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President's Message

Walter C. Montross, CGCS

By the time you read this we will be in the midst of maybe the most difficult summer in Mid-Atlantic history. The "perfect" weather through June as given way to our normal high temperatures, but even more devastating is the extreme drought we now face. For those of you who may have caught that afternoon summer storm, good luck with disease pressure. For those that have no water or are under water use restrictions, my thoughts and prayers are with you. However, in addition to prayers the association is actively pursuing relief with the State of Maryland to ease the extremely penal water restrictions. In my 30 years in the business the greatest comfort I could take during difficult times was to talk with others who may be experiencing similar circumstances. As human beings we can take comfort in knowing we are not alone with our travails. I bring this up because many of you go it alone and tend not to reach out for help, guidance or just a shoulder to cry on. What we tend to do is take the problems home to sympathetic spouses. I love my wife and children more than anything in this world, but she hasn't yet helped me figure out pump problems, GLS or all the things we must deal with during the year.

My thanks and compliments to the Chevy Chase Club and Sean Remington for hosting the June, Superintendent/Club Official Tournament. This was the largest turnout we have ever had for this event which is a tribute to the newly refurbished golf course and Sean's efforts. It's not

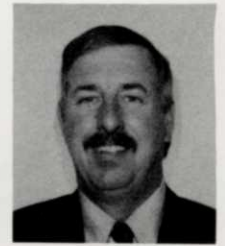
appropriate to thank one's self, but I am appreciative to my bosses at Westwood CC for allowing us to use the club in July. I hope the new EP/USGA/GCSAA bentgrass varietal study was of interest and I welcome everyone back in the future to evaluate this. Lastly, congratulations to Bill Neus and Hobbits Glen for their efforts in hosting the State Farm Senior Tournament. Bill the course looked great and played well. However, I know you would be more than happy for them to move the dates away from the 4th of July week.

Lastly, what a terrific annual picnic at Mayo Beach and South River GC! Kudos to John Newcomb, the many volunteers and our commercial supporters for providing an exceptional event. I think I heard that there were over 150 people in attendance! For the adults the crabs, corn, pit beef and beer hit the spot. For the kids how about the pony rides, moon bounce, clown, bubbles and candy. Everyone I talked with managed to forget the terrible weather and enjoy a great day.

In deference to David Letteman's top 10 list, here are 5 things you will never hear a Golf Course Superintendent say:

#5 In talking with your assistant, "why don't you take your weeks vacation during member guest week, it isn't that important an event".

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Bullets from the Boardroom

MAAGCS Secretary - Mike Evans



The MAAGCS will not be able to participate in next year's Washington and Baltimore Golf Shows. The Washington Show conflicts with the GCSAA Conference and Show and the Baltimore Golf Show is not being held in 2000. To all who volunteered their time to staff our booths this year, "thank you"!



The Board of Directors approved monthly meeting attendance requirements for future participation in the Superintendent-Professional Tournament and the Annual Championship. Attendance at three monthly meetings the previous year will be required for eligibility, with several exceptions. The Annual Meeting in December will count as two meetings, and the Superintendent-Professional Tournament, Annual Championship and the Annual Family Picnic will NOT count toward the attendance requirement. Meeting attendance will be tracked from March 1999 to April 2000 for next year's Superintendent-Professional Tournament. Superintendents wishing to play in the 2000 Superintendent-Professional Tournament who have not met their three meeting minimum will be placed on a waiting list until the tournament entry deadline. If the field is not full, members will be added to the tournament in the order their entries were received.

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Do you really know your Board Members??

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President

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#4 In talking with the Greens Committee, "the disease that is taking out (pick your grass) will allow us to better transition to another variety".

#3 In talking with the golf pro, "let's send groups off the back nine so we can get more play on the course, quicker".

#2 In talking with the family, "I will be taking the month of August off so we can take that cross country family trip we always wanted to do".

#1 Lastly, in talking with yourself, "the weather is perfect and it is probably going to be another lazy summer".

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