

## HOSPITALITY WRAP UP

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# The Big Easy: Celebrating Our Superintendents

*The Big Easy: Nickname for New Orleans, USA, referring to the easy-going, laid back attitude of jazz musicians and local residents. MAGCS translation: hosting a Hospitality Event with a laid back attitude for the Greatest Group of Superintendents is the BIG EASY, because we have a lot of volunteer and financial support behind the scenes. Please remember to thank our Golden Tee Sponsors highlighted on a separate page in this issue.*

Each year we try to tweak the event to give it new flavor, and this year was no exception. If you were able to attend this year's event, our menu featured New Orleans Cajun delicacies: Alligator and Crawfish Sausage, Seafood Gumbo, Baked Louisiana Oysters on the Half Shell, Sautéed Crawfish Tails over Pasta, and many other foods with an infamous "Creole Kick". We also featured a bar on the outside of the room, helping the line into the hospitality suite go a wee bit faster.

Despite the obvious reduction in attendance at the show, our hospitality suite was brimming with people. We estimate we had approximately 275 people, which is just about the same number we have had in years past.

Our scholarship raffle was a success again. We raised over \$1200.00 for the fund. Thank you all for the support, and congratulations to this year's winners: Rick Uthe, Mike Murphy, Greg Thalmann, and Rod Johnson. It is especially heartwarming to see Rick and Mike win as they are constantly volunteering their time to MAGCS social events.

Speaking of volunteering, my heartfelt thanks to the many volunteers who helped make this event run smoothly. Beth Whitehouse, thank you so much for taking the time to make our last minute phone calls to secure sponsorships for this event. It really says a lot about a person when she is willing to help out with an event that she will not even be attending!

Many thanks to Maureen Clark of Dow AgroSciences, Tom Healy of Layne-Western, Rick Uthe of J. W. Turf, Matthew Breeden of Evanston Golf Club, John Ekstrom of Hinsdale Country Club, Mike Matchen of Wilmette Country Club, Steve Stewart of Toro/Reinders, Garry Anderson of Arthur Clesen, and my co-workers Dena Di Vincenzo, Rob Johnson, Brett Grams of Waupaca Sand & Solutions.

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*Please remember to take note of the 40 Golden Tee Sponsors on our thank you page.*

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Once again, Luke Cella is the real muscle behind this event. He secured the venue, put together the PowerPoint presentation, purchased the raffle prizes, mailed out the guest passes, and negotiated the "climbing attendance count" with the staff behind the scenes. Thank you, Luke, for taking pictures during the evening; it's always nice to see what went on inside the room.

Please remember to take note of the 40 Golden Tee Sponsors on our thank you page in this issue. Special thanks to our newest contributor, Quali-Pro. Be sure to thank them not only personally but also with the purchase of their goods and services. This event would not be possible without their generous support. If you do business with other vendors, please encourage them to participate next year.

I wish all of the readers a successful season and look forward to seeing you all again in San Diego! **-OC**