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Past President's Message

Michael Evans

I'm sure my sentiments on the passing of 2002 echo those of many golf course superintendents throughout the Mid-Atlantic — good riddance. Let's hope that the New Year will find Mother Nature in a more accommodating mood.

As for the Association, we did some things very well again, in 2002; however, we fell woefully short of meeting expectations in several areas. Our second annual Educational Seminar at the University of Maryland this past March, was a huge success thanks to the efforts of Ken Ingram, CGCS, Tom Ritter, CGCS, and Executive Secretary Charlotte Norris. The program for March 2003 has already been finalized and promises to offer an excellent day of education. The Stewards of the Chesapeake golf tournament, held at the Chevy Chase Club in August, was our biggest and best to date. The tournament raised considerable revenue to help support the MAAGCS's education, research, and scholarship efforts. Kudos to Tournament Director Tim Norris, CGCS, Charlotte, host superintendent Dean Graves and his staff and everyone at Chevy Chase Club for their warm hospitality.

The Association was active in supporting turfgrass research in 2002, with funding to aid Dr Peter Dernoeden's alternative dollar spot control study at the University of Maryland. The MAAGCS looks forward to continuing its support of future turfgrass research. At the Annual Meeting in December, Education Director Tom Ritter, CGCS, presented scholarships to four worthy stu-



dents from the Institute of Applied Agriculture.

In case you missed the news, Government Relations Director Dean Graves was selected to receive a 2002 GCSAA Excellence in Government Relations Award for his tireless efforts on behalf of all superintendents in the Mid-Atlantic region. Dean will be presented the Award at the 2003 GCSAA Conference and Show in Atlanta, and will be featured in the February issue of Golf Course Management magazine. Congratulations, Dean!

As mentioned earlier, there were several Association matters this past year that left a lot to be desired — our web site and the newsletter. In an effort to remedy these shortcomings the Board has entered into an agreement with the web hosting firm ClubEssentials, to provide us with a professionally produced, interactive web site to meet our membership's needs. The new web site should be up and running some time in February. As for the newsletter, a frequent source of angst over the years, renewed focus and due diligence on the part of every Board member will be required to produce an on-time, informative publication.

It has been an honor to serve as President of the MAAGCS during the past year. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of the Board members and Executive Secretary Charlotte Norris for

continued on page2



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President's Message

James Halley

I am looking forward to the opportunity to serve as the Association's President in 2003 and promise to work diligently to serve the needs of the membership.

The MAAGCS will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year. A subcommittee has been formed to coordinate and plan this event. If anyone would like to contribute, please contact the co-chairs, Chris Ayers, CGCS, Ken Ingram, CGCS, or John Newcomb, CGCS. We want to make this a memorable occasion.

During the past few weeks I have thought long and hard about the direction our association should take during the course of my presidency. The following goals sum up the agenda that I would like to pursue:

- · Increase Board Committee Participation.
- Re-energize the membership base; increase excitement about attending MAAGCS functions.
- · Provide top quality education.
- Enhance the web-site to provide improved communications to serve the membership.
- Encourage and utilize the involvement of the Industrial Advisory Committee (IAC).
- * Expand our Government Relations Efforts.
- Produce timely and informative communications, i.e. (web-site, bulletins, newsletter, e-mail, etc.)
- Continue the growth of the "Stewards of the Chesapeake Tournament". This tournament has helped raise additional funds that allow our Association to provide scholarships, education, research, and support Government Relations.

These are my primary areas of focus for the coming year. I feel with the support of the membership and the board we can accomplish these challenging goals. As a long time member of this association, I have always valued the educational opportunities, professionalism, and relationships formed by being an active member. I believe that participation in the association is an important part of a Superintendent's Career Development and Professional growth.

I ask you to be active in the MAAGCS affairs and encourage your fellow superintendents to participate in meetings and keep an open dialogue with your board members. Your input is valued and your involvement is necessary to help us make this association better for everyone. I look forward to seeing all of you at our events.

Past President

continued from page 2

their advice, encouragement, friendship and support during my Board tenure, and particularly, this past year.

Congratulations to incoming President Jim Halley, the new Officers, and the newly elected Directors. There is no question that the membership has elected a talented group to shape the future direction of the MAAGCS. That being said, the Association needs the support, input and participation of all of its members to achieve its maximum potential.

In closing, I would be remiss if didn't acknowledge all of our Sponsors this past year who so generously supported our education and golf events — thank you! A complete listing of commercial supporters is detailed elsewhere in this issue of *Turfgrass Matters*. To all MAAGCS members, best wishes for a healthy and successful 2003.



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