

MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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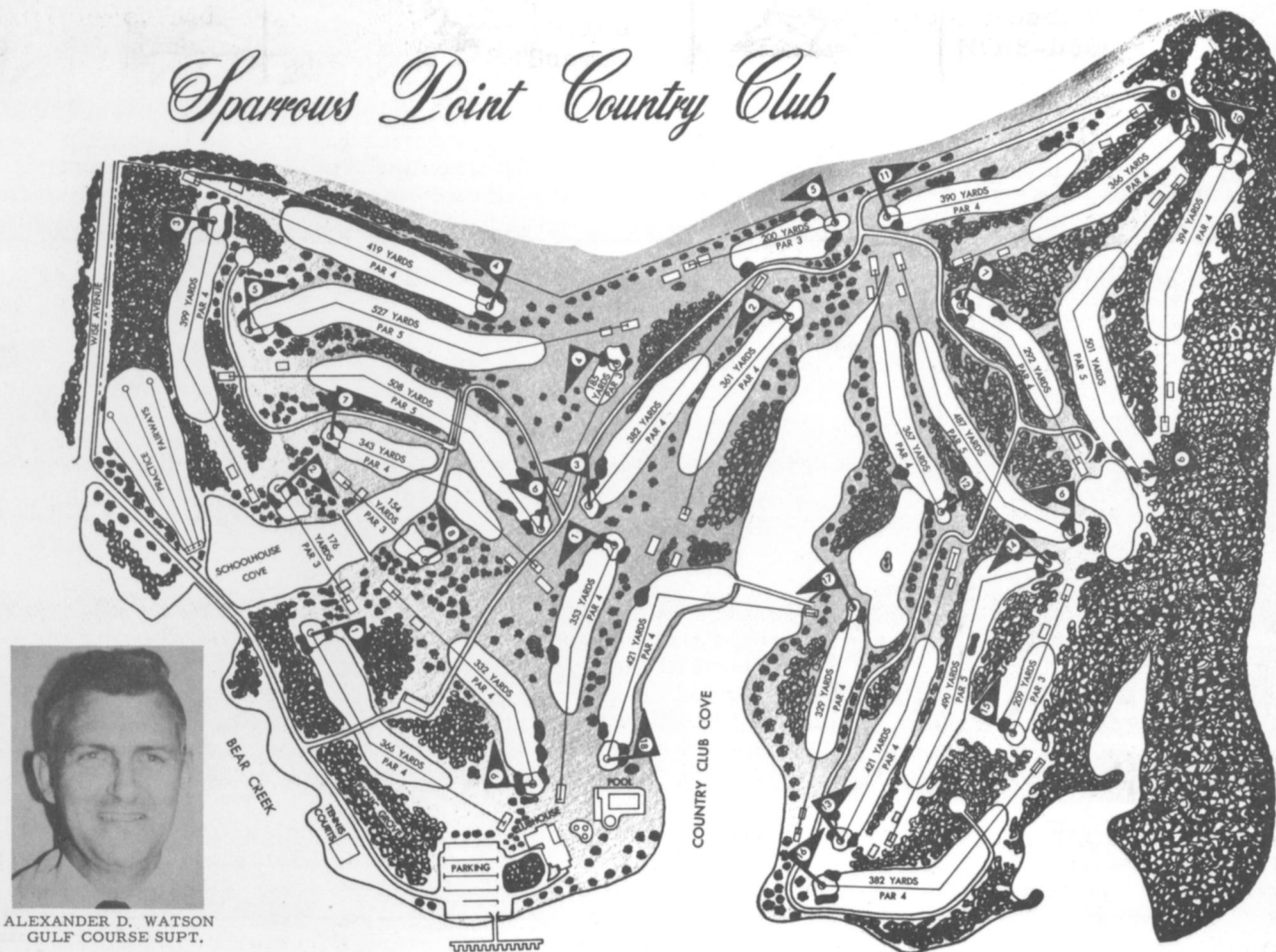
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No. 5

Sparrows Point Country Club



ALEXANDER D. WATSON
GOLF COURSE SUPT.

JUNE MEETING - SPARROWS POINT COUNTRY CLUB

Sparrows Point Country Club, Sparrows Point, Maryland, will host the association on June 11, 1963. (Please note the date for this meeting is the second Tuesday. The change has been made for this meeting only.) The course, now in its ninth year, is regarded as one of the finest and best maintained. It will be open to golf at noon. Lunch may be purchased in the grill room. Cocktails will be served from 5 to 6 P.M. with dinner following. Mr. R. M. Mangan of the Wyandotte Chemical Corporation will be the speaker for the evening. His slide illustrated talk on "Soil Amendment Materials" should be of interest to all. He will be introduced by Wyandotte's area representative, Mr. Joseph Walsh.

OUR HOST

Mr. Alexander D. Watson has been superintendent two years and eight months. He attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute and graduated in 1949 with a B.S. degree in forestry and wild life conservation, and is a graduate of the American Landscape School. Al was superintendent and engineer of parks and landscape for the city of Warwick and Newport News, Virginia, for five years where he established municipal tree and shrubbery nurseries and azalea gardens; supervised landscape design for municipal grounds, schools and parks. He entered into the golf course field at Williamsburg Country Club, Williamsburg, Virginia, where he supervised the course construction.

THE COURSE

The original eighteen holes were designed and built by William and Dave Gordon in 1953 and opened in 1954. The new or back nine of the present regular course was designed and built by the Gordon's in 1960 and opened in 1961. The course is rolling, well trapped, has numerous water hazards and wooded areas, and is regarded as a pleasure and challenge to play. The regular eighteen is a par 72, 6609 yard layout, and the nine hole course is 3146 yards, par 36.

MAINTENANCE

The old green of C-1 and C-19 are very heavily thatched and matted but the situation is being overcome by continual aerification, vertical mowing, top dressing, lime and proper fertilization. The greens receive 10 to 12 pounds nitrogen to 1,000 sq. ft. annually. They are fed at four week intervals using 10 to 12 pounds of 12-4-8 until hot, humid weather and then 2 to 3 pounds 12-4-8 and agrinite. Cutting is at $\frac{1}{4}$ inch until hot weather and then raised to 5/16 inch. The tees on the nine hole course and several on the front nine are U-3 bermuda, merion bluegrass and fescue. The back nine are merion and fescue. Cutting is at $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and fertilization is 10 to 15 pounds 10-6-4 at four week intervals. The fairways are a mixture of merion, Kentucky blue, penlawn fescue and poa annua, cut at 1 inch and fertilized with 500 pounds 10-6-4 annually. The course is irrigated with a quick coupling system on greens, tees and fairways. Water is supplied by two artificial lakes and a deep well. The lake pumps are 500 gpm each and the well at 250 gpm. Watering is done by night crews, nine holes per night in dry weather.

FUTURE

A tree and shrubbery nursery is being established, some 500 trees have been planted on the course. A rock garden area is being put together on number two lake. Azaleas have been planted along entrance road and day lily beds planted along banks of coves.

DIRECTIONS TO CLUB

From West Beltway to Harbor Tunnel, thru tunnel to Exit 1, follow Hollabird Avenue to Dundalk intersection and continue thru until it becomes Weiss Avenue to club on right.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our May 7th meeting at the Springfield Country Club was a most enjoyable one. The day was perfect for the playing of golf, the evening repast was served on the club's patio followed by an outstanding educational meeting. We are indebted to the Springfield Country Club for a delightful outing, especially to our fellow member, Mr. Michael Koss, the golf course superintendent; Mr. Gregory, greens chairman; Mr. Ronald Withers, club manager; and Mr. Robert Bowers, golf professional. The Mid-Atlantic sincerely appreciates the hospitality extended by our hosts, and hopes to have the pleasure of being with them again at some future date.

Those who played golf were able to observe the outstanding job Mike Koss has accomplished in the short time he has been at Springfield. The club is indeed fortunate in having a superintendent of such caliber who is so dedicated to his profession.

The guest speaker for the occasion was Mr. Alexander Radko, Eastern Director of the USGA Green Section. Those of us who have been in this area for a long while know him as our old friend "Al" Radko. He, along with others, has contributed much in the past to the success of the Mid-Atlantic. Al's discourse was on proper grass culture, weeds, insects and diseases; his talk was illustrated with slides. Al, we do not see you often enough, please visit us again real soon.

At our last three meetings we have been honored by the presence of several friends of long standing. These old time members have not attended many of our gatherings the last few years and they have been missed. We hope to see more often: George Campbell, Harry Allanson, John Connolly, Ellsworth Franklin, John Leavell, Marcus Pleasants, Andrew Sweeney, Charles Smeltzer and the many others who have not been with us for a long while. Don't forget Al Watson is expecting us at Sparrows Point for the June Meeting.

THE MID-ATLANTIC 10 YEARS AGO

Ten years ago the members of this association met at Five Farms Country Club in Baltimore, where Bob Scott, Sr., was host to 55 members and guests. Dr. O. J. Noer of the Milwaukee Sewage Commission who was guest speaker, presented a slide tour of courses and things he has seen in his travels about the country. One tip was that the disease pythium may be controlled by a light dusting of hydrated lime. The loss of bent grass in fairways sometimes can be traced to

The use of 2, 4-D in the fall. The use of ferrous sulphate at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ pound to one pound in 20 to 25 gallons of water to 5,000 square feet will prevent off color iron chlorosis on putting greens.

The late Bill Glover (Fairfax Golf Course) read the minutes in the absence of secretary-treasurer, Charles Schalestock. A letter was read from Norbeck Country Club asking assistance in locating a superintendent for their new course. The Mid-Atlantic nominated Bill Glover as candidate for the Board of Directors of the GCSAA. There was some discussion on holding a social function which would include our wives. Al Radko of the USGA Green Section acted as moderator of the constructive suggestion report. Mr. Scott emphasized the value and economy in the establishment of a good turf nursery. He said there is no better insurance in an emergency and the nursery should be used as the superintendents proving ground to become acquainted with and test the performance of new strains of grasses.

A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE OF GOLF COURSE DEVELOPMENT PART 2 by Harry C. Eckhoff

The greatest increase in golfers in the past five years has been among women - an increase of over 35%. This is also having its effect on the planning of new golfing facilities. About 70% of all golf lessons given at clubs around the country are taken by women. With this great increase in women golfers, women's locker rooms have become as important as those for men and the beauty shop has become as much a clubhouse necessity as the barber shop.

More women and junior golfers are largely the factors that keep golf courses busy on weekdays. Many more schools and colleges are adding golf to their physical education programs. Numerous educational institutions have their own golf courses on plans for them.

Older people are taking up golf. They are finding it a game they can play at a time in life when they have to give up most other sports. The powered golf car has been a factor here; so have the shorter par-3 and par-60 courses which have tended to equalize competition for those who may find the full length course a bit too strenuous. As pointed out in a recent book "Recreation In The Senior Years" by Arthur Williams, "Recreation is an extremely important aid to growing old gracefully. People who stay young despite their years do so because of an active interest which provides satisfaction through participation." Perhaps that is why senior citizens are finding golf so interesting and challenging.

INVITATION

Buck Whetsell, on behalf of Jim Thompson, president of Tantallon, has extended an invitation to our members. They would like us to make up a foursome and play their interesting course any day, except Monday when the course is closed.

JOB CHANGES

Harry McSloy from Country Club of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia, to Wilmington Country Club, Wilmington, Delaware.

Angelo Cammarotta from Greenhill Yacht and Country Club, Salisbury, Maryland, to Bonnie View Country Club, Baltimore, Maryland.

Tony Arch from Eastern Shore Yacht and Country Club, Onancock, Virginia, to Reston Golf Course, Fairfax, Virginia.

Jack McClanahan from Kahkwa Country Club, Erie, Penna., to Westwood Country Club, Vienna, Virginia.

Woodrow Pitman from Greenspring Valley Hunt Club, Baltimore, Maryland, to Laurel Pines, Laurel, Maryland.

Russel Kerns returns to Greenhill Yacht and Country Club, Salisbury, Maryland, from Country Club of Miami, Miami, Florida.

Robert Martino from Argyle Country Club, Layhill, Maryland, to Island View Golf Course, Sterling, Virginia.

INTRODUCING OUR NEW MEMBERS

James R. Thompson, President, Tantallon on the Potomac, Fort Washington, Maryland.

Robert R. Petrich, Gustin's Baltimore Toro, Baltimore, Maryland.

Fred N. Baker, South Hills Golf Club, Hanover, Pennsylvania.

Donald E. Hall, Belair Golf and Country Club, Bowie, Maryland.

Granville Ruckman, Jr., F. W. Bolgiano Company, Washington, D. C.

Richard Valentine, Merion Golf Club, Ardmore, Pennsylvania.

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