



Turfgrass Matters January 2015



A large crowd of spectators is seated on a grassy hill, watching a golf tournament. In the foreground, a golfer is bent over, preparing a shot on a green. Several other people, including caddies and officials, are standing nearby. The scene is set on a golf course with a modern building visible in the background.

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Congratulations Scott & Jenn Wunder

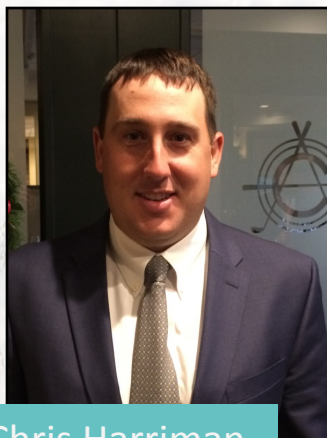


Jaskson Scott Wunder Born Nov. 16th, 2014 2:32pm 6lbs, 3oz



Andrew Scott Wunder Born Nov. 16th, 2014 2:37pm 4lbs, 14oz

Piney Branch Golf Club



Chris Harriman

Welcome to 2015! The year is off to a quick start with a number of changes to the association taking form as well as our largest event of the year, the Winter Education Seminar just around the corner. Galen Evans has a great lineup of speakers set for February 4th, take a look on maagcs.org and get signed up.

Galen along with the rest of the Board will be working hard to reintroduce education opportunities to each of our events this year. Whether it is a normal golf event, a simple shop talk or a sporting clay event like the Super/Assistant may be this spring, we will have some sort of learning opportunity associated with your time commitment.

I am excited to bring Joe Haskins on the Board as Golf Chairman and essentially, event coordinator. Joe has been tasked with creating valuable events but with a special emphasis of making sure we spread events around our entire area. We have lost touch with some of the Baltimore members and we want to amend that starting this year. Another new Board member, Tyler Bloom is from the Baltimore area as well and we look forward to him giving us a fresh perspective on our publications.

Staying on the topic of events, on my long list of obligations this year will be to ensure the scheduling of events makes sense. This will require diligent communication with neighboring GCS associations as well as the MAPGA, MSGA, GCBA and CMAA. Every association is looking for ways to bolster attendance and create value so we will make an effort to team up on events when possible.

Our new partnership with David Norman as Chapter Executive will also help us communicate and plan better among associations. David's vast contact list and experience running associations brings a major positive to the MAAGCS. During our first six months we will figure out with David exactly what we need from a Chapter Executive and weigh that against our already high level of Board participation. Our young, energetic board is positioned well to make objective steps forward this year.

As I mentioned during the Annual Meeting, promoting communication between the Board and you as members is very important. The recent membership survey has been very helpful with being able to plan for 2015. Going forward we need to know if you are having issues with the website, or if we are flat out missing something as an association. In addition, we can always use help on the committee end, especially with the BMP initiative as well as event creation and ideas. We can all work together to make our association better and continue building value. Here's to a progressive 2015!



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Leveraging Your Qualifications

We talk about how educated golf course superintendents are, and it's true. But do we do a good job leveraging qualifications to increase salaries? To gain clout with our members? To create job security? Some probably do, some probably don't. One would be hard pressed to find another industry that invests in continuing education as much as ours does. Although basic agronomic programs will never change; new products, new technology, evolving legislation and ongoing commitment to environmental programs make the job of a superintendent ever changing and always challenging. But you are qualified to do the job, and do it well. So you should be compensated fairly based on your experience and qualifications.

Have you ever heard of GCSAA's compensation and benefits report? If you haven't, you should take a look at it. This report breaks down industrywide compensation trends using various factors such as facility type, facility location and personal education. The report can be a useful tool, and it's not limited to those starting new employment. Why not use these statistics to leverage a raise during your annual review? If money isn't an option, how about leveraging qualifications to improve your benefits package?

To elaborate further, how about leveraging your "Class A" or "CGCS"? An abundance of educational hours are inherent to these distinctions, and those accomplishments should be communicated to your employer. By communicating these achievements, you just may gain their trust more so than ever before. For example, add "Class A Superintendent" to your business card. Add it to your email signature. Perhaps promote it in a board meeting when the opportunity presents itself.

If you do fall into that category of looking for new employment, take advantage of GCSAA's career services page. There you can gain tips for building your resume and cover letter, explore professional and personal profiles and websites, and grow your understanding of how to negotiate with an employer so that both sides come out happy.

I think sometimes in our industry we want to create a great product for the golfers and stay out of the limelight. But when it comes to negotiating and promoting yourself (and your qualifications) to your superiors, it is time to let your star shine a little bit. After all, you deserve it.



Chose Rogan

GCSAA Field Staff



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Government Relations: Jay Nalls

Jon Lobenstine and Dean Graves attended the second legislative planning meeting sponsored by RISE to combat the potential pesticide ban in Montgomery County, MD. The discussion was to discuss further an alternative legislation supported by the turf industry, including additional training / CEU requirements for licensed pesticide applicators in Montgomery County. It also implores the State of Maryland to increase funding for further oversight of pesticide regulations in Montgomery County. Though this is a good idea, we are not sure how strong an “alternative” this really is, and we do not feel it can replace the proposed law by its supporters.

On December 17th, several industry representatives including myself, had appointments with Council member Sid Katz and Council member Hans Reimer to discuss the negative aspects of the potential pesticide ban for Montgomery County, MD. We had a great discussion with Sidney Katz, who was former Mayor of Gaithersburg and lifetime Montgomery County resident. He was very open to discussion, and had great questions, especially about the actual quantity of pesticides applied volumetrically. He also brought to light that right now the cities of Rockville and Gaithersburg are exempt, however if this comes forward to the Health and Human Services Committee, they will be included in the ban. Key to my discussion points were the failure of these programs in much gentler climates, and how this could be a catastrophic failure here in Montgomery County. Though golf is exempt, we are knowledgeable turf professionals, and we do feel the need to inform the Council of the severity of fungal, insect, and weed pressure we face in Maryland. Jody Fetzer from Park and Planning stressed Park’s concern with the potential increase in negative runoff due to thin turf cover and dead stands of summer annual weeds in the winter. Unfortunately, Hans Reimer was not available for our meeting. Apparently there was a problem with his office’s new scheduling software, and he was not in. His secretary did apologize, and confirmed that our appointment had been made. We are working on another meeting with Mr. Reimer. He has strong concerns with runoff that our group would like to discuss.

The discussion of “enhanced efficiency fertilizers” continues, as the State Chemist is reviewing these products. They can be used legally in the State, however their use must follow the input requirements for a regular nitrogen fertilizer, i.e. 0.9 lbs / M of N max per application (0.7 lbs / M of water soluble N max) and are limited by the turf type for the total lbs. N / M per year. You may not apply these products at the 2.5 lbs. N / M rate per application listed in the law until they have been approved for this use by the State Chemist.

It seems we are not going to get a test run on the Urban Nutrient Management Programs reporting forms. Instead, the UNMP will send out its reporting forms in January. These will be reported by county, not watershed. All licensed commercial fertilizer businesses will receive these reporting forms. We will be happy to help answer any questions you may have once we all get a look at the forms. Please contact us via the website, and we will answer you as quickly as possible once the forms are available.

Thank You,

Jay Nalls

Norbeck Country Club



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MAAGCS Scholarship Awards



John Critzos - MAAGCS Scholar Award:

John is currently employed at Chevy Chase Club and he is planning on graduating from the 2-year program at the University of Maryland in the Fall of 2015. John has spent time working under Jeff Roder at Turf Valley Resort and Conference Center and also recently finished up an internship at Lancaster Country Club in Pennsylvania.



Brian Hogan - MAAGCS Scholar Award:

Brian is currently the assistant superintendent at Laytonsville Golf Course and he will graduate from the 2-year at the University of Maryland in December of 2014. He was a strong pillar of the 'Fab 4' team which won both the Sports Turf Managers Association student challenge and the GCSAA Turf Bowl in 2014.



Eric David - MAAGCS Scholar Award:

Eric has worked his way up through the ranks at Baltimore Country Club and he is now the Superintendent of the West Course at BCC. He is a graduate of Michigan State University and is now working on his Masters of Turf Management degree through Penn State University.



James Halley - Stan Zontec Memorial Scholarship:

James has been on the golf course almost his entire life. His father is the superintendent at Glenn Dale Golf Course where James has worked to hone his skills since 2005. He is an active student in the University of Maryland 2-year program, competing in the 2014 GCSAA Turf Bowl and studying hard to compete again in February 2015. He plans on graduating from the program in December 2015.



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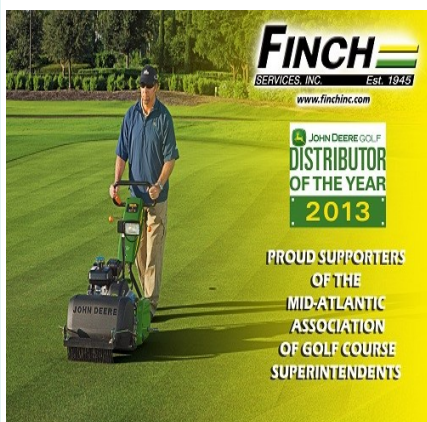
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GETTING TO KNOW



Chris Harriman

Chris Harriman grew up at Prospect Bay CC and started mowing neighbor's lawns when he was about 9 years old. At 14 he had 10 customers and also started working as a cart kid for the Proshop. Once he turned 16 he begged Gerry Hasbargen and John Anderes to let him work for them so he could drive the big equipment. Thanks to them he knew he wanted to major in Turf at college but he also wanted to spend four years in some decent weather so he ended up at Auburn University in Alabama. He interned his first summer at Prospect Bay and then Gerry kicked him over to Dean Graves at Chevy Chase Club. He quickly learned how to manage people as well as turf. He graduated in 2003 and after a year and a half as an AIT at Kinloch GC in Richmond he came back to Chevy Chase and was the first assistant for 6 years. Chris and his wife Nicole got married in 2007, she is a Nurse Practitioner in Frederick. In 2011 Chris was very lucky to be awarded the head job at Cattail Creek and then in 2012 he earned his Masters Degree from the Penn State online program. At the end of 2012 Chris and Nicole's little girl Avery was born and time has been flying for them ever since.

WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS OF THE MID-ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION?

I want our members to expect the best from the Association and make sure they feel like being a member of the MAAGCS is essential for their career success.

MAAGCS HAS HAD A LOW TURN OUT AT PAST MEETINGS. HOW DO YOU PLAN TO ADDRESS THIS SITUATION AS PRESIDENT?

We are going to go after high quality venues, try to secure them as early as possible and make sure vendor sponsorships help subsidize the costs of each event. We want each event to have an education aspect and create an excellent value.

OUT OF ALL OF YOUR YEARS IN THE ASSOCIATION WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE MID-ATLANTIC EVENT?

I forget where it was but we put Dean Graves' name on the long drive over Scott Wunder and Scott believed it. It was hilarious because Scott was fumed all afternoon about it.

WHAT IS THE MOST DIFFICULT PART OF YOUR JOB?

If my job was hard I would have found a new job and/or profession by now.

WHAT IS THE EASIEST PART OF YOUR JOB?

Making grass grow.

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST ISSUES FACING MAAGCS SUPERINTENDENTS TODAY?

Balancing a budget versus golfer expectations all the while being compared to your neighboring facility and having to keep a crew happy with a wage that doesn't come close to doing justice for the work that they do.

WHAT RESEARCH WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE ACCOMPLISHED FOR TURFGRASS MANAGEMENT IN THE MID-ATLANTIC?

ABW and water use research are at the top of my list .

WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF TEN YEARS FROM NOW?

I see myself as retired but I don't think that is going to happen.

WHO INFLUENCED YOU THE MOST ABOUT TURFGRASS MANAGEMENT?

It's an awesome combination of my parents, Gerry, John, Pete and Dean.

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION OF THE ROLE OF AN ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT?

They should be running the show and trying to take over my job every day. Practice now and make it easy on yourself later.

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ON THE ROLE OF THE MECHANIC?

They are only as good as the tools you give them and having properly cared for and running equipment is essential.

IF YOU COULD CHANGE ONE THING IN THE GOLF INDUSTRY WHAT WOULD IT BE?

I think we need to change the pool from where assistants come from. We need to focus more on elevating the education levels of our current crews and make sure their families have an opportunity to join and excel in our industry.

YOU CAN FOLLOW CHRIS HARRIMAN ON TWITTER @HARRIMANCASH OR CHECK OUT HIS BLOG UPDATES BY VISITING WWW.MAAGCS.ORG/MEMBER-BLOGS





Submitted By: Darin Bevard

As many are aware, the USGA Green Section announced significant regional changes reducing the number of regions from eight to four in an effort to better serve our Course Consulting Service customers and to improve operational efficiency. Also, Darin Bevard (dbevard@usga.org), who was the Director of mid-Atlantic region of the Green Section was promoted to Director of Championship Agronomy to directly oversee the US Open, US Women's Open, US Senior Open and both US Amateur Championships. He will also oversee the other US Amateur Championships. The original announcement was made on November 14th, 2014. If you have not seen it, here is the link (<http://gsr.lib.msu.edu/2010s/2014/2014-11-14.pdf>). Many may be asking what this means for Course Consulting visits in the mid-Atlantic region.

First, Dave Oatis (doatis@usga.org) is now the Director of the Northeast region which encompasses the former Northeast and mid-Atlantic regions. Many of you may remember Dave from his days as an agronomist in the mid-Atlantic region in the early 90's. Elliott Dowling (edowling@usga.org), who many of you know will remain an agronomist out of the Glen Mills, Pennsylvania office. Adam Moeller (amoeller@usga.org) is also an agronomist in the region now. Adam and Dave work from an office located in Easton, Pennsylvania. Both will be doing visits in the former mid-Atlantic region in addition to Elliott. A new agronomist will be hired very soon. This individual will be located in the Glen Mills, Pennsylvania office as well. When this hire is made, an additional announcement will be made. Darin Bevard will make a limited number of visits in the region as well.

This transition will allow us to serve the region more efficiently. In the short term, Elliott Dowling and Darin Bevard remain your best USGA Green Section contacts in Maryland, Virginia and Delaware. Eventually, we will all serve the entire Northeast region. It has been nearly two decades since significant changes have been made to the Green Section regions. We look forward to continuing our history of providing excellent customer-focused consulting services to golf facilities.



Darin Bevard

USGA

Year in Review By: Mike Barrett, Past President

It has been an honor serving as the MAAGCS President for the past year, I can't believe how fast time flies. I was sitting in the annual meeting at Norbeck Country Club seven years ago when I came to the conclusion, it was time for me to get involved and give back to the industry I love. During my time on the Board, good things were accomplished including the improvement of the newsletter and website, the development of a detailed operating budget and an operational assessment of how we run our association. It was also great to receive an \$8,750 grant from the GCSAA to use towards the development of our Best Management Practices (BMPs). All these things have made our association stronger and have added value to our membership and I am excited about the future of our organization.

Our annual meeting was held on December 8th at Argyle Country Club and attendance was good. Bill Love, Golf Course Architect, gave a presentation on sustainability to get the day started and the official meeting was called to order following lunch. During the meeting, the election for the MAAGCS Board of Directors was conducted and the newly elected Board members are as follows:

Continued on Page 18

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Chris Fernandes, Northwest Golf Club, Joe Haskins, The Woodlands and Diamond Ridge, and Tyler Bloom, Sparrows Point Country Club. Current Board member, Galen Evans, was also re-elected for a 2-year term. Chris Sandles, Chevy Chase Club, was appointed as the 2015 Assistant Superintendent Advisor.

My time on the Board has been rewarding in many ways. I have met great people and leaders of our industry and enjoyed several opportunities to represent our local chapter on a national level. I was also faced with some very difficult decisions including taking a close look at our operation and recognizing we needed to implement several changes to keep up with current technology. Following a detailed organizational assessment, the Board unanimously decided to revise the duties of our Chapter Executive, Theresa Baria. Outsourcing the financial responsibilities and re-evaluating the day to day needs of our membership was a sensitive topic as Theresa had been an important part of MAAGCS for 12 years. As we move in a new direction, her smiling face at the registration table and warm greeting over the phone will be missed.

As I said during my exit speech, I love the golf industry and I am honored to have had the opportunity to give back. When I look at the long and great history of the Mid Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents, it is humbling to have my name on the list of Past Presidents. I would encourage each of you to consider serving on a committee or running for the Board in the future. I am looking forward to my role as the Past President and if you are interested in discussing my experiences on the board or have any questions about how to get involved, please give me a call at 240-876-9465 or email me at mikebarrettgcgs@verizon.net.



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Michael Barrett, CGCS

Argyle Country Club

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Education

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IAC Alternate

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Mid Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents

Annual Meeting Minutes

December 8th, 2014

Argyle Country Club

Present:

Mr. Mike Barrett CGCS, President

Mr. Teddy Blauvelt, Vice President

Mr. Chris Harriman, Secretary/Treasurer

Mr. Galen Evans, Education Chairman

Mr. Sam Camuso, IAC Alternate

Mr. Jon Lobenstine, Past President

Mr. Michael Bostian, Membership Chairman

Mr. Ryan Kraushofer, Media Relations Chairman

Mr. Jay Nalls, Government Relations Chairman

Mr. Kevin Monaco, IAC Representative

Mr. Kirk Warburton, Assistant Representative

Not Present:

Mrs. Theresa Baria, Chapter Executive

Mr. Brandon Collins, Golf Chairman

Item 1— Call to Order

Mr. Mike Barrett, President - called the MAAGCS Annual Meeting to order at 1:15 pm. Mr. Barrett asks for any new members to stand up and introduce themselves. Mr. Barrett then introduced the 2014 Board of Directors.

Item 2— Requests for Amendments/Additions to the Agenda

None

Item 3— Presentation of Golf Awards

Mr. Mike Barrett announced and presented the following awards that were achieved at the Annual Championship at Argyle Country Club.

Affiliate Division:

Low Net (69) – The Bill Hughes Award to Zach Wignall, AGCS

Low Gross (77) – The Dr. Peter Dernoeden Award to Troy Brawner, AGCS at Bethesda Country Club

Right: Chris Fernandes accepting the Lester Tanner award
from President Mike Barrett

Superintendent Division:

Low Net (70) – Lester Tanner award to Chris Fernandes, GCS at Northwest Golf Club

Low Gross (80) - The Rick Wakefield Award to Ralph Meola, GCS at the Elkridge Club

Only Mr. Chris Fernandes was present to receive his award.

Item 4— Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

Mr. Kenny Ingram CGCS, MG made motion to approve the minutes from the 2013 Annual Meeting and Mr. Matt Burton seconded.

Item 5—Officers' Reports

President: Mr. Mike Barrett reported that 2014 was an excellent year. The MAAGCS was awarded an \$8,750 grant from the GCSAA for BMP development this year and has continued to improve the quality of the newsletter. The Board met 8 times at a variety of venues. Mike thanked the Board for all their hard work and efforts this past year in assisting him in his role as the Mid Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents' President. Mr. Barrett mentioned that he has enjoyed his time on the Board and will always be thankful for the opportunity to serve our association. Mike closed by saying that it has been a pleasure and honor working with the MAAGCS and he looks forward to continued friendships for years to come.

Vice President: Mr. Teddy Blauvelt reported that he, along with 5 other Board members, again attended National Golf Day this year in conjunction with the GCSAA and the PGA. The day has been a great opportunity for us to promote what we do to congressmen and staff. Members from the national GCSAA Board make specific appointments with national leaders to meet one on one to tell the story of our side of the Golf Course Industry. Mr. Blauvelt reviewed the duties of the Vice President where currently the bulk consisted of finding venues for events. Teddy concluded by thanking everyone for the opportunity to serve the membership for seven years and will be stepping down today from the Board due to personal time restraints.



Secretary/Treasurer: Mr. Chris Harriman reports that he was able to take minutes at all Board meetings and those minutes are available by email if anyone desires. Mr. Harriman then reported on the financials for 2014. A summary is below:

- Sponsorship was good this year and beat budget by \$3,000. The overall result was \$10,500 in profit. "Sponsorship" revenue comes from advertisements in the newsletter, directory and on the webpage.
- The Winter Education seminar was our strongest event, netting \$10,000 which included sponsorships.
- Golf events broke even from a cost vs fee charged standpoint.
- The Stewards of the Chesapeake event netted \$12,000.
- Dues renewals were \$7,000 below budget, mainly due to superintendent attrition; assistants and affiliates came in on budget.
- We lost \$1,100 on the cruise due to over commitment.
- Expenditures included \$4,500 to the Maryland Association of Green Industries who is our state lobbyist, \$2,750 in scholarships, \$5,000 to the UMD Turf Endowment and an additional \$1,400 for UMD fundraising events.
- The Board spent \$800 for Board Meetings and have not had a President's dinner in two years.
- Office expenditures and payroll totaled \$45,000 and taxes and accounting fees were \$5,000.

For 2014 we will break even and we have about \$15,000 in the bank at year end.

Past President: Mr. Jon Lobenstine reports he has had a busy year. Mr. Lobenstine reported that he has continued to work with Dean Graves CGCS, Jay Nalls and RISE in staying up to date with the potential Montgomery County Pesticide Ban. Jon also reported that he thoroughly enjoyed attending National Golf Day with the Board. Mr. Lobenstine also mentioned that he acted as the selection committee for the oncoming Board for 2015. Finding people to entertain the idea of serving on the Board has become increasingly difficult.

Item 6—Chapter Executive

Chapter Executive: Mrs. Theresa Baria was not present.

Item 7—Committee Reports

Government Relations: Mr. Jay Nalls reports that the MAAGCS received a grant from the GCSAA for \$8,750 to begin work on our MAAGCS BMP's. This will be a great start to a 3 to 4 year process to create our BMP's showing environmental stewardship for our association.

Jay continued with his report: Additionally, we met with other industry leaders to discuss the reporting aspect of the Fertilizer Use Act of

2011. We prompted the MDA to begin a test program for reporting, which is still in the works on their end. Also, we reported to regional suppliers about how "extended release" fertilizers were not registered with the State Chemist, so they could work with their distributors on getting that done for our membership.

We are currently working with Karen Reardon from RISE, and Ellen Bogage from Chesapeake Public Strategies on the soon to be proposed "Montgomery County Pesticide Ban". Currently Golf is exempt in the language, and the cities of Rockville and Gaithersburg are also exempt. We are supporting the turf industry, as is Agriculture, but we need not be leaders in this fight because we are exempt. The Department of Park and Planning is strongly against this ban as it has spoken with colleagues around the nation and the world where it has not worked. Several areas such as Durango, Colorado have seen a rapid decline in their sports fields with bans on pesticides and synthetic fertilizers. The Montgomery County Council supposedly will vote on the ban on January 15th.

Education: Mr. Galen Evans reported that we continued our successful Education Seminar in February 2014. With over 150 in attendance, we provided our membership with Maryland Pesticide Recertification, as well as .6 GCSAA Education Points. Galen mentioned that we will also hand out \$2,750 in scholarships in 2014 to several very deserving students.

Galen continued: "We look to continue our Education Seminar successes in 2015 with our event already being scheduled for February 4th, 2015. We will be providing Education points, Pesticide Recertification, and also Fertilizer Recertification at this year's event. I also look forward to revamping our educational offering going forward, to provide our members with useful, relevant information that can help them receive more value from their membership."

Mr. Nalls added that it helps gain respect from legislators that we hold a 150 person education event each year.

Golf Committee: Mr. Brandon Collins submitted a report via email. Mr. Mike Barrett read the report: Golf events in 2014 should be considered an overall success. Participation was in line with 2013, but still below what we would like to see. The Board is actively looking for ways to improve participation moving in to 2015. We are examining the possibilities of doing more joint events with other local associations, increasing the education portion of the meeting, adding new venues, and changing the dates so there are not so many events in the same time frame. Several of the 2015 venues have already been secured or are close to being secured. We will get a schedule out to the membership as soon as we have secured dates so that if you wish to attend, you may plan your schedule accordingly. If anyone is interested in hosting an event, please contact the incoming Golf Committee Chair.

Newsletter/Media/Public Relations: Mr. Ryan Kraushofer quickly reviewed the presentation he gave about the website before the meeting was brought to order. Ryan mentioned that the Board will continue to push utilization of the website more, and further encouraged members to become familiar with and use the website for dues renewals, event registrations, news, member directory, and used equipment sales. Ryan also mentioned that we will continue to compile colleague blogs and twitter handles to help increase online communication.

Membership Services: Mr. Michael Bostian presented the membership survey. A wide range of answers were reported from 72 total people. The main take away was that the association is doing a good job, but a focus on more education at events and better scheduling is important. Results from the survey can be found on the website.

Assistant Superintendent Liaison: Mr. Kirk Warburton reported that the assistants had a successful year with one event at Woodmont Country Club and the Annual Assistants Championship at Worthington Manor. Kirk is looking forward to sharing ideas with the new Assistant Representative.

IAC Report: Mr. Kevin Monaco reported that he has enjoyed his time connecting with the MAAGCS Board and the Board really has a focus on bolstering vendor recognition and value for sponsorships. Kevin reports that the IAC will be moving to a two year term starting in 2015.

Item 8—New Business

Mr. Mike Barrett appointed Mr. Chris Sandels, Assistant Golf Course Manager at Chevy Chase Club, as the new Assistant Superintendent Liaison. Chris stood up and commented that he is excited to take on the position and will make a concerted effort to reach as many assistants as possible and get them involved with the association.

Mr. Galen Evans and Mr. Mike Barrett presented Scholarships to 4 local students:

Stan Zontek Scholarship winner \$1,000 – James Halley from the Institute of Applied Agriculture
 \$750 – John Critzos from the Institute of Applied Agriculture
 \$500 – Brian Hogan from the Institute of Applied Agriculture
 \$500 – Eric David from the Penn State World Campus

Mr. Chris Harriman presented to the membership for a vote on Board of Director approved by-law changes for 2015. The proposed amendments summarized a need to adjust responsibilities of the Board and the Chapter Executive to better service the membership in the new age of technology while also taking on an outside accounting firm to manage the financial aspect of the association. A summary follows:

- Vice President will also be responsible for Treasurer duties
- Secretary will also be responsible for online media content
- Chapter Executive moves from full time to part time (20 hours a week)
 - Financial duties are abandoned
 - Focus is on member services, emails and running events
 - Also will take minutes at Board Meetings
 - Officer terms are moved to two years

Mr. Harriman informs the membership that the Board has already brought on the financial firm of Herkalo and Company to handle the financial aspect of the association. This move will help create transparency with funding and allow the Board and Chapter Executive to better focus on member services. The change to the Chapter Executive position from full time to part time was not a by-law change, but a Board decision. The responsibilities were to be updated in the by-laws. Chris mentioned that the Board had spent a great deal of time making these decisions and none were made lightly.

Mr. Harriman reported that after informing Mrs. Theresa Baria of the changes for 2015 she decided to move on with her career in a different direction at the end of 2014. Chris made it clear that Board was very grateful for her last 12 years of service and that Theresa will be missed. The Board is currently exploring options to fill the Chapter Executive position. Mr. Harriman called for a motion to approve the amendments to the by-laws for 2015. Mr. Dean Graves made a motion, Mr. Kenny Ingram seconded and approval was unanimous.

Mr. Mike Barrett asked if there was any more new business. None was presented.

Item 9—GCSAA Business

Mr. Matt Burton, GCSAA voting delegate addressed the membership and thanked Mr. Mike Barrett and the Board for including him as the voting delegate for MAAGCS. Matt's report was as follows:

"There will be two items up for vote this year at the annual meeting:

The first item will be a small dues increase to reflect a CPI increase of 3.3% since 2013 resulting in an increase of \$10/year for A and SM and \$5/year for C. I propose the MAAGCS support this increase and continue to support the small increase in dues every couple years instead of drastic increases spaced further apart.

The second is the proposal of an Equipment Manager classification. This needs 2/3rd majority support in our organization as well as a 2/3rd majority of the IGCEMA to dissolve. The reasoning behind this is twofold: GCSAA is better equipped to provide education and resources and GCSAA has recognized just how vital this position is to our industry. We want to be an inclusive organization not exclusive. At the delegates meeting there was little opposition to this and hardly any negative outcomes can be foreseen. Nothing is set yet as far as dues. I propose the Mid-Atlantic support the establishment of this classification.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding member classification and member standards. Nothing is up for immediate vote but the general consensus at the delegates meeting was of support for both a simpler classification system and a reduced member standard for Class A status. The current proposal would create 5 classifications instead of 13. This would include Class A, B, Equipment Manager, Assistant, and Member. The standards for Class A would include the current structure of formal education and drop the point requirement. Look for more information next year and a potential vote in 2016.

Running for president this year is John O'Keefe and for Vice President is Peter Grass, both unopposed. For Secretary/Treasurer is Rafael Barajas and Bill Maynard. I propose the Mid-Atlantic vote for Mr. Maynard. Both are current directors in the middle of two year terms so Mr. Barajas will continue on the Board. There are 3 open positions on the Board and I propose we vote for all 3 current directors: Darren Davis, John Fulling, and Mark Jordan. There will be an appointment to fill the last position vacated by the candidate that wins the office of Secretary/Treasurer. This will most likely be the fourth highest vote getter. There are 4 other candidates for the Board and their bios are available on the website. As always you can vote anyway you like if you don't agree with my recommendations.

In closing, I would like to encourage those who haven't donated rounds to the rounds for research initiative to please consider doing so next year. If you can't donate please help get the word out about the auction."

Mr. Kenny Ingram and Mr. Sam Kessel brought up a question concerning if we can find out who exactly does not vote with the association on GCSAA business. Mr. Burton answered that he does know who the 30 some people are and has made attempts to reach out to them.

Item 10—Election of Officers

Mr. Mike Barrett calls for Mr. Jon Lobenstine, Past President and Nomination Committee Chair.

Mr. Lobenstine announces that Mr. Chris Harriman will be running for President, Mr. Mike Bostian for VP and Mr. Ryan Kraushofer for Secretary. All were running unopposed as no one else was nominated from the floor. Each officer was voted in unanimously by the membership.

Item 11—Election of Board of Directors

Mr. Jon Lobenstine announces that the only current director running for the Board is Mr. Galen Evans. New people running for the Board are Mr. Chris Fernandes, Mr. Tyler Bloom and Mr. Joe Haskins. The new candidates each stand and discuss their biography, qualifications and desire to run for the Board. Jon mentions that there are 4 positions for 4 candidates so a simple vote will be for the 2 year term director position. Mr. Galen Evans was voted to serve the 2 year term.

IAC Chairman Mr. Kevin Monaco then comes forward to elect the IAC alternate. He announces that Mr. Andrew Harrison, Mr. Mike Huey, and Mr. Ted Huhn are running for the position. The candidates stand and discuss their biography, qualifications and desire to run for the Committee. Kevin mentions that there is only the one position for the three running.

Mr. Monaco announces that Mr. Ted Huhn will be the 2015 IAC representative alternate.

Mr. Jon Lobenstine then asks for a motion to destroy the ballots. Mr. Mike Barrett makes a motion, Mr. Teddy Blauvelt seconds, and all were in favor.

Item 12—Presidential Address

Mr. Mike Barrett addresses the membership and expresses extreme gratitude for being able to serve on the Board. Mike thanks Mr. Brandon Collins, Mr. Teddy Blauvelt, Mr. Kirk Warburton and Mr. Jon Lobenstine for their service on the Board. Mr. Jon Lobenstine says a few words as outgoing Past President and Mr. Mike Barrett presents him with a plaque.

Mr. Barrett goes on to say that he has built many relationships and will work hard to continue to stay in touch with Past Presidents of the Association. Mike looks forward to working with the new, younger Board as the Past President. Mr. Chris Harriman presents Mr. Barrett with a plaque for his service as President.

Mr. Harriman addresses the membership as the new President of MAAGCS. Mr. Harriman mentions that he is excited to lead the association as he has made many changes and improvements since he first came onto the Board as the Assistant Liaison. Chris makes sure the membership is encouraged to communicate with their Board so that the Officers and Directors can make the right decisions. Mr. Harriman understands that as times and technology change, that the association has to change along with it. Chris states that he will work hard to bolster value for vendor sponsorships, create valuable, well timed events with education all the while making sure we are staying ahead of government relations issues.

Mr. Harriman acknowledges the challenge of working with a fresh young Board and will rely on help from Past Presidents for advice as necessary. Chris closes out by ensuring the membership that they will continue to be proud to be a member of MAAGCS, one of the largest and most powerful associations recognized by the GCSAA.

Item 13—Meeting Adjourns

Mr. Chris Harriman, President, thanks everyone for their attendance and adjourns the meeting at 3:01PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Harriman
President
MAAGCS





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