



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



Published by

Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents to aid in the Advancement of the Golf Course Superintendent through Education and Merit

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July
AUGUST 1956
MANOR MEETING

The June meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents was held at Manor Country Club on Tuesday, June 5, 1956. The day was perfect and some seventy-eight superintendents and guests turned out for the occasion.

At the opening of the meeting, President Scott informed us of the recent death of Mr. John Davis, a National Capitol Parks employee. Mr. Davis was a regular member of the Mid-Atlantic Association for a number of years. In his memory, a brief prayer and period of silence was led by Reuben Hines, Sr.

We enjoyed one of Manor's fine dinners, roast beef and trimmings. After this, our host superintendents Ernest Parsley introduced his Greens Committee Chairman, Mr. Louis Fuchs, who extended to us the greetings of the Manor Country Club.

Among guests present were: Mr. Charles Halloway, Mid-Atlantic Director of the United States Golf Association Green Section; Mr. Frank H. Cronin, Golf Director of the University of Maryland; Mr. Al Goch, White Flint Golf Club; and Mr. Frank Poe, Maryland Capitol Parks Commission.

Also, the following Green Committee Chairman were present: Mr. Martin McCarthy, Columbia Country Club; Greens Chairman from Ft. Belvoir, Va., Mr. Allen Poe, Bethesda Country Club; Captain F.M. Johnston, Andrews Air Force Base Golf Club; Mr. Eddie Ault, Indian Springs Golf Club, and Admiral John S. Phillips, Army-Navy Country Club. We welcome these gentlemen and hope that they can be with us often.

BUSINESS MEETING

The report of John Connolly, our Secretary-Treasurer was accepted and approved as read.

Bob Shields, Chairman of the Executive Committee had the following to report:- that in the future it was planned to sell tickets in advance for the dinner, so as to avoid confusion and delay after being seated. He also announced that several members were still delinquent in the payment of their 1956 dues. The Association's by-laws require dues to be paid by the first of May. After that date, those in arrears must be dropped from the membership lists.

Membership Committee Chairman, Jimmy Thomas received the following applications for Associate membership: Captain F.M. Johnston, Andrews Air Force Base Golf Club; Robert L. Hopkins, Martinsburg Golf and Country Club, Martinsburg, West Virginia; Ford E. Strawser, Westbriar Country Club, Vienna, Virginia; John P. Hewitt, Sligo and Glenbrook Golf Clubs, Silver Spring, Maryland; Jack Harper, Lawn Grass Development Company, Vienna, Va.; Frank H. Cronin, University of Maryland, College Park, Md., These applications will be referred to the Executive Committee for final approval.

There was a motion made, seconded and passed that the 1957 dues of the Association be raised to ten dollars. This motion carried without a dissenting vote. The principal purpose of the increase is to provide working capital for the 1956 National Turfgrass Conference and Show to be held at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington.

Vice-President Thomas C. Dawson, Jr. was married on Saturday, June second to Miss Patricia Claud. The wedding was held at Drewryville, Va, the home of the bride. We extend to Mr. and Mrs. Dawson our congratulations and best wishes and are looking forward to meeting another Tiny Tim.

CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION REPORT
CHARLES HALLOWELL, MODERATOR

Manor Country Club is a twenty-seven hole layout, however this report is confined to the regular eighteen. We assume that the same will hold good for the third nine.

Ernest Parsley gave us the following information concerning Manor's spring top-dressing and fertilization program. All greens were fertilized on the fifteenth of March, April and May. The first application was a 6-12-4 at the rate of fifteen pounds per one thousand square feet. The second was a 12-6-2 at five pounds per one thousand. The third was Uramite at fifteen pounds per thousand.

His top-dressing was prepared as follows; five parts of woods soil, three parts of sharp sand and two parts of peat moss.

All greens were aerified once in April, and this was followed by a light vertical mowing. The recovery of the greens from last year's damage has been very good. This is due to the good management of Ernest Parsley.

There is one striking lesson and example to be learned from the Manor Golf Course; that is the value of sunlight and air circulation towards good growing conditions. Manor's front nine is heavily wooded and does not receive the full benefit of a day's sunlight and as a result the greens' turf is thin in some places and dries slowly after an application of moisture.

It is also very susceptible to disease due to poor air drainage and circulation. Algae can easily form on account of the soil remaining damp too long. Extreme care should be exercised in water management on the front nine.

A program of tree thinning on this side might be advisable so as to remedy existing conditions. This should be done under the guidance of a forester, thus the better trees could be saved and utilized to the best advantage.

Thinning would also ease the fairway fall leaf removal problem, would improve the beauty of the trees, speed up play and cut down on lost balls.

The second nine is out in the open and one immediately notices the difference in the quality of the turf. It has more body and texture, the sod is firmer and better drained. This side of the course probably gives very little trouble, while the wooded areas would tax a superintendent's skill to the utmost.

ECHOES FROM BELTSVILLE

There is an old saying which goes something like this " Coming events cast their shadows before them."

We have it on good authority that on August 14th there will be a revival of the Turf Field Day at Beltsville, Maryland. Dr. Felix Juska of the Department of Agriculture is anxious to see a renewal of interest in the turf experiments at the Plant Industry Station.

The Doctor has taken quite an interest in the plots and his work there is beginning to show the results of his efforts. His many bermuda plots are outstanding in appearance and quality. Also, the different plantings of commercial lawn grass mixtures Jack Harper set out are interesting and tell us a story of what the home owner plants when he builds a lawn.

To be seen in addition to this will be the work of Dr. Warren Shaw on weed control. Some of the new developments in this field are outstanding and are worth watching.

It is through the good offices of Charles K. Hallowell, Mid-Atlantic Director of the USGA Green Section, that his event has been reborn. He suggests that our own Association sponsor or cooperate with Dr. Juska in staging the affair. The proposed date is Tuesday August 14th. More details later:

FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE

TO MEMBERS SEEKING EMPLOYMENT:

We have been asked to help locate superintendents for the following jobs:

The University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland is in the process of building an 18 hole golf course. They have an opening for a superintendent Applicants can write to:

Dr. Ernest N. Cory
Department of Entomology
University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland

(Following is an excerpt of a letter to this editor from Dr. Cory)

" I plan to write a letter to the Director of Athletics, W.W. Cobey, about the necessity for getting a golf course superintendent for the new golf course at the University of Maryland. There has been some talk of employing a consultant and getting a laborer who has had some golf course maintenance experience, but I am sure that this is the wrong approach. If we can get a competent golf course superintendent at this time when the character of the course is being formed, I am confident that it would save us thousands of dollars later and give us a much better course. Therefore, I am writing to you and sending a copy to Bob Scott, Jr. and to Jimmy Thomas in the hope that you can nominate someone that will be the right person for this new course. "

Ernest N. Cory

A new course to be known as Cherokee Town and Country Club will start construction on an 18-hole championship course just north of Atlanta, Ga. This course will possibly be expanded to 27 holes and is being built by

golf course architect, David Gill, 202 W. Main St., St. Charles, Ill.
Duplicate applications to go to: Mr. Jack Frazer
3224 N. Peachtree
Atlanta, Georgia.

An established course in Atlanta, Ga is also looking for a competent superintendent who understands the bermuda-rye grass situation in Atlanta. The Peachtree Golf Club wants a top man who can handle the job. Housing is furnished. Make application to: Dr. Green D. Warren, President
Peachtree Golf Club
4600 Peachtree Rd., N.E.
Atlanta, 19, Ga.

It is suggested that those interested in obtaining the above employment opportunities be consistent with the pay scale applicable to the areas.

We would appreciate hearing of your response to these inquiries. Please mention that these employment opportunities were referred to you by Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Agar M. Brown, Secretary

NEXT MEETING

For the July meeting, we return again to the Fort George G. Meade Golf Course which we last visited August 3, 1954.

It is not the general policy of the Association to hold meetings at a course as close together as two years, but this time it was necessary for many reasons.

The Executive Committee was approached last year by Mr. Wm. Oberndorff of the Cornell Chemical Co. with the proposal that a Dow-Fume MC-2 demonstration be put on for the group at one of our meetings. He suggested a course that had bermuda grass to kill and be located near Baltimore if possible, so that he could do the necessary preliminary work with a minimum of travel

(5)

for him and his company. Ft. Meade filled the bill, so Sgt. Slack the superintendent, and Mr. W.J. Houghton, golf officer, were contacted, and they most graciously agreed to have us.

Cornell Chemical Co. has been busy the last couple of weeks and is prepared to show you how to apply MC-2 and also the results of ^{an} application.

On hand from the Dow Chemical Co., makers of Dow-Fume, will be Dr. Henry Gray, Mr. Harry Locke, Dr. Mark Wilse and Mr. James Haring. Representing Cornell Chemical Co. will be Dr. E.J. Gerberg, Dr. J.R. Haun, Mr. C.S. Case, Mr. Wm. Oberndorff and Mr. John Milan. These men are experts on Dow-Fume and are prepared to answer your questions or help in any way.

NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, JULY 10, 1956

Ft. George G. Meade Golf Club
Fort Meade, Maryland

Host Superintendent- Sgt. Fred M. Slack

GOLF - 12 noon

SOCIAL HOUR - 5- 6:30

DINNER - about 6:30

MEETING - following dinner

KNOW YOUR HOST

For the "Know your Host" feature, we refer you to your August 1954 "NEWSLETTER"

SPECIAL NOTICE

The Officers' Club at Ft. Meade has a rule that ties must be worn. Don't embarrass the club officials and don't embarrass yourself by failing to observe the "ground rule". Wear a tie.

DIRECTIONS

Ft. Meade is located near Laurel, Md. just halfway between Washington and Baltimore on U.S. 1 Follow the signs from Laurel to Ft. Meade then look for Mapes Rd. The golf course is on Mapes Rd.

TRANSPORTATION

George Cornell is the man to call in the Washington area for a ride to Ft. Meade or from Baltimore, Jack Witcher of Baltimore Toro Co. Witcher knows the way now.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

At the Committee meeting held June 12 at Beltsville, subjects of vital interest to the association were discussed. One was the matter of delinquent membership dues which pops up every year about this time. The Secretary was instructed to write letters to regular members who are delinquent explaining the penalty for non-payment of dues, then after 30 days drop their names from the rolls.

The Committee would like to go on record as having asked you to use discretion in bringing guests to meetings. It was not the wish of the Committee that outsiders not be asked to sit in on our meetings - we wish we could have more - but to try to keep to a minimum those guests who attend just to play golf. The reason for caution at this time is that the Association is getting so large that perhaps we won't be invited to some of the smaller clubs at some time in the future. Even the larger clubs won't want to turn their golf courses over to us if we are going to crowd them to the point where we interfere with the play of their members.

The use of any course by us is a privilege extended by the club to golf course superintendents in return for suggestions on how the club might improve its playing facilities. Let's not abuse the privilege.

TIPS AND SHORT CUTS

When building, keep in mind the machine that will maintain the area - then build to suit the machine as well as the play.

Make plans now for planting a nursery this fall. Locate it near the shop in full sun and near a water outlet. If you have a nursery now, how long has it been since you rebuilt it? Rebuild and replant stolon nurseries every other year.

When sand is stock piled for adding to sand traps, have the trucks dump it on your compost pile. This way you don't have to be so careful about clean-up since what's left will be worked into top dressing.