President’s Message
Dean Graves

dear Fellow Members,

I thought that 1997 was a phenomenal year for the MAAGCS. We, the Board of Directors, worked together in unity to accomplish what we thought was best for the Association. To list a few of the more obvious particulars; we decided on a new emblem for our association to show the public that all chapters are united under one national association, we finalized a full year objective and became an official affiliated chapter of the GCSAA, hired an executive secretary, Mrs. Charlotte Norris, to help with the daily operations of the Association and to better serve the membership, adopted the U of MD's students of Applied Agriculture Turf Management program as our Student Chapter to the GCSAA, and increased support to regional research by approximately $10,000.00.

During the year we started to ask ourselves the question, are we accomplishing the necessary and desired goals of the membership? How can we make sure the BOD and membership are parallel in achievements. That is when Mr. Mike Gilmore presented his idea of developing focus groups to best identify the objectives of the membership for the board to follow. In my opinion, this has been the single most positive recommendation to help superintendents since being spike less.

All these things could not have been accomplished without a dedicated Board of Directors. I want to thank all of my fellow Superintendents for their support throughout my year as President. It has been very rewarding to be involved with people who want to make a beneficial difference.

My best luck and support to Mr. Gilmore and all of the members of the BOD.

Thank you,
Dean M. Graves
Immediate Past President