Ocean Pines is a 3,500 acre resort/retirement community located directly across the Assawoman Bay from Ocean City, MD. It was originally developed by Boise Cascade Co. (the lumber company) in 1968 and is still experiencing rapid growth 20 years later. There are 6,800 lots with about 3,200 homes and 350 presently under construction. 800 additional acres remain undeveloped and it is expected that 3,000 more housing units will be added. Besides the Golf and Country Club, other amenities include a Marina and Yacht Club, and a Beach Club in Ocean City.

Winding through the community is its star attraction — the golf course. This Robert Trent Jones layout was the first project which included the help of his son, Reese. Many characteristics of this course are trademarks of a Trent Jones design. There is torture by sand (76 bunkers), torture by water (on 9 holes), and very narrow, tree-lined fairways. Originally seeded to common bermuda, most of the trees and fairways have been converted to rye/bluegrass. The course plays to 6,301 yards from the middle tees and 6,950 from the back with a slope rating of 122. With the increased development of Ocean Pines, the course is showing the effects of very high traffic. Plans are underway for the construction of another course on some of the undeveloped land in the near future.

Our host, Randy Dayton, has spent the last three years restoring this course to its original design and turf conditions. In addition, complete landscaping of the clubhouse grounds was necessary after major remodelling of the building, the continuous cart path system was completed, and this year 700 linear feet of bulkhead was added on the 3rd, 9th, and 18th holes.

The sandy soil and heavy shade require some specialized maintenance practices. Because of increased leaching, fertilizer is applied more frequently at lighter rates with slightly higher annual totals. A soil testing service is used and deficiencies of Phosphorus, Potassium, and minor nutrients are being corrected according to their recommendations. Irrigation must be done frequently since the soil has such a tendency to dry out. The U.S.G.A. greens are mowed at 5/32" 5 times weekly, and the trees, collars, and fairways are mowed three times weekly at 5/8". The small amount of rough is mowed 2" weekly. Scott's Goosegrass/ Crabgrass Control is used on the greens and Lesco Pre-M is sprayed on the fairways, roughs, and most tees. No pre-emergence is used on the Par 3 tees and Acclaim is used to clean up any crabgrass. Scott's TGR was used this spring. Fungicides are used on a preventive basis on greens, tees, and fairways. Because Ocean Pines is such an environmentally sensitive area, extra care is taken with all pesticides.

A unique system of tee marker placement designed by the U.S.G.A. is used to balance the course yardage daily. Another Trent Jones trademark is landing strips for tees. Many of the tees are 75 yards long which drastically changes the yardage on that particular hole. A systematic movement of the tee markers is necessary to ensure that the course plays to approximately the same yardage every day. The tees are divided into six zones and regular movement among the six zones produces the desired results.

Randy graduated in 1978 from North Carolina State University with a Bachelor's degree in Forestry and Park Management. He was a ranger at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis for three years before deciding to get into golf course management. He attended the George Thompson school of turf management at Columbia (Continued on page 2)
President's Message

What a difference a year makes. The last two years have been extremely hot and dry and this year (at least to date) has been cool and wet. It is just what was needed for the rough, trees, shrubs and flowers but too much for the short turf areas. Like many of you I would rather add it than try to remove it. I think we have mowed more rough and shoveled more sand on the faces of bunkers this year than the last two combined. I do hope you were fortunate enough to miss the terrible storms that wreaked havoc in the Bethesda Chevy Chase area a couple of weeks ago. Not being from tornado or hurricane areas I have never seen such damage. To those who were affected I hope things are now better.

Thanks go out to Steve Nash and International Town and Country Club for hosting the June meeting. In spite of rain 22 of us braved the conditions to play. The course was superb (light weight fairway mowing) as was the meeting afterwards in which 85 people attended.

If you haven’t heard, Steve Potter recently had back surgery. Best wishes to Steve for a speeded recovery. Congratulations go out to Dean Graves who became the new Golf Course Superintendent at Bethesda Country Club. Dean was previously at Kenwood Country Club.

Please join me at Ocean Pines Country Club with our host Randy Dayton on July the 11th. As noted in the golf article this will be the site for the first 2-man team championship. Pick your partner and come out for that special Eastern Shore hospitality.

Walter Montross, CGCS, President
GOLF

The results of the June MAAGCS meeting at International Town and Country Club: 1st low gross with a 78 — Nick Vance; 2nd low gross with a 81 — Ron Hawkins; 1st low net with a 64 — Bill Neus; 2nd low net with a 68 — Earl Mason.

At the July MAAGCS meeting we will be conducting the first 2-man team championship. We will also hold the first long drive contest. This event will be sponsored by Prolawn and Tom Malehorn. The 2-man team trophies will be donated by Lea’s Green Meadows. The format for the team championship will be:

1) Open to every MAAGCS member
2) Chicago point system, using both players totals. The system works like this: Each player subtracts his handicap from 36. The difference is the number of points he must make. A birdie = 4 pts., a par = 2 pts., a bogey = 1 pt., anything higher receives no points. Therefore a player who is a 12 handicap needs to make 24 points for 18 holes. Whichever team has the highest point total are the winners.
3) There is no limitation on team handicaps.

The entry fee for each team is $30.00. Prizes will be awarded on a team basis only. Please call Walter Montross at 703-451-6619 if you are interested in playing. I need each player’s name and handicap.

NEW MEMBERS

Jon Greenstone, Assistant Superintendent
Reston Golf Course, Class D

Craig Reinhardt, Superintendent
Old South Country Club, Class A

Thomas Clark, Golf Course Architect
Ault, Love & Associates, Class F

W. Chris Adkins, Sales Representative
Andover Farms, Class F

Richard Fritz, Sales Representative
Lea’s Green Meadows, Class F

Vanna R. Guldenschuh
Turf Magazine, Class C

Congratulations!

Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Turner, daughter, Helen Karina

Dean & Margie Graves, daughter, Lauren Katherine

Bill & Patricia Brown, daughter, Catalyn Allice

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Minard, son, Cayce Scott

Mid-Atlantic Exodus — Regan Moves to Arizona

Tom Regan joins the growing list of Mid-Atlantic Superintendents that have moved to a warmer climate. He has left Bethesda Country Club to take the position at the University of Arizona Golf Course. Dean Graves will follow Tom at Bethesda. Some of Tom’s Superintendent friends joined together to say goodbye to Tom and poke a little fun at him. The lower picture shows him with one of the several gifts presented to him at the breakfast party.

August 8 Meeting

Family Picnic on Wednesday
at Bretton Woods

SEE YOU THEN!