



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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

Vol. XV

February 25, 1966

No. 2

LAST MEETING

The March meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Association was held on the first at the Washingtonian Golf Club, on route 70S in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The weather was not good for golf but many of the superintendents walked over parts of the course. Dinner was served at 6:00 PM and the business meeting followed. Sgt. John Bechtel, a juvenile officer from Montgomery County, conducted a very interesting question and answer period on vandalism by juveniles on the golf course.

OUR HOST

Buel Hitchcock, a native of Beckley, West Virginia, worked as superintendent of the Black Knights Country Club in Beckley from 1951 to 1958. In the fall of 1958 Buel entered the two year Turf Management program at Penn State University. He graduated from there in the spring of 1960 and became superintendent at the Greenwich Country Club in Greenwich, Connecticut. He left there in November, 1964, to become superintendent at the Washingtonian. Buel and his wife, Nellie, have three boys, ages 16, 14 and 12.

THE COURSE

The 162 acre Washingtonian Golf Club is owned by Sam Eig Enterprises. It was designed and built in 1961 by Russell Roberts. A new 18 hole golf course is in the works at the Washingtonian with Thurmond Donovan, the architect, and Russell Roberts, the builder. The plans are for building it in 1966 and opening it in June, 1967. A highlight of the new course will be its proposed completely automatic irrigation system.

MAINTENANCE

The C1 and C19 greens average 6,000 sq. ft. and are cut every day during the growing season at 1/4 inch. Ten pounds of N are applied annually with organic fertilizer being used. Penn-cross is the grass chosen for the new course's greens.

The tees are a mixture of Merion and Pennlawn. They are cut three times a week with greens mowers at 1/2 inch. Five pounds of N was applied in 1965 with soluble as the source. The new course will have Tufcote Bermuda tees.

The fairways are a mixture of Merion Blue and Bermuda. They are cut every other day at 1/2 inch. Four pounds of N are applied annually with 16-8-8 soluble as the source. Merion alone will be used for fairways on the new course.

Roughs are Kentucky 31 which are kept at 2 1/2 inches. The roughs receive 2 pounds of N annually with 16-8-8 soluble as the source. Plans call for straight Merion roughs on the new course.

Buel says that poor drainage was a problem on his greens but he says he has eliminated it.

A treat for many of the superintendents was a tour of the greenhouse over which Buel lords. Here Buel grows carnations, azaleas, snapdragons, gladioli, etc. which he used for landscaping at the Washingtonian.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Angelo Cammarota

The National Turf Conference was a terrific success again this year. And it was a great occasion for the Mid-Atlantic Association with forty-eight members, plus five wives of members and Mark Shields, son of our president, Bob Shields, attending. This was a fine turn out which could establish some kind of a record for a local chapter.

The Conference Committee did a superb job on publicity for our Association with the fine booth display; passing out the buttons; the George Washington costume; and the distribution of our January Newsletter, which I thought was one of our best Newsletters published to date. The Annual Turf Conference photos and the fine contributions from our own members - Robert Shields, James E. Thomas, William Emerson, Thomas A. Doerer, Jr. - were a good representation of the activity in the Mid-Atlantic Association.

We can all be proud of the accomplishments of the National Association this past year as they were listed in our January Newsletter by our own Bob Shields, immediate past president.

The Mid-Atlantic Association was not only well represented in numbers but also by the prominence of Robert Shields, past president; James E. Thomas, past president, assisting in the national election; Sheldon Betterly, our vice president, doing a fine job on the last day's program and his welcoming remarks from the Mid-Atlantic Association.

George C. Gumm declined the nomination as Director because our Association has a representative on the National Board; also because of the confining duties of serving as the general chairman for the National Turf Conference in 1967. This was a fine gesture on the part of George Gumm and our local Association.

Our welcoming message on the banquet menu, as it appeared in "The Golf Course Superintendent," was a fine piece of publicity for our Association and a real reward for the efforts of the hard working members assisting the Conference Committee. Let's keep this enthusiasm alive and encourage the aid of every member to volunteer for any task that needs to be accomplished to make the next Conference the very best.

George Gumm has a big job to do and he will need the help of every member. So let's give him your whole-hearted support. It is your Association. Do something for it.

And now for some extraordinary facts about some ordinary things may I quote, "Upon the depth of our desire will depend the swiftness of our progress," --- "What is often simple enough in its conception, is unfortunately complicated in its execution."

WE NEED YOUR HELP. LET'S HAVE IT. Thank you.

NATIONAL NOTES

by Bob Shields

The old problem of where to get trained golf course superintendents is still with us but finally, after many years, I believe we are nearing a solution.

Many colleges are now offering two and four year courses in fine turfgrass management and a larger number of young men interested in agriculture are entering this field. Several superintendents now employed in the Mid-Atlantic area have completed these courses and are doing a good job building a career for themselves and adding prestige to our work even though some are still in their twenties. To name a few - George Thompson at Columbia; Lee Dieter at Washington Golf and Country Club; Dave Fairbank, Lakewood; Bill Emerson, Crofton; Buel Hitchcock at Washingtonian; Sheldon Betterly, Chantilly; Jack McClenahan at Westwood. All have finished college courses and are now employed as golf course superintendents in our area.

We can examine the work these men have done on their courses and can then attest as to the value of these schools to the golf industry by the accomplishments of these superintendents in producing quality turf. This is proof of the success of the training program.

Some of the Universities with accredited turfgrass programs are Iowa, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Oregon State, Penn State, Purdue, Rhode Island, Rutgers, Texas A&M and Wisconsin. One of the most recent to join this list is our own University of Maryland and we now have the pleasure of working with George Quigley, Dr. Elwyn Deal and Frank Cronin.

In 1957, Bob Adams of National Capital Toro and T. L. Gustin of Philadelphia Toro suggested to all Toro Distributors that they make contributions to the GCSAA Scholarship and Research Fund which had been established in 1956 to help finance the education of young men interested in turfgrass maintenance. The above named men were successful in their efforts and were

able to present a substantial cash contribution to GCSAA president, Paul Weiss, Sr., at the Washington meeting for the use of the Fund.

Since then other commercial firms such as Jacobsen Manufacturing and Ryan Equipment have added their support. National Golf Fund, Inc., has aided immensely. The Turf Management Club of the University of Massachusetts and Clinton Kent Bradley have made contributions. GCSAA contributes office space, postage, stationery and supplies, salaries, scholarship certificates and legal fees as well as a substantial amount of cash each year.

The purpose of the Scholarship and Research Program is to encourage young men with a leaning toward agriculture to continue their studies in turfgrass maintenance. Through our financial assistance we hope that a greater number of people will be trained to fill the need for additional golf course superintendents in the future.

The demand for qualified superintendents is at an all time high. Four hundred and seventy new golfing facilities were developed in 1964. In 1965, three hundred and forty-six new, regulation golf courses were opened for play and each entered the market searching for, and competing for, the services of a golf course superintendent. Where are these new superintendents coming from? Who will fill vacancies caused by retirement, men leaving the field and by death?

The answer is, of course, from training schools. But some of the boys in these schools need financial help. The GCSAA Scholarship and Research Fund is set up to supply this help but our aid is limited by the amount of money contributed.

As stated earlier, the golf course supply industry has contributed, National Golf Fund (National Golf Day) has been a big booster, and you and your fellow golf course superintendents have helped through our National Association. Other groups that could and should take an active interest in this matter are the Golf Associations and the country clubs.

Golf Associations are organized to promote golf and anything good for golf. We think the man responsible for the playing condition of a golf course is good for golf. We know that without a man to function as golf course superintendent the golf course will suffer and that is bad for golf. Golf Associations have been faithful boosters of Caddy Scholarship Funds designed to help give boys a general college education. I wonder if there isn't some way we can interest them in supporting this tax deductible fund aimed at educating boys for golf course work. One good way of doing this might be to point out to them that their golf money would stand a good chance of remaining in golf by helping to train a boy for turf work.

The country clubs stand to lose most if they have no one to look after their big investments in land, trees, turf, fences, equipment and buildings. If we could get club officials to face the problem of replacing their present superintendent, should he die tomorrow, we would soon get some action but we have never been able to interest them along this line.

In your talks with your chairman won't you point out to him the importance of having trained turfgrass men coming on in golf course work and explain to anyone who will listen the value of the GCSAA Scholarship and Research Fund.

CONFERENCE ON GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT

A conference dealing with "Irrigation of Golf Courses" sponsored by the Green Section of USGA will be held on Friday, March 25, at the Marriott Twin Bridges Motel in Washington, D.C.

Everyone is welcome -- commercial people as well as representatives of non USGA member clubs. It will be an open meeting --- nobody will be turned away.

Luncheon reservations must be made at least 48 hours in advance with Mr. Martin McCarthy, 100 E. Lenox Street, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20015. Luncheon will be \$3.75, gratuity included.

The following program promises to be of great interest.

Morning Session 10 AM to 1 PM

10:00 AM - Introduction

Martin F. McCarthy, USGA Green Section Committee, Chevy Chase, Md.

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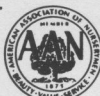
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- 10:15 AM - Designing Irrigation Systems for Golf Courses
Herb Klose, Sprinkler Irrigation Association, Peoria, Ill.
- 10:45 AM - Water Requirements of Turfgrasses and Factors Influencing Irrigation Practices
James Moncrief, Moderator; Agronomist, USGA Green Section; Lee Record, Agronomist, USGA Green Section
Dr. Elwyn Deal, University of Maryland, College Park, Md.
- 11:30 AM - Recess
- 11:45 AM - Sources of Supply
William H. Bengeyfield, Moderator; Western Director, USGA Green Section
- 12:15 PM - Types of Systems - Economics
Alexander M. Radko, Moderator; Eastern Director, USGA Green Section
Melvin B. Lucas, Piping Rock Club, Locust Valley, New York
Lee C. Dieter, Washington Golf & Country Club, Arlington, Va.
- 1:00 PM - Lunch
- AFTERNOON SESSION - 2 PM - 4 PM
- 2:00 PM - Water Movement in Soil (Film)
- 2:25 PM - Comparison of Types of Systems - Operation
Holman M. Griffin, Moderator; Agronomist, USGA Green Section
Harry J. McSloy, Wilmington Country Club, Wilmington, Del.
Edward Roberts, Jr., USGA Green Section Committee, Chatham, N.J.
- 3:10 PM - Engineering and Installation
Dr. Marvin H. Ferguson, Moderator; Mid-Continent Director, USGA Green Section
Robert L. Elder, Agronomist, Silver Spring, Maryland
Sherwood A. Moore, USGA Green Section, Mamaroneck, N.Y.
- 4:00 PM - Adjourn

SORRY

Missing from our picture of the Board of Directors for 1966 was our past president and director Thomas Doerer, Jr. Tom was absent due to illness when the picture was taken. We forgot to list him as a director under the picture.

FACTS AND FIGURES

by James E. Thomas

How to estimate fairway areas -

When fairways have an average width of:

50 yards each 100 yards in distance can be regarded as one acre
60 yards each 80 yards in distance can be regarded as one acre
70 yards each 70 yards in distance can be regarded as one acre

Weight of Soil Materials -

A cubic yard of humus weighs	945 lbs.
" " " " water	" 1,683 lbs.
" " " " clay	" 1,701 lbs.
" " " " medium topsoil weighs	1,925 lbs.
" " " " heavy topsoil	" 2,414 lbs.
" " " " quartz (sand)	" 2,438 lbs.
" " " " light topsoil	" 2,608 lbs.
" " " " heavy subsoil	" 2,738 lbs.
" " " " medium subsoil	" 2,762 lbs.
" " " " sandy subsoil	" 2,886 lbs.

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