



# Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER

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No. 2



*This panel, composed (l. to r.) of Sam Kessel of Country Club of Fairfax, Pat O'Brien of the USGA Greens Section (Middle Atlantic Region, Richmond), and Lee Dieter of Washington Golf and Country Club, which discussed bunker sand, with many contributions from the membership at the March meeting in Fairfax. A lot of opinions were expressed, but there seemed to be general agreement that sand must be 6-8" deep if power rakes are used, to avoid mixing it with clay; that sand of uniform size packs less, while balls tend to bury in closely graded sand; that irrigation causes sand in greenside bunkers to pack; that fairway bunkers should have finer sand than bunkers around greens; that in mixed sand, the coarse stuff comes to the top; and, that most golfers are never happy with whatever sand happens to be in the bunkers, especially the ones they frequently hit balls into.*

## President's Message . .

With Spring in the air, we are all looking forward to the lengthening of the days so that we can start back on some more serious work on our courses, including trying some of the new materials and chemicals released this past year.

It was a shame we were rained out last month at Penderbrook, but we have April 12 to look forward to, when we will start our fourth annual Match Play Tournament at Evergreen Country Club. Our host this month will be Leslie Hawkins, and please remember to call Leslie or send the card confirming your reservation for golf and/or dinner.

Ken Braun, *President*

(Reminder: All male members and guest must wear a jacket and tie in order to attend the Association meeting.)



## Supt.-Pro Tourney Scheduled May 10

Our annual Superintendent-Pro Tournament will be held May 10 at Washington Golf and Country Club in Arlington, and entries will be limited to the first 50 teams who sign up (an official entry blank is enclosed with this newsletter). It's a best-ball event, with both net and gross prizes, and 80% of handicap will be allowed; there will be a 1 p.m. shotgun start, and the entry fee is \$65 per team, which includes cart, prizes, and dinner. If either the superintendent or the pro is unable to play, he may designate his assistant to play in his place. The May 10 dinner (to be followed by the monthly meeting) is open to all members, at a cost of \$18.50, and golf at other local courses can be arranged for non-entrants by golf co-chairmen Walter Montross and George Renault. Don't forget to turn in all your scores if you want a Compu-Golf handicap this year. The charge is \$4.00

## Evergreen is Site Of April 12 Meeting

Mid-Atlantic members, golfers and otherwise, will trek down to Haymarket, Virginia, on April 12 to play and/or to meet at Evergreen Country Club at the foot of Bull Run Mountain. With Spring weather already greening up the course, it promises to be a splendid outing on a challenging layout.

Built in 1968, Evergreen was designed by local golf course architect Algie Pulley; from the white tees, it plays to 6,560 yards (be glad you're not playing the blues, which stretch out to 7,060 yards). Leslie Hawkins, the golf course superintendent, has been at Evergreen two years, having moved down from Goose Creek Country Club in Leesburg. The golf professional is Mike Wynn, a former Tour player who has been a strong contender in MAPGA tournaments and in the Virginia Open. Vince Hendrickson is the club manager.

Evergreen's tees and greens are bentgrass; the fairways, like most northern Virginia courses, are a bluegrass mixture. Leslie fertilizes tees and greens with 5 pounds of nitrogen (IBDU 20-0-16) a year, fairways with 3 pounds (IBDU 29-3-10). Greens are mowed daily to 3/16", tees three times a week to 1/2", and rough once a week to 1 3/4"

Lunch will be available at the club, but the staff would like for our tee times to begin at 11 in order to leave some starting times for members. Golf will consist of the first round of the match play championship for those entered, plus stroke play for non-contestants. Cocktails will be available from 6 to 7, and dinner will be at 7, with the meeting starting at 8.

There are several ways to reach Evergreen. If you take the Beltway to Virginia, get off on the 66 to Front Royal exit (or pick up 66 in Arlington). You can get off at Rte. 234 in Manassas and follow that road until in deadends at Rte. 15. Then jog left a short half-block and turn right (there's an Evergreen C.C.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

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Published by this Association to aid the advancement of the Golf Course Superintendent through education and merit.

Claud Corrigan, *Editor*  
Joe Gambatese, *Photographer*

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## LETTERS . . .

Fellow Members:

Over the past 20 years as a MAAGCS member, I have written many times to the membership, but this is by far the most difficult. To acknowledge to you, my fellow members, my inability to accomplish what I set out to do is very painful.

It is apparent to me, and I'm sure to you, that GCSAA is not ready for my style, methods, or approach, to the future of the golf course superintendent. I must say, truthfully, after being part of the Pre-conference GCSAA Executive Committee meeting held in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, that GCSAA had lost some of its luster to me. I didn't go away from that meeting with the kind of vibes I would call positive, and after the fiasco with the "Coalition of Concerned GCSAA Members" in Atlanta, GCSAA's image became even more tarnished to me.

I am convinced that GCSAA is capable of destroying itself from within before it ever has a chance to prove the true value of the golf course superintendent to the rest of the golf industry. I feel that this is a real possibility.

The Cliff and Bob, dog and pony show, put on by the Coalition prior to and during our Atlanta Conference, coupled with the fact that this Coalition caught our esteemed GCSAA Board with their collective trousers around their ankles, should just about negate the progress GCSAA has made over the



Paul Barefoot presents a service plaque to John T. Lea (r.) of Lea's Green Meadows, Inc., at the March meeting.

## New Job Openings

### Local

Assistant Superintendent  
Country Club of Maryland

### Out-of-Town (through GCSAA)

Superintendent, Indian Hills C.C.  
Fort Salonga, N.Y.

Superintendent, The Creek  
Locust Valley, N.Y.

Assistant Supt., Desert Inn & C.C.  
Las Vegas, Nev.

Pro/Supt., St. Marys C.C.  
St. Marys, Pa.

Call or write Ben Stagg for details

### DIRECTORS' MEETING

The April Board of Directors meeting will be Thursday, April 7, at 1 p.m. at the Woodmont maintenance building; the May meeting will also be there, 1 p.m., Thursday, May 5.

past two or three years. GCSAA continues to take two steps forward and three back.

Sour grapes you say—Yeah, I say—Who's got a better right? My best to GCSAA winners—they'll need it!

Thanks to you, the members of the MAAGCS, for allowing me the privilege of representing you as a candidate to the GCSAA Board these past two years. I'm putting my political aspirations in mothballs and I suggest you find someone electable to endorse.

"I came to the forum twice and I lost," or did I?

Thanks again.

Your Fellow Member,  
William J. Emerson

## UM Offers Turf Disease Workshop

A turfgrass disease workshop will be held on April 7 at the University of Maryland in Room 1216 H.J. Patterson Hall with Peter Dernoeden of the Department of Agronomy and Ethyl Dutky of the Department of Botany as instructors. The workshop starts at 8:30 a.m., and covers cultural practices and turf disease, diagnosing major turf diseases, and isolation and microscopic identification of causative fungi. The cost is \$20 per person (checks payable to Maryland Turfgrass Council), there is space for 15 persons, and questions should be directed to Dr. Dernoeden at (301) 454-3715.

## EVERGREEN MEETING

(Continued from page 1)

sign across Rte. 15). Proceed less than a mile to the first right-hand turn (also with a sign) and follow that road to Berkeley Dr., where you turn left and drive a few blocks until you see the clubhouse on the right. The other route is to stay on 66 until you reach Rte. 15, turn right and follow it until just before the intersection with Rte. 234, turning left at the Evergreen sign and proceeding as above. If coming from Leesburg or the north, take Rte. 15 all the way to the Rte. 234 junction in Haymarket.

### MEETING PROGRAM — APRIL 12

Lunch — Before 11, in clubhouse

Golf — 11 a.m.

Cocktails — 6 p.m. (cash bar)

Dinner — 7 p.m. (\$13.50 each)

Meeting — 8 p.m.

(Speaker "Gypsy Moth Update")

