

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.

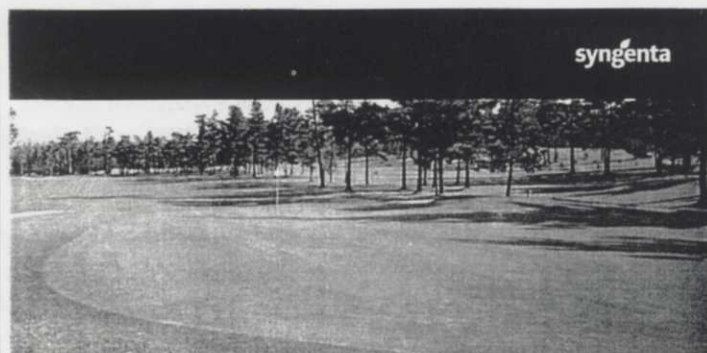
Past President

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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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