



MID-ATLANTIC

News Letter



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NEXT MEETING

The December meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Association will be held on the first at Glenn Dale Golf Club in Glenn Dale, Maryland. Golf may be played any time during the day. The cocktail hour will be from 5 to 6 P. M. with dinner following.

The annual election of officers will take place at this meeting. The following is the slate chosen by your Nominating Committee:

President	Thomas A. Doerer, Jr. --Incumbent
	Russell W. Kerns
Vice President	Angelo Cammarota--Incumbent
	Jack Oulla
Secretary-Treasurer	Sheldon R. Betterly--Incumbent
	George W. Cleaver
Directors	Two to be elected for a term of three years.
	Frank Haske--Incumbent
	Charles B. Schalestock--Incumbent
	Lee C. Dieter
	Bradley J. Strouth



OUR HOST

Bernie Hielig, our host, has been superintendent at Glenn Dale for the past three years. He started in the golf business in a way not uncommon in our field. A farmer from his earliest days, Bernie was drawn into golf course work when the farm he was leasing was developed into the Bel Aire Country Club. He went to work on the construction of the course with Douglas Smiley and stayed there for four years. He left his job at Bel Aire for his present position.

THE OWNERS

Ray and Roy Shields, will soon be celebrating their twentieth year in golf course operation. Upon their discharge from military duty after World War II, the Shields came back to Maryland. There they took over the operation of the Annapolis Roads Golf Course, which had been sadly neglected during the war years, and brought it back into shape with the help of their brother, Bob.

They were instrumental in bringing Bob into the area. We can all thank them for this as he has been a strong and dedicated member and guiding light of both our local and national associations ever since. Ray also has been a member of our association as long as Bob and, while not as active in our affairs for the last few years, he still remains interested in our activities and progress.

The Shields also operated White Flint Golf Course for seven years, from 1950 until 1957.

THE COURSE

The 6350 yard, par 70 course was designed by George Cobb and built in 1956 by Willy B. Lewis. The course is quite compact and interesting. The Shields Brothers took over ownership and operation of the golf course in 1958. They found a course where many short cuts had been taken during construction. They attribute these flaws to poor supervision by the previous owner during construction. A watchful superintendent on the job during this time is critical and could have eliminated many built-in problems.

MAINTENANCE

The greens of C-1 and C-19 have very little Poa Annuu in them. They are fertilized every two or three weeks with a complete fertilizer, usually 10-6-4, except during the summer when solubles and organics are used.

The small tees, badly beaten by the very heavy traffic, are to be resodded, possibly with Tufco Bermudagrass. They are presently being mowed and fertilized about the same as the fairways.

The unwatered fairways are mowed between 3/4 and 1 inch height and are fertilized twice each spring and fall at 500 lbs. per acre. They were limed at 1000 lb. per acre with ground burnt lime this fall.

The rough is quite restricted due to the tightness of the course. Total acreage is quite low.

THE FUTURE

Plans for the future include building of an adequate maintenance building and the construction of a well designed irrigation system with plenty of pressure and volume.

A new spring fed lake was added last year as an additional water source and came in very handy this past droughty year.

DIRECTIONS

From Beltway 495 take exit at Rt. 450 (Old Defense Highway). Take Rt. 450 East to Glenn Dale Sanitorium, turn left at Club sign and follow signs two miles to club.

From Baltimore - take Baltimore Washington Expressway to Greenbelt exit. Turn left on Glenn Dale Rd., go 4 miles to Glenn Dale, Md. Cross tracks, go two blocks, turn left at club sign (Prospect Hill Rd).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Thomas Doerer, Jr.

The November meeting of the Middle Atlantic Superintendents Association was held at the Turf Valley Country Club in Ellicott City, Maryland. There were 72 superintendents and their guests present. Twenty nine of those present played golf on a very well groomed course. Six prizes were awarded for the day's scores.

George Riddle, the host superintendent, welcomed all the superintendents and their guests, and treated us to a very delightful evening. William Strausbaugh, the host golf professional, had a word of welcome and suggested that the superintendents make their course an annual meeting place. Bill was most gracious with his comments on our Association and its place in the golf picture as the professional sees us.

Mr. Eddie Ault, the golf course architect, gave us a brief resume of the present course along with comments on the new course now under construction. Particular note was made with reference to the bluegrass collars around the greens. Mr. Riddle advised us that he treats the collars the same way he treats the greens. The height of cut is 3/4 of an inch year around.

Mr. George Gumm, our educational chairman, then introduced the guest speaker of the evening, Mr. Frank McFarlane. Mr. McFarlane gave a very interesting talk on insecticides, weed control and some ideas on the proper distribution of the necessary chemicals to control weeds and pests that infect our soils, grasses and shrubbery. His talk was followed by some very interesting slides showing us some of the results of his experiences.

Mr. Gumm gave us a preview of some of the highlights of the coming Middle Atlantic Turf Conference to be held at the new Holiday Inn, downtown Baltimore on January 11th and 12th, 1965. George advised us that the feature speaker of the meeting will be, none other than, the honorable J. Millard Tawes, Governor of the State of Maryland. Some of the other speakers will be as follows: David Moote, president of our National Association; L. R. Shields, the in-coming president of our National Association; Mr. Herb Graffis, editor of the Golfdom Magazine; Dr. George Langford, University of Maryland; Dr. Fred Grau, Hercules Powder Company; and many other fine speakers in the turf field. Without a doubt, this 36th Annual Meeting should be one of the best we have had. Let's have at least a 95%

attendance; I would not like to ask for 100% and be disappointed.

Don't forget to mail in the questionnaire we discussed at the meeting. If you did not receive one in the mail, pick one up at the next meeting.

NATIONAL NOTES

by Bob Shields

Our new GCSAA Executive Director is Mr. Ben Chlevin. His appointment will take effect December 1, 1964.

Ben is from Chicago where he has been employed for the last four years as assistant to the publisher, Mr. Joe Graffis, Sr., of Golfdom and Golfing Magazines. His primary duty and responsibility was production management, market research and development, advertisement promotion and art direction for these publications.

Before joining Golfdom, Ben was Public Relations Director for the National Golf Foundation where he was responsible for the planning, organization and execution of complete publicity and promotion programs designed to create local and national interest in golfing activity and development.

Ben is 6 ft. tall, weighs 175 lbs., is 44 years old, married and has two children. His personal appearance is good and we are certain he will favorably represent the superintendents wherever he goes.

Mr. Chlevin has sold his home in Chicago and will move his family to the Jacksonville area. With his training, experience, and background the Executive Committee is confident Ben will lead our fast growing organization to an even brighter future.

Yes, our future is bright. Golf is growing by leaps and bounds and the demand for trained superintendents increases with each new course built. As older superintendents retire or pass on to greener courses the association is hard pressed to supply qualified men to fill their places, but we must supply them. Our membership is at an all time high and still growing. A new membership campaign to be inaugurated next year will see our present membership doubled by the end of 1966.

Our publication is growing and at present is on a break-even basis where as a few years ago it had to be subsidized by money from membership dues. Our present circulation of 10,000 per issue is good but Mr. Chlevin will bring new ideas and a new approach which is bound to help.

We have no financial problems and can foresee the day when we will have a comfortable surplus and can be of greater service to members.

Welcome, Mr. Chlevin. We pledge our loyalty and support and wish you happiness and success. Let's get on with the work of helping the superintendent to help himself. We ask only that we get on with the task of education for, and professional development of, the men engaged in managing golf turf operations.

ON NEW MEMBERS

The GCSAA has published the Golf Course Reporter for many years and in each issue there are articles expounding the virtues of a golf course superintendent. A copy is sent each month to the club, the club president and the greens chairman free of charge when names and addresses are provided by the superintendent. The National Association does this to help club officials become better acquainted with their golf course superintendent but we have no way of knowing if the officials actually read the magazine.

We hope they do and also hope the National Association continues to send them our magazine, but we must remember that words and magazines don't make superintendents. A superintendent is made within the heart of a dedicated man using the information and knowledge obtained through publications to supplement his own experience.

Our membership list is at an all time high but is not high enough. Twenty-two hundred members out of 7,500 golf courses is not a representative proportion. The National Association is asking each chapter to join in a people-to-people program to sell all

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superintendents on membership in the association. A good way to begin would be to start with your neighbor superintendent who is not a member and explain to him the benefits of membership, which are: Insurance Plans, Pension Program, Golf Course Reporter, Educational Conference and Show, Management Aids Program, Employment Referral Service and the feeling of being a part of a growing association and profession.

Let's sell our profession to all people in charge of the maintenance of golf courses first, then we will be in a better position to take on the bigger job of informing the club member on the merits of a superintendent.

NOW IS THE TIME . . .

to plan attendance at the several educational conferences in our immediate vicinity during the next few months. These meetings provide refresher courses, and they present an opportunity to keep abreast of what is new in the field of agronomy. Several new short courses are available this year, they are listed below.

December 8, 9, 10, 1964 - Virginia Pesticide Conference, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Chemical Manufacturers; Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke, Virginia.

January 11-12, 1965 - Mid-Atlantic Turfgrass Conference, auspices University of Maryland and Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents; downtown Holiday Inn and Motel, Baltimore, Maryland.

January 27-28, 1965 - Virginia Turfgrass Conference, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Virginia Turfgrass Council; Hotel John Marshall, Richmond, Virginia.

January 27-28-29, 1965 - Agronomy Short Course, University of Maryland; National 4-H Club Center, Chevy Chase, Maryland.

February 7-12, 1965 - 36th INTERNATIONAL TURFGRASS CONFERENCE AND SHOW, GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA; SHERATON-CLEVELAND HOTEL, CLEVELAND, OHIO.

Also, sometime in late January of 1965 - the annual meeting of the USGA Green Section.

WATER USEAGE

by James Thomas

Should tees, fairways, and greens be saturated heavily with water before our irrigation systems are drained and put to bed for the winter? Since 1964 has been an abnormally dry year with an above average deficiency in rainfall, possibly some thought should be given to providing vital turf on such areas as tees, fairways, and greens with sufficient moisture for the months ahead, this might help to prevent cold weather dessication of grasses.

If the present drought continues, and even though some normal precipitation does occur, subsoils are exceedingly dry to great depths. This existing condition makes it advisable to furnish soil profiles with adequate moisture storage until water tables return to normalcy. Many golf clubs in this vicinity have installed complete irrigation systems for their courses or contemplate doing so in the very near future. The need and demand for this has been brought about by several years of below average rainfall which has resulted in no water reserves in our soils. A well planned watering system is a useful tool of management when properly used; however, when it becomes a plaything and misuse takes place troubles and headaches can accumulate and multiply as fast as unpaid interest on borrowed money.

Good water distribution is an art that is not often very well understood by those responsible for its application. Plant cells are dependent on it for existence and survival, also a correct balance of oxygen is needed. A healthy plant requires the right amount of moisture and no more, hence adequate drainage is a must to remove excess, unneeded and surplus water, and to prevent a waterlogged soil lacking in air content. We are all familiar with the headaches brought about by over saturation.

Golf players very often insist that putting greens be kept soft enough to hold all manner of shots, both good and bad. They reason that an application of water brings about the back-spin shot desired. Little do they realize the harm this can cause when the practice is used too often. When this takes place the skill of a properly played shot is no longer needed.

Water is the solvent which makes life giving nutrients available to plants, it keeps their leaves turgid, prevents wilting, and makes good growth possible. However, when saturation occurs beyond the field capacity of the soil, the red light of danger flashes; soils will lack sufficient oxygen causing plants to die of suffocation; roots will tend to become shallow, wet wilt can occur, disease is encouraged, and traffic on over-wet soil develops compaction, etc. Let's use water properly and wisely, conserve it whenever possible; yet, remember it is badly needed at the present time and should be provided in adequate quantities to relieve the present dryness of our subsoil profiles.

RECOGNITION

Recognition for ourselves and the Golf Course Superintendent is something we would all like to receive and see more of in our profession. How do we accomplish it? Not by being boisterous and obnoxious at one of our meetings when it is held at a fellow member's club, neither by showing the lack of respect towards proper authority; nor by failing to cooperate with officials, committees, and other department heads, or by indifference and lack of interest in our work.

It is said, "Nothing succeeds like success." What is success? Nothing more than "a job well done," coupled with a lot of enthusiasm for anything undertaken. This year several of our members have received outstanding recognition and commendation for their accomplishments.

Early in the season golfers of the Quantico Marine Base honored their superintendent, Mr. Ernest Stanley, with a testimonial dinner as a token of their appreciation for his many years of loyal service to them. The party was attended by the Quantico Commandant, principal officer personnel, golfers and many of Ernie's personal friends.

At the October meeting of our association, held at the Suburban Club of Baltimore County, the Chairman of the Golf Committee highly commended our fellow member James A. (Jim) Reid for his outstanding accomplishments at Suburban over the years.

A few weeks ago, the Bethesda Country Club observed "Lumsden Day" recognizing their golf course superintendent of long standing, Mr. Talmadge S. Lumsden, also his son Grafton. A golf tournament and a testimonial dinner were part of the day's activities.

Frank Dunlap received high praise in the October 5th issue of the Baltimore Evening Sun for the excellent condition of his five farms course during the recent Mid-Atlantic Amateur Golf Tournament. Special mention was made of how he selected the cup placements, his changing of the tee markers, and the fact that the well drained course remained in perfect condition in spite of several heavy downpours of rain.

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