President’s Message

I’d like to begin this first of my monthly articles with a Thank You for the confidence and trust you expressed in me by electing me to another term as President of our Association. I will do my best to serve your interests and promote a stronger Association with a more active membership and a more interesting program of activities.

We have an extremely competent and interested Board of Directors. It’s this group and their committees who are going to provide you with your membership services during the coming year.

I’d like to close by asking you to use your board. You should feel free to communicate with them about your association. If you need help in any area or can offer assistance, please contact the Director responsible or write a letter directly to the Board. We are here to serve you.

Something New . . .

Article of the Year Tip of the Month

Many of us have excellent thoughts and ideas that might well help a fellow superintendent, assistant, student or even an ordinary golfer. That is, it might help if it was ever passed on.

Unfortunately, many still remember the atmosphere of twenty years ago when superintendents didn’t share their ideas under the pretext, “If I told you, you could do what I do!”

This newsletter is a case in point. How many times have you read an article contributed by a colleague which offers a suggestion, idea, or learning experience.

Well, we’ve come a long way in twenty years and while we do share ideas, we tend to limit them to social occasions. To get these into our newsletter we are establishing two new monthly articles — Tip of the Month — and — Article of the Year.

Subject matter should relate to our field and incentives to contribute are a $25 bond for the tip of the month and a $100 bond for the article of the year. Material should be submitted to George Renault.

If the purpose of the MAAGCS and this newsletter is to aid our advancement through education and merit, we need to hear from you.

Fredriceksburg C.C. To Host 1st Meeting

The first meeting of the MAAGCS will be held at Fredericksburg Country Club on March 10th.

Originally a 9-hole facility during the 1920's, greens were seeded with C1, C7 and C19 Bentgrasses. The back nine was constructed in 1960. As can be imagined, drain tile does not exist except on the green which was built in 1985 to Ed Ault's design.

The clubhouse retains the charm and hospitality of the southern plantation it once was. The course, measuring 6,200 yards from the white tees, is a par 72. Greens are mowed six times a week at 5/32" and receive 5 lbs. of nitrogen annually. Fairways are cut at 3/4" and mowed three times per week. Comprised mainly of bermuda and ryegrass, fairways receive 4 lbs. of nitrogen annually. The course is watered automatically via a KCS Buckner system.

Our host, Ron Barley, is a Certified Golf Course Superintendent and has been located at Fredericksburg Country Club for the past three years. Formerly at Prince William G.C. and Shenandoah Retreat G.C., Ron was featured in April 1986's issue of Golf Course Management magazine in the article "Of Watt and Water: One Proven Technical Approach to Protecting Power, Quality."

Golf will be available around 11 a.m.; sandwiches and bar purchases can be made by cash or charged back to your club. Golf cars will be available, weather permitting. Cocktails will begin at 5:30 p.m. with dinner and meeting commencing at 7 p.m. The $15 dinner fee will be a buffet and open bar.

An accurate headcount is required so RSVP as soon as possible to the MAAGCS Hotline: 301-381-0030.

DIRECTIONS: Take I-95 South to Fredericksburg exit 46 A (Rt. 3 East). Head East on Rt. 3 turning right on Rt. 2 & 17 South. Go two lights, turn left, then immediately right at first light under railroad bridge. Go to the flashing red light, bear right, proceed 2.5 miles to club on left. Club has white fence in front directly across from Celco Moraine (General Motors) plant.

Lee Dieter, President