

## Chapter Delegate Meeting By GARY INGRAM, CGCS Voting Delegate

This year the Chapter Delegate Meeting was held GCSAA Headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas on October 3 and 4. It was a very informative and interesting two days. Even though the primary goal was to meet and learn about the candidates for the upcoming GCSAA Board and provide unique networking opportunity, we were given the opportunity to learn more current state of affairs of our organization, tour our newly renovated headquarters, and to participate in a roundtable discussion.

What we learned and observed was that our current board, with the leadership of CEO Rhett Evans, not only evaded the economic storm, but were able to make some major improvements to our organization. Through investments, and modifying our GCSAA team, we have become a stronger and more effective organization. Even though we needed to reduce our overall staffing they have been able to add regional field staffing that can visit golf courses and provide additional support to the local organizations. Jeff Jensen is our field representative and many of you have met at our events and have read articles he has written our newsletter. We also visited the beautiful and highly efficient, newly renovated headquarters. These needed improvements were accomplished by obtaining low-interest loans

that were just recently available. These improvements have become a definite win-win situation. With the major reduction in staffing they needed to provide an efficient and enjoyable working environment to keep our member services intact. Some of the offices are even rented out to private businesses to help defer costs. One of the improvements we visited was library which all of us may enjoy. You can also now even get onto The Michigan Turfgrass Foundation through the GCSAA website as a golf course superintendent member.

The roundtable discussions primarily focused on our current classifications. The questions that were asked were:

1. Do you feel it would help GCSAA's marketing efforts to employers to simplify membership classifications?
2. As you think about your chapter members who are not Class A, what needs to happen to make him/her want to achieve Class A?
3. What is a realistic timeframe for having any changes in place?

The overall consensus was that something needs to be done to clarify our classifications for our membership, employers, and the general public.

If you have any opinions, concerns, or ideas please do not hesitate to email us at [gcsanc@att.net](mailto:gcsanc@att.net).

As first indicated, the primary goal of this trip was to obtain information about the upcoming election for the GCSAA board.

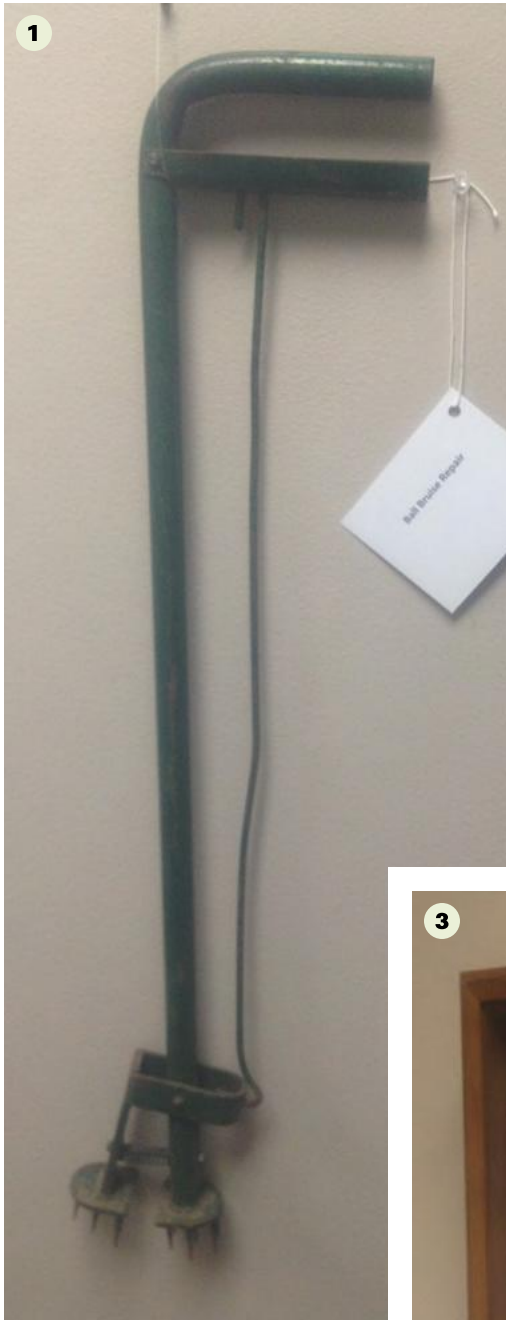


**Old Tom Morris at GCSAA entrance**

Following is a list of this year's candidates:

For President:	Keith Ihms, CGCS
For Vice President:	John O' Keefe, CGCS
For Secretary/Treasurer:	Pete Grass, CGCS
	Bill Maynard, CGCS
Director Positions:	Rafael Barajas, CGCS
	Mark Jordan, CGCS
	John Walker

There are two open positions for director. The two director candidates receiving the most votes will be elected to two-year terms. If Peter Grass, CGCS is successful in his bid for secretary/treasurer, Bill Maynard, CGCS will need to accept a nomination from the floor at the annual meeting to continue as a director of GCSAA in 2014. Mr. Grass's remaining year as director will be filled by an appointment by the president with approval by the board of directors. If Mr. Maynard is successful in his bid for secretary/treasurer, Grass will automatically remain on the board for another year as director. Darren Davis and John R. Fulling Jr., CGCS, remain on the board with one year remaining in their two-year director terms. Patrick R. Finlen, CGCS, will serve on the board for one year as immediate past president. Sandy G. Queen, CGCS, retires from the board after serving the last year as immediate past president. If we you would like more information concerning elections they can be found on the GCSAA web at: <http://www.gcsaa.org/Community/Annual-Meeting/2014/2014-Annual-Meeting-Preview.aspx>.



From the GCSAA Headquarters museum:  
 1) Ball bruise repair tool.  
 2) Portable sprinkler.  
 3) Myrtle Wagoner collected a "charm" for each year attending the GCSAA Conference and Show since 1974. All the charms distribution series is part of the GCSAA Museum collection. Special congratulations to Myrtle and Clifford Wagoner on their 72nd wedding anniversary.