The Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents held their annual meeting and elections on December 11th at Turf Valley Resort and Conference Center. Michael Gilmore, superintendent of Turf Valley, was elected President for 1998. Also elected were Vice President Walter Montross, CGCS of Westwood Country Club, Secretary Nick Vance, CGCS of Rattlewood Golf Course and Treasurer Chris Ayers of Lakewood Country Club. 1997 President Dean Graves of Bethesda Country Club will serve as the Association's Immediate Past President in 1998. The officers will be joined by returning Golf Chairman Michael Evans of The Country Club of Woodmore, Finance Chairman Michael Legere, CGCS of Holly Hills Country Club, and Education Chairman Ryland "Chappy" Chapman of Fairway Hills Golf Club. Bruce Zickafoose of Norbeck Country Club and David Rudinski of Rolling Roads Country Club were elected to three-year terms. David Burkhart of Hogs Neck Golf Course was elected to a one-year term filling the vacancy left after the election of Chris Ayers to the position of Treasurer. Outgoing Immediate Past President Bill Shirk, CGCS of Queenstown Harbor Golf Links leaves the Board of Directors after eight years of distinguished service. Social and Benevolence Chairman Gordon Caldwell, CGCS of Greenspring Valley Hunt Club and Membership Chairman Gregg Rosenthal, CGCS of Timber of Troy Golf Course are also stepping down after fulfilling three-year director terms.

President Gilmore addressed the membership following his election and outlined his goals for 1998. His main priority will be overseeing the completion and compilation of data from the recent surveys of the three primary classifications of Mid-Atlantic members. Part of this process will include implementation of numerous suggestions received by the Board during the survey process. The "Bullets From the Boardroom" column of the newsletter will keep you apprised of any significant modifications the Board implements. The valuable information gathered from MAAGCS members will greatly enhance the Board's ability to meet the changing needs of its members now and in the future.

Along with all the work involved in the survey completion, Gilmore stressed that he wanted to continue to expand the process of creating a friendlier association. Mr. Gilmore credited his predecessor, Dean Graves, for initiating this well-received trend, specifically a more accessible Board of Directors. His remaining focus will be in leading the Mid-Atlantic's emergence onto the "information superhighway." It is his expressed intention for MAAGCS to have an Internet web site within the calendar year. An Internet web page will greatly enhance the Association's ability to communicate with its members, as well as, meeting the demands of the ever-growing golf world as we prepare to enter into a new century. As you can see, President Gilmore has outlined an ambitious and exciting set of plans for 1998.

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