

Vice-President
James E. Thomas
Army-Navy Country Club
Arlington, Va.

President
L. R. Shields
1306 Okinawa Drive
Silver Spring, Md

Secretary-Treasurer
Charles J. Treacy
Congressional Country Club
Bethesda, Md.

T U R F N E W S L E T T E R

(Official Organ of Mid-Atlantic Association of Greenkeepers)

March 6, 1951

THE ELKRIDGE MEETING

The setting for the March 6, 1951, meeting for the Mid-Atlantic Association of Greenkeepers was the historical Elkridge Hunt Club, Baltimore, Maryland,—one of the oldest country clubs in Maryland. Dave Edgar played host to the group for the golf portion of the meeting. He was complimented on the fine condition of his course at this early date in the season. The day, though cloudy and a bit on the breezy side, was pleasant and good golf was enjoyed by all.

Golf

The results of the contests were as follows:

<u>Handicap Tournament</u>		<u>Gross Handicap</u>		<u>Net</u>
First	Bob Scott, Jr.	90	27	63
2nd	(Dave Edgar Frank Haske)	93 85	23 15	70 70
3rd	(George Cornell Ernie Stanley)	76 80	5 9	71 71
<u>Blind Bogey Tournament</u>		<u>Gross Handicap</u>		<u>Net</u>
First	C. Harmon	82	4	78
2nd	T. Cooney	96	16	80
3rd	G. (Purdy) Carson	97	15	82

Educational Feature: "Machinery Outlook and Maintenance"

For the dinner and business portion of the program, the entire group was the guests of Jack Witcher, Baltimore Toro Company. Fifty-three were in attendance, a decided tribute to the efforts expended by the officers of the Association.

Guest speakers were Bud Crool, Crool Bros., distributors for the Briggs and Stratton Company; and Purdy Carson, Washington Mower Company. Bud Crool gave an excellent talk on the present picture and future outlook of engine parts.

some items which he said were scarce now, and will be even more scarce in the future, are hardening materials for steel (for valve work); aluminum pistons; copper coils and tungsten for points. The major portion of Bud Creel's talk was devoted to preventive maintenance, and he listed, in the order of their importance, the following points to protect your engines from excessive wear:

1. Change oil more often - after every 30 hours of engine operation.
2. Keep engine cooling channels and surfaces free of dirt and grass clippings. Air circulation is most important for the efficient operation and longevity of your engines.
3. Buy gasoline in smaller quantities. Gasoline breaks down chemically upon standing in containers for long periods of time. There is a decided detrimental effect upon the engine if chemically broken down gasoline is used regularly.
4. Appoint one person who will be responsible for the maintenance of your machinery.

Purdy Carson gave an excellent talk on maintenance of equipment. Some of the main points were:

1. Read the maintenance books supplied with equipment. Often the company's recommendations change with later model machinery.
2. Poor adjustment affects all the working parts of the mower, not just the bedknife and reel.
3. Speed of operation of fairway mowers - six miles per hour suggested maximum. Ten miles per hour usually is too fast.
4. Oil cans and cans of grease left uncovered. Dust and dirt that gather go into the engine when it is oiled and greased.
5. Set up service charts for each piece of machinery and see that machinery is serviced properly and periodically.
6. Breakage - most breakage occurs when machinery is being moved between fairways and in and out of the shed. Breakage usually is not severe while machines are being used properly.
7. Fire insurance on equipment shed: One of the wisest investments a golf club can make.

- 8. Request and make sure that you get marine engine oil instead of S.A.E. 30 for power mowers. S.A.E. 30 will contaminate 2-cycle engines because it contains a detergent.
- 9. Cleanliness of mowing units: Air pressure should be used in cleaning dust, grit, and grass clippings from mowers.

A Question and Answer period followed in which many of the above points were elaborated upon by Messrs. Creel and Carson. We take this opportunity to thank these men for the very timely and interesting talks which they presented.

BUSINESS MEETING

Prexy Bob Shields expressed the sentiments of the group in regretting the loss of the services of Dr. Marvin H. Ferguson, of the Green Section. He stated that he hoped Marvin would return to the USGA Green Section on completion of his one-year tour of duty with the Military Air Transport Service.

A vote of thanks was extended to Charlie Wilson, Extension Agronomist of the Green Section, for his organization and publication of the Turf News Letter.

The Publicity Committee announced that an advanced notice of this meeting appeared in the Baltimore Evening Sun and the Baltimore News-Post. On March 7, an excellent article, "Greenkeepers Warned About Shortages", by George Taylor, appeared on the "Sports Page" of the Baltimore News-Post. The Mid-Atlantic Association appreciates the publicity and is indebted to Mr. Taylor for a fine write-up concerning our problems. We hereby issue a standing invitation to George and other press representatives to attend all of our meetings. They will be assured good golf, good food and good fellowship as our guests.

All future meetings of the Association will be publicized.

Gus Hook, Superintendent of Parks, Baltimore, Md., presented an amusing account of his early recollections of the Elkridge Hunt Club which was enjoyed by all. It was only after considerable coaxing that "Mayor" Gus Hook would admit that he caddied for the charter members of the oldest golf club in Maryland.

Two new members were nominated and accepted for active membership into the Association. They are

- Bill Fitts, Son of O. B. Fitts, of the Columbia Country Club
- Hugh McLellan, Pro and Grounds Superintendent of the Army Chemical Center Golf Course at Edgewood Arsenal.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Beltsville, Md. Mar. 20, 1951

Change of Name

Your Education Committee proposed that the name of this organization be changed to the Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents' Association. This proposal

was suggested as a result of the change made at the National Convention in Chicago. The Education Committee agrees with the National that the name Golf Course Superintendent is more descriptive of the type of work done by the members of this organization. This subject will be brought up for discussion at the next meeting. Come prepared to participate.

Constructive Suggestions

It was brought to the attention of the Education Committee that one of our main purposes in holding monthly meetings at various golf courses has been sadly neglected. A tour of inspection prior to the business meeting often brings to light problems that should be brought to the attention of your host superintendent. Each of us is an efficiency expert on one or more phases of turf management. Each of us can benefit from constructive suggestions that enable us to further our efficiency.

As an experiment, your Committee has decided to appoint an impartial observer who will jot down these suggestions following the golf match. He will contact you individually, discuss the suggestions with the host superintendent, and with his permission he will bring before the group any suggestions that would be of general interest.

We have hundreds of years of experience in the field of fine turf management. Let us make this known to our fellow superintendents. All that is required of the individual is an observant eye. Our impartial go-between will do the rest. The name of the person making a suggestion will not be used.

Credit Line

Your editor believes that special recognition should be given to the hard-working Education Committee. By doing so, our members will also know on whom to put the blame for the many mistakes we make. The Committee meets once a month at Beltsville, to formulate plans and to draft this Turf News Letter. The listing is alphabetical with the exception of Chairman Jimmy Thomas, who has the broadest shoulders and does most of the work.

Education Committee

Jimmy Thomas, Chairman	Al Radko
Bill Glover	Bob Scott, Jr.
Ruben Hines	Bob Shields
Percy LeDuc	Charlie Treacy
Hugh McRae	Charlie Wilson

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR 1951

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Educational Feature</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
Feb. 6	Beltsville	"Lawns That Live" "My Trip to the National"	Grau and Shields
Mar. 6	Elkridge Club	"Machinery Outlook and Maintenance"	Creel and Carson.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Educational Feature</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
April 3	Belle Haven Country Club	Turf Nurseries	Scott, Glover Treacy
May 1	Bethesda Country Club	Crabgrass Control	Dr. Lovorn
June 5	Lakeside Country Club	Relationship of Pro and Greenkeeper Relationship of Good Turf to Good Golf	----- -----
July 10	Argyle Country Club	Liquid Fertilizer and Trace Elements	Dr. Gauch
Aug. 7	Hillendale Country Club	Fall Seeding into Established Turf	Dr. Grau
Sept. 11	Fairfax Country Club	Tournament	Bill Glover, Host
Oct. 2	Seaford, Del.	No subject scheduled	Giddings
Nov. 6	Open	Election of officers	-----
Dec. 4	G. L. Cornell Co.	Good Fellowship	Everybody talks nobody listens.
Jan. ---	Lord Baltimore Hotel	Turf Conference	Dr. Cory

NEXT MEETING - BELLE HAVEN

Turf Nurseries

Tom Ryan, Golf Course Superintendent, and Walter Densmore, Chairman, Green Committee, Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Va., will be our hosts on April 3. The educational feature at this meeting will be discussed by a panel of our own members who long have realized the value of "Turf Nurseries". Bill Glover, Fairfax Country Club; Charlie Treacy, Congressional Country Club; and Bob Scott, Baltimore Country Club; have been staying up nights preparing material for this important feature. It is especially timely this day and age because our Armed Forces have requested sources of planting material of our new and better grasses.

Look at the Birdie!

Mr. Agar M. Brown, Editor, Greenkeepers' Reporter, has requested a group picture of our organization. Arrangements have been made to take this picture at the Belle Haven meeting. Be sure to attend as a credit to the Mid-Atlantic group and the profession of golf course superintendents.

Golf

The golf match will start promptly at 12:30 p.m., with dinner at 6:00 p.m. Congratulations are in order for the strict adherence to the time schedule at our February meeting. Let's keep up the good work. Remember the time, the place, and the date:

Golf at:

Belle Haven Country Club
Alexandria, Virginia
April 3, 1951 - 12:30 p.m.

Dinner and Meeting at:

Belle Haven Country Club
Alexandria, Virginia
April 3, 1951 - 6:00 p.m.

Credit

The Association is indebted to Bob Scott, Jr., Baltimore Country Club, and Al Radko, Agronomist, USGA Green Section, for this fine write-up of the Turf News Letter.

YOUR EDUCATION COMMITTEE