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(301) 595-5250

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to begin by wishing everyone a Happy New Year and hope that everyone had a great Holiday Season! I would also like to thank everyone for their support; cards, flowers, condolences and kind words which helped me and my family deal with the loss of my father.

I've been asked, on more than one occasion, what my plan is for 2008. Since becoming a MAAGCS board member the plan has been ongoing to promote membership, provide education, in the way of, seminars and scholarships and support the turf industry with university research funding, while operating a financially sound association. This along with keeping in tune with government and environmental issues that affect our industry will be our focus.

Participation has also been a major focus of the Board of Directors. The greatest factor in participation is obviously membership. Without all of you, the association would not be able to function and provide the things we do. As a reminder, Dues renewals should have been received by now, and are due shortly. Please be prompt in payment so that we all can focus on the remainder of the 2008 season. *****Also, make sure to update your contact information so that we can get all association information to you in a timely manner.**

Another major part of participation is sponsorship. To say thank you to the many companies that support our association isn't enough. Please continue to support these companies with your business, or personally thank them throughout the year as they continue to support the MAAGCS through their advertising and event sponsorship.

Committees and volunteer service is another way to give a little time to our Association. Two great examples of people who volunteer their time to the Association are Joe Herkalo who has been organizing the Golf Events for the past few years and Steve Evans who helps coordinate the MAAGCS March Education Seminar. If you are thinking about volunteering some time, contact Theresa at the MAAGCS office. Thanks also to Tom Ritter, CGCS, Mike Augustin, Bill Augustin, Quent Baria, CGCS, and Ed Walker for their years of service and welcome to our newest members of the Board of Directors, Brian Bupp, Jon Lobenstine, Steve McCormick, Brett Post and Mark Merrick, CGCS.

The 2008 monthly meeting schedule is not yet complete. Invitations to the MAAGCS reception in Orlando have been sent and it's set for Thursday, January 31, 2008. There is nothing scheduled for February, March is the MAAGCS Annual Educational Seminar and June will be the annual Skeet Shoot which has been coordinated with long time MAAGCS member, Rhys Arthur. The remaining 2008 schedule should be complete by the end of February. If anyone is interested in hosting a meeting, please contact me directly.

If there are questions or concerns that the MAAGCS can help with, please do not hesitate to contact the office @ 888-mid-turf.

Thanks and have a great 2008.

Sincerely,
Mark Kingora,
MAAGCS, President



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Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf

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