Why Did You Attend The GCSAA Annual Conference?



SCOTT SCHUNTER Hazeltine National G.C.

"To take advantage of the tremendous amount of educational opportunities that are available. The trade show also provides the opportunity to see what is new in the industry and to look at various pieces of equipment that we are looking to purchase in the upcoming year."





ROB BARR St. Cloud C.C.

"I feel it's important to attend the National Conference for its educational opportunities. With the speed and frequency of change in today's products and environmental concerns, it's extremely important to stay abreast of those changes. Attending the National Conference enables you to attend a variety of educational seminars on up-do-date topics and preview new product lines from the industries leading vendors."



DALE CALDWELL Minneapolis G.C.

"I have attended every National Conference and Show since 1978. Every year I am most impressed with the trade show. It is exciting to see all the changes and innovations within our industry. I enjoy visiting and talking with the various manufacturers and distributors about their products and how they might fit my maintenance programs."



JEFF ANDERSON Rochester G & C.C.

"This was my first time attending the GCSAA Conference. I would have to say that I attended the conference for the educational concurrent sessions and to walk through the trade show to see what new ideas have come out for the 1994 golfing season. And like the saying goes in Texas, everything is bigger in Texas and the GCSAA conference was no exception.

Golf Course Superintendents Warned of Cancer Risk

(Ed. Note: This is how the AP interpreted the 2/7/94 news release from GCSAA.)

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) - Golf course superintendents have higher rates of cancer than other people and should try to be more careful around pesticides, a University of Iowa study says.

In light of this study and other health-effect research about pesticides, a prudent strategy for golf course superintendents and their workers is to minimize their exposure to pesticides," said Dr. Burton Kross, associate professor of preventative medicine and environmental health at Iowa.

Kross and his team of researchers say in their study that people who manage golf courses appear to have a higher mortality rate from certain cancers, particularly lung cancer, than the general population.

The study was commissioned by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, or GCSAA, which is holding its annual meeting in Dallas.

Although the results are preliminary, they still provide the GCSAA with a scientific basis to encourage stopsmoking programs and improved pesticide handling practices among its members," Kross said.

The statistical mortality study reviewed death certificates fo 618 former GCSAA members between 1970 and 1992 and compared those rates to the general population.

The study found a higher-than-usual number of deaths from lung cancer. Other types of cancer, including brain, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, large intestine and prostate, also occurred more often in the group.

From a public and occupational health perspective, the excess number of lung cancer deaths is a primary concern," Kross said.

Kross said that because it was a statistical study, "you can't establish any cause-and-effect relationship from the data.

"It is also important to stress that these results cannot be interpreted to mean that golfers are at risk," he said.