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Talbot Country Club

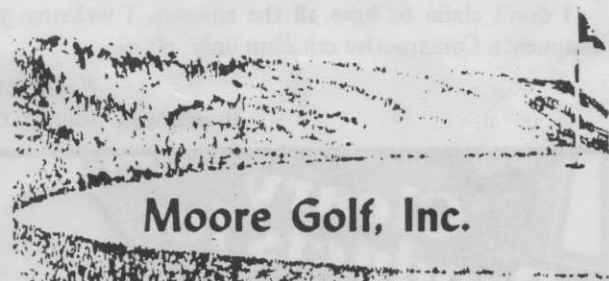
April 8th Meeting

The April 8 meeting will be at the Talbot Country Club, Easton, Maryland. Your host, Ralph McNeal, was born and raised in Talbot County and was a dairy farmer before going to work at the country club in June 1963. Ralph, being a farmer and hard worker, knew how to make things grow. Through self education in the turf field, and the services of the USGA representative Holman Griffin, he has done an outstanding job.

The golf course was originally a nine-hole course and was opened in 1910. In 1962 the services of Edmund Ault was acquired to add nine holes and re-arrange the original nine holes into an 18-hole championship layout. The work was begun in 1963 and the course opened for play in the spring of 1964. All work was done by Ralph McNeal through a local contractor, Mr. Robert Coleman. The greens average about 9,500 to 10,000 square feet and are Pencross bent, cut 3/16 of an inch. Tees were Merion and creeping red, but over a period of time have become part Bermuda, and it is Ralph's thoughts to encourage the Bermuda.

The fairways are Merion blue, red top and creeping red fescue, mowed about 1 1/4 inch. The rough is a tight set of K31 fescue and mowed about 2 1/2 to 3 inches. The fairways and tees have had water for only three years, manual system all over.

Every winter six or seven fairways are spread with horse manure from Ralph's wife's riding school and horse farm. In addition, there are all the wild goose droppings from thousands of the wild geese that find Talbot Country Club to be their home away from home. It is not uncommon to



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see the course, including club house lawn, swimming pool area and practice green completely covered by geese. Can you imagine the odor and the pile around the shoe cleaning brushes at the locker room entrance? How about the operators of the cutting units? They eat outside where the air can circulate.

At the pro shop you will be greeted by a very congenial golf professional, Frank Hepler. He or his people will collect your car rentals, tournament fees and dinner costs. Frank has been at Talbot Country Club for 10 years, since serving his apprenticeship at Bonnie View with a great professional Costiso.

In the club house to see to your well-being is John Demuth, club manager. John came to Talbot Country Club from the famous Madison Hotel in Washington, D.C. He has assured us an enjoyable evening at the club with good food and cash bar.

The club prefers that everyone pay as you go, so come prepared to pay cash for everything.

- Golf after 11:00 a.m.
- Lunch at the grill – Cash!
- Cocktails – 5:30 to 6:15 p.m.
- Dinner – 6:30 p.m. Cash!

Directions: From the Bay Bridge, go south on Route 50 to the Airport on your left. One-half mile further down the road is a by-pass to your right. Follow this through to the second traffic light. Turn left on Oxford Road, Route 333. Cross Peach Blossom Bridge, and the third road to the right will be Country Club Drive, which will lead to the clubhouse.

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