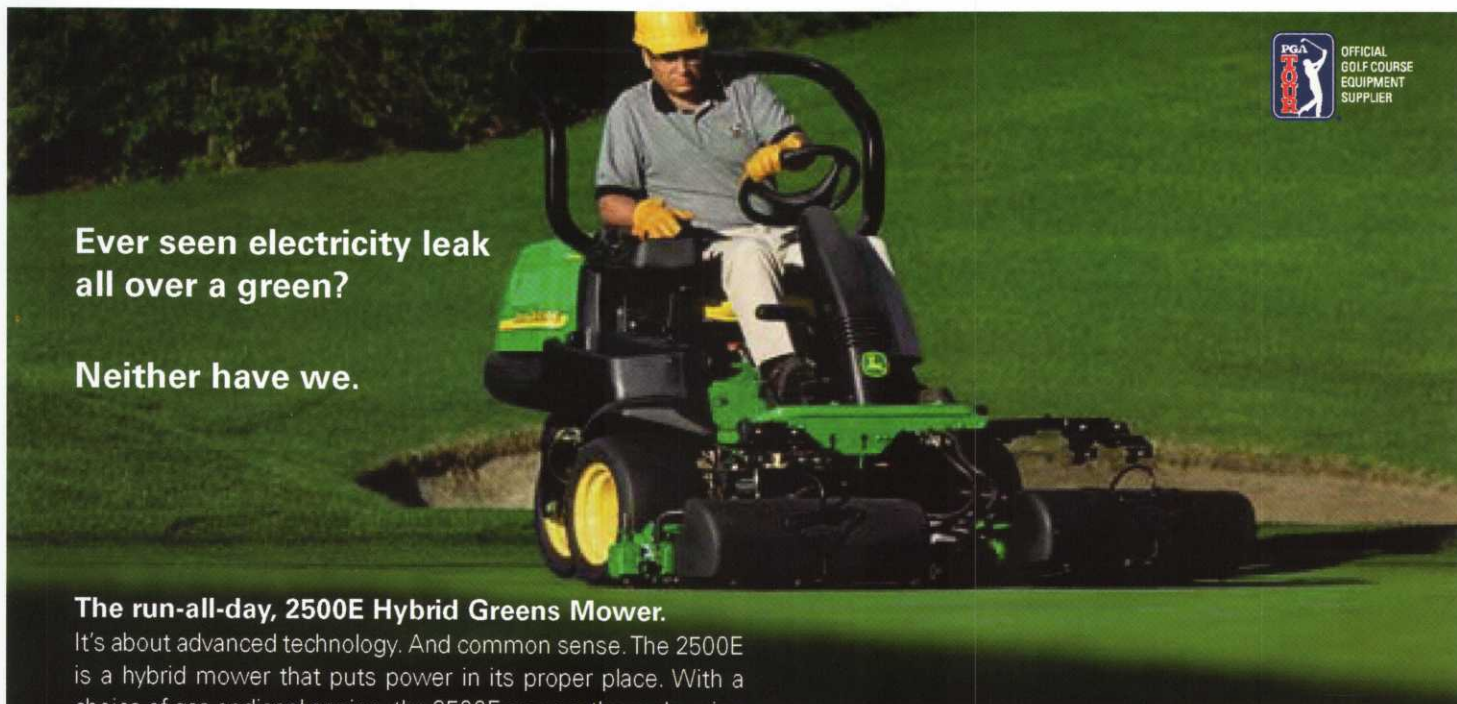
Alternative Turfgrass Species Seminar at Big Fish GC

By **Tod Blankenship, CGCS**
Superintendent, Big Fish Golf Club

Big Fish Golf Club is inviting members of the three regional Golf Course Superintendents Associations to attend a 1-2 day educational event regarding the use of alternative or "low input" turfgrass species on Monday, June 11. The event will only be open to members of the Northern Great Lakes GCSA, the Wisconsin GCSA, and the Minnesota GCSA. Solid details are still being worked out among the three associations; however the date(s) have been agreed upon by all three associations. As one can imagine, it may be a little difficult bringing this event together. However, it will also be quite rewarding in the end. Up to this point the event will consist of a mixer type format on Sunday, June 10; for those interested, perhaps a Muskie Fishing Tournament, and/or a Poker/Blackjack tournament at the LCO Casino located across the street from the golf course, and possibly golf. Again, this would all take place on Sunday. We will have a block of rooms

reserved at the LCO Casino and Lodge with rates to be determined for those interested; however keep in mind lodging may or may not be an issue throughout Hayward for these dates. We will also have a large conference room available at the LCO Casino and Conference Center ready to accommodate well over one hundred people. This will allow us an opportunity to perhaps have some sort of Roundtable Discussion among members who decide to come up Sunday. The above mentioned events will only be for those interested and will most likely cost a minimal amount to be determined at a later date depending upon interest. Please remember we are essentially attempting something that has not been done before and we hope to be able to learn as we go so we can make an effort to make this an annual event for members of all three associations. Monday, June 11 will consist of a panel type format of researchers, agronomists and superintendents who

have experience with "low-input" turfgrasses presenting information including the advantages and disadvantages using these grasses on "Modern American" golf courses. This would likely begin around 8:30 a.m. and would last until around lunch. Lunch would consist of a box-type lunch available at the golf course. Following lunch we will then play golf. Golf will be a Schamble format and will be played from the Tournament tees. The schamble will consist of teams of proportionate members from the three associations. The cost will be \$50 for the education, lunch and golf. The \$50 will be split up to cover cart, education and lunch fees, while the remainder will be dispersed proportionately to each association depending upon the percentage of membership attending. This will be the official monthly chapter meeting for the NGLGCSA and WGCSA and will be eligible for education and service points.



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All This and More at the 2007 Minnesota Green Expo*

By LARRY G. VETTER
MTGF Executive Director

The 2007 Minnesota Green Expo, judging by feedback from attendees and exhibitors, exceeded expectations and was a huge success. While many local and regional conferences around the country continue to experience declining attendance and exhibitor participation, the 2007 Minnesota Green Expo set record numbers for these important categories and continues to "buck the trend" as green industry professionals in the upper mid-West realize and appreciate the value and quality of this event.

Attendance the last year of the MTGF and the MNLA holding their own separate events had a combined total of 5,700. Exhibit spaces occupied for each separate show did not come close to filling two of the smaller domes at the Convention Center. The 2007 Expo filled the two largest domes and still had a waiting list of vendors who wanted to exhibit. While the final financial numbers are not yet tallied for 2007, all of this translates to financial results that allow the MTGF to better pursue its mission "to promote the green industries in Minnesota through support of research, education and outreach at the University of Minnesota and elsewhere".

The registration form for attendees strongly requests that an affiliation be checked indicating what portion of the green industry each attendee represents. This year attendees indicating an affiliation with the MNLA totaled 2,459 while those indicating an affiliation with the MTGF totaled 1,235. Of those, 578 indi-



viduals indicated an affiliation with the MGCSA. Yes, the MGCSA was an extremely important part of the 2007 Minnesota Green Expo.

While all of these statistics are interesting, there are a number of things that drive these numbers and each must compliment the other to achieve the final results. The quality of the educational sessions attracts attendees. Greater attendance attracts exhibitors. Attractive, informative displays also attract more attendees. The venue must allow both of these components to maximize their impact and all, both exhibitors and attendees, must have accommodations, attractions and opportunities to interact in order for continued success.

Prior to the official start of the Expo there were five workshops held on "Super Tuesday" which attracted a number of people for an extra day of education and networking. The one that was targeted primarily to golf course personnel was Dr. Brian Horgan's "Phosphorus Fertilizer

Training" which was held from 1:00 to 5:00 that afternoon. Following Super Tuesday workshops the main Expo began on Wednesday morning. As an aside, in order to determine what the content will be for the next Expo, each year your Education Committee submits a list of speakers and topics that they would like to have featured in the educational program. This meeting takes place very soon after the conclusion of the previous Expo. The calendars of good speakers who have

valuable information to present fill up very far in advance as the winter season is filled with conferences around the country. This year the slate of speakers and topics that was requested by your Education Committee was filled in almost every instance. While it is a constant balancing act between the number of sessions offered and the amount of dedicated trade show time, the sessions that were presented represented nearly every request that was made.

Departing from the normal schedule for the official kickoff of the Expo, Dr. Donald White and Brad Pedersen were presented with the first-ever MTGF Lifetime Achievement Awards in recognition of their many years at the University as well their untold contributions and support of the professionals in the Green Industry. Both Don and Brad were able to attend and be recognized prior to the Keynote address with both receiving a

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Minnesota Green Expo-

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a huge acknowledgement of appreciation from the standing-room only crowd in attendance. Following these presentations, Minneapolis Mayor R. T. Rybak presented "The Importance of Urban Greening". 1,800 people packed the Convention Center Ballroom to witness the presentations to Don and Brad and to hear Mayor Rybak deliver his comments. Following the Keynote, attendees broke into groups to hear experts from around the country as well as our own University faculty make presentations on a variety of topics, some of which are detailed in this writing, addressing many of the major issues that must be dealt with on golf courses on an on-going basis. Bob Vavrek of the USGA relayed a number of his 2006 experiences addressing "A Season of Extremes for Minnesota Turf". While visiting many golf courses during the year, Bob sees most of the problems that are occurring and can then relay some interesting solutions for those problems.

Most MGCSA members bring staff members to the Expo. The Turf "101" ses-

sions presented by John Hopko give these staff members a great deal of basic turf information so that they become a greater contributor to the golf course operation. These sessions are always popular, especially since there many times is staff turnover from year to year. Luke Dant addressed spraying techniques and Gary Grigg presented information on writing and presenting budgets that are program-based. Dr. Carmen Magro discussed the use of PGR's with overseeding. Dr. Roch Gausson addressed concerns with organic matter in greens.

For the gardeners, Dr. Jeff Gillman made two presentations delivering information from his book "The Truth About Garden Remedies" which was very well received. Dr. Magro returned with his topic "Syringing and Fertiligation Fundamentals". While targeted primarily to the sports turf managers, Floyd Perry held a session on "Innovative Homemade Tools" that showed some very interesting ways to complete certain tasks without spending huge amounts of capital. Tree issues, various plant materials and irrigation issues also were addressed by great speakers, with the day concluding with a Welcome Reception on the Trade Show

floor where attendees and exhibitors had a social venue for visiting and networking with each other for the final hour of the day.

Day Two featured many more opportunities for education, networking and trade show touring. A "Foliar Feeding" workshop was held for four hours in the morning, with presenters Dr. Gausson and Gary Grigg. In addition, Dr. Magro made a presentation on the handling of pesticides. Mechanics were offered two sessions in the morning presented by Carl Osterhaus addressing "Effective Shop Layout" and "Deisel Engines". A first for this year's Expo was offering sessions in Spanish. Manuel Jordan presented "Basic Principles of Pruning Shrubs and Trees" and "Safety in the Green Industry". While the number of attendees was somewhat disappointing, those who attended were very appreciative and had great things to report on both the speaker and the topics. It is almost certain that this feature will be continued during future editions of the Expo and almost certainly will grow as the word spreads throughout the industry.

(Continued on Page 10)

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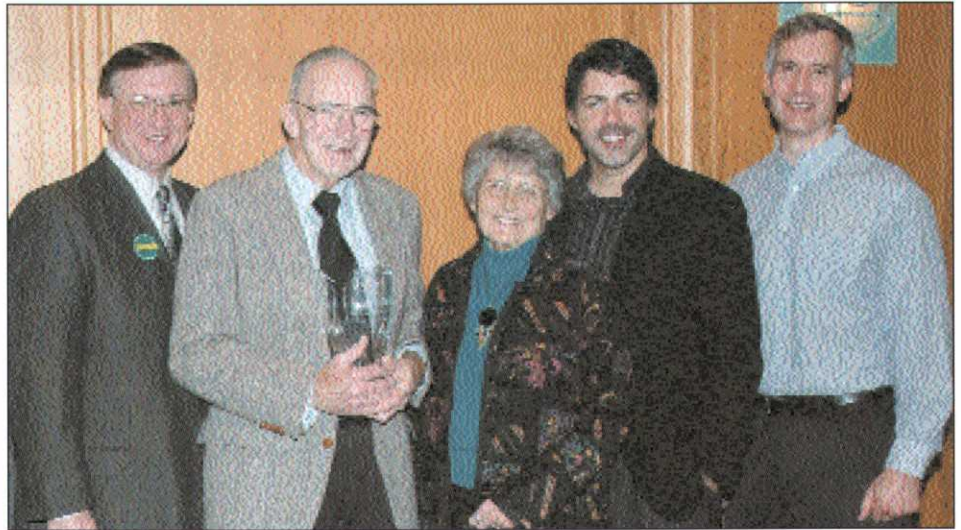
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Minnesota Green Expo-

(Continued from Page 9)

Thursday afternoon featured a very timely topic presented by Dr. Sherri Gahrng addressing "Sun Safety for Outdoor Workers". Skin cancer and other problems associated with prolonged sun exposure are becoming major health concerns and this presentation was well attended. Dr. Lane Tredway addressed various fungicide products for use in disease control while Dr. Eric Watkins reviewed "Turfgrass Variety Selection" based on 2006 NTEP data. Caitlin Rood presented an "Introduction to Pollution Prevention" and "Shop Pollution Issues". Dr. David Shetlar addressed golf course insect control while John Mascaro presented a session featuring his renowned "Photo Quiz Comes Alive". Dr. Horgan presented "Phosphorus Runoff From Turfgrass: Effect of Clippings Management and Fertilizer Inputs", presenting data from current research that he is conducting.

Again, numerous other presentations were available featuring tree issues, gardens, permeable pavers, project planning and landscaping situations. The day concluded with the ever-popular Casino



Dr. Donald White, second from left, was presented with a MTGF Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his many years at the University as well as untold contributions and support of the professionals in the Green Industry. Brad Pedersen also was awarded a MTGF Lifetime Achievement Award at the Minnesota Green Expo.

Party where free food and prizes are coupled with the opportunity to network and gamble without risking any real money. While other forms of entertainment has been offered, this venue still continues to appear to be the favorite for most attendees.

Friday offered two groups of sessions. The primary group of interest to most

MGCSA members was the Pesticide Recertification Track. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture presents the opening hour reviewing regulations, violations and other topics of concern to applicators. Following the MDA opening session, Dr. Tredway presented a session on anthracnose, Dr. Shetlar addressed

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