Ambassadors were in attendance. The United States tree was dedicated to Clara Barton. Joan of Arc, Cleopatra, and Florence Nightengale were honored by their countries. Unfortunately, Dutch elm disease destroyed many of those original trees in the 1970's. It was certainly fitting that the Club was just recently involved as the host to the LPGA's Greater Washington Open. A tribute to its heritage as the Nation's Women's Club. The Club will continue to host this event through 1991. This year's tournament winner was Ayako Okamoto of Japan.

The course was originally designed by Fred Finlay. The building of the Washington beltway in 1962 caused the club to undergo major reconstruction. At the present time, there are only four of the original greens remaining (2, 6, 9, and 18). Ed Ault was the architect for the reconstruction and is credited with the existing design.

The course is open twelve months of the year and averages 40,000 plus rounds. The Bent/Pos greens are maintained at 5/32nds and are mowed daily with walk-tail mowers. The greens, tees, and fairways are a mixture of Poa, Bluegrass, Ryegrass, and a smattering of Bermuda, according to Tom. The fairways are overseeded in the Fall with Perennial Ryegrass. Consideration is being given to start seeding areas of the fairways with Bermudagrass in the Spring. The tees are predominately Ryegrass/Poa and are maintained at 1/2 inch with Bunton 26" tee mowers. The greens, tees, and fairways at Bethesda are sprayed preventively. Tom says that summer patch has been the biggest problem at Bethesda. At the recommendation of Dr. Pat Sanders and Cieba-Giegy, a program using Banner at 4 oz. per thousand was used this season. Beginning around the second week in April (or when the soil temperature hits 45 degrees) and continuing until Mid-August, monthly applications of the product were made. This was the first season that this patch was not a problem at Bethesda. Crabgrass control for the entire course is with Acclaim EC. The greens are sprayed at 3 oz./acre every two to three weeks mixed with nitrification at an 1/8 lb.N/per thousand. Tom begins this program in late May and continues until the end of August. Tees and fairways are sprayed at 16 oz./acre every three to four weeks during the same period. The irrigation system on the tees and greens is Toro automatic and the fairways are manual. A new automatic system is being designed for the fairways. Also on the drawing board is a new maintenance facility, construction will begin in February.

THE MEETING: Golf will be available at your convenience, however, you must call the starter (Jim Bailey) at 365-1703 to make arrangements for a tee time. Cocktails will be served at 6 p.m. (cash will be accepted), and dinner will be at 7 p.m. The cost of the meal will be $25.00. We would like to remind you that coat and tie are the required dress at all of our association meetings.

DIRECTIONS: From the Washington beltway (495) exit at River Road (exit #34) toward Potomac, Md., at the first light (Seven Locks Rd.) turn right, proceed on Seven Locks Rd. to the next light (Bradley Blvd.) turn right. The Club entrance is approximately 1/4 mile on the left hand side.