DIRECTOR'S COLUMN Ed Braunsky, Geneva Country Club



MAGCS Strikes Again

The Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents. Those words were heard a lot at the Golf Course Industry Show held in New Orleans back in February. Our Association has always been a huge part of the "biggest show on turf". Here are several examples.

Every year the MAGCS has one of the biggest voting blocks of all of the chapters across the country. This is very important due to the fact that our huge voting block helps to elect the best candidates each year. The annual golf tournament was held in the Gulf Shores, Alabama. The MAGCS had the most participants in attendance of any single chapter. Our association won the Team Championship. Tim Scott finished in second place in the championship flight. Overall, the numbers of participants were down but the Midwest still held form and performed well!

On Tuesday and Wednesday of the show a number of our members gave several hours of their time and "trade skills" towards a great organization. The aftermath of Hurricane Katrina left a lot of damage and devastation to the New Orleans area. Habitat for Humanity provided many MAGCS members a chance to help build New Orleans. I was involved in the process and would recommend this day of pitching in to all. There will be

a similar project in San Diego next year. I urge you to consider it.

How about the awards won by our members? Sam MacKenzie, CGCS was named the Superintendent of the Year by Turfnet. Way to go Sam! Dan Dinelli, CGCS was named the winner of the President's Award for Environmental Stewardship. The awards just keep coming for all of Dan's environmental work, and deservedly so. Dan you the MAN!

EARLY Friday morning gave all who wanted to attend a great way to start the day. For many years the Prayer Breakfast has been presented to give all a chance to recharge their batteries with a big dose of fellowship and worship. Many members of the MAGCS play a big part in not only planning this event but also participating in it. If you like "When the Saints Go Marching In" you missed out on a rousing rendition.

Last but not least, our Association hosted another outstanding Hospitality Reception on Thursday evening. 285 people attended "one of the best rooms yet", and many people are to thank. From Luke Cella to Sharon Riesenbeck to the all Commercial Members who donated towards this big night I say THANK YOU. Our Association's hospitality night continues to be one of the biggest and best!

By the time you read this, the Past Presidents will have met and already talked about many other accomplishments of the MAGCS. MAGCS continues to lead the industry because of all the great individuals that make our Association one of the best. I hope everyone has a great 2009 season. **-OC**



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