



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### *What a Great Start to the Year!*

By Richard B. (Rick) Traver, CGCS

What a great start to the year. Finally, we have a spring where Mother Nature hasn't scared off all the golfers with rain and or snow. With this economy and the financial position of many clubs it is good to see something go our way early in the year. I understand there was some turf damage over the winter out there; I hope it wasn't too bad. We found out where all our low areas or birdbaths are in the fairways and even on a couple greens. Oh well, that's why we're trained on how to seed and sod. I imagine I'll even take this opportunity to test a few spots not in landing areas to see how fast the poa can return. Here's hoping you all got off to a good start and that God blesses you with green grass and good play!

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**We start our summer meeting season shortly** and thanks to Tom Proshok and his arrangements committee for the great venues we will be visiting this year. To note a few, we start off with our Spring Mixer at Bellwood Oaks (Host Superintendent Bill Gullicks) on May 18 and then move to Wild Marsh Golf Club (Host Superintendent Dave Deem) on June 1 for the Scholarship Scramble. The season continues with Stoneridge GC for the MGCSA Harold Stodola Research Scramble, then moves to Northland CC for the MGCSA Championship and ends with our Fall Mixer at the Horse and Hunt Club in Prior Lake.

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**At our last Board meeting we approved bringing a bylaws change to the membership.** This change would allow for a new voting position on the Board representing the Class C members. Class C members have been and will continue to be eligible to run for director positions as well, but this position will be a designated position for Class C members that the Class C members vote for themselves. We decided to create this position because due to the stagnant growth in our industry, Class C members are going to have to wait a lot longer than in the past to move into Class A positions and many may even become career Class C members. For those who are concerned that there could be too many Class C members on the board, the bylaws require that the majority of board members must be Class A and only Class A members can serve as Officers. If you have any input or questions, please contact one of the current board members or myself.

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**Also, at our last Board meeting Paul Diegnau presented the speaker schedule** for the 2010 Northern Green Expo. There will be some programming changes for 2010, but he and the education committee have again done a fantastic job of bringing in good speakers. Thanks, Paul!

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**On that same note, I would like to thank everyone who participated in the survey about the Northern GreenExpo.** We received a lot of excellent comments and positive feedback. Thanks to Jeff Ische for putting the MGCSA Member Survey together and compiling the data when it was completed. (See Page 8 of this issue for the MGCSA Survey results.)

Take Care,  
Rick Traver

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# HOLE NOTES

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