



TURFGRASS MATTERS

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1998 Board of Directors Elected



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 Burkhardt 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.

Presidents' Message Mike Gilmore

As Turfgrass '98 winds down, the usual talk of snow removal was replaced this year with talk of how many times greens have been mowed since Christmas! Winter in the Mid Atlantic - it sure is fun!

I wanted to take a moment to thank David Rudinski, our new Social & Benevolence Director, and Lou Bettencourt for the fine job they did hosting the MAAGCS hospitality suite during the show. It is always fun to get an opportunity to see our friends and commiserate about the year gone by and look forward to the coming year.

The GCSAA Conference and Show in Anaheim will see George Renault, from the Burning Tree Club, elected President of GCSAA. Congratulations to George and good luck for a successful year. The MAAGCS will be hosting a reception in

George's honor, during the conference and all members are invited to attend. Watch the mail for details.

During the last month, the Board of Directors has been out and about hosting small discussion groups among the Class A & B members. These "focus groups" have been set up to help the BOD find out the good, and bad, of the MAAGCS. By hearing from the membership, we can then set a direction for the Association that reflects the memberships' goals for the future. The feed back in these sessions has been excellent and the suggestions for the future have shown us that people are paying attention and that everyone is interested in moving the Golf Course Management profes-

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Maryland Student Chapter of the GCSAA

By Andrea C. Bakalyar, President

A year ago in February the University of Maryland Golf Course Management and Turfgrass students became a GCSAA Student Chapter. During the year the chapter has grown to be a big success. The Chapter owes a lot of its support to several individuals in the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents. Thanks to Rhys Arthur for bringing the Association to the University and helping the Chapter develop, Ryland Chapman for leading the Education Committee and making it possible for students to attend meetings and seminars. Glenn Smickley who spoke at our first educational Maryland Student Chapter meeting, and to Dean Graves for standing behind us all, making sure the Chapter had all the support it needed to get underway.

1998 promises to be a very busy year for the student chapter, which started the year at the Maryland Turfgrass Conference selling "University of Maryland - Turfgrass" polos and hats, January 12th & 13th. Several members of the student chapter volunteered their time to the sale which has become very successful. Other student members sold refreshments at the "Toro University" Conference in College Park, January 14th and 15th. The proceeds from the refreshment sale went toward the Maryland Student Chapter general fund.

Students returned to class on January 27th, welcoming a few new Golf Course Management students. The Chapter will hold officer elections during the second week of February. The Chapter Officers worked over the winter break to develop a Maryland Student Chapter

Conference which can be found on *In Ag On Line*, giving access to anyone who is interested in the Chapter and its events. This conference was developed because it is difficult for many students to attend meetings due to schedule conflicts and lengthy commutes. We encourage all MAAGCS members to join the conference any time, offering items that may be of interest to students.

Other Student Chapter events scheduled for the Spring Semester include the 22nd Annual American Landscape Contractors Association Student Career Day, scheduled March 12-15 at North Carolina State in Raleigh. Several Institute of Applied Agriculture students will be competing in a few of the twenty-two categories which range from Weed and Turf Identification to Landscape Design. In March, several students plan to attend the day long seminar hosted by the MAAGCS and in May the IAA Open will take place. We do not have a location for the tournament to date. If anyone is interested in hosting approximately forty for golf only at their course please call the Institute.

To date our shirt and hat fundraiser has been very successful. Thanks to everyone who has made a purchase. For those who still owe money, please make checks payable to MSCGSAA and mail to Andrea C. Bakalyar at 1011 Walker Road, Parkton, MD 21120. Items are still available at all MAAGCS events and look for new products in the future.

In student news, congratulations to Brett Post a Fall 1997 graduate, for earning the Second Assistant position at Washington Golf and Country Club. Brett assumed the position on December 1, 1997. In conclusion, I will finally be taking golf lessons this spring, heeding the advice of several of my peers who have kindly hinted that I should.

Mike Gilmore

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sion into the 21st century in a strong fashion. Thank you to all who participated and watch the newsletter for a report on our findings and plan of action. The Class F members have been polled on their views and the Class C members will be having these same groups in the next month. Again, watch the mail for details.

An exciting event is planned for our March Membership meeting. Plans for a day that will benefit all MAAGCS members is in the works and Education Director Ryland Chapman has promised a day of education that will be a winner. There will be a special "update" about this day in the mail in the next couple of weeks.

Finally, I want to express my gratitude to Dean Graves for the excellent leadership he provided the Association in 1997. He has instituted some exciting things to help the MAAGCS to be more "interactive" and it is my hope to continue to keep the MAAGCS moving forward in 1998. Also, I wanted to thank Bill Shirk for all of the years he has dedicated to the MAAGCS. As Bill leaves the Board, we will miss his presence at the meetings, but we will continue to look for Bill's support in the future. The contributions that the MAAGCS have received from Bill, and the Birney Family (of Queenstown Harbor), have made the Association a better group. Thank you!

Please feel free to call me with any questions, or suggestions, that you may have for the Association. I am available at 410-203-2765 (office), 410-823-4350 (Home) or by e-mail at MikeGilmore@aol.

Happy New Year and best wishes for a great year in 1998!!



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