



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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GOLF COURSE MEETING TEES OFF IN BALTIMORE edited from Cooperative Extension Service, Press Pack, University of Maryland, College of Agriculture
Who thinks about the bunkers when the ball is pin high?

Golf Course Superintendents do, that's who. They teed off on their link-and-labor-management problems at their Mid-Atlantic Association's 39th annual conference in Baltimore, January 10-11.

Sod growers, athletic field and cemetery superintendents, and home owners from throughout the Northeastern United States attended. The Holiday Inn meeting was under the auspices of the University of Maryland Extension Service.

The 203 men planned to do better than par as they stroked away at the problems of irrigation, soil mixtures, sod production, winter protection of greens, insects, landscaping, and even golf carts.

Labor management, turf research, and "nitrogen sources for tifgreen Bermuda tees" were other topics.

Both the University of Maryland's Dr. Gordon M. Cairns, dean of agriculture, and Dr. Edward W. Aiton, director of the Extension Service greeted the group.

Picking up the ball was Mr. L. Robert Shields, president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, Woodmont Country Club, Maryland; Mr. Thomas A. Doerer, Jr., president of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents, Fort Belvoir Golf Course, Virginia; and Mr. John P. Hewitt, director of the Maryland-National Park and Planning Commission.

Agronomists from Maryland University, Pennsylvania State University, Rutgers University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and the U. S. Department of Agriculture also spoke.

Maryland and the District of Columbia claim 103 golf courses -- or one course for every 41,165 persons in the area. "Qualified golf course superintendents here and across the nation are in great demand," says Dr. Elwyn E. Deal, Maryland University agronomist. "Average salaries are in the \$10,000 range."

Meanwhile, the Free State turf industry is also skyrocketing sod farms here range from one-acre backyard plots to 2,000-acre businesses.

Address inquiries or comments to: Linda Kay Crowell, Information Specialists, Room 29, Symons Hall, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Angelo Cammarota

Our Annual Turf Conference in January was a gratifying success; we continue to exceed the previous year's record. This year the attendance was 203 registrants. We all enjoyed the fine educational program prepared by our Educational and Conference Committee and Drs. Langford and Deal of the University of Maryland. We were pleased with the support from the superintendents in the surrounding areas of Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey for continually supporting this fine Conference. The participation of university men from Penn State, Rutgers University, V. P. I., and the University of Maryland, our own superintendents and commercial men on the program are largely responsible for the popularity and wide acceptance of this Annual Conference.

We of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents wish to express our sincere appreciation to everyone, including the registrants, for all they have contributed to its success.

This coming year we will be directing all of our efforts in preparation of the National Turf Conference in Washington, D. C. Therefore, we will not hold our next Conference until January, 1968. Our Association will have the honor and privilege to be the host to the National Turf Conference. For this task we shall call for the cooperation of all the members. Many of you have proven your ability to do outstanding jobs in the past, so let us enlist the help of everyone and arouse in them the enthusiasm to put forth the same effort in preparing to give all those attending the Conference in 1967 a hearty welcome with an unforgettable stay in our Nation's Capitol.

A large percentage of our members usually attend the National Conference and this year we should all have a special interest in attending in Kansas City. We shall have the opportunity to extend an invitation to all our fellow superintendents, their wives and children in a personal manner. Those of you who are undecided about going to Kansas City, come along and make your plans to join us who are going to extend this personal invitation to visit with "The Wide Awake, On The Move" Mid-Atlantic Association.

And as we prepare to face the problems of the coming year let this anonymous quote be our daily prayer. "God grant us the serenity to accept the things we can not change. The courage to change the things we can, And the Wisdom to know the difference." ANONYMOUS

NATIONAL NOTES

by L. Robert Shields

This is the last NATIONAL NOTES I will write to you as President of GCSAA. At the Kansas City Conference in February you will elect another man to head our National Association and I'll join that exclusive group known as Past Presidents. Sherwood Moore, a Past President himself, calls this group the "Has-Beens".

I'm most grateful to the members of the Mid-Atlantic for the part they played in making it possible for me to serve as National President for the past year. It was a most enjoyable experience and is one that I shall never forget. I have traveled far and wide across our country talking to Superintendents and others about the importance of good turf to good golf and on the relationship of the Superintendent to the game of golf.

During the year we have made progress as an Association and as individuals. Some of the things we accomplished as an Association are as follows:

1. Started the new year with a new man as Executive Director.
2. Selected, leased and moved our Headquarters Office to new modern quarters in the Chicago area.
3. Screened, selected and trained an entire new office staff (with the exception of the Assistant to the Executive Director) with little interruption of membership services.
4. Secured the services of an experienced magazine man to head our Publications Department.
5. Changed the name of the GOLF COURSE REPORTER to the GOLF SUPERINTENDENT.
6. Moved our publications department from Appleton, Wisconsin, to the Chicago headquarters.
7. Issued a new membership roster as well as the regular issues of the REPORTER.
8. Retained a new auditing firm to audit our books.
9. Changed the date for ending our fiscal year.

Some of these accomplishments seem like routine housekeeping chores and perhaps they are, but they are also important steps that had to be taken in order for the office staff to be in a position to give increased services to the membership. One thing certain, we did not get everything done that we had hoped for this year. The reason may be that we established goals too high for us to reach, or maybe we did not strive hard enough to attain our objective, or perhaps our goals were out of reach at the outset. For example, the new membership drive scheduled for the Spring of 1965 was dropped because we did not think we could handle it properly while the office was in the process of moving. The proposed correspondence course was postponed for the same reason but some preliminary work in the form of a questionnaire was done to see if members really wanted it.

Mr. Chlevin, our Executive Director has come through his first year with us with flying colors even tho' the tasks we assigned him were enough to cause anyone to shudder. He has been cheerful, cooperative and eager to learn more about Superintendents all during this trying period and has kept the Officers and Directors informed of his efforts, activities, and accomplishments. The staff he and Mr. Titlow assembled for us are a fine group of people and they are already dedicated to our cause which is to aid and assist Superintendents.

Ben succeeded in obtaining the services of Joe Doan as the new Managing Editor of our Publications Department. Joe worked with Herb and Joe Graffis, publishers of GOLFDOM and GOLFING magazines for a period of ten years and is a veteran golf writer and editor who is familiar with Superintendents and their work. I was happy and proud to welcome him to our staff and I feel that our magazine is in good hands. You can expect to see a change in the publication with more articles by and for golf course SUPERINTENDENTS. Also look for articles that will keep you informed on the big changes expected in golf course maintenance methods and ideas in the near future. Our world is changing rapidly. The SUPERINTENDENT will keep you aware of trends as they develop and will report to you in language that you can understand.

At the Fall Board meeting in Chicago the Board of Directors voted to change the name of the GOLF COURSE REPORTER to the GOLF SUPERINTENDENT. This step was taken to more closely identify our official publication with the work of the Golf Course Superintendent. We wanted to focus more attention on the Superintendent to help him to become better known and to be more appreciated for the service he performs for golf.

At the Fall Meeting also a new design symbol of our official association emblem was adopted. The new design is not to replace our old and honored emblem but was selected for use at times and in places where the old one could not be used because of space or cost of reproduction. For instance, on the new headquarters office door, the symbol is used to blend in with the modern surroundings of the office building. By omitting the waving flag and the landscape as well as the lettering around the outside circle, the new symbol is easier and less expensive to reproduce. We are certain that none of our old history and tradition will be sacrificed by this change and are convinced that our new design symbol will link our honorable past with our illustrious future.

We are still trying to find a method of revising our election rules and procedures to assure equal representation by all areas. Some feel that Proxies should be eliminated and elections determined by delegates attending the Conference. Others say the present system is as democratic as we can make it and point out that the politicking, the vote exchanging, the promises and fellowships made between delegates at the Conference is part of the cement that holds our Association together.

We have made progress as individuals and have accomplished much on our golf courses everywhere. Every golf course has embarked on some kind of new construction work and as Superintendents we have accepted the challenge to be of more service to our clubs. Simply by having accomplished the tasks assigned us we have progressed to a higher plane than we were before and are now looking to new heights. Compensation for our work has been steadily rising and will continue to rise as we add to our education and become more valuable to our clubs. Service is the key word for us and it will have a deeper meaning and pay greater dividends if we give without thought of praise or recognition. These will follow if we serve.

Yes, we have accomplished much in 1965 and the year just past will always be a memorable one on the records of our great Association even tho' we did not get everything done we had hoped to do. Nineteen sixtysix will offer great opportunity for the advancement of our profession. We are a stronger today than ever in our history and each of us must demonstrate our willingness to fully accept the responsibilities of GCSAA membership so we can advance even more.

ASSOCIATION . . .

by Thomas Doerer, Jr.

May I take this opportunity to thank all my fellow members for their kind remarks, phone calls, get well cards and other expressions of interest in my welfare.

Having been hospitalized recently I had an opportunity to do some thinking about our

Association and its meaning. After looking up the word in Webster's dictionary, I found it had several interpretations, one of which applied to our Association. It was as follows -- "An organization of people with a common cause or purpose and having a formal structure."

The record turn-out at the Baltimore Conference is positive proof that we have the people. Our common cause or purpose is to maintain our courses in the best condition possible for the enjoyment of many thousands of golfers in our area. Our form and selection of officers and directors make up the formal structure. This was proven in the election of the officers and directors for the coming year, 1966.

With the International Turf Show coming to Washington next year let us all concentrate on the above word, Association, and show our fellow superintendents from all parts of the world that we fully understand the meaning of the word and will prove this by supporting our various committees in putting on one of the best shows our local and national body have put on to date.

THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING YOUR GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT ON THE JOB DURING CONSTRUCTION OF YOUR GOLF COURSE by Bill Emerson

The importance of the Golf Course Superintendent on the job during the construction of the golf course far and away exceeds the salary he is being paid during this period.

The Construction Supervisor (as I call him) is the eyes and ears of the owner and architect. He is on the job every day while, in most cases, it is either impossible or impractical for the owner or architect to do this.

The Construction Supervisor's primary purpose is to enforce the specifications that were written for the job. If he has trouble enforcing them or believes a modification is necessary he can bring these points to the attention of the owner and/or architect.

Lets take a brief look at what the major duties of the Construction Supervisor are during the complete construction of the golf course.

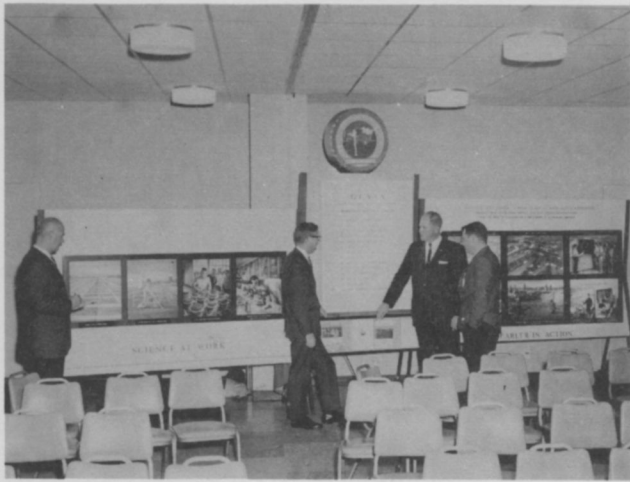
1. Clearing - It is the Construction Supervisor's responsibility to see to it that the land is cleared properly and completely. He must see that trees that will add beauty or play a part in the strategy of a golf hole are not removed or damaged. He can do this by flagging these trees and closely watching the clearing program.
2. Sub Grade - It is essential to proper maintenance to have a proper sub grade. A conscientious Construction Supervisor will see to it that the sub grade is uniform, that there is proper drainage, and that the specified materials are applied correctly. The contours in the sub grade should closely match the contours that are desired in the finish grade.
3. Blending of Top Material - It is very important to see to it that the sand; topsoil; and addative, whether it be peat moss, vermiculite or one of countless others; be blended at the correct ratio and applied at the correct depth on the greens and in some cases tees. Your Construction Supervisor will also see to this.
4. Finish Grade - With the proper sub grade and the proper application of the blended top material the finish grade should be arrived at quickly and easily. It is the Construction Supervisor's job now to see to it (on greens and tees especially) that the surface is smooth and that there are no sharp edges for his mowers to scalp.
5. Irrigation - Today irrigation systems are essential to the proper establishment and maintenance of a golf course. There is no sense going any farther with construction of the golf course if water is not going to be available for establishment. The Construction Supervisor must now see to it that each hole is staked as to the boundary between fairway and rough and lay out his main lines to suit his expected fairway. He must see to it that the pipe used meets and is layed according to the specifications and that his head placements, especially around greens and tees, will be to his best advantage for maintenance.
6. Fertilizer and Lime - The Construction Supervisor's duty here is to see to it that the proper material and amounts of material are applied to the soil. He can only do this after determining the size of the greens, tees, fairways and roughs.



1. Lining up at the Registration Desk.



2. 203 persons attended the educational meetings at the 39th Annual Mid-Atlantic Turf Conference.



3. The GCSAA Educational Exhibit makes its first appearance at the Mid-Atlantic Turf Conference.



4. Tom Mascaro is presented a memento of his appearance at the conference by Frank Haske.



5. Mid-Atlantic GCSAA Officers and Directors for 1966 -- standing 1. to r. Directors Russel Kerns, Alex Watson, L. Robert Shields (National Pres.), Robert Milligan & Robert Martino; seated Lee Dieter, dir.; Sheldon Betterly, Vice Pres.; Angelo Cammoroto, Pres.; George Cleaver, Secy.-Treas.; & Frank Haske, dir.

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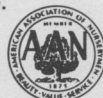
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7. Seed - The duties of the Construction Supervisor in this case are quite similar to those he has with fertilizer and lime. He must again make sure that the seed used meets the standards and is applied according to the specifications.

8. Establishment - In most cases establishment is going on in some areas while construction is still going on somewhere else on the golf course. This can really give a Construction Supervisor, or is he now the Golf Course Superintendent, the "fits". He must continue to do all the preceding things and now he must also be responsible for establishing and maintaining areas where construction is completed. He must take, for the most part, unskilled labor and turn it into first class green, tee and fairway mowers, tractor drivers, trap rakers, cup changers, etc.

9. Equipment - The Construction Supervisor who now changes his title to Golf Course Superintendent should be consulted and, if it is at all possible, granted the equipment he thinks will do the job of maintaining this particular golf course. No one, not the construction company, architect or owner, knows this golf course like he does. He ate, drank, and slept with this golf course in his mind from the first day of clearing.

I am sure that if golf course owners, before they built their golf courses, were aware of the importance of having their Golf Course Superintendent on the job during construction a good deal of our headaches now as Superintendents would have been eliminated.

ORGANIZATION ITS TRUE PURPOSE AND MEANING Part II by James E. Thomas
Everyone can play a part. No matter what your circumstances or background may be, you can make a needed contribution to your organization. Here are a few typical instances: You can do your bit to see that all issues involving principles are presented clearly and fairly. By speaking up for fundamental truths. It is always possible to light a few more candles. Your one voice can encourage many others, who have thought as you do, to take a stand for integrity at meetings.

Always show consideration for others. Many a good cause suffers because of needless bickering among members. The affairs of every organization offer numerous opportunities to put into practice the divine standard: "As you would that men should do to you, do you also to them in like manner." Here are a few ways in which to do this: Submit suggestions instead of trying to impose them. Give credit where credit is due. Be considerate of the feeling of others. Refrain from making critical remarks that are personal rather than objective. Develop your sense of humor. Be able to laugh at your own mistakes rather than at those of others. Be careful not to minimize or underestimate good proposals of fellow members, and support whatever has merit in their suggestions. Encourage the timid to speak up, and give them a sense of belonging. Protect them from being squelched by others, and don't let them think their proposals are not wanted or needed.

We should act as well as talk. It is a common failing to think that complex problems can be solved merely by talking about them. If words alone could do it, we would have had global peace long ago. We should spend thirty minutes of performance for every five minutes of talk. See that your meetings get beyond the talking stage. Help to put into concrete application the principles for which your organization stands, and you will be surprised at the results.

Closely watch the finances. See that complete financial statements are regularly given to the entire membership. Whether your organization is large or small, the money spent by officers comes from the members; and it is up to the rank and file to see that all financial transactions are handled judiciously and honorably.

Entertainment should be kept in its proper place. While entertainment has a definite value; care must be taken to see that social hours, dinners, dances, etc., do not become the major preoccupation of organizations with purposes above and beyond providing amusement for their members. Important as entertainment is for certain occasions, it should remain incidental to the chief objectives of a group. Many an organization has learned to its sorrow it must pay a heavy price when entertainment becomes the chief pursuit. It becomes next to impossible to revive interest of the membership in the very purposes for which the group was really formed.

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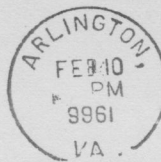


There's more to see in

WASHINGTON D. C.

MID-ATLANTIC News Letter

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