



Affiliate

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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The Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 6th at the Hermitage Country Club, Richmond, Virginia. Hermitage is the home address of our President, Jim Reynolds. Jim has charge of all of the club's golf activities with both the golf shop staff and golf course maintenance crew under his supervision.

There were some fifty members and guests present for the meeting. However, the day was a rainy one and very few of us were able to play more than nine holes of golf. As a result of this condition a lot of us enjoyed an old fashioned jam session around the nineteenth hole.

After a hospitality gathering and a delicious dinner, President Reynolds called the meeting to order. The following Hermitage officials were introduced to the membership: Mr. Mac Buhrman, President; and Mr. Glen Knox, Chairman of the Golf and Greens Committee. Mr. Lawrence Leonard, Sports Editor of the Richmond "NEWS LEADER" was also a welcome visitor in attendance. Mr. Leonard gave the meeting a fine write-up on the sports page of his newspaper which we greatly appreciate. Lawrence has always been a booster for our Association and the individual superintendent.

Our hosts each welcomed us to Hermitage and Richmond. Since our Secretary, Mr. Thomas Dougherty was unable to be present due to a large tournament being played at Fort Belvoir on that date, there was no business meeting or reading of reports. Mr. Charles Hallowell, Mid-Atlantic Director of the U.S.G.A. Green Section, was moderator for the Constructive Suggestion Report. He called on Mr. Winton Mallory, the Hermitage golf course superintendent, to tell us about the course and the methods he uses in its maintenance. Winton Mallory has been an employee of the club since 1924 and he knows the property from A to Z. Charles Hallowell told us that from his observations, the work of Winton has been quite outstanding, and great strides forward in the conditioning of the course the past three years can be attributed to him.

The tees are planted to one of the strains of common bermuda grass, they receive no artificial watering and are heavily fertilized during the growing season. They are over-seeded to cool season grasses during the dormant season, the only exception being the first tee which is adjacent to the clubhouse.

The fairways also have a fine stand of bermuda grass; bermuda has been established at Hermitage since 1924. This sod remains in excellent condition throughout the playing season. Over-seeding with rye grass is not practiced during the winter months, nor do the fairways receive any water other than normal rainfall. Fertilization is done in late March, a 10-10-10 being applied at the rate of 600 pounds to the acre. In the late fall prior to the first frost the bermuda is allowed to go into the winter a little on the long side. This is accomplished by raising the height of cut late in the playing season.

The putting greens all have an excellent stand of Washington bent. Hermitage is one of the few courses in the Mid-Atlantic area having eighteen greens of this fine strain of creeping bent. Washington bent was quite a popular grass before the development of the C-1 and C-19 mixture. Present day methods of aerifying and verticutting are followed, with topdressing being

done in the spring. All watering of greens is done by hand. Mixed applications of soluble and organic fertilizers are applied during the cool months of spring and autumn, in the other months of the year light feeding of organics is the practice. Nothing is applied during the month of July.

President Mac Burhman informed us the club has a membership of 1650 and he laughingly said he thought 1649 of them played golf. The Mid-Atlantic appreciates having had the opportunity of holding one of their meetings at the Hermitage Country Club and is looking forward to another visit there in the not too distant future. We express our thanks for the hospitality shown us; the day was enjoyed in spite of the weather. Also, we commend Jim Reynolds and Winton Mallory for their fine team work and accomplishments.

SPEAKERS COMMENTS AT THE RICHMOND MEETING

The more we study turf diseases, the more we become aware of the complexity of the inter-relationships of environmental conditions, fungicide applications and cultural practices in disease control. Good cultural practices must be followed to produce and maintain strong healthy turf and that is one of the first principals of preventative maintenance.

The type of fungicide, preventative, curative, specific or general, should be chosen dependent on how it will be used. Fungicides can be wasted if used improperly. Fit your fungicides into your type of maintenance practices rather than just applying a fungicide to your program.

Chemical manufacturers are making every effort to supply golf course superintendents with effective and safe fungicides. Over a period of several years, the superintendents have learned that a tank mix of "Tersan" 75 and a mercury gave a better disease control than either product alone. Our testing program in 1958 with "Tersan" OM again proved this to be true. The product had all the advantages of both "tersan" and mercury; it provided fungistatic and fungicidal action, but none of the discoloring or injury that may occur when a mercury is used alone. In addition to its broader disease control, "Tersan" OM appears to have the same safety factor as "Tersan" 75.

Cultural practices alone will not prevent disease incident; fungicides are needed. However, fungicides should not be used in spite of or in addition to good management. They should be considered a part of a good management program.

Robert T. Miller
Industrial and Biochemicals Dept.
E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Co.
Wilmington, Delaware

(Editors' note: other firms also manufacture a Thirium - Organic Mercury Compound. Tersan, O-M is the product of the DuPont Company.)

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Mr. Editor :

Missed you at our meeting at Hermitage. It rained all day, but a few of us played golf anyway.

Enclosed is the local newspaper write-up covering our meeting. This is the first time Winton Mallory has ever made the local paper which explains why he is up in the clouds today. We had Lawrence Leonard as our guest at the dinner. How about asking any superintendent having a scheduled meeting at his course to invite the local sports editor or reporter to attend at our expense? If he doesn't know the reporter's name, his Professional would be glad to help him out.

I think this idea has sound merit and think it would be a good idea to mention it in the " NEWSLETTER ".

See you in Winchester -

Jim Reynolds

LAUREL PINES OPENS

Bill Schrieber, superintendent at Laurel Pines reports that his course is now open for play after three years of hard work and many delays.

Bill says the course was built on low land along the Patuxent River at Laurel, Maryland, and was subject to floods every time a cloud passed over, whether it rained or not. He said he used to have to go from green to green in a row boat.

By building a long dike along the river and cutting many ditches and swales, the drainage problem has been overcome, according to Bill. He is happy to announce that his course is open for play and he can start maintenance instead of building.

Good Luck- Bill - and congratulations to you and Mr. Gilbert Shapiro for solving many difficult problems.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Mid-Atlantic will be held at Winchester Golf Club, Winchester, Virginia on July 7, 1959. Mr. Lewis Lamp is superintendent at the club and has just opened 9 more holes of golf which he built himself. He and his club officials ask that you look it over and tell them how they can improve it to give more pleasure to their members.

Mr. E. Gunter Skole is the club manager and takes interest and pride in the fine meals served to his guests. He is held in high esteem by the other members of the National Chapter, Club Managers Association and has held their office of Secretary.

Next Meeting Place - Winchester Golf Club, Winchester, Virginia

Golf - 12 noon

Social Period - 5 - 6:30

Dinner - 6:30

Meeting - following dinner

Speaker - Mr. John Gallagher, American Paint and Chemical Company

Subject : - "YOUR WEED PROBLEM"

Host Superintendent - Lewis Lamp

DIRECTIONS

Winchester is 72 miles northwest of Washington, where U.S. 50 and Va. 7 meet. For the trip we suggest Route 7 north out of Arlington. Enter the city limits and after crossing the R.R. tracks turn left to end of the cemetery, then left again to the club.

From Baltimore, take U.S. 40 to Frederick. Turn left on U.S. 340, then right on Va. 7 and follow directions above. From Richmond, consult your road map and inquire when you get to Winchester.