PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Outstanding Program Takes Place At Golden Valley for Mini-Seminar

By Robert Panuska

My thanks and kudos to James Bade and the Conference and Education Committee for the outstanding program at the March Mini-Seminar. This was one of the best attended seminars in recent memory with nearly 150 people participating. A very special thanks to everyone that made time in their schedules and took part. The "dual track" was a big success although I wanted to attend both sessions. Congratulations again to Jerry Murphy “the senator” on receiving the Distinguished Service Award for 2003. Watch future issues of Hole Notes for updates from the Banquet/Awards Committee. If you have ideas or would like to assist in the planning of future events please contact Barry Provo, the committee chair.

* * * *

By the time you are reading this, our courses will be open and more than likely, in "full swing". As I anticipate the season ahead I like to think about the opportunities that may be lurking, waiting to be discovered and utilized. How can we be prepared to seize what may be presented to us? Certainly, education, networking and experience are very key to preparation that can help us in "seizing the moments" as become evident in the season ahead. That moment may appear some early morning in the form of an ugly turf disease or the unexpected visit from the MDA inspector or it may be "just the right" person for a job you needed to complete. Whatever our opportunities may be, positive or challenges, my hope is that we have prepared to seize them and make the most of whatever hand we are dealt.

* * * *

I would like to thank the Minnesota Golf Association for their assistance at the state legislature again this year. Their “man on the hill”, Doug Carnival has worked very closely with our "man on the hill" Paul Eckholm in monitoring the issues that impact our industry. Most recently the phosphorus issue and from what I hear this will continue to be a very "hot" issue for many years to come. Even production agriculture is beginning to "feel" the heat of this issue as more and more data is gathered on non-point source pollution and phosphorus loading into surface water.

* * * *

Finally, make plans now to attend the summer events we have planned beginning with our May meeting in Glencoe. Check the schedule in this issue of Hole Notes.

Until next month,
Rob