The next regularly scheduled meeting of the MAGCSA will be the annual turf conference which will be held in Baltimore at the Holiday Inn Downtown on January 10 & 11, 1972. A complete program is printed below.

MONDAY, JANUARY 10

8:30 a.m. Registration
10:00 a.m. Call to Order
Dr. George S. Langford
Director, State Bd. of Agriculture
Univ. of Maryland
College Park, Md.

Presiding
Alex D. Watson
Superintendent, Sparrows Point C.C.
Baltimore, Md.

The President's Message & Welcome
Bert Yingling
Superintendent, Beaver Creek C.C.
Hagerstown, Md.

Tennis Court Maintenance
Wayne Zoppo
Superintendent, Agawan Hunt Club
Seconk, Massachusetts

Physiological Responses of Bluegrasses
Dr. T.L. Watschke
Asst. Professor of Turfgrass Science
Dept. of Agronomy
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pa.

12:10 p.m. Adjourn for Lunch
1:30 p.m. Afternoon Session
Presiding
Dennis L. McCammon
Superintendent
Springfield Golf & Country Club
Springfield, Va.

Maintenence Buildings Symposium
Planning, Budgeting, Construction,
Safety Features, Rebuilding etc.

David S. Fairbank
Superintendent, Lakewood C.C.
Rockville, Md.
Samuel L. Kessel
Superintendent, C.C. of Fairfax
Fairfax, Va.

2:20 p.m. Golf Carts and Cart Paths - A Panel
Moderator
James B. Moncrief
Southern Director, U.S. Golf Assoc.
Greens Section, Athens, Ga.

Panel
Lee C. Dieter
Superintendent, Washington Golf & C.C.
Arlington, Va.
Richard Anderson
Superintendent, Burning Tree Club
Bethesda, Maryland

Questions and Answers

6:30 p.m. Social Hour - Courtesy of
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Harry T. Campbell Sons, Inc.
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Cornell Chemical & Equipment Company
Egypt Farms
Gustin's Baltimore Toro, Inc.
Lewis W. Barton Company
Princeton Turf Farms
W.J. Scarlett Company
Henry J. Carroll Tree Service
Daniel Linden - Chemsearch
Agway Company
O.M. Scott
Blueridge Industries
Rhodia, Inc.
S.H. Barrick & Sons, Inc.

7:30 p.m. Dinner
Toastmaster
Angelo Cammarota
Superintendent Indian Spring C.C.
Silver Spring, Maryland

Introduction of Guests
Special Awards
DO\'T FORGET

The big one is coming to Cincinnati on February 13th - February 18th. Reservations for the GCSAA national convention should be made as soon as possible to assure having a place to sleep. It is important to the Mid Atlantic this year too that we have good representation since George Cleaver is running as a national director. We seem to be gathering voting strength as we go along and it would be great if we could get someone on the board to represent the Mid Atlantic area. It\'s been a long time, too long, since we\'ve had anyone to voice our opinions on matters which we seemingly have no say on. So play it up and get people to know who our man is and put out the good words!

SOME RETIREMENT!

Dr. George S. Langford, our old friend from the University of Maryland who was the former Maryland State Entomologist and resident helper of the Mid Atlantic was appointed in September as the acting Director of the State Board of Agronomy Programs.

Dr. Langford retired in March of 1971 after serving 14 years as State Entomologist and more than 40 years with the State Board of Agronomy and the University of Maryland. He will be serving in this position until the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 1971. We wish Dr. Langford the best and offer our services if we can help in any way.

JOB OPENING

Stevensville Country Club
Swan Lake, New York 12783

They are looking for a superintendent for an 18 hole resort golf course located in Sullivan County, New York. They want a man with a minimum of 3 years experience as head superintendent and they prefer a college education. The salary is from 10k to 12k with fringe benefits, residence and annual increases. Applications should be sent to:

Kenneth Dinnerstein
Stevensville Country Club
345 West 58th Street
New York, New York 10019

no later than February 1, 1972.

EDITORS NOTE

This poem has been around for years and I stole it out of the Texas newsletter. Oddly enough, Jimmy Thomas submitted it to them.
THE GREENSKEEPER

by Edgar A. Guest

He's on the job at break of day and when the stars come out,
There's always trouble on the course for him to fret about,
He starts the gang to work at dawn and follows them around
Then listens to committee men whose wisdom is profound,
They talk of "bents" and "Fescues" in a way that makes him squirm
For they acquire much knowledge in one brief official term.
His task is one that calls for tact, for lacking that it means
Next year there will be another man brought on to keep the greens.
The members seldom know his name, or have a smile for him,
They only wonder why it is the course is not in trim,
They only rave and rage and rant while hunting for a ball
And wonder why the greensman hasn't cut the rough this fall,
And when they find a cuppy lie or footprints in a trap
"The course is in rotten shape!" declares each gloomy chap.
And yet my hat is off to him, when winter intervenes,
I want to pay my tribute to the man who keeps the greens.
He's on the job from dawn to dusk, a million pests to fight,
Tis' his to see that every green is watered well at night.
The weeds attack his finest work, the drought destroys his grass,
The rain beats down the tender shoots, but still the players pass
And still they play the game they love, a happy golfing clan
Who never stop to count the odds against a single man.
And so I wave my hand to him, who toils in sturdy jeans,
The best old friend all golfers have - the man who keeps the greens

BEST WISHES

The officers and directors wish the members, advertisers and readers a Joyous Holiday Season and a Happy New year!

GOLF COURSES LAND USE AND SACRED COWS

The following article was given as a talk to the top club owners and managers at the annual meeting of the Nation Club Association held in London. These are highlights from the talk given by the Editorial Director of Golf magazine, John Fry.

The title of his talk was "Golf & Ecology: A Responsibility and Opportunity for America's Country Clubs." The remarks were made to owners and managers but they apply to us as well, if maybe not more in some ways.

Although the amount of land in the actual hands of golf clubs is not particularly large compared to the Redwood forests of California or the great Southwest desert, many of these courses are priceless islands of turf, trees and animal life in the midst of, or standing in the way of, what up until recently we have liked to call progress. One golf course in a suburb of Westchester or Chicago or Los Angeles can be infinitely more valuable than 20,000 acres of Forever Wilderness land, not only in dollar terms, but more important, in terms of thousands of people affected by the use of that land.

There is, of course, great pressure to sell bearing down on many private clubs and commercially-operated semi-private and public courses. Adding to these pressures is the mounting tax load on many clubs. Suddenly a community wakes up to the fact that the pleasant expanse of green in its midst, that was the country club has been sold off to the developers of an industrial park or of mass housing. But the public officialdom, which failed originally to see the long range value of such green belt areas, is too bankrupt to buy up a natural resource which it helped to tax out of existence.

***

Each of us as citizen and golfer has a responsibility for the wise use of the land around us. We especially have a responsibility - unique trust - when we own that land. Until you change your thinking about land so that it no longer merely is a capital item on your club's book, a business transaction on the way to some future land speculation - you don't deserve to receive, let alone ask for, favorable tax treatment from the rest of the non-golfing public.

What is needed is to change the attitudes of our members particularly the governing bodies of clubs. And when they have adopted new attitudes - new values about the ecology of golf course land - they can become crusaders in the communities in
which they live. Finally, when communities themselves alter their sense of value about surrounding golf course land, you’re going to be able to talk to them intelligently about taxation.

Golf courses do provide a relief from the unrelieved, continuous sprawl of housing, industry and highway. Therefore golfers and government at all levels, through taxation and zoning, have a responsibility to see that such land is conserved as open space. Even if the land is not necessarily conserved for golf.

In the next few years the land use issue is going to bring about some very fundamental rethinking of some very sacred cows in American political and social thinking - in, for instance, our traditional reliance on dollar values to measure our progress and the quality of our existence in America.

But perhaps the most interesting thing about the current debate over ecology is that the needs of sound ecology are very frequently in direct conflict with traditional American ideas about populism. The Sierra Club is a very undemocratic organization, because it is telling us that it is more important for six dozen backpackers to enjoy walking through the High Sierra at Mineral King than it is to open the land to a million Californians. Golf land, too, falls in a special privileged classification and will always be discriminatory in a sense, because a large amount of valuable land is able to accommodate a relatively small number of people at a given time. But ecology tells us, rightly, that the preservation of open land without intensive use applied to it can be a good thing. In many cases, however, this concept is going to run counter to traditional American populism - for instance our ideas about privilege and property.

Now I am not going to make a case here for the ecological benefits of open golf space out-weighing the civil rights considerations inherent in membership discrimination by country clubs. But in the next few years it is going to be difficult to sweep this issue under the rug, because every time the special property status of golf courses comes up at the Federal and state levels, the issue is going to arise. Let me just say that if golf were not saddled with the discrimination issue, the political swimming would be a whole lot easier for clubs.

Some time this year, Senator Edmund Muskie is going to conduct Congressional hearings on property tax reform. I urge you to start thinking right away about this opportunity to present golf’s case at the level of a national forum. It will require study and documentation, but I hope the opportunity will not go begging.

AN EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY

We express our deepest sympathy to George Campbell of Belle Haven Country Club on the passing of his wife on December 3rd.
RANDOM THOUGHTS

The December issue of the Connecticut GCSA publication yielded the two following items:

Failure to yell “fore” cost a Danbury golfer $2,000. He was made liable for damages in that amount under a judgment handed down in Common Pleas Court in Waterbury. The plaintiff claimed that a golf ball hit by the defendant cut his eyebrow and caused eye injuries. The plaintiff also claimed that the ball which struck him was hit by the defendant from another fairway and that the latter “did not observe the custom or usage of golfers to give an adequate and suitable warning.”

You may or may not have heard about the guy who was such a consistent cheat in keeping his golf score that when he scored a hole-in-one, he couldn’t keep from writing a “zero” on his score card.

A big note of thanks should go to Al Watson for the effort he has put forth in setting up the fine program for Baltimore this year. It is a big job and the program really looks like it will be super. Let’s have a good turnout and see if it’s as good as it looks. Don’t forget meeting January 10 & 11 at the Downtown Holiday Inn.

And more thanks to Dr. Jack Hall for the good job he’s doing right off the bat at the University of Maryland in the public relations department. Seems everytime we turn around, Dr. Jack has a news release, an article or comment in some fashion for all to read. Keep up the nice work!

ELECTION RESULTS

The new officers elected at the annual meeting at Hobbits Glen were:
President: George Thompson - Columbia C.C.
Vice President: Lee Dieter - Washington G & C.C.
Sec’y Treas: Denny McCammon - Springfield C.C.
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Published monthly by the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents to aid in the advancement of the golf course superintendent through education and merit.

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