

# HOLE NOTES

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MINNESOTA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

SCOTT HOFFMANN, CGCS

Overwhelming probably best describes this year's GCSAA National Conference and Show recently completed in Houston.

As superintendents we have placed tremendous demands on the golf maintenance industry to provide us with the tools necessary to give the golfing public the best maintained golf courses for their golfing dollar. One needs to look back no further than a few short years to realize the very positive industry response to meet these demands. Choices concerning aerators, lightweight mowing, computerized irrigation, and management tools, to name but a few, have increased dramatically in the last five years. With so much available and options no longer limited to two or three choices, we owe it to ourselves and our employers to be aware of what is available and be able to make the correct choices for our particular circumstance.

With 30 one and two day seminars, dozens of educational sessions, hundreds of exhibitors, and over 12,000 superintendents and industry representatives to exchange ideas with, the GCSAA National Show is an educational investment that will provide your club with a great return on its dollar. If not already a priority item in your budget, it may be one you should consider.

Conference notes should include a little about this year's GCSAA Golf Tournament but, for some mysterious reason, scores from our Minnesota Group were difficult to come by. Heard something about one of those strong Texas winds gusting the scorecards away to that great scoreboard in the sky. Better luck next year guys!

We may have to wait until next year for a little national golf glory, but one of our members has recently been noticed in Golf Course Management Magazine as having been a member of GCSAA for 55 years. This milestone is shared with only eight men in the country. Our congratulations to MGCSA past president, Woodhill superintendent, and Minnesota Turfgrass Pioneer, Mr. Carl E. Anderson. Unbelievable!

A special thank you to George Jennrich and his staff for the frosty frolic at Woodhill in January. We had a real good turn out for a perfect day of Hockey, Platform Tennis, and other winter pursuits.

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## PRESIDENT'S DESK from Page 2

The education committee has put together an excellent March Mini-Seminar again this year to be held at Majestic Oaks on March 7. Following this on March 8 & 9 will be a GCSAA Regional Seminar on Basic Turfgrass Botany and Physiology. Due to the exceptional response to these regional seminars we will attempt to follow our mini-seminar each year with a new regional seminar offering.

Hope to see you all at Majestic Oaks.

## SUPERINTENDENTS GATHER IN HOUSTON

by **Rick Fredericksen, CGCS**  
**Rolling Green Country Club**

The Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America held its 59th Annual International Golf Course Conference and Show February 1-8 this year in Houston. Jim Tunney, a referee in the National Football League, delivered the keynote address on Thursday evening. In addition, several awards were given out and the new slide presentation promoting golf course superintendents was shown.

Friday morning found many superintendents in the concurrent educational sessions brushing up on everything from irrigation and construction techniques to public golf operations. In the afternoon a Black Layer Forum was held. While we were learning the latest innovative ideas, our spouses were taking in the sites of Houston through the Spouse Program.

In the evening, the MGCSA Distributors hosted our annual hospitality suite at the headquarters hotel. Thanks are in order for those distributors who contributed toward this event. A western theme was enjoyed by many attending.

With the ribbon cutting ceremony Saturday morning, the Trade Show opened with over 400 exhibitors showing their wares to superintendents. This event represents the best opportunity to discover the newest products and services available in the industry. It gives all who attend an opportunity to talk with either a representative of the company or possibly an engineer who developed the equipment.

The annual Golf Championship held earlier in the week had four Minnesota superintendents involved in the tournament. Fred Anderson, medalist in the Minnesota group, would only comment that they looked forward to redeeming themselves in Anaheim next year.

On Saturday, Scott Hoffmann, Keith Scott and Tom Fischer presented a check in the amount of \$1000 to William

Bengeyfield, National Director of the USGA Green Section and Research Committee, for the purpose of USGA/GCSAA Research. They also presented a check to Bill Roberts, GCSAA Director, in the amount of \$1000 for the GCSAA Research/Scholarship.

Saturday and Sunday featured sessions with several major allied golf and turfgrass associations. With us this year were the USGA, the National Golf Foundation, American Society of Golf Course Architects, Golf Course Builders of America, and the Sports Turf Managers' Association.

The show wrapped up on Monday with the GCSAA annual meeting and election. This year's officers elected were John Segui, President; Dennis Lyon, Vice President; and Gerald Faubel, Secretary. The Directors elected were Bill Roberts and Joseph Baidy, and Kenneth Sakai was appointed.

Monday evening the annual banquet hosted a sellout crowd for the closing ceremonies. During this time, the prestigious Old Tom Morris Award was given to Gene Sarazen. With this award the GCSAA recognizes the Squire as having a continuing and selfless commitment to further the game of golf in the spirit of Old Tom Morris. The show concluded with a stimulating performance by Ronnie Milsap.

The 59th Annual International Golf Course Conference and Trade Show was a huge success. Many were already making plans to attend the next year in Anaheim.

### Many thank to the following companies who helped host the MGCSA Hospitality Suite in Houston:

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