

ASSOCIATIONS

GCSAA show draws record crowd of 10,912

If there's a legend you've always wanted to meet in the green industry, you probably did at this year's GCSAA conference and trade show held Jan. 27 through Feb. 4 in San Francisco.

Well-knowns from all areas of the green industry descended on the Bay City for the 57th annual show. The GCSAA says a record 10,912 attended.

Test pilot Gen. Chuck Yeager, speaking to the nation's golf course superintendents just days after the Challenger space shuttle tragedy, observed that "when we fool with high technology, we have losses."

On a happier note, Dr. James Watson, The Toro Company vice-president, was named WT&T's Man of the Year for 1986. The Louisiana native has been with the company for 33 years.

Other luminaries at the show included LPGA Hall of Famer Patty Berg and entertainer Dinah Shore, who presented Berg with the "Old Tom Morris" award.

Attendance wasn't the only record broken at the show. Seventy-two new exhibitors numbered among the record 317 total. That meant a trade show which topped 107,000 sq. ft. in exhibit and display area. Some advice: give yourself at least a day next year to visit all booths. You'll need it.

GCSAA sales and marketing manager Tuula Wright says the association was "very pleased" with the turnout. "It was a very beneficial show," Wright tells WT&T. "I was pleasantly surprised at the number of new products introduced at the show."

Wright says some smaller companies took more sales orders



Del Cooper (left) of Tory Pines Resort, Franconia, N.H., engages in friendly conversation with Bob Brown of Jacobsen Div. of Textron on the GCSAA trade show floor in San Francisco.

in three days than they do in an average year.

Unfortunately, the GCSAA may have to turn down exhibitors next year. The show will be held at the Phoenix Civic Plaza which has a total of 110,000 sq. ft. of floor space. When you take into consideration walking area, that's about 5,000 sq. ft. less than the Moscone Center. Wright says she will be flying to Phoenix to see if there's a possibility of gaining space by adding another room.

Some of the educational session speakers at the show included doctors Richard Smiley, William Meyer, C. Reed Funk, Paul Rieke, James Beard, and a host of industry people and superintendents.

An interesting addition to this year's GCSAA conference was the simultaneous Sports Turf Managers Conference held Feb. 1.

The STMA is also planning its 1987 conference to be held in conjunction with the GCSAA show.



Dr. James Watson... WT&T's Man-of-the-Year.

ASSOCIATIONS

Mid-Year show is cancelled

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America is doing away with its mid-year turfgrass trade show which debuted just last year.

Executive director John Schilling says the seminar portion and benefit golf tournament may still be held. The GCSAA will make its final decision at its board of directors meeting in May. If the board gives the go-ahead, the seminars would be held in the fall, without the trade show.

"The trade show was promoted well, but attendance dropped off the second day," Schilling says. "We felt a one-day trade show was asking too much of our exhibitors."

Schilling says another factor which

contributed to the decision is the volume of state and regional shows held around the same time, particularly in the East. "They're serving regional areas," Schilling says. "There's no market out there."

The golf tournament brought in about \$7,000 for turfgrass research last year. Schilling says the interest and the need for research funds is too strong to drop the idea completely.

"It takes a lot of money to be able to study the grasses available which use less chemicals and water," Schilling says. "And, by playing the tournament in the fall, we can be on northern courses, which gives us exposure there."

ACADEMIA

Rutgers students get Lofts' awards

Rutgers University students Jennifer Johnson-Cicalese and David Dugan recently received the Peter Selmer Loft Memorial Scholarship Awards from Lofts Inc. president Jon Loft.

Both are graduate students in turfgrass science.

The award is named after the late Peter Loft of Lofts Inc., who was active in the turfgrass industry. This is the second year the awards have been given.

TREES

Arborists care for Ellis Island trees

Last November, more than 100 tree service personnel worked to preserve trees on Liberty and Ellis islands.

The National Arborist Association, under the direction of Robert Kirwin and staff from American Tree Care, Inc. on Long Island, organized the event. Represented were 23 NAA firms from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, along with 20 arboriculture students from the University of Massachusetts.

The group pruned several hundred trees, providing a donation in excess of \$30,000.

"Never have so many climbers been assembled in one location before," says NAA executive vice-president Bob Felix. "It's a thrill to be involved in this historic scene and to see so much tree care talent donating their services."



An arborist prunes while Miss Liberty looks on.

TREES

Canadian college spares life of giant tree

Olds College in Alberta, Canada practices what it teaches. When a new driveway was planned on campus, the staff decided to save a 40-foot mountain ash instead of chopping it down.

"It's important to me to see the tree replanted," says grounds supervisor Dennis McKernan. "After all, we teach growing here at Olds College,

and here was a golden opportunity to demonstrate one aspect of that."

Moving such a large tree involves risk and preparation. Before the move, the tree was pruned back and sprayed to reduce moisture loss. Its root system was boxed up with plywood and a steel framework was welded into place.

It took a 30-ton crane to hoist the boxed tree onto a trailer. The tree weighed more than 12 tons. Two power lines and one telephone line had to be dropped to let the towering tree pass by. The tree was then lifted off the truck and put into the ground without any problems.

The tree is doing fine.



Left to right, Paul Mengle, manager professional turf and garden sales; Kendall Tomlinson, vice president and chief operating officer; Vernon Bishop, president and chief executive officer; and Jim Kuhle, plant production manager.

TURF

Lebanon's new turf production warehouse to open next month

Lebanon Chemical Corp. is building a new warehouse for turf products.

The facility, located in Lebanon, Pa., will have more than 52,000 sq. ft. of space. It will be able to store about 5,000 pallets.

The new warehouse will complement Lebanon's existing four warehouses which offer 234,000 sq. ft. of combined storage space for more than 22,000 pallets of finished goods.

"This additional storage capacity will allow Lebanon to fully service turf professionals during peak seasonal demands without sacrificing our production standards," says Lebanon president Vernon Bishop.

The warehouse is scheduled to open in May.

PBI/Gordon acquires Bulkem Corporation

The PBI/Gordon Corp. has acquired the Bulkem Corp.

Skip Skaptason, PBI/Gordon group vice-president, says the acquisition will strengthen the company's market distribution.

Bulkem's basic operational procedures will be unchanged.

"Bulkem is not as strong as a stand-alone company as it is integrated into our group," Skaptason tells WEEDS TREES & TURF. "The acquisition will provide additional muscle in the marketing area."

Skaptason says that the increased visibility will also mean increased availability of local help for lawn care operators. Additionally, LCOs can now receive same day delivery of many products, including several new products now available from PBI/Gordon.

"The combination of the acquisition of Bulkem and the increased distribution organization makes it easier and more effective to introduce new products," Skaptason says.

Among the new products are Bov-A-Mura, a concentrate of dairy cattle slurry that turns problem that into

humus; Pestroy, a PBI/Gordon formulation of sumithion, an insecticide used world-wide; and Transfilm, an anti-transpirant that protects plants against damaging conditions.

CHEMICALS

Glyphosate receives safe rating by FIFRA

The FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel has reviewed glyphosate, used in Roundup and Rodeo herbicides, and found inadequate evidence of carcinogenicity.

The EPA had originally petitioned the panel to put glyphosate in the Class C (possible human carcinogen) category because of one controversial and suspect mouse study.

In those tests, mice of one sex of one species which were given maximum tolerated doses of glyphosate had a higher incidence of kidney tumors. But one panel member called the study's statistics "a pretty weak endpoint" and "open to question."

A large part of the panel's Feb. 11th meeting was devoted to the pesticide. Robert Harness of Monsanto, which manufactures Roundup and Rodeo, called for a Class E, "no evidence of

carcinogenicity," classification.

LEGISLATION

EPA issues booklet on hazardous waste

The EPA has issued a publication called "This brochure will help you comply with hazardous waste laws."

The brochure contains a special insert describing hazardous wastes, along with chapters defining the new RCRA law, who is regulated, how to prepare and ship hazardous wastes, and how to manage wastes on-site.

The EPA estimates that 175,000 small businesses will be affected by the new RCRA law. (See Sept., 1985 WT&T).

For more information on how the new law might affect your business, call the EPA's Small Business Hotline, 800-368-5888 or the EPA's RCRA Hotline, 800-424-9346. You can also pick up information through your state hazardous waste management agency or your EPA regional office.

PESTICIDES

Ornithologists: DDT ban brings back birds

The bald eagle and four other rare birds have made a dramatic comeback since the reduction of DDT and other persistent pesticides in the environment, according to ornithologists at Cornell University.

The group says the North American birds of prey have increased in population in the last four years. Besides the bald eagle, other species including the prairie falcon, northern goshawk, merlin, and gyrfalcon, have increased in population.

Populations dropped when large amounts of DDT were present in the environment in the early 1970s. The chemical impaired the birds' reproductive capabilities. Most uses of DDT were banned in the United States in 1972.

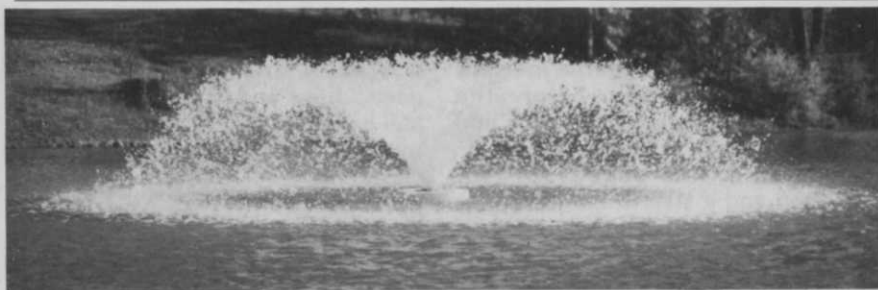
A decade ago, bald eagles were cited in only 39 states. Scientists say their number has increased by 92 percent and can be found in every state except Hawaii.

LAWN CARE

PLCAA creates new technical services post

The Professional Lawn Care Association of America is looking for someone to fill the newly created position of director of technical services.

continued on page 12



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SHORTCUTS

CADILLAC OF PUTTING GREENS.....PSU 126, a new improved bentgrass, will have been released to the golf course industry by the time you lay your eyes on this article. According to Dr. Joe Duich of Penn State University, the variety will be the Cadillac of golf putting greens.

"We started working on it 13 years ago," Duich says. "Our aim was to develop a better putting green of bentgrass with upright growth. I think we have an interesting product that will be well-received in the industry." The variety will be marketed by Tee-2-Green, Hubbard, Ore.

THE WEED CHART.....Barbara Betz, information specialist at Lesco Inc., tells WT&T that the demand for the Lesco Weed Chart was so great that the company had no choice but to print another one. A new, revised edition of the Weed Chart, complete with quality four-color photos, contains information on 44 grassy and broadleaf leaves commonly found in both the northern and southern U.S. The chart provides information about identification, growth habits and reproductions, and herbicide control. It's available for a reasonable \$2. Write: Weed Chart, Lesco Inc., PO Box 16915, Rocky River, OH 44116.

SPEAKING OF LESCO.....We at WT&T are sad to lose an editorial advisory board member but we're happy for him. Bruce Augustin, turf specialist at the University of Florida in Ft. Lauderdale, has accepted a position as director of technical support with Lesco in Rocky River. He began work this month. A Michigan native, Augustin should be used to the winters he'll face on the shores of Lake Erie.

WILDFLOWER SOD?.....Gene P. Milstein, president of Applewood Seed Co. in Arvada, Colo., says wildflower sod will be a hot item in the future. Yes, you'll roll up the wildflower sod just like turf sod but Milstein says the wildflowers, which will be two-to-three inches high at the time of transport, won't be harmed. For Milstein's thoughts on wildflower sod, you can write him at 5380 Vivian St., Arvada, CO 80002.

'SKIN' WINS LAWN RANGER.....Tony Burnett, chief groundskeeper at R.F.K. Stadium in Washington D.C., home of the Washington Redskins, was named the "Lawn Ranger Award" winner by the Sports Turf Managers Association at their meeting held in conjunction with the GCSAA Show in San Francisco. The award is given annually to the groundskeeper of the year as judged by the ever-growing STMA.

ANDERSONS GO LIQUID.....The Andersons will introduce their first liquid fertilizer products this spring. Available through The Andersons distributors, the products are a 16-2-2 fertilizer, 30-0-0 low-burn nitrogen fertilizer, and a six percent liquid iron product, Lawn Pride, a chelated product.

The position includes responsibility for developing safety and technical education programs. The person would:

- work with state agencies on certification programs;
- establish a national certification program for PLCAA members;
- maintain a liaison relationship with university and industry scientists and associations such as the Public Issues Alert Committee; and
- represent the PLCAA at technical conferences and seminars.

"The growing public concern regarding environmental safety issues was a primary factor in deciding to establish the new position," says PLCAA executive vice-president Jim Brooks. "The association needs a staff person who can effectively work with the increasing number of technical issues facing the PLCAA and the industry."

According to Brooks, the ideal candidate for the position would have at least a master's degree in agronomy, field experience in the lawn care industry, communication skills, and management capabilities. Also, the new director of technical services must relocate to the Atlanta area.

Candidates must send a written resume no later than April 15, 1986 to: Search Committee, PLCAA, 1225 Johnson Ferry Rd. NE, Suite B-220, Marietta, GA, 30067. No telephone calls.

SPORTS TURF

New club launched at Cal Poly-Pomona

Fifteen of 21 members of Cal Poly-Pomona's new Sports Turf Managers Club were on hand at the recent Golf Course Superintendents Association of America trade show in San Francisco, including its president.

The club, which was formed last fall, sponsored a booth at the GCSAA trade show.

"We want it to be known in the turf industry that we would like to be involved," says president Nick Spardy. "We have tours, arrange speakers and get in a lot of practical work through the club. We want to apply all this toward our career."

Ken Williams is vice-president, Bruce Carleton secretary-treasurer, and Dr. Kent Kurtz advisor. Paul Magiera, agricultural council representative, was also at the trade show.

"We've gotten a lot of good feedback," Spardy says. "Everyone's really enthused, and if this works I'd expect to see such clubs at other colleges and universities."

RESEARCH

University builds turf research facility

The University of Maryland is updating its turf research facility in both the field and laboratory. Construction has begun for a new 38-acre Turfgrass Research and Education Facility in Silver Spring.

Dr. Peter Dernoeden says work should be completed in April on the office/equipment storage building and the pesticide/fertilizer storage building. An irrigation system will go in this summer.

"The facility really greatly enhances our field research capabilities," Dernoeden says.

One building will house a new computer system that Dr. Mark Welterlen will use to monitor environmental factors, such as temperature and moisture, on the growth of turf.

The Maryland Turfgrass Council and the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station cooperated in purchasing the system, which cost \$28,000. The Maryland Turfgrass Association, representing sod producers and installers in Maryland, also put \$1,000 toward the system.

In addition to the field research facilities, the Maryland Turfgrass Council and the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station also provided funds for the renovation of a turfgrass analytical laboratory located at the College Park campus.

PEOPLE

Leading architect passes away at 71

George W. Cobb, 71, one of the country's leading golf course designers for the past 30 years and a Fellow of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, died in Greenville, S.C. on Jan. 16. Among his other accomplishments, Cobb designed the first six golf courses on Hilton Head, S.C.

Dale Amstutz of Northern Lawns, Omaha, has been elected president of the Nebraska Professional Lawn Care Association. Vice-president is John Skomal of Custom Lawns, Omaha and secretary-treasurer is Richard Penn of Lawnco of Lincoln.

Russell J. Frith, president of Lawn Doctor, Matawan, N.J., has been named to the board of directors of the Professional Lawn Care Association of America. He is also chairman of the PLCAA's membership development committee.

Paul Bergman of Centra-Chemical Services, Hastings, has been elected president of the Nebraska Turfgrass

Foundation. Randy Nelson of The Greenkeeper, Omaha, is vice-president and John Hadwick of Grand Island Municipal Golf Course is secretary-treasurer.

Allen Keesen Landscape, Denver, has promoted John H. Gates, Eldon J. Dyk and Carl M. Nagel to vice-presidencies. Gates will be responsible for Denver landscape construction and Dyk for the maintenance division.

Professional Golf Association Tour commissioner Deane Beman has been named 1986 winner of the Donald



John Gates



Eldon Dyk

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