April Speaker

Mr. Allen James, Executive Director of RISE, will provide the educational portion of the April meeting. RISE—Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment—and Mr. James have been busy with the current legislative session in Annapolis. Efforts have been focused on passage of pesticide preemption regulation for Maryland and other pesticide-related bills.

The topic for our meeting will be related to getting involved at the grassroots level of legislative workings in our communities and states. Our association needs to be better organized and more involved in the legislative districts of the state. This promises to be a very informative and interesting evening.

Scholarship Information

GCSAA 1994 Legacy Awards. The GCSAA’s Legacy Award Program offers educational aid to the children and grand-children of members through the auspices of the GCSAA Scholarship and Research Fund, Inc. Legacy Awards are $1,500 per academic year. The deadline for applications is April 15, 1994. Applicants are evaluated based on academic excellence, outside activities and an essay about their parents’ or grandparents’ involvement with the profession. For more information contact Sean Remington, 301-656-6323.

Trims Donations

Effective February 5, 1994, TRIMS Software International has expanded its Scholarship & Research Donation program to include GCSAA Affiliate Chapters. TRIMS began the S&R Donation program with GCSAA in December 1992. Through this program TRIMS makes a $100 donation in the name of a new customer, to one of the S&R Funds. Because of customer interest this program can now include donations to regional or state-affiliated chapters of GCSAA. Please contact TRIMS for further details.

Sean Remington
Education, Chairman

GOLF NOTES

Unfortunately the March golf tournament had to be cancelled due to yet another winter storm. However, Bruce Zickafoose and the management team at Norbeck has extended an invitation to come back and play another time. Thanks, Bruce. I, for one, plan on taking you up on that offer.

The April meeting will be held at Belle Haven Country Club with Jim Meier, CGCS as our host. Our format for the day will be a points tournament. Cost for the tournament will be $5; cart fees will be $10 per person. Tee times are available at any time by calling the pro shop: 703-329-2441. Remember to pick up a rule sheet when you sign in!

Mark your calendar for the annual Superintendent/Pro tournament to be held on May 20 at Old South Country Club. You should be receiving your registration information soon. The field will be limited so please return your registration early to reserve your place in the tournament.

James McHenry
Golf Chairman

As I'm sure you are aware, there has been a great deal of action on pesticide regulation in Annapolis. Currently, many new laws that effect golf course superintendents are being proposed—primarily because of the general hysteria concerning perceived overuse and misuse of pesticides.

It's time that we, as a group and individually, stand up for responsible use of pesticides. For years we have advocated IPM programs to reduce pesticide use, and current figures show that usage is on the decline. Do you adhere to an IPM program? The state currently has a voluntary licensing program; are you a licensed applicator? Do you allow applicators to spray without protective equipment? Do you comply with all reporting requirements and regulations? Have you contacted your local and state representatives concerning proposed regulations? If you haven't, you need to correct any area in which you are deficient for the betterment of the entire profession. By doing so, we model to the general public the image of trained, responsible professionals. This will go a long way in gaining their trust that we are using pesticides properly. I don't expect to please everyone, just the majority.

The MAAGCS is forming a government relations committee as a result of the growing need to provide for the membership in this critical area. Volunteers are needed to help in organizing support for our concerns, and presenting our views to our lawmakers. Your support is greatly needed. If you desire to help, please contact the Board of Directors as soon as possible. Act now before it's too late.