Sept. 9 Meeting Is At Falls Road

A busy public golf facility in the Maryland suburbs of Washington will be the site of the September 9 MAAGCS meeting. Falls Road Golf Course is convenient to the Capitol Beltway and, like most Eddie Ault-designed layouts, it provides an interesting test of golf. Host for the meeting is Ralph Strouth, who because of the lack of full dining facilities at his course has arranged for the dinner meeting to be held in the Terrace Room of the Normandie Farm restaurant at 10710 Falls Road, near the golf course.

Falls Road Golf Course was built in 1960 to architect Eddie Ault’s design, and Ralph Strouth has been at the course for his entire career, succeeding his father, Bradley Strouth, as superintendent some 14 years ago. The course belongs to the Montgomery County Revenue Authority and is very popular with golfers from Rockville, Potomac, and other communities. When calling the MAAGCS office (964-0070 – call collect if out of area) for dinner reservations, which must be made by September 4, also give your approximate starting time for golf so that a block of times can be set aside.

Because we will have a private room at Normandie Farm and because many members will be coming directly from the golf course, informal attire is all right for the meeting, although jackets are encouraged. Directions to the course and restaurant are as follows: From Baltimore, Washington, or Virginia, take the Beltway (495) to River Road, exit toward Potomac. Go past Congressional C.C. to Falls Road, turn right, and go approximately a mile to the course.

The day’s program is:

- Lunch: 11 a.m. on (snack bar)
- Golf: 11:30 – 1 p.m. (cart $12 for 2)
- Cocktails: 6:30 (cash bar)
- Dinner: 7:30 ($26.50)
- Meeting: 8:30

Reservations - Call 964-0070 by Sept. 4

Cool weather – a welcome change from the heat at our last picnic – made the August 12 annual MAAGCS picnic a fun event for all, as everyone partook of hamburgers, hot dogs, steamed crabs, barbecued ribs, and fresh-picked white corn, not to mention a tent full of salads, desserts, and other goodies prepared by members’ wives. More pictures of the crowds around the tents at Hobbit’s Glen are on page 3.

President’s Message

This year has been a very tough one for many superintendents. Our most severe problem is not disease, drought, or insects but job-related stress. Because of the many factors that are beyond our control but that affect our end product, a perfect golf course, we take all the weight of these factors on our shoulders in the form of stress. We need, of course, to unload such stress factors, putting them into their proper perspective and understanding that we are only human. With that in mind, we can then do the best job of which we are capable. Without the stress, our jobs will be easier and we can become more effective and productive.

The thanks of all of us go to Bill Neus, who hosted and organized this year’s annual picnic at Hobbit’s Glen, another great success. I would also like to thank the individuals and organizations that contribute their time and money each year to make this picnic an event to look forward to: we appreciate it!

For those who did not receive the flyer in the mail, this year’s Musser Tournament will be held on October 27 at Manor Country Club in Rockville. Proceeds from this annual benefit go toward research and education, with emphasis this year on education of those who manage sports turf.

Jerry Gerard, President