

MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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NEXT MEETING

Needless to say, the next meeting will be a great one! It is the National and it is going to be held in Denver, Colorado, the Mile High City. The program looks great, the place looks greater and the ski trip after the conference looks like the best thing since the term "all-expenses paid." For anyone not planning on making the trip, it will be a tough one to miss. You can bet the Rocky Mountain Chapter has done a terrific job of getting everything all lined up to make it a good week.

JOB OPEN

The position of golf course superintendent is open at Northhampton C.C. in Upper Marlboro, Md. The course has 18 holes and a fully automatic water system; the salary is open and resumes should be sent to:

Mr. Paul Serex
Northhampton Corporation
9823 Central Avenue
Upper Marlboro, Md.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Cards have been slow coming back and for those of you who didn't return them and you have a change to report, it is too late. The final work is being done on them and you should have the roster in the not too distant future. The roster is to be an annual publication and if any changes develop, please notify us at once.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE

Well, another one is over with! What a relief! All the rushing, planning, worrying and now it's over until next year. We had 211 people registered and a huge thank you should go to our program chairman George Thompson and his entire group who made the event possible and a very enjoyable one too.

It will be difficult getting the plans made next year without Dr. Langford. His many years of dedicated service to our group will long be remembered. We won't forget his help and we hope he won't forget us in his retirement.

Hopefully our new officers will have the backing

and the encouragement of the entire membership this coming year and that we will improve in numbers and in stature.

The new officers installed were:

President - Bert Yingling

Vice President - George Thompson

Secretary Treasurer - George Cleaver

Two new Directors - Al Watson and Sam Kessel
Scholarship presentations were made to four men

who are all students at the University of Maryland in the Turf Course. The awards were given to them by Richard Blake, current Vice President of the GCSAA and a speaker on the program. Recipients were Jerry Gould, Michael Larsen, Carl Rasnic and Harvey Wilson. We wish these boys continued success in the turf field.

The Superintendent of the Year Award was announced at the banquet by Toastmaster Angie Cammarota as being received by Ed Dembnicki, the previous superintendent at Indian Spring C.C. Unfortunately Ed was not able to attend the meeting to receive it but we are sure he will honor it and he certainly does deserve it.

The real highlight of the conference came at the banquet when Dr. George Langford, the key man in our conference for many years who is now retiring, was presented with a television set in appreciation of all the hard work and long hours he has spent in working on many, many conferences. We hope he will be able to enjoy it in good health for many years to come.





EDITORIAL

It looks like this is gonna' be a long hard summer coming up. There were many tear stained suit coats and wet eyes at the conference from supers crying on one anothers shoulders about the lack of members and consequent lack of funds at their clubs. This seems to be a problem all over the Mid Atlantic area and no doubt it probably reaches to all parts of the country. The problem as everyone knows is that with the economic mess the country is in, the first place people are going to cut their expenses to make ends meet is in the "non-essential" department. This group probably includes the maid once a week, the kid who mows the lawn during the summer and that possibility of joining the local country club.

Possibly the larger, more well established clubs will feel no pain. But for the small younger operations, the pinch is on. Three or four years ago, clubs had the full tummy satisfaction of waiting lists and active club participation. Today, however, there are vacancies in the waiting lists and the members are staying home on Saturday nights eating hot dogs and watching television.

Development of new pieces of labor-saving equipment seems to have been ideally timed so as to coincide with this problem of money and labor

shortages. If it were not for some of these new pieces of equipment, we would all be in one big mess. Figures released by the Bureau of Labor state that the unemployment in the U.S. as a whole is at 6%, the highest in nearly 10 years. Closer to home, supposedly in the Washington metro area it is 4%. Well, seeing is believing and as far as I can see, there are no endless lines of poor unfortunates waiting at my office door to fill out an application.

The labor situation has always been our number one problem and our number one expense. Supervision of this labor has been becoming our biggest time consumer as superintendents, that is when there is enough labor to supervise. We have just returned from our regional conference where we heard Evan Lemley, a management specialist from Rutgers give a good introduction to motivation. What he and Dr. Mazlow said are excellent theories. They carry a lot of formative thought. But when people who can't be motivated out of want to achieve the physiological or first step which includes things like hunger, thirst and shelter in Mazlow's five steps, then how can we as superintendents reach security or the second step? It is a handicap to us all.

Obviously our problem is one of a larger magnitude than a lot of people care to concern themselves with. Our labor shortage is critical now with the possibilities of budget cuts at many clubs, benefits which may include raises, vacation etc. to enhance the job and motivate the employee will be minimal. This will result in fewer men on the payroll and no more overtime for openers. It will also increase the work load on the remaining men including the superintendent.

Motivation should come to the super in the form of figuring new ways to reduce labor by using new ideas, new equipment and/or modifying both of these to do the same thing. Responsible, willing people have always been hard to find and they are nearly impossible to come across now. So it is up to us, individually as well as collectively to work on a solution to this problem. Maybe not completely, but we can at least get started and look for some answers. They're probably going to be as hard to find as men to mow greens.

NEWS FROM THE VIRGINIA AREA

COUNTRY CLUB OF FAIRFAX - Sam Kessel, Superintendent

Equipment work is well under way at Sam's, so much in fact that all his grinding was done by the 10th of January. A lot of outside work was done before the snow, such as irrigation line repairs, a lot of sod patch work and completion of the traps on his new green

RIVER BEND C.C. - Tom Haske, Superintendent

Tom is pretty much in the routine with the rest of the clubs with indoor work and maintenance. Plans for spring include trap renovation, but like everyone else, his budget is the limiting factor.

ARMY-NAVY C.C. - Del Hammersley, Superintendent

Del reports they lacked just two weeks of completing their new holes before the snow on New Year's. The snow really slowed things down and has given him a chance to ponder the long range performance of his high sand greens. He gives a rose to Dave Canavan's company, Moore Golf and says he is very well pleased with their work.

FT. BELVOIR C.C. Tom Doerer, Superintendent

Tom's been busy planting nearly 100 trees all over the course and enlarging two greens to increase cupping space. He has also been working on plans for three new holes on the south course and planning for 18 more.

TWIN LAKES C.C. - Buck Whetsell, Superintendent

All the county courses closed December 1 and will reopen sometime near the middle of March. Routine repairs are in progress and when weather permits, tree work and rough cleanup are the outside

priority items.

WASHINGTON G & C.C. - Lee Dieter, Superintendent

Something different at the club that Lee and his crew did was to plant a Japanese yew hedge spelling out the letters WG&CC. It is located on the golf course in sight of the club house and can be seen from there. It has permanent lighting and Lee says it is very impressive in the evening.

WESTWOOD C.C. - Wally Stedding, Superintendent

Westwood's clubhouse is being remodeled completely upstairs and the top floor of Wally's maintenance building got some work done on it too. Wally reports 1/2 the area above the shop is being used for golf cart storage. There are also plans for construction of locker and shower facilities for the men in the shop. This will be a good addition since the building really needs it.

CHANTILLY NATIONAL G & CC - Virgil Robinson, Superintendent

Virgil and his wife Karen are expecting an addition too. But it is an addition to their family and not to their shop. This will be their 3rd and March is the due date. Bet it's a girl, Virg!

THREE ALARMER!!!

December 7 proved to be a bad day for Dave Fairbank, superintendent at Lakewood C.C. His entire maintenance building and every piece of equipment was totally destroyed. The fire department got there just in time to sift the ashes and to help the neighbors roll up their hoses. There was nothing left as the pictures here show - no rakes, no shovels, no file cabinets, no nothin'!

So it seems Lakewood will be getting a new building and all new equipment to start out the year. At last report, no cause for the fire had been determined but you can guess how much officials have to go on by the looks of what little was left.



COURSE DEVELOPMENT OUTLOOK 1971

by Harry C. Eckhoff
Facility Development Consultant
National Golf Foundation

With 393 new golf courses or additions to existing facilities in some state of construction at year's end, 1971 should be an excellent year for golf course development. NGF records reveal that 352 of the above-mentioned courses are regulation length facilities? 41 are par-3's or executive type.

New regulation length courses in the under-construction category total 252; additions to regulation courses account for 100. For par-3's the figures are 28 and 13 respectively.

The leading states with new golf courses now under construction are California 23, Ohio 22, Florida 19, Michigan 18, New York and Pennsylvania 16, North Carolina and Texas 15, Georgia, Tennessee and Washington 14 each.

Despite the prolonged tight money situation, NGF reports that 314 regulation length facilities (213 new ones and 101 additions to existing courses) opened for play in 1970. About 42% of these new facilities were private operations, 46% semi-private or daily fee and 12% municipal.

Thirty-eight new par-3 operations (29 new courses and 9 additions) also were reported in play in 1970. Their breakdown by type was 21% private, 71% semi-private and 8% municipal. Approximately one third of the new courses were associated with real estate developments. The total golf course openings of 352 for 1970 were about 9% less than in 1969 when 397 new facilities opened for play.

The leading states with new golf course openings in 1970 were Florida 26, Texas 24, California 21, New York, North Carolina and Pennsylvania each 18, Michigan 16, Georgia 14, Washington and Wisconsin 13, Illinois 12, Iowa and Virginia 11 and Minnesota 10.

NGF records reveal there were 10,188 golf courses in play in the nation at the end of fiscal year 1970. Of these 4,619 were private operations; 4,248 were semi-private or daily fee types and 1,321 were municipal. 5,343 were 9 hole layouts; 4,845 were 18 holes or more. Regulation length courses totalled 9,083; the remaining were par-3 layouts.

NGF estimates there are now 7,000,000 golfers in the United States who play more than 15 rounds annually. Another 2,200,000 play fewer than 15 rounds - making a total of 11,900,000 golfers.



Trends indicate that golf facility development will continue at a fast pace. Great strides are expected in housing development throughout the nation in 1971 due to somewhat lower interest rates and more money being made available for mortgages. Housing developments frequently include golf courses, swimming pools and other recreation facilities. Builders are selling environment as well as houses - thus providing a place for one to live and play. Probably a third of the new

golf courses built in 1971 will be associated with housing developments including new planned communities, high rise apartment and condominiums complexes and vacation or resort homes.

The combination of increased leisure time income and mobility has made recreation the fourth largest and fastest growing industry in the United States today. And golf has become the nation's fastest growing competitive outdoor sport.

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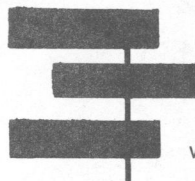
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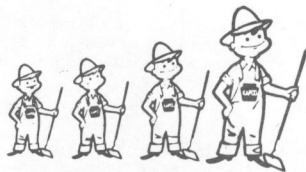
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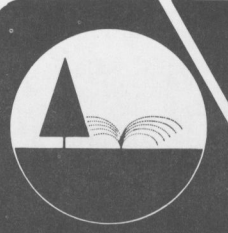
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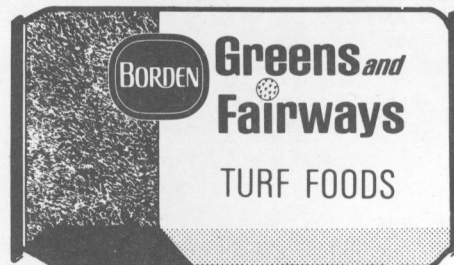
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