

# TURFGRASS MATTERS

WINTER 2004/2005

Volume 75, Number 5

## The 2004 MAAGCS Golf: A Year in Review Mark Kingora, Golf Chairman

### *November*

#### **Superintendent/Affiliate Scramble at Hidden Creek CC**

Steve Nash, CGCS

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Grant Friend (EZ-GO)

Mike King (Piedmont)

Scott Furlong (RTJ)

Steve Britton (RTJ)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Dan Haberer (Angler Environmental)

Michael Peny (Angler Environmental)

Kevin Smith (Finch Services)

Mike Evans (CC of Woodmore)

### *October*

#### **Annual Championship at Towson Golf & CC**

Quent Baria, CGCS

Superintendent Gross Division

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Mark Kingora (Bethesda CC)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: John Newcomb

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Dean Graves (Chevy Chase Club)

Superintendent Net Division

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Walter Montross (Westwood CC)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Brett Post (Cross Creek Golf Club)

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Tom Ritter (Hampshire Greens Golf Course)

Affiliate Gross Division

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Joe Herkalo (CJH Greens)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Seth Greenwood (Helena Chemicals)

Affiliate Net Division

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Paul McMahon (Hydro Designs)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: David Rudinski (Newsom Seed)

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Tom Tellier (Bob Davidson Ford)

4<sup>th</sup> Place: Tim Davisson (Davisson Golf)

The 2004 Golfer of the Year is Tom Tokarski, superintendent at Queenstown Harbor. Tom started the season with a third place finish in his flight at the GCSAA tournament, a mid season first place finish in the Individual Net at Hogneck in June and a second place finish to end the season at the Better-ball event at Old Hickory in September. Good golfing results in combination with outstanding meeting attendance placed Tom at the top of the standings. *Congratulations!*

### *September*

#### **Better-Ball at Old Hickory Golf Club**

Dave Horton, Superintendent

Gross Division

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Grant Friend (EZ-GO)

Mark Kingora (Bethesda CC)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Bill Shirk (Atlantic Golf)

Scott Wagner (Leisure World of Maryland)

Net Division

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Tom Tellier (Bob Davidson Ford)

Tom Walsh (Verdicon)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: John Anderes (South River Golf Links)

Tom Tokarski (Queenstown Harbor Golf)

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Ron Nichols (Davisson Golf)

Rob Hessler (Davisson Golf)

### *August*

#### **Stewards of the Chesapeake at Prospect Bay CC**

Glen Stowers, Superintendent

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Bill Shirk (Mid-Atlantic Golf)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Scott Wagner (Leisure World of Maryland)

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Ed Walker, Scott Furlong Mike King, Brian Bupp (Team Syngenta)

*Continued on page 5*

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## Presidents Message

"Thanks for the Memories." Bob Hope's old salutation sums up my feelings writing this message. I certainly appreciate the opportunity you gave me to lead a great and historic chapter. Everyone tells you that your year as President is over before you know it. It is definitely true, but never seems that way during the year, (especially when you are trying to think of something to write for a President's Message.) I have some regrets however. We needed better leadership to help the MTC fight the "Terrapin Parkway", produce the turfgrass survey, and support our great college researchers. We still have "golf friendly" governors in MD and VA, hopefully the MAAGCS can be more involved in the future.

I was lucky enough to have two terms as President with a 12 year span between terms. This has given me 20 years of active involvement with the MAAGCS and I have seen a lot of changes in our business. Without question the biggest change is in how busy we all are and how difficult this makes it to get away from the golf course. We see this in meeting attendance and when seeking volunteers to serve on the Board. It is really starting to have an impact on associations like the MAAGCS. There is no easy solution. All of us have priorities and there is no way the MAAGCS can compete with Faith, Family, Work, etc. but I still think our association has a high ranking in your priorities. I know how much it has done for me. The friendships, education, and the professionalism gained from attending meetings far outweighs what I could have accomplished in a half day at work.

I'm turning the reins over to some fine young men. We have a great schedule for 2005 starting with our hospitality suite in Orlando and our increasingly successful seminar in March. I'll see you there.



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### Turfgrass Matters

Charles Poole - Editor  
Jeff Carson, CGCS \* Michael Evans  
Scott Furlong \* Jeff Michel, CGCS \* Mark Bujac

## Portable Sawmill

By Kenneth Ingram

Many of us save a lot of tree maintenance for the winter months. Occasionally we have some very large trees to handle. Through the years I've had a few logs that I knew would make exceptional lumber. Even if I could find a sawmill, getting the logs off the course, on a truck, and down the road was another story.

At a meeting of MAAGCS Past Presidents this fall I saw an old friend, Mike McKenzie. Mike was the longtime Superintendent at the Naval Academy Golf Course and MAAGCS President in 1981. When Mike left the golf business he started a landscaping business on Kent Island. I made the mistake of asking him "what's new," and that's when he told me about his new toy. He has a portable sawmill on a trailer. He can bring it right out on the golf course if necessary. Mike gave me an interesting formula, granted I had enjoyed a few adult beverages at the time, but it was something like a log being worth \$100 if you cut it into firewood, \$200 if he cuts it into posts, \$400 if he cuts it in planks, and something like \$1000 if he cuts it into moulding.

Superintendent's are creative guys, there's no telling how much interest could be generated around the club to "recycle" the lumber into projects. I've seen a few guys have that plaque from the "Great Elm" at Winged Foot in their offices. When the Wye Oak went down there was a lot of good press concerning the use of the wood. I think some of it was used to build the Governor's desk.

Anyway, if you are interested you can reach Mike at 410-643-2241. Watch out, he is the hardest working guy I've ever known!



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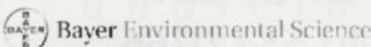


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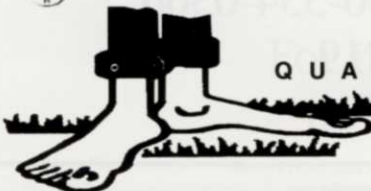
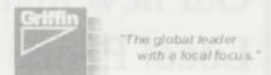
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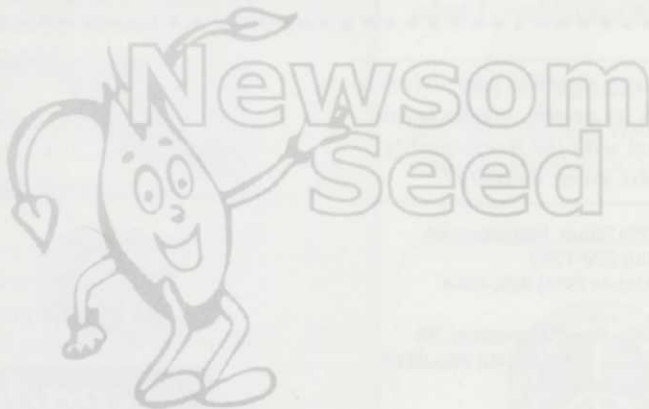
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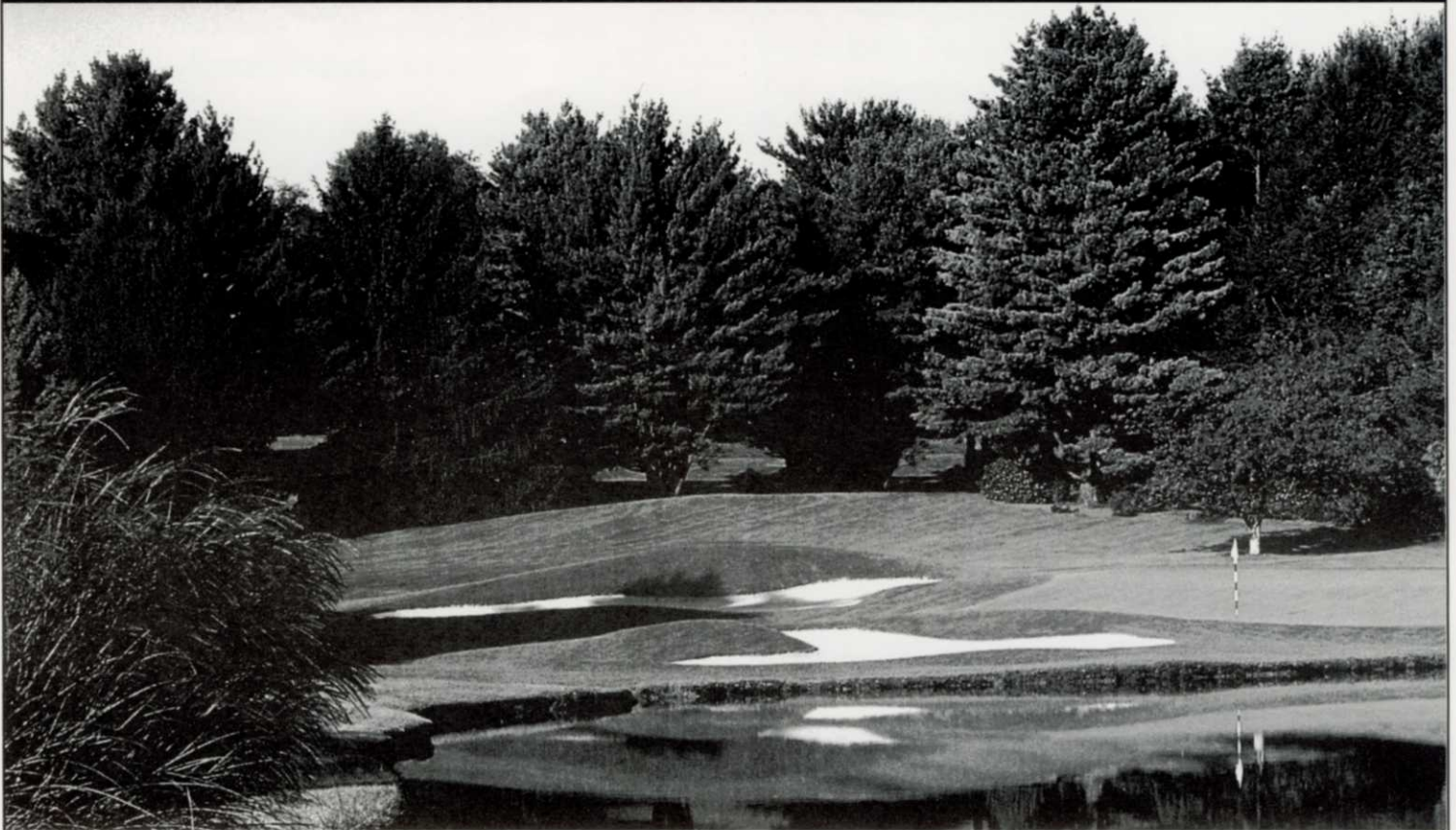
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*Continued from page 1*

**June:**

**Individual Net Event at Hogneck Golf Course**

Scott Reeside, Superintendent

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Tom Tokarski (Queenstown Harbor Golf)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Bill Shirk (Mid-Atlantic Golf)

Ken McFadden (Davisson Golf)

4<sup>th</sup> Place: Ed Gasper

Erik Snelsrid

6<sup>th</sup> Place: Paul O'Brien

John Anderes (South River Golf Links)

Mike Gilmore (Growing Solutions/Gibson Island)

**May:**

**Superintendent/Assistant at Redgate Golf Course**

Ray Evans, CGCS

Superintendent/Assistant Division

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jeff Vance/Marty Eader (Laytonsville Golf Course)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Mike Legere/Andrew Coffman (Holly Hills CC)

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Ed Gasper/Mike Stieler (Manor CC)

Open Division

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jefre Tschudi (White Plains Golf Course)

Mike Janzer (Plant Food Company)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Ed Porterfield (Verdicon)

Tom Tellier (Bob Davidson Ford)

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Nick Vance (Hope Valley Golf Course)

Scott Wagner (Leisure of Maryland)

**April:**

**Superintendent/Pro at TPC Avenel**

Dennis Ingram, CGCS

Net Division

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Glen Stowers/Jim Demallie (Prospect Bay)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Paul Masimore/Brian Huus (Marlton)

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Dave Anderson/Chris Hall (Evergreen CC)

4<sup>th</sup> Place: Bo Jumbercotta/Steve Cramer (Crofton CC)

5<sup>th</sup> Place: Steve Cohoon/Mark Jansen (Heritage Hunt)

6<sup>th</sup> Place: John Anderes/Tony Madera (South River)

Gross Division

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Archie Hall/RJ Butler (Cedar Point)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Jon Urbanski/Mark Helffrich (Suburban)

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Mark Menusan/Tim Rahnin (Greystone)

Open Division

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Joe Herkalo(CJH Greens)/Ed Gasper

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Rich Sweeney/Michael Ceston(Mt. Vernon)

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## MAAGCS News

### The Assistant Superintendent

Drew Scully, CGCS

While my first President's column is an issue away I wanted to write about something which is very important to me and which has been integral to both my personal and professional success, the Assistant Superintendent. I was moved to write this because there are two hundred five Class A & B members in this Association, and seventy six Class C. The Class C, the Assistant Superintendent, it is unbelievable to me, seventy six, thirty seven percent of the Class A & B membership.

My first Assistant's job at Herndon Golf Course under the lovable, but quite frugal John Tutich was my first exposure to Associations. We played in Greater Washington events and hosted their annual picnic, we attended the MTC show in Baltimore, the MAAGCS picnics at Hobbit's Glen and Bretton Woods. Notice it was always the free events as the course didn't pay at the time, but the point is that he took me to those events and showed me the bigger picture and introduced me to many of the people I still work with today. My next Assistant's job at Cattail Creek CC during construction and grow-in exposed me to both the MAAGCS & GCSAA, and the club paid for everything. There were three of us, Kevin Pryseski the superintendent, Steve Lutz the other assistant, and myself toiled away for three years and polished off the occasional case of MGD along the way. Both are important part of my success and lifelong friends. Kevin made us understand that you have to keep learning, there is no stopping point on that trip until you are done working or succeeding.

My first and actually only superintendent's position, so far, gave me the opportunity to follow through on what I had been exposed to and help my assistant Mark Menusan reach the superintendent level successfully, and

his work and my peers helped elevate me to my current position. Now I have been exposed to several fine assistant superintendents who have worked for our organization and moved on for other positions or continue to work with us today.

While I've condensed fourteen years into two paragraphs and cannot mention everyone by name who I've worked for and with, the assistant experience was essential for me on both sides of the position. Now I'm a realist as well and realize that many clubs, courses, management companies have trimmed the Assistant from the budget, (see my buddy Paul Masimore if you ever need a dose of reality on this subject, or any other for that matter) much like drainage is often cut from construction projects. It is easy, always wrong, and the results always show up long after the decision maker has moved out. There are also the people who don't want to have assistants for various reasons and I'll leave them alone because they are stressed out enough, they just don't know it.

I often hear that assistants no longer want to pay their dues, that's a fact about our population not our business. Successful managers adapt their management styles, not cave in or settle but adapt, so look to build a relationship that will add value to their career and they will respond. Exposing assistants, if you are lucky enough to have them, to the MAAGCS and GCSAA will reapvalue to their career and they will respond. Exposing assistants, if you are lucky enough to have them, to the MAAGCS and GCSAA will reap benefits for everyone. If you are unfortunate to only have a one hundred thousand dollar operating budget, the one hundred five dollar assistant membership cost would be .001 %, and two fifty dollar meetings a year another .001%. Everyone would benefit and value is added to the position.

As I stated at the annual meeting I think the importance of the assistant superintendent needs to be revisited and the Board of Directors will be focusing on ways to facilitate their involvement. Our first golf meeting of the year in April will be a Superintendent/Assistant event combined with an exciting tournament sponsored by BASF for the superintendents. It will be the MAAGCS' first visit to Waverly Woods Golf Course, a great Arthur Hills designed course in Howard County, MD. Mike Huey, long time MAAGCS member as both an assistant and now the superintendent will be our host. So as you plan for 2005 consider bringing your assistant into the Association, to a couple of meetings, seventy six is not a good number unless you're playing the game.

### ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

This past year the Mid Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents allocated funds for our annual scholarship program. This scholarship fund was established to support deserving students in their goal of completing golf course management studies at local universities.

At our annual MAAGCS meeting on December 14, 2004, we recognized six students who excelled both academically and within the workplace. Among our scholarship award recipients were Mark Allman from the University of Maryland Golf Course, Ted Blauvelt from the Chevy Chase Club, Chris Fauble from Holly Hills Country Club, and Andrew Harrison from the Turf Valley Resort and Conference Center.

Richard Leshin from Bethesda Country Club and Dan Wildeman from Congressional Country Club received "Merit Scholar" recognition for achieving the highest scholastic rank within their respective programs. Rich will be completing his undergraduate work under Dr. Carroll in 2006 and Dan is finishing his Golf Course Management certificate program under Dr. Mathias.

On behalf of the Mid Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents we want to congratulate all of these fine students for their outstanding accomplishments. Good luck guys!

Bryan McFerren,  
Education Chairman, MAAGCS



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**Turfgrass Matters**

Charles Poole - Editor  
Jeff Carson, CGCS \* Michael Evans  
Scott Furlong \* Jeff Michel, CGCS \* Mark Bujac

**News & Notes**

Class A

Jeremy Snyder Lake Arbor Golf Club

Class B

Brent Graham Patuxent Greens Country Club

Class C

Robert Rosier Manor Country Club

Class D

Brendan Rapp Manor CC

Class F

Bill Hughes Turf Equipment & Supply

Matthew Lowe RELS

Gregg Sullivan

Condolences

To Ed Gasper on the death of his mother

To Mike Hutchison on the death of his father

**Bullets from the Boardroom**

**MAAGCS Secretary - Tom Ritter, CGCS**

*January 2005*

- ◆ MAAGCS was a hole sponsor and a team sponsor for the Angie Cammarota Memorial Golf Tournament held on October 13<sup>th</sup> at Queenstown Harbor GC. The tournament is held annually by the Maryland Turfgrass Council with proceeds used for turfgrass research.
- ◆ The MAAGCS Board voted to discontinue the hospitality room in Baltimore associated with the MTC Conference & Trade Show. The number of Superintendents attending the hospitality room has dwindled to very low numbers in recent years. MAAGCS will continue to host the reception following the USGA Education Conference held biannually at Woodholme CC.
- ◆ MAAGCS President Ken Ingram, CGCS presented Mark Merrick, CGCS of The Elkridge Club with a Presidents Award for his work associated with the Baltimore Greens Group. The award was presented to Mark at the chapter meeting held at Towson Golf & CC on October 25<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ The IAC (Industrial Advisory Committee) survey was mailed to all Class F members in October.
- ◆ Ed Walker (Lesco) was elected the new IAC representative for 2005.
- ◆ The Board approved a grant of \$5000.00 for research in 2005 and \$5000.00 for research in 2006 for work by Dr. Dernoeden's graduate student Steve McDonald at the University of Maryland. The work will focus on dollar spot and gray leaf spot control.
- ◆ The Board approved a \$2000.00 donation to The Anchor Foundation. The Foundation provides a substance abuse recovery programs for teens.