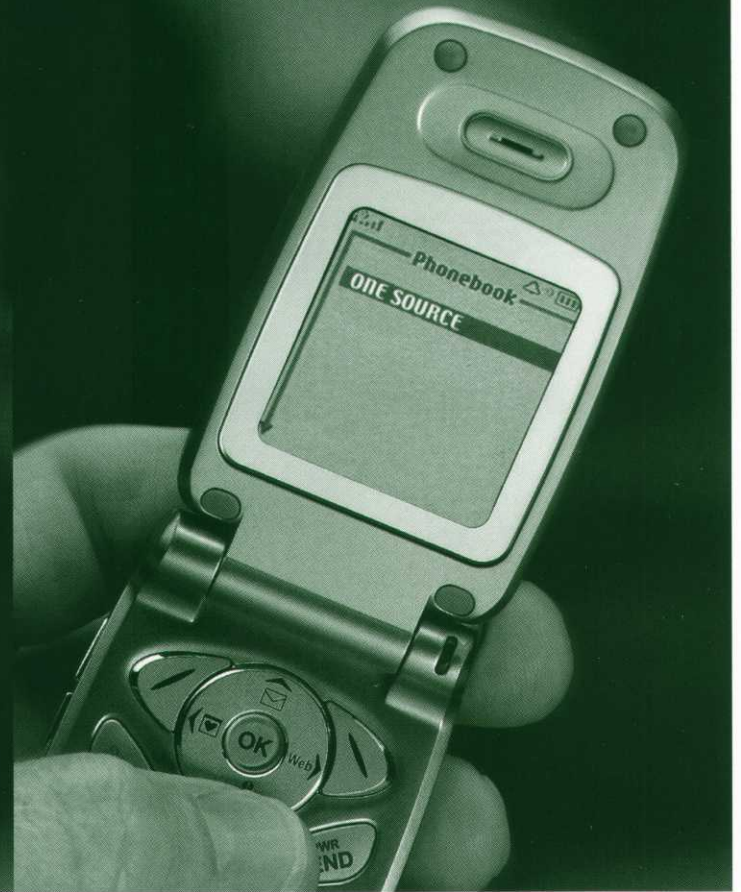


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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Realizing the "Value" of Belonging To a Professional Organization

By Robert Panuska



The wind blew and the course was tough for our annual MGCSA championship held at Edina Country Club on the 13th of September, but in the end Jeff Pint from New Prague Golf Club emerged as the winner. Mike Kelly and his staff had the course in top tournament condition. Thanks to everyone who played.

* * * *

At our last Board meeting we talked about, among other things, the value of the MGCSA to our profession and the individual member. This discussion emerged out of the issue that there are close to 200 golf courses in Minnesota that are not represented in the MGCSA. I'm sure that some just do not know that the association even exists, although that is hard to believe because we do make semi-annual mailings to these clubs. Some may feel the cost is too much with the "dual membership" requirement in GCSAA. There are some that feel "the association doesn't do anything for me."

I know I am writing to the choir so to say, because if you are reading this you are more than likely a member and I want to personally thank you for the support and trust you have placed in the MGCSA. However, if you are not a member or know someone who is not, I would ask that you look very closely at the "value" of belonging to a professional association.

Article I of our constitution and bylaws states: The objective of the association shall be to advance the art and science of golf course management, to collect and disseminate among member superintendents practical solutions to problems with a view to more efficient and economical maintenance and production of golf courses, and to promote the welfare of the superintendent and the profession.

That is quite a mouthful, but it does cover all the bases. *Hole Notes*, job postings, website, membership roster, environmental CD/guide, cooperative legislative activities with the Minnesota Golf Association, GCSAA seminar sponsorship, March Mini-Seminar, regular monthly meetings, University of Minnesota TROE Center and research support, Scholarship program, active role in the Minnesota Turf and Grounds Foundation and the planning of the educational program at the Minnesota Green Expo. But the most valuable benefit of belonging to the MGCSA is peer support and networking with others in the business. Ask yourself the question, "would I be where I am now in this profession if the MGCSA did not exist?"

As I have said before, please contact me if you have questions, concerns or comments about the MGCSA. The Board of Directors is here to serve you. Let us know how we can do a better job of meeting you needs.

Until next month,
Rob

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New Prague Golf Club Assistant Jeff Pint Wins His Second MGCSA Championship

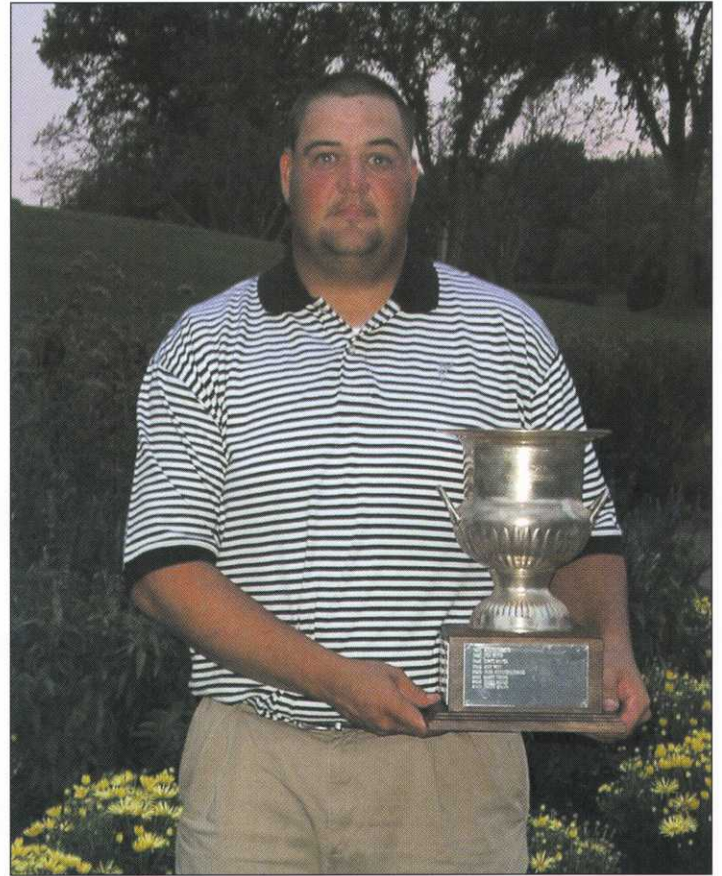
In blustery conditions with wind gusts up to 30 mph, Jeff Pint, Assistant Superintendent at New Prague Golf Club, shot a six-over par 78 at Edina Country Club on September 13th to win the 29th MGCSA Championship. Jeff is a past champion who won the event in 1999.

Two-shots back at 80 was Dan Hinton, Jackson Golf Club, Barry Provo, Deer Run Golf Course, and Tom Notch, Bent Creek Golf Club, tied for third by carding 81s.

Edina's Host Superintendent Mike Kelly had Edina Country Club's golf course in tournament shape. Pins were tucked and the wind made for a tough track.

The staff at Edina Country Club was very responsive and supplied first-class accommodations. The MGCSA expresses thanks to PGA Pro Marty Lass and his staff for their help in running this event.

Terry Negen, The Crossings Golf Club in Montevideo, won First Flight honors by netting a 2-over-par 74 after firing an 86. Negen won by three-shots over Scott Austin, Midland Hills Country Club; Dave Kazmierczak, Prestwick Golf Club, and Mike Nelson, Dacotah Ridge Golf Club.



2004 MGCSA Champion Jeff Pint
Assistant Superintendent, New Prague Golf Club

E-Z-GO's Mark Lies took Second Flight honors with a net score of 73. Second place went to Brian Jordan, Edina Country Club, shooting a net 74.

Brian Boll, Interlachen Country Club, captured the Callaway Flight with a net score of 74.

This year's Senior champion is Jim O'Neill, Cycle Works of Minnesota, who shot a net 79. Finishing in second place was John Glattly, Twin City Seed, who scored 80.

Jay Monson, Davis Sun Turf, and Rod Johnson, Willow Creek Golf Course, won the two Long Drive competitions. The four closest-to-the-pin winners were: Dennis Salwei, Verdicon; Brooks Ellingson, Albion Ridges Golf Club; Jeff Pint, and Jay Monson.

Next up for the MGCSA is the Fall Mixer at The Crossings Golf Club in Montevideo on October 11. This event is free of charge for all MGCSA members.

Thanks to all Affiliate members who sponsored our annual MGCSA events this season.

(See Championship Results on Page 38)

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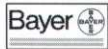
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Bunker Solutions

By Tim Johnson

Superintendent, Spring Hill Golf Club

History

One of the challenges we faced during the construction of Spring Hill Golf Club was how to maintain sand on steep faced slopes of our bunkers. Although these bunkers fit into the landscape nicely, during any 'normal' rain event, our sand would naturally wash down from the face of the bunker causing a myriad of future problems. Extensive labor repairing the bunkers, siltation of our bunker sand, and subgrade erosion were the main problems we tried to solve during construction. Our first goal was to look at how our drainage would be installed.

We felt that while we couldn't control every rainstorm, we might be able to alleviate the amount of sand washing out by capturing the subsurface water in a tile and quickly getting rid of it through pipes. We installed the typical drain lines in the base of the bunkers as well as added 'face drains' to get the water into pipes prior to it continuing down the subgrade eroding the sand with it (Figure 1).

Our next goal was to find a way to keep the subgrade intact in the event of large rain events. While we felt there was no benefit in using typical liners that were available in the late 1990's, we still were in



Figure 1

search of some solution to the potential contamination of our bunker sand from subgrade erosion. While thumbing through a contractor's supply catalog, I found a product that claimed to be a 'soil solidifier.' My initial thought was to use it to create some temporary construction parking and for aggregate cart path solidification. After successfully testing this product for roads, we got the idea to try

this product on bunker subgrades. What we found was a product that could offer us a solution to the bunker sand contamination issue.

We played around with many different application techniques, rates, and soil preparation processes and came up with a way to put an impermeable membrane under the bunker sand that would conform to the surface of the bunker subgrade, stabilize the soil, and aid in keeping the sand up on the face of the bunkers. What we came up with was a process that is easy, efficient, and most of all, it worked.

Following some success in our bunker application, we decided to specify the Klingstone in our bunkers on the entire golf course. After ordering numerous drums of the Klingstone product, I got a call from the company asking me what we were doing with their product. The company president was an avid golfer so when I told him we were using it on the golf course he became very interested. They flew out to check out our use of the product. After working with us and assuring themselves this product was going to do what we thought it would, Klingstone became a product in the golf course market.

(Continued on Page 11)



Figure 2



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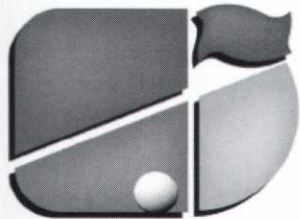
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Southview Superintendent Roger Kisch invents the I-Gang 3 Rotary Mower with help from National Mower.



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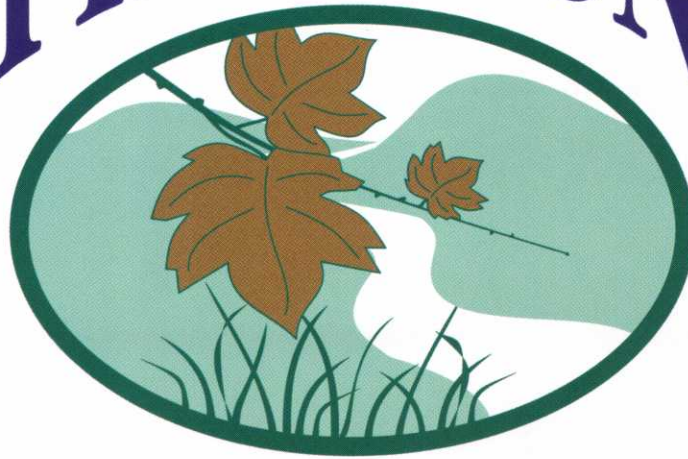
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