



# MID-ATLANTIC News Letter

CHARTER

Published by

Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents to aid in the Advancement of the  
Golf Course Superintendent through Education and Merit



VOLUME XXVI

MARCH 1975

NO. 3

## President's Message

By the time you read this article a large percentage of our group will have returned from another National Conference. These conventions are a wonderful experience and many more people in our profession should avail themselves of attending this national event. Many, many long hours and days are spent by our National GCSAA in putting these conferences together with other allied facets of our industry and their "pat on the back" for a job well done is in the attendance or turn out for the conference and show. We of the Mid-Atlantic GCSA can be proud of the fact that we are always well represented at this event.

Our Mid-Atlantic Association is continuing to grow and expand. We have a unique, well knit, diversified group which could work to the betterment of our association as a whole. This can be accomplished through active participation and cooperation with one another and our group. Visit your neighboring superintendents, exchange ideas and viewpoints, assemble and compile some of this information (write down on paper any worthwhile thoughts) and work with your Board of Directors in disseminating such information to our membership. Many of you could help to expand our newsletter by writing articles on your experiences. Give it a try — become involved.

Alex Watson

## The Thinking Superintendent

### YOUR OWNERS MANUAL

A lot of valuable information regarding golf course maintenance machines can be recorded on the front of the owners manual and parts list that comes with each piece of equipment.

At Woodmont we retain and have on file a maintenance manual for each machine we have ever bought. On the front cover of the manual is recorded the date of purchase, cost of the item, the name, address, and phone number of the suppliers, the manufacturer's serial number, the make and serial number of the engine, as well as code, type and model numbers.

For tractors we show the manufacturer's model and serial numbers, the type of engine, and of course the engine serial number. We also list tire sizes as well as tire serial numbers. If it is a fairway tractor with mowers attached, we show the serial number of each mowing unit. For quick reference we list the spark plug number and gap setting. Also listed are the numbers for the air cleaner and oil filter.

This information is taken right off the machine the day it is delivered while the numbers are still clean and easy to read. With these figures to back us up, we are in a good position to prove ownership in case of theft or for insurance purposes in case of fire.

Bob Shields

## Dr. Grau Wins His Second Distinguished Service Award

Dr. Grau was born and raised in eastern Nebraska (Bennington); and it was there that he got his start in agriculture, for he graduated president of his class (1921) in Bennington's high school of agriculture. Following high school, Fred worked with his father and brother on the family farm for one summer before beginning his agricultural career by working for Dr. Kime, a state extension agent. Dr. Kime was a grass specialist and was noted for training more turf agronomists than anyone else in his field. Fred started out working on grass plots but after a short period was

put in charge of maintaining the state's Living Plant Museum". This unique opportunity enabled Fred to propagate and maintain every known plant and their varieties that would grow within the fertile Nebraska soil and survive the climate. Through this extension service job, Fred was exposed to the University of Nebraska and with the help of Dr. Kime, enrolled as a college student in 1927. To help make ends meet Fred worked as a greenskeeper at the Old Shrine Country

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