

MID-ATLANTIC

# News Letter



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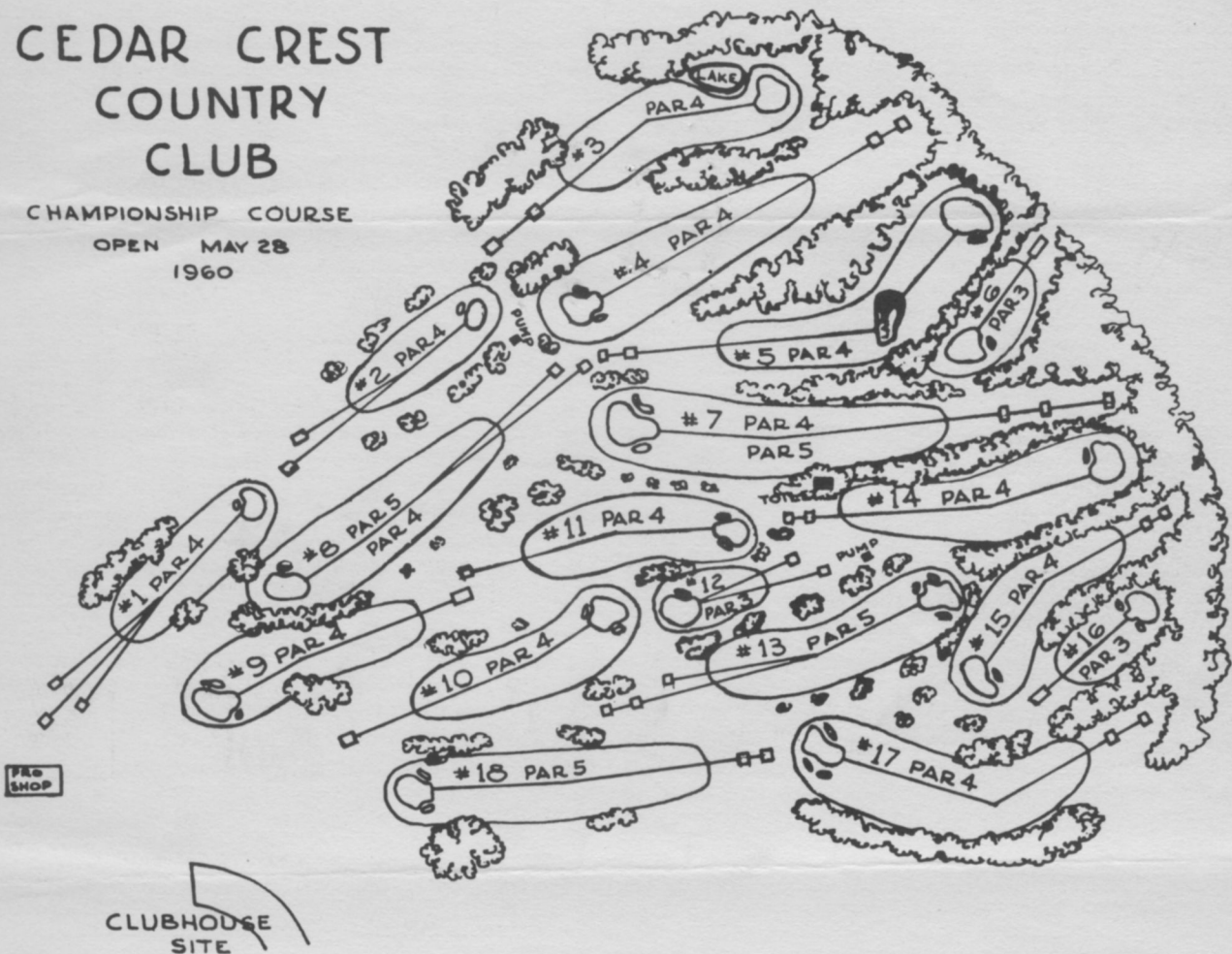
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No. 6

## CEDAR CREST COUNTRY CLUB

CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE  
OPEN MAY 28  
1960



### NEXT MEETING

The next get-together of the Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Association will be on Monday, July 12, at Cedar Crest Country Club in Centreville, Virginia, for the Second Annual Family Picnic.

The course will be open all day for anyone wishing to play golf. Also, anyone desiring to swim is welcome to use the pool facilities.

The ladies are invited to come early and join in the fun. Each lady will be eligible to enter the 27-hole Calamity Jane Putting Tournament. Putters will be furnished by Art Loezius, golf professional. Also, for the ladies will be Grab Bag Bingo. Each woman is asked to bring one or more white elephants, wrapped, to use as prizes for the bingo.

For the children there will be poolside entertainment supervised by Dick Mitchel, swimming pro, and his wife, Dee. Also on hand to help with entertainment will be Bernie Branson, assistant superintendent, and his wife, Gladys.

A picnic supper will be served at 6 P.M. Here we hope to meet Mr. Joe LaSalle, club president, and other club officials.

Charge for this fun filled day will be \$5.00 per family. All reservations must be in by July 8 so that plans may be completed. Please be sure to state the number of adults and children on your reservation.

Let's all come, relax and get acquainted and make this picnic a real success!



JEROME

#### OUR HOST

Mr. Wayne Jerome started in his profession under James Wilfong and worked under several other superintendents. He spent thirteen years at Congressional, seven years as superintendent. In 1959 Wayne moved to Cedar Crest where he had the chance to work on its construction. The first nine holes were opened by August, 1959, the second nine opened in June of 1960.

#### THE COURSE

Mr. E. H. Page designed the 6970 yard par 72 cedar-lined course. The layout is on ground scarred by the Civil War. William Preston, one of Stonewall Jackson's aides, is buried behind the 18th green. The club is a private stock owner owned club. The swimming pool and lodge were completed in 1964. The lodge is serving as a clubhouse until the permanent clubhouse is built in four or five years.

#### MAINTENANCE

Greens are C 1 and C 19 cut at 1/4 inch four times a week. They are fertilized with 10-6-4 straight chemical. And they receive 8 lbs. N per year. This is supplemented with muriate of potash occasionally. Three pounds of lime is applied twice a year. Wayne believes this helps keep his disease problems to a minimum and helps keep the mat from building up. The greens are sprayed when needed with one ounce of P.M.A.S.

Close to one half of the tees are 328 bermudagrass several of which have been overseeded, some with penncross and some with common Kentucky blue. The remaining tees will be rebuild and sodded with a Kentucky bluegrass, pennlawn, creeping red fescue mixture. Tees receive four pounds of N per year and are fertilized four times a year with 10-6-4.

Fairways were originally seeded to bermuda most of which was lost in the severe 1963 winter. They have been over seeded since then with Kentucky blue and pennlawn. They are cut at 3/4 inch. Fairways are fertilized with 10-6-4 spring and fall at 250 lbs. per acre. Three droughty years haven't helped the unwatered fairways to fill in.

#### FUTURE

Cedar Crest Country Club plans to add an additional 18 holes to their present course. Nine holes are now under construction.

#### DIRECTIONS TO THE CLUB

Take 495 to route 66 Centreville exit. Turn right on 29-211 to 621 (3 miles). Turn right and follow 2 1/2 miles to club entrance road.

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Thomas Doerer, Jr.

The June meeting was held at the Green Hill Yacht and Country Club in Quantico, Maryland. Host superintendent, Russ Kerns, made our visit a pleasant one by giving us the "land of pleasant living" treatment. The course was in fine shape and golf was enjoyed by about twenty superintendents and their guests. Refreshments were served in the evening followed by a delicious steak dinner.

After dinner the guests were introduced. Some of the guests were: Congressman Ralph Beerman from Nebraska; Lt. Colonel George E. Renault, Fort Belvoir; Robert Anger, host greens chairman; Dr. George Langford, Entomologist from the University of Maryland. Our guest speaker for the evening was Parker Shirling, manager of the Princeton Turf Farms from Centreville, Maryland. Parker showed slides and explained how the Princeton Farms were growing cultivated sod for use on golf courses and also commercial uses.

The Centreville farm, comprising some 1000 acres of grass, is only one of many being operated by the Princeton people. We wish Parker great success in his new venture. We had the pleasure of looking over this tremendous farm planted to Merion bluegrass and penncross bent. They are planning to grow the new hybrid bermudas, such as 328 and 419 the Tifton strains of bermuda.

Dr. Elwyn Deal of the University of Maryland Agronomy Department gave us a short talk on the schools entry into the two year short courses on turf management. For further details write to Dr. Deal at College Park, Maryland.

Our Annual Picnic will be held at Wayne Jerome's Cedar Crest course in Centreville, Virginia, Monday, July 12. There will be a Board of Directors meeting at Wayne's course.

My apologies to the board members for not having held a board meeting this month but the dry spell has kept me, and I am sure other members of the board, close to their respective courses trying to keep ahead of this unpredictable weather and it's problems. Many local courses are installing watering systems and this has kept many superintendents close to their work.

#### NATIONAL NOTES

by Bob Shields

The new address of the headquarters office of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America is 3158 Des Plaines Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinois. The Jacksonville Beach office was completely vacated June 26 and the Florida era of the history of the Association is now closed. It is closed with the exception of the disposition of four acres of land which GCSAA owns in Neptune Beach. This will be done in the not too distant future.

The office moved to Florida in 1959 and during the six years there our Association has experienced the greatest growth it has ever known. The number of members on the roll more than doubled and membership services and benefits were greatly increased. The big Conference and Show has added a thousand new registered attendants to our annual meeting and our financial picture has considerably improved. So good, in fact it now appears that we may now have to pay income tax on that portion of our income that comes from the Conference and Show. At one time our show required only a small hotel with a small exhibit area, but now only the largest hotels with 1000-1500 sleeping rooms and convenient exhibit space of 200-225 8x10 booths for exhibitors can be considered.

During this six year period, the individual Superintendent has also progressed. We have many more Superintendents and fewer greenkeepers - a trend that we hope will continue. Salaries have increased considerably and will continue to go up as Superintendents become aware of the importance they play in golf and begin to live their role of turfgrass specialists.

Yes, our history since 1959 has been good but our future is even brighter. Each National member must establish his own courses of action and work toward his own goals, but I sincerely believe that the future of each of us is tied directly to the future of GCSAA. This Association can never make Marylanders talk like Texans, but it can help them think alike and there-in lies our strength - all Superintendents thinking as one.

The new office near O'Hare Field in Chicago will be something of which Superintendents can be proud. It's located in a new, modern office building and will have all new furniture and furnishings. Mr. Chlevin has been instructed to go all out to make any visiting member feel at home when he stops at our new home, so if you (or your greens chairman) are in Chicago and have a little time between planes - stop in. This is a standing invitation, good any time, but I know Ben would appreciate a month or so to get the unpacking done and the work routine established before having guests so he would have time to make each visitor feel welcome.

In closing I'd like to make clear that the move back to Chicago was not made to please any one individual or any one group of members but was done because the majority of GCSAA members were in favor of the move and at the Cleveland Meeting instructed the Board of Directors to make the move.

I'll tell you about visits to the Allegheny, Western Pennsylvania and Kentuckiana Chapters at the next meeting - if there is available time on the agenda.

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## CULTIVATED SOD

by Parker Shirling

The following is the edited talk given by Mr. Parker Shirling of Princeton Turf Farms at the June meeting.

There is a big difference in "wild" or "pasture sod" and "cultivated sod". Pasture sod will give initial cover and is better than nothing, but will not give the user the good permanent turf he wants. Properly selected cultivated sod, chosen for the area and use requirements, will give lasting beauty and service with normal and proper care.

In selecting a farm for our use several conditions must be considered: a farm suitable for approximately 15 years of productivity with semi-light soil, preferably a little sandy and not too tight; a fairly flat area where erosion won't be a problem but will still have adequate drainage.

The first step is to clear the farm of old fence rows to give large fields and to simplify our future irrigation problems. Soil tests are taken to plan our initial fertilization program. The only time a plow is used is the first time over to plow to a depth of 6 or 8 inches. This is to clear the ground of the previous crop and give more loose soil for the leveling operation. After sod has been established and lifted, a disk is used to loosen the top 4 inches before making preparations for a new seed bed.

Preparation of the ground is begun in the fall and continues throughout the spring and summer months. Planting and seeding is done in the fall. After the fall plowing a field may be disked 5 or 6 times. During this operation, lime is applied and well worked in. Also during this time a land leveler is used. Two types are used and we find that the long trailer type, 35 to 40 feet, is superior to the three point hitch on the tractor. A transit level is set up to be sure of correct drainage. Then a York rake is sometimes used to make minor changes.

The next step is the application of pre-seeding fertilizer. The old easy-flow spreader is preferred but at times the Lely is used. An application of 0-20-20 is spread at the rate of 300 lbs. per acre prior to seeding. We would rather have the grass started, even though it takes a little longer, before applying nitrogen. This gives the grass a better chance to combat the weeds. After the seedlings are up the Lely spreader is used to apply nitrogen at a rate of 80 lbs. per acre. This rate is continued on an average of every three weeks during the growing season until lifting. During drought periods "N" is applied only ahead of irrigation, to not lose the effect and to utilize the advantage of the water.

Seeding is done with a broadcast type seeder. Two types are used. The Viking has a hopper for the seed which is dropped through tubes and pressed in the soil with a large wheel made of "plaster" screen which gives a good pattern and cover. The Brillion has two heavy press wheels which give a little better packing and firming of the seed bed. Rate of application is 40 to 50 lbs. per acre depending on the type of seed used and the mixture. Seeders apply only half the amount with one pass so we cross-seed or overlap to plant the total amount of seed. A cultipacker is used prior to the seeder to produce a firm bed.

Normal grooming is a continual program. Spraying for weeds and grubs, mowing, sweeping, verticutting, fertilizing, irrigating and mowing some more. Spraying for weeds is done in the spring and fall. A combination of 2, 4-D and 2, 4-5TP in a ratio of 2 to 1 is used. Five gallons of 2, 4-D with 2½ gallons 2, 4-5TP in 150 gallons of water gives us about 18 acres coverage. Dieldrin is used for grub control at the rate of 2 gallons or 3 lbs. actual per acre, using 1½ lbs. of actual material. Two gallons of Dieldrin to 8 gallons of water gives coverage for about an acre of ground. Every two years is often enough to apply this in our operation, since we are moving the sod. All of our turf is inspected by the state and we abide by their recommendations. We feel that clordane may build up a residue and eventually be injurious to the root system. Banvel "D" is used on our bent grasses at a rate of 1 pint per acre or ½ lb. actual. Banvel is very effective on onion as this year we made one application of the Banvel "D" plus 2, 4-D mixture as suggested at some of the meetings.

We try to maintain Merion and mixed grasses at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 inches during fast growing periods, raising mowers to around  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches for the dry dormant months. If a field gets too much growth before mowing, we sweep it after mowing. Bent grasses are maintained at  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch height. Bents are mowed in both directions each time and always swept after each mowing. A Rogers aero-blade is used when necessary.

Irrigation is a "must" for a turf farm. Watering is done from a well 350 feet deep with a 10 inch casing to 200 feet and an open hole below. Our pump was engineered for 750 g.p.m. but we have stepped it up to a test of about 1100 g.p.m. The sprinkler system is Wade Rain's wheel move. Each field will have its own wheel system to attach to the new main line steel pipe from risers placed every 180 feet.

Cutting or lifting is done with a Ryan cutter. At present strips 18 inches wide and 6 feet long are cut. Merion and mixed grasses are cut with 3.4 inch of dirt and the bents with  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch. This may vary due to conditions. If it is hot and dry we will give a little more soil to protect the roots during transpiration. If it is wet, a little less soil to make less hauling weight.

The operation of a cultivated sod farm is just a continual round of procedures with never a let-up, but very gratifying as to results.

#### NOW IS THE TIME ...

Since we are entering a season when both water management and disease control is on the utmost importance to us, it is well to review the comments made by William H. Bengeyfield in one of the Western Turfletters of the USGA Green Section: "D I S E A S E -

#### "A POUND OF CURE?"

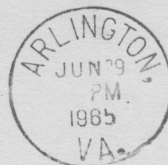
Disease, insects and weather have often been called our worst natural enemies. "Should I follow a preventative spray schedule: or, hope to catch and control any disease outbreak in its early stages?" YOU must furnish the final answer to this substantial question.

#### "OR AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION?"

As you consider the pros and cons and chart your course for the year, don't lose sight of these other important navigational aids for a successful journey: 1. Iron sulphate is important to help maintain good vigor and stronger plants. 2. Water greens thoroughly and preferably in the very early morning, to minimize disease. 3. Syringe only when the grass requires it. 4. Keep an accurate record of all fungicide and fertilizer applications. 5. Feed lightly but frequently during the hot months. 6. If an accurate identification of a particular disease is difficult, or impossible, try a 'shotgun' mixture of Tersan, phenyl mercury (PMA) and cadmium. 7. Good Management is THE important factor in disease free turf. Fungicides are only a 'crutch' if disease persists.

## **MID-ATLANTIC** News Letter

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