GCSAA's 68th International Golf Show Smashes Variety of Records in Las Vegas

A record 22,227 golf course management industry representatives attended the GCSAA's 68th International Golf Course Conference & Show Feb. 6-12 in Las Vegas, surpassing the previous record of 21,784 set last year in Orlando, Fla.

GCSAA's 68th annual event included 100 educational seminars, sessions and forums. Attending golf course superintendents, course officials, turfgrass professionals, educators, suppliers and media representatives also were able to see the latest in golf course management products and services at the three-day trade show.

Other records for the week;

- Registrants for the week's educational seminars totaled more than 5,300, breaking the 1996 record of 4,978.
- Total exhibit space at the trade show was 221,400 square feet occuped by 685 exhibiting companies, 12,530 square feet more than the 1996 record.
- The final tally of international attendees was 2,340, representing 64 countries. The previous record was 1,791, also set in 1996 in Orlando.

Other highlights of the week:

- Paul S. McGinnis, CGCS, was elected president of GCSAA for 1997-78 at the association's annual meeting. George Renault III, CGCS, and David W. Fearis, CGCS, were elected vice president and secretary/treasurer, respectively.
- Retired Navy Capt. James A. (Jim) Lovell Jr., commander of the Apollo 13 space mission, delivered the keynote speech at the Opening Session.
- Eleanor Clift and Fred Barnes of the McLaughlin Group, the Washington D.C.-based group known for spirited discussions of the country's hottest issues, and Kim A. Richards of The Athens group, a golf course and residential developer, presented a lively debate on government and environmental issues affecting the golf industry.
- Ben Crenshaw, one of the PGA Tour's most popular and talented players, was presented with GCSAA's highest honor, the Old Tom Morris Award, at the gala '97 banquet that highlighted the week's events. After the banquet, world-renowned singer Kenny Loggins provided the evening's entertainment.
- Key sessions by the American Society of Golf Course Architects, the American Zoy-

siagrass Association, the Club Managers Association of America, the National Golf Course Owners Association, the National Golf Foundation and the United States Golf Association Green Section rounded out the conference events.

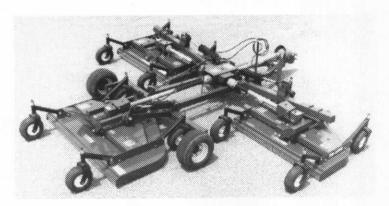
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GCSAA Annual Election Results Announced

The election of officers, the addition of a new director and a revision in membership dues head the list of actions from the GCSAA Annual Meeting (Feb. 11), held in conjunction with the 68th International Golf Course Conference & Show, Feb. 6-12 in Las Vegas.

Paul S. McGinnis, CGCS at Moon Valley Country Club in Phoenix, Ariz., succeeds Bruce R. Williams, CGCS at Bob O'Link Golf Club, Highland Park, Ill. (moves to The Los Angeles Country Club, April 1), as GCSAA president. Williams will serve a one-year term as immediate past president. George Renault III, CGCS at Burning Tree Club in Bethesda, Md., becomes vice prsident after serving last year as secretary/treasurer. Dave Fearis, CGCS at Blue Hills Country Club in Kansas City, Mo., was elected secretary/treasurer. McGinnis and Renault ran unopposed and were elected by acclamation. Fearis defeated R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS at Valley View Golf Club in Bozeman, Mont. Woodhead, however, remains on the board with one year remaining in his two-year director term.

Gary T. Grigg, CGCS at Royal Poinciana Country Club in Naples, Fla., retires from the board after serving as immediate past president in 1996-97. Grigg's departure from the board (filled by Williams) opened a position for Samuel R. Snyder VII, CGCS at Hercules Country Club in Wilmington, Del., who defeated Jon D. Maddern, CGCS at Elk Ridge Golf Course in Gaylord, Mich. Michael Wallace, CGCS at Hop Meadow Country Club in Simsbury, Conn., and Tommy D. Witt, CGCS at Wynstone Golf Club in North Barrington, Ill., were re-elected as directors, while Ken

Mangum, CGCS at Atlanta (Ga.) Athletic Club has one year left on his two-year director term assumed last year.

Voters also overwhelmingly passed an increase in Class A, B and C dues by a nearly 4 to 1 margin (4,732 to 1,318; or 78 percent of the vote). Dues for Class A and B members will increase from \$210 to \$250, while Class C dues (Continued on Page 31)

GCSAA in Las Vegas-

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• A GCSAA Media Room, an added feature to the 1997 conference, included news conferences with the Robert Trent Jones family, USGA President Judy Bell, and GCSAA's 1997 Old Tom Morris recipient Ben Crenshaw; the opportunity for exhibiting companies to conduct media conferences and release new product information; and a working area for more than 88 registered media.

"GCSAA works throughout the year to deliver quality educational programs and professional development opportunities to the GCSAA membership," said GCSAA President Paul S. McGinnis, CGCS. "With a record of more than 22,000 attending the 1997 show in Las Vegas, we're pleased with the results and look ahead to achieving new levels of excellence as we plan for 1998."

GCSAA's 69th International Golf Course Conference & Show is scheduled for Feb. 2-8, 1998 at the Anaheim Convention Center in Anaheim, Calif.

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