



# MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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APPROXIMATELY SIXTY MEMBERS and guests attended the October meeting of the Association at Laurel Pines Country Club, Laurel, Maryland on October 4, 1960.

Club owner, Mr. Gilbert Schapiro, acting as host in the absence of a full time superintendent, served the group a most delicious roast beef and baked potatoe dinner.

THE MEETING got under way at 7:30 with President Frank Dunlap presiding. The minutes of the previous meeting and the Treasurer's report could not be read because of the absence of Secretary-Treasurer, Tommy Doerer, who - not feeling well - went home soon after his round of golf.

The President introduced the guests, then called on Mr. Schapiro who stated that he had been carrying on the duties of superintendent at the club for a month and the experience had given him more respect for the problems of all superintendents.

THE CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION REPORT consisted of a discussion on ways and means to improve the surfaces of the Laurel Pines putting greens. Since the greens were in very good condition the talks drifted to routine maintenance operations - fertilization, topdressing, mowing and so forth.

The presence of clover led some observers to believe that the nitrogen level was low since clover is not found in greens which have been properly fertilized.

A fertilizer program aimed at supplying 8- 10 pounds of actual nitrogen per thousand square feet per season is recommended for this area. If this program ( using a burning type fertilizer ) is followed, certain limitations should be observed. They are:

1. Fertilize only when the grass is growing or just before it starts to grow in spring.
2. Use no more than 1# Nitrogen at any one application.
3. Applications are applied at 10 day or two week intervals only.
4. In hot weather cut rates to fractions of a pound.
5. Use half organic and half inorganic nitrogen.
6. Make no applications during July and August.
7. Always water in afterwards.

The urea-form fertilizers are gaining in popularity here. As superintendents learn how to use them they find these materials will give the desired results without the ever present danger of a set-back in growth due to burning. Any urea-form fertilizer representative will



gladly explain a program suitable for his product.

Some of the superintendents present at Laurel thought the greens should be aerated for better root growth and topdressed for a smoother putting surface.

A TRIBUTE TO LAUREL PINES. All factors considered- Laurel Pines has progressed rapidly from the days not long ago when most observers told Gil Schapiro to give up his idea of building a golf course on swampy land. Skeptics, a rampant river, mud-mired bull dozers, sewer problems and law suits could not deter him from his dream. Today it stands as a reality, a show place, and a credit to the vision of Gilbert Schapiro. Sir- we enjoyed sharing the day and a part of your dream with you !

QUICK TRICKS. This tip is from that master of time-saving tricks, the old river fox himself - John Leavell. During construction of a golf course, a fairway, green or trap, John says he piles all available loose stones in the areas excavated for the sand traps. They accumulate there until time to finish off the inside of the trap. He then digs a deep post hole in the lowest part of the trap and simply buries the stones in this hole. Do you know of a better way to dispose of objectionable stones?

Here's another tip from Fred Kisil of Bainbridge Naval Training Center on how to control goose grass on greens - " Bainbridge Naval Training Center had from 25% to ( as Jim Reid would say ) 100% cover of goose grass on greens last year. This year we had complete control of goose grass on 5 greens, 99% on 3 greens and 95% on 2 greens. Greens with 5% goosegrass did not come until the last week of August. Preventitive: November 1959 sprayed greens using 10 pounds of Arsonate of Lead to 1000 sq. ft.; March 1960 sprayed 5 pounds of Arsonate of Lead to 1000 sq. ft.; Mid-April 1960 used Rid, product of Swift and Co., following directions of the bag to the letter. The two greens with 5% goose grass were treated with Rid again the last week of August and the goosegrass was checked by the second week of September. All of last year's goose grass was not picked. Bent grass grew over the dead goose grass which still left seed on the greens. "

IN THE MAIL . " The Prize Committee " goofed " in handling the prizes for the recent Superintendents' Tournament.

Ennis Kidwell of Bolgiano's brought their usual prize of the last 17 years consisting of (2) \$25.00 war bonds. Unfortunately, these bonds were completely overlooked in the distribution of prizes. We wish you would make mention of this " goof " in the "NEWSLETTER " so that the participants will realize that Bolgiano's still remains a loyal contributors.

We do not know what disposition Bolgiano's will wish to make of these bonds, but perhaps Ennis or Wilson Disney could advise you of this.

Also we received a check from Mallinckrodt for \$25.00, and perhaps the tournament committee would like to consider this gift along with whatever is to be done with the above. "

L.W. Brown, G. L. Cornell Company.

BALTIMORE TURFGRASS CONFERENCE . Plans for the annual Mid-Atlantic Turfgrass Conference in Baltimore are well under way according to Conference Chairman, Tom Doerer. A committee meeting was held at Laurel Pines with Dr. George Langford and Charles Hallowell attending at which time the tentative program was examined.

Dr. Langford is now in the process of contacting possible speakers, but says there is still time for you to suggest a pet subject that you might have or the name of a speaker you would like to hear.

The dates for this meeting are January 9-10 at the same place - The Lord Baltimore Hotel. Mark your calendar now and plan to stay overnight at the Hotel so as not to miss any of the discussions that sometimes continue on into the night.

DECEMBER MEETING. Mark your calendar also for the December meeting of the association at Westbriar Country Club on Tuesday December 6, with Buck Whitsell as host.

This is the annual election of officers, so come on out and have a say on the question of WHO is to handle the affairs of the association next year.

Jim Reynolds, immediate Past President, is Chairman of the Nominating Committee and we hope to soon have a report from him giving the committee's selection of names for the three offices - President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer.

NEXT MEETING. The next meeting is the one we have been waiting for - the G.I. Cornell Company 4715 Miller Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland at 6 p.m. on Tuesday November 1.

George and Brownie, hosts at this annual affair, say that on this date the lawn mower will no longer be king, but will be moved aside, along with everything else, to make way for steaks, oysters, refreshments and fellowship. Cleaners, painters and carpenters are busily at work transforming the company shop into the most unique and enjoyable restaurant you have seen in a year.

The outstanding event at this meeting is to see Ruben Hines in the act of throwing his old straw hat up in the barn to symbolize the end of another season.

To be a part of all this all you have to do is mail the enclosed reservation card to Mr. Cornell and present yourself at his store at the time of the meeting.

Please note on the card the names of guests you expect to have with you and their club affiliation. The Association suggests that you invite your Greens Chairman, the club manager, Pro or an influential club member.