We will be the guests of Tom Knoll, CGCS, Richard Canney, PGA, and the Chantilly National C.C. at our May meeting. The 17th annual Superintendent-Professional Tournament for the Clare Emery Memorial Trophy and the meeting that will follow promise to be a highlight of our calendar this year.

The tournament will begin at 1:00 pm with a shotgun start. The field is limited to 50 pairs and reservations must be made with Tom Regan, our golf chairman. An invitation has been sent to all of our Superintendent members.

There will be a cocktail hour at 6:00 pm at which all members will be welcome. Dinner will follow at 7:00 pm. All members not playing in the tournament must make reservations at the office by the 5th, unless your name is on the permanent reservation list. A pleasant evening with our fellow professionals, the golf professionals at our courses. Why not cement those relationships before we become completely immersed in another Mid-Atlantic summer. Remember! Reservations (301) 381-0030.

Chantilly National Golf and Country Club was built in 1958 to the design of Ed Ault and Al Jamison. The course was opened in July of 1959. It is an interesting par 74 with a rating of 71.3 from the white tees and 73.4 from the back tees. The slope for the course is 120 from the middle and 126 from the back. Those of you who haven’t played the course in a few years will be surprised by the development that has taken place in the Centreville area and particularly around the course in the past few years. Other Mid-Atlantic members who have spent part of their career at Chantilly include: Sheldon Betterly who was there when the course was built, Virgil Robinson, Joe Creninski, and Wayne Saffer.

Mid-Atlantic member Tom Knoll has been the Superintendent at Chantilly since the spring of 1986. It appears that he has done about ten years work during his tenure. Projects completed during Toms’ three years include: the installation of a new plumbing station and completely automatic computerized water system; a tree planting program has seen the addition of 400+ new trees of a dozen species; bunker renovation and construction; adding 4 new bunkers and rebuilding 8 others. Mounds have also been added on holes 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 11. Toms’ department is also responsible for the complete landscape design and planting of the newly renovated clubhouse, presently being done in stages. Over 2 1/2 miles of new cart path were laid by the golf course staff as well as repairs and amendments to the existing path system.

For the coming year, plans include the upgrade of the range facility, further bunker renovation, and continued landscape improvements. Additionally, TGR will be used in a limited manner to regulate the Poa annua and encourage bentgrass in several areas.

The course maintenance program includes the mowing of the greens 6 days a week at 5/32” to 11/64”. The greens receive 4-5 lbs. of N. per year in a 3-0-2 ratio. The bentgrass tees (22) are mowed 3 days a week at 7/16” and are fertilized with 4-5 lbs. N. The ryegrass tees (13) are mowed 3-4 times a week and receive just a little less N., 3-4 lbs. The fairways are also mowed 3 times a week and are mowed at 11/64”. The intermediate roughs are on the same schedule and are fertilized the same as the fairways, 3 lbs. of N. a year. The intermediate rough is mowed at 1 1/4” and the rough is mowed at 2 1/4.”

The crabgrass control program varies on the different turf areas. Pendimethalin is used on the fairways and intermediate rough. Ronstar/Betesan is applied to the tees and greens. Acclaim is used as a post-emergent control as necessary.

We join Tom in asking you to attend the meeting and see first hand the results of his programs and projects.

Our host is a graduate of Northern Virginia Community College and has furthered his education by attending classes offered at Virginia Tech in his field. Tom worked at Westwood with Tom Haske as a member of the greens staff and as a crew foreman. He was an assistant to Craig Roderick at River Bend and at Washington Golf and C.C. before accepting his present position. His wife Christine (Chris) and he live in Chantilly with their children Tom (3) and Katie (1 1/2). Chris is currently working in the home and has plans to return to the job market as soon as the children are a little bigger. She was employed as a secretary with L.P. Bowden, Electrical Contractors, before the children came along. Toms’ hobbies include fishing, skiing, and gardening. He is currently an instructor in the Turfgrass Management program at Northern Virginia Community College. Tom is now serving as the President of the Greater Washington Golf Course Superintendents Association.

THE MEETING: The regular meeting will begin following the Tournament. Cocktails will be at 6:00 pm with dinner following at 7:00 pm. The cost of the meal for those of you not playing in the tournament will be $30.00. The meal is included in the tournament costs.

DIRECTIONS: From the Capital Beltway (495) take Route 66 West to exit 13 (Centreville). At the end of the ramp turn left on Route 28 N. and take an immediate left onto Braddock Road (Route 620). Proceed 2 1/4 miles on Braddock Rd. to the club entrance on the left.

The Knolls — Tom, Chris, Tom Jr., & Katie