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Superintendents Elect Association’s 1996-97 Board of Directors

Bruce R. Williams, CGCS, Bob O’Link Golf Club, Highland Park, Ill., was elected president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) during the association’s recent annual meeting in Orlando, Fla.

Williams succeeds Gary T. Grigg, CGCS, Royal Poinciana Golf Club, Naples, Fla., who will continue to serve on the board for one year as immediate past president.

Paul S. McGinnis, CGCS, Moon Valley Country Club, Phoenix, Ariz., was elected vice president.

Elected as secretary/treasurer was George E. Renault III, CGCS, Burning Tree Club, Bethesda, Md.

Re-elected as director was R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS, Valley View Golf Club, Bozeman, Mont. Ken Mangum, CGCS, Atlanta Athletic Club, Duluth, Ga., was elected for his first term on the board from a field of six candidates.

Michael Wallace, CGCS, Hop Meadow Country Club, Simsbury, Conn., was reappointed to the board. Wallace will serve the remaining year of Renault’s term as director. Renault’s director position was vacated when he was elected secretary/treasurer.

Dave Fearis, CGCS, Blue Hills Country Club, Kansas City, Mo., and Tommy D. Witt, CGCS, Wynstone Golf Club, North Barrington, Ill., both have one year remaining on their terms and will continue to serve as directors.

Joseph G. Baidy, CGCS, Acacia Country Club, Lyndhurst, Ohio, completed his one-year term as immediate past president and will step down after serving on the GCSAA board of directors for eight years.

GCSAA officers serve one-year terms, and directors are elected to two-year terms.

The title ‘CGCS’, which follows each director’s name, stands for Certified Golf Course Superintendent. The CGCS title recognizes the high standards of professionalism achieved through education and experience.

By-laws Amendments Approved

The members of the GCSAA approved one Article of Incorporation change and all 12 by-laws changes on the ballot at their annual meeting held Feb. 10 in Orlando, Fla.

Each ballot issue was passed by a substantial margin. A two-thirds majority vote is required for adoption of by-laws changes. The ballot issues voted in are:

• Ballot Issue No. 1, modified the articles of incorporation allowing chapter delegates and proxy voting for modification in annual dues for Classes AA, A, B and C members;
• Ballot Issue No. 2, beginning July 1, 1997, that each new Class A and B member residing in the United States, except Alaska, must also be a member of an Affiliated Chapter;
• Ballot Issue No. 3, removing voting rights from Class C members and adding a section to the by-laws delineating the rights of membership;
• Ballot Issue No. 4, that all chapters must have an Affiliation Agreement with GCSAA and establish disciplinary action for violation of the agreement and Code of Ethics;
• Ballot Issue No. 5, allowing the Standards/By-laws Committee to reject proposed amendments and providing a means for an individual to submit a proposed amendment to membership vote;
• Ballot Issue No. 6, allowing chapter delegates and proxy holders to vote on modification of annual dues, allowing the Board of Directors to remove or discipline a board member, allowing for the board to hold special meetings by phone, allowing a director to waive the right to meeting notice, indemnifying directors for simple negligence in accordance with state laws and providing for dissolution of the Association and distribution of the assets in accordance with state and federal laws.

A ballot for reduction of Class C member dues to $105, one-half of Class A and B dues, was also approved.

The Minnesota Valley threesome of Don Augdahl, left, Larry Mueller, center, and Mike Bohnenstingl on the right.

Minnesota Valley’s Larry D. Mueller Named 1995-96 Environmental Steward Award Winner

Larry D. Mueller, of Minnesota Valley Country Club in Bloomington, Minn., has been named a winner in the Environmental Steward Award competition. The award is sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Foundation, and golf industry leaders Ciba Turf & Ornamental Products, Rain Bird’s Golf Division, Jacobsen Division of Textron Inc., and Lebanon Turf Products.

“With the high quality and significant number of entries, winning an Environmental Steward Award has become one of the top honors for a golf course superintendent,” said Gary Grigg, GCSAA ex-officio.
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Flowers—  
(Continued from Page 18)

varieties. The flowers have less weight. Another criticism is, “but they only flower for ten days.” Unlike many perennials when they have finished flowering, the foliage of Peony creates a very clean, bright green, rounded shrub. Visit the peony collection at the University of Minnesota Arboretum in Chanhassen, Minnesota two times in a year. Go in the spring to select your favorite cultivars and gain in August to appreciate the clean, kept habit of the shrub.

“You’ve convinced me, I don’t ever want any flower beds on my course. It’s more bother than it’s worth.”

Wrong, Wrong, Wrong!

If you built a poorly designed golf course and seeded it with poor grass varieties, would you reach the conclusion that the golf course was a bad idea? Probably not. You would conclude that the design and plant selections were wrong... not the idea to have a golf course. Flower beds require the same correct design and plant selection.

A golf course is a business, and failure to attract new and repeat customers will lead to the demise of the business. While the “flower lovers” may not be the favorite customer at the business, their money is equally green.

Human behavioral sciences have researched the influences of color on our moods and our actions. This research serves only as a reinforcement to knowledge we intuitively know. Colors inspire positive moods and more importantly, positive consumer behavior. Golfers are consumers. Yes, golf is a sport. Yes, it becomes a passion for many. But where a golfer elects to leave their dollars on the quality of the golf course, the price, and the energizing “unquantifiable” reaction to a facility. Flowers contribute to this last category. Any questions, call (800) 626-6429 or E-mail address: flowers29@skypoint.com

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If your area code has changed in Central Minnesota, please call, write or fax the MGCSA office.

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For the past year, the Minnesota Golf Association (MGA) and the College of Agricultural Food and Environmental Sciences (C/A) at the University of Minnesota (U/M) have been defining a joint venture development of a golf and research complex on land owned by the U/M on the south side of the Twin Cities metropolitan area. The approach is to create, once in place, a self-supporting development which could significantly benefit the MGA in its long-term needs for facilities and sites for promotion and expansion of its many programs in the fulfillment of its mission:

- A home course for MGA qualifying and championship competitions and periodic use by all golf associations in Minnesota.
- A host course for certain USGA qualifying and championships, University of Minnesota men’s and women's golf teams and possible NCAA site.
- A home office site for the MGA and all other Minnesota-based golf associations.
- An optimum facility for educational and demonstration purposes for rules officials, tournament officials, golf professionals, caddy masters, caddies, club officers, club managers, committee persons, superintendents, maintenance personnel, etc.
- A golf teaching center with emphasis on beginners, female golfers, seniors, disadvantaged players from all segments and handicapped players with golf course access once exposure to the game has occurred.
- A site for golf camps and summer sessions for boys and girls with special emphasis on financially disadvantaged minorities and the disabled.
- A site for caddy camps and other caddy instructional programs.
- A test facility to apply U/M research, USGA programs, equipment generated in the private sector, etc.

The development would also be used by the U/M in expanded research on turf grass-related undertakings and further expansion of its turf grass management school. Their programs will include:

- turf plant varieties
- fertilizer formulations
- closed cultural systems for turf and grounds
- renovation and maintenance of turfgrass facilities
- drainage systems for sports turf turfgrass
- soil mixes to restore base areas
- water quality
- alternative pest management practices
- biological control of plant pests
- efficient water usage
- development of disease forecasting systems
- development of disease-resistant varieties
- development of new equipment for maintenance

With respect to the USGA, the MGA and the U/M would encourage the USGA's involvement in the use of the facility, beyond that of use for qualifying sites, in furthering the research for turf advisory work, water quality and consumption and cool-season grass development.

The complex is planned to include two 18-hole golf courses, a clubhouse/conference center, a complete golf teaching center/practice facility including dormitory space for summer junior golf campers, office space for the MGA and all other Minnesota-based golf associations and an expanded maintenance/demonstration/classroom area for the combination of grounds maintenance and the MGA and U/M programmatic needs. The entire facility will be developed in phases with Phase I including all but the second golf course and office space. Rees Jones has been retained to design, initially, the championship course.

The completed complex is approximately $15,000,000. The land for the project will be provided by the U/M. The remaining cost is anticipated from a combination of the MGA, the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission (a state agency), corporate and individual contributors and, hopefully, the USGA.
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MGCSA Joins Trans-Mississippi Turf Scholarship Fund Project

The MGCSA has joined the Trans-Mississippi Turf Scholarship Fund in an effort to develop an on-going fund initiative supporting deserving students pursuing careers in the Turf/Golf Course industry.

Established in 1962, the Trans-Mississippi Turf Scholarship Fund has granted nearly 500 scholarships at top-rated agronomy schools that have turf management programs. The TMTSF has awarded a scholarship to a University of Minnesota student each year for more than 15 years.

The Trans-Miss is currently billing members of selected country clubs in the state, and asking for MGCSA member support to raise money to create more scholarships in Minnesota. As this program develops, a board will be created to determine who recipients will be. Monies raised in Minnesota will be available to students from Minnesota.

Founded in 1900, the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association is one of the oldest golf organizations in the United States. Currently it has approximately 200 member clubs.

Primary purpose of the TMGA is to promote interest in amateur golf. Through its Turf Scholarship Program, it perpetuates the training of qualified young men and women to become responsible for any golf club's greatest physical asset — the golf course itself.

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6 March 1996

Mr. Hank Wilkinson
Dain Bosworth, Inc.
6600 France Ave. S., Suite 25
Edina, MN 55435

Dear Hank:

This letter is written in support of the Trans-Mississippi Turf Scholarship Fund - Minnesota Pilot Project and your efforts to develop an on-going fund raising initiative with the MGCSA.

The TMGA has a long history of supporting students who are focused on becoming golf course superintendents. The TMGA has awarded a scholarship to a University of Minnesota Student each year for more than 15 years. Most of the students have ended up working on golf courses or in turfgrass research. Certainly this is a splendid record of support of deserving and talented young people. To my knowledge, all of the students, who received scholarships over the years were supporting themselves and paying their way through college by working.

I know that the scholarships have helped many students through rough financial times as well as encouraging and enabling high scholastic performance by allowing students to reduce their work loads and increase their study time.

With rising costs in education, there is a growing need for substantial scholarships. However, the recognition of good scholarship by rewarding deserving students is in itself extremely important, regardless of financial need. The positive message scholarships send to students is strong encouragement for bright young people to enter the field.

An alliance between the TMGA and the MGCSA would indicate a visionary and creative example of how people might work together to do things that would be impossible to accomplish alone. And, it makes visible a willingness to work together to encourage bright young people to become educated and contribute to society and the environment by pursuing careers in the Turf - Golf course industry.

I support the development of a strong connection between the TMGA and the MGCSA for the purpose of increasing the funding available to support students in Minnesota.

My compliments and all best wishes for success in your joint mission.

Sincerely

Brad Pedersen

Gary Gardner
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