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President's Message

Ken Ingram, CGCS

Greetings,

I extend my deepest thanks for electing me President again of this association I love so much. Thanks also for electing a fine Board of Directors to carry the load for me.

A lot has changed in the 12 years since I was last President. Perhaps the biggest change is securing meeting sites. You would think that more golf courses would mean that meeting sites would be plentiful but that's not the case. There are several reasons for this but in general it's difficult to take the golf course away from the members at equity clubs and it's hard to get price discounts at daily fee clubs. So expect some schedule changes this year, it's increasingly difficult to get the second Tuesday every month. Despite that disclaimer I am still excited about our schedule. After almost 20 years (and almost that many superintendents) we have a meeting at TPC at Avenel in April. In May our old friend Ray (Butch) Evans is our host at Redgate and we reserved the old Rockville Mansion across the street for dinner. I asked Scott Reeside about hosting the June meeting at Hog Neck and he had a two word reply, "hell yeh." We hope to keep the picnic at Mayo Beach and the Stewards of the Chesapeake event will be at Prospect Bay. And no, it is not a coincidence that all our summer meetings are near the Chesapeake Bay.

Another huge change in the MAAGCS is the number of members. Again, you would think that having more members would mean an increase in attendance at meetings but that is not the case. There are several reasons for this as well, the travel time, expense, time of day, no education session, are all difficult to overcome. Believe me, your Board is listening, but it is increasingly difficult to make everyone happy. Try to have your club represented at every meeting. If you can't attend send your assistant or a student.

So far all we have done this year is "party." Our hospitality suites at Baltimore and San Diego were a tremendous success. John Stevens really knows how to throw a party. Thanks also to George Barger and Nutramax for sponsoring our national event. Hope to see you all soon.

Are you and your club interested in hosting a MAAGCS meeting in 2005? New for 2005, the MAAGCS will move its meeting to Mondays, Tuesdays, or Wednesdays to accommodate the host course or club. Superintendents who host a 2005 MAAGCS event will have their annual membership dues paid in 2006. Contact Drew Scully, CGCS at 410-887-8216 or

scully@baltimoregolfing.com
Thank you.



Published five times annually by the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents

Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents

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