



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

One Hail of a Story

By James Bade

On June 2, a lazy Saturday afternoon, I sat at home listening to a nice gentle thundershower thinking a nice rain like this is rare now days. (Of course today is June 26, 2007 and it hasn't rained since). On my way to work the next day I was about two blocks from the club when I notice just a ton of leaves on the highway. I remember thinking, did the County come through and do some pruning. As I made a right hand turn towards the club there were leaves everywhere. Then as I looked into the golf course I saw something white, was it plastic or something else that blew into the golf course? Then when I arrived and saw the gardener's face the mystery was becoming clearer. It had hailed!

Eighteen hours after the storm there were still piles of hail through out the golf course. The hail wasn't large but the volume was great. I heard the course looked like winter, there were 2-4 inches of hail and rivers of it left behind by the 1.60 inches of rain. Leaves were stuck to the clubhouse like a hurricane had gone through. In my lifetime I have never seen any thing quite like it. There were so many leaves on the ground that it smelled like corn silage. With a slight bit of optimism my U of M intern had the quote of the day; "we have slow release water."

The Somerset Crew will be mulching leaves and raking up pine needles all summer as the damaged dying leaves and needles fall off. Unfortunately, my two gardeners had to replant the annual flower garden and cut back the poor hostas, which looked worse than Swiss cheese. What makes the story interesting is that Mendakota Country Club is but a mile away and Southview maybe three miles and to my knowledge they didn't receive any hail and half the rain. It was Somerset's turn for adversity from Mother Nature because about 10 years ago those two clubs lost close to 100 trees each from a storm when we lost one and some branches.

Here are three quotes I would like to share with you from a calendar that I received.

Perseverance: We conquer every challenge by taking it one step at a time.

Focus: The ability to believe in your goal even as your path twists and turns.

Optimism: seeking the positive in every situation awakens golden opportunities.

Whatever your challenges are this year be resilient and persevere. And if your trails seem too overwhelming there is a whole Association of MGCSA members willing to lend a helping hand.

Due to a scheduling conflict I was unable to attend the Scholarship Scramble. I want to thank Rick Traver and Scottie Hines for filling in for me. Thank you Lee Mahnke for hosting
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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.

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HOLE NOTES

Official Publication
of the MGCSA

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It's in the hole 

Brackett's Crossing Joins Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System

Brackett's Crossing Country Club has received certification in Environmental Planning from the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS), an international program administered by Audubon International designed to help landowners preserve and enhance the environmental quality of their property. Tom Proshek, Superintendent, and Arik Hemquist, Assistant Superintendent, developed the environmental plan for the property and in doing so were recognized by Audubon International.

By joining and participating in the ACSS, Brackett's Crossing Country Club will undertake projects that enhance habitat for wildlife and preserve natural resources for the benefit of the local community. These projects may include: placing nesting boxes for cavity-nesting birds such as bluebirds and swallows, utilizing integrated pest management techniques, conserving water, and maintaining food and cover for wildlife.

Harold Stodola Research Scramble Set September 24 at The Jewel in Lake City

The Harold Stodola Research Scramble date has been changed to Monday, September 24. The event still will take place at The Jewel Golf Club in Lake City. Host Superintendent is Doug Mahal, CGCS.

President's Message—

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and having the golf course in great shape which made for a day of fun. And congratulations to Tom Steigauf this year's scholarship recipient. Tom attends the U of M at Crookston.

Another outing that conflicted with the busy summer was the Alternative Turfgrass Species Seminar at Big Fish Golf Club. Tod Blankenship spearheaded the event. Involvement like that from a member of the association is very much appreciated. Look for that event to be in July next year and try to make a weekend of it.

And finally it was nice to see many of the Vendors at our Appreciation Day at the Ponds at Battle Creek.

Your part in the association doesn't go unnoticed. If it doesn't rain fairly soon I just may take a little of that slow release water. I hope your summer is going as well as mine is. - James

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