President’s Message

May of each year marks our association’s annual Superintendent-Pro Tournament. At any country club, the golf course is the center of activity. If the club’s golf program is to succeed, it will do so through the cooperation and joint efforts of the Golf Course Superintendent and the Golf Professional. Having been a superintendent for 12 years, it has been my pleasure to be associated with two outstanding golf professionals, Tony Marlowe and Bill Clarke. The key to our successful relationship has been our ability to communicate. Our daily contact gave us an opportunity to keep one another informed about maintenance on the golf course, upcoming golf outings, or membership inquiries or complaints.

An important step in building this rapport is inviting the golf professional at your club to join you in participating in our annual Superintendent-Pro Tournament. Occasions such as this foster the necessary mutual understanding and respect between our two closely related professions.

A personal note of thanks goes to Bill Neus for all of his work in organizing another successful Ladies Night. On a more serious note, disgraceful is the only word that describes the fact that only 33 members out of 82 who attended called to register for our April meeting at Hog Neck. I can’t emphasize how important it is for the association and the host club that you call our office at 964-0070 and register your attendance for our meetings.

Michael J. Larsen, President

Annual Superintendent-Pro Tournament Set For Woodmont C.C. on May 14

The North Course of Woodmont Country Club in Rockville, Md., will be the scene of the 14th annual Superintendent-Pro Tournament to be played May 14. Superintendents and their professionals will tee off in a shotgun start at 1 p.m. in quest of the title won last year at Indian Spring by Earl Mason and Don Skacan of Gibson Island Club.

The tough North Course, built in 1950, was designed by the noted English golf course architect Alfred Tull. With a par of 72, it has a course rating of 70.9 from the white tees (5,250 yards) and one of 73.1 from the blue tees (6,963 yards). Its Slope ratings are 123 and 127, respectively. Woodmont’s tree-lined fairways traverse gently rolling land, and their mix of ryegrass, Bermuda, and poa annua is cut three times a week to 3/4". The bentgrass greens are cut six times weekly to 5/32", the rough is mowed weekly to 2", and the tees are cut to 1/2" three times a week. The fertilizing schedule is 3 1/2# N per 1,000 square feet each Fall on the greens, 2# on fairways, and 3 1/4# on tees. The course has a fully automatic irrigation system.

MAAGCS president Michael Larsen has been superintendent at Woodmont since January 1983. Prior to coming to the Rockville course and its 36 holes of golf, he was superintendent at Hillendale Country Club in Baltimore for 10 years. Mike did his summer placement training and was the assistant at Baltimore Country Club for two years after graduating from the University of Maryland’s Institute of Applied Agriculture.

Directions to the course are as follows: From Virginia, take the Beltway (495) east to exit 38 North on Rte. 270 toward Rockville and Frederick. Take the Montrose Road exit off Rte. 270, go east on Montrose, turn left on Rockville Pike and go 1.3 miles to Woodmont on the left (directly across from Tom Hatton Pontiac). From Maryland, take the Beltway west to exit 34, heading north on Rockville Pike (Rte. 355). Go approximately 3.8 miles to Woodmont on the left.

The program for May 14 is as follows:
11:30 a.m. on — Lunch in men’s grill (sign ticket)
1 p.m. — Shotgun start (golf bags should be dropped off in front of clubhouse)
6:30 p.m. — Cocktails (cash bar)
7:30 p.m. — Dinner ($25), coat and tie required
8:30 p.m. — Meeting. Speaker is Mark Guttenberg, PGA Professional at Penderbrook Golf Course.

Phone 964-0070 (MAAGCS office) for reservations.

A Short History of Woodmont Country Club

Woodmont Country Club traces its beginnings to January 26, 1914, when the Washington Suburban Club was organized. It leased a small tract of land at Georgia Avenue and Decatur Street, N.W. in Washington, D.C., on which it built a 9-hole golf course, two tennis courts, and a small clubhouse containing a ballroom, dining facilities, and locker rooms for men and women.

In 1916, two well-known social clubs, both of which included a number of Washington Suburban Club members, merged into a new organization called the Town and Country Club, which was incorporated in the District. In 1922, the club moved to a new location on Rockville Pike at what is now the site of the National Institute of Health. An old manor house on the land was remodeled into a clubhouse (Continued on page 3)