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*November 19  
Assistant's Professional Forum  
Pinz Bowling Woodbury  
Host Casey Andrus*

*December 3  
Advanced Agronomic Forum  
Medina Golf and Country Club  
Host Erin McManus*

*January 15  
Beer and Pretzel Social  
Northern Green Expo  
Hosts 27 Hole Challenge Affiliates*

*January 19  
Shop Tours  
Minnesota Valley, Olympic Hills  
and TBD  
Hosts Mike Brower, Jake Schmitz*

*February 25  
The National  
Hard Rock Cafe, San Antonio  
Hosts Mike Kelly and Larry Gorman*



**Range picker circa 1920**



**EDITOR**

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# Presidential Perspective

by Roger Stewart, CGCS Superintendent at TPC Twin Cities

My favorite time of the year has arrived.

What makes it my favorite time of the year? Well, there are a number of things that come to mind. First of all, I look forward to tipping the work/life scale a little more evenly weighted toward the life side. There are a lot of things that go into that process. On the work side, I can look back on a season and evaluate our successes and accomplishments. I can look at our failures and identify areas where we can do better for next year. For us, it is also budget time, so there is always the anxiety concerning the budget process and how the outcomes will affect how well we perform next year. I also love the weather. The almost daily changes, the colors, the brisk breeze.....you know the drill. Good times- so I hope you enjoy them as much as I do.

I also look forward to the planning process for next year. Whether it is the chemical and fertilizer plan, the staffing plan, capital

projects or anything else we want to do next year, the process is always interesting. I involve my assistants in this process as much as possible so they are immersed and engaged throughout the year and know the why and how of everything we do. It is great experience for them and trains them in the value of good planning yielding best results.

My challenge every year at this time is to make the best transition to winter activities and ensure my key staff remain engaged while reaping the benefits of the down time. I always think we can do more planning and seldom seem satisfied in the spring that we have done enough to prepare us for the coming season. Maybe that is just the long winter, or maybe it is just me over thinking it. I'm pretty sure there a few guys like me out there who feel winter is way more than snow removal, equipment repair and cribbage. To those who do feel that way, I hope you find what you are looking for.....pretty sure I will still be looking!

As MGCSA President, I look back on the past season and feel pretty good about our association and the accomplishments we have had. Member outreach this year has been very successful and the association has touched more members in more ways than ever before. We have succeeded in our mission to bring the MGCSA and its benefits to members in outlying areas who do not have the opportunity to participate in all the activities that we have in the Twin Cities metro area. The attendance numbers at these events have grown throughout the year due to the support of our Affiliate members making these outreach events more affordable and bringing valuable education and information to each event. Thank you to all our Affiliate members who see the value in supporting this worthwhile initiative and we look forward to continuing this effort next year.

Affiliate members and the support we receive from them play a key role in the ability of MGCSA to provide services and benefits for our members. Their generous support

drives educational opportunities, networking opportunities, social gatherings and is an essential part of the success of MGCSA. To all those Affiliate members who have supported us in the past and continue to support us in the future, we owe you a big thank you. So, the next time you are planning a purchase, ask your sales representative what their company does to support MGCSA and make that part of your decision process. Supporting those who support your association and your profession is the best way of saying thank you!

In closing, I would like to announce that the Board of Directors has recently completed a new multi-year agreement with our Executive Director, Jack MacKenzie, CGCS. We are excited that Jack will continue to be the face of our association, building bridges, establishing meaningful relationships and telling our story of professionalism, environmentalism and education. Thanks Jack, for all you do and we are glad to have you with us for the foreseeable future!

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NORTHERN  
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EXPO

2015 Highlights

## 2015 FEATURED SPEAKERS



### MICHAEL HURDZAN

Legendary golf course architect Hurdzan is sure to inspire golf course personnel with seminars focusing on tree and native grass placement as well as improving playability and maintenance on classic courses.



### FRANK WONG

Technical specialist Frank Wong will discuss fungicides and disease management sure to help you do your job more efficiently.



### KEVIN ROSS

Want to learn from a professional director who's been in the trenches? Join Ross to discuss golf course construction and hear his tips and tricks from 40 years in the golf course business.

## REGISTER NOW AND SAVE



### REGISTRATION FOR THE 2015 EXPO IS NOW OPEN

You won't find a better value for your educational dollar than Northern Green Expo. You'll find world-class presenters who speak "green industry" fluently, and companies on the Northern Green Expo trade show floor you'll want to connect with. It's a great place to catch up with friends and do some business at the same time. Advanced registration fees will save you money, so register now at [www.NorthernGreenExpo.org](http://www.NorthernGreenExpo.org)!

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The Northern Green Expo is now one week later: January 14-16, 2015. There are a limited number of available rooms in each hotel. In order to get the hotel of your choice at the best rates, we encourage you to book early. Expo has secured room blocks at the Millennium Hotel, the Hilton, the Hilton Garden Inn, DoubleTree Suites and the Hyatt. Find the Hotels page on [www.NorthernGreenExpo.org](http://www.NorthernGreenExpo.org) to see rates and booking details.



## GET YOUR CEU'S AT NORTHERN GREEN EXPO

Expo will once again afford you the opportunity to maintain many common green industry certifications and licensures. Many sessions during Expo will qualify for MGCSA recertification, plus if you're looking to stay current with MDA certifications, be sure to attend one of the following programs: Aquatics Recertification (category F) is available on Thursday from 2:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m., and pesticide applicator recertification (category A & E) will be available between 7:30 a.m. – 3:35 p.m. on Friday.

To see a full listing of speakers and sessions,  
visit [www.NorthernGreenExpo.org](http://www.NorthernGreenExpo.org).

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# In Bounds

by Jack MacKenzie, CGCS

Fortunately for me, my wife Kim and I are of the

same thrifty mindset. Neither of us go “over the top” when it comes to personal luxury items and gifts to one another tend to be fairly conservative. We have maintained our pledges to each of our children and hope to someday support grandchildren in one form or another.

Some would say that we are rather selfish, for beyond the mandated federal and state tax base we contribute to; our voluntary support doesn't extend very far. Over the years we have participated in church groups, sponsored families during the holidays, gave to local animal shelters and of course tossed in the obligatory \$30 for a niece or nephew selling candy bars or St. Jude's pledges.

We don't tithe, limit our political endorsements and never, ever give anything too large to “not for profit” charitable corporations. Just Google America's worst charities and you will be as disgusted as we are over the lack of true charity going on. We hate being duped into supporting a good cause managed by a greedy corporate beneficent.

However, as passionate as we are about withholding our assistance to conglomerate charities, we are proud to extend help to the Wee One Foundation as the monies generated go directly to the people we care about; our peers and their families in times of medical crisis.

Perhaps it is because we know that very little of our contributions go to administrative duties. More likely it is because we appreciate the challenges of turf management families, without the added burden of a health or an accident issue.