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President's Message

Chris Ayers, CGCS

I am excited about the progress the Association has made so far this year. Each MAAGCS event to date has been successful and well attended. Most of the feedback has been very positive and constructive. I want to assure you the Board is working hard to meet your expectations and provide the services and quality that you desire. Our work is by no means complete, but we certainly are off and running in the right direction. I see no reason why we can't have a great year.

Speaking of great, our March education day at the University of Maryland was just that - GREAT! Respected speakers enlightened over one hundred thirty attendees to a wide variety of quality presentations pertaining to current topics in our business and both the facility and service were exceptional. I am sure MAAGCS will use the Inn and Conference Center at UMD for future gatherings. The success of our March seminar was due in large part to the support and sponsorship of many fine companies and a lot of hard work by just a few individuals. Our title sponsor, TESCO, recognizes the role education plays and has long supported the Association and many of its undertakings. We are grateful for their involvement and support. I am personally thankful for all the hard work Ken Ingram, CGCS, Jim Halley and Charlotte Norris put in to make our day a wonderful event that I hope we can make a tradition.

In April, nearly one hundred members traveled to Russ Davis' course, Beechtree



GC for our first golf event of the year. Following a brief summary of the Focus Group outcomes and lunch, we got to sample some of Russ' handiwork. Beechtree GC is now one of my favorite golf courses in the Mid-Atlantic region and I didn't even play very well. I know everyone I talked to afterwards enjoyed the course and facility. Nice job Russ and thanks.

I had the pleasure of hosting the annual Superintendent / Professional golf Tournament on May 8th at Lakewood CC. Anyone who has ever hosted his peers knows the self-imposed anxiety and pressure the host feels and I was certainly very relieved when it was over. I truly enjoy what I do and am fortunate to work at a place that treats me as well as Lakewood does. My General Manager, Jorge Massa and Golf Professional, Steve Madsen and their staffs did Lakewood proud. I would be remiss if I didn't thank my Assistant, Gary Harshman and my entire crew for the outstanding job they did in making me look good.

In closing I want to remind everyone about the concept for the June meetings. The intent was to have multiple smaller, more convenient regional meetings. The goal is to attract more overall participation in a very busy month where it might not be possible for you to get away for an entire day of golf

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From the Editor's Desk

Paul Masimore, CGCS

How quickly time passes from one deadline to the next. After pressuring myself to find articles for the newsletter and informing Board Members that their articles had to be in on time or they would not be printed, I find myself missing the deadline date. If you are reading this, it is only because Charlotte held a spot for me against my policy.

Dr. Pete Dernoeden, of the University of Maryland called a few days before the deadline and offered a technical article, which was great as the one that had been promised to me by someone else never came through. Thanks to Dr. Pete; I owe him big time now.

Bill Shirk, CGCS with Atlantic Golf and Glenn Smickley, CGCS with Robert Trent Jones Golf Club were kind enough to do articles for me on their change from Superintendent to upper management positions with their respective employers. I feel that there are many more Golf Course Superintendents that should be making this type of move, if openings become available. Hopefully, after reading a little bit about the success Bill and Glenn have achieved, more superintendents will give serious thought to this type of opportunity. Some of the observations I've made over the years certainly prove that Golf Course Superintendents would be very well suited for club management positions. If an opportunity presents itself avail yourself of the situation.


Tim Norris, CGCS graciously consented to do the feature article on the get together with EPA management staff, at the Army Navy Country Club. The meeting between Golf Course Superintendents and EPA staff was a very positive opportunity for our profession. Hopefully, there will be more opportunities of this type in the future.


On the political front, I have not yet taken my individual voting privilege back, to date. I do, however, still intend to do so. I thought some of you might like to know Paul Masimore is still alive, just too busy running my tail off at the course to stir much up right now.


I hope you all have a good summer season.


Bullets from the Boardroom


James Halley, Secretary

 The Association will secure fifty (50) tickets for the July 22, 2001 Baltimore Orioles game at Camden Yards. Call the MAAGCS office to reserve your tickets now.

 MAAGCS has confirmed a GCSAA seminar in December; Management Strategies for the Turfgrass System taught by Dr. Joe Vargas.

 The MAAGCS Educational Chairman will serve as an informal member of the MTC Education Committee.

 The Challenge Cup (U of MD Turf Students vs. Virginia Tech Turf Students) will be held this year at the Chevy Chase Club.

 The Board of Directors approved a \$3000.00 donation to the Virginia Turfgrass Foundation to fund the reserach project of Dr. Erik Ervin, "Evaluation of mixing growth regulating compounds with herbicides to increase efficacy of control of Bermudagrass in monstands with cool-season grasses".

President, *continued from page 2*

and education. Hopefully you will review the options offered in the monthly bulletin and choose the event(s) that interests you. You are free to choose to attend one or more of the meetings since not all are scheduled on the same day. Remember that we want to get more people involved and make it easier for you to attend a gathering of your peers. We will evaluate the success or failure of this concept and modify it for September's meetings. We need your support, involvement and comments if this is going to work.

Please remember to call the MAAGCS office to reserve your Orioles tickets for the July 22nd game at Camden Yards. Mark your calendar to plan to attend the Annual Family Picnic at Mayo Beach July 10th. Have a great summer!



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