

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Joe Franz, PGA
Elkridge Club
Baltimore, Maryland

The MAPGA President, J.P. Lunn, personally selects this President's Award winner to recognize an individual who has been working "under the radar," to improve our game, our industry, and our Association. Mr. Lunn identified Joe Franz, PGA for his endless support of the Section and his fellow PGA professionals. Joe has hosted many events for the MAPGA, including an annual Town Hall meeting and is a regular supporter of many Section events, playing and attending. Joe also serves his Section by serving on the Employment Committee.

Born in Baltimore, Maryland on May 20, 1967 to mother Margaret Mary and father Joseph Henry Franz III, Joe was born into a family who golfed regularly with his father being a member at Country Club of Maryland. He was an avid golfer growing up and started play the game at 10 years old, with his first teacher, Andy Gibson, PGA. This is also where he met his wife, Kathy, and got his first golf-related job as a bag room attendant and caddie from 1986- 1990.

Joe became a golf professional in 1992 and earned his PGA membership in 1996 while working as an assistant at Governors Club. From 1996 to 1997, Joe worked at an assistant professional at Hillendale Country Club and Baltimore Country Club before finding his home at Elkridge Club. Shortly after onboarding at Elkridge Club, Joe earned the title of Head PGA Professional and is celebrating his 20th anniversary in that role.

Joe has had an outstanding group of PGA Professional mentors during his life: Andy Gibson, PGA, Don Keefer, PGA, David Jones, PGA and Past President of the PGA of America, Allen Wronowski, PGA. Joe's personal philosophy is that the member is always right. He strives to provide the best customer service experience to his members and their guests. He is continually looking to improve himself, his staff and the overall golf operation at Elkridge Club.

Joe and his wife Kathy, Director of Women's Golf at Elkridge Club, have two children together, Joseph Henry Franz V (18 years old) and Maggie (16 years old).