

fession.”

This short, concise and to the point statement will serve as a guideline for all members and potential members as to the reason why the MGCSA exists well into the future. With that defined, the board then looked to the future. What vision does the board have for the future and how will it get there? This was the question posed, and after much discussion, the board decided on five important points to include in their vision statement. They are:

- Provide top-notch quality education
- Be an organization encouraging input and quality information exchange

- Provide responsible environmental leadership
- Be leaders in advocacy and outreach within our profession
- Promote and support research efforts to benefit the game

With the important matters defined and discussed, it was time to figure out what goals the board wanted to accomplish and, more importantly, how to accomplish them in a set time frame. Once again, Randall helped guide the board through the many thoughts and ideas, to come up with specific action plans and dates to ensure completion and implementation of the solid ideas presented in the meeting. The goals the board came up with are as follows:



Focused on advancing a great Association!

1) Finalize and implement Best Management Practices (June 2014)- Environmental Stewardship Committee to executive this goal

a. Currently chapter one of three has been worked on

b. Refer to current time line to accomplish this goal

2) Develop a clearly defined governance model (November 2013) – Executive Committee to execute this goal

a. Development of SOP's and policy guidelines

b. Research templates from other organizations (ongoing)

c. Look at current SOP's (ongoing)- committee chairs will be in charge of their own committee SOP

d. Look at committee structure

i. Have president and executive present recommendations to the board – this is being discussed during Feb. 19 meeting

e. Advocate the development of an outreach committee

3) Create a two-way strategy to enhance our relationship with industry (vendor) partners (September 1)- Communications committee to execute this goal

a. Personal 1 on 1 conversations with affiliate/industry partners

i. Engage current affiliate board members

b. Split board members up with affiliate – make phone calls – complete an introductory call after assignments are made by March 1

c. Match members with vendors who have a business relationship as possible

d. Craft White paper so message is consistent

Action Item:

- Execute recently developed research initiative (ongoing)
 - o Develop on-line library
- \$20,000 committed annually for research
 - o Being refined by committee March 5
 - o U of M will provide reports to six regions
 - o Specify research topics
 - o Work with allied golf organizations to execute the message
 - o Promote Current research with the U of M

The board also discussed ideas and concepts to engage equipment technicians and possibly consider special education sessions to focus on this in the future. Continuing the efforts to establish and maintain relationships with allied golf organizations was emphasized.

Once these outlines were achieved, the board concluded that it was satisfied with the progress made during the session. Everyone reviewed our objectives for the meeting, and it was agreed they had been met.

With continued support from Randall, the GCSAA and the MGCSA membership, the board is looking forward to taking these concepts and ideas to produce viable results benefiting the membership for years to come. It is hoped that these accomplishments will open more opportunities to lead and advocate for the very members that have entrusted the board with these duties, further strengthening the MGCSA, and providing leadership beyond the foreseeable future. It was agreed by all who attended, that this kind of forward thinking will produce these desired results.



FORE!!! New Board member Casey Andrus shows some finesse during a brief respite from the business meeting.



— PLATINUM



— GOLD PA



— SILVER PA



THANK YOU

PARTNERS



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PARTNERS



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10,000 Duck Campaign Underway in March

On Monday March 11th, MGCSA members will have the opportunity to learn about duck habitat and build a take home project...a mallard hen house... for placement in a water hazard on their course. The 10,000 Duck event will take place at the TPC Twin Cities Turf Management Center in Blaine. Considering almost all golf courses have water hazards or wetlands conducive to duck habitat it only makes sense to take advantage of these environments to increase the bird's population through the introduction of hen houses.

Appreciating the public relations

opportunity, MGCSA President Scottie Hines CGCS pursued and received support for the endeavor from the group Delta Waterfowl. Realizing the potential for a strong partnership, Delta Waterfowl representative Adam Benker jumped at the chance to support the program and has hopes to make it a nation wide effort.

Delta Waterfowl is all about increasing duck populations. When waterfowl populations crashed in the Dirty '30s, Minneapolis businessman and sportsman James Ford Bell set out to protect the waning resource. The founder of General Mills, Bell believed the best hope for sustaining waterfowl populations for

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future generations to enjoy was through a science-based understanding of the birds' behavior.

Bell appealed to the scientific world for help, and one of the first to respond was Dr. Miles Pirnie of Michigan State University. To date Delta's student program has produced some 350 alumnus who have written more than 730 research papers that have advanced our understanding of waterfowl immeasurably. The list of students who have passed through Delta's research program reads like a Who's Who in waterfowl management.

Delta remains true to Bell's vision, and believes conservationists have a responsibility to "follow the science" when making management decisions. In 2003 the organization took a bold step by launching the Delta Duck Production Program, an effort to put the findings of its research to work through the application of scientifically proven management tools like predator control and nesting structures called Hen Houses.

Hen Houses enjoy up to 80 percent usage rates and as high as 80 percent nest success, making them one of the most cost-

effective tools for increasing production. Several states have hen house programs in partnership with Delta Waterfowl. This would be the first opportunity for a state golf course association.

"Everyone associated with Delta Waterfowl is proud of the organization's journey of scientific discovery, from Al Hochbaum in the 1930s and to the talented students working in the field today," says Delta

President Rob Olson, himself a Delta student.

"We're committed to continuing our legacy by putting that research to work producing more ducks for duck hunters. We're also committed to educating the next generation of waterfowl hunters, because hunters are the backbone of conservation. Always have been, always will be."

It seems to be a perfect partnership for the MGCSA and Delta Waterfowl. The format includes six volunteer Delta Duck House Construction Masters who will act as team leaders in utilizing a mass production system to generate at least 100 houses in just a few hours. The MGCSA will furnish the labor and distribute the houses to their final destination on golf courses everywhere in the state.



Thank you John Spaulding and Syngenta



For Sponsoring the MEGA Seminar

Mallard Magnets...ONLY \$25!!! email jack@mgcsa.org

Mallard Hen Houses for sale: \$25 includes house and standing pole.
The Assistant Superintendent's, with the help of Delta Waterfowl, hope to make 100 of the *mallard magnets* on March 11, 2013.



Mallard Magnets...ONLY \$25!!! email jack@mgcsa.org

Shop Tours 2013 a *HUGE* Success!!!



Benefits of Membership in the MGCSA

MGCSA.org: The MGCSA provides its membership an electronic destination. The site offers a broad range of services including latest news, meeting information, important links, local association contacts and meeting schedules, as well as a market place for used equipment or student internships. Links are provided to the Affiliate Members who advertise on the web site.

Education: The MGCSA provides a range of high quality discounted professional education with more than 100 hours of relevant classes at the Northern Green Expo in January each year, supplemented by an extensive program at the Mega Seminar, as well as the annual MGA Spring Turf Forum.

Research: The MGCSA coordinates with researchers at the University of Minnesota's TROE Center to make sure you get the information you need. The association also directs Turfgrass Research Benefit Week, the annual sale of donated tee-times, to raise money for golf turfgrass research. And the association also contributes to The Turf Endowment fund to ensure a continuing program at the University of Minnesota.

Government Relations: The MGCSA provides access to the State Capitol through a continued relationship with the Minnesota Golf Association and other Green Industry Allies. This service keeps your association aware of issues likely to affect golf as they emerge rather than after the fact. This proactive presence also helps us educate legislators and regulators by providing solid information and research findings as they strive to make sound decisions for the good of the whole community. The MGCSA has representation at the Minnesota Nursery and Landscape's 'Day on the Hill' event.

Hole Notes Magazine: The MGCSA provides an award winning professional golf course superintendent association journal. Published ten times each year in a digital format, *Hole Notes* strives to provide relevant, interesting information that reflects the personality and professionalism of the membership. Links are provided to the Affiliate members who advertise in the magazine.

Membership Directory: At the Member's Only section the MGCSA provides an annually updated listing of names and contact details for every member of the association. This electronic directory puts each within fingertip reach of around 700 allied professionals across the region.

Employment Referral Service: The MGCSA provides a link between the people with jobs and those who want them. The employment referral service is available on-line at MGCSA.org as well as electronically delivered weekly through 'e-updates'.

Email Alerts: The MGCSA uses the internet to provide updates and alerts on urgent matters as they arise so we remain current with issues that may effect you, the industry and the Association.

Scholarships: The MGCSA extends its support to the next generation through an annual scholarship program to assist children and grandchildren of superintendents who have achieved academic excellence.

Wee One Support: The MGCSA annually hosts a Wee One fund raising golf outing with the proceeds going to support this outstanding program that serves those in the golf course turf management industry.