Memorial Tournament October 11th - Rehobeth Beach Country Club

Thomas List, CGCS, our host, became Superintendent at Rehobeth in May of 1982. He had previously served as Superintendent at Ocean Pines in Ocean City for six years and as Bill Emerson’s assistant at Eagles Nest for two years. A native of Reisterstown, Maryland, Tom graduated from the University of Maryland’s Institute of Applied Agriculture with honors. Tom attained his CGCS status in December of 1982. He and his wife Debbie have been married for seventeen years and have two daughters, Kelly 12 and Robin 9. Debbie is a teacher in the Westchester County school system and now is in her ninth year of teaching. She received her B.S. at the College Park Campus of the U. of M. and a Masters from Salisbury State University. The Lists’ are moving into a new home next month. Congratulations Tom and Debbie! Tom is a good golfer (past winner of our Supt.-Pro Tournament) so watch out for him on his home course.

Rehobeth Beach Country Club was founded in 1925 with a nine hole golf course in the town limits of Rehobeth Beach. The club was moved to its present location in 1960. Russel Roberts was the architect and builder of the course.

In 1962 a storm flooded the golf course with up to five feet of salt water. To help solve this problem, a series of tidal flood gates were installed. Flooding is still a minor problem. The effects of flooding three years ago are still seen in the soils on number twelve and fourteen fairways.

The course is open twelve months of the year, with virtually no play in January and February. The Bent-Poa greens are mowed at 9/64 of an inch. A Poa control program is underway on the greens, a combination of T.G.R. in the spring and fall and very low watering rates is Toms’ answer to the problem. He says that the greens are usually not watered until wilt occurs. The fairways and tees are a mixture of Ryegrass, Bermuda, and Bent-grass. Maintenance programs in these areas promote the blending of these different turf grasses. The crabgrass control for the entire course is Scotts’ Bensulide-Ronstar product. Tom is spraying his fairways for disease control. He’s spraying about eight times a year using 26019, Bayleton, Banner, and Subdue.

Tom is in the middle of a couple of rather ambitious projects at the present. The club is installing an automatic irrigation system (Toro), and Tom’s crew is doing the work. The other project involves bulkheading several lakes for bank control and aesthetics. Let’s go to the meeting and see what he’s doing.

Starting times will be from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and will be taken at the pro shop (302) 227-3616. A luncheon buffet will be available at noon (cash only). Cocktails will be served at a cash bar starting at 6 p.m. The dinner meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. The cost of the buffet dinner will be $20.00.

DIRECTIONS: Follow Route 50 east to Route 404. Turn left on Route 16 off Route 404 to Route 1. Take Route 1 south to Rehobeth Beach. Turn right off Route 1 onto County Route 273 at the water slide called “Sports Complex.” Follow this road to the clubhouse at the end.

NOTE: Anyone wishing to stay for a long weekend or to stay over after the meeting can get a special rate at the Commodore Motel in Rehobeth Beach. Call (302) 227-9446 for reservations and mention that you are with the Golf Course Superintendents for a special discount.

1988 Musser Foundation Tournament

The Maryland Turfgrass Council is again holding its annual Musser Foundation Tournament. It will be held at Woodmont Country Club on Friday, October 21st. Your host will be our own MAAGCS past president Mike Larsen, who urges your support.

The day promises to be a lot of fun and you can be sure you will be treated with the courtesy and respect your profession deserves. The cost is $250 for a team of four and will include the following: greens and cart fees, team and individual prizes, gross and net perpetual trophies, and longest drive and closest to the pin prizes.

A cash lunch and bar will be available starting at 11:30 a.m. with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. A cocktail hour with cash bar will start at 5:30 p.m. with dinner (included) to start at 6:30 p.m.

If you are unable to send a full team, pairings can be made through Mike at a cost of $62.50 each. All entries are on a first come/first served basis. The field is limited to 25 teams. If you wish to participate and have not received an entry form, contact Mike Larsen at Woodmont. If you do not wish to participate, but would like to support turf research, Mike will be happy to accept donations at the club. Please make your checks payable to the Maryland Turfgrass Council.
Summer is always so much fun for us superintendents. It’s a life of leisure. We just sit back and soak up the sun wondering how we ever got to lucky! Right.

We are undoubtedly one of the few professionals who hate to see the summer come. It is tough enough to grow grass in record setting temperatures accompanied by severe drought. We certainly didn’t need pesticides tainted with herbicides to make life more interesting. While it was an honest mistake which the company is trying to rectify, it certainly has led to major difficulties for some of us. Unfortunately, I can’t blame my problems on that.

Our Social Chairman, Ken Ingram, has planned an exciting Ladies Night for this our anniversary year. He will be hosting an evening of fine dining and dancing at Columbia Country Club for the MAAGCS. You should have received an invitation in the mail by now (addressed to your wife) if you are married, and addressed to the member of you’re not). If you were missed by some fluke, a copy of the invitation is in the newsletter. Please make your reservations early! We don’t want to disappoint anyone, it promises to be a fun evening and we could well be booked up early. This is our 60th anniversary year. Please come and help us celebrate the gains we’ve made in our profession and the friends we’ve made along the way. Our guests for the night are our ladies, let’s show them that we appreciate their putting up with us this summer.

George Renault, President

Education Notes

by Steven E. Cohoon, CGCS

The guest speaker for the October 11 meeting at Rehobeth Country Club will be Mr. John Segui, CGCS. John is the superintendent at Waynesborough Country Club in Berwyn, Pennsylvania and is the current President of The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. He will be informing us of the status of the current programs of our national association, including the certification program.

Most of our members know John and know that his talks are always interesting and informative. John has been a member of our association and has attended many meetings and our Baltimore conferences in the past. Come to the meeting and be prepared to let him enlighten you and have your questions about GCSAA answered in person.

In other matters, the GCSAA seminars that the Mid-Atlantic is sponsoring have all been finalized. The Association needs your help in supporting these educational opportunities, and encourages you to attend. You will not only support the Mid-Atlantic, but you will also earn CEU’s and increase your knowledge and professionalism. Be sure to mark your calendar and look for more details to be mailed in the near future.

Maryland Turfgrass Conference
January 9, 1989
Budgeting and Forecasting

Virginia Turfgrass Conference
January 16, 1989
Negotiating

Springfield Golf and Country Club
April 17, 1989
Golf Course Safety, Security, and Risk Management

The Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents requests the pleasure of your company at our annual Ladies Night on Friday, the twenty-first of October nineteen hundred and eighty-eight Columbia Country Club Chevy Chase, Maryland Cocktails, Dinner and Dancing at six-thirty o’clock

Tickets - $70/couple
TWO YEAR OR FOUR YEAR
by Kenneth Ingram, CGCS

What’s your answer when young people ask you what’s the best education for a golf course superintendent today? For the past 25 years most of us entered our profession with a two year degree in Turf Management, shouldn’t our standards be higher today? What is the best field to major in, agronomy, business management, recreation? Finally, why is there always such a distance between the two year programs and the respective universities?

I see some basic problems with the four year programs, this is probably why so many students continue in the two year programs. As we all know education is like a pyramid, the longer you study the more specific the subject. As golf course superintendents that’s the last thing we need, we need diversity. Secondly, it has always been my belief that the two year schools gave a lot of us a chance to get a college education because we couldn’t afford the time or money for a four year program. There is no doubt that the two year programs have been successful, they have turned out some exceptional superintendents.

Both educational frameworks have certain merits. The two year programs offer specific practical curriculums, often with classes and subjects not available through the university. The four year programs offer a complete, well rounded education, with a broad base in the sciences. Most of us will agree that if a student can afford a four year program and handle it academically, they should pursue it. If not, will the two year program suffice?

This is where I have a problem, why this either/or situation. If there was more reciprocity in transferring grades and credits between the programs, students who find a real calling in our field would be able to go on and pursue a higher education. The interested student should not have to repeat similar courses, the courses should be taught on the same level in both programs.

The four year programs should be geared to produce people who are ready to enter our profession upon graduation. The required courses should be more relevant to fine turf management, and work-study programs should be offered as part of their curriculum. An industry panel that would work with the universities in setting up these programs would certainly be a step in the right direction. Changes must be made, we must gear our programs to the future not the present. We need people coming into our profession equipped to handle the challenge and the commitment that our profession is offering.

There are many forms of education, not all of them formal. There is a lot to be said for seminars, certification, work experience, and association involvement. But what about the formal education, our young people aren’t sure which direction to go. Don’t you think the day is coming when employers will be looking for that Bachelor of Science degree?

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1988-1989 MAAGCS Schedule

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Golf
by Tom Regan, CGCS

Our Point Tournament winner is none other than Russ Bateman, the man who vowed to be a threat all year from Baltimore Municipal Golf Corporation. Russ accumulated 36⅔ points over the five courses we played throughout the summer. Congratulations Russ. Second place goes to Kenny Ingram of Columbia Country Club with 30½ points, third was Nick (Sandbag) Vance with 27⅓ points followed by John Newcomb and Jeff Yingling with 25 points, and our illustrious President George (portly) Renault was 5th with 23½ points. Congratulations to all, the prizes will be awarded at our December meeting.

Our October meeting will be held at Rehobeth Beach and we will be yoring for the Vince Tripplet (low net) and Bill Glover (low gross) memorial trophies. A certain Superintendent in the Baltimore area whose handicap is not indicative to the number of rounds he plays, has been heard saying he doesn’t feel comfortable with such a high handicap and will play only for the gross prize next month.

October is a good time to go to the beach, so let’s have a good turnout and remember to make your golf and dinner reservations. The November meeting will be held at Bethesda Country Club on November 8th.

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Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee, Lee Dieter, Chairman, and members Bob Miller and Sam Kessel, met and have the following slate to present to the membership. For President, Walter Montross; Vice President, Bill Neus; Treasurer, Nick Vance; Secretary, Steve Cohoon and Lester Tanner; and for Directors (2), Steven Nash, Chris Paradise, Bill Neus, Nick Vance, Lester Tanner, Thomas Ritter, Grant Pensinger and David Fairbank.

Nominations will be accepted at the meeting from the floor.

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Tired of Calling Reservations?

Are you regularly attending our meetings and getting tired of that monthly phone call? Steve Potter may have the answer for you. Call only when you can’t attend! Join the PERMANENT RESERVATION CLUB. Ask Steve for details or give him a ring. Your fellow members that are already members are: Walter Montross, Steve Potter, Kenneth Ingram, Tom Regan, Lance Ernst, George Renault, Lee Dieter, Thomas Walsh, Barton Bullock, Steven Nash, Chris Paradise, Bill Neus, Nick Vance, Lester Tanner, Thomas Ritter, Grant Pensinger and David Fairbank.
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