



Presidential Perspective

by Scottie Hines CGCS

Wow, mid-October already! Seems odd to have this much play, be using this much irrigation water and having this much staff on at this time of the year? The weather forecast FINALLY has some rain in it. I will believe it when I see it. I obviously have not been in Minnesota my entire life but it has been a very long time since I have seen conditions this dry. A nice four-day soaker would be great right about now.

The Wee One fund raiser was held at North Oaks last week. What a great day and a great cause! We raised over \$14,000 for our recipient, Dale Ledstrom of Tim's Tree Service, this year. Dale was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia and is now awaiting a bone marrow transplant from his brother. The Wee One is a foundation set up to donate funds to members of the golf industry during times of financial hardship due to emergency or life threatening health events. Simply, this is "us" taking care of "us". If you have been a supporter, please continue. If you have not been a supporter, please consider it. I certainly hope to never have to tap this fund but I will find a way to support it as I follow my career path in this industry. From all of us, best wishes for a complete recovery Dale!

The Fall Mixer was held at the Minnesota Horse and Hunt Club yesterday. Another great day! I even goaded Jack MacKenzie to tote a gun along and do some extra shooting after the event. Not a bad shooter, I might add. Congratulations to Jon Glader winner of the 2012 MGCSA Gun Raffle. He takes home a very nice Weatherby 12 gauge, O/U shotgun. Erin Mc Manus was High Gun only dropping 4 targets! Well done. Not a bad day for Jon, Erin or anyone who shot!

The call for GCSAA Committee Volunteers has gone out. The deadline to sign up is October 24. You can sign up for up to five committees. There are many to choose from. Things like expertise in a given field, prior local chapter leadership and local chapter committee work will be considered when GCSAA makes its committee appointments. This is a great way to give back to our national association, expand your industry network, learn and forge new relationships. I sit on the Government Relations Committee and I can't begin to explain what a great experience it has been. I will be honest, I was a little intimidated at first but the GCSAA staff and the other committee members made me feel very welcome and very comfortable. Most of the committee work has been done via conference call or e-mail. The time commitment is minimal. Please consider volunteering for a committee, with GCSAA or MGCSA.

Speaking of the GCSAA GR Committee, our latest endeavor has been creating the GCSAA Priority Issues Agenda. These are the issues the Committee recommends to GCSAA for focused attention by staff and the appropriate committees. On the list to be considered for 2013 are: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Fertilizers, Labor and Immigration, Pesticides, The Value of Golf and Water Management. I am sure you will be hearing more from GCSAA or me on these issues in the near future.

Kevin Clunis, CGCS recently attended the Chapter Delegates meeting at GCSAA HQ. He will be giving us a re-cap of the meetings at our next board meeting. Thanks Kevin for taking the time and effort to act as the MGCSA Delegate.

It has been a long summer and as we wind into fall and shorter days take advantage and get a few of those things done you have had on the back burner since early summer. It is almost time to relax, even if only for a little while....