TURFGRASS 79 Attracts Over 450 Turf Professionals

by Charles H. Darrah

On January 8-10, 1979 the largest educational conference ever held in Maryland for professional turfgrass managers took place in Baltimore. In addition to the education conferences, there were over 55 exhibitor booths filling the Baltimore Hilton Ballroom. Between 450 and 500 people with interests in turf management were on hand for this event which was sponsored by the Maryland Turfgrass Council.

The educational conferences were led off on Monday by the 50th Annual Conference of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents. After a short welcoming address and the President's Message from Sam Kessel, Dr. Jack Harper, PSU Extension Turf Specialist, opened the educational conference. Dr. Harper's presentation was often humorous, but not for those who have ever experienced some of the unusual turf situations he described. Dr. Gerry Pepin, Research Director at International Seeds, Inc., flew in from Oregon to present some of his work with improved ryegrass varieties. He contrasted the breeding and production methods of the improved ryegrasses with the methods used in Kentucky bluegrasses. Promising new varieties of ryegrass will continue to find their way into the turf seed market according to Dr. Pepin. The morning session concluded with a presentation on golf turf cultivation management. Bill Buchanan, USGA Green Section Agronomist, covered the wide range of cultivation practices employed on golf turf and emphasized the need for greater attention to the aerification and other cultivation needs of non-putting green turf areas on the golf course.

After a break to visit the trade show and enjoy a New York-style sidewalk lunch, the afternoon session convened with topics on soil testing for turfgrasses and tank mixes and chemical compatibilities by Tom Turner and Dr. Sortoretto, respectively. Mr. Tom Turner, PSU graduate student, presented some interesting information on liming and the phosphorus and potassium requirements of turfgrasses. He also presented information on the proper procedure for taking soil samples of turfgrasses. Some of this work is published in the May/June 1978 issue of the Greens Section Record. As the temperature in the conference room warmed so did the topics. Dr. Dave Wehner, U of MD turf researcher, reported on some of the work which he started at Penn State and will continue here at Maryland. Dr. Wehner has developed a rapid method to determine the ability of turfgrass plants to withstand heat stress. This work holds great promise in screening new cool-season turfgrass varieties for their ability to persist in the transition zone. Jack Murray, USDA Research Agronomist, wrapped up the afternoon session with some pointers on managing warm season grasses in the transition zone. At the end of the sessions, confer-

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TURFGRASS 79
(continued from page 1)
ience attendees were able to cool off as freely flowing beer
was served in the exhibit hall.

On Tuesday morning the golf course superintendents
were joined by over 200 other turf managers for the 14th
Annual Maryland Sod Conference and the 2nd Annual
P.G.M.S. Winter Turf Conference. The combined session
on Tuesday morning brought together Dr. Joe Vargas,
Michigan State Univ. Turfgrass Pathologist, Dr. Haruo Tashiro,
Cornell University Turfgrass Entomologist and Ms. Pat San-
ders, PSU Turfgrass Pathologist for an excellent session on
disease and insect topics.

After another lunch-time visit with the commercial ex-
hibitors, conference goers could select from three individual
sessions to attend. The golf course management session was
highlighted by presentations from golf course superintendents
Guy Tedesco and Larry Bunn, both of whom traveled down
from Massachusetts. Pat Sanders held a disease identification
workshop late in the afternoon where superintendents got
a chance to identify turf diseases using a microscope. This
same workshop will be held in Atlanta at the GCSAA Con-
vention, but for a $20 extra registration fee!

At the same time as the golf course management session,
sod growers were hearing the latest in sod production, harvest-
ing and installation practices in their individual afternoon
session. In another session commercial lawn care personnel
were covering some of the business aspects of lawn care
operation such as advertising, marketing and projecting a
professional image to their customers.

Tuesday's events ended with the TURFGRASS 79 banquet
and awards program. Dr. Darrah was presented an Out-
standing Service Award by the Maryland Turfgrass Council
for his work in organizing and coordinating TURFGRASS 78
and 79. The Mid-Atlantic presented Bill Emerson with the
Past President's Award. Dave Fairbanks received the MAAGCS
Superintendents of the Year Award and Angelo Cammarota
received the Distinguished Director Award. In addition Bob
Shields presented the Emmet Gary Scholarship Awards to
four Univ. of MD agronomy students on behalf of the Mary-
land State Golf Association and Lambert Cissel presented
the Parker Shirling Turfgrass Scholarships to another agron-
omy student on behalf of the Maryland Turfgrass Association.

On Wednesday morning, the last day of TURFGRASS 79,
the educational session updated attendees on the latest
information concerning grub control in turf, the control of
ornamental insect pests, new turfgrass herbicides and the
latest on pesticide regulations and certification. Also in this
session was an excellent presentation by Mr. Jim Vaccaro of
the Dow Chemical Company on the safe handling and use
of turfgrass pesticides.

TURFGRASS 79 presented the opportunity for the pro-
fessional turf manager to attend 12 hours of educational
sessions. Over 27 speakers were on hand, 21 of which were
out-of-state guests, superintendents, sod growers or lawn
care businessmen. In addition there were over 10 hours
when attendees could visit with commercial exhibitors to
discuss the use of their products. The post-conference com-
ments have been highly favorable and the MAAGCS Edu-
cational Committee deserves a great deal of praise for their
efforts in helping to organize and coordinate the program
for TURFGRASS 79.

Mid-Atlantic
Golf News
Ken Braun

Match Play Tournament

Anyone interested in playing in this tournament, please
attend the April meeting: this is the qualifying round. The
low 16 golfers will then compete at the next meeting, elimi-
nating 1/2 of the field. This will continue each month until a
final round. Everyone will receive full handicaps at the qual-
ifying round; the second round will be 85% of the difference
in the handicaps between the two players of each match.
If you qualify, the time and pairings will be made for the
future match.

MID-ATLANTIC OFFICERS 1979

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sammuel L. Kessel, President</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>(703) 273-7094</td>
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<td>Country Club of Fairfax</td>
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<td>Fairfax, VA</td>
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<td>Ronald E. Hall, Vice-Pres.</td>
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<td>Maryland Golf &amp; C.C.</td>
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<td>Bel-Air, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>James (Ben) Stagg, Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hogs Neck Golf Club</td>
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<td>Easton, MD</td>
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<td>Mike Larsen, Director</td>
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<td>Hillendale C.C.</td>
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<td>Stan Lawson, Director</td>
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<td>Ruggles Golf Course</td>
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<td>Bill Emerson, Past Pres.</td>
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<td>Steve Nash, Director</td>
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<td>Ken Braun, Director</td>
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<td>Potomac Valley C.C.</td>
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<td>Wayne Evans, Director</td>
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<td>Bob Orazi, Director</td>
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Meetings
Greg Bayor

March 13, 1979......Country Club of Fairfax
Host: Sammuel L. Kessel, President Mid-Atlantic
Golf: anytime    Cocktails: 6:00 p.m. cash bar
Carts: fee will be charged    Dinner: 7:00 p.m. $12.50
Directions: Take the D.C. beltway to the Bradick Road exit
    West. Follow Bradick to Route 123, turn left (south).
    Take Route 123 approx. 1/2 mile, the club will be on the left.

Course Notes
Length: 6700 yards
Traps: 63
Water holes: 3 lake holes, 2 stream
Irrigation: Quick-couplers/Fairways Manual pop-up/Greens and Trees

The original layout was built in 1950. In 1965 Sam was deeply involved in the design of 5 new greens that changed the layout of the entire course, and consequently the character of the course. Since then 4 more greens have been rebuilt, all with Penncross. 1977 saw a complete rehabilitation of hole #14; in order to incorporate a new irrigation lake. This new green, along with 4 tees built at the same time, are all 80/20 sand mix with Penncross. All those greens that haven't been rebuilt by Sam, are a mixture of C1, C19, C7, and Poa. Since 1967 Sam has been overseeding his fairways; presently he is using a mix of 80% rye, 20% blue. The clubhouse has just gone through extensive renovation, in the fall of 1978, and should prove to be a beautiful site for first meeting of 1979.

REMEMBER: THE ATTACHED POST CARDS ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT PLEASE USE THEM IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND

Future Meetings:

April 17 — Green Spring Valley Hunt Club, Garrison MD Joint Meeting, Central Penn Association
May — Hogs Neck Golf Course, Easton MD Pro/Superintendent Tournament
June — Open
July — Mt. Pleasant Golf Course, Baltimore MD
August — Mid-Atlantic Picnic
Sept. — Open
Oct. — Open
Nov. — Open
Dec. — Marlton C.C., Upper Marlboro MD

Mid-Atlantic Board Meeting Briefs
Ben Stagg

Many members of our association have expressed a desire to hear what transpires at board meetings. I believe this to be a beneficial request, that I'll honor as Secretary. The following is a brief synopsis of the January meeting.

President Sam Kessel, made the following appointments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Sam Kessel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly meetings</td>
<td>Ron Hall</td>
<td>(301) 879-2025</td>
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<td>Employment</td>
<td>Bill Emmerson</td>
<td>(301) 656-6323</td>
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<td>Education</td>
<td>Bob Orazi</td>
<td>(301) 666-9475</td>
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<td>Membership</td>
<td>Stan Lawson</td>
<td>(301) 278-2823</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assoc. membership</td>
<td>Steve Nash</td>
<td>(301) 428-8144</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social/Benevolence</td>
<td>Mike Larson</td>
<td>(301) 592-8803</td>
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<td>Editorial/Publicity</td>
<td>Greg Bayor</td>
<td>(301) 396-6101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Wayne McKenzie</td>
<td>(301) 567-9386</td>
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<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>Ken Braun</td>
<td>(301) 486-2054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter relations</td>
<td>George Thompson</td>
<td>(301) 656-4995</td>
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If you have any suggestions, problems, or questions, don't hesitate to call any of these people: they work for you!
The Membership committee was directed to canvass the entire Mid-Atlantic area for all non-members. Association members near these "non-members" will be asked to assist in influencing these persons in the benefits of our Association.

Dates and Sites of forthcoming meetings were discussed, (they can be found elsewhere in this issue). Especially of note, is the meeting in April at the Green Spring Valley Hunt Club, which is to be a joint meeting with our fellow Superintendents, from the Central Penn. Association. This should be a major event ... see you there.

Finances
Mike McKenzie

Only major item of interest is our membership dues. So far 122 out of 167 members have paid their dues: for the 122 — great, but for the rest of you, please send your remittance ASAP.
The Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents Annual Election of Officers and Directors was held at our December Membership Meeting at the Naval Academy Golf Club, Annapolis, Maryland, December 12, 1978.

The following individuals were elected for the coming year:

**President**
- Sam Kessel
- Fairfax Country Club
- Fairfax, Virginia

**Vice President**
- Ron Hall
- Maryland Golf and Country Club
- Bel Air, Maryland

**Secretary**
- Ben Stagg
- Hogs Neck Golf Club
- Easton, Maryland

**Treasurer**
- Mike McKenzie
- Naval Academy Golf Club
- Annapolis, Maryland

**Directors (New) 3 Year Term**
- Mike Larsen
- Hillendale Country Club
- Phoenix, Maryland
- Steve Nash
- Potomac Valley Country Club
- Poolesville, Maryland

Remaining Directors are:
- Ken Braun
- Wayne Evans
- Stan Lawson
- Bob Orazi
- Bill Emerson (President Emeritus)

Long, Long, Ago...

- **15 yrs. Feb./Mar. 1963...**
- Northwest Regional Park’s 18 hole public golf course is under construction, at a cost of $195,000!
- Island View Golf Course is seeking a Superintendent... starting salary: $7,000.

- **10 yrs. Feb./Mar. 1968...**
- George Cleaver became president of the Mid-Atlantic.
- The March meeting was held at the Green Spring Valley Hunt Club; the host is pictured here?

- **5 yrs. Feb./Mar. 1973...**
- George Cleaver was elected as Director of GCSAA at the Boston conference. (Seems like 5 year cycles for George!)
- Angelo Cammarota and Bill Livingston received their 25 year pins at Boston. Also receiving 25 year pins from GCSAA were Dr. Fred Grau and George Cornell. George is the first commercial member ever to receive the award. According to George “he joined when he was 16 years old.”

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Mid-Atlantic Job Openings

Bill Emmerson

Position: Golf Course Superintendent
Employer: Private Developer of Residential Development
Where: Fairfax County Virginia
Duties: Oversee construction - establishment - maintain, 18 hole golf course.
Qualifications: 2-3 years as assistant superintendent with related degree.
Compensation: Salary and benefits commensurate with qualifications.
Applications: Resume to — Edmund B. Ault Ltd.
Golf Course Architects
2311 Univ. Blvd. West
Wheaton, MD 20902
Employment to begin May 1, 1979.

Benevolence

Mike Larsen

This department is one of the most difficult of all to write, since some articles are of cheer and others are sad. All of these items are of special interest to our Association; therefore, a simple list of brevity will suffice.

- Congratulations to Bill and Lynn Neus, Faulker Springs C.C., on their first baby, Sarah.
- A hardy welcome to Merrill Frank, at Baltimore C.C. Merrill comes to the Mid-Atlantic from Brookside Golf and C.C., Columbus Ohio.
- A speedy recovery to Chuck Darrah, who had a serious accident in Boston recently.
- Congratulations to Steve and Carla Nash, Potomac Valley C.C., on their recent marriage.
- Our sincere regrets to Al Watson, on the recent death of his father, John Watson.