GCSAA finally gets Paul Harvey’s ear— but to little avail

Pat Jones of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America had a chance to corral national radio commentator Paul Harvey at the most recent outdoor power equipment Expo in Louisville, Ky.

“His opinion is that golf course superintendents are ‘good old boys’ off the farm whose livelihood depends entirely on making golfers happy,” says Jones. “Of course, that flies in the face of all our research.”

Harvey has taken potshots at the golf superintendents’ fraternity on several occasions during his nationally-syndicated program.

“He said that he won’t back off until it’s proven to him that there’s no risk to birds and wildlife from the products that superintendents use on the course,” says Jones. “Of course, if he really means ‘no risk,’ we’ll never achieve that.”

Jones sent Harvey some material on the GCSAA and its membership. “We hope to hear from Mr. Harvey soon and get a chance to talk to him again,” says Jones.

Landscapers get around

Landscaper Marvin Gross of Marvin’s Gardens, Sarasota, Fla., spent five weeks in the Egyptian desert earlier this year. He helped design a landscape plan for a village, through the auspices of the International Service Executives Corps. “Third World countries are not well-versed in anything,” says Gross. “They don’t use any machinery; everything’s done by hand, much like it was 5,000-6,000 years ago. They need a lot of help.”

The city of Atlanta declared May 22nd “Post Properties Day” because of its commitment to preserving Atlanta’s green environment by dedicating a bicentennial tree at Post Lenox Park Apartments. “We take great pride in our planning, construction and landscape,” says Post CEO John Williams, “and when we can preserve historical, landmark trees in the process, that just makes our work more rewarding.”

After five years of pushing for legislative reform, John T. Hermes, co-owner of Hermes Landscaping, Lenaxa, Kans., lobbied for successful passage of a tax law change that allows nurseries in Kansas to receive the same tax considerations as other agriculture producers.

Bill Bradshaw, owner of Bradshaw Landscape in Houston, has been named a delegate-trustee to the Galveston Bay Foundation.

But not forgotten...

Don Sweda, past president of the northern Ohio chapter of the GCSAA, passed away Aug. 7. Sweda, who was also immediate past president of the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation, was superintendent at Columbia Hills (Ohio) Country Club after having spent 16 years as super at Beechmont Country Club in Beechwood, Ohio. He suffered a stroke July 28.

Golf course architect James G. (Jim) Harrison, whose career began with the legendary Donald Ross at Pinehurst in 1921 and spanned 60 years, died July 21 in Monroeville, Pa. Harrison, 95, was one of the few to serve two terms as president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects. During his career, he designed more than 70 courses, about 45 of which are in Pennsylvania.

---

Have we got a surprise for you...

Watch for it in our gala November issue spotlighting the lawn and landscape industries and the Green Industry Expo.

---

OCTOBER

1-Nov. 15: Club Operations and Golf & Country Club Management certificate course, Pan Pacific Glenmarie Resort, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Phone: +(603) 443-7000.


5-6: North Texas Turf Irrigation Association convention and trade show, Grapevine Convention Center. Phone: Carl Causey, (817) 598-0907.

7-9: American Society of Landscape Architects Annual Meeting, Cleveland, Ohio. Phone: (202) 686-2752.


12-22: Turfgrass Producers International South American Study Tour, Argentina and Chile. Phone: PFI, (708) 705-9898.

17-19: Sunbelt Agricultural Expo, Spence Field, Moultrie, Ga. Phone: (912) 387-7088.


18-20: Mid-Pacific Horticultural Trade Show & Conference, Hilo Hawaiian Hotel. Phone: John E. Bower, (808) 969-2088.


29-Nov. 3: Turfgrass Science Division, Crop Science Society of American anniversary celebration, St. Louis. Phone: Dr. Keith Karnok, (765) 542-0831.