

# PENNCROSS SOD & Dominant X-treme 7

from Country Club Turf

Grown by **GOLF  
COURSE  
PROFESSIONALS**  
for  
**GOLF COURSE  
PROFESSIONALS**



Supplying over 200  
Golf Courses Since 1987

24317 Durant St. N.E.  
East Bethel, MN 55005

## (763) 444-6753

"A Quality Grown Reputation"

## Standing Water?



Not with this PTO pump kit!

*Call us today for details*

**Frost**  
Services

1-800-621-7910

Email: [info@frostserv.com](mailto:info@frostserv.com)

[www.frostserv.com](http://www.frostserv.com)

## Upcoming Events

*August 27*

**MGCSA Championship**

**New Richmond GC**

**Host: Tom Johnson**

*October 8*

**Wee One Event**

**North Oaks GC**

**Host: Brian Boll**

*October 15th*

**Fall Shoot Out**

**Horse and Hunt Club**

**Host: Bill Gullicks**



**EDITOR**

**DAVE KAZMIERCZAK CGCS**  
DAVE@PRESTWICK.COMCASTBIZ.NET

# CONTENTS

Vol. 44, No. 6 July 2012

## Feature Articles:

- Drainage, An Infrastructure Upgrade** page 8-14  
Contributed by Mark Luckhart, XGD Systems
- Factors Affecting Fungicide Performance** pages 18- 22  
Written by Dr. Jim Kerns, Department of Plant Pathology, UW-Madison
- Super-In-Site: Eric Counselman, Somerby Golf Club** pages 34-37  
Written by John Meyer, Koch Agronomic

## Monthly Columns:

- Presidential Perspective** page 5  
Scottie Hines CGCS
- In Bounds** page 7  
Jack MacKenzie CGCS
- Within the Leather** pages 38-39  
Dave Kazmierczak CGCS



### About the cover:

*This awesome picture was taken and contributed by Troy Carson of The Toro Company. If you have any exceptional pictures please send them to jack@mgcsa.org for consideration as our cover shot. Thank you Troy for this incredible macro photograph.*

## ...Even More Content...

- I Wear My Sunglasses At Night** pages 19-22  
By Kendal Klaus of Klaus Nursery
- On Board:** pages 27-30  
MGCSA BOD members share their views



**Meet Eric Counselman, Superintendent at Somerby Golf Club, "Motion W", John Meyer's second Super-In-Site review.**



**MGCSA Gun Raffle for Research**  
\$5 per chance or \$10 for three chances



Weatherby Orion Grade 3 over/under 12 gauge shotgun  
\$2,500 retail value  
jack@mgcsa.org for more information

**Hole Notes** ( 108-27994) is digitally published monthly except bimonthly in November/December and January/February by the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association, 10050 204th Street North, Forest Lake, MN 55025. Jack MacKenzie CGCS publisher. Please send any address changes, articles for publication, advertising and concerns to jack@mgcsa.org.

## 2012 Board of Directors

### President

Scottie Hines CGCS  
Windsong Farm GC

### Vice-President

Roger Stewart Jr.  
TPC Twin Cities

### Secretary

Brian Brown  
Chisago Lakes GC

### Treasurer

E. Paul Eckhom CGCS  
Heritage Links GC

### Directors

Joe Churchill  
Reinders Inc.

Eric Counselman  
Somerby GC

Kerry Glader  
Plaisted Companies

Bill Gullicks  
Bellwood Oaks GC

Jeff Ishe  
Golden Valley G&CC

David Kazmierczak CGCS  
Prestwick GC

Matt McKinnon  
The Legacy Courses

Bob Porter  
Hiawatha GC

Jake Schmitz  
Olympic Hills GC

Executive Director  
Jack MacKenzie CGCS  
MGCSA

*Quality since 1971...*

# HARTMAN

Golf Course Construction  
& Renovation

Specializing in...

Bunkers • Tees • Laser Leveling • Green Drainage • Irrigation • Design • Pump Station Upgrades

8099 Bavaria Rd.  
Victoria, MN 55386  
952.443.2990

info@hartmancompanies.com  
www.hartmancompanies.com



# Presidential Perspective

by Scottie Hines CGCS

Wow! Can you believe it is just past July 4, Independence Day? I hope everyone had a great holiday with family and loved ones. Seems like it should be closer to Labor Day, doesn't it?

Based on the last 10 days, summer is definitely here! If we don't see any more of that weather this year, that would be fine with me. At least that last stretch was a bit drier than the similar run we had last summer. I find when we get into periods of weather like that it is as important to manage the health, physical and mental, of your key staffers as it is turf health. Long days in that heat dragging a hose is not much fun. Better than shoveling up washed out bunkers, but still not fun at all. Making sure people are getting enough water, rest and food is a real juggling act at times. I still manage to run myself into the ground during these times even though I know I have a great staff around me. I don't know if I will ever learn!

From the GCSAA side of things there is some good news to report on the NPDES legislation. Currently, H.R. 872 has been included in the House Farm Bill Draft Proposal. This would eliminate the need for the NPDES General Permit, etc. to spray on, in and around waters of the US. However, the other side of the aisle let this same legislation drop from the Farm Bill Proposal. I strongly feel more legislation, more fines, more paper-work, more...anything is not the answer. Responsible use of any

product and further education are. As golf course superintendents I believe we are the best educated and most responsible users of any end product.

The GCSAA will be coming out with more "Action Alerts". I strongly encourage everyone to do their part and be heard. Contact your elected officials locally and federally. Be a voice, be an advocate of our professionalism. Our law and policy makers want us to be involved. Please take the time and respond to these "Action Alerts" from GCSAA. If you really feel passionate about some of these issues, be pro-active and contact these people on your own. We are a big industry of small businesses and we are significant contributors to our local economies. We matter and we count for more than just great golf conditions!

One final note: As I see it, we are about 5 weeks from safety. Why? I look to August 15th as the day that if I haven't killed it, I can't. At that point we are losing 3-4 minutes of daylight per day. Yes, it can get hot, but it will not stay hot for long. The sun angle is lower which takes a little stress off things. Disease pressures are lower. We have aerified or are near aerification time. The mornings start getting "crisper". The mist starts to come off the ponds again in the mornings. August 15th, my Independence Day!

2012 seems to be the year of managing extremes. Despite the heat, humidity and all that goes with it find some time for family and loved ones. We are almost there....



**Thank you** for making Plaisted the Midwest's top golf course supplier

Minikahda Club, hole #13

# Keeping it “Green” with Engineered Soils

Topdressing Sands  
Bunker Sands  
Green Colored Topdressing  
Black Dirt  
Horticultural Mixes

Choose from one of our quality topdressing sands which meet USGA guidelines, or have us custom blend one using our patented *Accublender*™. We control the quality from processing and screening through to the final mix, ensuring consistency in every delivery.

Landscape Rock & Mulch  
Retaining Walls & Pavers  
Field Stone Boulders  
Construction Sand  
Cart Path & Road Base

Plaisted technical services include soil testing and soil mix recommendations.

Visit our website to view the full product offering.



THE SOIL EXPERTS.



**Plaisted  
Companies**  
INCORPORATED



# In Bounds

by Jack MacKenzie CGCS

A short while back my wife Kim and I went on a weekend 'road trip' to

Grand Marais on a mission to check out their annual wooden boat show. Cool stuff...many of the boats were hand crafted at the North House School and by local boat masters...and talk about handsome! The display, both on and off the water was very impressive, but not as personally enlightening as our 'road trip' entertainment.

To make the miles melt, my spouse and I have learned that audio books can be a very welcomed distraction. We have embraced the funny, the tragic and the dramatic productions written by many fine authors as Kim and I adventure about. On this trip we listened to something enriching, enlightening, inspirational, emotional and very, very educational... ***Men Are From Mars and Women Are From Venus*** by Dr. James Gray.

Although each of us had read the self-help book back in the early nineties while struggling with relationship

building after challenging divorces, we obviously had forgotten some of the lessons as we intently listened to, paused the cd and discussed the Dr.'s perceptions. Also, as our relationship had matured with time so had our ability to communicate through constructive or destructive habits. Over time we discovered that we forgot how different the sexes really are.

Our audible journey presented material we already knew...but had either forgotten or through living patterns stopped practicing. Lets face it, often times relationships get into ruts and if not appreciated those ruts can become communication crevices; difficult to overcome and sometimes insurmountable. **Men Are...** brought Kim and me back to reflecting upon our inherent differences, both good and challenging, and gave us tools to improve our marriage...not that either of us have been or were ever dissatisfied with the other.

The chapters took us through many scenarios, some quite funny and some gravely serious, but each with a lesson. Beyond physical aspects, we are as different from each other as Dollar Spot (continued on page 32.)

# Drainage, an Infrastructure Up-Grade

by Mark Luckhart, XGD Systems



Some would say that with the arid fall, winter and spring we are experiencing that proper drainage is not very important at all. In fact, probably some golf pros, general managers and greens committees may be speaking that kind of language as I write this. However, forward thinking, progressive golf facilities are possibly looking for ways to budget some unexpected money that may be becoming unleashed for some capital expenditures to further improve their course and put it in the best possible condition to perhaps be more attractive to prospective members or the golfing public in general.

When speaking of the importance

of “proper drainage” to golf courses I like to think in terms of “infrastructure upgrades”. Most of North America’s urban areas are in dire need of these upgrades to roads, bridges, sewers, water mains and the like. A large amount of this infrastructure can be 50 to 100 years old and significant advancements obviously have been made in product development and installation techniques.

I believe the same can be said for most golf facilities. Many golf courses do not hesitate to spend one to two million on irrigation system renovations and most of these upgrades are on only twenty to thirty year old irrigation systems. While I understand

this type of infrastructure spending for the golf course I can't help but ponder how often it is utilized, for instance unless a course has truly adopted the deep and infrequent watering mantra that I totally support (but few clubs really practice), I purport that the only times the irrigation heads are really used are after an aerification event and it may be a little dry and windy on their playing surfaces. Lets face it, most mid to high-end golf courses really only hand water (see popular twitter hash tag #whosgotmyhose) their putting surfaces these days which gets me to my point, if golf facilities will routinely spend this type of capital on an irrigation system, why won't they spend it on equally important infrastructure (in my

eyes anyways) like subsurface drainage upgrades?

Drainage infrastructure upgrades are generally a quarter to half the cost of an irrigation system replacement and will generally last almost twice as long as irrigation pipe, which is under constant head pressure unlike a gravity flow drainage system. But what is the value or importance of drainage? Well, the last two hot and wet summers have really solidified that non-argument. Simply put, when wet soil gets hot turfgrass roots will bake. When they bake, turfgrass roots shrink upward and when they do so the turf plant is susceptible to a host of diseases and insect infestation issues. In essence,





my take away point in this article is that well thought-out golf subsurface drainage infrastructure is the best way to get your turfgrass plant healthy enough to withstand the environmental onslaughts that Mother Nature frequently throws at you. Now before you think I am against irrigation system upgrades, I will say they are also a major player in aiding in turf health as well. Irrigation and drainage are the most important tools in a golf superintendent's arsenal to impact on positive soil moisture content, which again promotes the healthiest turfgrass plants. I believe it was Donald Ross who coined the popular phrase " the three most important components to a successful





golf course are Drainage, Drainage and Drainage".



Obviously, that phrase is likely well over eighty years old and one could easily argue that we are not driving around in cars from that era, so I will counter that with while that is certainly true, shouldn't careful, thorough drainage still be in the top three? Precipitation event frequency really hasn't changed. We still need to manage the excess moisture. Currently, many water challenged facilities are looking in to recycling as much course runoff as possible back to their facilities. Moving forward, this type of rainwater management will begin to be adopted by

# Superior Turf Services, Inc.

## Superior Organic

DESIGNED FOR PERFORMANCE, HOMOGENEOUS PRILL.  
THE FINEST IN COMBINED TECHNOLOGIES.

    	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <p>8-2-10 Plus Greens &amp; Tees <b>BEST PERFORMANCE</b></p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <p>14-0-14 Fe Fairways &amp; Tees <b>TOURNAMENT FAIRWAYS</b></p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <p>14-0-7 Greens, Tees &amp; Fairways <b>FAST RECOVERY</b></p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <p>11-11-11 Starter &amp; Divot Mix <b>ORGANIC &amp; MINERAL</b></p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">  </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> <p><b>Biagro Western</b> <b>Nutri-Grow 2-0-16</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low Rates</li> <li>• Higher Active Ingredient</li> <li>• Patented Technology</li> </ul> </div>
---	--	--	--	--	---

GENETICALLY SUPERIOR BENTGRASSES FROM THE WORLD'S MOST COMPLETE BENTGRASS PROGRAM

**FOR SUPERIOR TURF SERVICES, CALL:**

<p><i>Larry Thornton</i> <b>612-804-1692</b></p>	<p><i>Matt Schmid</i> <b>612-366-4128</b> <i>Fax: 952-949-3889</i></p>	<p><i>Doug Zobel</i> <b>952-201-9499</b></p>
--	--	--