We finally got in a game of golf. The weather wasn't exactly picture-perfect for our outing at Lafayette Club, but at least we played (and I did water ski). The high winds made the course play slightly longer than it really is, but it's my understanding that most players negotiated it quite well.

It was very gratifying for me to host a monthly meeting and have such gracious guests, regardless of the construction going on around the Club.

* * * *

Congratulations to Jim Nicol and his staff for successfully hosting the 1993 Burnet Senior Classic. Think of the challenges that Jim must have encountered with the deluge from a nagging low pressure system throughout the week. Many of us had to deal with the abundant rainfall in our own way, but our prayers went out to Jim (unanswered) as thousands toured the links at Bunker Hills (ouch!).

* * * *

A full field of superintendents will take to the hills of White Bear Yacht Club for the upcoming Joseph S. Garske Scramble on July 19.

If the weather pattern remains the same, don't be too disappointed if there isn't some sort of restriction on carts. I'm sure John Steiner will do everything possible to accommodate us regardless of the weather.

* * * *

It has been a difficult year for all of us considering the precipitation and cool temperatures. Our trash pump has seen more engine hours than our rough mower. Construction and renovation is agonizingly slow. Just when you think you’re going to get a break, the monsoon season extends into the next week. That cart path you thought you would finish today extends into next week. Applications are scheduled and then postponed. Cutting, cart control, creative drainage...all take on new meanings (can you say ulcer).

However, I have managed to play or see a few other facilities out there and, considering what we are up against, there are a number of your golf courses in spectacular condition. I think this says a lot about the people in our association. Somehow we all manage to overcome and persevere.

Also, I must apologize for the tardiness of this issue. Up to now I have had to pay a little more attention to the job that brings home the bacon. However, I had a pleasant chat with Greg Hubbard and, as always his support is understanding and very reassuring. Thanks Greg.

I also have a deep appreciation for the job that Dale Wysocki did with “Hole Notes.” Every one of his issues were a delight to read.

* * * *

Just one more final note on the Joseph S. Garske Scramble. Steve Garske is receiving a number of phone calls referring to the Scramble as his. This is not the case. This tournament is in memory of his father with all proceeds going to Scholarship.

See you at White Bear.

—John Harris
Editor

New Members

Amy Roland-Oliver

I was born and raised in the Twin Cities area. My golf career started about the age of 8. I played class AA high school golf, and ended up at the State Tournament my senior year. My interest in the weather brought me to the University of Wisconsin Madison, where I graduated with a B.S. in Atmospheric Science. I’ve worked in several different industries related to weather. Writing the weather page for several U.S. newspapers, creating weather graphics for ABC affiliate stations, working as a radio broadcast meteorologist for MNN, K102 and KFAN are just a sample. I’ve recently moved back to the Twin Cities and started a company called Weather Watch, Inc. We are a private weather consulting firm for golf courses, landscapers, snow plowers, general contractors and municipalities. In my spare time I enjoy golf, tennis, swimming and traveling. It’s nice to be back in the Twin Cities!

Willis Krahn

I have lived in Mt. Lake all my life. I have been married for 35 years and have four children. I am self-employed. I have a tree-moving business.

After I quit playing softball, I took up the game of golf. My wife Marlene and I joined the golf club. I served on the board for three years, one of those years as President. My son was superintendent for a few years. My time on the board and having my son working as superintendent was a great learning experience. I have been the superintendent for the past four years. Taking care of a golf course is one of the most challenging jobs there is.

Our course is located on 81 acres. Much of the natural terrain was left along when the nine-hole course was built in 1970-71. Our greens are 63,000 square feet.