

139 Attend Mini-Seminar at Golden Valley

Members Take Advantage of an Informative Session and to Honor Jerry Murphy, CGCS

By JAMES BADE

This past March 10th was a good day. Golf course Superintendents, their assistants and vendors gathered to learn and further themselves in their profession. Two national speakers were able to join us and share their expertise. Bruce Williams from Los Angeles C.C. shared his insights into the business end of golf course mgmt. And Dr. Roch Gaussoin from the U. of Nebraska talked about many agronomic issues. Well known Oscar Miles was able to join us from Chicago and Jeff Johnson shared his experience of restoring The Minikahda club back to it's Donald Ross design.

Another highlight of the day was celebrating Jerry Murphy's acceptance of his Distinguish Service Award. The learning didn't stop at the luncheon. There is a lot to learn from a person who has been in the business as long as Mr. Murphy. It was nice to see a lot of young (and old)

faces at the luncheon. I had to wonder where a lot of these people were in 1971 when Jerry was president of the MGCSA.

Just because one has been president and in the business over 40 years doesn't qualify you for the DSA. What made Murf different is that he cared about the association and what it tried to accomplish over those 40 years.

There are a lot of ways the world measures success besides business. The tributes by Oscar Miles and Larry Vetter were very touching and showed what it means to have a special friend for so long.

Mr. Murphy was general manager of Somerset C.C., a personal businessman, police officer, and the list could go on but here are my four reasons of

what made Murf a success. He is a mentor. He taught his assistants and more importantly let them learn from their mistakes without losing his temper. He is a grandpa. Jerry became a grandpa not too long after I joined Somerset, and I can tell you that he is one good grandpa. He is also a faithful husband and has been married to Marilyn for over 40 years.

But the number one reason for success has been his friendship. He put relationships before business. Jerry Murphy, CGCS, has always been a friend to the association, to vendors, to colleagues, to Somerset, and most importantly his family.



MGCSA members did not have to go away hungry.



Providing good information to MGCSA members were Dr. Brian Horgan, left, who talked about the seriousness of having an incident response plan in place, and Roch Gaussoin, one of the featured speakers at the Mini-Seminar.



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