



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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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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(There was no NEWLETTER in February)

1956 BALTIMORE TURFGRASS CONFERENCE

The highlight of the 1956 Baltimore Turfgrass Conference, held at the Lord Baltimore Hotel on January 17 and 18, was the presentation to Conference Director Dr. Ernest N. Cory of a sterling silver service set in appreciation of the work he has done for the Association during the past twenty years.

The gift was presented on behalf of the Mid-Atlantic membership by Bob Scott, Sr. who spoke of the many fine things Dr. Cory has done for the superintendent and how much he has helped by conducting the Conference each year. Bob stressed the point that this work had been done with no thought of personal gain or acclaim, but only because Dr. Cory saw a way in which he could be of assistance- then did something about it.

Upon accepting this token of our appreciation and respect, Dr. Cory said he had never known a more sincere group - sincere in their work and sincere in their personal relationships. He said he had received the greatest pleasure in holding the short course for such people. He expressed his appreciation on behalf of Mrs. Cory and himself.

The occasion was brought about by the announcement by Dr. Cory that he was retiring from the University of Maryland next summer and would no longer be able to work with this group.

We wish him success and happiness in whatever he undertakes, whether it be bugs or orchids and invite him to attend any of our meetings. We know we are better superintendents and better men by having had the privilege of associating with such a man as Dr. Ernest N. Cory - THANK YOU, SIR !

1956 TURFGRASS CONFERENCE

There is no doubt about it - this Conference was a complete success. 117 people signed their names at the registration desk making this the best attended meeting ever held. Attendance was greatly helped by our good friends from our fellow organization to the north - The Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents. A fine representation headed by Paul Weiss, Marshal Farnham, Eb. Steineger and Tom Mascaro made the trip down from Pennsylvania and appeared on the speakers' program. Other present from Philadelphia were: Riley Heckert, G.J. Renn, Frank Shuman, Eddie Tabor, Charlie Wilfong and Joe Kownouski.

From the south came Mike Bonevita, President of the recently formed Tidewater Association of Golf Course Superintendents, Norfolk, Va. Our Vice-President, Tom Dawson, Jim Reynolds, Harry Allanson, Jack Amidon, Bill Leverton and Joe Cockrell came up from Richmond. The Mid-Atlantic member who traveled the greatest distance to attend and whom we see only about twice a year was present. He is Stanley Zontec from Oak Hill, West Virginia.

It was like old times having present so many representatives and former representatives from the USGA Green Section. On hand were Chas. K. Hallowell, Director of the Mid-Atlantic Area and Al Radco from the Northeastern section. To make it a real reunion there was Charlie Wilson, who for a number of years worked out of the USGA Beltsville office, then went to California as Director of the Western office. At present he is with the Milwaukee Sewage Commission, the makers of Milorganite, as an assistant agronomist to Dr. O.J. Noer. Another well-known personality who took part in the program was Dr. Fred V. Grau, the man who was Director of the Green Section before the job was divided into regional offices. At present he is with the West Point Products Co. as agronomist helping Tom Mascaro with his aerifiers. Bob Elder, another former USGA Beltsville man was in the audience, having come over from Washington where he is golf course superintendent and busy builder of the new Indian Spring Country Club. All these men, with the exception of Charlie Hallowell, worked together at one time at the USGA Beltsville office where members of this association were in close contact with them resulting in first name acquaintanceships. It was most gratifying to see them all together again.

Another gratifying thing about this Conference was the fact that a total of eight of our fellow superintendents took part in the program and talked to the group from the speakers' platform. By these men giving us their first hand actual experience and the scientific fellows giving us the academic theory, we are certain to learn more about this subject of growing grass.

Mid-Atlantic superintendents who appeared on the program were : John Leavell, Carroll Hitchcock and Tom Dawson. This was the first time these men had spoken before a group, but they did excellent work and one of them, Tom Dawson, appeared on the National program in Long Beach.

Editor's note: His talk appears later in this " NEWSLETTER ".

NEW SUPERINTENDENT IN AREA.

A new man in the Mid-Atlantic area is Frank Dunlap who has taken the Superintendent's job at Baltimore Country Club.

Frank is new to the Mid-Atlantic area but he is not new to Mid-Atlantic members who have attended National meetings. He is always heard at these meetings especially on matters concerning the prestige and advancement of the superintendent and has written articles on the subject for both the REPORTER and GOLFDOM.

Cleveland, Ohio is his home town. He was born there and started in golf work as a construction foreman at the Kirkland Country Club, then remained on as superintendent. Three years later he moved over and built the Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Cleveland and remained there as superintendent until 1933. At that time he became associated with the Worthington Mower Company as factory representative and covered Illinois, Kansas and Missouri. In 1946 he went to the Country Club of Cleveland as superintendent where he set standards of maintenance

that earned that club the reputation of being tops in the area.

Frank has been a member of the Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America since 1925 and would be a Charter member except for the four war years during which time he was not connected with golf. He has served six terms as President of Cleveland District of the Golf Course Superintendents Association, a group that has 100% membership in the National Association. At present he is a member of the Board of Directors of the National and is Chairman of the Policy Committee.

He is married and has four children and will move his family to Baltimore in June when school is out.

We welcome Mr. Dunlap to this area and sincerely hope that he will become a member of our association and join in our work and fellowship.

KEEP THEM INFORMED

(Tom Dawson)

They write about the amateur, print pictures of the pro, but the man you seldom hear about is there to run the show. We golf course superintendents are the men you seldom hear about and the main reason is we have not kept our members, the press and the public informed of what we are doing, what we have done and what we hope to do.

A lot of supeintendents cannot understand why the club managers and the club professional are in a higher income bracket when we know the biggest attraction to the club is the golf course. They are in a higher income bracket because they are constantly keeping the members and the public informed and they are constantly selling themselves. Let's tell the members about us.

There are many ways we can keep them informed. Have you ever thought of calling your local golf editor, inviting him out to your course, showing him your experimental plots, explaining to him what you are trying to do to make the game more enjoyable, showing him that you have re-arranged or re-designed a hole? This may not be top priority news for him but there are times he is lacking material and would be glad to use this information. However done, your name and title are used in the papers which not only helps you but it helps to elevate the profession.

Publicity is the key to all successful men. Have you ever thought of calling the editor of the local paper and offering to write timely hints on home lawn management. There are few people who have a home lawn that are not hungry for the knowledge that we ^{use} every day on our course, such as feeding, aeration insect control and so on. Let us not put limitations on our knowledge.

There are many phases of keeping our members informed. Most clubs have a club paper. Go to the editors and give them short articles on what you are doing.

This is little notice I used on the first tee a few months ago.

(4)



P L E A S E H E L P
Y O U R
C O U R S E
S U P E R I N T E N D E N T
D O
A G O O D J O B

- (1) REPAIR BALL MARKS ON GREENS
- (2) REPLACE DIVOTS (A CADDY CARRYING DOUBLE CAN NOT BE EXPECTED TO DO THIS FOR THE PLAYER)
- (3) SMOOTH OUT SAND TRAPS
- (4) THROW TRASH IN WASTE CONTAINERS

By keeping these four (4) rules, the men playing behind you will have more favorable conditions and it will give the course maintenance crew a chance to do more constructive work, giving you a finer golf course.

We will soon have trash containers on every tee and wooden rakes at all sand traps on the James River Course.

Adm. R. O. Glover
Chairman, Golf Committee

If nothing else, 4,200 members of my club know that they have a golf course superintendent. You would think that every member of every club would know they have such a man, but I have found on visitation to other courses that a majority of the members don't know what a golf course superintendent is, let alone his name. That man has not tried to keep his members informed.

Saturdays and Sundays are the best days for informing your members and selling yourself. Have you ever thought of standing on a Par 3 hole and when a foursome comes up, introducing yourself, show them how to fix a ball mark on the green, give them a little divot fixer which are priced very reasonable and on which you can have your name or " Thanks!; your superintendent " inscribed on it?

If you are doing any remodeling or new construction on the course, place a little sign next to the job explaining what you are doing. Another very important thing is to look like a superintendent. I realize all superintendents cannot be

executives, some have to wrk, but there is no reason why you cannot be clean shaven, neatly dressed and have a smile on your face. Golf course maintenance is a big business. Budgets range from \$ 20, 000 to \$ 100, 000. We are dealing with big business men at our clubs. A plant manager is not going to the man that sweeps the floor in his factory and put him in charge of a \$ 20,000 to \$100,000 budget. Why should a golf club put a man like that in charge of their budget?

Another very important factor is learning to express oneself. I think we should all give a great deal of thought to this matter. I feel the need personally and I am going to enroll in a night speaking course at our local university. Some of you will say you do not have the educational requirement or that you are too old to start. But that is not true - for example my father, who has been a golf course superintendent for 35 years felt the need of learning to express himself and did so not only on the job, but while going through the chairs in his Masonic Lodge. He finished the 4th grade in Scotland and was over 50 years old, yet had the courage to enroll in a public speaking course. Not only did it help him in his Masonic work but gave him confidence in himself to speak to the golf committee and the board of directors, to go out and lecture at garden clubs and turf meetings, elevating himself and the profession of golf course superintendents at the same time.

In closing, let's all back our local association and the national association. The strength of these groups determines a great deal the amount of education that we receive.

MAKES A CHANGE

The old red head, Milton Hancock, has moved from Sligo and Glenbrook public golf courses to the new and progressive Courthouse Country Club in Fairfax, Va.

Red takes with him 10 years of golf courses maintenance experience and an ever increasing determination to succeed as a golf course superintendent as he embarks on his first private club job.

Best of luck Red. The association is behind you, Mr. Osborne and the Club are with you, you have the know-how -- everything is in your favor, so make Courthouse the best course in this area.

NOTES FROM THE 28th NATIONAL TURFGRASS CONFERENCE AND SHOW

(James E. Thomas)

Attendance was around the 1100 mark, an all time record. A week prior to the Conference, the Northern California Turfgrass Conference at Davis, Cal. played host to over 200 Golf Course Superintendents.

The sale of exhibitor's show space was at an all time high.

The distaff side of the family was on hand in large numbers, there were 450 ladies present at Long Beach. This number topped all previous records by 150. The National meeting is fast becoming a must for all of the family especially when held in warm climate.

Those attending from the Mid-Atlantic area were: Tom Dawson, Carroll

Hitchcock, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Lindsay, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Reposky, Jim Reid, Bob Shields, Mike Burkholder and Jimmy Thomas. Joe Reposkey was successful in retaining his GCSA golf title for a second time, Nice going Joe - we are proud of you.

1956 officers for the Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America are: Ward Cornwall, President; Paul Weiss, Vice-President; ~~Agar~~ M. Brown, Secretary-treasurer; Holdover Directors: Donald Strand, James Thomas, Frank Dunlap; New Directors: Elmer Border, L.E. Lambert, John A. Gornley. Committee Chairmen are: Advisory, William Beresford; Welfare and Retirement, Robert Williams, Policy, Frank Dunlap; Membership and Classification, James Thomas,; Budget, Paul Weiss; Educational, Donald Strand; Editorial, Elmer Border; Publicity and Public Relations, L.E. Lambert.

Tom Dawson's talk "KEEP THEM INFORMED " was a masterpiece. Tom, you should speak more about this at one of our local meetings.

The Executive Committee of the GCSA plans to hold their Spring meeting at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington.

The 1958 dates for the Washington, D.C. National Turfgrass Conference and Show are February 2-6, 1958. The meeting site will be the Shoreham Hotel.

The Mid-Atlantic has 30 National members, let's make it 100% by 1958, when we will be host association for the National meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The first regular business meeting of 1956 has been called by President Bob Scott for 1 p.m. March 6, 1956 at the Administration Building Auditorium, Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Maryland

Hear speakers : Dr. Warren Shaw talk about new developments in weed control chemicals

Dr. Felix Juska on grasses he is experimenting with at the station. Chas. Hallowell, our host, is on vacation and won't be with us but has asked Dr. Juska to play the part of host.

Plans call for a trip through some of the acres of green houses where the Department of Agriculture has most every known plant growing under observation.

DIRECTIONS:

From Washington - east on U.U. 1 to Station on left
From Baltimore: - west on U.S. 1 to Station on right.