



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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APRIL 1957

The Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents inaugurated their 1957 season by holding the first regular meeting for the year at the Officers' Golf Club, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. The host superintendent was Sergeant James Naughton who is in charge of course maintenance. Jim made a welcome speech that would have filled any Senator with envy. This was our second visit to Fort Belvoir, the first one was in March of 1955. The attendance mark for the meeting was around fifty.

The following Fort Belvoir golf officials were introduced to the Association: Colonel Shaw, Chairman of the Board of Governors; Colonel Charles Waters, Chairman of the Greens Committee; Captain Baker, the club's secretary; Sergeant "Pat" Gardner, construction superintendent for the course; also co-workers, Willie Anderson and Sergeant Luzak and the club professional, Fred Cannausa. Sergeant Cannausa has also held the same post at the West Point Military Academy.

Each of the officials extended a warm and cordial welcome to Belvoir. We appreciate the privilege of holding our meeting at Fort Belvoir and hope to again have the opportunity of gathering there at some future date. Also, an invitation is extended to our Belvoir friends to attend any of our meetings during the year.

Sergeant "Pat" Gardner is not a stranger to us, having held a membership in our organization some seven or eight years, he is well known to many. However a part of his time was spent on a tour of duty overseas as a superintendent in Germany. If our memory serves us correctly, his golf game is not to be sneezed at. We are glad to see that he has been put in charge of the new construction work at the course. We know that he will endeavor to do a creditable job to the best of his ability.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Mr. Libbey of the Stauffner Chemical Company. His talk, illustrated by slides, was a very interesting one on the use of the new chemical "Vapam". Mr. Libbey told us that this material is an easy to use temporary soil sterilant— one that will kill both grasses and weeds, along with their germinating seeds. It is also useful against root and seed attacking fungi.

This chemical sterilant releases a gas beneath the ground surface which fumigates the soil sufficiently to render it temporarily unproductive. A waiting period of three weeks between treating and planting should elapse.

(2)

We were further informed that " Vapam " is a water soluble solution that needs no special equipment, ground covers, or agitation in order to apply. Most any type of spray rig or irrigation applicator is useable, even a common sprinkling can or garden hose can be used for the job. Afterwards all equipment can be readily cleaned by flushing with water.

The preparatory steps to be taken for its use are : that the soil should be worked into a seed bed condition a few days prior to its application, and then kept moist, but not too wet. After several days have elapsed apply the " Vapam " diluted with water at recommended rates. Immediately afterwards it is advisable to sprinkle the area lightly with water which acts as a seal and helps to prevent the escape of gas. In order to efficiently finish off the job, the earth should be kept in a moist condition for a period of twenty-four to forty-eight hours.

The chemical " Vapam " when diluted and in solution has a relatively low toxicity to man and animals. Yet, the pure chemical should be handled with care and caution. If " Vapam" meets the conditions manufacturers claim for it, another valuable servant has been added to the chemical family for use by the golf course superintendent.

CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION REPORT

Admiral John S. Phillips acted as moderator for the Constructive Suggestion Report. The admiral asked Colonel Waters, Chairman of the Belvoir Green Committee, to say a few words concerning the club's maintenance program and their plans for the future.

Colonel Waters informed us that only a limited income was available for golf course maintenance, that funds are not sufficient for the employment of a full time golf course superintendent, and that a large part of the labor used on the golf course came from enlisted personnel, when available.

The Colonel stressed the fact that the existing topsoil on the property was very shallow, and that the sub-base was a heavy clay. He also pointed out that excessively high rates of humus had been used in the construction of the greens, and because of this they have constantly given trouble during adverse weather conditions.

He said the intention is to rebuild all the greens as finances become available and as time permits. The plan is to do them in groups of three or four at a time, but a big handicap to the accomplishment of this is transient supervision. There is a turnover and replacement of military personnel every few years. The worst greens will be rebuilt first. Some work has already started.

The reconstruction of the fifth and thirteenth greens is now underway with the latter about ready for planting. It is hoped to have these two new greens in play by the first of July as there a nation wide Army tournament scheduled for Belvoir during that month.

CONSTRUCTIVE COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF
THE FORT BELVOIR GOLF COURSE.

Greens: Due to the high organic content frequent summer aerations are advised. Half inch thatch spoons should be used during the spring and early summer months. During hot weather and until fall, one-quarter inch spoons are to be preferred. This practice would help keep the putting greens in better condition by improving the root structure. It would provide for better absorption of moisture and plant food and would keep and prevent the top surfaces from becoming over saturated. It might help to some extent in the control of diseases.

Should algae appear and become a problem, an application of hydrated lime could be applied at the rate of two to five pounds to each thousand square feet of surface. This should only be done when the blades of grass are dry, otherwise a burn might occur. The lime should be well worked into the grass by either poling or dragging. A spring top dressing with compost would be beneficial to the greens. A good clean loam, free of weed seed and of a consistency of about sixty percent coarse sharp sand would be ideal to use. It should not contain organic matter in excess of ten percent.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW GREENS

Over drainage in this climate of high humidity is to be preferred as soils of high water holding capacities cause many of the problems of poor turf in this area. A herringbone system of tile drainage should be used with the laterals spaced from ten to fifteen feet apart, depending on the porosity of the native soil. All tile lines and trenches need to be covered and filled with coarse materials that are free of fines and silts. We frown on the use of cinders as experiences have shown that certain grades of them can disintegrate and form an impenetrable mass of fines after a few years of service

The contours of both top and sub-grades should match. Surface water should be carried off of the greens in more than one direction. The topsoil mixture of sixty percent sharp sand, thirty percent loam, and ten percent organic matter now being used appears to be satisfactory.

The following strains of grasses are recommended for the planting of putting greens in this area: A mixture of C-1 and C-19 bents, C-7 or Penn-Cross. Ernie Stanley of Quantico reports good success in planting with a three way mixture of C-1, C-19 and C-7. The average rate of planting is ten bushels of prepared stolons for every one thousand square feet of surface. With good care and management the greens could be ready for play in about eight weeks of normal growing weather.

Fairways: Sewage sludge has been spread over all of the fairways. As soon as the weather permits this covering should be worked in with a drag, and all coarse and foreign matter removed. The plan to apply 5-10-5 fertilizer on the fairways in the early spring is a good one.

We would recommend an initial application of this fertilizer sometime in April at the rate of five hundred pounds per acre, in May another one at the rate of two hundred and fifty pounds per acre. The fertilizer should be applied evenly with care when the grass is absolutely dry so as to prevent burning of the grass leaves.

The staggered feeding of plant food is suggested so as to encourage a better stand of bermudagrass. When this happens a fertilizer with a higher rate of nitrogen would be in order, such as calcium cyanamid or ammonium nitrate. As open as the property is to sunshine and light, bermudagrass would provide a more suitable fairway and tee turf than the present thin stand of bluegrass. Bermudagrass can be planted vegetatively or by seed. The present plan of covering bare spots with bermuda sod is sound operation.

If bermudagrass should be used we would try a mixture of both hulled and un-hulled so as to provide for a staggered germination of the grass. This might prove beneficial if adverse weather conditions set in. A good mixture would be sixty percent of hulled seed and forty percent of un-hulled seed. The above to be drilled in and sown at the rate of eighty pounds per acre. Late April would be a good time for either seeding or vegetative planting.

Tees: Fairway recommendation would also hold good for the tees. Aeration and fertilization should be a must. Present bluegrass tees could very profitably be changed over to bermuda. We would plant them vegetatively to some of the newer fine leaf strains that have been developed during the last few years. On tees that do not stand up under heavy play, it would be well to increase their size. However, it should be borne in mind that bermudas will not grow well in shaded areas; clearing should take place around such locations so as to provide more sunlight and air.

As a final conclusion the Belvoir Constructive Suggestion Report of 1955 should be reviewed. Many of its recommendations have already been followed to good advantage but it contains other ideas that could be put to good use in long range planning. The Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents will be glad to render any assistance or advice that we as a group are able to furnish.

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP LIST

Listed below is the present list of Regular Members of the Mid-Atlantic. The Membership Committee is now in the process of revising this list in an effort to increase the percentage of Mid-Atlantic members who are National Members. The object of this move is to raise our National membership to 60% of our Regular list so that the local can become an affiliate of the National and vote by delegate at National meetings. By becoming an affiliate we improve our standing as a group and gain prestige among the other National affiliated groups such as Philadelphia, Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit and Kansas Cit.

MID -ATLANTIC REGULAR MEMBERS AS OF JANUARY 1, 1957

<u>Nat'l. Member?</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Club</u>
YES-	Harry N. Allanson,	Rt. 2, Ex. 369, Glen Allen, Va.	O Jefferson Lakeside
NO -	Roy J. Athey,	Burtonsville, Mont. Co., Md.	- Kenwood
NO-	Louis Bergman,	6612 18th St., Arlington, Va.	- East Potomac
YES-	Benj. J. Benita,	1602 C Forrest Ave., Ft. Meade, Md.	Fort Meade
YES*	L.M. Burkholder,	Rt. 3, Box 346, Fairfax, Va.	Fairfax C.C.
NO-	Goe. W. Campbell,	4752 Old Dominion Dr., Arlington, Va.	Belle Haven C.C.
NO-	J.J. Cockriel,	R.F.D. #1, Richmond, Va.	Glenwood Golf Club
YES	J.S. Connolly,	Rt. 2, Cornell Rd., Fairfax, Va.	Unattached
YES-	W.W. Cosby,	Sta., A., Box 2022, White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.	Greenbrier
NO-	Francis Coupe,	926 Longfellow St., Arlington Va.	- Washington G & CC.
YES-	Tom Dawson,	C.C. of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia	
YES-	Frank Dunlap,	Baltimore Country Club, Baltimore, Md.	
NO	Dave Edgar,	Elkridge Hunt Club, Woodbrook, Md.	
NO-	Robert Elder,	1714 Alberti Dr., Silver Spring, Md.	*Indian Spring CC.
NO-	Ray Etchison,	7202 Belwood Ave., Washington, 28, D.C.	Andrews Field
NO -	Ellsworth Franklin,	U.S.N., Proving Grounds, Dahlgren, Va.	
NO-	Milton Hancock,	2702 Finley St., Wheaton Md.	Norbeck C.C.
NO -	Reynold Heinbuck,	E. Pot mac Golf Club., Hains Pt., Washington, D.C.	
NO-	C.H. Heintzeman,	Memorial Stadium, Baltimore, Md.	
YES -	R.P. Hines,	Brokkeville, Md.	Gerogetown Prep. School
YES-	R.P. Hines, Jr.,	Oxon Run Golf Course, 2401 Southern Ave., Wash., 20, D.C.	
YES-	C.A. Hitchcock,	Woodholme Country Club, Pikesville, Md.	
YES-	Wayne B. Jerome,	R.F.D. #3 Bethesda, Md.	Congressional C.C.
NO-	Pelmar C. Jett,	Columbia Pike, Ellicott City, Md.	Allview Golf Club
YES-	R.W. Kerns,	Green Hill Yacht & C.C. Quantico, Va. (Md?)	
NO-	John Leavell,	Shenandoah C.C., Bluemont, Va., Rt. 2	
YES-	Percy LeDuc,	10217 Sutherland Rd., Silver Spring, Md.	Argyle C.C.
NO *	J. Wm.,	Leverton, Glenwood Golf Club., R.D. #1, Richmond, Va.	
YES-	C.W. Lindsay,	Robinwood Dr., Rt., 1, Hagerstown, Md.	Fountainhead
NO -	T.R. Lumsden,	Box 45, Glen Echo, Md.	Bethesda C.C.
NO -	Howard McCarty,	6003 Falls Rd., Balto., 9, Md.	Mt. Pleasant
YES-	Hugh McRae,	4155 Linnean Ave., N.W. Washington D.C.	
YES-	Ernest Morgal,	8607 Burdette Rd., Bethesda, 14, Md.	Columbia C.C.
YES-	Frank Murray,	Rt. #1, Rockville, Md.	Brook Manor Farms C.C.
NO -	Chas. Nason,	4700 Patterson Ave., Balto., Md.	Chestnut Ridge C.C.
NO -	Harold Pammell,	I.S. Soldiers Home, Washington, D.C.	
NO -	Ernest Parsley,	Manor Country Club, Rockville, Md.	
NO -	C.M. Piggott,	Loudoun Golf Club., Purcellville, Va.	
NO -	Marcus Plesants,	P.O. Box 1061, Univ. Sta., Charlottesville, Va.	
		Farmington, C.C.	
YES-	James A. Reid,	4100 Colonial Rd., Pikesville 8 Md.	Suburban Club
YES -	Jos. Reposkey,	Talbot Country Club., Easton, Md.	
YES-	James Reynolds,	4811 Coleman Rd., Richmond, Va.	Monacan Hills, C.C.
NO-	Thomas Ryan,	Belle Haven Club., Alexandria, Va.	
YES-	H.O. Savage,	James River C.C., Newport News, Va.	
YES-	Chas. Schalestock,	Norbeck Country Club, Norbeck, Md.	
YES-	Wm. Schrieber,	Cedar Pt. Golf Club., Patuxent River, Md.	
YES-	Robt. E. Scott, Jr.,	1409 Medfield Ave. Balto, 11, Md.	Bonnie View C.C.
YES-	J. Seacrist,	515 Dual Hwy., Hagerstown, Md.	Hagerstown, Municipal

(6)

<u>Nat'l. Member</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Club</u>
NO	- James Shepard,	Country Club of Md., Stevens Lane, Towson 4 Md.	
YES	- L.R. Shields,	Woodmont Country Club, Rockville, Md.	
NO	- Pat Sheridan,	White Flint Golf Course, Rockville, Md.	
NO	- Ray J. Shields,	Annapolis Country Club, Annapolis, Md.	
NO	- Sgt. Fred N. Slack,	2587 NCO Qtrs., Ft. Geo. G. Meade, Md.	
NO	- Robt. W.S. Smith,	Hillendale Country Club, Phoenix, Md.	
NO	- Harry Smith,	Cambridge Country Club., Cambridge, Md.	
NO	- Sam C. Sollazzo,	Rt. #1., Stuarts Draft, V., Ingleside, C.C.	
YES	- E.E. Stanley,	R.F.D. #3 Box 387, Fredericksburg, Va., Quantic Golf C.	
NO	- Bradley J. Strouth,	Sligo Park Golf Course, Silver Spring, Md.	
YE	- Otho O. Swain,	Burning Tree C.C., Bethesda, 14, Md.	
NO	- Andrew S. Sweeney,	Prince Geo. Golf Club., Landover Md.	
YES	- J.E. Thomas,	31 st St., Arlington 9, Va., Army-Navy C.C.	
YES	- Richard Watson,	Chevy Chase Country Club., Chevy Chase, Md.	
YES	- Paul Weiss, Jr.,	1123 H St., Sparrows Pt. Md., Sparrows Point C.C.	
NO	- Walter West,	P.O. Box 180, Thurmont Md., Camp David Golf Course	
NO	- B.L. Whetsell,	413 W. Broad St., Falls Church, Va., Westbriar, C.C.	
NO	- Robt. Williams,	U.S. Naval Academy Golf Club., Annapolis, Md.	
NO	- Wm. Windsor	1822 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, V.A. Army Navy C.C.	
NO	- Martin Yeatman,	4106 Emerson St., Hyattsville Md., Brook Manor Farmms. C.C.	
NO	- John Zaleski,	Fredericksburg C.C. Fredericksburg, Va.	
YES	- Stanley Zontok,	White Oak C.C., Oak Hill, W.Va.,	

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

To our Members :

To help create a better association we must have the cooperation of all our members in a campaign to increase our National membership. As Chairman of the local membership committee I urge all who have a superintendent or someone qualified to become a member from your area and who you think might be an asset to our Mid-Atlantic group to join our National organization. All you have to do is send complete information such as name, address, type of work, qualifications, etc. to :

Paul E. Weiss, Jr.
Golf Course Superintendent
Sparrows Point Country Club., Inc.
Baltimore, 19, Maryland

I will in turn personally or through my commettee members, Bob Elder and Russ Kerns, contact the person and explain the advantage of belonging to a turfgrass organization such as our.

I feel a more concentrated effort such as this will greatly imporve our organization. I also urge all of you who are not members of the National Association to do all in your power to join.

(7)

In these days of high cost of living, a low income occupation such as ours takes a real beating.

The only way to improve the condition that confronts us today is to have a strong National organization.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Weiss, Jr.

LIST OF COMMITTEES FOR THE 29th NATIONAL TURFGRASS CONFERENCE

February 2-8, 1957
Shoreham Hotel
Washington, D.C.

General Chairman Bob Shields announces the apointment of the following men to head the committees for the National meeting in Washington next February. The names of the members of each committee will be announced at a later date.

The first talks regarding the National Meeting began on March 20 with National Secretary Agar M. Brown in attendance. Also present were Tom Dawson, Hugh McRae., Frank Dunlap, Bob Shields, Jim Thomas and Jim Reid.

Meetings will be caled from time to time and committee members are urged to be present so they will know " what's going on ". The first committee meeting has been called by Ladies' Program Chairman, Tom Dawson for April 22 at Army-Navy Country Club. Tom will notify the members of the committee.

General Chairman- L.R. Shields

Eduactional Committee- James E. Thomas

District Show Sales, - Robt. E. Scott, Jr.

Entertainment Committee- Adm. J.S. Phillips, U.S.N. (Ret.)

Ways and Means Committee - Frank Dunlap

Reception Committee- Francis Coupe

Transprotation Committee- Hugh Mc Rae

Ladies Program Committee- Tom Dawson

(8)

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at the Baltimore Country Club's Five Farms Course, Lutherville, Md., on WEDNESDAY April 10, 1957. Host superintendent is Frank Dunlap who moved to Baltimore a little over a year ago from the Country Club of Cleveland.

Dinner will be served at the Roland Park Course on Falls Road in Baltimore. This marks our first visit to the Club House of this famous Baltimore Club and credit is due Frank Dunlap for making it possible. Everyone should keep this thought in mind and make sure to put on your very best manners and behavior. Ties are in order for all members at every meeting.

Next Meeting : WEDNESDAY April 10, 1957

Place : Five Farms Golf Course

Golf : 12 noon

Inspection of course : All afternoon

Social period : 5.p.m.

Dinner: 6 p.m. Baltimore Country Club
Roland Park Course
Club Road, Baltimore, Md.

Meeting : Following dinner

Frank says you are welcome to play golf at either of the Club's two eighteen hole courses, but recommended the Five Farms Course which is more level. He also says that because of extensive alterations now underway at both club houses, there are no lockers available. Provisions will be made for changing clothes but take your valuables with you.

Late starting golfers are urged to play fast so as not to be late at Roland Park.

DIRECTIONS

To Five Farms :- out Falls Road to Seminary Ave., right on Seminary to Mays Chapel Rd., left on Mays Chapel to Club on left.
(Falls Road runs northwest off Charles St. near the railroad station.)