



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Tick Tock, My Time is Up

By Paul Diegnau, CGCS

Well, my two years leading the MGCSA are drawing to a close. These are challenging times and will probably continue as such. Looking forward, I believe that our association has taken the appropriate steps to help stabilize our economic outlook at least for the short term.

This issue you have in your hands will be the last hard copy of the Hole Notes. Beginning in 2012 this publication will still deliver the same high-quality content you have come to expect but it will only be available electronically, saving us tens of thousands of dollars in printing costs in the years to come. As a gesture of thanks to the vendors who support us, year in and year out, we are lowering our advertising rates to pass on this savings. In the coming year expect to receive e-alerts as new Hole Notes issues are published and made available online. As an added membership benefit we have recently upgraded the MGCSA website to include a members-only section, online purchasing capabilities and a digital membership listing. We will continue to explore additional opportunities to increase the value of MGCSA membership.

Declining participation in MGCSA events has been a topic of discussion many times over the past two years. In 2012 we will be combining the Research and Scholarship tournaments into one big event to be called "The Scramble." It is our hope that combining two tournaments will create more excitement and enthusiasm and possibly return us to the days of 120+ player events.

At the same time we added the Wee One tournament into our rotation. This runs counter to our downsizing initiative but the value of the tournament to our industry is hard to argue with. Helping our own members solidifies this industry. We hope to see this tournament continue to grow in participation and support in the future. Due to the hard work of Dale Parske, John Meyer, and Tom Proshok and the generosity of our vendors and mem-

bers, the 2011 Wee One Tournament held at North Oaks Golf Club raised almost \$8,000 for the Wee One Foundation. Thank you to all who participated in one way or another! On a related note, Tom Fuller, who was assisted by the Wee One Foundation in 2010, appears to have turned the corner on the road to a full recovery. I recently read on The Caring Bridge website that he is gaining back the weight he lost and feels the best he has felt in many, many months. Happy Holidays, Tom!

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve the members of the MGCSA. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working with our Board of Directors. They are an intelligent, open-minded group that is not afraid to think outside the box. Our association is in good hands and on solid ground! Thank you to each and every one of you for taking the time from your busy lives to serve your fellow members.

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas!
Paul Diegnau, CGCS

HOLE NOTES

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Editor
Jack MacKenzie, CGCS
jmackenzie426@msn.com

2011 Board of Directors

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Paul Diegnau CGCS
Keller GC
651-766-4174

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MGCSA OFFICE
AND HOLE NOTES OFFICE

Executive Director
Scott Turtinen
P. O. Box 617
Wayzata, MN 55391
952-473-2582 Fax: 952-473-2586
Toll Free: 1-800-642-7227
scott@mgcsa.org

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