



Viva Las Vegas! The holidays are over, and exciting times are on the horizon. February 6–12 marks the time for the GCSAA’s 68th International Golf Course Conference and Show in Las Vegas, Nevada. The “Super Bowl” of turfgrass conferences has always been the GCSAA convention.

This year’s convention promises to be a great one! Over 78 seminars will be offered to help enhance your knowledge of turfgrass and its management. Several other seminars will focus on personal growth potential. Still others will help you manage your employees and manage the precious environment we live and work in.

Each year one of the most educational parts of GCSAA’s convention has to be the trade show. Shopping all day at your local mall pales to the workout one receives touring the show. Many show veterans will tell you to wear comfortable shoes at this event. The time given to see the show never seems to be enough. The new equipment and products show proof that many people work very hard to offer the golf industry the very best in

turfgrass management tools.

While walking around the show, you are able to meet and greet the many friends and associates that you know in our great industry. This brings me to my favorite highlight of convention time. There is no better place to exchange ideas and solve problems than at the annual convention. Golf course superintendents are one big fraternity. If I fly away home with a least one single idea or problem solved, I feel great about the time spent at the GCSAA convention.

The MAGCS offers another venue to see people and exchange ideas. Each year at the GCSAA convention, the Midwest presents its hospitality room. This year the room will be at Bally’s Las Vegas. It will be held on the nights of February 9 and February 10. The future title of this event may need to be changed to the MAGCS hospitality ballroom. Our very own Brian Bossert was able to secure a ballroom for this year’s event at Bally’s. The growing numbers at this event prompted a change in room size. A big thank you needs to go Brian’s way for all the work he puts into arranging this event.

The Midwest would not be able to present this gala without the generous support of the many commercial members of the MAGCS. Last year over \$11,000 was contributed to the cause. We again cannot thank the commercial members enough for all of their support. Giving a little (or a lot) of business to the commercial members will show your thanks.

As you plan for the upcoming convention, remember to plan ahead to see all that makes this event so great. We are so fortunate to be able to experience such a grand conference. Thank you GCSAA for providing everyone with such a dynamic convention. Here’s hoping that a fun and safe time is had by all! I am off to pack my Elvis outfit.

Ed Braunsky, CGCS
President, MAGCS