

# Roger Kisch Receives 2007 MGCSA Distinguished Service Award

The 2007 MGCSA Distinguished Service Award recipient is Roger Kisch. Roger received his award at the MGCSA Awards and Recognition Banquet at Prestwick Golf Club on December 4.

Roger recently retired from Southview Country Club in West St. Paul after 42 years of dedicated service. Being a golf course Superintendent for 42 years is quite an accomplishment. Being a Superintendent for 42 years at the same club is simply amazing.

Roger was always looking for ways to make our job easier and more efficient. Some of his innovations include development of the American Excelsior and the non-permeable "Greenjacket" greens covers; designer of the aerification cup plugs for Par Aide Products Co.; inventing the I-Gang bank mower for National Mower; designing an inexpensive spray marking system for sprayers, along with many other small innovations.

Roger has been a mentor for many in the turf industry over the years. He always had the utmost respect from his peers throughout the country.

Roger is now enjoying retirement with his wife Kathy at their lake home in Hayward, Wisconsin.

Also recognized at the banquet were MGCSA Service Award winners.

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Roger Kisch, left, with his MGCSA Distinguished Service Award, is accompanied by Bill Larson, Superintendent at Town & Country Club in St. Paul.



Kathy Kisch, Roger and Nestle. Pictured below is what Southview Country Club looks like today compared to yesteryear.



## Recognition Banquet—

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Forty-five year member James Lindblad flew in from the desert to accept his award.

Others living a bit closer found the roads difficult to navigate as a severe snow storm hit the Twin Cities during rush hour on the day of the banquet and only 73 of the expected 117 attendees were able to make it to Prestwick.

James Lindblad, at left in picture on the right, is with 51-year member Bill Johnson and Ron Bloom, Fairways, Inc., who also received an award for his 40-year membership in the MGCSA.

Randy Witt, CGCS, won the 2007 Watson Award for his series of articles from Hong Kong. The Watson Award is given annually to a member of the MGCSA for writing contributions to *Hole Notes*, the official publication of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association.

This year we have 18 members of our association to honor for the dedication they have shown to MGCSA and the profession.

45-Year: Jim Lindblad;

40-Year: Ron Bloom;

35-Year: Johnny Helget, Ron Steffenhagen, Dennis Hendrickson;

30-Year: Fred Taylor, CGCS, Mike Kasner;

25-Year: Kevin Clunis, CGCS, David Deem, Paul Diegnau, CGCS, Ricky Ellesta, Rick Grannes, Tom Herzog, Peter Mounts, Mike Nelson, Joe Peluso, Rick Traver, CGCS, and Pat Walton, CGCS.



45-Year Award Winner James Lindblad, above left, is pictured with 51-year member Bill Johnson and Ron Bloom, Fairways, Inc., who received his 40-year service award at the banquet. Pictured below, are 30-year member Dennis Hendrickson and Lyle Olson of GreenImage.



Watson Award Winner Randy Witt, CGCS, Courses Manager at Hong Kong Country Club, left, along with MGCSA retired member Joe Moris.



Pictured on the left is Hole Notes editor Jack MacKenzie, CGCS, along with Prestwick Golf Club's Host Superintendent Dave Kazmierczak, and Chris Hoff, Precision Turf & Chemical.