July 13 Meeting to be at Washington GCC

Lee Dieter to host individual tourney

Lee Dieter will host the July MAAGCS meeting at Washington Golf and Country Club, the oldest existing golf club in Virginia and the metropolitan Washington area. In fact, the club is currently planning its centennial—1994 marks the 100th anniversary of the Arlington, Virginia course. The club has been at the Glebe Road site since 1908 where it moved from leased property on the Arlington Heights (Fort Meyer).

WGCC's proud heritage includes having presidents Taft, Wilson, Harding and Coolidge as members. George Bush played tennis there, but not golf.

Lee has been WGCC's superintendent since 1961 and since that time has hosted a number of MAAGCS meetings, including the first Superintendent-Professional Tournament in 1973. Lee and Clare Emery, the well-known Mid-Atlantic professional, enjoyed a great working and personal relationship. When Clare died in 1981 the club, Lee, and MAAGCS members donated the trophy for which we played until this year.

The course—5835 yards, 125 slope (white tees)—has had the input of various architects: Donald Ross, 1908; Toomey and Hynn, 1918; Fred Findlay, 1957; Al Jamison, 1965; Algie Pulley, 1976; Ault-Clark, 1987. The club is currently working on implementing a master plan by Craig Schreiner ASGCA. The renovations to date include the redesign of the first, fifth and eighth greens and the reworking of all bunkers. Grass basins with drains have been added to a number of holes and the third and eleventh tees have been rebuilt. Work on the bunkers was just finished in mid-June and the sod is not completely grown in. Ponko Construction Co. did the recent renovations.

During the past 20 years, the course fairways and intermediate rough have been overseeded with the best perennial ryegrass varieties. They have been on a preventive fungicide program and have been played to summer rules the past five golfing seasons. The fairways are being mowed at 5/8" and the rough at 2 1/2". The bent-poa greens are mowed daily to maintain a speed of 8 1/2', approximately 9/64". The rye tees and aprons are on the same program as the fairways. The bent-poa tees are mowed at 5/16" and treated the same as the greens except they are mowed every other day. Crabgrass control this year is Dimension on everything except the rough which was treated with pendimethalin. Turf growth regulators have been applied to the fairways, Scotts TGR on all fairways but 10,12,13, and 15 which were treated with Primo. The fairways have been treated with Progress five of the past six years. The fairways have a large percentage of Bermuda grass, which seems to be moving this season. The TGRs have slowed down the ryegrass so much that there is less competition for the warm season grasses.

As for aesthetics, WGCC is sporting a number of new perennial beds designed by Bob Mortensen, a landscape architect and member of the green committee, and to care for the
Roger Maxwell to Speak at July 13 Meeting

Roger Maxwell, vice president of Marriott Golf which consists of almost twenty courses throughout the country, will be the keynote speaker for the July meeting. Roger was named one of the 36 most powerful individuals in golf by Golf Digest and eighteenth most influential individual in the industry by Golf Week Magazine in 1991. I assure you his presentation will be informative as to the direction our business is taking and its outlook in the future.
Cohoons Corner

- GCSAA Director George E. Renault III, CGCS, has been appointed to a federal advisory committee dealing with the accessibility of recreational facilities. George, who is a disabled veteran, will advise the United States Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board on access issues that specifically relate to golf.
- Congratulations to Steve and Carla Nash on the birth of their son Nicholas Garrison Nash. Nicholas was born on May 23 and was 10 lbs. 11 ozs. and 22”.
- Best wishes to member Lawrence Harrison who is recovering after having surgery on his leg on May 22.
- Mr. Byron Nelson has been named the recipient of the “Old Tom Morris Award,” given annually to the individual who best exhibits the spirit of “Old Tom.” He will be presented with his award at the annual banquet in Dallas, Texas this coming February.
- Congratulations to Nick Vance, CGCS, on his move to Falls Road Golf Course. Nick will replace retiring superintendent Ralph Strouth.
- Thanks to our two quick-witted members who contributed cartoon captions; they weren’t in a fowl mood.

Responses to our ‘You Caption the Cartoon’ Invitation

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Golf Course Construction in Maryland

by John Stern and Paul Dunn, Students at the Institute of Applied Agriculture, University of Maryland

With the year 2000 rapidly approaching we will also observe 100 years of golf in Maryland. In the mid-1890s the first two golf courses opened in Maryland: the Chevy Chase Country Club in Montgomery County (1895) and the Elkridge Golf Club in Baltimore County (1896). However, the addition of new clubs was slow in coming—over the next two decades only eight new courses were built.

The first big boom in golf course construction came in the "Roaring Twenties" with 15 new courses (fig. 1). This new interest centered in Baltimore County (5) and Montgomery County (4). Although the rise continued during the early 1930s, the depression and war years sharply curtailed additional construction.

The next boom in construction came in the mid-1950s and lasted 25 years! Seventy-two of Maryland's golf courses, over half the total number, were built during that quarter century. Through the 1970s the building of new golf courses closely matched those trends noticed on the national level. New golf course construction was flourishing with seemingly no end in sight; however, the 1980s experienced a dramatic decrease in new construction, with only eight new courses opening.

Predicting the future of the next decade is difficult, but there are indications that the 1990s may have the potential to surpass the record of 29 golf courses built in the 1960s. In 1990-1993 the state has seen 14 new golf courses open, almost half the 1960s record. Also, 11 new courses opened in 1991 and 1992, which is more than in any other two-year period in Maryland's history.

Nationally, Maryland is not in the "top ten" for the number of total or new golf courses. Florida currently leads the nation in the number of golf courses with 1,052 and Michigan opened 29 new courses in 1992. But, with the start of the 1990s it does seem that Maryland has rebounded from the downturn of the last decade.

Six counties in Maryland dominate as to the number of golf courses in the state (fig. 2). They account for 62% of the number of courses in the state, with Montgomery (26) and Baltimore (21) counties having the most.

Since 1895, many architects have been involved in the construction of the state's golf courses. Nationally known architects such as Donald Ross and Robert Trent Jones have built quality courses. However, the architect responsible for the greatest number of golf courses is Edward B. Ault (fig. 3).

To say "Mr. Ault has had an influence on Maryland golf," would be akin to saying, "Jack Nicklaus was a good golfer who won a few tournaments!" Mr. Ault and his associates have designed 31 courses or 22% of Maryland's present total of 143. Russell Roberts, who has designed eight courses, is second behind Ault & Associates.

According to the National Golf Foundation (NGF), to keep up with demand for play projec-
Fig. 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARCHITECT</th>
<th>NUMBER OF COURSES BUILT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDWARD B. AULT</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUSSELL ROBERTS</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHARLES HOOK</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINDSAY ERVIN</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONALD J. ROSS</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL OTHERS</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>143</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 1992, national studies indicated that 81% of the golf courses opened as public facilities. Nine of the state's 14 courses constructed in the 1990s are open to the public. If this is any sign, then Maryland is trying to meet this future demand. It is to be hoped that this trend will continue through the remainder of the 1990s and beyond.

**NOTES**


plantings, the club has recently employed a horticulturist.

Lee has been an active member of MAAGCS since he came to the area to work with Dave Canavan at Bolling AFB Recreation Area in Warrenton. He has served on the board for more than 15 years and has risen through the offices twice to serve as president in 1973 and again in 1987. He was editor of the newsletter for six years and initiated the supporters list to provide revenue for professional printing. Lee's pastimes include photography and hunting and fishing. He's also an avid collector of golf history and memorabilia. His collection comprises more than 3,000 books, but his prize possession is the silver putter of Edward F. Riggs (of the banking family).

Lee's wife Rita and their four boys have been familiar figures at association functions. He believes in supporting the association by both action and participation. He has missed only 10 meetings since he has been a Mid-Atlantic member and has attended all but two GCSAA annual meetings. Walter Montross, Jim Christy, Tom Knoll, and George Hoenig are all former assistants now in charge of area courses. Chris Dieter, who works with Chuck Thomson at the Fords Colony Golf Courses as the superintendent of the Gold Course, is also his former employee — and his son. Lee's quite proud of these young men and hopes they took something away with them when as they continue their careers. If their success is any indication, Lee's new assistant, Stephen Marofsky, has a bright future.
Scenes from the 1993 Superintendent-Professional Tournament held at Westwood Country Club on May 11

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Golf Course Construction: Involve the Superintendent

The president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects has called on developers to involve golf course superintendents in the construction of their courses.

"We try to get a superintendent involved at the start of construction so he can act as a project liaison, help interpret plans for the contractor and make suggestions that will ease maintenance," said ASGCA president John Clark. "For example, if we create a design that is difficult to maintain, he can bring it to our attention while changes can still be made."

With the superintendent present from the start of the project, it becomes easier to maintain the course according to its design, Clark said.

"Working together during the design and construction phase enables the superintendent to learn the intent of the original design," he said. "As the golf course evolves, the superintendent can help ensure that the layout remains true to the architect's intent.

Education also enable a superintendent to become better acquainted with the purposes and perspectives of a golf course architect, Clark added.

"Being informed is 90% of understanding each other," he said. "The best ways to stay informed are through continuing education, attending conferences and exchanging information during construction."

Although few superintendents have the opportunity to be in on the development of a course from the beginning, they can always check the original plans to learn the architect's design strategy, Clark said.

"We must look to the superintendent to make sure we don't forget about course maintenance. He should remind us that a slope we've designed has to be mowed twice a week."

"Architects also depend on the superintendent to monitor construction progress. The superintendent has a lot of authority during construction," said Clark.

Remodeling projects offer an ideal opportunity for superintendents and architects to work together. "One of the first things we do is get the superintendent and pro together to ask for their suggestions," said Clark. "They are the ones who are there everyday, so they know the course's strengths and weaknesses. We utilize this type of input to develop the master plan."

Adopted from an article in Golf Development Magazine.

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