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## About the Cover

No. 15 at Pheasant Acres Golf Club, site of the 2008 MGCSA Fall Mixer. Superintendent Dennis Perreault and his staff look forward to hosting the final MGCSA golf event of the season on October 7. (See story on Page 5)

## Upcoming MGCSA Calendar

Tuesday, October 7, 2008  
**MGCSA Fall Mixer**  
*Pheasant Acres Golf Club*  
 Host Superintendent: Dennis Perreault

Monday, December 8, 2008  
**MGCSA Awards & Recognition Banquet**  
*Windsong Farm Golf Club*  
 Host Superintendent: Scottie Hines, CGCS









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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### *Cool Mornings and Sunny Afternoons!*

By Richard A. (Rick) Traver, CGCS

Fall is my favorite time of the year. I love the cool mornings and sunny afternoons, the changing of the leaves, and of course with the decrease in pressure on the turf, the turf looks its best. The pressure of play decreases and as a superintendent you have more time to enjoy the better aspects of our career choice. It is a great time of the year to be in Minnesota. I have said this before, but take time to breathe, watch the colors change and enjoy the great jobs we have.

\* \* \* \*

**Thank you to Superintendent Bob Distel**, his GM Jeffrey Kreaflle and his members for allowing our association to hold the Harold Stodola Research Scramble at Wayzata Country Club on August 4. I was unable to attend due to schedule conflicts and staff vacations, but I understand it was a wonderful day and, as is always the case I am sure, the course was in excellent condition. Thanks, Bob.

\* \* \* \*

**I am looking forward to attending the MGCSA Championship at The Minikahda Club.** Our host superintendent is Jeff Johnson and I am sure Jeff and his staff will have the course in top shape. If I have one request Jeff, try and make the cups a little easy. I haven't had much time to play this year. Jeff was also interviewed in the July Issue of *Superintendent - The Magazine for Golf Course Superintendents*. He did a great job of representing our industry with some very modest and insightful answers. Thanks, Jeff.

\* \* \* \*

**Speaking of events, we would love to have as many people as possible attend the Field Day at the University of Minnesota.** The job that Brian Horgan, Eric Watkins and their staffs are doing out at the TROE Center is amazing. Your MGCSA, as well as the MTGF, both donate quite a bit to help achieve the results. Come on out and see where your dollars are going.

\* \* \* \*

**Make plans to attend the MGCSA Fall Mixer** on October 7 at Pheasant Acres Golf Club featuring the Greens Management Academy. Topics will include: Theory and History of Greens; Design Considerations; When to Build / Renovate; Turf Selection; Aerification, and Disease Management

\* \* \* \*

**I mentioned the results from the Internet survey** last month and I would again like to thank you all for participating.

\* \* \* \*

**As I write this, the rain is coming down** pretty hard, isn't it great when the man above smiles down on you?

Have a great month!

Respectfully,  
Rick Traver

# HOLE NOTES

Official Publication  
of the MGCSA

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# Pheasant Acres Golf Club Set to Host MGCSA Fall Mixer on October 7

Pheasant Acres Golf Club, a public daily-fee golf course designed by Lyle Johansen, opened in 1987. Pheasant Acres plays between 6,523 yards and 5,082 yards in length and is a par 71 golf course. Some of the features that make Pheasant Acres an enjoyable course to play are the gently rolling, fast greens; narrow fairways; 33 well-placed bunkers; 16 ponds; walkable layout and great practice facility.

Pheasant Acres is home to one of the largest senior leagues in the state, as well as a large junior program and many other leagues. These great assets present Pheasant Acres' greatest maintenance challenge: all of this play makes it difficult to perform the many maintenance tasks it takes to keep the course in great shape, including cultural practices.

To work around the heavy amount of play, Pheasant Acres employs a mow and go staffing method. Many of their 16 staff members come in each morning ahead of play and "mow and go." This allows the crew to complete all their daily maintenance and have fewer employees on the course during periods of heavy play.

The biggest overall challenge facing the maintenance crew is the heavy clay soil underlying most of the playing surfaces. This poorly draining soil results in several bunkers having to be pumped and numerous low spots having to be mowed around



*No. 11 at Pheasant Acres Golf Club*

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for extended periods of time after heavy rain events. Thus, adding to our subsurface drainage each year is a priority.

High winds can make it challenging for applicators to time their spray applications. Such challenge usually falls on assistant Scott Craig to coordinate with the greens mowers to start very early before the wind is up.

**Superintendent Denny Perreault**

Denny Perreault has been the Superintendent at Pheasant Acres since 2006 and was the Assistant Superintendent there from 2003-06. Denny began his career in the golf industry at Pine City Country Club during his senior high years. He then went on to work as an intern, 2nd Assistant, and Assistant Superintendent during his five years at the Legacy Courses at Cragun (1998-2002).

Denny's hobbies include golf, hockey, hanging out at home with his wife Nicolette and son Preston, coaching and watching Preston play hockey, golf, baseball, and soccer.

**1st Assistant Scott Craig**

Scott Craig has been first assistant at Pheasant Acres Golf Club since 2006. He is engaged to be married in February 2010 to fiancé Jill. Scott grew up in Blaine, and graduated from Anoka Technical College with an AAS degree in golf course grounds management. From there he went on to the University of Minnesota at Crookston and graduated in 2006 with a Bachelors of Science degree in the same field. Scott's experience includes seven years at Bunker Hills Golf Club in Coon Rapids.

*(Continued on Page 6)*



*Superintendent Denny Perreault, far right, and his Grounds Staff at Pheasant Acres Golf Club.*

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# Ruhoff, Meyer, Ramler and Deyak Repeat as Stodola Scramble Winners

The team of Jason Ruhoff and Jeff Meyer, Koronis Hills Golf Club; Brad Deyak, Wapicada Golf Club, and Tom Ramler, Boulder Ridge Golf Club, shot a 17-under par round of 55 to win the 2008 Harold Stodola Research Scramble at Wayzata Country Club on August 4. The foursome also won the Stodola Research Scramble last year at The Jewel in Lake City, along with this year's Scholarship Scramble at Somerset Country Club in Mendota Heights. They are proving to be the team to beat each month.

**Host Superintendent Bob Distel**, his assistants Michael Cauley, Adam Beers and Mike Havens along with the rest of the grounds staff had the course in excellent shape. Players found the layout pleasing and fun to play. Perfect weather was a nice bonus, too.

**Finishing one shot behind was the Stillwater Country Club team** of Marlin Murphy, Ty Tollefson, Jordan Weigelt and Kevin Milbrandt. They shot a very

respectable 16-under par 56.

**Shooting 58 and winning a scorecard playoff for third place** were Mike Brower, Steve Gilles and Wade Susee from Minnesota Valley Country Club along with affiliate member Dave Newinski of Herfort Norby Golf Architects.

The fourth place squad was made up of Dick Kolter, Mike Gostomski, Dennis Cleveland and Brian Paulson from Westfield Golf Club.

**Jeff Pint, New Prague Golf Club**, and Craig Hendrickson, Oak Ridge Country Club, hit the two longest drives. Kirby Schimke, Sauk Centre Country Club, sank the longest putt. The four closest-to-the pins were won by Charlie Miller, Goodrich Golf Club; Dick Kolter, Westfield Golf Club; Jordan Weigelt, Stillwater Country Club, and Ray Christensen, Baker National Golf Club.

**Jim Wahl, Principal Financial Group**, gave away framed prints of Wayzata Country Club's 6th hole to each of the

four members of the winning squad.

**David Oberle, Excel Turf & Ornamental**, sat at the 10th tee and spoke to players about Research being done in the past few years. He also gave away high-tech NASA glasses designed to detect turf damage to players who drove the ball between two lines in the fairway.

**Judd Duinick, Duinick Bros. Inc.-Golf**, ran a competition on the 13th hole. Participants were able to see the construction projects going on at Wayzata Country Club that DBI is involved with.

**Thanks to all of our event sponsors.** They are Agrotain International, BASF, Dow Agrosiences, Duinick Bros., Inc., Excel Turf & Ornamental, Green Image, Hartman Companies, HydroLogic, MTI Distributing, Par Aide Products, Plaisted Companies, Principal Financial, ProSource One, Syngenta Professional Products, The Tessman Company, Tiziani Golf Car, Turfwerks, Versatile Vehicles and Yamaha Golf & Utility, Inc. (See Results on Page 9)

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**REPEAT CHAMPIONS OF THE HAROLD STODOLA RESEARCH SCRAMBLE**, from left to right are Jeff Meyer, Koronis Hills Golf Club; Jason Ruhoff, Koronis Hills Golf Club; Tom Ramler, Boulder Ridge Golf Club, and Brad Deyak, Wapicada. This foursome also won last year at The Jewel in Lake City and also this year's Scholarship Scramble at Somerset Country Club in Mendota Heights.

## HAROLD STODOLA RESEARCH SCRAMBLE RESULTS

AUGUST 4, 2008

WAYZATA COUNTRY CLUB

Jason Ruhoff, Jeff Meyer, Tom Ramler, Brad Deyak	55
Marlin Murphy, Ty Tollefson, Jordan Weigelt, Kevin Milbrandt	56
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**Bob Distel**, host Superintendent of the Harold Stodola Research Scramble at Wayzata Country Club on August 4, along with Judd Duininck, Duininck Bros. Inc. Judd oversaw a contest on the thirteenth hole. Extensive changes are being made to the grounds at Wayzata Country Club and DBI is doing a bulk of the work.



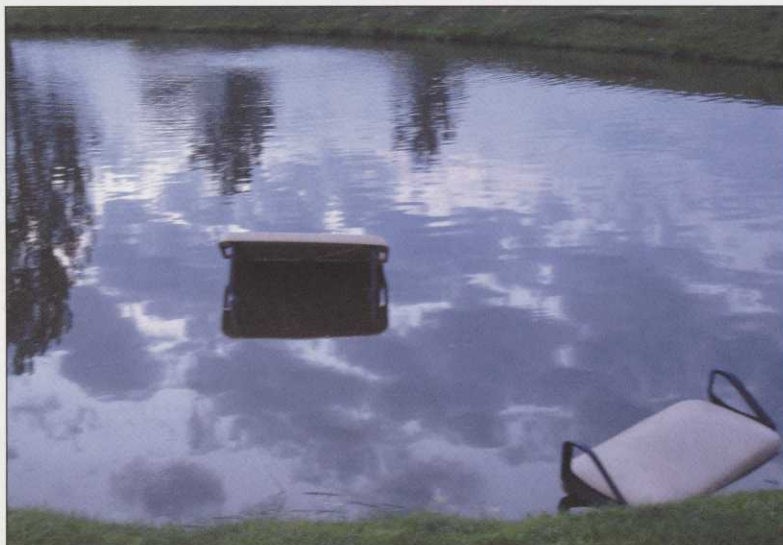
# A Look Back at the 2008 MGCSA Golf Season



Lightning damage by the 5th green at Hazeltine National Golf Club. "We couldn't have planned it any better!"  
- Joe Maloney



Shelter damage at Heritage Links Golf Club - Paul Eckholm, CGCS



Golf cart in a pond at Heritage Links Golf Club - Paul Eckholm, CGCS



Photos of "The Preserve at Honey Creek" project designed by Herfort Norby Golf Architects for the Iowa Dep't of Natural Resources about an hour west of Des Moines. These bridges were originally set about 10' above the creek bottom. Water has now risen over the railings. The course was scheduled to open the first week of August but it didn't happen. - Kevin Norby



Ben Pease's horticulture crew building a raised soil green to be used for bentgrass variety trials in Madison, Wisconsin. - Ben Pease