



*Kevin Czerkies, CGCS Sportsman's C.C.*

The 69th GCSAA International Conference and Show is now history, but the memories will remain with many of us for a long time. Midwest members that didn't make the trip this year missed some excitement.

The Midwest hospitality room was the best ever. We obtained the largest room ever, contributions were at an all-time high, and the food and drinks were outstanding. I received many compliments on the room, but the guy who actually deserves the credit is Brian Bossert. Brian has done an excellent job with the arrangements. A lot of work goes into planning the room. Six months before the conference, Brian is on the phone negotiating with various conference hotels to see about room availability and costs. Then, three months before the conference, Brian solicits for funding from the commercial vendors. Contributions from commercial members total about 75 percent of the money needed to run the hospitality room. As the conference nears, Brian final-

izes the menu with the host hotel. Once the hospitality room begins, Brian is there from start to finish both nights making sure everything runs smoothly and we stay within our budget. I want to personally thank Brian for the time he put into this and say job well done.

Many of us realize that this room wouldn't be what it is today without the financial support of the MAGCS commercial members. I spoke with a couple of superintendents who are slightly older than myself during the time I spent in the hospitality room. They were telling me how the room was run a decade ago. All I can say is, we've come a long way in a short period of time. This can be attributed to the generosity of the commercial members. We must show our support to those companies that support us. There were many companies that donated to the hospitality room, not just the heavy hitters, but the smaller companies too. If you were fortunate enough to attend this year's hospitality room, you know how good it was, so don't forget to say thank you to the commercial members that supported this event and to Brian Bossert for his outstanding efforts.

The Midwest was well represented at the conference. As mentioned last month, we had several winners of environmental awards, and the list of GCSAA golf tournament winners that Luke Strojny was reading off sounded like the prize list at a MAGCS meeting. But, for those of you who missed it, Ed Braunsky delivered the best speech at the innovative superintendent session. He managed to bring an early morning crowd to laughter. The

use of slides, combined with his sense of humor, enlightened the crowd of nearly 2,000. His speech was entitled "The State of the Superintendent." Maybe we can get Ed to give it again at a Midwest meeting.

Speaking of Ed and Luke, while I was attending the gala and was listening to Trisha Yearwood sing her country hits, it seemed these two were putting on a show of their own at the Quality Hotel lounge. It was karaoke night, and when you get a few cocktails in these guys, they loosen up quite a bit. Ed got up and sang "Feelings," "Rhinestone Cowboy," and "I Say a Little Prayer for You," while Luke belted out "Ring of Fire," and "Margaritaville." Unfortunately, Tom Savage, Greg Thalmann, and Ernie Corsi were the only Midwest guys to witness this most unforgettable event.

Peter Jacobsen, Dan Quayle, and Ken Venturi were among the celebrities to address the GCSAA attendees during the conference. Mr. Jacobsen is an individual who isn't afraid to say what's on his mind. During his keynote speech, he stated that the golf course superintendent is the "Most Valuable Person at the golf course." He was so moved by the GCSAA Foundation Endowment Campaign that he donated \$25,000 to its cause.

On a sad note, while most of us were at the conference, we lost a dear friend and longtime MAGCS member, Adolph Bertucci. Many of us wanted to be at Adolph's funeral and felt bad that we couldn't. At the hospitality room, Paul Voykin said a few words about Adolph, and a moment of silence was observed.

*(continued on page 6)*

That's what we do.  
That's all we do.

Clarke's integrated pest  
management approach keeps nuisance  
mosquitoes off your course...  
and happy golfers coming back.

Call us today.

e-mail: [clarke@mosquito.com](mailto:clarke@mosquito.com)

1 800 942 2555

website: [www.mosquito.com](http://www.mosquito.com)

"Serving communities for over 50 years."



**Clarke Environmental  
Mosquito Management, Inc.**

159 Garden Avenue • Roselle, IL 60172

You take care  
of the course...

...we'll take care  
of the  
mosquitoes.



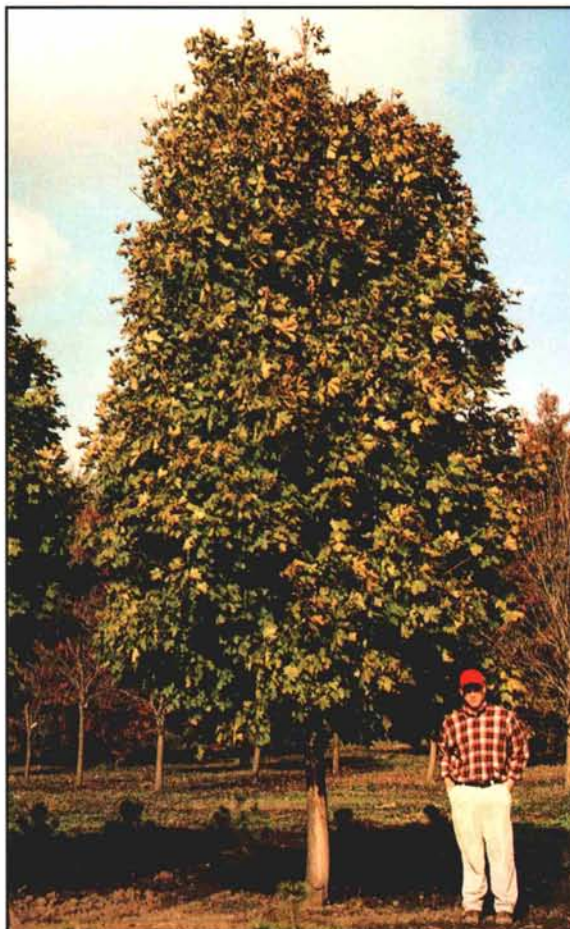
#### On Course With the President

*(continued from page 4)*

Adolph was known and loved by everyone. We'll truly miss him. Rest in peace, Adolph.

April brings us our first golf meeting of the new season. So dust off your clubs and come out and play at Schaumburg Golf Club. Nick Hongisto will be our host. Nick always has his course in excellent condition. I'll see you there.

Kevin Czerkies, CGCS  
President, MAGCS



- Supplier and installer of quality large caliper Shade, Ornamental and Evergreen trees.
- Reduced pricing on select stock due to future development plans of our nursery.
- Perfect for instant shade, windbreaks, screening and beauty.
- Contact us for a tour of the nursery, current availability and/or pricing.
- (847) 949-6667  
(847) 949-6668 fax



*Poul's Landscaping  
& Nursery, Inc.*

6754 W. Indian Creek Road  
Long Grove, Illinois 60047

**TURF TALK**

630/898-6168

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



**Turfgrass Science**

NRES -- Department of Natural Resources  
and Environmental Sciences

<http://www.turf.uiuc.edu>