

25-Year Members

By Kevin Knudtson, Membership Chair

Rob Udelhofen Superintendent at Platteville Golf and Country Club – Rob served in the Navy from 1982 - 1986. After the Navy, Rob started working for Howard Metcalf at Platteville Golf and Country Club. Howard is the one who inspired Rob to get involved in the turfgrass business. In 1988, Rob became the superintendent at Platteville Golf and Country Club.

During the last 25 years Rob has used his inspiration, experience and knowledge by helping out with the university's horticulture programs, and lending a hand to other courses in his area. Rob was also greatly involved with little league while his children grew up. Rob is currently an assistant golf coach at Clarke University

During Rob's free time he loves to spend time up north. Rob also enjoys golfing, fishing, hunting and bowling.

Rob was born and raised in Platteville. He is married to Ann and they have three children Jesse, Joshua, and Jamie and one granddaughter Sophia.

Mark Hjortness Certified Golf Course Superintendent at Ives Grove Golf Club-Mark attended University of Madison. Mark became the superintendent at Ives Grove golf club in 1988, before that he worked at Johnson Park, and North Shore. Being a member the last 25 years, Mark has met so many great people along with creating many friendships.

Mark was born and raised in Racine, WI and his biggest hobbies are playing golf and anything that deals with sports. Mark has been around golf most of his life. He started golfing when he was five and one of the biggest memories he has had is when his handicap was down to a two.

Chuck Wollner – Golf Course Superintendent at Christmas Mountain Club

The last 25 years Chuck has been a superintendent at Christmas Mountain Golf Club before that he was working at courses in Iowa such as Indian Hills Golf Club and Clarmond Country Club. Chuck's family has many years of golf experience. His brothers Joe and Dan are both superintendents. His parents were also managers of a golf shop.

Chuck was born and raised in Bancroft, Iowa. He resides in Wisconsin Dells with his wife Kimberly. They have two children Zeb and Sarah.

Chucks favorite hobby is taking camping trips to Northern WI. While Chuck is up there, he loves to hike and look at waterfalls

James Ceman – Golf Course Superintendent at Ironwood Golf Course

In 1988 Jim was promoted to an assistant at Silver Spring Country Club under Tom Cramer. After a few years there,

Jim decided to get into the construction business for Western Contractors. Some of the highlights were being involved with renovation projects at Brown Deer and County Stadium. Jim then became the superintendent at Ironwood and took on the responsibility to design and construct the 1st nine holes which open in 1994. He later designed and constructed the other two nines and they opened in 1998 and 2002. Jim's favorite part of his job is the construction side of it.

Jim was born and raised in Milwaukee. He resides in Richfield with his wife Jayne. They have three children Zoe, Calee, and James.

Jim's favorite hobby is he likes to design

Kris Pinkerton – Certified Golf Course Superintendent at Oshkosh Country Club


Kris attended the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Short Course for Turfgrass Management. In 1987 - 1990 Kris was hired into his first head superintendent job at Rock River Country Club in Waupun. In 1990, he was hired as superintendent at Waupaca Country Club and worked for three years there. The last 20 years he has been the Certified Superintendent at Oshkosh Country Club. Kris wanted to thank and recognize two key individuals, Scott Schaller and David Brandenburg, who early on in his career had a significant impact and positive influence with which they so generously shared.

Kris was born and raised in Ladoga (near Waupun) on a dairy farm and resides in Oshkosh with his wife Michelle. They have two children Natasha and Hunter.

During Kris's free time he enjoys fishing and hunting.

Michael Lee – Certified Golf Course Superintendent/Manager of Golf Course Maintenance at Blackwolf Run and Whistling Straits

Manager - Golf Course Maintenance: Michael joined Kohler Co. as Blackwolf Run Golf Course Superintendent in 1993. In 1999, he was promoted to oversee golf course maintenance at both Blackwolf Run and Whistling Straits. He supervised the golf course preparations for Destination Kohler Championships beginning with the Andersen Consulting World Championship of Golf, 1995. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in plant sciences, specializing in turf and grounds management. His golf course experience includes five years as assistant superintendent for Blue Mound Golf and Country Club in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, He also worked for the UW Madison plant pathology department. Michael served on the Board of Visitors – College of Agriculture and Life sciences at UW-Madison and the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association Board.

Michael is a native of Madison, Wisconsin and currently resides in Kohler with his wife Nancy and four daughters Abigail, Annika, Laura and Catherine. 



Kristopher Pinkerton CGCS, Oshkosh CC receives his 25 Year Member plaque from Membership Chair Kevin Knudtson.



Chuck Wollner GCS, Christmas Mountain GC receives his 25 Year Member plaque from Membership Chair Kevin Knudtson.



James Ceman, GCS Iron Ridge GC receives his 25 Year Member plaque from Membership Chair Kevin Knudtson.



Michael Lee, CGCS Blackwolf Run / Whistling Straits receives his 25 Year Member plaque from Membership Chair Kevin Knudtson.