President’s Message

This message will be my last as president of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents. The past year of serving as your president has been a very memorable and rewarding experience for me. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Board of Directors for the hard work and time they have devoted to our association. I would also like to thank Claud Corrigan for his outstanding service as newsletter editor.

Even though it rained and we couldn’t play Diamond Ridge, I want to thank Howard Gaskill for his efforts as our host for the November meeting. Hopefully, Howard will invite us back soon.

The upcoming election meeting will be held at Green Spring Valley Hunt Club with Grant Pensinger, CGCS as host. Please come and vote for the candidates of your choice. Remember, call our office at (301) 381-0030 to make reservations for golf and dinner.

Jerry Gerard, President

SKI TRIP PLANNED

In the planning stage for Mid-Atlantic members is a two-day ski trip to Bryce Resort in February. Further details will be furnished in a separate mailing as they become available, according to Bill Neus, who is handling arrangements for the trip.

DECEMBER 9 MEETING

(Continued from page 1)
The course is heavily wooded and has fairly small bentgrass greens and rye fairways. Grant has been at GSVHS for the past 13 years, having moved there from Scotland, Pa., his home town and the location of Chambersburg Golf Club, where he served as superintendent for seven years.

On the 9th, lunch will not be available at the course, but, weather permitting, golf can be played any time during the day. Cocktails and hors d’oeuvres will be on hand from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m., followed by a dinner of mushrooms forestiere, spinach salad, chicken breast stuffed with crabmeat, vegetables, and blueberry mousse.

Directions to the club are as follows: Take the Baltimore Beltway (I-695) to Exit 20, Reisterstown Road. Go north (left) on Reisterstown Road to Green Spring Valley Road, turn right, and go a half block to the course.

The program for December 9 is:
Lunch - None
Golf - Anytime
Cocktails - 4:00 to 6:30 p.m.
Dinner - 6:30 p.m. (cost: $20)
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
Reservations - Call (301) 381-0030 collect

From the Golf World

A number of interesting ideas came out of the “Golf Summit” held in October at Westchester Country Club in New York by the National Golf Foundation. Almost every organization involved in some way with golf took part, including the USGA, PGA, all three Tours (PGA, Senior PGA, and LPGA), GCSAA, and so on. One presentation, seeking to look into the future, predicted that golf would have to go through a process of “MacDonaldization,” that is, make available a fast-food version of the game so that it could be played quickly and without undue involvement in what was going on. Courses would have to be short, open, and simple, with nothing like bunkers, hazards, or OB to hold up or penalize any player. Were that to take place, they would find, we fear, that golf at that level would bore most people silly, would present little or no challenge, and would be quickly abandoned.

Although nobody came out and said it, presumably the Rules of Golf would be made simpler and less binding, and all nature of technical advances in clubs, balls, and other equipment would be permitted as a means of making the game that much easier — and faster. It would be just about as satisfying as one of those fast food sandwiches, too.

The other idea, a surprise put forward by Deane Beman, the PGA Tour Commissioner, was not only practical but very farsighted. He announced that all the TPC courses would soon be renting individual powered carts to carry bag of clubs while the golfer walks, thereby preserving the benefits of exercise without the task of lugging or pulling a sack of clubs around. Since few courses these days have enough available caddies, the majority of golfers ride carts to solve the clubs problem. Many resorts, of course, require the use of carts, but that is primarily revenue oriented. The battery-powered golf carts would rent for one-half the golf car fees, thus preserving the income that either the pro or club (or both) have come to depend on. The initial investment in a caddy cart is about one-fifth that in a golf car, so the pro or the club is ahead of the game financially from the start.