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**GCSAA**  
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

*Turfgrass Matters Winter 2016*





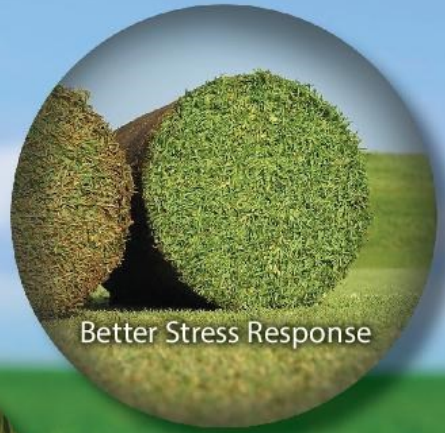
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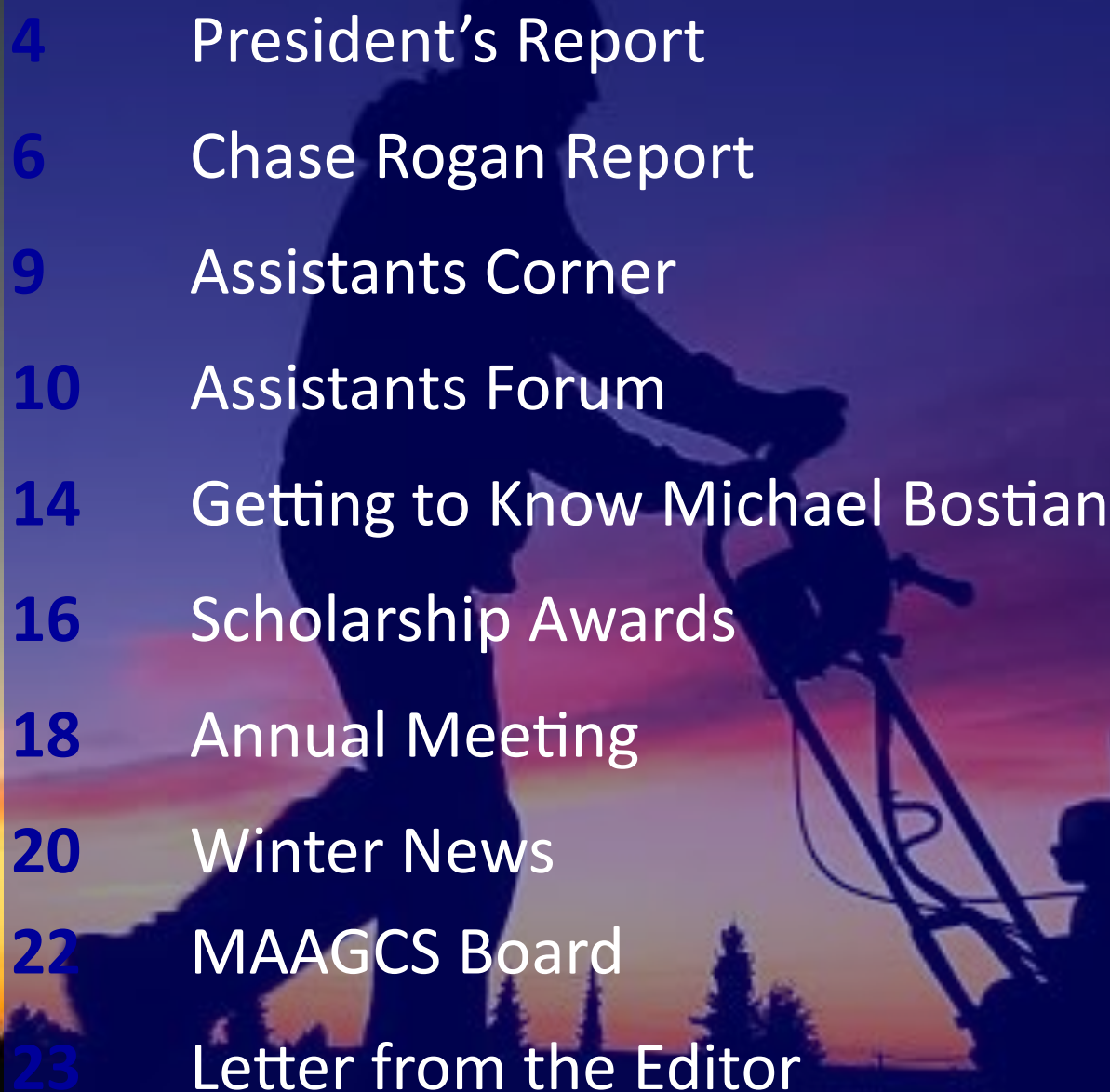
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## Upcoming Events

MAAGCS Annual Education Seminar

Wednesday, February 24th in the Ten Oaks Ballroom in Clarksville, Maryland

Superintendent-Assistant Meeting

Monday, March 7th at Top Golf in Ashburn, Virginia



Chris Harriman

Welcome to 2016! Winter has finally shown up but I hope everyone was able to maximize the mild weather so far. As most of us on the Board are entering the second year of our respective positions, we are ready to hit the ground running.

Our Best Management Practices initiative continues to progress. The committee has formed all of the actual BMP statements and is now working on developing the text for the statements. Once the text is complete we will begin

branching out to get input from the local regulators as well as YOU as members of the association. We will be welcoming any kind of input on this project as we work through the draft process. In addition we are currently in the process of communicating with our allied associations like the MAPGA, MSGA and CMAA in order to garner their support of our BMP's. One of our main goals is to make sure all of the stakeholders in our industry are united behind our practices.

This unity will help show how strong and beneficial all of our work on golf courses is to the public and the environment. Our logo for the project has been developed and we will be working on some fact sheets to make it easier for the stakeholders to place a high value on our initiative.

The Board continues to work hard planning for the year and putting together some great events with solid education for 2016. The schedule is just about finished up and with some highlights like Top Golf and Riverbend Golf and Country Club you should be blocking these dates off in your calendar sooner than later. Adding to the schedule is a season long match play championship. This is a great opportunity to team up with

another super, a vendor, an assistant, or any MAAGCS member and compete at a facility of your choosing. Joe Haskins will be getting the bracket set up as people sign up through the end of March.

Everyone on the Board is excited for another progressive year and along with completing our BMP project we have the same goals in place. We will strive to prove the value of your membership through quality events that incorporate meaningful education. Vendor support has been unmatched over the past year and we welcome the continued challenge of explaining the value and products of the support. Events will continue to be subsidized by our partner program proceeds and our 2016 partner program places extra emphasis on valuing recognition through the season. In addition, we will be working through a few surveys in order to supply you with information and ideas to take back to your club officials and that can help you continue building your reputation as a skilled professional. Finally, we are also entering discussions with the Mid-Atlantic Turf Equipment Mangers to see if we can help each other in improving the way our mechanics progress their careers and improve their quality of work.

A busy year is in store! We look forward to seeing everyone at the Education Seminar on February 24<sup>th</sup>. This event is sure to be sold out and will do a great job kicking off the 2016 season!



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## National Golf Day Needs Your Participation



Have you heard of National Golf Day? It's a pretty cool initiative. It's a day where golf's leading associations come together as a coalition (known as WE ARE GOLF), to celebrate our industry's storied lifetime. It's golf's chance to shine on Capitol Hill, where our elected representatives are undoubtedly courted by countless industries all looking out for number one. What makes this day pretty cool for our industry is that we have great information to share with our legislators—Information like our \$70 billion economy, our \$4 billion annual charitable impact, and numerous environmental and fitness benefits.

Industry leaders will meet with members of Congress, the Executive Branch and federal agencies on Capitol Hill to discuss golf's 15,000-plus diverse businesses, two million employees, tax revenue creation and tourism value. And this year, National Golf Day is set for May 18<sup>th</sup>.

Having experienced this day first hand, I must say it is an energizing, educational opportunity to not only share what we love about our game, but also valuable time getting further acquainted with our colleagues and the nuances of how our federal government operates. And as the primaries rapidly approach, I understand that many of us may be frustrated with some of the happenings leading up to the election of our new President.

But as Steve Mona, CEO of World Golf Foundation states, it may be more important now than ever to make sure our voices are heard. "With 2016 being an election year, it's even more important for political leaders to understand the impact our industry has on local communities and millions of Americans," said Mona. Further stating, "since our first event in 2008, National Golf Day has educated our nation's lawmakers about the countless benefits of the game, and we look forward to continuing this agenda in May."

National Golf Day has been growing ever since its inception, and this year GCSAA would like to extend an invitation for its Class A, SM, or C members to attend the event and be part of meeting with Congressmen and Senators to share information about your particular businesses, and what those businesses mean to your employees, customers, and community.

As we are still working out the logistics of signing up to attend the event, please be on the lookout for further details that will be communicated through various GCSAA channels. And if you can't attend in person, you can still get in on the action by participating in the tweet rally by using #NGD16 and @wearegolf to show your support for the golf industry. So let's gear up for another successful year, and make this the best National Golf Day thus far.

**4 facts about golf and water in the U.S.**

- 1.** Golf's use of water continues to improve. U.S. golf courses have reduced water consumption by 21.8%.
- 2.** Golf uses only 1.44% of all irrigated water in the U.S. Irrigated areas on golf courses have decreased by more than 14,000 acres.
- 3.** Water conservation measures have saved 500,000 acre-feet of water. Conservation practices, turf reduction, use of advanced irrigation systems, and tools such as moisture meters have increased efficiency.
- 4.** Golf's use of recycled water has increased by 32.7%. Recycled water now counts for 25% of all water used on golf courses. Use of all other water sources, including potable water, has decreased.

Data from 2008 and 2014 Golf Course Environmental Profile Water Use & Conservation surveys



# Newsom

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# Set your vision for 2016



In the last newsletter, we talked about establishing a vision and setting goals for the golf course and yourself. I am sure that once you started to make your goals for this upcoming golf season, many tasks come to mind that you would need to complete along the way. With so many steps, that will eventually lead to your goal, it is now time to prioritize. These ideas should be written down or typed out in order for you to add and edit as priorities take shape. The goals that you once made for yourself and the golf course will soon

become the priorities for your team and the club, if done properly and created with a clear vision.

I hope that everyone who is attending the Golf Industry Show is geared up for a great show! To me, the GIS to me is much more than just a trade show but a great way to network with people all over the world. From the educational seminars to the socials in the evening, you are put into situations with boundless opportunities to meet new people and to further existing relationships.

When you get to San Diego or any professional setting for that matter, take advantage of the settings you are placed in and

make sure that people get to know you. Allow them to have an understanding of why you are in the industry and where you are headed.

In meeting new people, I always need to remind myself to operate outside of my comfort zone. I know that I always have a habit of meeting someone new, then focusing on the people I have known for years while not cultivating that new relationship. Secondly, the ability to grow and strengthen your network depends on not only on how many people you meet but on carrying meaningful and memorable conversation that develop into lasting relationships. Consider the quality of each of your interactions not the quantity.

Get their business card and make a few notes on the back highlighting key facts about that person. When I get back to the course, I like to send an email to each person I have met with specific references to our conversation. This allows the individual to better remember who you are and in turn demonstrates that you took the time remember them as well. It also signifies that you would like to continue to grow the relationship.

The last tip on networking to truly get to know someone - do more listening than talking (which for those who know me, I have trouble with this). By taking a genuine interest and actively listening, the individual not only feels great about the conversations, but you should have gained some essential details in your memory which will serve you for future interactions.

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# Assistants Forum a Hit with VGCSA, Tim Moraghan and Superintendent Panel

Tim Moraghan of Aspire Golf delivered an exceptional education piece on restoration projects at the 2015 Assistants Forum, a joint meeting with the VGCSA. The Superintendent panel segment was also a hit with some of the associations' top Superintendents providing invaluable information on their personal experiences with restoration projects. A popular topic among the panel was the importance of the Superintendent's communication with a club's members and the decision makers to help them understand the reasons for a restoration project, including the value it can bring to the membership along with financial impact it can have on a short and long-term basis.

Host Superintendent, Aaron Wells, and his assistants, Tim Sockriter and Ryan Jarrett, had the golf course in beautiful shape for this year's event. The weather was exceptional with bright blue skies and the temperature was in the high 60's making for a most enjoyable afternoon on the golf course.



Ryan Johnson congratulates champs Tim Cowley and Ryan Peach of Westwood CC



Tim Moraghan and Chris Harriman speak at the Assistants Forum

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## GETTING TO KNOW



# Michael Bostian

**WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN FIVE YEARS?**

In five years, I hope to be nearing the completion of the GCSAA certification process and staying at Waverly Woods.

**HOW DID YOU GET INTO YOUR ROLE AT WAVERLY WOODS GOLF CLUB**

Waverly Woods and Blue Mash are owned and operated by Joe Hills and Tom Healy. I was fortunate to slide right into this position and I don't take that for granted. I was the Assistant Superintendent at Blue Mash from 2003 to 2006. After the Superintendent resigned late in 2006 for a new position, I was offered the job the same day and gladly accepted.

**WHAT NEW PRACTICES OR TECHNOLOGY ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO IN THE YEARS TO COME?**

I enjoy seeing how Superintendent's are using social media to promote their skills and facilities where they work. I think it really helps open up lines of communication, helps attract new customers and showcases the talent in this profession. I would love to see some new control strategies for Annual Bluegrass Weevils soon.

**WHAT NEW IDEAS OR PROGRAMS DO YOU HAVE IN MIND FOR THE MAAGCS?**

I'd like to continue to explore new programs and events to encourage as much participation as possible. The more we can encourage members to participate and interact with each other, then the greater the value/reward of the membership.

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## MAAGCS Honors Scholarship Award Winners at Annual Meeting

Stan Zontec Memorial Scholarship - \$1000

### **Ian Patrician, Ijamsville, MD**

Ian is studying golf course management in the Institute of Applied Agriculture at the University of Maryland. He plans to graduate in May of 2016. Most recently, he interned at Chevy Chase Club under Dean Graves and has accepted an Assistant in Training position there that will begin next May. Before Chevy Chase Club, Ian grew to love the golf course maintenance profession while working under Ed Gasper at Whiskey Creek Golf Club and also under Doug Witcraft at Timbers at Troy. Ian is both an outstanding student, holding a 3.7 GPA, and an outstanding athlete, playing as a first-line defenseman for the University of Maryland ice hockey team.

MAAGCS Outstanding Scholar Award - \$750

### **Jeff Bynaker, Monrovia, MD**

Jeff will be graduating in December from the Institute of Applied Agriculture at the University of Maryland with his certificate in Golf Course Management. He is currently the Assistant Superintendent at Laytonsville Golf Course where he works for Galen Evans. Before that, Jeff worked his way up through the ranks at Rattlewood Golf Course where he last held the Irrigation Technician position. Jeff is an avid outdoorsman and hunter, has participated in the 2014 and 2015 Collegiate Turf Bowl competitions, and has also maintained a solid 3.2 grade point average.

MAAGCS Outstanding Scholar Award - \$500

### **John Critzos, Silver Spring, MD**

John will be graduating this December from the Institute of Applied Agriculture at the University of Maryland with his certificate in Golf Course Management. John recently accepted the position of Assistant Superintendent at Lakewood Country Club where he works under Phil Desbrow. Before that, he was an Assistant in Training at Chevy Chase Club under Dean Graves and also interned at Lancaster Country Club in Pennsylvania. John competed in the 2015 Turf Bowl.

MAAGCS Outstanding Scholar Award - \$500

### **Eric David, Timonium, MD**

Eric is working on his Masters of Turf Management degree through Pennsylvania State University and plans to graduate this winter. Eric earned his previous degree from Michigan State University where he was the President of the MSU Turf Club. He is currently the West Course Superintendent at Baltimore Country Club, where he works under Tim Kennelly. Eric has earned a stellar 3.7 GPA so far at Penn State, and he hopes that this degree will help his advancement in the turf industry, as well as allow him to share his knowledge with the greater turf community.



*Galen Evans awards the 2015 Scholarship Award Winners from left to right: John Critzos, Jeff Bynaker, Ian Patrician, Eric David*



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## 2015 Annual Meeting at Cattail Creek Country Club

**Present:** Chris Harriman, President; Mike Bostian, Vice President/Treasurer; Ryan Kraushofer, Secretary; Mike Barrett, CGCS. Past President; Joe Haskins, Golf; Chris Fernandes, Member Services; Galen Evans, Education; Tyler Bloom, Newsletter; Jay Nalls, Government Relations; Chris Sandels, Assistants Representative; Sam Camuso, IAC Representative; David Norman, Chapter Executive; Tyler Eastham, Chapter Executive, and MAAGCS Members.

**Call to Order:** President Chris Harriman called the meeting to order. Chris asked for any new members to stand and introduce themselves. Chris then introduced the 2015 Board of Directors and new Chapter Executive team, David Norman and Tyler Eastham.

**Request for Amendments to 2015 Minutes/Agenda:** None

**Approval of 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes:** Approved.

### Officer's Reports:

**President:** President Chris Harriman began the Annual Meeting with a "Year in Review", highlighting the success of the events throughout 2015, and he shared a heartfelt memory of those who have passed away this year.

Chris then gave an update on the BMP project reiterating its importance to the MAAGCS and the national audience, adding that The University of Maryland has graciously committed to help put together the BMP. UMD will work in tandem with the MAAGCS to reach out to legislators and regulators, educating them on the proactive steps our chapter is taking to improve work practices and the environment by the things we do every day on the golf course. The eventual product will include a functional and resourceful website, as well as a solid template for other states to work off of in the future.

**Golf:** Golf Chairman Joe Haskins presented golf awards for the winners of this year's biggest tournaments. The Larry Milanovich Award to Andrew Harrison, Thelma Mae Cammarota Award to Bryan Shephard, Keith Happ award to Galen Evans and the Rick Wakefield Award to Mike Esh. Joe also introduced the newest event, the MAAGCS season long tournament, a bracket formatted event that will crown a match play champion at the end of 2016.



2015 Golf Winners (L to R): Galen Evans, Andrew Harrison, Joe Haskins, Mike Esh



The Rounds 4 Research program was designed to address a critical shortage in turfgrass research funding by auctioning donated foursomes of golf online.

The program is administered by the Environmental Institute for Golf, the philanthropic organization of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

R4R Auction is now accepting donations—please participate!

**Education:** Education Chairman Galen Evans presented this year's scholarship winners to four local students:

Stan Zontec Memorial Scholarship - \$1000: Ian Patrician, Institute of Applied Agriculture, UMD

Outstanding Scholar - \$750: Jeff Bynaker, Institute of Applied Agriculture, UMD

Outstanding Scholar - \$500: John Critzos, Institute of Applied Agriculture, UMD

Outstanding Scholar - \$500: Eric David, Pennsylvania State University

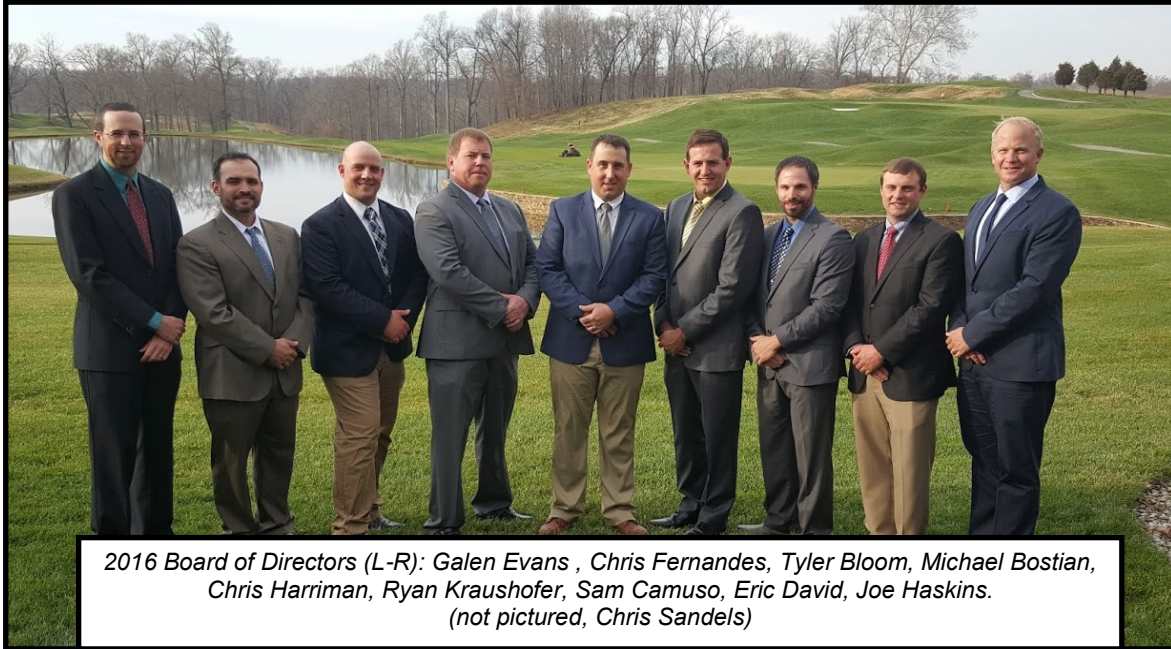
**GCSAA Business Update:** Secretary Ryan Kraushofer gave an update including membership statistics with the GCSAA seeing a revival in 2013 and 2014 after a decrease in 2011 and 2012. In 2015 membership rolls are holding steady, in addition to adding 650 new equipment managers. Ryan's report included an update on Rounds 4 Research, Government Relations, Member Outreach, GIS San Diego and GCSAA Elections.

Key points in the report include:

- MAAGCS finished 13th out of 50 chapters earning \$1,980 in the 2015 Rounds 4 Research campaign. New dates for the 2016 campaign were also announced, April 1-10, with hopes to increase participation next year.
- GCSAA is proposing a change to the Class A Member Standard. A member will be able to keep their Class A status when they no longer hold a golf course superintendent job, but are still employed within the golf industry. They will still need to maintain ongoing requirements. "Class SM" classification will be called "Class B."
- Equipment Manager members will receive the same benefits as superintendents, along with targeted education content, EM certificate program and unique networking/service opportunities.
- GIS will encompass over 380 hours of education including 25 new seminars such as "The Doctor is In" Turf doctors/experts answering your questions, Test Drive Technology Demos and Equipment Managers education.
- GCSAA is reporting that the "Thank a Golf Course Superintendent Campaign" was a success, receiving 1,107 Thank You notes.
- "The Member Get A Member Campaign" is off to a slow start. GCSAA announced a \$50 gift certificate will be awarded to any new member that a current member recruits.
- National Golf Day will be on May 18th, 2016 and GCSAA would like more members to get involved and share their stories with their lawmakers.
- GCSAA Election voting has been completed. Complete candidate profiles can be found on GCSAA's website under Community/Annual Meeting/2016.
- Chava McKeel gave a shout out to MAAGCS at the chapter delegates meeting.

**Elections:** Jay Nalls stepped off of the BOD after nine years of significant service as the Government Relations Director. He was presented with a plaque from President Chris Harriman. Harriman recapped Jay Nalls' accomplishments to include being an active member of GCSAA's Chesapeake Bay Watershed Stakeholders Group and guiding the association's efforts in addressing the issue. Nalls' efforts were rewarded in 2011 when Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley signed the Fertilizer Use Act of 2011, reducing nutrients washing into the bay from non-agricultural sources, and giving golf course superintendents access to the resources they need to manage golf courses.

Election ballots were passed out and Eric David was elected as a new Committee Chairman for the BOD this year. Galen Evans will serve out one more year of his term and Joe Haskins and Tyler Bloom will join him. Chris Fernandes was voted to serve a new two year term as Committee Chairman. Chris Sandels will remain as the Assistant Representative for 2016.



2016 Board of Directors (L-R): Galen Evans , Chris Fernandes, Tyler Bloom, Michael Bostian, Chris Harriman, Ryan Kraushofer, Sam Camuso, Eric David, Joe Haskins. (not pictured, Chris Sandels)



Dan Harris presents to the MAAGCS members about life balance.



Jeff Michaels and Tom Walsh catching up during the MAAGCS event.



Chris Harriman presents Jay Nalls with an award for his service to the MAAGCS



Kevin Monaco chats with a few MAAGCS members prior to the event.

## Officers

### President

Chris Harriman

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### Vice President/Treasurer

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### Secretary/Online PR

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Westminster National Golf Course

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### Past President

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### Assistants Representative

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### IAC Alternate

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GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

## Elevating Standards of Service



The first major snow storm of 2016 hit us hard, and the hangover of the 2016 Golf Industry Show is still very fresh. The golf season is finally put to bed after a long fall season. It has been great to catch up with friends and colleagues in the area reviewing the past year.

One thing that has consistently been on my mind is elevating standards of service. Together, it takes a high standard of effort and execution to provide high standards of service. Everyone in our industry is in the same process of evaluation whether it be 20-year old equipment that consistently fails, ensuring staff members are buying into the principles and values of the organization, and adjusting agronomic programs for 2016 to provide better service. Ultimately, it takes a collective effort to improve.

The MAAGCS Board of Directors is no different. We are already looking forward to a new season of events, camaraderie and continued education to improve the value of your membership.

It is our goal to continue to serve you all, which requires communication, commitment and understanding the needs of our members. Joe Haskins has taken the level of golf competition in our association to new heights with the Match Play event format for 2016. Galen Evans has taken the initiative to grow our education efforts not just for one event, but for all events to maximize your time away from the property. Most impressive is the continued efforts of many people to stay on top of the evolving Best Management Practices.

I believe there's been a strong contingent of members, who are sticking their neck out for our association. You are the lifeblood of what we do, and how we're going to accomplish more in the future. However, the real benefit and satisfaction from the Board is to reach to new partners, members and students to provide a platform for success.

The value of networking power and immediate information is second to none. If you look at the directory and look at the major players in the MAAGCS, there's no reason you don't have a resource to accomplish your goals. Keep the Board of Directors in mind as you move forward in your process of evaluation for your facility. There's plenty of knowledge and individuals willing to serve you, even if it is a course tour or providing safety training examples. If you are on the fence about our partnership program, talk with David Norman about the values and goals your business needs to accomplish by supporting the MAAGCS.

I hope to see you all at the Social Hour in San Diego.

Warm Regards,

Tyler Bloom—Newsletter Editor

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# Mid-Atlantic Chapter **GCSAA**

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## **MAAGCS Education Seminar**

**Wednesday, February 24th, 2016**

**Ten Oaks Ballroom  
5000 Signal Bell lane  
Clarksville, MD 21029**

Join the MAAGCS for the Annual Education Seminar being held at the Ten Oaks Ballroom in Clarksville, MD. This year's event will be filled with some of the best speakers from around the country. Visit [www.maagcs.org](http://www.maagcs.org) for tournament information and to register.

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