

This is the first time a Mid-Atlantic super has been certified and we are doubly proud that both Bob and Bill were honored. Congratulations to you both!

Allan MacCurrach, Chevy Chase C.C., was also certified by taking the certification exam. Allan said next month he would write an article on the subject for the newsletter.



Bill Livingston and Bob Shields

NEWSLETTER MAILBAG

Starting this month the newsletter will reserve space for comments from our readers. Does this suggest anything to anyone?

Comments and opinions from our readers are welcome for publication. Anyone is invited to contribute - agreeing or disagreeing on timely subjects of local or national interest, editorials, or any turf related subject. All that is necessary to do is to jot down your thoughts and send them to:

Newsletter Mailbag
14405 Pecan Drive
Rockville, Maryland 20853

The editors reserve the right to comment on all letters published.

Is this newsletter getting to your greens chairman? If not, send us his address promptly!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

At the last board meeting on February 25, four new applications were read and are being published here in accordance with our by-laws. Unless written objection is received within 30 days after publication, these men will become active members with their requested classifications.

1. Warren Bidwell
Congressional C.C.
Potomac, Md.

Warren is applying for a class A membership. Angelo Cammarota and George Thompson signed his application.

2. Ramon Donahue
Holiday-Kamp Parks Inc.
Alexandria, Va.

Ramon is applying for a class E membership. His application was signed by Tom Doerer and Russel Kerns.

3. James Duvall
National Capital Toro
Silver Spring, Md.

Jim is applying for a class E membership. Bob Shields and Paul Barefoot signed his form.

4. Mike Koss
Eagle Head G. & C.C.
New Market, Md.

Mike is applying for a class A membership. His application was signed by Tom Doerer and Joe Reposkey.

NEW LABOR PROBLEMS

A serious problem regarding golf course labor is becoming prevalent within the Mid-Atlantic Association. This subject is unfavorably referred to as "employee snatching". Too many well-trained employees are consistently being made job offers by other area superintendents without the consent and knowledge of his present employer. We must not solely rely on our neighbor superintendent to train our labor for us. We should be continually looking for labor from outside sources in order to expand our supply of capable personnel to fulfill our job requirements.

With mechanization rapidly dominating the turf industry our total work force requirements are for thoroughly trained equipment operators. We can upgrade the position of a golf course employee if we continually introduce new people into this exacting science of turf management.

We cannot work together and profit as an organization if we rob employees from one another at every opportunity. We already have enough competition with other industries and unions for our labor needs, let's not give "employee snatching" a new birth in the Mid-Atlantic Association.

Craig Spottswood
Editor