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January 7
Up North Outreach
Northland Country Club
Host Jake Ryan

January 14
Beer and Pretzel Social
Northern Green Expo
Hosts 27 Hole Challenge Affiliates

January 19
Shop Tours
Minnesota Valley, Olympic Hills
and Dwan GC
Hosts Mike Brower, Jake Schmitz and
Jim Riekena

February 17
Lakes Outreach
Grandview Lodge
Mike Bohnenstingl

February 25
The National
Hard Rock Cafe, San Antonio
Hosts Mike Kelly and Larry Gorman

On the Cover
Roger Stewart CGCS
President MGCSA 2014

Now Available:
Member Driven Research-
from the UMN

Assistant’s Pro Forum
and Advanced Agronomy
Picture Spreads!

Vol. 48, No. 10 November/December 2014
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Hole Notes (ISSN 108-27994) is digitally published monthly except bimonthly in November/December and January/February by the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents’ Association, 10050 204th Street North, Forest Lake, MN 55025. Jack MacKenzie CGCS publisher. Please send any address changes, articles for publication, advertising and concerns to jack@mgcsa.org.
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This will be my last President’s Message and I want to thank all of the members of MGCSA for their support during my time on the Board of Directors. The time spent as a Director and Officer of this association has been very rewarding for me, as I have watched and participated in a number of significant changes that continue to have a positive impact on the growth of this association. I thank all those members of the Board of Directors with whom I have served for their service and dedication to our association. In particular, I want to recognize the efforts of Scottie Hines CGCS for his vision and guidance over the past three years both as President and most recently as Past President. As President, and with the support of his ex-officio Paul Diegnau CGCS, Scottie guided the Board of Directors through the most significant period of change in the last twenty years or more when we decided to go in another direction with the management of the association. His vision and foresight are responsible for the framework of success that will continue to validate our efforts well into the future. I look forward to serving Scottie as Past President.

At the upcoming Annual Meeting at the Green Expo, you will hear about the many initiatives, successes and accomplishments MGCSA has had over the past year. Together, there are too many to mention here, but I would like to mention four that I feel have had the most impact on our association over the past year. The first is the successful initiation of the Member Driven Research, which will continue to pay dividends for every member well into the future, and enrich our strong relationship with the turf research program at the University of Minnesota. The second is the outreach program, which was developed out of our strategic planning meeting two years ago, and continues to grow our bond with our outstate members making MGCSA truly a state association. The third is our growing relationship with the Wee One Foundation, which has generously supported several MGCSA members and their families as they battle with serious illness. Our commitment to the Wee One event here in Minnesota grows every year and I thank those who participate and donate to this very worthy cause. The fourth is the ongoing effort by MGCSA and our allied associations of the MPGA, MGA, CMAA and MWGCOA serving on the Minnesota Golf Environmental Stewardship Committee. This committee has built significant relationships with Minnesota regulatory agencies to develop a Golf Course Environmental Certification program built on established and validated best management practices. Through these relationships, we can provide irrefutable evidence that golf courses are good for the environment and are good stewards of water and natural resources. Stay tuned for more information on this critically important work for our future.

The Board of Directors sets the course each year for our association and works diligently to ensure the agenda is followed and the goals are met. There is one person who carries out the plan and is ultimately responsible for the success of our initiatives and that is our Executive Director, Jack Mackenzie. What Jack has accomplished in the last three years is nothing short of amazing and he deserves every recognition I can give him. His work on Rounds for Research, the Wee One outing, Environmental Stewardship Committee, Outreach, Member Driven Research, Stimmeter, Hole Notes, building relationships with regulators, allied associations and legislators is the driving force that helps keep our association moving forward every day. Without his unrelenting energy and dedication to our association, we would fall woefully short of our goals. Please take the time to thank Jack for all he does for MGCSA the next time you see him.

On behalf of your Board of Directors, I am happy to tell you that the MGCSA is a strong association on all fronts. MGCSA is known nationwide as a progressive and proactive association that looks to the future and sees opportunity to build on their founding pillars of Education, Outreach and Advocacy. Because your Board of Directors seeks out the opinions of your Past Presidents every year, I can assure you that I will remain active as your President Emeritus. Members of MGCSA have much to be proud of and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to lead this great association.
Presidential Perspective
by Roger Stewart, CGCS Superintendent at TPC Twin Cities

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Your best educational value of the year is at Northern Green Expo – just look at these speakers!

There are many more great seminars and speakers to look forward to at the 2015 Northern Green Expo! To view the entire preliminary schedule-at-a-glance, visit www.NorthernGreenExpo.org.

**FUNGICIDE CHEMISTRIES AND MODES OF ACTION**
This seminar will provide a review of the major classes of fungicides used for disease control on golf courses. Mode of action, systemicity and resistance development will be a focus for the talk. The best uses for the control of key diseases will also be covered. This seminar will also highlight new fungicide products and how they can be best used.

**POA ANNUAL DISEASES – BROWN RING PATCH, ANTHRACNOSE, & SUMMER PATCH**
This seminar will highlight information on three key diseases of annual bluegrass used as golf course turf: brown ring (Waitea) patch, anthracnose, and summer patch. Identification, timing and key cultural and chemical controls will be discussed. Integrated management of these diseases in seasonal programs will be featured.

**DISEASE MANAGEMENT TIPS FOR HARD TO CONTROL DISEASES**
This seminar will highlight information on “hard to control” and emerging diseases of golf course turf. Tips and tricks for the control of fairy ring, fungicide-resistant dollar spot, and bacterial diseases will be highlighted. Cultural and chemical controls will be discussed, including the development of seasonal control programs.

**USGA RULES OF GOLF AND HOW THEY AFFECT COURSE MAINTENANCE**
Golf course maintenance and the Rules of Golf should work hand-in-hand with each other. However, they can be at odds with each other if not handled properly. This session will offer superintendents and administrators a look at how to improve day-to-day maintenance procedures (e.g. course signage, hazard marking, etc.) while also affording the golfer a proper field to play on.

**BIography**
Frank Wong, Ph.D., is a technical specialist and part of the Green Solutions Team at Bayer Environmental Science. He is based in the Washington, D.C. area and focuses on the Mid Atlantic and Northeastern U.S. Prior to joining Bayer, Dr. Wong was an associate professor and turf disease specialist at the University of California, Riverside, from 2001-2011, where he had statewide research and extension responsibilities. He earned a B.S. in Biochemistry from the University of California, Davis and a Ph.D. in Plant Pathology from Cornell University. Dr. Wong currently has national responsibilities for technical service for Bayer’s fungicide portfolio for turf grass use. He has been an associate editor for Plant Disease and editor in chief of Plant Disease Management Reports. In addition to participation in many state and regional turfgrass conferences around the United States, he has also lectured internationally on turfgrass disease identification and management. He has been a GCSAA faculty member since 2003 and is an instructor for the warm season turf disease course.

**BIography**
Tyler Riggin is a graduate of The University of Tennessee and has 11 years of experience in golf administration with The Golf Association of Philadelphia, The Pennsylvania Golf Association, and United States Golf Association. Riggin is currently Director, Regional Affairs - Great Lakes Region (representing 7 states).
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“Go placidly amid the noise and haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence”
I meditate daily…when I remember to.

Like a tattoo upon skin, the opening words and content espoused upon in the Desiderata have been etched into my mind since a young boy. Hung upon the wall in the bathroom I shared with my brother in my youth, at the time the sentences never really resonated as I had seen them so often that the letters just smeared together. It was a token posting to read while passing a few moments each day.

Not until I received my own, framed copy to take with me to freshman year at college did I begin taking the message to heart. Besides being comprehensive and easy to read, the material was applicable to many situations encountered in my life.

“As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons.”
In my earlier days, I was often distraught for long periods of time, even years, over individuals for whom I thought had done me wrong…such a waste of my time and energy.

“Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even the dull and the ignorant; they too have their story.”
Honesty is truth; just don’t ask me a question that you might not like my answer to. Sometimes it is hard, but hearing is as important to listening.

“Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain and bitter; for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.”
I like whom I am, where I am and when I am in this continuum of time we call ‘life’. And I am very grateful for my existence, no greater than or lesser than anyone else.

“Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.”

I loved being a golf course superintendent and am equally enamored with this chapter of my life. Everyday is another adventure. I own my destiny.

“Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism.”
With great appreciation, I trust and value the opinions and insight of others…but I am not stupid and invest, fiscally and emotionally, with reasonable vigilance.

“Be yourself. Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is as perennial as the grass.”
This line is cool as it mentions grass! I am who I am.

“Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth.”
I’m not ready for this as getting old really sucks.

“Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.”
A recovering alcoholic, divorcer and sometimes too hard on myself, I am fortunate to have a ‘higher power’ whom I can disclose my worst fears to and unburden myself.

“Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.”
I’m a guy and I really, really like affirmation.

“Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be, and whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul. With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.”
My framed copy The Desiderata resides upon the wall in my office for easy reference. Yes, it is a beautiful world, be cheerful and strive to achieve happiness.

I wish each of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.