

MGCSA CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

President
(1-year term)

Kevin Clunis
Stillwater Country Club

Vice President
(1-year term)

Bill Cox
Tianna Country Club

James Gardner
Rochester Golf & Country Club

Secretary
(2-year term)

John Granholt
Eau Claire Country Club

Tom Kientzle
The Pines at Grand View Lodge

Industrial Relations

Butch Greeninger
Dale Parske

Director
(4 to be elected 2-year terms)

Dick Grundstrom
Indian Hills Golf Club

Tom Kientzle (if not elected Secretary)
The Pines at Grand View Lodge

Charlie Pooch
Les Bolstad U. of M. Golf Club

Dave Sime
Benson Golf Club

Fred Taylor
Mankato Golf Club

Pat Walton
Rolling Green Country Club

CANDIDATE PROFILES

Kevin Clunis, Stillwater Country Club

Qualifications and awards:

Served seven years on the Board of Directors of the MGCSA. Previously held office of Vice-President and Treasurer. Also past chairperson of Research, Environmental, Conference and Education, Arrangements and Bylaws Committees.

Why are you running for office?

Have the support of other superintendents.

What are the biggest problems facing the MGCSA today?

The problem lies outside the MGCSA. We need to get more golf clubs that are members of the MGA to have someone be involved in membership with the MGCSA. Currently only 245 MGCSA member clubs of the MGA out of a possible 400 clubs are involved.

Do you have any unique problems at your course and how did you solve them?

Recently and currently are working with Washington County Soil & Water Conservation and the Minnesota DNR on a runoff project to protect a designated trout stream.

James D. Gardner, CGCS, Rochester Golf & C.C.

Qualifications and awards:

Certified Golf Course Superintendent
Environmental Management Program—
Integrated Plant Management Specialization
Environmental Management Program—
Underground Storage Tank Specialization
MGCSA James Watson Award for Journalism

Why are you running for office?

Help make public have a better understanding of our profession and all the environmental qualities that golf courses provide for the community through media sources and publications.

What are the biggest problems facing the MGCSA today?

Public image, golfer expectations, environmental concerns.

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Charlie Pooch, Les Bolstad U. of M. Golf Club

Qualifications and awards:

Graduated from University of Minnesota June, 1975. Joined MGCSA in September 1975.

Why are you running for office?

I attended many monthly as well as national meetings as assistant superintendent enjoying many of the benefits of being a member of our organization. Now that I am qualified to hold office I would like to contribute what I can to make us a stronger organization.

What are the biggest problems facing the MGCSA today?

With the increased popularity of our business and the corresponding increase of our membership we must make sure we continue to offer opportunities so every member can feel he or she is part of the MGCSA.

David S. Sime, Benson Golf Club

Qualifications and awards:

Secretary of Benson Park Board
Vice President of Benson Chamber of Commerce 1993
President of Benson Chamber of Commerce 1994
13 years golf course experience

Why are you running for office?

I hope to benefit the MGCSA involving and encouraging the smaller, outstate golf courses so they will attend meetings and share ideas.

What are the biggest problems facing the MGCSA today?

I feel that MGCSA has grown to such proportions that it lacks the support and personal attention needed to encourage new and smaller golf courses.

Do you have any unique problems at your course and how did you solve them?

I bought and installed a used watering system, saving money while upgrading the watering system.

John Granholt, Eau Claire Country Club

Qualifications and awards:

Superintendent E.C.C.C. 15 years (thought I'd be here 3-4 years)

Assistant to Boots Fuller 2 years in Mankato
Assistant to Jim Wodash in Albert Lea 6 years
Family still in Minnesota
Member GCSAA, WGCSA

Why are you running for office?

Elected as director in 1991, want to stay involved and work for the association. It has been a lot of work and driving but a great experience.

What are the biggest problems facing the MGCSA today?

Government regulations, environmental issues, continued research funding, educating golfers about what we do and why.

Do you have any unique problems at your course and how did you solve them?

Flooding

Other comments:

MGCSA is such a great organization. People not in this business find it hard to believe that you can call up any number of people in our business to help you solve a problem or for advice.

Butch Greeninger, MTI Distributing Co.

Qualifications and awards:

MGCSA member since Oct. 1985
3 years on Scholarship Committee
2 years on Conference Committee
1 year on Research Committee

Why are you running for office?

I believe in the association as being beneficial to all members and have really enjoyed being involved these past few years and would like to take the next step in support of the organization.

What are the biggest problems facing the MGCSA today?

Increasing member involvement. The association is only as strong as the membership. Getting all area courses as members and really trying to get them involved at some level.

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Patrick Walton, Rolling Green Country Club

Qualifications and awards:

Bachelor of Science Degree - Horticulture, University of Minnesota 1983

GCSAA Member - Class A, Certified Golf Course Superintendent, February 1993.

7 years Superintendent at Rolling Green Country Club

2 years at Deer Run Golf Club

Why are you running for office?

I have been a member of this association for 11 years and I feel that it is time for me to become involved in the management of our association. I am also at a point in my career where I have the time needed to be an active board member.

What are the biggest problems facing the MGCSA today?

Professional recognition and public relations and educating the public in the areas of pesticide and fertilizer and water usage on the golf courses in our state.

Do you have any unique problems at your course and how did you solve them?

Drainage is our number one problem at Rolling Green Country Club. Both surface and subsurface drainage is inadequate in our greens. We are deep tine aerifying sand topdressing and recontouring our collars to allow for surface drainage.

William S. Cox, Tianna Country Club

Qualifications and awards:

Certificate of Completion: Turfgrass Management Program, College of Agriculture, Pennsylvania State University.

Certificate of Completion: Landscape Technology and Turfgrass Maintenance Program

GCSAA Member - Class B

MGCSA Member - Class BII

Why are you running for office?

I have been a member since 1979, and this is the first year I have been involved with the operations of the MGCSA. I feel it's important to give back to the organization. I also feel it is important that all areas of the state should be represented.

What are the major concerns facing the MGCSA?

I think there are several areas of concern; environmental and pesticide issues; right to know and personnel management, among others. But for our association, I feel our membership needs to be improved on. We need to get the word out to non-member Superintendents around the state. Let them know what our association has to offer, and the importance of dealing with those issues I previously mentioned.

Did you have any unique problems at your course and how did you solve them?

Several issues of concern at Tianna Country Club have been solved with implementation of gold tee markers and addition of forward tees. The rationale for adding these tees include speeding up play, more options off the tees, and greater enjoyment of the course. It will also help improve the turfgrass quality by spreading out turf damage and wear over more tee space.

Fred N. Taylor, Mankato Golf Club

Qualifications and awards:

B.S. Mankato State University—Business Admin. and minor in economics.

A.A.S. U of M - Waseca - Horticulture.

Employed at the Mankato Golf Club for 13 years, last three as superintendent.

Assisted in organizing southern Minnesota superintendents coalition.

Vice-chairman of the U. of M. - Waseca Horticultural Advisory Committee, 1989-91.

M.G.C.S.A Membership and Education Committees 1993-94.

M.G.C.S.A. Watson award 1989.

Why are you running for office?

Over the past 17 years, the M.G.C.S.A. has provided me many opportunities for personal advancement and education. By serving as a director, I would be able to "give back" to the association. At this point in my career, I feel that I have the time, energy, and resources to effectively represent the membership of the M.G.C.S.A.

What are the biggest problems facing the MGCSA today?

The greatest short term problem facing the association is the development and integration of the M.T.G.F. I believe in the mission of the M.T.G.F., and I believe that because of its strong standing, the M.G.C.S.A. must champion the Foundation's cause. This will be a delicate process however, as we cannot alienate the other associations. In the long term, the environmental issues and the image of the golf course are areas that need continued attention.

Do you have any unique problems at your course and how did you solve them?

Staff burnout is not unique to our course, but we used a little different method to regain enthusiasm. We gathered five of our most experienced employees and did some group problem solving. They decided certain procedures and methods for some daily practices. They also chose an area of responsibility (i.e. roughs, bunkers, equipment) that they would oversee. The outcome was a happier, more productive crew, and a better golf course!

Other comments:

I have often felt that the "little guy" gets overlooked by our association. I would advocate implementing strategies and procedures to reach out to the 9 hole and low budget superintendents and help bring them into the fold.