

# HOLE NOTES

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of the MGCSA

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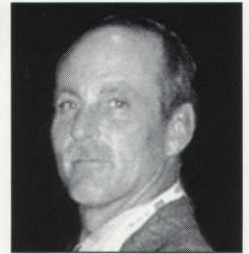
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# Where Did Summer Go?

By Robert Panuska



Did I miss something, where did summer go? I was sure that yesterday was June 1st and we were looking ahead at the busy tournament schedule and trying to figure out our maintenance regime around the play. Here we are, in the middle of August and somehow we have once again conquered the challenges that the weather, the game and the players have put before us. We now begin to look ahead to fall when some projects may take shape, our staff dwindles back to pre season levels and the cool nights provide a time of recovery for both our turf and ourselves.

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**Perfect weather and a great crowd for the annual University of Minnesota TROE Center Field Day.** Dr. Brian Horgan and Dr. Eric Watkins along with the entire "team" of researchers and educators did another outstanding job of organizing and presenting this year's field day. There were 9 "stops" along the tour at the TROE center that ranged from NTEP trials to N loss from putting greens during grow-in to native grass options for no-mow areas. The research projects continue to expand and take shape and data is being collected. I could not help but wonder if the data that will be gathered over the term of a project such as the run-off study will be able to beat the legislation that restricts how we manage our turf areas. One sure bet is that it is a race to the capital.

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**Is the MGCSA serving your needs?** The Board of Directors has worked hard to determine the needs of the membership of our association and then find ways to meet those needs. Having said that, I will also tell you that we generally do not get the input needed to fully know what those needs might be. It troubles me when I hear comments, usually second hand, that the board is not responsive to the needs of the membership. The board members that serve your association are very willing to listen to member ideas and concerns but we need to hear from you first-hand. Please do me a favor and call me if you have questions, ideas or concerns. Better yet, give Rick Fredericksen a call and offer to run for a position on the Board. Help us to help our profession grow and prosper.

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**Water cooler issues are making a wave in Minnesota,** as you are all aware. We will continue to monitor this issue and do our best to keep you informed. Bottom line with this issue is very simple, we ALL want to provide safe drinking water to our patrons and we need to be open to making changes to our procedures if needed to insure safety. I would suggest that you contact your local county health department and be proactive with this issue and INFORM your club leadership of the situation ASAP.

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**The MGCSA Fall Mixer at the Crossings in Montevideo** is free to regular members of the MGCSA. A charge of \$20 for Affiliate members to help out with prizes. The fund raising efforts from our Industrial Relations Committee through sponsorship and the BASF Tournament are earmarked for Research and Scholarships with a small portion going towards the MGCSA Spring and Fall mixers.

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**Thanks for taking the time to read Hole Notes.** This is YOUR publication and I know Jack would greatly appreciate your input, articles and pictures. Consider putting pen to paper or now-a-days fingers to keyboard and crank out your thoughts and ideas.

-- Rob

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