



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Seasons of Change

By James Bade

"Summer and winter, spring-time and harvest, sun, moon and stars in their courses above" I just love the seasons. Seasons keep us fresh and renewed. The fall season brings on the harvesting of cores and course improvement projects. Hopefully, this fall will bring some badly needed rain.

The Field Day at the U of M yielded lots of interesting information again. Dr. Horgan, Dr. Watkins, Larry Vetter and the research staff did a great job. I love seeing the velvet and colonial bentgrasses from year to year to see how they are performing. The Low-Input study for fairways was quite amazing. The varieties were cut at fl of an inch, and they had been watered and fertilized only once. To my eye a few of the varieties were surprisingly in good shape and acceptable for playing golf.

This study coupled with watching the British Open and our drought made me think, how much brown is acceptable on our golf course? As long as the members are having fun does every grass blade need to be a manicured green. Shot quality and having to use your imagination is what makes the brown British Open fun. At Somerset we have made the decision that if we are going to lose grass it is going to be Poa due to dryness instead of overwatering and losing grass to pythium.

A new research project, the MGCSA is helping to sponsor, has to do with water efficiency. Even though we are in the Land of 10,000 Lakes, water is a very precious resource or should I use the word commodity. The experiment is going to measure E.T. rates and use special tools for measuring drought stress. If you ever have the time, there are a lot of neat things going on at the TROE Center preparing us for change.

Neat things were going on at Windsong Farm Golf Club for the MGCSA Championship. Talk about having to use your imagination and the value of a properly played shot. Scottie Hines, CGCS and his staff had the place in great shape. With the new bentgrasses, like A-4, it was a surreal experience for me. The greens were faster than a pool table but not as flat. After three-putting a few times our group decided to start chipping in. Thanks to all who made that day happen and special.

It is the season where I am able to spend a little more time on the computer. Check out mgcsa.org if you have the time. Scott and Jeff Turtinen do a great job keeping us informed. On the site is a link to the GCSAA which is looking for feedback in regards to our dues. Kevin Clunis has graciously given his time to be our representative or delegate to the national association. The board of directors is always willing to hear what you have to say about all issues.

The U.S. Amateur took place at Hazeltine and the Chaska Town Course in late August. What a great place we live in with so much going on. Enjoy the season of change. I will be enjoying the fall colors and picking a few apples. Life is good.

-- James

HOLE NOTES (ISSN 108-27994) is published monthly except bi-monthly November/December, January/February for \$2 an issue or \$20 per year by the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association, 700 Twelve Oaks Center Dr., Suite 706, Wayzata, MN 55391. Scott Turtinen, publisher. Periodicals postage paid at Wayzata, MN. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to HOLE NOTES, P. O. BOX 617, WAYZATA, MN 55391.

HOLE NOTES

Official Publication
of the MGCSA

Editor

Jack MacKenzie, CGCS
jmackenzie426@msn.com

MGCSA Board of Directors

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
James Bade
Somerset Country Club
Mendota Heights
651/457-1161

VICE PRESIDENT

Richard Traver, Jr., CGCS
Monticello Country Club
Monticello
763/295-3323

SECRETARY

Matt McKinnon
Legacy Courses at Cragun's
Brainerd
218/825-2751

TREASURER
E. Paul Eckholm, CGCS
Heritage Links GC
Lakeville
952/440-6494

EX-OFFICIO
Robert Panuska
Waseca Lakeside Club
Waseca
507/837-5996

DIRECTORS

Dan Brown
Par Aide Products Co.
Lino Lakes
651/429-4513

Paul Diegnau, CGCS
Keller GC
Maplewood
651/766-4174

Jeff Hartman
Hartman Companies, Inc.
Victoria
952/443-2958

Scottie Hines
Windsong Farm GC
Independence
763/479-6524

Jack MacKenzie, CGCS
North Oaks GC
St. Paul
651/484-1024

Thomas Meier
Le Sueur CC
Le Sueur
507/665-3665

Eric Peters
North Links GC
North Mankato
507/947-3335

Tom Proshok
Brackett's Crossing CC
Lakeville
952/435-2543

Jeff Vinkemeier
Glencoe CC
Glencoe
320/864-6872

BUSINESS OFFICE AND HOLE NOTES OFFICE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Scott Turtinen
700 Twelve Oaks Center Dr., Suite 706
Wayzata, MN 55391
952/473-2582 Fax: 952/473-2586
Toll Free: 1-800-642-7227
E-mail: scott@mgcsa.org

www.mgcsa.org

Quality since
1972



Specializing in • Restoration • Renovation
• Drainage Problems • Slit Drainage • Greens
• Bunkers • Laser Leveling • Grading • Irrigation

Jeffrey Hartman
952-443-2958

GOLF DIVISION

8011 Bavaria Road
Victoria, MN 55386