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President's Message



Ray Schmitz

The NCTE was held at Pheasant Run Mega Center, Dec. 2-4 and was highly successful again this year. The actual attendance was 1064 for the 3 day event of which 263 attendees were members of the MAGCS. This was a very good showing for our association and good support for the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation by other associations in general.

Golf course maintenance is a multimillion dollar business and continues on the upswing. A sampling of 1,164 golf courses or 9% of the 12,846 golf courses in America listed by the National Golf Foundation, shows golf courses spent \$3.4 billion on maintenance in 1991. This figure includes maintenance and labor expenditures but excludes capital expenses.

I feel that, we as superintendents, are doing a good job of managing the money that is allocated to us for running our golf courses and we are doing our share to fight the recession that is effecting many other industries.

March is an important month for meetings before we really get busy on the golf course. The following are three meetings that I feel are important for us to attend.

March 11th — Environmental Seminar, sponsored by Rory Bancroft. This is an all day session.

March 16th — MAGCS monthly meeting at Nordic Hills, luncheon meeting.

March 19th — Chicago District Golf Association Greens Seminar, morning meeting.

When you consider it, these are very exciting times to be involved in the golf industry, so many things are happening so fast. New pieces of equipment along with products for pest control, both chemical and biological, are coming into the marketplace. Not to mention the area of government legislation where new laws are being created almost daily. Fortunately, we have many sources at our disposal to help us make decisions which effect our daily operations.