It’s Piney Branch For Our July 10 Meeting

It was July 1981 when the MAAGCS last visited Piney Branch Golf and Country Club in Hampstead, Md., and host Gene Dyke has extended a warm invitation to come out and enjoy some Baltimore and Carroll County hospitality at our July 10 meeting.

Piney Branch, which was designed by Eddit Ault, was built on 206 acres of rolling farmland. Its first nine opened in 1965 and the full 18 in July 1971. The course measures 6,850 yards from the blue tees, 6,508 from the whites, and lies in a secluded woody area of rolling terrain. Its greens are Penncross mixed with Poa, average 708 square feet, are cut 5 to 6 times a week to 5/32" or 3/16", and receive 4-5 lbs. of N per year. The tees, originally Merion blue and Pennlawn, have been overseeded in rye and are cut 3 times a week at 3/4". They receive 3-4 lbs. of N per year. Fairways, whose original seeding was Kentucky blue and red fescue, have been overseeded with ryes, are cut 1 1/2" 3 times a week, and receive 2 lbs. of N each year. Roughs are K-31.

Irrigation is manual, with water source a 5 1/2-acre lake and two ponds, all springfed. Facilities include a practice trap, green, and range. Shower facilities are available in the clubhouse, and towels will be provided.

Eugene Dyke has been associated with Piney Branch for 16 years. Prior to that, he spent 4 years at Sleepy Hollow Golf Club in Charles Town, W. Va., and worked in the maintenance department at various clubs in the Winchester, Va., area. He is a self-taught superintendent who doesn’t claim to know all the answers. Gene and his wife of 20 years reside in Manchester, Md., and have one son, aged 12.

For those who don’t want to play golf, golf carts will be available to tour the course. Points of interest include the complete reconstruction of No. 12 green by Gene’s crew, who also built the 42’ steel bridge at No. 7. The course is a busy one, with some 72 golf outings and nearly 40,000 rounds being played.

To get to Piney Branch, take the Baltimore Beltway (Rte. 695) to Exit 20, Reisterstown Road, go north to Rte. 30, continuing north for 8 miles, with the club being on the right. An alternate route is 495 to 270N, go right on Rte. 27 to Hampstead, Md., right on Rte. 30 for 1 1/2 miles, to the club on the left.

PROGRAM FOR JULY 10
Golf – After 11 a.m.
Lunch — cash basis
Cocktails – 6-7 p.m. (cash bar)
Dinner – 7 p.m., top sirloin and crab cakes (price, $16)
Meeting – 8 p.m. (coats and ties)

Free beer will be available on the patio to all Mid-Atlantic members.

Don’t forget to call 964-0070 with your reservation.

AHEAD–THE PICNIC
Don’t forget, on August 14 our annual picnic will be held at Bretton Woods, with food and fun for the whole family. Full details will be in next month’s newsletter.