# **HOLE NOTES**

Official Publication of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association

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Editorial and Business Office
Scott Turtinen, Executive Director
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association
240 Minnetonka Avenue South/P.O. Box 617
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391-1617
TEL: 612/473-0557 • FAX: 612/473-0576
TOLL FREE: 800-642-7227

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

## Trick Or Treat



Some members have expressed displeasure at being unable to play in the Garske Scramble with their staffs at White Bear Yacht Club this past July. I can emphathize with their feelings, but this event, now in its second year, is suffering from the joys of success. Last year, we couldn't fill one course. This year, as entries kept arriving, we had to scramble to find alternate sites to accommodate the additional demand and were unsuccessful in accomplishing this task. If we goofed, accept our apologies, but no one expected this event to become so successful. Next year, we are looking at a double shotgun start, something which just wasn't possible this year. Meanwhile, please register early fo rthese events in the future. We can then accommodate all those who wish to play.

For those in the Twin Cities area, be aware that a fertilizer and pesticide ordinance is being proposed that could affect your golf course operation in both St. Paul and Minneapolis. Both ordinances follow the same model and are expected to stress similar components. Major points include limitations on phosphorus in fertilizers, waterway buffer zone establishment, and pesticide posting requirements. Your association, in concert with others, is actively lobbying to influence this legislation. Copies of the Minneapolis ordinance, to be heard October 18, are available from our office. Please contact Kevin Clunis or myself with your comments.

Many thanks to Cary Femrite, Dale Wysocki, and Research Chair Joe Moris for their fine work during the Stodola Research Tourney at St. Paul's Hillcrest Country Club. Our efforts netted the research trust fund an additional \$10,000 as we now have reached 2/3rds of our \$100,000 goal. Thanks also to Hillcrest Country Club and superintendent George Ostler, Jr. and staff for making their club available to us. We appreciate all those who played on this cold and wet day.

Congratulations to Jim Gardner's Rochester Golf and Country Club for successfully hosting the USGA's Women's Mid-Amateur event. This completes a busy schedule of major events this last year in Minnesota with the National Mid-Amateur Championship to be held at Hazeltine National Golf Club and Wayzata Country Club next year. On the local level, Paul Mayes' team from Northfork won the MGA Net Foursome Championship event at The Pines at Grand View Lodge, defeating the second place team of host superintendent Tom Kientzle. Some people must not be working long enough!

After two years of surprise Halloween snowfalls, I'm sure that no one will be tricked by winter's onslaught this year. Treat yourself to some snow mold control alternatives this fall as mercury-based choices become effectively banned after this winter. If there is one rational thought about our weather these past two years, it's that it acts irritationally. Be prepared for its unpredictability.

-Greg Hubbard, CGCS

President

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