



San Francisco Hosts National Turf Conference & Trade Show

Many familiar faces and some new ones from the MGCSA visited the Bay City and took part in the 66th GCSAA International Convention. The educational opportunities plus the huge trade show make this an extremely worthwhile event for people in the golf industry.

Some of the best people in this industry were there to provide us with current information in turfgrass management. Over 60 one and two-day seminars plus concurrent educational sessions were offered during the week, capped off with a look at all the latest in turf equipment and accessories.

The opening session featured former Pittsburgh Steeler's running back, Rocky Bleier, and the GCSAA's involvement with ESPN films promoting the golf course superintendent. The "Old Tom Morris" Award was given to Dr. James Watson for all he has contributed to the turf industry.

"Changing Perspectives," was the theme of the Environmental General Session this year. John Stossel of ABC TV's news magazine "20/20", was back for a second time going head to head with the EPA. He felt perhaps enough was enough when it comes to some regulatory issues. Another speaker in that session was Dr. Kimberly Erusha, director of education for the USGA Green Section. Her message was to be persistent with the information about the positive effects that golf courses can have on the environment, but that information should be in small doses.

Bill Johnson of Edina Country Club won the GCSAA Senior Division Golf Tournament by shooting an 82-75—157. Former Minnesotan Paul Mayes (now in Japan), finished runner-up in the second flight.

This year's MGCSA get-together, featured a boat ride in San Francisco Bay. About 200 MGCSA members and families enjoyed a cruise under the Golden Gate Bridge with the beautiful lights of San Francisco in the background. We had a delicious dinner followed by dancing, at least for those who didn't have "sea legs." A thank you to Monty Montague and all the associate members for this year's "Great MGCSA Get Together!"

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Larry and Joan Mueller with Michael and Becky Bohnenstingl. Minnesota Valley awarded an Environmental Steward Award at the National Conference.



MGCSA members and friends stopping off in Utah on the way home from San Francisco are (l to r) Greg Nelson, Ed Hanzlik, Tim Mihalko, John Harris, Jeff Aschenbek and Cary Femrite.

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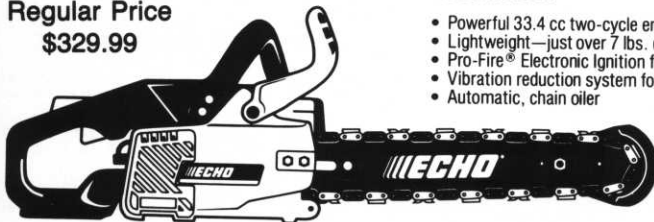
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