This has been the “worst summer” I’ve ever spent as a superintendent. How many of us have said that this year? A better question may be how many times a day have we said this to ourselves. We read in the newspapers about the drought problems all around the country, but we here in the Mid-Atlantic find little consolation in the fact that Kansas is hot and dry. We in the Mid-Atlantic are going through another average summer. At best our average summers are rotten. It seems that all of our summers are tough, we just wait to see what’s going to make this summer a bit more unique. This year water shortages have cut many of our comrads off. We are, as usual, bathed in a hot, humid region, which a times seems like a rain forest (July 21, 5:00 a.m. 84°, 90% humidity). We are plagued by stagnant air and air quality warnings. This is the Mid-Atlantic area. We can expect summers like these. It’s the true professional that can guide his golf course through an environment like this.

Remember, the next time you’re walking your course at 5:30 in the morning, and it’s 84 degrees and 90% humidity, you’ve got Pythium in the low spots and wilt on the high spots, keep a smile on your face and hold your head up high, and you’ll probably trip over a sand trap rake.

Anyone who would like to contribute an article or just information concerning the water shortage, please send them in to me. We would like to publish an article on the oddball ways some of you guys watered this year.

Starting next month we will start our own little photo-quiz in the Mid-Atlantic Newsletter. We have aerial photographs of many Mid-Atlantic golf courses, care of John Strickland. We will run the photo and give the answer the following month. If you’ve seen aerial photos of your course, you know how interesting this could be.

1979 marks the 50th year of the Mid-Atlantic G.C.S.A. We on the board would like to celebrate this fact in a big way. The Newsletter will begin trivia questions on M.A.A.G.C.S. history beginning in January 1978. This will be done mostly to give the younger members some insight into the background of our association and to show the increased degree of professionalism through the years. We would also like suggestions as to how the membership would like to celebrate our anniversary. Would you like a formal dance, an antique equiment show, a golf tournament, or all of the above? Please give us your suggestions, and let’s make our 50th year a banner year.