

# MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



Director  
**GEORGE GUMM**  
 Editors  
**ROBERT MARTINO**  
**LEE C. DIETER**

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

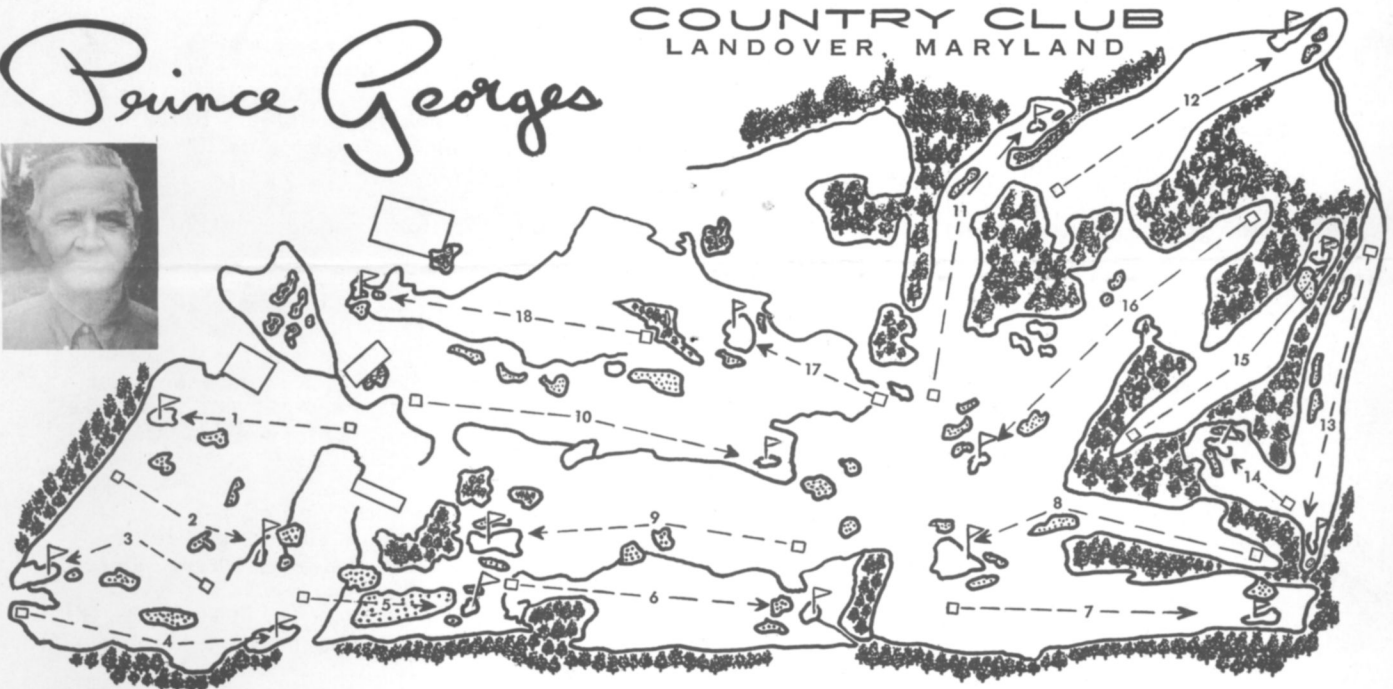
Vol. XIII

March 25, 1963

No. 3

## Prince Georges

COUNTRY CLUB  
 LANDOVER, MARYLAND



HOLES	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN	Total
BLUE TEES	355	326	375	510	205	342	453	420	445	3431	520	393	435	410	167	425	510	195	415	3470	6901
WHITE TEES	346	315	363	485	175	330	440	410	435	3299	500	375	420	390	155	415	490	186	395	3326	6625
MEN'S PAR	4	4	4	5	3	4	4	4	4	36	5	4	4	4	3	4	5	3	4	36	72

### APRIL MEETING - PRINCE GEORGES COUNTRY CLUB

The April meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents will be held on Tuesday, April 2, at Prince Georges Country Club, Landover, Maryland. The course will be open for golf at noon and lunch may be purchased in the men's grill. The social hour will be from 5 to 6 P. M. and dinner will be served promptly at 6 P. M. An evening of educational aids will be presented with Mr. George Bird showing a film on the use of electric carts. Mr. Al Houghton, Golf Professional at Prince Georges, will talk on Pro-Superintendent relations. Colonel Harry C. Eckhoff will speak on "A Look into the Future of Golf Course Development." We also look forward to meeting Mr. Frank Scuderi, Greens Chairman, and Club Manager, Walley Doctor.

### OUR HOST

Andrew Sweeney, superintendent, will be our host for this meeting. Mr. Sweeney, a member of the Mid-Atlantic Association for 15 years, has been superintendent at Prince Georges for the past 14 years. He started in his profession in 1943 at Prince Georges under superintendent, Harry Dorr. Prior to entering this work he was with the U. S. Government and at the University of Maryland.

### THE COURSE

The course was laid out by architect, Donald Ross, and has been in play since 1921. It is a challenging 6901 yard par 72 layout. All the tees and Nos. 1, 3, 4, 7, 12, and 13 greens have been rebuilt by Mr. Sweeney.

### MAINTENANCE

The greens are Washington C-1, C-19 with a little poa annua. They receive 8 lbs. of actual nitrogen to 1,000 sq. ft. per season. Tees are predominately U-3 and T-328 Bermuda and

are cut at  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch and receive 12 lbs. of actual nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. The fairways are a combination of Bluegrass, Bent and Bermuda. They are cut at 1 inch and receive 800 lbs. of 10-6-4 per acre annually. The roughs are maintained at 3 inches and are Fescue and Bluegrass. They receive 300 lbs. of 10-6-4 per acre in the Fall of the year.

#### DIRECTIONS TO THE CLUB

From the Baltimore-Washington Parkway turn at Rt. 202 to Landover, Md., then turn right at 73rd Street and turn right at the end of the street.

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by James E. Thomas

Our first meeting of the year was held at the Belle Haven Country Club on Tuesday, March 5th. The gathering was both enjoyable and successful. Fifty-eight members and guests attended and seven played golf even though the weather was a bit on the gloomy side.

Mr. George Campbell, our host and fellow superintendent, made all of the necessary arrangements for the meeting. His Green's Chairman, Mr. Edward Campbell of the Campbell Ferrar Nurseries, was the speaker for the evening; his subject was "The Proper Use of Trees on the Golf Course." His talk was very interesting and was well received. Belle Haven's genial Manager, Mr. Ben Hilliard, satisfied the appetites of all with a delicious steak dinner.

The Association thanks Belle Haven Country Club and its officials for inviting us to their club, and we hope to have the pleasure of being with them again at some future date.

#### NATIONAL NEWS

by L. Robert Shields

Attendance at the National Conference in San Diego totaled 1,358. Over 800 members and guests attended the banquet and laughed at the jokes of Pat Butram. There was a net increase of 38 new members during 1962 in spite of the increase in dues. Thirty-five more members joined at San Diego running the total well over the 2,000 mark. There were 142 exhibit booths sold for the equipment show and exhibitors and the Association were well pleased with the results. Entires in the golf tournament at Palm Springs numbered 390.

Al Watson, our delegate to the conference, did a good job of meeting other delegates and interviewing candidates. He sat in on meetings of the Advisory Committee so he could learn more and be of greater service. Roy Nelson of Chicago was elected President, David Moote of Canada was elected Vice-President.

The Board of Directors was impressed with our Mid-Atlantic jackets and asked Bob Shields to look into the cost of getting similar ones made available to all National members.

There is serious talk of permanently locating the National office in the Jacksonville area. It has been suggested that we buy land and build our own office building. What do you think of these ideas? Your thoughts are needed to guide the Mid-Atlantic Board and the National Board, so please let us hear from you.

It has been suggested that the dates of our fiscal year be changed from January 1 thru December 31 to July 1 thru June 30. It would ease the office work load of trying to close the books at a time when all are busy getting ready for the Conference. To us it would mean our National dues would become due and payable in spring instead of in the fall.

#### THE MID-ATLANTIC 10 YEARS AGO

by L. Robert Shields

On March 10, 1953, the Association visited Farmington Country Club to see Superintendent Charles Schalestock dynamite putting greens. No - he didn't blow up his greens, but everyone thought he was going to. He bored holes in the green to a depth of three feet, then poked in a half stick of dynamite to which was attached a cap and fuse. Then he reached for a match and his guest superintendents scattered in every direction expecting to see a section of sod go skyward. Our host explained that if we stood very still we might feel the ground tremble slightly, but nothing would happen to the surface of the green. He stated that the action was underground where the shock waves were opening drainage channels breaking hardpan and aerating the soil.

The April meeting was held at Washington Golf and Country Club where Frances Coupe was host to 52 members and guests. President Thomas announced that we had just enjoyed a "McRae" dinner - one that was on the house. History has shown that this was the last free dinner this Association would receive at a regular meeting, for during that meeting it was decided that we pay for all future meals. There was talk then about By-Laws and the committee composed of John Connolly and Admiral Jack Phillips was hard at work on new ones.

During the Constructive Suggestion Report the big topic was Poa-Annua - is it friend or foe? C-1 and C-19 were suggested for the greens and U-3 for the sunny tees. We suggested that fairway fertilizer rates of application be increased to 500# per acre, spring and fall and that aerification be started early to help dry the saturated soil.

## PROFESSIONAL-SUPERINTENDENT RELATIONS

by Thomas A. Doerer

The following are excerpts from the address of Mr. Thomas A. Doerer, Vice-President of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents, presented at the Middle Atlantic P. G. A. School and Seminar, University of Maryland, Wednesday, February 13, 1963.

After having spent most of my life associated with the game of golf as a manager, professional, merchandiser and superintendent, I would like to address you as a manager of turf-grasses. I have seen and made mistakes on both sides of the fence, and my comments will be made along these lines.

Professional-Superintendent relationships are, for the most part, pleasant ones. Where such a relationship does not exist, the professional and the superintendent should sit down and iron out their problems. Without the superintendent you would not have a playable golf course, without the pro the game of golf would suffer and fall by the wayside. Both are needed and should work together as a team. They are essential and are closely allied, even though they each operate in a different area of activity. Allow me to present the picture as the superintendent sees it by describing some of his duties, headaches, etc.

It is the objective of most superintendents to give their club members the best possible golf course and playing conditions that nature and available monies will provide. The great growth of the game during the last decade has increased the duties of the superintendent manifold; as an example, golf is no longer a man's pastime, now the whole family enjoys the activity. Superintendents at clubs having a large membership are finding it increasingly difficult to accomplish their daily maintenance chores without interfering with golf play to some extent. The use of electric carts presents problems brought about by careless and improper operating of the vehicles. Vandalism is another headache, plus the new player who hasn't yet become aware of his responsibilities towards fellow golfers and the proper care of the course. Juniors, ladies and also many men contribute a great deal of unintentional damage.

As a suggestion, the pro, in our opinion, can assist us and at the same time increase his income by holding clinics, and incorporating in them a few pointers on golf etiquette and the proper care of the course. Also he could invite the superintendent to golf functions, and allow him to discuss course care and maintenance. When all is said and done, it is the member's money and course the superintendent is trying to protect. When players register complaints about playing conditions inform the superintendent, so that he has the opportunity of making the necessary adjustments if needed. Do not discuss course grievances around the 19th hole, as a bad round of golf often causes a member to be a fault finder. The pro can help his superintendent by encouraging him to play golf frequently, by giving him an occasional lesson, and seeing that he is included in TV and press releases. Give him due credit for taking care of the course, and help the members to realize that he contributes a great deal to their golf enjoyment. When pros and superintendents recognize the true value of each other, they, along with clubs and golfers, reap untold benefits.

Golf course superintendents do not enjoy the close relationship with the membership and the press that their brother golf professionals do, so, often course problems do not get presented in their proper perspective. Should a complaint or gripe arise pertaining to maintenance or construction, do not try to answer the person at once, but get the facts, as a proper explanation in most cases will solve any question to the satisfaction of everyone. It is a good policy when the question of construction comes up by either an individual or group to be slow in agreeing with their remarks until all concerned have been consulted, and the matter thoroughly weighed in all of its aspects. No course should constantly be undergoing changes unless new construction is absolutely necessary.

Closing a layout because of inclement weather or repairs causes the one in charge a great deal of concern, and always is a difficult decision to be responsible for, as it affects the overall operation of the club. Members are made unhappy, the pro shop loses business, and so do all departments of the organization. When this happens try not to agitate the golfers by agreeing with them, but try to offer some sort of explanation. Then find out why the action was taken and when play can be resumed.

All golf professionals would find it beneficial to understand maintenance routine as much as possible. A working knowledge of such information would help in keeping players informed of what was taking place on the golf course. We as golf course superintendents, and you as professional golfers are authorities in our own fields. We each have a code of ethics to uphold and defend, and our professions are judged and advertised by the manner in which we perform and execute the duties required of us. By doing so successfully we sell ourselves to the golfing public.

## MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Please fill in the other side of the enclosed card and mail promptly. The information will be used in our new Annual Directory, which is being made up to hold our membership directory, by-laws and NEWSLETTERS. Please make sure your address is correct as the NEWSLETTER is sent second class and will not be forwarded.\*



GUSTIN'S BALTIMORE TORO

All Types of Power Turf Equipment

Greens Mowers - Tractors & Gangs

Complete Parts & Service

2205 E. Joppa Road, Baltimore, Md.  
NO 8-0500

**Q. L. CORNELL** *Company*

4715 Miller Avenue  
Bethesda 14, Maryland  
Telephone: OLiver 2-6600



Golf Course  
Equipment  
and  
Supplies



For Golf Course Use

Seeds  
Golf Tag Fertilizers  
Milorganite  
Fungicides - Insecticides

F. W. BOLGIANO & COMPANY  
411 New York Avenue, N. E.  
LI 7-4800 Washington 2, D. C.

Specialists in Golf Course Maintenance Chemicals

Weed Killers - Insecticides - Fungicides

Fertilizers by Swift & Co.

*J. L. Milan Co.* 3216 Carlisle Ave.

Phone: 947-0898 Baltimore 16, Md.



**NATIONAL CAPITAL TORO, INC.**

928 PHILADELPHIA AVENUE  
SILVER SPRING, MD.

JUniper 5-1322

Fertilizers

Sprinklers

**TORO** POWER MOWERS . . . FOR MODERN LIVING

Complete Turf Maintenance Equipment

Complete Service Available

**MID-ATLANTIC News Letter**

5007 - 34th St., North  
Arlington 7, Va.



STRIKE BACK AT CANCER  
GIVE  
AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY



Mr. George Cleaver  
Box 121 A  
Lutherville, Md.