



TURFGRASS MATTERS

March/April 2000

Volume 72, Number 1

MAAGCS Superintendent/Assistant Team Champions Named at Bretton Woods



*Low Gross Winners: Hunt Valley Golf Club
Troy Carroll and Dave Nehila*



*Low Net Winners: International Country Club
Bill Miller and Rick Wakefield*

The first annual Superintendent/Assistant Tournament was held in March at Bretton Woods Recreation Center. Nineteen teams vied for the champion's title. Rick Wakefield and his Assistant Bill Miller from International Country Club won the low net honors. The Hunt Valley Golf Club team of Dave Nehila and Troy Carroll were the low gross winners. This tournament was begun to have more of the Class C membership involved in the monthly Association meetings.

The day began with Mr. Roger Stewart, CGCS, a member of the GC-SAA Membership Standards Committee, making a presentation on the proposed Professional Development Initiative. There were many questions and comments made concerning the initiative by MAAGCS members. The overriding concern was how PDI would affect both new superintendents and certified superinten-

dents. If you were unable to attend the meeting, please refer to page 5 for the first of four articles explaining PDI.

There was a special business meeting called to amend the current by-laws. The proposed changes were mailed to all Class A, AA, B and C members. These changes were adopted unanimously by the voting members present.

Many thanks to Ken Ingram, CGCS for hosting the Association monthly meeting. He and his staff, as well as, the clubhouse personnel made for a most enjoyable day. As always, we would like to recognize the sponsors for the day's activities:

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President's Message

Nick Vance, CGCS

As we begin the new millenium and I embark on another year of service on the MAAGCS Board of Directors, I can not help reflecting on some of the changes that has effected our lives on both a personal and professional level over the last couple of decades.

We can all relate to losing good friends and loved ones. They are gone but never forgotten, We can also remember friends that have changed jobs, Superintendents that are now either into sales or some other part of the industry, and we have seen dozens of new golf courses open in the Mid-Atlantic.

For some of us our children have become young adults and now we are enjoying their children. Personally it is a treat to be a part of that kind of innocence again. For those of you that have small children, remember to enjoy this time with them. We must all remember where our priorities belong.

Most recently some of us remember only too well the DROUGHT OF 1999. I personally could go the rest of my life without another year like that. I guess the best way to look at the big picture is to remember that today is the start of the rest of our lives.

I am looking forward to working with this very talented and capable board of directors that you have elected. I feel they will move us into the next millenium with a strong showing.



The MAAGCS has already taken a proactive role in regulatory matters by creating a govern-

ment relations committee and I have appointed Mr. Dean Graves to chair that committee. One of Dean's duties will be to keep us informed and represent the Mid- Atlantic within the local government agencies, and to make us available in any way we can to help the industry with the decision making process regarding golf courses, the environment and our jobs.

We are also going to put our best foot forward by creating a Media-Public Relations position. That director will be Mr. Dave Nehila. Dave will help us to keep the media abreast of what we are doing within the industry and help us to improve our image within the community.

I am looking forward to a new year both on the job and within the duties of my position as president of the Mid-Atlantic. I see a lot of challenges to be undertaken and, as I said before, I am surrounded by a very capable board of directors to tackle them.

continued on page 7



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Charlotte Norris, Executive Secretary

Turfgrass Matters Committee

Ken Ingram, CGCS - Editor

Rhys Arthur * Keith Williams

Bullets from the Boardroom

MAAGCS Secretary - Mike Evans



The Board of Directors unanimously approved a motion to ban cellular telephones and beepers from all meeting rooms and the golf course at all MAAGCS events. These devices may be used in the parking lot, or outside the meeting rooms, unless otherwise prohibited by the club hosting the event.



As mentioned in the last issue of Turfgrass Matters, the MAAGCS has accepted an offer from Mr. Bud Key, publisher of Chesapeake Golfer, to write a monthly article for the magazine. The article for the March issue deals with the negative effects of traffic on the golf course. Anyone wishing to author an article for publication in the magazine should call the Association office.



The Board of Directors voted unanimously to accept a generous offer from Nutramax Laboratories, Inc. to help sponsor the MAAGCS/ESAGCS hospitality suite during the recent GCSAA Conference and Show in New Orleans. A heartfelt "thank you" to Mr. George Barger, and everyone at Nutramax!



The Board of Directors unanimously approved funds to aid in sending two students from the University of Maryland's Student Chapter, Mr. Steve Evans and Mr. Cory Kaufman, to the GCSAA National Conference and Show in New Orleans. Both reported the conference to be a valuable learning experience.



A charitable offer to fund a scholarship was made by Mr. Thom Turner, President of T. A. Turner Construction Services, Inc., and unanimously accepted by the Board of Directors. The T. A. Turner Scholarship will be awarded, annually.



The Board of Directors unanimously approved funds to purchase the Adobe PageMaker software system for the Association's office. In addition to improving the print quality of the newsletter, this software will reduce the necessary production time.



Once again the Virginia Turfgrass Foundation was the recipient of a \$1000.00 donation by the Association. Copies of the recently released turfgrass survey are inserted in this newsletter.



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Editor's Letter

Ken Ingram, CGCS

Talk about your bad committee assignments. Nick won't say it to my face but I have it on good authority that he said, "Let's see if Kenny can write as much as he talks." Fortunately we have Charlotte Norris who like a good superintendent quietly does all the work. I feel like a Green Committee Chairman sitting back pretending I know what's going on.

I've had the novel idea of putting news in the newsletter. Believe it or not that is not the most popular format with national editors and newsletter judges. Well they have their agenda and I have mine. Help me dig my own hole deeper by passing on local news such as new construction and renovations.

As always we encourage you to submit articles to the newsletter. I've written an article this month that is intentionally full of question marks. Hopefully I'll get some answers for part two, or if I'm lucky someone will be upset enough to write a rebuttal. I'd like to keep things on the lighter side, laughing at our mistakes is a great way to learn.

One thing every manager learns is to surround themselves with good people. I'm lucky to have Keith Williams and Rhys Arthur on the newsletter committee. We could use a fourth to round out a foursome. Is there an 8 handicapper out there who can write? Keith just started a new job so after a few Green Committee meetings he should be writing some Pulitzer Prize winning articles for us. Rhys is way too smart to be a superintendent but he keeps me laughing.

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What is PDI??

In the last three years, GCSAA has embarked on a journey to develop a system that would elevate the professional qualifications and recognition of our members, through a project called the Professional Development Initiative. You may have attended a chapter presentation to learn about it. Or you may have seen the Talking It Over discussion forum on the GCSAA Web Site. Or maybe you have just heard about it from your members. Or maybe, just maybe, you are just now hearing about it. So what is it all about?

Discussion on the Professional Development Initiative began in 1996 and has continued to this day. It was a member-driven initiative, one designed to establish credentials for members so that the golf course superintendent can be appropriately recognized as a key contributor to the golf course. Shortly after the delegates meeting when it was first introduced, then-President Paul McGinnis, CGCS, appointed the Membership Standards Resource Group (MSRG).

The group developed a mission statement that discussed the need to improve the knowledge, skills and abilities of the professional superintendent that will contribute toward improved playing conditions and the enjoyment of the game of golf. The MSRG believed that increased salaries will measure success, as will enhanced job security, improved job opportunities and intensified recognition by employers. They then began to outline the process for achieving these goals.

Four research projects were conducted

to provide the MSRG needed information. These included: 1) a job analysis to determine the responsibilities of a golf course superintendent; 2) an employer study to determine their attitudes about superintendents; 3) a study to determine what our members thought of GCSAA's education; 4) a review of GCSAA's educational programs by curriculum experts.

Many of the conclusions drawn from these research projects validated preexisting assumptions. For example, golf course superintendents need a broad range of skills and knowledge to perform their jobs successfully. Employers often don't understand what superintendents do. And finally, although GCSAA members like the current education program, research proved it will be inadequate in meeting future needs.

In designing the PDI, the MSRG used the results of the research. They identified what the employers of golf course superintendents need, want and value from the golf course superintendent. Then, they began the arduous task of detailing the knowledge, skills, and attributes required of superintendents to satisfy employers' needs. The MSRG knew that education provides the means for superintendents to fill any gaps between those competencies that superintendents have and those that they need. So GCSAA began to develop a state-of-the-art curriculum that provides the golf course superintendent the tools needed to meet the challenges they face in managing the agronomic conditions of the golf course, the staff and the budget.

Furthermore, the MSRG recommended that GCSAA be positioned to recognize the accomplishments of the professional superintendent with a competency-based classification system.

The MSRG also began to develop recommendations to restructure the classification system. Their recommendations are intended to provide the marketplace with a benchmark of what it takes to be a superintendent by more closely aligning the membership requirements to marketplace requirements.

The MSRG recognized that classification is a personal issue and they began with a set of assumptions before developing their recommendations. For example, they wanted GCSAA to remain an inclusive organization; in other words, everyone who wanted to be a member should have that right. However, they wanted to be able to have the classification system "mean something." The model they are proposing is only their recommendations. They are seeking member input and will be accepting member input through May before making their final recommendations at their June meeting.

Currently, they propose the following for Class A membership:

- ◆ A member must hold the job responsibility of a superintendent;
- ◆ A member must take a self-assessment based on the competencies being identified;
- ◆ A member must pass a validation of the self-assessment (to be determined);
- ◆ A member must have a bachelor's degree or have completed a two-year turf program (with a minimum number of hours) from a nationally accredited college or university; and,
- ◆ A member must possess a current pesticide license.

In addition, Class A members would be assessed ongoing requirements which are yet to be determined. The MSRG

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Around The Mid-Atlantic

Virginia Clubs Build New Practice Facilities

Belle Haven and River Bend have built world class Practice facilities to open this spring. River Bend acquired a large tract of property near the entrance to the club while Belle Haven drastically altered an existing driving range.

At River Bend, Superintendent Tom Kessel described years of planing where thirty-two (32) acres of land along the entrance road was acquired subdivided and eventually developed into an eighteen (18) acre range with a Bentgrass fairway, seven target greens, bunkers, and almost two acres of Bentgrass tee.

Belle Haven Superintendent Mike Augustin directed a major engineering and earth moving project designed by Joel Weiman and built by McDonald & Sons, Inc. Over thirty thousand cubic yards of fill was trucked to the facility for the project and another sixty thousand cubic yards of fill already on site was

used. The project included a full service range with a large Ryegrass tee, separate teaching tee, five target greens, target bunkers, practice bunkers, a thousand feet of paths, and a storage building.

Westwood Sod's Rough

What does a Green Committee do when you have great greens, tees, and fairways? You guessed it, they go to work on the rough. Superintendent Walter Montross, CGCS had decided that Kentucky Bluegrass was the best turf for intermediate rough after disease problems with Ryegrass and questions about the quality of Tall Fescues. Efforts to establish Bluegrasses by overseeding had been futile. Plans for renovation with Roundup and seeding complicated play and cart traffic. The solution was to strip away six feet of sod and replace it with three and a half acres of improved Bluegrass sod. Walter used a combination of contractors and his own staff and finished within one week.

Heritage Hunt Set To Open in June

Heritage Hunt Golf & Country Club in Gainsville, VA is a new two thousand home, gated community for active adults developed by U.S. Homes. The centerpiece of the development will be an Art Hills designed golf course set to open June 23rd. Long time MAAGCS members Steve Cohoon, CGCS is growing in L-93 greens, L-93/ Southshore tees and fairways, Bluegrass and Hard Fescue roughs. The course has multiple tees, generous fairways, and small well protected greens. Water comes into play on nine holes with forced carries on five holes. Several creeks have stone waterfalls.

The main clubhouse features billiard and card rooms, craft and woodworking shops, a library, a three hundred fifty (350) seat auditorium and media room. Adjacent to the clubhouse is a pool and fitness center. A second clubhouse on the course is a renovated mansion with a halfway house, grill, library, computer

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PDI

continued from page 5

recommended that these requirements be fulfilled through an administrative renewal cycle of every three years and that it contain a blend of continuing education and professional education. They also recommended that Certification be restructured to align more closely with the Class A membership requirements, but at a higher competency level.

The MSRG realized that many superintendents have been in the business for many years and have been contributing members of GCSAA. As a result, they recommended that all current Class A members be moved into the new Class A categories and be responsible for only the ongoing requirements. They made the same recommendation for all currently certified members. Finally, they recommended that all current Class B members transition into the Class B category but be allowed to apply for Class A membership by only passing the validation of the competency assessment and experience. Then as Class A members, they too would be responsible for ongoing requirements.

So what happens next? The MSRG will continue to make presentations throughout the country through May. They will be collecting information from these presentations as well as from individuals on the Web. Then in June they will meet to make their final recommendations. These recommendations will be distributed to all members early in August, prior to the Chapter Delegates meeting in September, and more than six months before any bylaws vote is scheduled in February of 2001. If adopted, the requirements would go into effect the following year, July 2002.

There are many unanswered questions that relate to the PDI, but the MSRG is working to keep members well informed about this proposal, through constant communication in Newsline and with chapters. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to send them by e-mail to pdi@gcsaa.org or by regular postal mail to PDI, 1421 Research Park Drive, Lawrence, Kansas 66049.

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President, continued from page 2

This BOD is going to be very active and we need your help. This Association is only as good as it's members 'and we challenge you to follow our example as we attempt to lead. Give us your input and your support throughout the year. This is your association. Let's all reach out to a neighbor who has become inactive or is not a member yet and invite them into our association. There is a lot to be gained by being an active member of this association, but you can only find that out for yourself. Again, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve this great association and I promise that with your help we will "be the best that we can be."

Maryland Student Chapter News

by Steve Evans, President

The University of Maryland Student Chapter has some interesting activities planned for the next few months! On April 4th, a panel discussion will be held at the new University of Maryland Golf Course clubhouse. Three superintendents from the MAAGCS and the Coordinator of Stadium Maintenance will share their experience on job interviewing and professionalism. We hope to take this opportunity to enhance our education and add some skills we can use immediately in our careers.

Discussions with the Virginia Student Chapter are coming together with a golf competition planned for the middle of April at the Homestead. This would be an annual event that would give us another networking opportunity and some healthy competition for our members. How does "The Middle Atlantic Challenge Cup" sound?

A year-end outing is planned on May 25th, after the last day of exams and graduation. A few sites are being considered and the host will be announced at our Chapter meeting on April 4th. This outing gives us an opportunity to bring closure to the school year, and network in a relaxed atmosphere away from campus. This cookout has been well attended in the past!

Election of new officers will be held at the end of April. The inclusion of 4-Year students has enhanced our membership and made us truly representative of the University. We plan on volunteering our

support to the upcoming MAAGCS Government Relations Tournament.

The Student Chapter Team finished 7th out of 46 teams at the 2000 Student Turf Bowl Competition at the National Convention in New Orleans. Having never fielded a team, this finish exceeded the participants' expectations! Cory Kaufman and I had a whirlwind of a trip. We attended four educational sessions, spent all day Saturday in student competitions and workshops, spent over 10 hours on the Trade Show floor, attended the University of Maryland Turfgrass Alumni Reception and the MAAGCS Reception, and still got to experience the uniqueness of New Orleans! This was the ultimate networking experience and provided an opportunity to gauge how our chapter measures up. Our experience and performance at the Turf Bowl Competition confirms the quality of education we are receiving at U. of MD. And now that we know what to expect, we know we can field a team that would vie for the top prize!

We want to take this opportunity to thank the MAAGCS for their support in helping to send Cory and myself to the GCSAA Conference. Based on discussions with other student chapter representatives from throughout the country, we recognize the very special relationship we have with the MAAGCS, and are very grateful for that support.

New Golf Policy

Reprint from Aug/Sept 1999

In an attempt to increase member attendance and participation at monthly meetings the MAAGCS Board of Directors instituted a new policy for participation in two of our major tournaments, the Superintendent/Pro and the Annual Championship. The attendance policy will be in effect immediately for the 2000 tournaments.

- ◆ Attendance at three meetings is required during the prior year in order to participate in the Superintendent/Pro and Annual Championship.
- ◆ Attendance at the Annual Meeting in December will count as two meetings.
- ◆ The March Seminar and the Superintendent/Club Official Tournament will count towards the attendance requirement.
- ◆ The Annual Picnic, Superintendent/Pro Tournament and the Annual Championship DO NOT count.

All entrants not meeting the attendance requirement will be placed on a waiting list and will be allowed to participate in the events if there is not a full field.

The policy will run from March 1999 to April 2000 for the first year and then will be on a calendar year basis. Again, this policy was put into effect in order to increase participation at regular monthly meetings and to allow those members who actively support MAAGCS a chance to compete in the two major golf events of our association.

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in meeting rooms or
on the golf course!!



MAAGCS Golf Notes

The First Annual Superintendent/Assistant Tournament took place on a spectacular day. Many thanks to Ken Ingram, CGCS and his staff for a wonderful job on the course. We had nineteen teams participate in the Superintendent/Assistant Flight and twenty-two individuals in the Individual/Affiliate Flight. The day's winners were:

Superintendent /Assistant Net

1st	International CC	Wakefield/Miller
2nd	Washington Golf	Weaver/Post
3rd	Westwood CC	Montross/Ashley

Superintendent /Assistant Gross

Hunt Valley Golf Club	Nehila/Carroll
-----------------------	----------------

Affiliate Individual

Net

1st	Bob Orazi
2nd	Kevin Smith
3rd	Ken Ingram
4th	Tim Sage

Gross

Bill Shirk
Jeff Miskin

Closest to Hole

#2	Drew Matera
#6	Paul Tideman
#14	Tim Sage
#16	Walter Montross

Long Drive Glenn Smickley

Straight Drive Larry Parker

The April format will be a Points Tournament at Hobbit's Glen.



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News & Notes

New Members

Class A

Steve Edkin	Mountain Branch G C
Chris Hague, CGCS	Baltimore CC
Dan Pierson	Wilmington C C
Richard Sweeney	Bonnie View C C
Ralph Miola	Chestnut Ridge CC

Class C

Clay Craft	Cripple Creek G C
Brian Decker	Westwood C C
Christopher Dwyer	Argyle C C
Steven Harris	Lowes Island Club
John Shannahan	Diamond Ridge G C

Class D

Jack Davis	University of West Virginia
Michael Tozzolo	Lakewood C C

Class F

Craig Betterly	Centreville Sod, Inc.
Bert Lacey	Terry Asphalt
Kevin Miner	Williamsburg Environmental

Job Well Done

Ken Pepple, CGCS upon his GCSAA re-certification

Congratulations

To **Ed & Maureen Brown** upon the birth of a son, Nolan Austin

To **Scott & Kathy Furlong** upon the birth of a daughter, Morgan Leanne

To **Scott & Jennifer Mumma** upon the birth of a daughter, Kendall Ruth

To **Drew & Fran Scully** upon the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth Dunne

To **Todd & Denise Van Derwerken** upon the birth of a son, Mitchell Kenyon

To **Herb & Anita Lea** upon the birth of a grandson, Daniel Thompson McMullan

To **Lynn & Phyllis Matson** upon the birth of a grandson, Andrew Carl Matson

Get Well Wishes

To Bud Burkhart, father of **Dave Burkhart**, after recent hip surgery

To **Tim Davisson** after recent surgery

To Lindsey Evans, daughter of **Mike Evans**, after recent surgery

To Jennifer Giannini, wife of **Carmen Giannini**, after recent surgery

To **Mark Merrick** recovering from a recent heart attack.

To **Jeff Michel** recovering from recent eye surgery

To Kathryn Newcomb, mother of **John Newcomb**, recovering from a recent fall

To Frank Shirk, father of **Bill Shirk**, after a recent illness

Condolences

To the family and friends of **Geroge Gumm** upon his passing

To **Doug Hawes** upon the passing of his wife, Jane

To **Mark Petrus** upon the passing of his father, Michael Petrus

To **John Shields** upon the passing of his mother, Wynnifred Shields

To **Bob Wren** upon the passing of his grandmother, Gerte Hacker

Re-Routings

Robert Carpenter is now at Forest Park Golf Course

Damon DiGiorgio is now at Stonetree Golf Club

Chris Fronczek is now at Caroline Country Club

Todd Gribling is now at Chegrin Falls in Cleveland, OH

Rick Holanda is now at Aronimink Golf Club

Mike Huey is now at Waverly Woods Golf Course

Robert Jenkins is now at Rock Harbor Golf Club

Jim Kelley, CGCS is now at Growing Solutions

Stephen Lutz is now at Cattail Creek Country Club

Jim McHenry is now at Upland Golf Club

Scott Mumma is now at Turf Equipment & Supply

Alex Necker is now at Hunt Valley Golf Club

Brian Pardoe is now at The Woodlands Golf Course

Kevin Pryseski, CGCS is now at Stonetree Golf Club

Mike Ryan is now at Baltimore Country Club

Rich Schneider is now at Growing Solutions

John Shannahan is now at Queenstown Harbor

Bill Shirk, CGCS is now a VP at Mid-Atlantic Golf

Dave Thomas is now at Newsom Seed

Tom Tokarski is now the Superintendent at Queenstown

Keith Williams is now at Crofton Country Club

2000 MAAGCS Calendar

April 11	Hobbit's Glen Golf Club	Bill Neus
May 9	P. B. Dye Golf Club Superintendent/Pro Tournament	Tom Lipscomb
June 12	Cripple Creek Golf & CC	Bob Collins
July 11	Wakefield Valley Golf Club Supt/Club Official Tournament	Gary Angell
August 9	Bretton Woods Rec. Center Annual Family Picnic	Ken Ingram
August 28	South River Golf Links Reasearch/Govt Relations Tournament	John Newcomb
September 12	Hampshire Greens GC	Tom Ritter
October 10	Bull Run Golf Club Annual Championship	Kirk Intermill
November 14	Montgomery Country Club	Andrea Bakalyar
December 12	TBA Annual Meeting & GCSAA Seminar	

All dates and locations are subject to change.



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Around

continued from page 6

room, chapel, and large formal gardens.

Belmont CC Underway

Long awaited Belmont Country Club off Route 7 in Ashburn, VA is underway. Toll Brothers has joined forces with Arnold Palmer Design to develop a twelve hundred (1200) acre premiere private gated golf community. This partnership has developed several similar projects in four states. Ryan Golf is the contractor and Joe Hubbard, CGCS has returned from Florida as the superintendent at Belmont.

The golf course will feature great elevation changes, streams, and extensive wetlands. There will be five sets of tees and forty (40) acres of fairways and large greens. The greens will be planted with G-2 bentgrass, tees and fairways with G-2, Princeville, and Grand-Prix. Rroughs will be a bluegrass/fescue mix with twenty-one (21) acres of native-grass plantings. They will participate in the Audubon Signature program.

Malehorn Goes Global

Long time MAAGCS member Tom Malehorn has been appointed Director of International Sales for Lesco. Ed Walker will fill Tom's position. Robert Larsen, formerly the Assistant Superintendent at Four Streams, will take over truck sales.

Pryzeski Heads West

In the Mid-Atlantic's first confirmed case of mid-life crisis, Kevin Pryzeski, CGCS, 46 has left Cattail Creek Country Club to build the course at Stonetree Golf Club in Novato, California, forty miles north of San Francisco. Stonetree was designed by Sandy Tatum and local legend Johnny Miller. It is the first project by Spieker Properties and will be managed by Western Golf Properties. Pryzeski, a long time MAAGCS member, worked at Sparrows Point before building Cattail Creek in 1992. Steve Lutz is returning to Cattail Creek to become the Superintendent.

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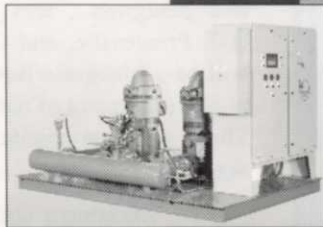


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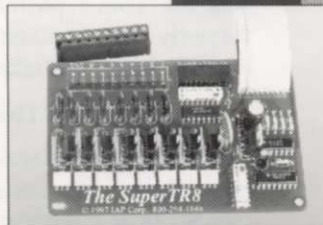
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Kings Contrivance Site of Annual Ladies Luncheon



Left to right: Jan Pepple, Linda Montross, Vicki Stevens, Judi Newcomb, Carol Ernst

The 1st Annual Ladies Luncheon was held Saturday, February 5 at the Kings Contrivance Restaurant in Columbia, Maryland. The group included sixteen (16) spouses and Membership Services Chairman John Newcomb, CGCS. Each MAAGCS guest was presented a carnation upon arrival and treated to a three-course luncheon.

Discussion, after the luncheon, focused on future social activities of MAAGCS and the following items were agreed upon:

- ✦ The Spouses Luncheon should be an annual event and that early February, prior to the GCSAA National Convention, was a good time.
- ✦ The format for the Annual Family Picnic should remain the same.

✦ The Fall Social Event should be a Christmas Dinner/Dance the first Saturday in December.

✦ A Spring Social Event is yet to be determined. It was decided this time frame would complete a calendar of events on a quarterly basis.

Several of the spouses expressed an interest in volunteering their time to the American Cancer Society's Pink Ribbon Tournaments to be held in Virginia and Maryland. The ACS is the chosen charity chosen of the Association.

If you were unable to attend this year's luncheon and would like to get more involved and meet other spouses with similar interests, please call the MAAGCS office at 888-643-8873.

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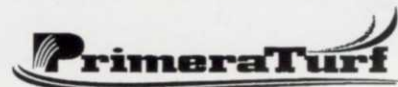


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GCSAA Conference Highlights

As usual a large number of MAAGCS members attended the GCSAA International Conference and Show in New Orleans. The conference began with the Golf Championship in Mobile, Alabama. Several Association members competed in the annual event. MAAGCS winners were:

Steve Glossinger, 5th Gross, 1st Flight
 Glenn Smickley, 5th Net, 1st Flight
 Gordon Caldwell, 7th Gross, 4th Flight
 Nick Vance, 4th Gross, 5th Flight
 Mike Evans, 2nd Gross, 6th Flight
 Charlie Ulevich, 2nd Gross, 7th Flight
 Tom Tuttle, 7th Net, 7th Flight
 Charles Hall, 2nd Net, Super Sr Flight

The Association fielded five teams for the Chapter Team Competition. The team of Steve Cohoon, CGCS, Walter Montross, CGCS, George Renault, CGCS and Nick Vance, CGCS, finished eighth in the Net Division.

The highlight of the conference for the MAAGCS came in Wednesday night's opening session with the presentation of

the GCSAA Distinguished Service Award to MAAGCS member and Past President George Thompson, CGCS. George worked in the Mid-Atlantic for nineteen years at Columbia Country Club in Chevy Chase, MD. George left the area in 1982 going to the Country Club of North Carolina in Pinehurst where he remains today. He was MAAGCS President in 1972 and has maintained his membership since leaving the area.

Several Association members had speaking engagements. Walter Montross, CGCS, and Andrea Bakylar spoke during the Student Forum. Dean Graves addressed local government relations issues in the Government and Grass Roots Program. Merrill Frank, CGCS, gave a very informative talk during the Innovative Superintendent session, while Nick Vance, CGCS, chaired a lively Career Development Session where a retired federal labor expert and consultant surprised everyone in attendance discussing the legalities of the long hours we and our staff work.

During this year's Certification Luncheon Lee Dieter, Merrill Frank, Sam Kessel and George Thompson were honored for maintaining twenty-five years or more of certification. Richard Fisher was recognized in the twenty to twenty-four year category of maintaining his certification. The following members were recognized for having been certified at least fifteen years: Bill Emerson, Ray Evans, Steve Glossinger, Ron Hall, Mike Larsen, Tom List, Walter Montross, and George Renault.

The conference is so large it is nice to have events where members can gather in one place. The University of MD had their first alumni reception Thursday night. Later that evening, a reception was held at the Radisson Hotel hosted by MAAGCS and ESAGCS in cooperation with Nutramax.

The Conference concluded with the Annual Election of Officers and Board of Directors. During the conference Mr. Samuel R. Snyder VII, resigned from the Board of Directors of GCSAA. Mr. Snyder was on the ballot to run for the office of Secretary/Treasurer against Mr. Michael Wallace, CGCS. Mr. Jon D. Maddern, CGCS, who was slated to run for a second term as director, was then nominated from the floor to run against Mr. Wallace. The following officers were elected for the year 2000:

President - R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS
 V. President - Tommy D. Witt, CGCS
 Sec/Treasurer - Michael Wallace, CGCS

The membership would decide between four candidates for the two positions to be filled for directors. The candidates were Jon D. Maddern, CGCS, Ken Mangum, CGCS, James J. Nicol, CGCS and Timothy T. O'Neill, CGCS. Mr. Ricky Heine, CGCS was nominated from the floor. Mr. Maddern and Mr. Mangum were elected to fill the two-year terms. Mr. O'Neill was appointed by President Woodhead to fill the one-year position left by Mr. Snyder's resignation. Mr. Woodhead appoint Mr. Robert Maibusch, CGCS to fill the one-year position remaining on Mr. Wallace's term.



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