



ON BOARD

Musing the Monthly Minutes

By Rick Traver, CGCS
Monticello Country Club

Hello to all! What a wonderful summer it has been so far. I hope everyone is having a great year so far, and the economy isn't affecting your course or departments.

Your Board of Directors met on Tuesday, June 17 at the Boulder Point Golf Course. I wasn't able to be in attendance, however our very capable and talented executive director filled in with excellent minutes allowing me to write this informative and insightful article.

In Communications the MGCSA is looking at reserving a block of rooms for the GCSAA annual turf conference in San Diego next year. In conjunction with that event the Industrial Relations committee is looking at either a beach party or cruise for our annual get together.

For those of you that have yet to take the Power Limited Technician test. Good Luck! I took the test last week and have to be honest that I wasn't as diligent about studying as I should have been. I did pass with a 92, but that is only because I have always been good at taking tests. When I went through the memory part of the test the honest truth is I was positive about eight answers. So I had to draw on the help of some common sense and the processes of elimination to be successful. None the less I have now passed and with my \$30 license fee will join the legions of Power Limited Technicians that have invaded the turf scene.

Scott Turtinen reporting on business office activities stated that over 100 superintendents and 22 affiliates have not paid their 2003 dues. The roster is going to press and they will not be included in the first run. As a reminder the roster this year will be a 3-ring binder that can have updated pages added more easily and reduce the cost in subsequent years. Scott also reported that the 2002-03 tax information has been sent to the accountants.

Human Resources reported there is some concern that several superintendents out east have been losing their jobs over trivial matters. The concern is that this could creep to Minnesota. There was some discussion about communication between the Superintendent and his or her Board of Directors. While I wasn't privy to the conversation, my personal opinion is that you make sure you keep the lines of communication open and make your people feel like they can talk with you.

The MTGF reported that Field days at the U of M are scheduled for July 24th. Dr. Horgan has a number of projects going on. Phosphorus certification will take place at the field days.

The MTGF has decided to donate up to \$15,000 for the Turf Pathology position for 2-years. They are also donating \$5,000 to Brad Pederson and his landscape program as well as \$2500 to the Society of Arboriculture.

Finally the Research committee reported that University of Minnesota endowment of \$25,000 is now due. The Board approved the payment. Also under the research committee was the Troe Center Hole-in-One promotion. This has been postponed and the committee will readdress the program this winter to have time to promote the concept.

Good luck! -RT

Roxberg Receives 2003 MGCSA Turf Scholarship



MGCSA Scholarship Recipient Steve Roxberg, left, with Wayzata Country Club Superintendent Bob Distel. Steve is Bob's Assistant Superintendent at Wayzata Country Club.

Steve Roxberg, assistant superintendent at Wayzata Country Club, was the recipient of the 2003 MGCSA Turf Scholarship.

Steve, 32, Minnetonka was graduated in 1989 from St. Thomas Academy where he also lettered in golf. Growing up in Lakeville, Minn., Steve started out on skates but soon took to skis. He joined the Highland Hills Ski Club in Bloomington, Minn., and four years later, at age 16, Steve made the United States Ski Team.

From 1987 to 1999, Steve competed around the world as a member of the U.S. Freestyle Team. "The U.S. Team provided all the financial backing and I committed my time and life for a dozen years. It was eight or nine months on snow during those years and in the spare three to four months I worked on the grounds crew at a golf course." Steve won the national freestyle championship in 1988, 89, 90, 98, 99 and a World Cup title.

After 12 years on the team, Steve says he felt ready to move on. He and his wife Victoria had married a year earlier and he had already started a turf degree at Anoka-Hennepin Technical College.

Steve worked at the same course for 17 years, Scottdale Golf Club in Lakeville. The summer golf season complemented his winter training schedule, so he kept returning.

Following his first year at Anoka-Hennepin, Steve took an internship at Wayzata Country Club. He graduated in 2000 and returned to Wayzata as the second assistant. In 2001, he was promoted to first assistant, where he is today.

Last winter Steve began a two-year Turfgrass Management degree at The Pennsylvania State University.