



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



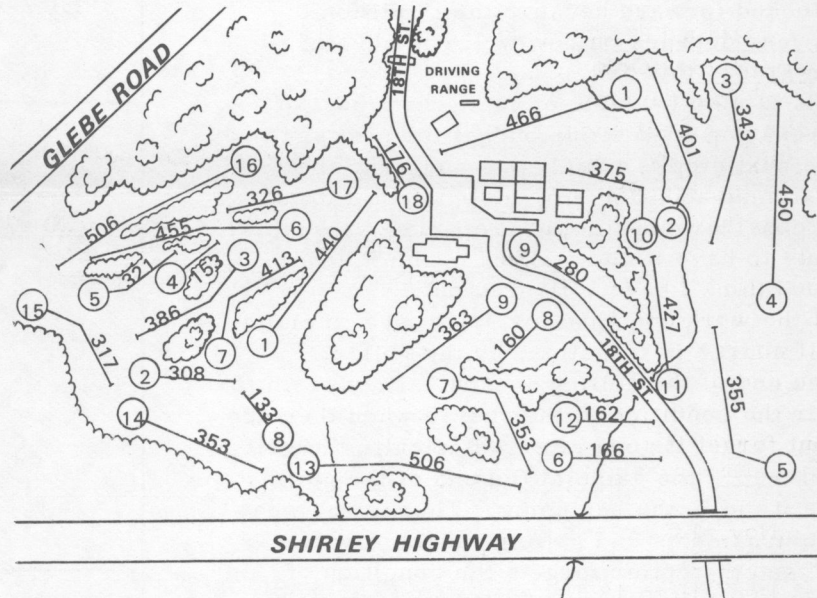
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Golf Course Superintendent through Education and Merit

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NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Association will be held on Tuesday, November 12, at Army Navy Country Club. Golfers may tee off any time at the Arlington or Fairfax courses. Lunch can be obtained at the grill. Cocktails at 6:30. Dinner at 7:30.

OUR HOST

Del Hammersley has been general superintendent at Army Navy C.C. since April, 1966. He has two assistants, Charles Mock who runs the Fairfax course; which consists of 18 holes and a swimming pool and Hip Windsor at Arlington, which has 27 holes, 2 putting greens, 15 tennis courts and four swimming pools. Hip has been with the club thirty-eight years. His mechanic at Arlington, Floyd M. Windsor, has been with the club for over 30 years giving years of good experience and faithful service from the Windsor brothers. Del believes a superintendent is only as good as his greens chairman and greens committee.

THE COURSES

Arlington has 27 holes and Fairfax has 18 holes. The Arlington course was started in the late thirties. It has had many changes since its original construction. The Fairfax course was purchased in 1958.

MAINTENANCE

The greens consist of C-1, C-19 and Penncross Bents. They are top dressed heavily spring and fall. They receive an application of 12-4-8 spring and fall with an application of organic nitrogen in late Spring for a total of ten pounds of nitrogen. They receive an application of pre-emergent spring and fall. Fungicides are applied weekly and the cutting height is 1/4" year around. The tees are common Bermuda. The fairways contain common Bermuda, Poa annua and assorted crab and goose grass. They receive 400 pounds of 16-8-8 per acre in the spring and are fertilized through the months of May, June, July and late August. Fairways are maintained at 3/4". All fairways and tees are limed every other year.

DIRECTIONS

From 495 turn North on I-95 (old Shirley Highway.) Proceed on 95 to Glebe Road, turn right on Glebe for one-half mile. Turn right on 18th St. Proceed to the Club.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE George W. Cleaver

This is the time of year when most of us pause for a look backward and a look forward toward the next growing season. We take a special look back this year to make a mental note of the problems of growing good turf in 1968. We have already looked forward because the condition of turf next year depends on how well you have prepared the greens this fall.

This is also the time of year when most of us are preparing a workable budget for next season. The next step is to sell this budget to the green chairman and club officials. I feel a lot of us spend considerable time in preparing a sensible budget only to have it cut. This I couldn't understand, but I think I have it figured out.

All the work done and material used to maintain a golf course is forgotten, by the golfer, toward the end of the golfing season. They seem to remember the condition of the course when they are playing but forget it soon after. Basically the golf course does look the same at the end of the golfing season as it did in the beginning. Therefore, when the club tournaments and golfing season are coming to the end the golfer forgets the condition of the course in the summer; it looks good now so why raise the budget to improve conditions.

I feel we should prepare the budget in the middle of the season when everyone can see the need for improvements and not at the end when everything is forgotten, by the golfer.

GUEST SPEAKER AT ARMY NAVY C.C. MEETING

Robert M. Paul of Springfield, Virginia, Acting Director, Land and Facilities Development Administration, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Mr. Paul has been Deputy Director of the Administration and now is responsible for overall administration of HUD's programs of new community development, helping communities build water and sewer systems and other needed public facilities, and protect their open space, docks and historic landmarks.

For many years, Mr. Paul has been closely associated with natural resource development programs at both the Federal and State levels and is a nationally known conservation and recreation administrator. Before coming to HUD in 1967, he was Staff Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Interior for Water and Power Development. In this post, he was in charge of planning for the "Potomac Project," the State-Federal effort to make the Potomac River "a model of conservation, recreation and scenic beauty."

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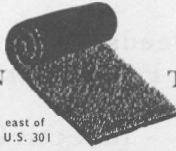
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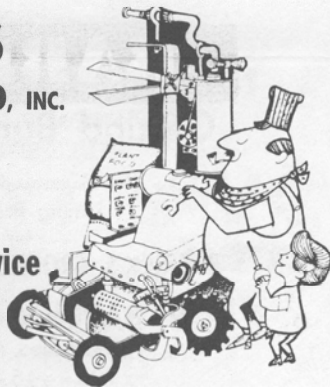
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Before this assignment, for five years beginning in February 1961, he was Deputy Assistant Secretary of Interior for Fish and Wildlife.

Before entering Federal service, he spent four years as Executive Secretary of the Sport Fishing Institute, the national conservation organization manufacturers of fishing tackle, outboard motors and boats. Before that he spent nearly nine years with the State of California, Department of Fish and Game with major responsibilities for water pollution control and recreation development at water resource projects in California.

Mr. Paul, 44, was educated in public schools in Riverside, California, and the University of California at Berkeley.

During World War II, he served with the Eighth U.S. Air Force in the European theater of operations receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters. He is now a reserve sanitary engineer officer in the U.S. Public Health Service.

He is married to the former Mabel Murfee of Pasadena, California and has four children.

THE SUPERINTENDENT'S PLIGHT - LABOR

Dennis McCammon

It seems difficult to comprehend the reasons for or the solutions to the ever-present problem of obtaining and keeping labor on golf courses.

In the most affluent country in the world with the highest standard of living in our country's history, for almost all business to be short handed on help seems almost impossible.

The range of people who are needing help runs from construction jobs paying 5-6.00 per hour to people in McDonald's hamburger stands paying 1.00 per hour. Somewhere between these two salary brackets the superintendent finds his problem.

The hourly wage spread for our area is between 1.50 and 2.50 per hour according to the last Mid-Atlantic survey made in 1967. Even at top wages, 2.50 an hour only gives a man working a normal 40 hour week less than 80.00 a week to take home. After living in this area for any length of time, it soon becomes obvious that it takes every bit of 100.00 a week for this man to even survive in this urban area. If the man has a child or two, he has a real problem being able to give them anything other than the essentials that they must have.

Many club members are businessmen themselves who are forced through union scale or competitive wage situations to pay their existing hourly people anywhere from 3-4.00 per hour or up. But when talk of a pay raise for a key man at his country club comes into the conversation, this idea is regarded as being absolutely absurd, even if the increase would only bring the man to the maximum wage paid by his club.

It is also unfortunate that not only are we unable to afford the wage that we would like to pay, but neither can we afford to offer anything in the

way of employee benefits, at least not anything to amount to a great deal. As superintendent, we have enough of a problem getting any kind of benefits for ourselves, let alone for a man who is already underpaid and will no doubt quit anyway because he has no incentive to stay on the job to begin with.

And, it seems that as a final blow, after this hourly laborer has been raking a 1/2 acre sand trap on a 97° day and takes a 5 minute break, he is immediately spotted by the club president or 2 committee chairmen. Then they either reprimand him or go directly to the superintendent to make a full report of the offense.

The solution? There is no easy one step method. Perhaps one way is a better informed membership through a member-super relationship. This can inform the membership, at least to a small degree, as to what a few of the problems with the golf course are. This may be accomplished by member seminars, especially called for this reason or on a rainy Saturday morning in the grill room. Notices on the bulletin board or even a stuffer with a social notice to all the members are a couple of ways to get it to them.

As much as we hate to face reality, labor unions do exist and will rear their heads in the Mid-Atlantic area if we do not take some kind of action. In a way, maybe this would be a blessing in disguise to have these unions, but obviously, we would do well to do without them as long as we are able.

If we start now to take steps within our own organization, perhaps the situation may be partially corrected but we must start now!

What are other clubs doing? Are all golf clubs short handed labor wise? Where and how do other supers get and keep their help? Could we apply their ideas to our own particular situation? Let's start now, writing, thinking, talking, asking and doing and see where we come out. The National Conference is just 3 months away - what better opportunity to talk with friends and new acquaintances from all over the world and see what they are doing!

We must all take steps to solve the supt's plight!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The following list of names are submitted to the membership of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents for their consideration and vote for the elective offices of the Association.

In accordance with the by-Laws of the Association Article VI Section B Nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member in good standing at the Annual Meeting. But will not be allowed to speak in behalf of such person or persons.

PRESIDENT: Robert Milligan - Gunpowder Country Club

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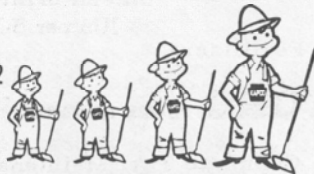
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VICE-PRESIDENT: Russell W. Kerns - Woodholme Country Club

SECRETARY-TREASURER: Edward Dembnicki - Indian Spring Country Club

DIRECTOR: Two to be elected for a three (3) year term.

Lee Dieter - Washington Golf and Country Club

William J. Emerson - Green Spring Valley Hunt Club

Dennis L. McCammon - Springfield Golf and Country Club

Robert C. Miller - Suburban Club of Baltimore Co.

Alex D. Watson - Sparrows Point Country Club

Louis W. White - Green Hill Yacht and Country Club

NEW MEMBERS

According to the by-Laws of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents, the following applicants will be accepted for the classification listed unless objection is received in writing within five days after mailing of this notice.

Charles M. Ewing Sr. - Owner-Manager of
Garrisons Lake Golf Club,
Smyrna, Delaware Class E

Charles M. Ewing Jr. - Supt. of Garrisons
Lake Golf Club, Smyrna, Del. Class A

Gerald G. Gerard - Supt. of Bretton Woods
Recreation Center, Germantown,
Maryland Class B

Bernard H. Nees - F.W. Bolgiano
& Co. Class F

Robert W. Gaver - Evanite Plastic Co.,
Baltimore, Md. Class F

David P. Cammorota - Asst. Supt., Bonnie
View Country Club Class D

Virgil G. Robertson - Supt., Chantilly National
Golf and C. C. Class B

Edward John Heath - Montgomery County
Golf Courses, Needlewood. Class B

CERTIFIED GOLF SUPERINTENDENTS

The first Certified Golf Superintendents were designated by the Rocky Mountain Golf Course Superintendents Association at their October meeting. Stan Metsker of Boulder Country Club and Ken Voorhies of Columbine Country Club were presented their certificates by Howard Gaskill, chairman of the certification committee.

Both of the men being honored are past presidents of the Association and have been in golf course work for over ten years. They also had to meet the educational and association requirements of the certification program.

The purpose of this program is to recognize those persons who are truly professional golf course superintendents. Such a man must have the specialized knowledge, the competence to practice, and the attitude of a professional man.

WHAT CAUSES KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS TO HEAD OUT MUCH SHORTER THAN USUAL IN TURF? Scotts - Golf Course Division

The initiation of the bluegrass inflorescence and subsequent seed panicle takes place under the influence of cool weather and short days of winter. It remains almost microscopic within the confines of the leaves, at the base of the plant until the spring flush of growth. Then these flower bearing shoots become conspicuous because of their greater size and stiffness. They are quite evident in poorly fed turf.

If left undisturbed as in seedfields, the inflorescence emerges in late May and can reach a height of 3 feet. But in turf under the influence of close and frequent mowing, warm temperatures and adequate moisture, at least a portion of the bluegrass flower panicles may appear much earlier. They develop more completely in low spots in the turf where the grass is a bit longer.

Bluegrass plants "heading out" are unsightly and often mistaken for weed plants by the layman. The shoots are so tough that dull mowers shred them at the point of cut resulting in a brownish cast to the turf. And when seed bearing is completed, these plants wither and die, again creating a noticeable brown cast.

There is no practical way to prevent formation of the bluegrass inflorescence. The unsightliness can be minimized, however, by lowering the height of cut 1/2" for one mowning as soon as the flowering shoots are noticed. Then return to normal mowing height.

NEWS FROM THE VIRGINIA AREA CLUBS

Denny McCammon

Everyone who has had an overseeding program on their fall list has been having wonderful weather for new seed germination. All the clubs around here have a lot of new grass that is really coming on strong. Lee Dieter at Washington Golf has had to mow his new practice range already and his new #4 green has been cut twice. All the new construction was completed by the 22nd of September, only a week later than the target date set in the spring. At Twin Lakes, Buck Whetsell reports a lot of activity there. Lake banks are all being cleaned around so the rough mowers can get to the edge, fall fairway renovation is completed and a new 1000 gal. Finn hydroseeder is now being used on slopes previously barren of grass. Buck suggests this idea for anyone using a hydro—use 1 pt. of liquid soap in the tank to prevent the mulch from clogging the base. A great idea, especially if you have ever had a 2" fire hose pack up on you.

On the "unusual" side of this business, Tom Doerer from Ft. Belvoir Golf Club had unusual duty last week. Seems the Belvoir Ladies Golf Association asked him to present all the trophies and awards to the winners of the summer tournys. To add to this already different request, each lady awarded Tom with a kiss as she accepted the award. I wonder who had the most fun - Tom or the ladies? Oh - P.S., Mrs. Doerer was in the audience, so draw your own conclusions.

At C.C. of Fairfax, Sam Kessell says that Algie Pulley is designing 4 more new tees. 1, 4, 8, and 17 will be rebuilt and work should start on about the 28th of October. Sam estimates two weeks to complete the work.

Bob Martino at Pepco's Island View says his 18 rebuilt tees are getting a lot of new Penncross on them. In fact, 9 of them have been moved 3 times already. Bob's new maintenance building is all done now! Except for the power. Seems they can't get VEPCO in to hook it up. Ironic isn't it?

In Vienna at Westwood, Jack McClenahan is still working on his new brick shelter house. It should be done soon and is very attractive. All his fairways are getting good cover too.

Bill Swich of Sterling Park really has his hands full. On top of everything else, he has been doing bookkeeping and accounting since their bookkeeper quit.

Mike Burkholder still has holes and ditches all over Reston's course from the gas line. He says he thinks they must have moved out and gone to Texas to work since nothing is being done there on that job. But he is clearing and seeding his wooded areas and is cleaning them all up so they can mow them.

Ken Lohr at Pinecrest in Fairfax started a program of woods clearing also. But while the dozer was there, he decided to build a new tee on #3. To get the soil for the tee, he built a lake on #6. The lake it seems was in a marsh area and the dozer got stuck. So now the lake is being built with a Gradall and a drag line and he didn't say whether or not they ever did get the dozer out. All that work to clear out 15 trees!

Virgil Robinson at Chantilly has redone his first and third tees and seeded them to a mix of Pennlawn and Merion. He says he's been busy this summer and, like all the rest of us, is hoping for the first snow. Our host for the next meeting, Del Hammersly at Army Navy Club has made quite an

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Al Watson, Bob Orazi, Bob Miller, Nick Steffins



John Leavell, Ed Ault

accomplishment. He talked his membership into temporary greens for the winter on 18 holes at the in town course and 9 holes at Fairfax. He reports they are all looking nice now and he is very enthusiastic about them. At the Fairfax course, Algie Pulley has designed two new holes, necessitated by construction of a new pool at the club house area. The #1 and 2 holes will be rebuilt, but probably not until next year. And here at Springfield, the fairways have so much new grass on them, the members can't get used to not hitting off of bare ground. They say it throws their game off.

SPECIAL NOTICE:

2nd Delaware Turfgrass Conference
 Agriculture Hall, University of Delaware
 Newark, Delaware 19711
 December 12-13, 1968
 Dr. William Mitchell, Plant Sciences Department

GOLF COMMITTEE

Joe Baidy, Golf Course Superintendent at Manor Country Club is the winner of the "Glover Memorial Tournament" held at Norbeck Country Club. Fifty-seven members and guests turned out for the tournament and this is probably one of the best turn outs we have ever had. Those of you who didn't play missed a perfect day for golf - the weather was beautiful and Bill Livingston had Norbeck Country Club in great shape. Thanks Bill and Mr. Howard Sherer for your hospitality.

COMING EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Host</u>
Nov. 12	Army Navy Country Club	Del Hammersley
Dec. 3	Crofton Country Club	Lee Redman
Dec. 16 to 18	Agronomy Short Course	4-H Center, Chevy Chase
Jan. 6-7	1969 Baltimore Turf Conference	
Jan. 19-24	1969 International Turfgrass Conference and Show	Miami Beach, Florida

MID-ATLANTIC News Letter

1306 Mimosa Lane
 Silver Spring, Md.