NOVEMBER MEETING — FIRST TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Please Note Change

The Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents will meet at the Manor Country Club on Tuesday, the seventh of November. This date is the first Tuesday of the month, not the usual second Tuesday. Please make note of this change. Our host for the meeting is Mitchell Williams. He has been Superintendent at the club since February, 1987. Prior to accepting the job at Manor, Williams was the Golf Course Superintendent at the Maple Dale Country Club in Dover, Delaware and the Assistant Superintendent to Steve Potter at the Woodholme Country Club in Baltimore, Maryland. When he was in high school he worked for Bill Blackert on the crew at the Turf Valley Country Club in Ellicott City, Maryland. Mitchell graduated from the University of Maryland in 1983 with a B.S. degree in agronomy. He and wife Stacey live in Columbia, Maryland.

The Manor Country Club was founded in 1922 by E. Brooke Lee, T. Howard Duckett and Charles Zeller to provide professional and business men respite from the heat and pressures of the city. At that time (1922) the club was described as being located “at the extension of Georgia Avenue, when the nearby Glenmont area consisted of a single gas station and a general store.” The original clubhouse, once owned by Contantia Bache, a great granddaughter of Benjamin Franklin, burned to the ground on January 27, 1952. On July 14, 1953 the new clubhouse was officially dedicated by then Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

When Mitchell was hired, his first goal was to establish turf on four greens that had recently been reconstructed. Having accomplished that feat he moved onto projects that had been outlined in a Master Plan created by Ault and Associates. In the Winter of 1989, all the bunkers on the Championship 18 were reconstructed and new sand was added to them. All this work was done in house and was a project Williams says he would be happy to undertake again, in another twenty or thirty years. In the Spring of 1989, the material that was excavated from the sand bunkers was used to build a practice tee that measures just under 20,000 square feet. The new tee was sodded using locally grown zoysia. The turf has stood up well to the pressure that practice tees are subjected to and the members thoroughly enjoy the new surface. The biggest project undertaken to date, however, was the installation of an entirely new irrigation system installed by Irrigation Services and Aqua Flo. The heart of the system is an IBM PS/2 Model 30 computer that changes irrigation scheduling from a chore to a joy. In the future, the club has plans to complete the cart paths on the back nine of the Championship 18 and to build an additional maintenance building to store equipment and supplies.

The Manor Country Club consists of a Championship 18 hole course and an executive 9 hole course named the Harry Pitt 9. The club has 9 outdoor tennis courts and 3 swimming pools.

(Continued on page 2)
President’s Message

Many thanks to Ken Braun and Bonneville Country Club for hosting the October meeting. This was also our annual golf tournament and I would like to thank G.L. Cornell for presenting the Bill Glover Trophy and TESCO for presenting the Tom Doerher Trophy. These awards are presented to the low gross and low net winners and honor our past members who started the Association and made it prosper. The course was excellent, as was the meal and if you didn’t attend you missed a fine speaker in Dr. Niemczyk.

Congratulations to Steve Cohoon and Joel Ratcliff who have accepted new positions outside the area. Both Steve and Joel were on the Board of Directors and have done outstanding jobs. Steve has been primarily responsible for the slate of speakers over the last two years and Joel has handled Social and Benevolence. Also John Hoover has left to try his hand at something else. We wish all of you many successes.

Ladies Night will be held November the 3rd at Indian Springs Country Club. A mailing has been previously sent and I hope you will all see fit to attend. It is a nice payback to our ladies for tolerating our summers. Well another season has roared past and it seems that I accomplished half of what I hoped to, this is frustrating sometimes, but at least I know where to start next year.

Walter Montross, President

NOVEMBER MEETING (Continued from page 1)

As for maintenance procedures, the greens receive 4# of nitrogen per year and this year were treated with Scott’s TGR and then overseeded with Penncoast and Pennlinks creeping bentgrass. Crabgrass and Goosegrass control is provided by Oxadiazon and Bensulide. The Poa/Bermuda greens are deep in aerified twice a year and topdressed at this time. The greens are mowed six times per week at 3/32”. The tees at Manor receive 6# of nitrogen per year and seeded using a variety of improved ryegrasses in the fall. The tees are aerified at this time also, using conventional equipment. They are treated with Acclaim for goose/crabgrass control, and are mowed three times a week at 1/2”. Topdressing and seed mixture are provided on the tee for divot repair. The fairways receive 6# nitrogen per year and are mowed at 5/8” three times per week. Pendimethaleine is used for annual grass control via split applications of 1.5# Al per acre six weeks apart. In the Fall, fairways are aerified, seeded and Prograss is used to eradicate Poa annua. Fairways are Rye/Bermuda mix with a couple of solid Bermuda grass fairways that a joy to manage in the Summer. Greens, tees, and fairways are sprayed on a preventative schedule with Chipco 26019 and Dacnil 2787 representing the backbone of the fungicide spray program.

Head Golf Professional Coleman Plecker and General Manager Jack Molinaro have graciously donated the golf carts for the day’s use and have also provided a box lunch which will be found in the cart. Call for starting times at (301) 920-1131. Times will be available between 11:00 A.M. and 1:00 P.M. on Tuesday, Nov. 7. Cocktail hour begins at 5:30 P.M. and dinner will be served at 6:30 P.M. Call for reservations at (301) 381-0030.

Directions to Manor Club: From Washington Capital Beltway (495) exit onto Georgia Avenue (Rt. 97) exit 33 heading north for approximately 9 miles. Turn left onto Norbeck Road (Rt. 28). Proceed approximately 1/2 mile and turn left onto Carrollton Road. Club will be on your left at 14901 Carrollton Road. From Baltimore Beltway (695) exit onto I-70 West (exit 16). Proceed west for approximately 15 miles and exit onto Route 97 south (exit 74).  Proceed south for approximately 16 miles. Turn right onto Norbeck Road (Rt. 28). Proceed approximately 1/2 mile and turn left onto Carrollton Road. Club at left at 14901 Carrollton Road.

Nominating Committee Report

by George Renault, CGCS

The nominating committee, consisting of the chairman, Mike Larson, CGCS, and Ken Braun submits the following “Slate of Candidates” for the MAAGCS office in 1990.

President: William Neus, CGCS
Vice President: Nick Vance, CGCS
Treasurer: Steven Potter, CGCS
Secretary: Kenneth Ingram, CGCS

For Director (2 or 3 year terms, 1 for 1 year term): David Anderson, Nathaniel Binns, Dean Graves, James Kelly, John Laake, CGCS, and Scott Wagner.

Directors currently serving on the board are: Donn Dietrich (2 years remaining), Joel Ratcliff, CGCS (2 years remaining), and Lou Rudinski (1 year remaining).

Nominations will be accepted from the floor.