

# HOLE NOTES

Official Publication  
of the  
Minnesota Golf Course  
Superintendents' Association

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## From Your President's Desk



E. Paul Eckholm, CGCS

## Inevitable Long Days And Weekends Lie Ahead

As Spring tries to force it's way into our area we will all once again be faced with the inevitable long days and weekends. As one of my predecessors pointed out in one of his columns, we all need to take some time to spend with our families or friends away from work. As committed as we all are to our professions we must still remember that it is a job like any other and in order to be productive we must take the time to recharge our batteries.

\* \* \* \*

**The Research Committee had a meeting recently** to which we invited many of the vendor members to get their input on the Drive for the 'U' program. There were many great suggestions on ways to kick start the research program at the St. Paul Campus, thanks to all those who attended. All of the vendors received their Drive for the 'U' request forms and many have sent them back with pledges, look for the list printed in this publication. Also look at the needs list for any items you may be able to help out with. We will be running the contribution list through the end of the year in each of the *Hole Notes* issues.

\* \* \* \*

**The legislative session is fast becoming history.** The phosphorous bill was killed by an unlikely source, the municipalities. They were not at all happy that they would not be able to enact more stringent ordinances than the state law so they fought hard to keep the bill from getting introduced in the Senate. This is actually bad news for us. It means that many municipalities will try to get ordinances in place before next years legislative session so that they will fall under the grandfather clause. And many of these cities will be looking for an all out ban on the use of phosphorous regardless of who, what or where it is being applied. So keep tuned to your local government and be sure to be active in the drafting of the ordinance.

**The other bill with an effect on our industry was the pesticide license bill.** This bill would require all applicators of pesticides to golf course to be licensed. The bill passed committees in the Senate but was not introduced in the House. Look for this bill to make a comeback in 2002.

The Board is busy setting budgets for the next fiscal year and is looking at a modest increase in dues to match inflation. It is the feeling of the Board that we will not let the Association get into dire need of a dues increase but will instead try to keep pace with modest increases when needed.

As always if you have a question or comment feel free to contact me or any other Board member, this is after all your association. Have a great start-up and remember to take some time for yourself.

--Paul Eckholm, CGCS  
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