

1991 MGCSA Turf Conference Was A Smashing Success

From practically any way you want to measure it, the 63rd Annual MGCSA Turf Conference and Business Meeting was a smashing success.

There truly was an aura of happiness permeating the Northland Inn in Brooklyn Park, where the 1990 session was held November 28-30.

Part of it, no doubt, was the setting, since the Northland was completed about a year ago specifically for meetings like this. There was more than adequate space to put attendees and vendors at ease, whether it be in a business session, on the trade show floor or listening to speakers.

Part of it, too, was the convivial attitude of the persons who registered, and the obvious camaraderie in the educational sessions, during coffee breaks, at food functions or during various sources of entertainment.

Associate members were pleased with the upscale booths as well as more than adequate space to accommodate exhibit viewers.

As newly-elected MGCSA President Tom Fischer of Edinburgh USA said: "There were virtually no complaints, and the service from the Northland Inn staff was outstanding. The speakers covered some very timely topics on water quality and how our chemicals affect the environment." (*See President's Message on Page 3.*)

Although he was quick to share praise for a successful conference with committee members, MGCSA staff and others who helped, Conference Chairman Kevin Clunis of Stillwater Country Club was "the quarterback who engineered a great game plan, then executed it."

As so many board members declared, Kevin simply did a superb job all the way through.

Said Clunis: "I can't say enough about the cooperation and great assistance from committee members Jim Nicol (Bunker Hills) and Joe Moris (Tartan Park), the staff at the Northland, which was most helpful right from the beginning and throughout the entire conference, and all the other Board members who pitched in. In addition, a lot of credit should go to Dan Miller, Glenn Rasmussen, Dave Krupp, John Wiley, Steve Garske and Larry Thornton, who offered great suggestions and advice in the early stages, and Scott and Laurie Turtinen, who handled pre-registration and on-site registration so well."



YOUR NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Members of the 1991 MGCSA Executive Committee, from left, are Greg Hubbard, Manitou Ridge Golf Course, secretary; Rick Fredericksen, Woodhill CC, vice-president; Tom Fischer, Edinburgh USA, president, and Jim Nicol, Bunker Hills, treasurer.

"We also appreciate the tremendous support shown by all of our associate members," Clunis said. "The exhibits were outstanding, and I want to thank Andy Lindquist of Anoka Tech for arranging the irrigation seminar."

A well-balanced program attracted excellent attendance at the educational sessions.

A major feature on Wednesday was the training session for pesticide applicators. Principal speakers were Wayne Dally and Steve Poncini, Minnesota Department of Agriculture; Dean Herzfeld, Minnesota Extension Service; Steve Aunan, Fike Spray Systems; Bob Mugaas and Ward Stienstra, University of Minnesota; John Barten, Hennepin Park District, and motivational speaker Ernie Larson.

On Thursday, following a fellowship breakfast that featured Dan Croonquist, 1990 Minnesota Golf Association champion, as principal speaker, the morning sessions offered another excellent group of speakers: Van Cline, Toro, Inc.; Joseph Baidy, vice chairman of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America; Dr. Richard Cooper, University of Massachusetts, and Dr. Tom Watschke, Penn State University.

The Trade Show opened at 10 a.m. and continued throughout the remainder of the day.

Thursday afternoon speaker was Jim Latham, United States Golf Association. Returning to the podium on Friday morning were Dr. Cooper and Dr. Tom Watschke. They were joined by consultant Howard Kaerwer. Speakers Friday afternoon were Barten; Chris Hague, superintendent at Hazeltine National Golf Club, who spoke about preparations for the 1991 U.S. Open and four "Thinking Superintendents"—Kevin Clunis, Stillwater CC; Dale Wysocki, Faribault G&CC; Greg Hubbard, Manitou Ridge Golf Course, and Kerry Glader, St. Cloud CC.

The well-attended concurrent sessions also were held on Thursday and Friday mornings. In the mechanics' service session on Thursday, the speakers were Roger Bentsdahl, Champion Spark Plug; Brian Lein, Rich Acres Golf Course, and Allen R. Olson, Central Power District. On Friday the irrigation program featured Bob Reihe and Leroy Young of MTI and Tim O'Connor of Rainbird.

Wrapping up the three-day session was a superb banquet, which attracted a fun-filled crowd of 254, and delightful entertainment by Alex Cole.



NEW DIRECTORS elected at the Annual Meeting were, from left, Scott Austin, Midland Hills CC; Shane Andrews, Hudson (Wis.) Country Club, Irwin (Boots) Fuller, Mankato Golf Club, and Mike Olson, Golden Valley Country Club.