

## MAAGCS

### Board of Directors

#### Officers

##### President

Tom Ritter, CGCS  
Hampshire Greens Golf Course  
(301) 421-0165

##### Vice-President

Randall Pinckney  
Manor Country Club  
(301) 929-1707

##### Secretary/Treasurer

Mark Kingora  
Bethesda Country Club  
(301) 365-0100

##### Past President

Drew Scully, CGCS  
(410) 902-9654

#### Directors

Bill Augustin, Golf  
Country Club of Maryland  
(410) 823-6725

Mike Augustin,  
Membership Services  
Belle Haven Country Club  
(703) 329-1336

Quent Baria, CGCS  
Newsletter, Med./PR  
Towson Golf & Country Club  
(410) 252-6026

Bryan McFerren - Education  
University of Maryland GC  
(301) 403-4258

Rich Sweeney, CGCS,  
Government Relations  
Mt. Vernon CC  
(703) 780-9346

## President's Message

Tom Ritter, CGCS

By the time you read this, most of you will have wrapped up your fall renovations following a fairly typical mid Atlantic summer sandwiched between heavy rains in late June and again in late August. As we look ahead to the "off season", plans are already underway for our annual education seminar to be held on March 22, 2007 at the University of Maryland Student Union building. Please contact any Board member with any suggestions for speakers or topics you would like to see addressed.

I will again be serving as the mid-Atlantic chapter voting delegate this year and will be attending the delegates meeting in Kansas City on October 13-15. One of the topics of discussion will be the proposed GCSAA dues pricing strategy plan. Historically, GCSAA has imposed fairly large, but infrequent dues rate hikes that have had a negative impact on membership growth and retention the following year. The new plan would institute biannual dues increases based on the Consumer Price Index. The proposed plan would "keep up" with rising costs rather than the current method of "catching up" to the cost of running the Association. Many other professional organizations have adopted this method and report mostly positive feedback and results. Check out the GCSAA web site for more details. I will be glad to convey any concerns or questions from MAAGCS members regarding this proposed strategy or any other issues or concerns you may have. Please contact me to discuss.

I want to point out that there was an article in the August 2006 (page 30) issue of Golf Course Management magazine that featured the meeting held last spring between EPA officials and several MAAGCS Superintendents. The article also included a photo of Rich Sweeney, CGCS and Quent Baria, CGCS during the presentation portion of the meeting. Thanks to Rich, Quent and also to Dean Graves, CGCS for educating the EPA staff on our behalf that day. It's great to see our chapter recognized on the national level.

I hope that most of you can get out and enjoy some great fall golf at our meetings at Holly Hills on October 24th and at Lakewood on November 14th. We also have our annual election meeting coming up and are looking for candidates for the Board. I'll reiterate what most MAAGCS presidents before me have said or written. While it is true that serving on a Board requires some time and effort, the benefits far outweigh the negatives. Please contact any Board member if you are interested. By the way, I remember who all the Superintendents were that told me last year that they would run for the Board this year. You will definitely be receiving a call to serve.



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

### Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents

P. O. Box 1398, Abingdon, MD 21009-6398  
Theresa Baria, Executive Secretary  
(888) 643-8873  
maagcs@earthlink.net

### Turfgrass Matters Quent Baria, CGCS - Editor

The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents. Products advertised in this publication are not endorsed by this Association