When I stated at the Annual Meeting that 2013 would likely be another predictably unpredictable year, I was thinking more of the summer, rather than my late March aeration schedule revolving around whether we had snow cover or not! It sure has been an interesting “spring” so far to say the least, if you can call it that.

Deciding on Poa seedhead suppression and ABW adulticide applications before or after snowfall? Really?

Well, with another winter behind us and the most recent 3-month forecast from NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center looking towards above average temperatures, it seems we’ll be back on track in no time and we can get energized about doing what we do best - providing great golf experiences in the Mid-Atlantic!

For those who were able to make it to our best-attended-ever Annual Education Seminar (thank you!), you were treated to a wide range of presentations, highlighted by Stephen Keating’s 2-hour talk on leadership. I have heard him speak many times, and it’s pretty easy to understand why he has over 400,000 followers on Twitter (@LeadToday). He also has a great blog at http://stevekeating.me you should check out for more discussions on leadership and making a difference with your fellow employees (and fellow humans for that matter!).

We had a good turnout for our Superintendent-Assistant Tournament at Hampshire Greens GC this year, and in spite of below average weather, the course was in great shape, and greens were superb! I’m looking forward to April’s Superintendent-Pro Event at Norbeck CC, which is sure to be another good test of golf on a fun 18-hole track. Hope to see you all there!

An extremely important new initiative for our association is Rounds for Research. Past President Scott Wunder spoke about that program at our Education Seminar, and we have information about the program on our new web site, which I hope you will check out! This is a great opportunity for us to be able to do more research at our properties (be it water testing, environmental, product-oriented, etc.), and also be able to help some pertinent research efforts at University of Maryland as well! The Rounds for Research Auction will take place in June and a minimum of 80 percent of the revenue generated in the online auctions goes directly back to our chapter. Seems like a no-brainer to me, and I hope you think so, too!

2013 is going to be a great year! Thank you to each of you who have helped make the MAAGCS a strong association that brings great value to our members through so many quality networking and educational opportunities!

Two closing thoughts from Stephen Keating’s talk:

“Managers gain the compliance of their people; leaders gain the commitment of their people.”

“People will do what you do light years before they do what you ask.”

Lead your teams to success this year!

Jon Lobenstine
MAAGCS President

“People will do what you do light years before they do what you ask”