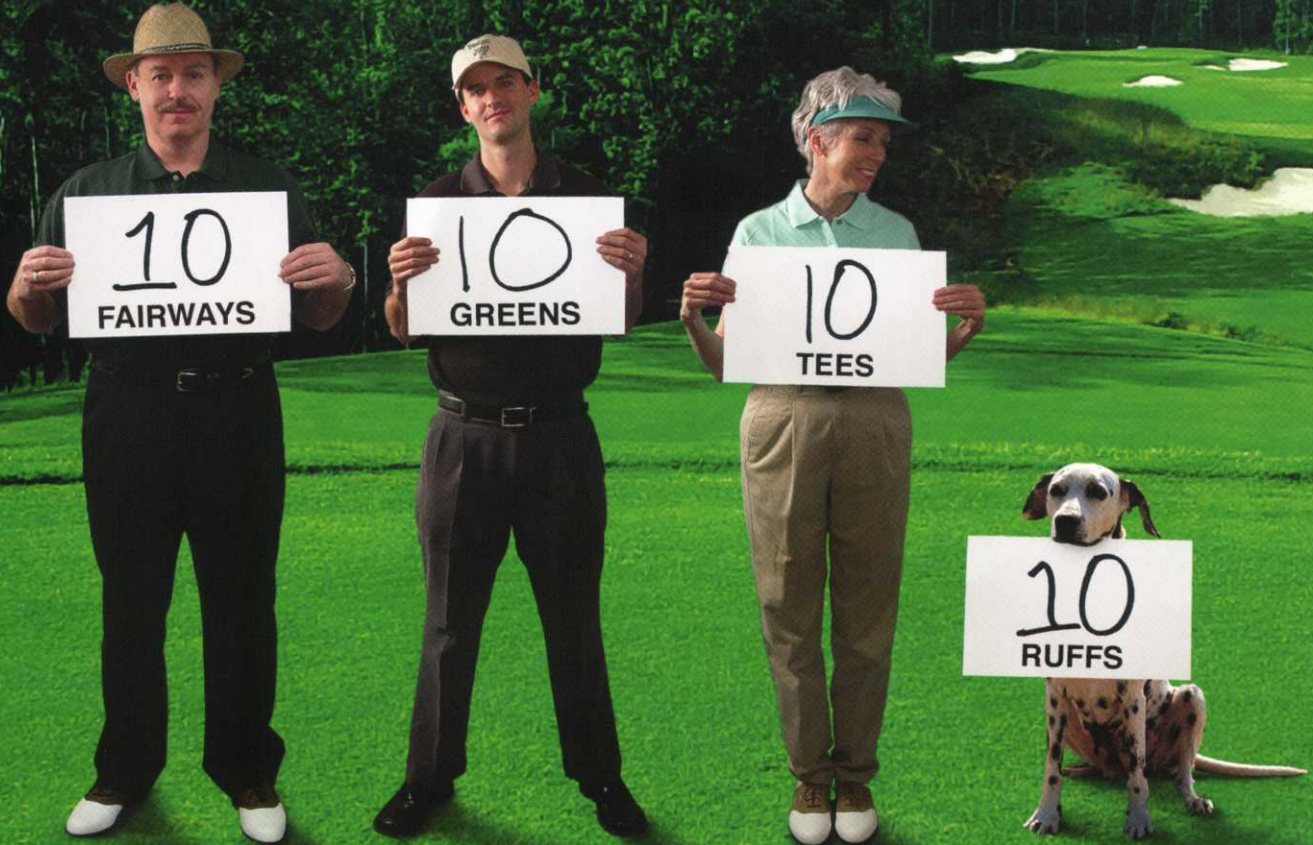


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About the Cover

Minnesota Valley Country Club keeps an ice rink going throughout the winter on one of its ponds. Read Michael Brower's article about Environmental Stewardship on Minnesota golf courses on Page 12 of this issue.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Always Look Forward to Where You are Going

By Richard A. (Rick) Traver, CGCS

This time of year always finds me with mixed emotions. A little happy because the season is at an end and we had a pretty uneventful one, no major problems with the turf, staff or members, which is actually about as successful a season as one can have. I am also a little sad because the members and a large portion of the staff are gone for the winter, many of them becoming memories until spring. I also find myself reflecting on the year, wondering if since everything was going good was I too willing to just "ride the train" or did I do everything I could have to make the course the best it can be?

This leads to a whole list of other questions. It's a good thing I have plenty of time to ponder such topics this time of the year. The reason I bring this up is it can be easy to get on oneself for things left undone or issues that might have been created. Don't fall into that trap, and dwell on the year, focus on the next year and move forward! I always think back to a football player being chased by some tacklers, he looks back and trips only to fall two yards short of the end zone. The best runners never look back, while the worst are always looking back. So always look forward to where you are going; if you turn to look back you might stumble and fall.

As we move into 2009, it appears we will be losing two great board members, Jack MacKenzie, CGCS and Mike Knodel. They both have served the board and the MGCSA with a lot of energy and excitement and will be sorely missed. We wish them well with their lives and hope they will consider serving the MGCSA more in the future.

Congratulations to our award recipients for their contributions to our association and industry. Our Distinguished Service Award winner this year is Larry Vetter. Larry has been active in our association for over 40 years, serving on the board in many different capacities as well as past president in 1973 and 1974. Thank you Larry for your service to our association as well as the industry.

Michael Brower and Minnesota Valley Country Club received the MGCSA Environmental Award. This is the first year we have given out this award and are excited to have the opportunity for such strong candidates and what this says about our association.

This year's Watson Award went to Bill Gullicks for his contribution to the *Hole Notes*. We would love to have more people get involved and write articles for the *Hole Notes*, so if there are any budding journalists out there, please submit an article.

Thank you all for the kind words and support. I hope to see everyone at either the Awards & Recognition Banquet on December 8 at Windsong Farm Golf Club or at the Minnesota Green Expo in January.

-Respectfully, Rick Traver

HOLE NOTES

Official Publication
of the MGCSA

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Bastyr, Zieman, Sandusky and Gorman Win Soggy Fall Mixer at Pheasant Acres Golf Club

The Association hasn't had a rainout in over 20 years. Last year came close and this year it rained until we finished play. 78 members signed up for the event with 40 braving the rain.

Host Superintendent Denny Perreault and his staff presented the course in great shape. The association thanks General Manager Steve Fessler and his staff for providing the accommodations to hold our meeting.

Larry Gorman, GreenImage LLC, teamed with three players from Riverwood National and Vintage Golf Courses, David Bastyr, Randy Zieman and Ron Sandusky, to capture the MGCSA Fall Mixer at Pheasant Acres Golf Club. They shot a 17-under par 125 in the net two-ball format.

The Glencoe team of Jeff Vinkemeier, Marv Huwe, Manley Vinkemeier and John Bahr finished second shooting a 127. Finishing in third place was the team of Mike Knodel, Kyle Schaufler and Larry Meier of Oakdale Golf Club joining Tim Berquam, Bergerson Caswell. They finished with a score of 128.

Jeff Weber, Southview Country Club, won two closest-to-the-pin holes. Dave Johnson, Rich Spring Golf Club, and John Bahr, Glencoe Country Club, won the other two closest-to-the-pin events. Longest putt honors went to Craig Hendrickson of Oak Ridge Country Club. Mike Knodel, Oakdale Golf Club, launched the longest drive.

Turfnet University arranged for an interactive Greens Management educational day. Forrest Richardson, Forrest Richardson & Associates, spoke on the history of the golf green. Brad Klein hosted a webinar about different greens in the world. Dale Hiebert, Superintendent at Rush Creek Golf Club, spoke about its greens renovation project. Syngenta's Luke Dant gave an informative talk. MGCSA attendees had a competition to design a green complex with clay. Don Dare and Paul Bauer of Baker National won a prize for their model. Mike Knodel also won a prize for his efforts.

Troy Von Holdt, Redexim Charterhouse; Tom Moore, Greensgroomer, and George Kinkead, Turfco, gave an outside demonstration on greens aerification and top dressing.

As always, our sincere thanks go to all of our Affiliate members who make our events possible through financial support. The 2008 sponsors are Agrotain International, BASF, Bioverse, Dow Agrosciences, Duinick Bros, Inc., Excel Turf & Ornamental, Green Image, Hartman Companies, HydroLogic, MTI Distributing Company, Par Aide Products, Plaisted Companies, Principal Financial, Prosource One, Syngenta Professional Products, The Tessman Company, Tiziani Golf Car Corporation, Turfwerks, Versatile Vehicles, and Yamaha Golf & Utility, Inc.

Make plans to attend the MGCSA Awards and Recognition Banquet at Windsong Farm Golf Club on December 8.



FALL MIXER WINNERS AT PHEASANT ACRES: From left to right are Randy Zieman, Larry Gorman, David Bastyr and Ron Sandusky. They combined to shoot 17-under-par in the two-ball format.

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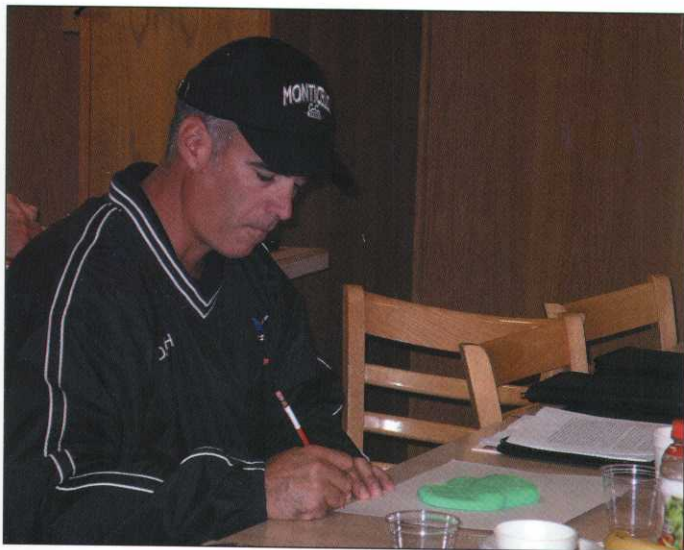


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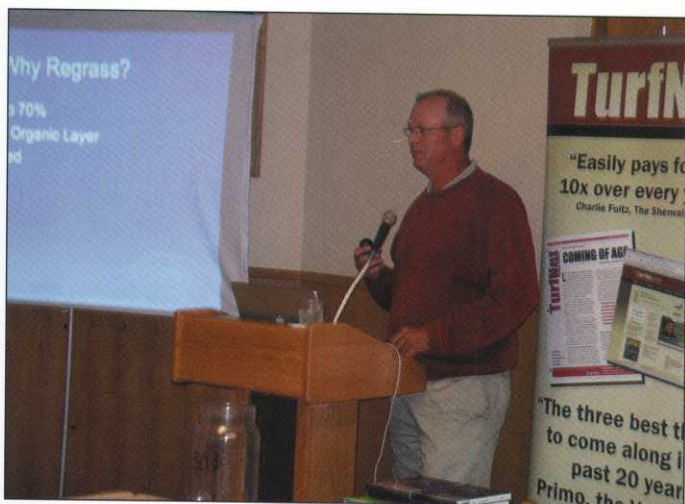
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Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for 2009



Charles Degrio

Assistant Superintendent at Monticello Country Club works on his greens complex at the Fall Mixer.



Dale Hiebert

Superintendent at Rush Creek Golf Club spoke about their greens renovation project.



Denny Perreault

Host Superintendent for the October 5 Fall Mixer at Pheasant Acres Golf Club.

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Jim Lindblad Removes "Work" from His Schedule

Chronological History

At age 11, Jim Lindblad starting pushing a hand mower two days a week and was given free golf. Jim originally wanted to be an engineer but as he got closer to his senior year he decided to attend Penn State University and pursue the profession of golf course maintenance.

Harold Dale, the manager, pro and Superintendent at Willmar Golf Club wanted Jim to get into the profession.

In 1961, between his first and second years at Penn State, Jim worked at Wayzata Country Club. During that summer, Gene Hanson won the Minnesota State Amateur at Wayzata Country Club.

Upon graduation in 1962 he was hired as the Assistant Superintendent at Hazeltine National Golf Club by Milt Wiley. Hazeltine opened that year.

Jim was hired as Superintendent at Normandale Golf Club in 1963. The City of Edina directed the Rauenhorst Construction Company to build this 9-hole golf course as a buffer between the expensive \$60,000 homes and the industrial park that Rauenhorst was building.

Brookview Country Club in Golden Valley hired Jim in 1965. Brookview Country Club was sold to the village of Golden Valley.

In the fall of 1967, Jim was involved in the clearing and construction of Rolling Green Country Club. The course was completed in the fall of 1968 and opened in the spring of 1969.

Jim was Superintendent at Wayzata Country Club from 1974-1992. During that time, the club hosted the 1981 State Amateur, won by Tom Lehman, and the 1984 USGA National Junior Championship.

Jim headed west in 1993 and accepted the position of Assistant Superintendent at the Vintage Club in Indian Wells, Calif.

He was hired as Superintendent at Desert Island Country Club in Rancho Mirage, Calif. in 1994 and held that position until his retirement last December.

At his retirement party at Desert Island, Jim was given an Honorary Club Membership.

Favorite Golf Course

Jim's favorite golf course is Wayzata Country Club. In 1988, he oversaw the installation of a computer irrigation system.

Growing Grass

Asked if it's easier to grow grass in Minnesota or California, Jim replied, "Believe it or not, there is more disease pressure in Minnesota but because of over-seeding in the Desert I would favor Minnesota."

Minnesota Ties

Jim's mom, two brothers and his sister reside in Minnesota. "Sherlie and I enjoy our trips there, especially at Mom's house on Green Lake," said Jim.

Looking Back

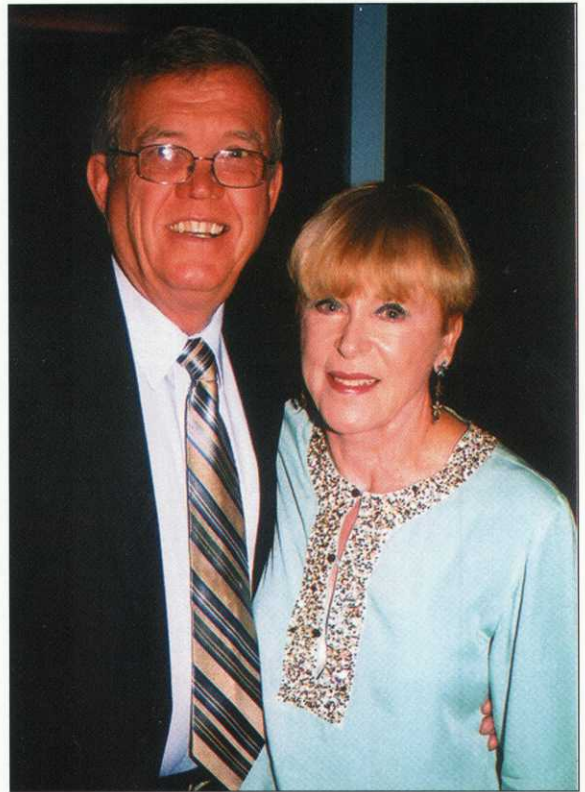
Looking back, Jim feels the career choice he made in his senior year was a good one and offers this advice:

"Get a good education if you are considering a career in Golf Course management."

Looking Ahead

In retirement, Jim has removed the word "work" from his vocabulary. His retirement schedule is to

play golf, lower his 14-handicap, and spend time with his wife Sherlie.



Jim Lindblad and his wife Sherlie Broughton

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