



# TURFGRASS MATTERS

Winter 2014

## The Grass Roots Initiative

A great new project is taking shape down at the National Arboretum in Washington DC. The National Turfgrass Federation and U.S. National Arboretum, operated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Research Service, have collaborated in the development of the new public exhibit to highlight modern uses of turfgrass. On November 15<sup>th</sup> 2013, a groundbreaking ceremony was held with a number of MAAGCS members present. The Grass Roots Exhibit is the centerpiece of a four-year

initiative that focuses on the environmental, economic, aesthetic and recreational benefits of turfgrass in landscapes, golf courses and athletic fields. More info can be found here: <http://www.usna.usda.gov/Education/turfgrass.html>

The MAAGCS along with many other associations have a vested interest in supporting this initiative. Being able to communicate the benefits of turfgrass to the general public will always be important for our industry. The Board of the MAAGCS has offered to

help in the construction and on-going maintenance of the exhibit. Currently we are working with program coordinator Geoff Rinehart in order to hold a chapter event there in the spring as well as another publically attended chapter event in late summer after the exhibit officially opens. It is important that we all stay involved with this initiative and help support the Arboretum’s “commitment to helping citizens, including national decision-makers, understand new and emerging science underlying our nation’s beautiful lawns, athletic fields

and gardens.” You can follow the progress of the exhibit on Facebook and Twitter.

[www.facebook.com/NTFGrassRootsInitiative](http://www.facebook.com/NTFGrassRootsInitiative) and Twitter @Grass\_Roots\_NTF



Below: MAAGCS representing at the Arboretum along with Chase Rogan, Dr. Frank Rossi, and others

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## Presidents Report

It's hard to believe 2014 has arrived; time really flies as you get older. Our 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was held at Argyle Country Club on December 9<sup>th</sup> and it was great to have such a large turnout. The meeting included a special dinner for Past Presidents of our association and I enjoyed spending time with them and hearing

**“Members of the Mid Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents are the hardest working, best educated, and most knowledgeable Superintendents”**

some great stories from the past. I am honored to join such a prestigious list of Superintendents who have dedicated so much time to our industry and profession.

Chase Rogan, GCSAA Mid-Atlantic Field Representative gave a presentation on the benefits of GCSAA membership and discussed the direction of the national association. The GCSAA is a very

powerful organization and offers tremendous member support. Chase is available for any questions you may have regarding your membership, Certification, agronomics, continuing education or any other golf related topics.

The election for the MAAGCS Board of Directors was also conducted during the annual meeting. I would like to congratulate Ryan Kraushofer, Galen Evans and Mike Bostian for their appointments to the Board of Directors and I would also like to congratulate Jay Nalls on his reelection and appointment for a two-year term. The 2014 MAAGCS Board of Directors can be found on page five.

A short history about Mike Barrett. I got my start in the golf business in 1988 at a small 9-hole facility in Reisterstown, MD called Tom Mitchell's Golf Gridiron. In 1993, I graduated from The University of Baltimore with a B.S. in Business Administration and I learned, my heart wasn't in the business world, it belonged to golf. I enrolled

at the University of Maryland, Institute of Applied Agriculture where I studied Turfgrass/Golf Course Management and graduated in December of 1995. During my IAA college years, I worked at Cattail Creek Country Club and Green Spring Valley Hunt Club before landing an Assistant job at Argyle Country Club in 1996. I was promoted to Golf Course Superintendent in 1997 and became a Certified Golf Course Superintendent on October 25, 2005. In 2011, I was promoted to Club Administrator/Golf Course Superintendent and I am thoroughly enjoying overseeing the entire operation.

I believe that the members of the Mid Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents are the hardest working, best educated, and most knowledgeable Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and vendors in the country. We manage turf and other plants in some of the toughest growing conditions around. I am looking forward to representing our Association and spreading

this message.

The Board of Directors is working hard to provide great value for your membership and implementing programs and services that enhance our profession. If you have any suggestions or comments on how we can improve, please let us know.

Looking forward to a great 2014,

Mike Barrett, CGCS  
MAAGCS President



Mike Barrett  
MAAGCS President

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## Upcoming Events

**2014 Education Seminar  
Ten Oaks Ballroom, 5000 Signal Lane  
Clarksville, MD 21029  
Wednesday February 25th, 2014**

### Certification for Pesticide and Fertilizer Requirements

#### Title Sponsor:



- 7:00am to 7:45am REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST
- 7:45am to 8:00am Opening Remarks, Mr. Galen Evans, MAAGCS Education Director, Mr. Mike Barrett, CGCS, MAAGCS President, and Mr. Lance Ernst, Turf Equipment & Supply Co., Inc.
- 8:45 am to 9:45 am Dr. Beth Guertal, “Phosphorus Fertilization for Turfgrass & Protected Water Quality”
- 9:45 am to 10:15 am Morning Break
- 10:15 am to 11:15 am Dr. Shawn Askew, “Research on PoaCure and Pylex”
- 11:15 am to 12:15 am Dr. Kevin Mathias “Update and audience participation on ABW”
- 12:15 pm to 1:15 pm Lunch
- 1:15 pm to 2:15 pm Bill Brown “New Technology to Assist GCM Operations”
- 2:15 pm to 2:45 pm Ice Cream Break
- 2:45 pm to 3:45 pm Kurt and Eric Whittman “Solving Stubborn Landscape Areas with Proper IPM and Plant Decisions”
- 3:45 pm to 5:00 pm Pesticide Recertification Application (Followed by Beer and Wine Social)

**Cost: \$110.00 for MEMBERS (PRE-REGISTERED) \$130.00 NON-MEMEBERS.**

Go to [www.maagcs.org](http://www.maagcs.org) to register

**Registration Deadline: February 18th**

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## Website News

Check out the new and improved website. Many of you know that Chris Harriman spent a lot of time last year improving the MAAGCS website. With the new website comes a lot of new fea-

tures. Including online invoices, bill paying, and event registration. Since the 1st of the year we have added a used equipment form for anyone looking to sell or trade turf equipment. We have also added

a job board where all the current job listings will be posted.

We are currently looking to add a page for superintendents blogs or monthly newsletters. If you have

your blog or newsletter posted online can you please send us your link so we can get this new page up and running.

## Steps for viewing and paying your online invoices

Step 1. Go to [www.maagcs.org](http://www.maagcs.org)



Step 2. Log in with your username and password if you don't know your password click on "forgot password" and a new password will be emailed to you.

Step 3. Click on view profile this will show up under your name once you have logged in.

Send us a link to your online blog or newsletter  
[Westminsternationalgc@yahoo.com](mailto:Westminsternationalgc@yahoo.com)

## Website Continued

Once you have clicked view profile the screen below will appear. From this screen you can edit your profile and view any past invoices and pay any current ones

The image consists of two screenshots of a web browser displaying the GCSAA website. The top screenshot shows the 'My profile' page with a 'Membership details' section. A blue arrow points to the 'My directory profile' link, and a red arrow points to the 'Invoices and payments' link. The bottom screenshot shows the 'My profile' page with a yellow box indicating a balance due of \$45.00. Below this, a table lists a transaction on 05 Dec 2013 for an invoice of \$45.00.

**Membership details**

Membership level	<b>Class A Superintendent - \$165.00 (USD)</b> Subscription period: 1 year, on: January 1st No recurring payments
Membership status	<b>Active</b>
Member since	10 Mar 2013
Renewal due on	01 Jan 2015

Renew until 01 Jan 2016

User ID: 9451262  
First name: Ryan  
Last name: Kraushofer

**Balance due: \$0.00**

Balance due (1 items): \$45.00  
This is your invoice!  
Please remit payment to:  
MAAGCS  
PO Box 121  
Bluefield, VA 24606  
Pay online

Date	Transaction	Balance due
05 Dec 2013	Invoice #00481 Event registration MAAGCS Annual Meeting, 85th Anniversary and Elections	\$45.00

Step 4. Click on Invoices and statements

Step 5. If you have any outstanding invoices this yellow box will appear with your current outstanding balance

Step 6. Click Pay Online and another screen will appear for you to enter your credit card information into. You will then be emailed a receipt.

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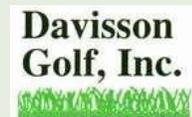


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## Government Relations Up Date

This spring promises to be a busy season for government relations. First on our list is to address the potential of a pesticide ban for Montgomery County, Md. This movement has been brought forward by Paul Tukey, the "Chief Sustainability Officer" for Glenstone in Potomac, MD. Paul Tukey is the founder of SafeLaws, a coalition to teach organic methods of lawn care and grounds maintenance. This movement is appealing to several members of the County Council. Currently there is no new movement on this potential ban, however we expect to see something come our way in April of 2014. We are working with MAGI to lend our support to the lawn and landscape community. Please see the links listed below for information on the environmental benefit of golf courses. For golf course superintendents in Montgomery County MD, we will be calling for your help in educating custom-

ers and members to these benefits that our industry provides.

We are also working with Mark Schlossberg from MAGI on Maryland Senate Bill 70, a bill regulating the labeling and restrictions on use and sale for fertilizers. We have several industry suppliers looking at this bill to make sure it is supportive of the Fertilizer Use Act without causing additional restrictions which will limit our ability to care for our courses.

We are sure to see another attempt for a pesticide reporting bill from the Maryland Pesticide Network and their executive director Ruth Berlin. We will again work hand in hand with MAGI and other industries to speak out against the need for this bill. We have proven that we are able to work together with the State of Maryland to protect our environment without the unnecessary complications of a burdensome reporting act.

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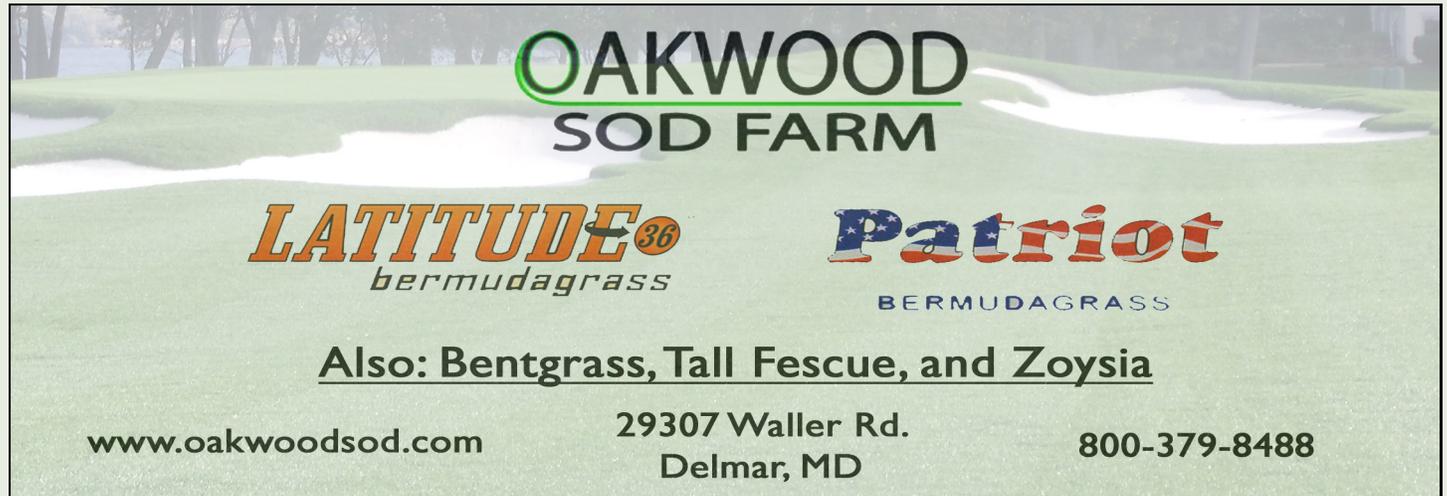
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7:00—10:00pm

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## 2013 Annual Meeting Minutes

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December 9, 2013

### Argyle Country Club

Present:

Mr. Scott Wunder, Past President

Mr. Jon Lobenstine, President

Mr. Mike Barrett CGCS, Vice President

Mr. Teddy Blauvelt, Secretary/  
Treasurer

Mrs. Theresa Baria, Chapter Executive

Mr. Chris Harriman, Newsletter/  
Media/Public Relations Chairman

Mr. Mark Jewell, Membership  
Chairman

Mr. Brandon Collins, Golf Chairman

Mr. Ryland Chapman, IAC Representative

Not Present:

Mr. Steven Walls, Assistant Superintendent Liaison

Mr. Stephen Britton, Education

Mr. Jay Nalls, Government Relations

Mr. Jon Lobenstine, President - called the MAAGCS Annual meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. Mr. Lobenstine requests amendments/additions to the agenda. There were none.

Mr. Lobenstine calls for Golf Chairman, Brandon Collins to present golf awards:

Mr. Collins presents the following awards:

Affiliate Division:

Low net, the Tom Walsh Award to Tod Cowing.

Low Gross, The Dr. Peter Dernoden Award to Brent Ruark.

Superintendent Division:

Low Gross Champion, the Rick Wakefield Award to Doug Hall

Low Net Champion, the Mike Larson Award to Ed Gasper.

Mr. Lobenstine continues. Last year's meeting minutes have been made available in the December 2012 newsletter and have also been e-mailed to every member in November. There are no unapproved minutes, or unfinished business. Mr. Scott Wunder makes a motion to approve the 2012 Annual Meeting minutes. Mr. Matt Burton seconds the motion and the minutes are unanimously approved with no objections.

### Officer's Reports:

President Mr. Jon Lobenstine then introduces the head table with Board members present and their titles. He continues with the reading of his report noting that there were many things in which he was proud to contribute. Mr. Lobenstine refers to the retirement of Dr. Pete Dernoden and his wonderful retirement party. He includes that the family picnic was a great success, and that National golf day was represented well by himself and others. He closes by announcing that the Stewards of the Chesapeake tournament has surpassed \$125,000 in fundraisers.

Vice President Mr. Mike Barrett, CGCS reports that he was proud to work with MR. Branden Collins on finding locations for golf venues, as well as assist ay the board in any challenges they faced throughout the year. He too referenced National Golf Day and its success.

Secretary Treasurer Mr. Teddy Blauvelt reminds that all responsibilities and duties of the board and committees are outlined in the directory/handbook. He continues that his responsibilities included the recording of each meetings minutes and budget management. This includes the signing of checks, and the recording of receipts and expenditures.

Past President Mr. Scott Wunder reports that he was the leader in researching and promoting the Rounds for Research effort. He continued by asking for continued participation and thanked all those who participated this past year.

### Directors Reports:

**Government Relations:** Mr. Jay Nalls was absent so Mr. Teddy Blauvelt read his report. Mr. Nalls reports that government relations once again had a great year in helping superintendents with the fertilizer certification process, educating them on the new fertilizer laws and supporting the industry against a possible fertilizer ban in Montgomery County. He also was able to testify against the pesticide reporting bill.

**Education:** Mr. Stephen Britton, CGCS was absent so Mr. Steve Evans reported for him. Mr. Evens referred to the Annual Education sem-

inar. He included that the list of speakers has been finalized, and pesticide and fertilizer certification would be provided. He asked all to mark their calendars for February 26<sup>th</sup> the day of the event.

**Golf Committee:** Mr. Brandon Collins reports that each golf event was a great success this year. He was proud to take the lead and serve the board and membership for these events. He adds that we should continue to thank our vendors as if it were not for them the events would not be possible.

**Newsletter/Media/Public Relations:** Mr. Chris Harriman reports that he directly responsible for the creation and forming of 4 newsletters throughout the year. He adds the he has done much work on the MAAGCS website and that it continues to grow and be interactive for the membership.

**Membership Services:** Mr. Mark Jewell reports that the couples cruise and family picnic were 2 events that he took the lead on putting together and was proud of their success. He closes by adding that he hopes the position will continue to generate new and successful events.

**IAC Report:** Mr. Ryland Chapman reports that he had a lot of interaction with the assistant membership this year. He continued by referencing the new and revamped questionnaire that he created for the membership and felt it was a success. He included that most importantly he was responsible for communication between the board and the IAC.

**Assistant Superintendent Advisor:** Mr. Steven Walls was absent.

#### **New Business:**

Mr. Jon Lobenstine appointments Mr. Kirk Warburton to be the new assistant superintendent liaison. This position is to be held for one year.

#### **Presentation of the Scholarships:**

Mr. Teddy Blauvelt presents scholarships to Mr. Eric David (Penn State), Mr. Brian Hogan (UMD, IAA), and Mr. Matt Park (UMD, IAA), the recipient of the Stan Zontac Scholarship awarded for a student who truly stands above and beyond excellence.

#### **GCSAA Business:**

Mr. Jon Lobenstine introduces voting delegate Mr. Matt Burton to report on GCSAA business and state who MAAGCS will be voting for at the national elections.

Mr. Matt Burton thanked Jon Lobenstine and the rest of the board for asking him to represent the association at the meeting. This year's meeting was held in Lawrence, Kansas and was on a Tuesday - Thursday schedule as opposed to years past when it was held in Kansas City and over a Friday - Sunday. The theme of this year's meeting was looking to the future and what a superintendents role will be in 5-10 years down the road.

The association continues to identify trends and implement programs as golf continues to contract in the US but grows internationally.

Revenues are stable and have been for 3 years.

The association continues to be the leader in education, especially in Asia.

The association has developed a mobile application that is available for free download.

Field staff implementation has been completed.

Rounds 4 Research generated \$175,000 in bids in 2013. The program will continue in 2014.

The association hopes to generate member engagement at the committee level as it has been difficult to find people who are interested to serve. There will be new task groups that are formed this year that will ask for volunteers as well as appointments.

Discussion was started on member classification and standards and the consensus was to simplify and enhance class A. Further action will be taken on this issue at the committee level and at future delegates meetings.

#### **2014 GCSAA candidates for office**

President: Keith Ihms, CGCS; running unopposed

Vice President: John O'Keefe, CGCS; running unopposed

Secretary/Treasurer: Peter Grass, CGCS; Bill Maynard, CGCS; MAAGCS will vote for Peter Grass. Peter Grass has one year left in his position on the board of directors. If Bill Maynard loses the election he will likely be nominated to fill that position. If Peter Grass loses the election he will remain on the board.

Continued on Page 14

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Board of Directors: Rafael Barajas, CGCS; Mark Jordan, CGCS; John Walker; 2 open positions and MAA-GCS will vote for Rafael Barajas and Mark Jordan.

### **Election of Officers:**

Mr. Lobenstine calls for Mr. Scott Wunder the nomination committee chairman.

Mr. Wunder states the Mr. Mike Barrett is running for the position of president, he then asks for nominations from the floor. None voiced. All in favor and none opposed. He then declares Mr Mike Barrett is the new President.

Mr. Wunder announces that Mr. Teddy Blauvelt is running for the position of vice president, he then asks for nominations from the floor.

None are voiced. All were in favor and none opposed. He then declares Mr. Teddy Blauvelt as Vice President.

Mr. Wunder announces that Mr. Chris Harriman is running for the position of Secretary/Treasurer, he then asks for nominations from the floor. None are voiced. All were in favor and none opposed. He then declares Mr. Chris Harriman as Secretary/Treasurer

### **Election of Directors:**

Mr. Wunder states that current directors running for the board are Jay Nalls and Brandon Collins, and the new members running are Galen Evans, Ryan Kraushofer and Mike Bostian. He states that there are five positions available.

He asks for nominations from the floor and none are voiced. All who are running have been selected with Mr. Jay Nalls receiving a 2 year term.

### **IAC Elections:**

IAC Chairman Mr. Ryland Chapman then comes forward to elect IAC alternate. He announces that that Sam Camuso, Andrew Harrison, Mike Hutchison, Paul Schultheis and Ted Huhn. He announces there is only the one position for the five running. Mr. Sam Camuso is announced to be the 2014 IAC representative alternate.

Mr. Scott Wunder then asks for a motion to destroy the ballots, Mr. Mark Jewell makes a motion, Mr. Teddy Blauvelt seconds and all were in favor.

### **Presidents Address:**

Mr. Lobenstine thanks Mr. Ryland Chapman, Mr. Stephen Britton, and Mr. Mark Jewell for their service on the board, He continues by thanking those now and continue serving on the board.

Mr. Lobenstine at this time recognizes Mr. Steve Evans for all his dedicated help over the years with MAAGCS and presents him with an exemplary service award and plaque to show MAAGCS appreciation.

Mr. Lobenstine at this time recognizes Mr. Mike Larsen for his long time dedication and honor to MAAGCS. Mr. Lobenstine presents Mr. Larsen with an honorary membership award and plaque to show MAAGCS appreciation.

Mr. Jon Lobenstine then thanks Mr. Scott Wunder, outgoing past president, as it is time to say goodbye for his service on the board.

After a brief speech Mr. Lobenstine presents Mr. Wunder with an award for his service on the board.

Mr. Lobenstine then says a few words about his experience as President and thanks all sponsors, especially the Chip McDonald and his family for their dedication to the membership.

Newly elected Mike Barrett speaks on the bright future of the MAAGCS and presents a plaque/gavel to Mr. Jon Lobenstine.

Mr. Mike Barrett President, thanks everyone for their attendance and adjourns the meeting at 3:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Teddy Blauvelt, Secretary/Treasurer

MAAGCS

2013 Scholarship Winners with



Board

Left to Right: Jon Lobenstine, Matt Park, Teddy Blauvelt, Brian Hogan, & Eric David



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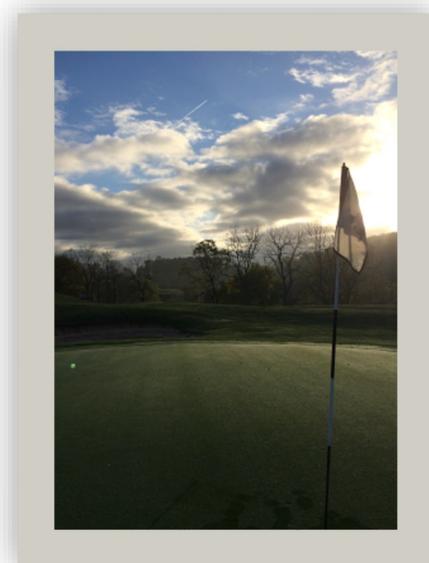
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