

Editor's Corner

By Steve Shumansky
Perham Lakeside Country Club



SPRING....RIGHT??

Tell me it's really spring. But it happens to be the beginning of March. Wait a minute, it was in the 60's yesterday, and now it's snowing. OK, it has changed to rain, OOPS, now snow again!! Are you open yet?? I was for a few days, But we got 6 inches of snow and now we're closed again. Have you taken your greens covers off yet?? Yes, I did for a couple days, but the weather turned and we covered them again. Sound familiar?? This is nuts!! There's nothing like a little early revenue. But when courses are opening in February and the weather cooperates.. We must have shifted to the banana belt, or not. This makes me wonder what is in store for us this upcoming season. What is the weather going to be like? The Farmers Almanac is calling for unseasonably warm temps and below average precipitation for most of the season. So, all I can say is, be prepared!! Make sure your irrigation systems are in tip top shape.

AND AWAY WE GO.....

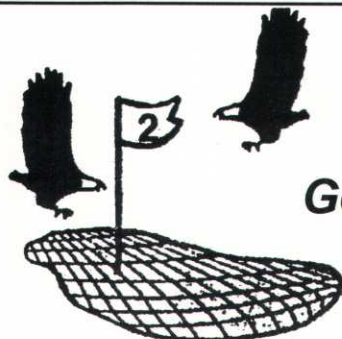
Sure it's early and most of us are just getting going. But one would think that some of the bitching wouldn't start until at least May or June!!! But the concept of, what did you do all winter; has me a little teed off. For many of us, most people wonder exactly what we do in the winter months.

Well, I have news for all of them... we work about 40 hours just like they do. But for most of us, 40 hours is like a part time job. Sure, we all take time off and relax a little, but who doesn't in the off season. But at the beginning of spring, before things really get going, you start to get crap about nothing that is nobody's business. Most of them seem to make it their business, maybe it's insecurity or lack of things to do. They just worry about your job more than they think you do, (and that is supposed to make them an expert). The course down the road opened, why can't we? Their greens are so much faster than ours. Why can't we have the same sand in our bunkers. Do most of them real-

ize what is going on? Sure, be politically correct, (been there done that), and does it help?? Most of the time it puts fires out, but help?? Usually not. Sure, it's the nature of the beast and no one makes us do what we're doing. But at the same time, let us do our jobs. We are all professionals and have a game plan for everything we do. Why should we have to explain our actions to every Tom, Dick and Harry.

I guess, in short, we just do. HOW ABOUT SAYING THANKS...For many of us, most of our full-time people as well as our full-time seasonal people have returned,(with the exception of our summer staff). With all of that considered, why not show them now, how much you appreciate them. Once we get busy, we don't seem to have the time or make the time to show them how much we really appreciate them. So that time is now!! I have learned a little goes a long way for morale. Buy your staff breakfast or lunch once in a while, do the unexpected some times. If you have a grill at your shop or have access to one, buy some burgers or whatever, have a cookout, and have an extended lunch period, or make a big pot of chili if the temps are a little cool. Talk about things outside of work, leave work for working hours and just kick back and let everyone enjoy themselves. Life is way too short to be on the go all the time. So take some time out to smell the roses and become a family, a team or what ever you want to call it. You all spend a lot of time together. So make it worth everyone's and show them how much you care. The rewards are worth millions!! With that, I'll close, I hope your spring is full of blossoms and beauty and somewhat non-stressful events.

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**Plan to Attend
MGCSA's April Meeting
At River Falls
On Tuesday, April 18,**

**Speaker: Jon Powell
University of Minnesota**