



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MGA/MGCSA Turfgrass Forum Set for May 6 at Midland Hills

By Robert Panuska

What a Mini-Seminar! Thank you to all who attended, the weather was perfect and the topics were very timely as we gear up for spring. James Bade and the entire Education Committee are to be commended for a job well done on organizing the day. Thank you also to Tom Proshok and the staff at Brackets Crossing CC for hosting, we look forward to returning on August 1 for the annual MGCSA Research Scramble. Congratulations again to E. Paul Eckholm, CGCS, our Distinguished Service Award recipient for 2004, and Garrett Gill, our 2004 Watson Award winner. Thank you, gentlemen for your contributions.

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Mark your calendars for May 6. The Minnesota Golf Association and the MGCSA will be co-sponsoring a Turfgrass Forum for decision makers in the golf business at Midland Hills Country Club. The purpose of this forum is to bring leaders together to hear from industry experts as well as share ideas related to turf management. This year the guest speakers are Mr. Bob Vavrek from the USGA and Dr. Brian Horgan from the U of M. By the time you receive this issue of *Hole Notes* we will have a fairly good idea about how much winter injury we will be dealing with. This forum offers the opportunity to share ideas and hear from others what they are doing to either prevent or grow out of winter damage. You should have received a flyer by now via e-mail or mail with reservation details, if not, be sure to contact the MGA office by April 29 and reserve your spot.

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How is your network of support? I have mentioned this many times over the past year and with good reason. Even though it may seem we stand alone at our individual courses, we can all benefit from sharing ideas and getting feedback from others. Chances are very good that if you are having a problem, others are as well. However, a network is not just for problem solving; this can also provide the opportunity to share what has worked for you and hear what others are doing at their courses. Your network is not just limited to other superintendents but also the suppliers to your course both in and out of the turf industry. I have found that "bouncing" ideas off of a few trusted members can give me a different insight into solutions. Let us not forget the old adage "it isn't always what you know but who you know" that may help you along the way.

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Finally, I would like to thank our editor, Jack MacKenzie, for his feature article last month. I was very humbled by the comments from my friends and family. Thank you Jack, not only for the presidential feature but also for the outstanding job you do as our editor. You have truly taken this publication "to the next level!"

Until next month,
Rob

HOLE NOTES

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