

GCSAA Scholarship Fund

I was recently asked to write an article on the recent GCSAA request for a \$25 contribution for our national scholarship drive.

I only glanced at the mailed request and then promptly filed it in the nearest trash can — for the request also asked of its thousands of members to sign over their GCSAA insurance benefits their family would normally receive upon their death — which is \$1,000.00.

While, admittedly, a thousand dollars will not come close to carrying all funeral expenses, it seems to me this would be the least appropriate time for my family to give up \$1,000 for a donation to be made in my name. If I want to make a donation towards the education of a worthy agronomy student, I would much prefer to make it at a time when my family would not directly suffer from such a contribution. I didn't have to ponder over this literature very long before laughing and throwing it in the trash.

Many Mid-Atlantic members didn't find the dry humor in the request of donating your life insurance benefits as I did — and as a result, brought their complaints to me suggesting that I write an editorial.

The general consensus of opinion of Mid-Atlantic members is that monies generated from scholarship purposes are best derived from sources other than the superintendents pockets.

Our national scholarship drive has grown larger with each passing year, growing from annual commercial contributions to now include annual affiliate chapter contributions from across the country. To supplement these annual sources of scholarship income a special booth has been set up each year at our annual conference to receive contributions from each and every passerby; potentially over \$5,000 if only a dollar was collected from each person. The net result is that total funds now coming in for scholarships are far exceeding all past history efforts of our national organization.

Our national directors are to be commended on their rewarding scholarship drive success — even upon their insight to ask for country clubs across the nation to donate \$25.00 to this worthy cause. We all realize the country clubs will be the true benefactor of scholarships and consequently, should help with the larger contributions. The National's timing of mailing for requests would enable many of us to include the donation as a 1975 budget expense; if only the request did not also ask of the superintendent to give up one of the only benefits our National has offered its membership, a \$1,000 life insurance policy. Hopefully, some of our members saw fit to go ahead with a request for the club's \$25.00 donation.

To figure the cost of living, take your total earnings and add 20%.

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