

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

(Continued from page 1)

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!!



Lofts Seed, Inc.
11417 Somerset Ave.
Beltsville, MD 20705
800-732-3332
301-937-1793 Fax

Quality Turfgrass Seed

Lofts Maryland
Dave Thomas
MD, DE, N. VA, DC
Jeff Everhart
VA, WVA
John Brader
MANAGER
Mary Collins
CUSTOMER SERVICE
www.turf.com, Web Site

Where Great Grass Begins