



Editor's Corner

By Richard Traver, Jr., CGCS
Monticello Country Club

It's Almost Over - Really

Well, for those of you who read my column last month and are still looking at snow, I apologize for my optimism. I guess when you have a couple of warm springs in a row you start to believe the "global warming" people and assume the new norm is that the snow will be gone in early March. However, one must remember when talking about the average temperatures - that to arrive at an average you need highs and lows.

Mini-Seminar

For any of you whom aren't aware, James Bade, with help from his committee members, is the person in charge of arranging your educational seminars. He deserves a pat on the back for the excellent job of putting together a great Mini Seminar, as well as arranging for two great topics from the GCSAA. I personally attended all three and found them to be very interesting.

I found the information we received from Dr. Danneberger was informative, however it seemed to open the door for more questions than it answered. One issue that seems to be resurfacing with some regularity is the resistant strains of pathogens, particularly for Dollar Spot. I have attended seminars from three very prominent professors in the turf field over the last several years and found that all their opinions on the subject are slightly different. Luckily I don't spray enough fungicides on my course at the present time to really have a pressing concern about resistance. However, from the conversations in the Turfgrass Ecology seminar it sounded like many of you have run into some interesting case studies. May be a great topic for an article in the Hole Notes.

If you have had any issues with staff or if you are responsible for your Green Committee meetings, the seminar from Dr. Bree Hayes was excellent. Finally, while it was disappointing that Geoffrey Cornish could not make the seminar due to bad weather out east, Bob Graves did an excellent job of bringing out all the budding golf course architects in our association.

National Tree Vote

The National Arbor Day Foundation is looking for help to name a national tree. If you would like to cast a vote send a postcard with your choice and your name and address to: National Tree, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410. Or for the more computer savvy, vote on line at arborday.org. All votes must be cast by April 27 (Arbor Day). If anyone is interested I voted for the white pine.

Membership Dues

Dues statements have been mailed out to all members. If

you didn't notice, the due day has been moved up to May 1. In previous years dues were due June 1, however with late arrivals etc. it was impossible to print our membership directory, and have it in the memberships hands until late in the season. By moving the date up and solidifying the cut-off date, the hope is we will be able to get a current directory out to the membership in a more timely fashion. Also there will be a little less personal information in the directory saving printing costs.

Recuperating

Tim Berquam, Bergerson-Caswell, Inc., is recuperating from cervical laminoplasty surgery near his neck and spine. Surgery went well but will keep Tim around the house for another month. Our best goes out to Tim for a speedy recovery.

Hasta Luego

In keeping with Dr. Bree Hayes #1 rule, start on time - end on time, I'll finish. I hope as the snow melts, you find that your turf didn't and that everyone has a great start to the season.

--Richard Traver, Jr., CGCS
Editor

2001 Annual Bluebird Conference

Saturday - April 21

Monticello Middle School

800 East Broadway, Monticello, MN 55362

Registration: 8 - 9 A.M. Program: 9 A.M. - 4 P.M.

Program Highlights:

News from the Non-Game Wildlife Program.....Carrol Henderson
How to be ticked off on the Bluebird Trail.....Tom Nicholls
Wildlife at the Monticello Nuclear Power Plant.....Dave Winsted
Nesting Habits of Swallows.....Bruce Wollmering
Weather Effects on some Cavity Nesters.....Richard Hjort
Comparative uses of Various Nest Boxes.....Kevin Berner
On the Bluebird Trail.....Keith Radel

Morning and Afternoon Coffee Breaks with Bluebird Cookies.

Sales Items -- Displays -- Silent Auction

Special Conference Tour:

Field Trip to the Monticello Nuclear Power Plant
with Barry Schmitt and Larry Nolan

Lunch by Granny D's Catering:

Meat & Cheese Platter, Vegetable, Croissant,
Pasta Salad, Home-made Pie, Beverage - \$7.75/ person
Lunch Reservations required before April 12, 2001

Mail Reservation & Check to:

BBRP Conference, Box 3801, Minneapolis, MN 55403

For more information, call **(763) 561-1761**