Turfgrass Matters

December 1990, vol. 43, no. 10 Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Newsletter

Nat Binns and Lakewood Country Club to Host Annual Meeting

The annual election will be held at Lakewood Country Club on Tuesday, December 13. Nat Binns, Golf Course Superintendent there, will host this month’s meeting. Nat came to Lakewood in October, 1986. Previously he was at Hopewell Valley Golf Club in Hopewell, N.J. He was also Assistant Superintendent for Ken Braun at Bonnieview Country Club in Pikesville, Md.

Nat is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts’ Stockbridge School of Agriculture and was a member of the UMass golf team. He still plays golf to a single digit handicap. He and wife Maureen have two children, Nat Jr. and Colleen, and reside in Germantown, Md. Nat lists among his hobbies golf, of course, and small-scale model building. He recently hired Chris Fagan as Assistant Golf Course Superintendent and has been very pleased with this addition to his staff.

Lakewood, located in Montgomery County, Md., opened in 1961. A District Court decision to take control of the club away from the original promoters and give it to the membership was made that year. The club has been a member-owned concern since then. The course, an Ed Ault design, measures 6,375 yards from the white tees and 6,835 yards from the blue; par is 72.

Some of the more notable projects undertaken on the golf course include construction of a stone wall around the pond at the ninth green, new irrigation on the tees, rebuilding the eighteenth tee, and the recently begun renovation of all the sand bunkers. This winter, work will commence on constructing a bulkhead around the pond on the twelfth hole. Nat has also started looking into the feasibility of a large-scale irrigation renovation. This fall he began a fairway program which includes applications of Progress and Scott’s TGR, along with the overseeding of ryegrass. Nat would like to thank Golf Professional John Hafera and General Manager Ralph Pecca for their efforts in making the annual meeting a pleasant and successful event.


Lunch: Available, must be charged to your club.

Cocktails: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m. Cost: $25.

Directions: From Washington:

From 495 take 270 north to rt. 28 west toward Darnestown. At the third traffic light, turn left onto Glen Mill Rd. Lakewood is one-half mile on the left.

From Baltimore:

From 695 take rt. 270 south to rt. 28 west toward Darnestown. At the third traffic light, turn left onto Glen Mill Rd. Lakewood is one-half mile on the left.

Annual Election

This month the MAAGCS elects its directors for 1991. The nominating committee, comprised of Walter Montross, CGCS, Bob Miller, CGCS, and Ben Stagg CGCS, offers the following people for officers:

Nick Vance, President
Ken Ingram, Vice President
Steve Potter, Treasurer
Lou Rudinski, Secretary
Donn Dietrich, Rhys Arthur, Scott Wagner, and Mitch Williams will return in 1991 as directors. On Tuesday, December 11 those present and eligible will vote for two additional directors for three-year terms from the following list of candidates:

Bernie Bevan, CGCS, Breton Bay Golf and Country Club
Mike Evans, Prince Georges Country Club
Dean Graves, Bethesda Country Club
Tom Knoll, Chantilly National Golf and Country Club
Jim Meier, CGCS, Belle Haven Country Club
Mark Merrick, The Elkridge Club
Ed Porterfield, CGCS, Evergreen Country Club
Tim Sage, Cove Creek Club
Lentz Wheeler, Hidden Creek Country Club

In addition, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member in good standing. Each candidate for office will be permitted a nominating speech and seconding speech on his behalf.

RESERVATIONS (301) 381-0030

(301) 381-0030
A Whole Lotta Stuff

Okay gang, time has just about run out on me. The clock is near midnight and my pickup truck is ready to turn into a pumpkin. So, strap on your seat belts cause I’m gonna take you on a wild ride through the world of random miscellaneous thoughts.

I’m working diligently on a grass-resistant strain of algae. It puts truer and faster than the traditional surface and handles summer stress very well. A lot of you out there using an inferior strain of algae that gets contaminated with a little turf. Production should begin next summer. How many golfers out there can really tell the difference between a green that putts 8 or 9 on the stimpmeter? Every golfer should be required to submit his or her greens speed estimate each time they play, then be graded at the end of the year. If they don’t get a passing grade, then they can’t play next year. Just think, life with no golfers. Wouldn’t life be grand?

Who invented the stimpmeter anyway? I haven’t seen anybody recently jumping up and down yelling, “I did it, give me credit.” Well I want names. That guy is gonna pay. “Hell, with our luck it was probably the guy who came up with sand-based greens.

Rumor: Toro is going to change the color of their equipment from red to mauve.

I understand that at the GCSAA Conference this year that Las Vegas will be more family-oriented. They will have small crap tables set up in the corner for the kids.

Things I’d like to know:

• Did John Drew wear socks to his wedding?
• Does John Drew even own socks?
• If there were a talk-a-thon competition, who would win, Lee Dieter or Ken Ingram?
• Does Egypt Farms sell crude oil as well as sand?
• What Rhodes Scholar thought up the name E-Z-Go?
• Did Ben Stagg originate that style movie?
• Can Jeff Blind see?
• Does George Renault drive one?
• Is Bob Lynch somehow related to Bill Neus?
• Does Chip McDonald sell hamburgers and dress like a clown?
• Will Bill Brown change his name to Orange?
• Will the guy writing this garbage ever run out of ink?

Well, pardners, I think it’s time to ride off into the sunset and let another cowpoke lead the wagon train. It has been a wonderful experience serving the Mid-Atlantic over the years. I’ve gotten to work closely with people I may have otherwise hardly known. The dedication and hard work of the board members is truly amazing and should be experienced by everyone in the association.

It is my sincere hope that I have been able to give back something to all of you, be it ever so small. I know that I have received much more.

continued on page 6
Sterilized Top Dressing

Our top dressing is formulated especially for the transition zone to specifications recommended by the United States Golf Association, Texas A&M, Penn State, North Carolina State, and the University of Maryland.

Many years of research and testing by these leading universities have produced a soil mixture for superior growth which maintains the best balance of percolation, resists compaction, has good aeration and retains usable water and nutrients in the growing medium.

EXCLUSIVE! All materials are thoroughly mixed and sterilized by indirect heat in our special process. The sand particles are actually coated with a mixture of top soil and peat humus for a completely homogenous mixture that will not separate during handling and spreading.

Green and tee construction materials and mixes conforming to U.S. G.A. specs are also available.

G. L. CORNELL COMPANY

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Thank you for your support in 1990

Best wishes for good health and success in 1991

TORO Turf Equipment and Supply Company, Inc.

Rts. 100 Industrial Park
6660 Santa Barbara Rd.
Elkridge, Md. 21227
FAX 301/379-0874

Baltimore Area
301/796-5575

Washington Area
301/621-2975

Our sincerest thanks for your friendship and goodwill. We appreciate your business and look forward to working with you in the New Year.

THE BIGGEST ADVANCE IN AERATION SINCE AIR! Hydroject 3000

TERRY ASPHALT
GOLF COURSES
OUR SPECIALITY
Cart Paths, Parking Lots Etc.

TERRY ASPHALT
BOX 104
GLEN ARM, MD 21057
MD LIC. #25630
Phone (301) 592-5343
Mid-Atlantic Newsletter Supporters

ACE TREE MOVERS, INC.
Mid-sized to large tree sales, transplanting, deep root fertilization.
Jeff Miskin
Metro: (301) 258-0008
Pat Jeffries
In Leesburg, VA call: 703-777-8889

AQUA-FLO, INC.
Buckner irrigation systems and design, aerators, pump systems, irrigation accessories.
Phil DeMarco, Hammondton, NJ
800-524-0895

RICK HILL, Charlestown, VA
703-969-7061
ATLANTIC POWER EQUIPMENT COMPANY
9250 Rumsey Rd, Columbia, MD 21045
301-653-2219

L.P. Johnson, 301-262-7100
John Mattsen
Bait: 301 -995-3060
Lou Bezold
Wash: 301-621-5060
ishi tractors, Power King tractors.
Bob Tasker, Cheryl Guynn
Ransomes, Bob Cat, Giant Vac, Terra
Warrenton, VA 22186 703-347-4247
9891 Mo Hoy Way 703-347-4210
screens,Herrons rollers, ball barrier netting,
mulch, lime.

Jeff Miskin
9250 Rumsey Rd, Columbia, MD 21045
301-653-2219

CORNELL CHEMICAL & EQUIPMENT CO., INC.
Golf course chemicals.
Cliff Case, Don Klein, Tom Walsh
301-636-2400

C.Z. ENTERPRISES, INC.
Water well and pump service, repair, 24-hour emergency service to wells, pumps and irrigation equipment and controls. Preventive maintenance contracts, annual testing and inspection available.
Kathy Powers
Balt: 301-841-6710
Conrad Zittinger
Wash: 301-261-8855

EGYPT FARMS, INC.
Golf green topdressing, computer controlled precision construction mixes, white bunker sand, IBU & Par-Ex fertilizers, R&R parts, Aqua-Aid wetting agents, Warren’s Geo-textile products, gypsum, mulch.
John Strickland, Mike Witt, Carol Davis, Dave Cammarota, Jeff L accour
301-335-3700

E-Z-GO/MID-ATLANTIC
GXT-1500, GXT-800, turf and utility vehicles and accessories new and used golf cars.
Rick Arnold, Roscoe Shupe,
Paul Tideman
800-962-3804

FINCH GOLF AND TURF COMPANY
John Deere turf equipment, Brouwer turf & harvester equipment, Kubota tractors & mowers, MM grinders & reels, Landpride, Coremaster, Agri-Metal & Saxon blowervacs, Turner mowers.
Ed Childs, Scott Johnson, Ray Finch
800-78-DEERE

Chris Nichols, Steve Mckowski
301-876-2211

G.L. CORNELL COMPANY
Jacobson turf equipment, Cushman/Ryan turf equipment, Rain Refinishing, Club Car, Columbia Par Car, Bean sprayers, National mowers, Standard & Par & ad golf supplies.
Gary Phillips, Ingo Rupp
301-262-7100

HARFORD INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, INC.
TD1000, topdressing blend, Tng for bunkers and Straight Sand topdressing, CMplus and filter layer for construction.
Dorothy Stansell, V.P.
301-679-1919
Represented by Prolawn Products
Thomas Malheorn
301-876-7474
Robert Kerr
703-796-3405

JERSEY TURF SPECIALISTS
Deep till aerifying services with Vert-Drain aerator—the solution to compacted soils.
37A Elmwood Boulevard, Elm, NJ 08037
Jack Montecalvo
609-567-9001

KECO PUMP COMPANY
Boston & Highland Ave, Baltimore
Irrigation pumps and motors, prefabricated pump stations. Sales, service, design.
Bill rose
301-276-4004

G. ANTHONY KEEN CONSULTING
Specialist in interpreting the most technologically advanced soil, water, and tissue analysis to greatly enhance turf management. Affiliated with Brookside Laboratory Associates.
Tony Keen
302-697-5657
Tak Keen
302-684-3196
Gay Koepke
302-766-6228

LEA’S GREEN MEADOWS, INC.
Fertilizers, chemicals, grass seed, spreaders powder sprayers, tools, safety equipment & supplies.
Herb Lee, Harry Friolde
202-488-1818

LEBANON CHEMICAL CORPORATION
Lebanon total turf care, manufacturers andformulators of Countryclub, Greenskeeper, and Lebanon professional turf products, fertilizer.
Dick Calhoun
Pa: 717-836-1199
John Ruckman
703-869-2826
Paul Grosh
800-233-0262
Bill Smith
215-267-6290

LESCO, INC.
A Complete Line of quality turf maintenance products. Ask us about the Lesco 300 greens mowers and the Lesco 500 8500D fairway mowers.
Vanessa Jensen,
Ed Clockke
800-825-3726

LOFTS/MARYLAND
Grass seed and fertilizer.
Kevin Driscoll
Local: 301-937-9292
Nancy Gross
In State: 800-792-7773
Out of State: 800-792-3332
MCDONALD & SONS, INC.
Golf course and park construction, irrigation and maintenance.
John “Chip” McDonald
301-799-7740

MID-ATLANTIC IRRIGATION, CO.
Complete golf course irrigation and automation, pumping systems, irrigation repair service, water fountain installation, drainage and trenching work.
Don Turner, Thom Turner, Ron Turner
301-294-1300
MORRE GOLF, INC.
Construction of golf courses, turf irrigation system, parks and athletic fields.
David Caravan, Robert M. Ryan
703-825-8211

NEWSMO SEED COMPANY
Rockville, Maryland
Grass seed, new varieties, custom mixes fertilizers and chemicals.
Strick Newson, Mike Brumbaugh
Local: 301-762-2066 Fax: 703-926-9544
Nationwide: 800-553-2719

PAR-EX/PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS
Slow Release Fertilizer with IBDU, IBDU SCU.
R.A. “Dick” Doyle
301-357-6506
Estech, Inc., P.O. Box 512, Winter Haven, FL 33962-0512
813-294-2567
THE MILTON JAMES COMPANY
Diahatsu off-road vehicles, new, used, John Deere construction equipment sales, rentals.
301-687-1700

J. DAVID MULLINIX & SONS, INC.
14420 Howard Rd., Dayton, MD 21036
John Blue sprayers, Woods mowers, Ariens mowers.
Mike Mullinix
301-442-2688
301-489-4933

PROLAWN PRODUCTS, INC.
Professional slow release fertilizers, Greenskites, fungicides, herbicides, insecticides, turf seeds: bent's, yres, fescues, blues, etc. Harford Minerals topdressing, construction mix, Tng Sand, lime, wetting agents, etc.
Tom Malheorn
301-876-7474
Robert Kerr
703-786-9405
Jimmy Roberts
301-977-1961

RUSSELL ROBERTS CO., INC.
Golf course design and construction.
Russell Roberts
301-253-4066
Jack Roberts
301-762-3270
Jimbo Roberts
301-977-7961

SCOTT S PROUT DIVISION
Soil testing, programming, turf technology, fertilizers to meet today’s needs. Herbicides—non—oct and dicot weed problems. Growth regulators—new technology, Pro control.
Robert Hering
Va: 804-747-7027
Rich Schneider Md: 301-855-1366

SEED CORPORATION OF AMERICA
7644 Hollins Ferry Rd, Baltimore, MD 21227
Over 100 varieties of turf seeds, fertilizers, mulch, lime.
Tracy Gosselin, Debbie Primarzon
Balt: 301-247-3000

SHARE CORPORATION
Liquid turf maintenance products, equipment maintenance products.
Milwaukee, WI
414-355-4000
Ed Howser, Western Shore 301-465-8154
Ed Howser Jr., Eastern Shore 301-462-6929
Tom Howser, Shenandoah Area
301-729-1206

SUMMIT HALL TURF FARM, INC.
Myer Z-52 Zoysia (seeds or plugs), premium Bluegrass blend (seed), improved Tall Fescue blend (seed), Penncent Grass (seed), Pelletized lime, Andgrow fertilizer products and custom blends, chemicals (herbicides, fungicides & insecticides) 60% WDQ Pendi-methalin.
Brian K. Finger, Frank H. Willmot
301-948-2940

TERRY ASPHALT
P.O. Box 104, Glen Arm, MD 21057
Golf cart paths our specialty, Parking lot striping and lot clearing.
301-592-5343

TURF CENTER INC.
Premium turf (Bluegrass, Tall Fescue, Bermuda Grass, Zoysia), grass seed & fertilizer.
Diana Patton, Emmy Patton
301-384-6300

TURF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY, INC.
Toro turf equipment, Olifier, Chem-Pro, SOD and Hahn sprayers, Billy Goat, Foley grinders, Toro irrigation, PSI and commercial pumps, Oterbine Aerators.
Lynn Matson, Ron Hawkins, Lance Ernst, Mike Minard, Paul Stanelder, Todd Cowing, Marty Haske, Mike Salomon
301-796-5575

D.C. Area: 301-621-2975

STOUT ENVIRONMENTAL, INC/DELMARVA DRILLING COMPANY
Water well construction and service, pump installation, service and repair, underground storage tank, testing and removal, 24-hour emergency service.
William J. Jefferys
301-793-0219
R. Michael Collison
DE: 302-337-8254

24-hour emergency service.
Diazinon Appeal
Ciba-Geigy Corporation, the original developer, and the country’s largest manufacturer of diazinon-based products, has appealed the EPA’s recent decision upholding its ban of the pesticide on golf courses and sod farms because of its risk to birds. The Environmental Protection Agency ruled in July that “the only way to preclude diazinon from generally posing an unreasonable avian risk is to prohibit its use on golf courses and sod farms altogether.”

Statistically, golf courses represented less than two percent of Ciba-Geigy’s diazinon sales in the pre-ban days of early 1988. Homeowners were the major customers, buying 65 percent. Farmers and indoor pest controllers purchased 15 percent each. Professional turf care companies and golf courses purchased five percent total. Homeowners, farmers, institutions, and indoor pest controllers can still use diazinon.

A Ciba-Geigy spokesman said his company’s latest legal effort could be successful because of rulings by both an administrative law judge and the appeals court that the EPA review its initial ban.

Certification Exam Updated
Effective December 1, the pesticide management section of the certification examination will include new questions pertaining to water quality, underground storage tanks, integrated pest management and worker right-to-know. This section will be revised and retitled “Pest Control, Safety, and Compliance” in order to test superintendents on a broader area of environmental concerns.

Any applicant to GCSAAs certification program who wishes to take the certification exam during the 1991 GCSAA Conference and Show must submit a written request to association headquarters by January 1, 1991. Only those who are approved applicants in the certification process and who have submitted a written statement of intent to test before the deadline will be allowed to take the test in Las Vegas. The certification exam will be given at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, February 10.

FIFRA vs Locals
The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit has stopped the city of Milford, Mich. from enforcing a local rule that required notice prior to spraying, and the registration of persons applying pesticides for hire. The court concluded that the ordinance was an attempt by local government to regulate pesticides and their use. This case is one of several that have pitted local authorities against the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act.

No Smoking!
A new golf course in Tokyo, Japan, built on an island of trash, will strictly enforce a no smoking policy. The 18 million tons of raw garbage under the golf course will create an estimated 30,000 cubic meters of combustible gas a day. Officials fear that a misplaced cigarette could cause a totally new kind of golf “boom.”

President, from page 2
Now it is time for a change and change is good. New faces, new ideas, and new directions. I hope that all of you get to experience the exhilaration of being an integral part of this Association. Thanks for a great ride. Hi Ho, Silver, Away!

Bill Neus, C.G.C.S., President