

TurfgrassMatters

Winter 2018

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President's Report – Michael Bostian

What a fantastic finish we had to the 2017 golf season. I thought we may be in trouble again with the late July rains and overnight temps creeping ever higher. Then, the overnight temperatures plummeted, and we experienced one of the best late summer to fall transitions I can remember in quite a while. With the great weather over the last four months, rounds should be up and turf managers should have their properties in great position for a successful 2018 campaign. Early order has come and gone, but now is the time to evaluate successes and failures from the past season and make a great plan for 2018.

This is one of the most unique areas to grow turf in the United States. One thing that has always been an advantage to superintendents in this region is the offseason. I can't think of many professions where managers have ample time to reflect on the prior year, then prepare and plan for the coming year. Superintendents stay plenty busy during the offseason with projects that aren't part of the daily routine or normal course prep. These projects often times have instant impacts and set our properties up for more success next year. There is always plenty of office work to do completing the mandatory stuff; including: chemical and fertilizer applications and recordkeeping, budgeting, staff reviews, fuel rebates and water usage. Pretty much any turf magazine you open for the next two months will offer great advice on how to use your time wisely during the offseason.

A lot of us have done the same thing from winter to winter, but now there are so many new ways to improve efficiencies and actually use data to evaluate strengths and weaknesses. Digital job boards and labor tracking tools can help us all grow professionally and understand where we are wasting our most valuable resource. These tools supply facts for arguing a case as to why a particular task can or cannot be achieved without increased funds. Couple that with the plethora of webinars and seminars available online and there is little reason why your operation can not keep charging forward and improving.

Next on the checklist, evaluating our staff and annual reviews provides time to recognize our staff's strengths and weaknesses. Cross training is one thing, but when you have to roll solo and manage a property without an assistant superintendent, have you prepared key members to help you out with the managerial tasks and key applications? Take it from me, perfect preparation prevents "PPP"!

One thing that you won't read much about is taking time for yourself. The last thing I always check off my list during the offseason is catching up with people who may have slipped off my radar during the busy season. We all use time during the off season to catch up with family and close friends. Why forget about old work colleagues, college buddies or past teammates? We have all come across a great circle of people over the years, who have shaped us to who we are today. Some obviously have more impact than others, but why let a little bit of time passing by stop you from reconnecting. We only get one ride and it is important to acknowledge the people who have been with you along the way. Skeptical, give it a try. It will recharge you mentally and emotionally and have you poised to tackle 2018 and make it a great year.

Thanks again to all the companies that provided MAAGCS with support and resources this past year to help our association continue to grow. I must also acknowledge all the board members who have helped shape many new initiatives to keep adding value to your membership. I appreciate your service and time. It has been a rewarding experience to be a part of this team.

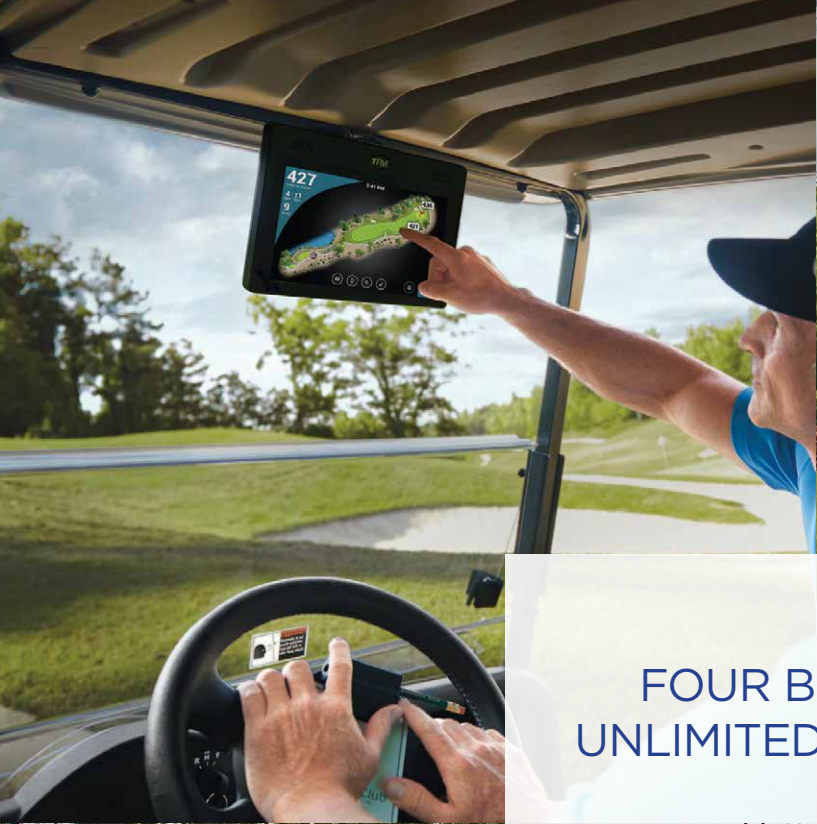


Michael Bostian

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MAAGCS Annual Meeting

The 2017 MAAGCS Annual Meeting took place on Tuesday, December 12 at Argyle Country Club and was hosted by MAAGCS Past President, Mike Barrett, CGCS. Dr. Joseph Roberts of UMD gave an excellent presentation and the Board of Directors presented a year-in-review covering events, awards, membership, financials, memorials and the vision for 2018. Special guests from The Yellow Ribbon Fund were in attendance to accept a \$3,500 donation from the MAAGCS and veteran Ben Harrow shared his story, and how The Yellow Ribbon Fund has helped him in life after combat. Funds for this donation were raised at MAAGCS events in 2017 through the 50/50 raffle, thanks to all who participated!

Galen Evans of Laytonsville GC was elected to serve a two year term on the Board of Directors and Mike Huey of Turf Equipment and Supply Company was elected to serve as the IAC representative, as we say farewell to Ted Huhn whom is stepping off of the board. Thank you Ted!



2018 Board of Directors (L-R): Chris Sandels, Tyler Bloom, Ryan Kraushofer, Mark Jones, Michael Bostian, Matt Harvey, Chris Harriman, Galen Evans, Chris Fernandes, Joe Haskins, Eric David, Mike Huey

Annual Meeting Minutes - December 12, 2017



Location:

Argyle Country Club

Present:

Michael Bostian, President; Ryan Kraushofer, Vice President/Treasurer; Chris Fernandes, Secretary; Chris Harriman, Past President; Joe Haskins, Golf; Chris Sandels, Member Services; Galen Evans, Education; Tyler Bloom, Newsletter; Eric David, Government Relations; Mark Jones, Assistants Representative; Matt Harvey, Assistants Representative; Sam Camuso, IAC Representative; David Norman, Chapter Executive; Tyler Eastham, Chapter Executive, MAAGCS Members, and representatives from The Yellow Ribbon Fund.

Call to Order:

President Michael Bostian called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Request for Amendments to 2016 Minutes/Agenda: None

Approval of 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes: Michael Bostian made a request for approval. Mike Barrett made a motion to approve and Chris Fernandes seconded

President Michael Bostian introduced the head table (with Board members present) and stated their titles

Continued on page 7



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Annual Meeting Minutes (cont.)

Officer's Reports:

President: President Michael Bostian began the Annual Meeting with a "Year in Review" highlighting the success of the events throughout 2017 and thanked our partners.

2017 50/50 Presentation – Meg Lewis from Yellow Ribbon Fund:

Meg Lewis gave a short presentation about The Yellow Ribbon Fund and their mission and goals. Ben Harrow, a Yellow Ribbon Fund beneficiary shared his story about how the Yellow Ribbon Fund has supported him through his recovery from injury in war. Michael Bostian presented Meg Lewis with a donation check from MAAGCS.

Golf: Golf Chairman Joe Haskins presented golf awards for the winners of this year's biggest tournaments – The Rick Wakefield Award to Jeff Rice, Mike Gilmore Award to Chris Harriman, Tom Mynagh Award to Trevor Hedgepeth and the Mike Fitzgerald Award to Kevin Boyle. Joe Haskins also presented awards for the MAAGCS season long match-play tournament to the overall winners, finalists and semi-finalists. Bo Jumbercotta and Chris Hinesley from team "Trending Up!" defeated Ralph Meola and Jason Shepard of team "Franks & Beans" for the trophy. Semi-finalists John Anderes and Jason Neal of team "Water Dogs" and Ed gasper and Mark Jewell of team "Whiskey on the Rocks" were also recognized.

Past President Harriman gave an update on the BMP and Mid Atlantic Golf Council Meeting.

Education: Education Chairman Galen Evans presented this year's scholarship winners:

- Brady Scales – \$3,000 – Laytonsville Golf Course: Stan Zontek Memorial Scholarship
- Andrew Thornton – \$500 – Sparrows Point
- Adam Narivanchik – \$500 – Sparrows Point
- Member / Child Scholarships:
 - ◆ Claire Snyder – \$1,000 (daughter of Jeff Snyder)
 - ◆ Allison Kennelly – \$1,000 (daughter of Tim Kennelly)

Vice President/Treasurer: Ryan Kraushofer gave a financial update that included donations made in 2017 by MAAGCS. MAAGCS is in good financial standing.

Membership: Membership Chairman Chris Sandels gave an update on the current membership and announced the new facility membership option.

MAAGCS President Michael Bostian asked if there is any other new business. No new business was presented.

GCSAA Business/Chapter Delegates Report: Voting delegate Jim Weaver of Needwood Golf Course gave a GCSAA update that included Membership, Rounds4Research, Disaster Relief Fund Donations, Best Management Practices, Government Affairs and the PAC, National Golf Day, Community Service Project at the National Mall, Grassroots Ambassador Program, First Green and GCSAA Elections.

Elections:

All officers have completed the first year of a two-year team, elected in December 2016.

Past President – Chris Harriman

President – Michael Bostian

Vice President/Treasurer – Ryan Kraushofer

Secretary – Chris Fernandes

Chris Harriman stated that all current Directors on the board have agreed to stay on for another year and there are no new positions to fill. Chris Harriman called for any nominations from the floor – no nominations from the floor were presented. Ballots were passed out with director names on them and the winner will serve a two-year term while the rest will serve a one year term.

Galen Evans of Laytonsville GC was voted in to serve a two-year term. IAC Representative Ted Huhn is retiring before he can complete his role in 2018. A ballot for the new IAC Representative was handed out to Class F members only. Mike Huey of Turf Equipment and Supply Company was voted in to serve as the new IAC representative and Sam Camuso will remain the alternate.

Election Committee Chairman Harriman announced the results for the Board. Chris Harriman asked for a motion to destroy the ballots. Jim Weaver made a motion and Chris Fernandes seconded. The ballots were destroyed.

Meeting Adjourned:

President Michael Bostian adjourns the meeting: 2:25 pm

Take Advantage of the New Facility Membership Option

At this year's annual meeting a new membership option was presented, the Facility Membership. Facilities can take advantage of this option and save money on dues while helping the MAAGCS membership grow at the same time. To qualify for this package a facility will need sign up the following:

- 1 – Superintendent
- 2 – Assistant Superintendents
- 1 – Equipment Manager / Crew Member

The total amount for this package is \$400 (the value is \$455+) and you can add additional workers from your facility at no extra charge.

The deadline to sign up for the package is February 28, 2018. If you would like to sign up or have questions regarding this package, please contact Tyler Eastham at teastham@gmail.com or 757-329-3577.

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2018 Education Seminar – Wednesday, February 21



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Featured Speakers



Mike Bostian



Dr. Erik Ervin



Dr. Mike Richardson



Lee Butler



Dr. Joseph Roberts



Paul Jacobs



Jeff Michel

Ten Oaks Ballroom 500 Signal Bell Lane • Clarksville, MD 21029

The MAAGCS hosts its annual Education Seminar in February and it features some of the best educators from around the country. Join us at Ten Oaks Ballroom in Clarksville, MD on Wednesday February 21, 2018. There will be breakfast, lunch, an ice cream break, and a beer and wine social following the event. Education Credits will be available so be sure to sign up early since this event always sells out!

You can register by visiting the Education Seminar event page on the MAAGCS website: <http://www.maagcs.org/event-2765884>

Schedule

- 6:30-7:15** Breakfast and Registration
- 7:15-7:30** President Mike Bostian
Opening Remarks
- 7:30-8:30** Dr. Erik Ervin, University of Delaware
N, Fe, and kelp biostimulant programs for enhanced bentgrass health
- 8:30-9:30** Dr. Mike Richardson, University of Arkansas
How much shade is too much?
- 9:30-10:00** Morning Break
- 10:00-11:00** Lee Butler, North Carolina State University
Soil Born Diseases
- 11:00-12:00** Dr. Joseph Roberts, University of Maryland
Assessment and Management of Root Disease Issues Associated with Turfgrass
- 12:00-1:00** Lunch Break
- 1:00-1:30** Paul Jacobs, USGA Northeast Region Agronomist
Recruiting and Retaining Staff
- 1:30-2:00** Ornamental Speaker
- 2:00-2:30** Ice Cream Break – sponsored by BASF
- 2:30-3:30** Jeff Michel, M&M Consulting
Soil Chemistry, Soil Health and Optimal Fertility Strategies for Restricted Budgets
- 3:30-5:00** Pesticide and Fertilizer
Re-certification Application, then Beer and Wine Social

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Assistants Corner – Mark Jones

Internship Programs

The internship is one of the most crucial practical aspects in addition to what is learned in the classroom. Knowledge gained is only reinforced with real world, hands-on training. It is very important that interns experience a very well-rounded internship at whatever course he/she selects. Instead of focusing on one task, such as being able to use greens mowers, the student should learn how to complete multiple tasks on the golf course. This may include course set up, using various types of mowers, bunker work, getting involved with projects, fixing and maintaining equipment, application of various chemicals/fertilizers, and managing budgets. I also feel it is very important to attend greens committee meetings or other meetings that may be valuable to the intern.

There are certain aspects that need to be considered when developing an internship program. Internship programs should be competitive and appealing to the students. Benefits of a program could include free or cheaper housing, provided uniforms and meals. Some students may be coming from overseas, so it is important to make them feel involved and have the opportunity to experience local culture and events. At Baltimore Country Club we had a student from Ireland who was interning with us and we had taken him to a Raven's game and also involved him in the 2017 Presidents Cup as a volunteer. If your facility is not hosting a tournament that year, it is beneficial to sign up the student to volunteer at a PGA Tour or USGA event where they can gain tournament experience on a larger scale.

An internship program is valuable so long as students know the program is available. Recruitment can be done in a multitude of ways. If you're looking for a place to start advertising your internship program, begin with your alma mater. It is easier to communicate with people you already know. From there, feel free to branch out to other colleges that have turf grass management programs or utilize word of mouth from previous interns.

Now is the time that students will start looking for internships. Early preparation is key to developing a positive internship opportunity that will host an eager to learn student who is serious about a future career in golf course management.

Assistant Superintendent Certificate Update

In other news, I wanted to give an update about the Assistant Superintendents Certificates the GCSAA will be coming out with in the near future. I've talked to some of the GCSAA board members that are on the committee creating the certificates and the first two should be released sometime in February. The certificates will help us show our dedication to our careers as Assistant Superintendents, is a good resume builder, and demonstrates to future employers that we are eager to learn. All certificates will be available online. Cost is unknown at this time, but they are trying to make them as affordable as possible.



Mark Jones

Baltimore Country Club
@speedyjones89
mjones@bcc1898.com

Save this Date – Tuesday, March 6

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*More information enclosed.
See the insert to this
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Government Relations Update – Eric David

The golf management industry has become a challenge recently. We have seen fewer jobs as courses close, as well as superintendents staying in their positions longer than before. This creates a job market that limits upward mobility in the position. It takes patience and in many cases just opportune timing to get the job, which can be frustrating if you have been seeking a job for years. This can be especially difficult if you are currently an assistant superintendent.

Since there are so few jobs, it is very likely that both an assistant and a superintendent will be applying for the same role. Without that same level of experience, how does an assistant move up? What course will take a chance on a person without that superintendent title? Many pieces must come together to get that next position, and job seekers must differentiate themselves from other candidates in some way. Some key differentiators that can truly set you apart from the pile of other qualified resumes may include; the level of course you are currently working, a referral from the existing superintendent where you work, additional higher education, extra industry service, and networking.

I don't believe any single item will automatically land someone a great job, but the combination of multiple factors will help put your name on the top of the list. It certainly can be frustrating waiting for the right opportunity to come about, but patience can put you in the right position for success. There is certainly no formula to getting that first superintendent role, many times, you are just in the right place at the right time.



Eric David
edavid@bcc1898.com

Save the Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2018

MAAGCS / ESAGCS / VGCSA Social Event at GIS

7:00-10:00 pm

The MAAGCS will once again be hosting a joint social event with our ESAGCS and VGCSA friends at the Golf Industry Show.

The Event will take place on Wednesday, February 7th from 7:00-10:00 pm. The host venue for this year will be Howl at the Moon, the #1 nightlife spot in San Antonio that's keeping the Riverwalk dancing! Part bar and part concert, Howl creates a non-stop party with live music. With our VIP section it will be a fantastic event! Thanks to the support from our sponsors, the event is **FREE** of charge! This will be a good time to unwind and network with your fellow industry colleagues.



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UMD Report – Geoff Rinehart



As many of you know, I began as a lecturer at the University of Maryland's Institute of Applied Agriculture this last semester after Dr. Kevin Mathias retired following 37 years teaching in the IAA's turfgrass program.

I have appreciated that my last few years in this area has been homecoming of sorts for me as a Maryland-native. Although I consider Bel Air my original hometown, growing up with a father in the Army, I lived in and travelled to different states and countries growing up.

After finishing my Bachelor's in turfgrass management at Virginia Tech, I completed my Master's at Michigan State University, then worked for 5½ years as a turfgrass research technician at Washington. My industry experience has 5½ years as a turfgrass research technician at Washington State University; golf course experience in Maryland, Colorado, and Washington state; conducting turf and landscape education and outreach for homeowners and landscape professionals in Washington state, and landscape contracting work in Hawaii.

After being away for close to 20 years I returned to the Beltway region to coordinate the construction and subsequent maintenance of the 'Grass Roots' exhibit at the US National Arboretum in DC. With the retirement of Dr. Matthias from the IAA this past June during the Fall semester.

My most important goal within this position is to continue the tradition of academic integrity and standard of excellence that is a hallmark of the IAA and the program Dr. Mathias built. Our program has a long history of training and equipping students with the fundamentals of the range of skills they will need to perform competently as they enter the industry and continue to develop more advanced skill sets as they progress.

As has been said before, "learning how to learn" is one of the best skills that a graduate can take with them from the program moving forward and it is increasingly critical in today's fast-paced and ever-changing work environment.

Currently, the UMD turfgrass management program has 10 students in the IAA two-year program and five in the Bachelor's four-year program. As many of you know, one of the biggest challenges of undergraduate turfgrass programs nationwide has been maintaining student numbers and engaging prospective enrollees. As we look forward to the future of our industry, I appreciate the role that we as the IAA advocate for the industry, and we are grateful that the industry has been an advocate for us.

I believe that the IAA plays a strong role in supporting the industry as we train and educate the next generation of turfgrass managers. In turn, I am appreciative to now be a part of a program that reveres the industry and has maintained strong relationships with the industry in the Mid-Atlantic region.

One of my goals is to continue to foster this relationship and continue to build the network among our students, alumni, and the industry in the region. As we continue to improve our promotion of the program and recruiting approaches to attract quality students to our industry, please consider your course's crew members. Obviously, being able to go to school for two years (or part-time for longer) is not an opportunity everyone is in position to embark upon, but I believe one of our industry's biggest opportunities lies within and includes those crew members.



Geoff Rinehart

Turfgrass Management Advisor
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Encouraging crew members who show an interest in the industry in their professional development and advancement is an important step that we can take to help improve our industry. Whether it is helping them attend the upcoming educational seminar in Clarksville on February 21 or other MAAGCS meetings, a "winter short-course" to help them gain a better perspective on the tasks that are done on the course, or encouraging those who are able to go to school to help advance their career, we all have a stake in helping to foster education of our crew members.

As I did at 'Grass Roots,' I hope to foster and cultivate the sense of community that we share in the turfgrass industry in the region. Thank you, MAAGCS members, for your continued support of the IAA and I look forward to continuing the tradition of collaboration!

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GCSAA Report – Chase Rogan

New Education for Assistants

Within any industry, continuing education is an important asset in professional development. Our industry is no different, and superintendent positions are as competitive as ever. For assistant superintendents looking for their first opportunity, this education could be a key factor in separating themselves from the pack. Particularly, it should be highlighted and leveraged on a resume to show potential employers that you are engaged in actively trying to improve yourself beyond the degree you may have previously earned.

To help you reach your educational goals, GCSAA has been developing and will soon be releasing education certificates for assistant superintendents. The certificates will cover four competency areas including: principles of golf course agronomy, business, communications/leadership, and environmental management. Although these certificates are geared toward assistants, any member or non-member can take the exams (cost is cheaper for members) to help improve their skills.

The first two exams, agronomy and business, are scheduled to be released in January 2018 with an associated study guide, and each exam will be between 70-75 questions. The remaining two exams will be developed and released later in 2018.

For assistants or others looking to hone their mechanical intuition, GCSAA also has eight competency exams for equipment managers and covering: cutting units, drivetrain systems, electrical systems, engine technology, hydraulic systems, metalworking and fabrication, spray systems, and fundamentals of turfgrass operations. These certificates are currently available for any member or non-member, and can be found at gcsaa.org.



Chase Rogan

GCSAA Field Staff
Mid-Atlantic Representative
chaser@gcsaa.org
800-472-7878, ext. 3609

MAAGCS Awards \$6,000 in Scholarships

Every year, MAAGCS awards scholarships to deserving students. The MAAGCS Scholarship is awarded to an MAAGCS member interested in pursuing a degree or certificate in a turfgrass management program and is enrolled in at least one class in the turfgrass curriculum in that program. The MAAGCS Child of a Member Scholarship is awarded to the child of an MAAGCS member who is enrolled in a college or university.

MAAGCS Scholarships Winners:

Brady Scales, Andrew Thornton and Adam Narivanchik

Brady Scales is a maintenance operator and grounds-crewman working at the Blue and White Golf Courses at Penn State University. Upon graduation, Brady plans to find an assistant level position with the goal to move up the ranks and eventually become a head superintendent. Brady was awarded the *Stan Zontek Scholarship* for \$3,000.

Andrew Thornton is a groundskeeper at Sparrows Point Country Club in Baltimore,

where he has worked since 2014. Andrew is currently attending Ohio State University and is enrolled in their online program working towards a certificate in Golf Course Management. He plans to use his education to hone his craft and eventually manage his own property. Andrew was awarded a \$500 scholarship.

Adam Narivanchik is an Assistant-in-Training at Sparrows Point Country Club, where he began working in 2014. Adam is currently enrolled in the Penn State University World Campus Program seeking his Turfgrass Management certificate. He plans to continue progressing at Sparrows Point Country Club, while developing the interpersonal skills, knowledge and leadership to grow in the turf industry. Adam was awarded a \$500 scholarship.

MAAGCS Child of a Member Scholarship:

Clair Snyder and Allison Kennelly

Clair Snyder is the daughter of MAAGCS member Jeff Snyder of Helena Chemical. Clair is

currently attending James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA. She is majoring in geographic sciences with a concentration in environmental conservation and sustainability development and is also pursuing a minor in anthropology. Upon graduation Clair plans to obtain a career at either the EPA or another federal department, in which she will be able to analyze geographical data. Claire received a \$1,000 scholarship.

Allison Kennelly is the daughter of MAAGCS member Tim Kennelly of Baltimore Country Club. Allison completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Florida in May of 2017. She is currently pursuing a Masters Degree in Occupational Therapy at the University of Florida and expects to graduate in December, 2018. Upon graduation Allison plans to pursue a job in an acute care hospital setting to help people in their first stages of recovery after an injury or illness. She also plans to take specialized courses in order to become board certified in pediatrics. Allison received a \$1,000 scholarship.

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GCSAA Equipment Manager Certification

Looking to advance the careers of your equipment manager? The Turf Equipment Technician Certificate Program is now offered by the GCSAA to equipment managers. The series of exams designed to demonstrate proficiency in key competency areas related to turf equipment. This certificate program is available to any and all turf equipment technicians regardless of whether you work for a golf course.

The GCSAA is able to offer equipment managers continued education with more resources than seen before in similar associations. The exam content is evolving to become more practical working knowledge where psychometric and content specialists make passing grades unattainable by people who merely study the material. I sought certification as a rewarding way to prove my dedication to improving the equipment program the Montgomery County Revenue Authority (MCRA) strives to advance and the profession as a whole.

In 2017, MAAGCS members completed the certification program including Zachary Hill from Little Bennett Golf Course and Ben Webster from Laytonsville Golf Course.

Currently, the program is made up of eight exams covering the key competency areas of: cutting units, drivetrain systems, electrical systems, engine technology, hydraulic systems, metalworking and fabrication, spray systems and fundamentals of

turfgrass operations.

Following certification, I decided to seek status as an independent proctor to better accommodate my peers as there was only one location in the tri-state area (Turf Equipment and Supply). This way I could offer more flexibility and reassure colleagues that may be hesitant to schedule testing with a vendor. The MCRA has a private room at a central location that has allowed three other individuals to take their first exams and it is still an ongoing process on a growing venture. Finch Services has also recently become a proctor as well.

Through becoming a proctor and promoting Finch Services through the process, the GCSAA representatives became confident enough to offer me the opportunity to revise the existing study guides. Over six months I have gone through all of them and worked closely with former GCM editor, Bunny Smith, to rewrite any redundant or overextended information. Doing this has given me the incentive to apply for the equipment manager task force which I'll possibly be assigned to after the new board of directors are voted for at the Golf Industry Show.

At this stage, these three sources are your direct contact to help your equipment managers gain certification. We hope to see the program grow, and are excited to see MAAGCS members set the foundation for GCSAA membership.



Anthony Lewis
Hampshire Greens Golf Course
Silver Spring, MD



Zachary Hill



Ben Webster

MAAGCS / MAATEM Equipment Manager and Mechanic's Meeting

Wednesday, February 14th
10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Location:
TESCO Training Room
8015 Dorsey Run Road
Jessup, MD 20794

FREE

All equipment managers and technicians are encouraged to attend!

2018 Toro Product Updates: Mike Huey & Mark Dupcak

Educational Speaker: Jim Nedin, Jim Nedin Consulting

Toro ProCore 648 – Service, Diagnosis, Trouble-Shooting and Preventative Maintenance Tips.

We will have time for a Q & A session with Jim Nedin, Mike Huey and Chris Turner (Jessup Service Manager) after the education topics are completed.

RSVP to: mikehuey@turf-equipment.com so that we have a firm idea for the lunch count. Registration will be **limited to the first 50 people** to RSVP.

Lunch will be provided by Turf Equipment and Supply and served at 12:00.



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Golf Cart Services / E-Z-GO

Luck Ecosystems

Graden

Murray Sod

Getting to Know Mike Huey



Mike Huey
mikehuey@turf-equipment.com

MAAGCS Board of Directors

Penn State University

How did you get started in the golf industry?

I started as a summer laborer in high school working at my hometown course, Pocono Farms Country Club. While attending Penn State University's Two-Year Turfgrass Management Program, I interned at Baltimore Country Club with Doug Petersan and I was offered an assistant superintendent position at Cattail Creek Country Club with Kevin Pryseski shortly after graduation.

How long have you been at Turf Equipment and Supply Company and what do you enjoy most about your daily position?

I have been with Turf Equipment and Supply Company for nearly seven years as a Commercial Equipment Territory Manager for Golf. I most enjoy the variety of people and courses that I get to interact with on a daily basis while helping them solve problems and accomplish goals.

What excites you about joining the MAAGCS Board?

After hearing in detail at the annual meeting about the people and the truly amazing things that the Yellow Ribbon Fund does to support our wounded veterans, I am excited to continue to grow our support for this worthy cause.

What are some areas of growth that you see contributing to in the MAAGCS?

In my position with Turf Equipment and Supply Company, I work closely with many of the equipment managers in the area. Helping to grow their membership in the MAAGCS will help the association become stronger and more inclusive of all of the people who work in the industry.

What are you most looking forward to in the new year?

Spring ... I really don't like this cold weather.

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Letter from the Editor – Tyler Bloom

Have you hit the refresh button yet? The 2017 season is behind us and the optimism for a great 2018 golf season is staring right in front of us. I will not be attending GIS this year as we are expecting our first child in April, but I will be following along of all the latest happenings. When I mentioned San Antonio to Jayme (my wife), I realized that “staycation” would be a new term I will get to know well. Have an extra cocktail at the social hour on Wednesday, February 7th at Howl at the Moon for me!

There are a lot of new tools, tricks and products at our disposal. I’m not trying to drive a sales pitch here, but I thought I would share some tools we have incorporated or will be incorporating in 2018. I’d bet that most of our MAAGCS members are integrating some new form of technology into their operations in 2018 to improve member playability, operational efficiency or communication.

Digital job boards have really caught on, and we will be allowing our assistants to take ownership of this program in 2018. These new software programs can generate detailed budget reports for your club, and I highly recommend considering this avenue for 2018. Turf Cloud, ASB Tasktracker, OnGolf and others are some that come to mind.

How many of us have a systematic approach to course set up? EzPins, an economical approach to pin placements, is a software program that generates daily pin positions for staff and golfers. We see the value in eliminating placement errors or guesswork for staff that do not have a concept of golfer expectations. EzPins, generated by Playbooks for Golf, allows review of historical hole locations, adapts hole locations for wet/dry weather, includes a mobile app for golfers, and can generate 7 days of pins in under 15 minutes.

How are your staff training programs? Safety training can be implemented with various video programs such as McCord Golf Safety. Improving staff training manuals, written hazard communication programs, or asking your Pro Shop to provide “Get Golf Ready” lessons to your staff. PGA and LPGA Professionals will show you that there are lots of ways to play by combining fun, friends and fitness.

Each session will focus on the various golf skills you will use while playing. In addition to learning the basics, you will be guided onto the golf course to put your skills into action in a casual, friendly setting

Appreciation, a term widely used by Dean Graves, is something we all can incorporate in 2018. Dean was highlighted in the December issue of *Golf Course Industry*, and his message hit home. There are many ways to improve your golf course operations culture in 2018, but it starts with building a great team focused on the core values of your organization. I look forward to following on Twitter the latest agronomic advances and team training. We have plenty of innovators in our region.

Warm Regards,
Tyler Bloom



Tyler Bloom
Sparrows Point Country Club
@tbloom_SPCC
tbloom@sparrowspointcc.org

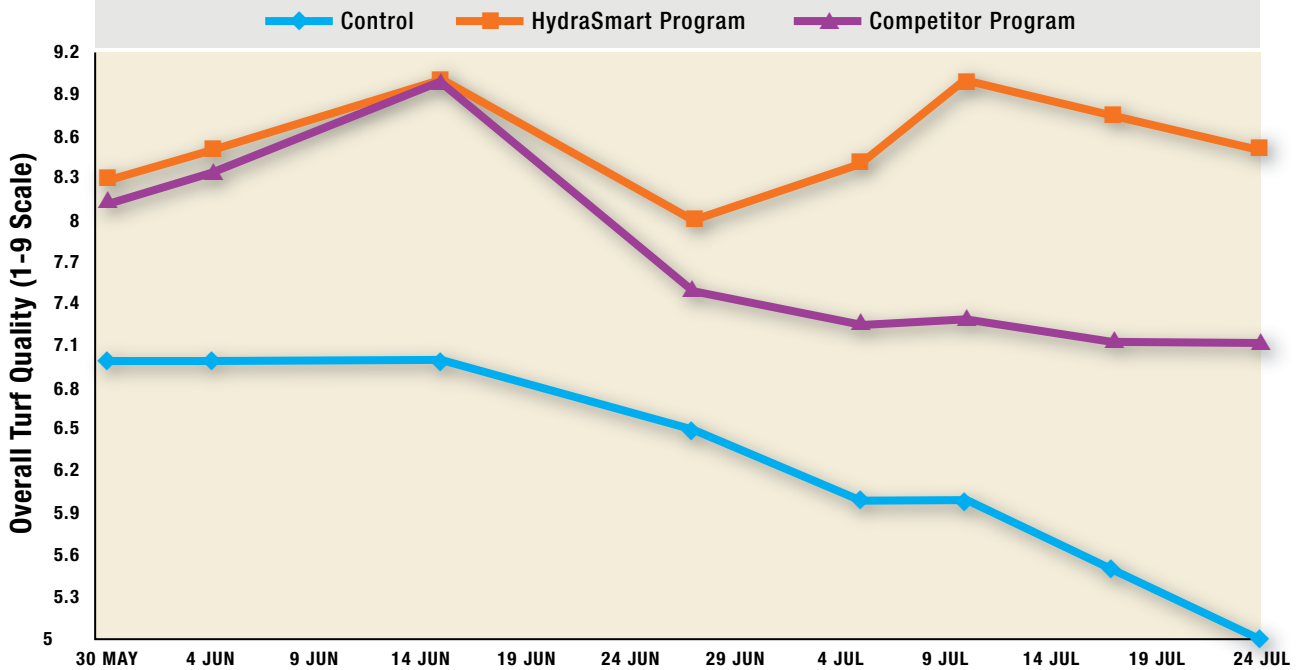


2017 MAAGCS Schedule of Events

- January 29-February 1:** M-A-T-E, Fredericksburg Expo Center, Fredericksburg, VA
- February 3-8:** Golf Industry Show, Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio, TX
- February 7th: Wednesday** – MAAGCS, VGCSA, ESAGCS Social Event at GIS, Howl at the Moon, San Antonio, TX
- February 14th: Wednesday** – MAAGCS/MAATEM Equipment Manager Meeting at TESCO, Jessup, MD
- February 21st: Wednesday** – MAAGCS Education Seminar, Ten Oaks Ballroom, Clarksville, MD
- March 6th: Tuesday** – Mid-Atlantic Regional Golf Conference, Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA
- March 15th: Thursday** – Superintendent/Assistant Challenge, Top Golf Loudoun, Ashburn, VA
- April 4th: Wednesday** – First Green Field Trip, Westminster National, Westminster, MD
- April 24th: Tuesday** – Community Service Project, National Mall, Washington D.C.
- April 25th: Wednesday** – National Golf Day, Capitol Hill, Washington D.C.
- May 29th: Tuesday** – Chesapeake Challenge, Queenstown Harbor Golf Club, Queenstown, MD
- June 13th: Wednesday** – O’s Hooky Day, Camden Yards, Baltimore, MD
- July 19th: Thursday** – The Open Championship Social Event, City Dock, Annapolis, MD
- August 6th: Monday** – The Stewards of the Chesapeake, Chevy Chase Club, Chevy Chase, MD

What does the research say?

CREEPING BENTGRASS PUTTING GREEN QUALITY AS IMPACTED BY FERTILIZER PROGRAM



Application Notes & Protocols:

Application Dates: 14 Day treatments; applied on 24 May, 4 and 22 June, 5 July and 17 July 2017 (Total 0.5 lb N / 1000 sq. ft. applied during trial)
Overall Quality: Quality was assessed on a 1-9 scale where 7= minimal acceptable level for putting green turf and 9= optimal quality and density.
Trial Set-Up: Before applications, putting green would be considered extremely lean as it had not received any fertility since early autumn of 2016. One of the goals was to put these treatments under stress.

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