

TURFGRASS MATTERS

Winter 2003

Volume 74, Number 3

MAAGCS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Bretton Woods Recreation Center

by Ken Ingram

"A meeting was held at the New Howard Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland, for the purpose of forming an association known as the Mid-Atlantic Association of Greenkeepers. A draft of the by-laws was presented by a committee composed of Robert Scott, W. Dunt and Reginald Giddings. With a few revisions these by-laws were accepted unanimously by the members of the association.

The members present at the first meeting of the association were as follows:

O.B. Fitts	Columbia Country Club
Robert Scott	Baltimore Country Club
J.H. Link	Columbia Country Club
Richard Watson	Indian Spring Country Club
C. Mausery	Woodholme Country Club
T. Fischer	Burning Tree Country Club
R. Ward	Maryland Country Club, Inc.
W.E. Dunt	Sherwood Forest Country Club
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Richard Scott	Rolling Road Country Club
R.T. Granger	Belle Haven Country Club
R.D. Giddings	Gibson Island Country Club
C. Victor	East Potomac Park CC
K. Welton	Green Section, USGA

All the above paid their annual dues of five dollars. It was decided to have the next meeting at the Hamilton Hotel, Washington, D.C., on January 7, 1929. The meeting was adjourned at 11 P.M."

The preceding is the earliest record of our association. Although the exact date is unclear it was most certainly in the fall of 1928. So the MAAGCS celebrated it's 75th Anniversary this year and did so in grand style October 22nd at Bretton Woods.

The day began with lunch followed by the Annual Tournament. The debate is ongoing as to whether it was hail or sleet mixed with the rain pelting the golfers but 48 players eventually finished their rounds. The day improved with a great cocktail hour and a tremendous "Surf and Turf" dinner with 1 1/2 lb. Maine Lobsters.

It's a shame we don't have more memorabilia but we had enough for 10 poster boards of pictures and print, much of it from the 1960's. Many thanks go to Wayne Evans and the G.L. Cornell Company for assembling an excellent display of antique turf equipment. Thanks also to Joe Herkalo for donating a set of 75th Anniversary flags and a banner.

The highlight of the day was a standing ovation for Mr. George Cornell who many of us had not seen for awhile. Mr. Cornell is our oldest Honorary Member joining the association in the 1930's. Kenneth Ingram did his best to account for 75 years of history but it was Past President Sam Kessel who summed things up the best by saying "this is a tough place to grow grass and has always attracted the best people in the business."

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President's Message

Jim Halley

The season is near its end, and I'm glad this extremely wet year is almost over. I hope the next year brings better weather and improved agronomic and economic times.

The 75th Anniversary meeting this October at Bretton Woods was outstanding. Many thanks to Ken Ingram and his staff, for a great day of golf, dinner and a wonderful display of our associations history. Listening to the stories of the men who shaped our association over the years made me proud and honored to be a member of the MAAGCS.

I would like to thank Gary Crone and his staff for hosting our November meeting at The Woodlands. The Golf Course was in excellent condition. Congratulations to Jeff Miskin on being elected at this meeting to the Industrial Advisory Committee.

This year I have had the pleasure of working with a board that is a fine group of professionals. I have enjoyed the experience of being President and thank you for this great opportunity. I feel we have made progress this year and the board has worked hard to improve our association. The addition of our executive secretary, Theresa Baria has proved to be a great asset. Theresa has done an outstanding job since she arrived in May. Although progress has been made, we need to continue the momentum and stride for our goals.

I know this board is up to the challenge and will continue to serve the association well. I'm looking forward to being Past President next year and working closely with board and the Industrial Advisory Committee.

Best wishes this Holiday Season and I encourage all of you to get involved in 2004

Our 2003 directories have been printed and sent out to the membership. If your information has changed, please call the MAAGCS office at 888/Mid-Turf

GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting

By Kenneth Ingram

The 11th Annual Chapter Delegates Meeting was held September 6-7 in Kansas City. It is my job as Chapter Delegate to bring the information back to the MAAGCS. As always I left Kansas City with a lot of pride in my association, a full tummy, and a tired fanny from sitting all weekend.

Surprisingly, Headquarters Relocation was not the highlight of the weekend. Actually, that discussion did not take place until Sunday morning. Don't hold your breath on this one, the process is now going to be incredibly thorough. Interestingly, what was once the Headquarters Relocation Resources Group (HRRG) is now the Headquarters Location Resource Group (HLRG). I don't know if that should tell us something or not. Although no members of the HLRG are from our area (I can't believe Walter Montross escaped this one) it is a "Blue Ribbon" committee and I trust their judgement.

Every year now it seems we have some activity with a consulting firm involved with our Board. This year it was an "organizational audit." A firm called PRA had given GCSAA a "complete physical." The results were good, but they introduced the buzzword "accountability." They want our Board and Staff to spend less time reporting on efforts and activities and focus on results. There was a lot of discussion of Goals and Indicators of Success.

This was followed by a discussion of finances. What a difference a year makes. The association is in much better shape. Included in this was a discussion of a long term Dues structure. Some folks are still upset with last years 20% increase. No decision was made and committees will discuss whether to have small annual increases or a more substantial

continued on page 5



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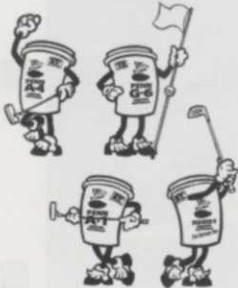


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MAAGCS Golf Notes

Golf: A year in Review

Mark Kingora, Golf Chairman

When you think of the 2003 Golf season, the one condition that will stand out in everyone's mind is rain, but if you think back to all of this year's meeting sites, what should also stand out is the fantastic playing conditions that were provided in conjunction with the record rainfall this season. We played three bermudagrass courses. Bernie Beaven, CGCS at Breton Bay, John Stern at Potomac Ridge and Jim Halley, MAAGCS President, Glenn Dale. Thank you. A cool, wet year with an abbreviated growing season, a difficult season indeed.

For the remaining hosts, this season wasn't much easier. Rain nearly every day in the month of May with one exception being the day of the Annual Superintendent/Pro, didn't prohibit Scott Reeside and his staff at Worthington Manor from providing tournament conditions. A similar scenario in August at the Stewards of the Chesapeake Tournament at Army Navy of Fairfax, we actually played in some rain and had a

few delays due to thunderstorms, but again the course was in great condition. Thank You Tim Norris, CGCS.

The month of November had the added twist of a frost delay. Gary, I hope that Brian and Ben didn't do too much damage to your great course. Of all of the months, October had to be the most difficult for host superintendent Ken Ingram, CGCS due mainly in part that it was the Annual Championship but it was also combined with the Mid- Atlantic's 75th Anniversary. To top it off, Ken was having a new irrigation system installed. Again, the day was a great success.

I know that all superintendents are their own worst critics, but also we are the most understanding of the circumstances and in this year's case uncontrollable circumstances that affect the overall condition of the golf course. In my opinion, everyone that hosted an event in the 2003 season did an outstanding job! Thanks again!

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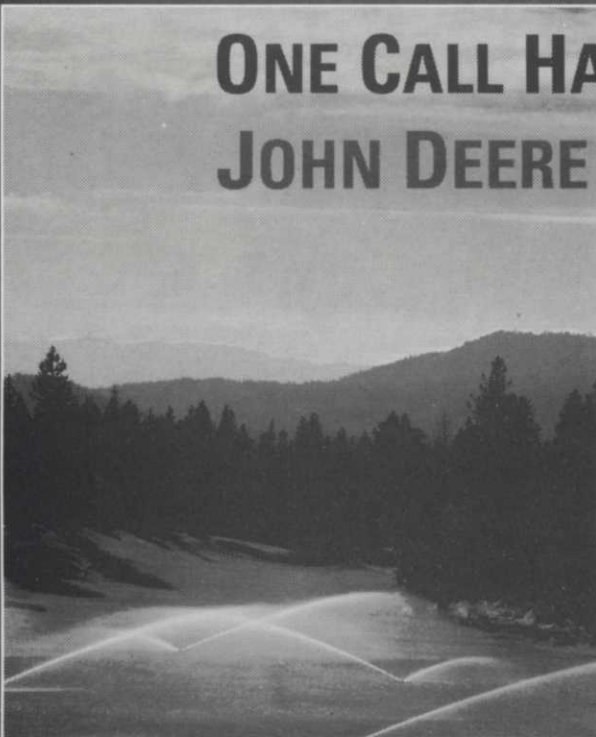
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Delegates Meeting continued from page 2

increase every four to five years. Our new CFO Cam Oury, like all our staff, seems like a first rate individual.

PDI hasn't gone away. Everything started smoothly July 1, 2003. There are still some "housekeeping" items. One involves the conformity of Bylaws with chapters. If you were a Class A MAAGCS member before 1997 you were "grandfathered" when the Dual Affiliation Agreement started. Now, with PDI, that person who is still just a chapter member could still be Class A, but a person who is a GCSAA member and chapter member who does not pursue the new Class A standards would be busted a rank to Superintendent Member in GCSAA and the chapter. No decision was made but I look for some type of "great grandfathering" deal. There was also a lot of discussion on the ability to have two or more Class A members at multicourse facilities. This has always been controversial, everyone knows one of those Class A members has more at stake than the other. Committees will have to sort this all out. All told, if you are asked to serve on the Membership Committee next year do as Tony Kornheiser says, "run screaming from the room."

There are changes to Conference and Show in San Diego. Gone is the Wednesday night Opening Session. That has moved to Thursday morning and Wednesday night will be an informal and very social get-together. This is GCSAA's big money maker so any change is big news.

There was much talk of GCSAA "losing our identity" with new changes such as the combined trade show with the Golf Course Owners in 2005 and changing the GCSAA Foundation to the Environmental Institute for Golf. Valid reasons were given for the changes and time will tell if the pundits have an issue or not.

I met with all the candidates for office. It's too early to make decisions at this point. My biggest surprise was Bob Maibush not running for Secretary/Treasurer. He may be the first person in awhile that just wanted to serve on the Board and not pursue the Presidency.

I did my best to shut-up and listen. That's hard for me to do. Despite my activity the MAAGCS is still a well respected chapter. We rank 9th out of 103 by vote count, but no one outranks us in the quality of membership.

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Bullets from the Boardroom

MAAGCS Secretary - Drew Scully, CGCS



The 75th Anniversary Celebration at Bretton Woods was a huge success, special thanks to Ken Ingram, CGCS and all of the staff at Bretton Woods for a great event.



The MAAGCS proudly provided support for the MTC Annual Tournament, the MTC Greenhouse Fundraising Effort, MCG's First Tee Tournament, and a Susan G. Komen's breast cancer fundraising tournament held in Herndon, Virginia this past fall.



The MAAGCS completed its commitment on the pledge made to the Environmental Institute of Golf.



With the publication of the annual Directory, the Board has finally emerged from a difficult period of transition and looks forward to 2004.



Special thanks to outgoing Past President Michael Evans for his hard work and dedication to the Board and MAAGCS over the last several years.



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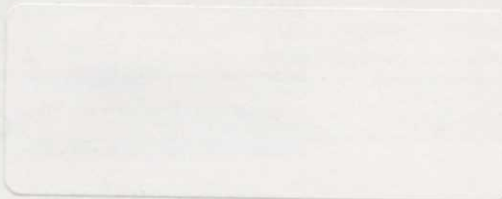
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News & Notes

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Class C

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Best Wishes

To Louis and Cristina Bettencourt on the birth of their daughter, Catarina A. in April 2003
To Jeff and Cindy Vance on the birth of their son Nick Lee, born in April 2003. Also to the proud grandparents, Nick and Karen Vance
To David and Jennifer Nehila on the birth of their daughter, Madeline Elizabeth
To Quent and Theresa Baria on the birth of their grandson, Hunter Paul
To Tim and Charlotte Norris on the birth of their granddaughter, Kaitlyn Isabelle

Condolences

To the family and friends of Steve Evans on the death of his mother, Anna Evans
To George Thompson on the death of his wife, Jackie



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