This has been the spring of two seasons for many of us. The beginning of April started off very dry and many of us with older irrigation systems worked to get them functional. The record deep frosts played havoc on galvanized "swing" joints as many of the sprinklers were lifted off their threads. The end of April and the front half of May have been all rain near the Twin Cities. Cutting grass is now the order of the day.

Spring began early and the hours our staff have spent on the golf course adds up as the season goes along. The days run together and many of us lose track of time and forget the things that are the most important to us - our family and friends. A few years ago when Jim Nicol was president of our association, he noted in his column how important it was to take some time off in the summer and get away from work. This would also apply to your staff. It is important that we remember not only ourselves during the busy golf season but our staffs also.

* * * *

The previous two issues of the Hole Notes printed in color have been well received. The color adds a new dimension to our magazine and the Affiliates that have begun advertising in color love it. Executive Director Scott Turtinen located a printer in St. Cloud with the capability to economically print Hole Notes in color. All copy is transmitted electronically to the printing company and proofing is viewed over a special website which saves time in the process of producing the publication.

While we are on the subject of Hole Notes, I would also like to commend our editor, Jack MacKenzie on April and May’s magazine. With emphasis placed on articles that are directly relevant to our current management practices, the disease issue followed by the irrigation/drainage issue was both educational and timely. Jack has informed us there will be further issues dedicated to tree care, University of Minnesota Field Days and greens covers.

* * * *

I would recommend to all members to reassess your water cooler refilling procedures. After an incident in Arizona, this has become a concern in Minnesota. Paul Eckholm, our legislative chairman, is following this matter closely. He does remind us though that the Department of Health can establish its own rules, to a certain extent like the State Board of Electricity.

—Rick Fredericksen, CGCS
MGCSA President