

Vice-President
Charles Schalestock
Norbeck Country Club

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

Secretary-Treasurer
Robert E. Scott, Jr.
Bonnie View Golf Course
Baltimore, Md.

TURF NEWS LETTER
(Official Organ of Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents)

**
* NEXT MEETING *
* Tuesday September 14, 1954 *
*
* NORBECK COUNTRY CLUB *
* Norbeck, Maryland *
* Charles Schalestock, Host Superintendant *
*
* GOLF 12 noon - no showers *
* Inspection of golf course - any time *
*
* DINNER 6 p.m. - HERMITAGE HOUSE *
* (Resturant opposite Olney Theatre) *
* Olney, Maryland *
*
* MEETING 7 p.m. *
* Dress- sport shirts, no jackets *
*
* ADJOURNMENT 9 p.m. *
*

THE AUGUST MEETING

The Fort Meade meeting was one of our best attended gatherings of the 1954 season. A quick count of those seated at the dinner tables showed a turn-out of some 63 superintendents and guests on deck - all in search of turfgrass information. All discussions pertaining to the golf course and the business at hand were actively participated in by a good many of those present. Every one seemed to be wound up and wanted to have his say. In fact, the converstaion was of such a lively and interesting nature, that some became worried for fear that the session would run into the wee hours of the morning. One Baltimore gentleman, a native of the Emerald Isle, kept signaling the chair that the hour was late.

Master Sergeant, Fred M. Slack, showed himself to be a very capable arranger of affairs and above all a perfect host and entertainer. Fred saw to it that his club officials were out in force. He introduced each one individually and they responded by welcoming us to Fort Meade. They were: Col. J.E. Allen, Chairman, Golf Committee; Col. Robt. Chard, Chairman, Greens Committee; Col. Julius Lindsey, Deputy Post Commander; W/O W.I. Houghton, Officer in Charge, Post Golf Course; and Col. James Craig, Post Engineer.

P.S. Hugh McRae says- he has it on good authority that Fred Slack has re-enlisted in the Army for life.

We were also honored by the presence of several other guests: Purdy Carson of the Worthington Mower Company; two from Laurel Race Track, Laurel, Md. - Mr. Geo. Martin, manager and Mr. Clyde Miles; Louis Fuchs, Manor's Green committee chairman; Mr. Daniel Melnick of Norbeck Pitch and Putt Course.

So far this year, attendance has been above the average. Yet, we wonder what has happened to some of the old timers? We miss them very much; their presence, help, and guidance is needed by the organization which is fast becoming a healthy and lusty child sorely in need of the oldsters who contributed much towards its bringing up through the passing years. This year has passed the halfway mark and will be over before we realize what has happened. So, as the old-time politician would say: "Boys, let's get out the votes, we need them in order to win." The remaining meetings of the year are close at hand to both Baltimore and Washington. Why not take them all in. Bring along that brother superintendent who has been absent so much this year. Tell him he has been missed and is needed.

ASSOCIATION AFFAIRS

In accordance with our newly adopted By-Laws, all who became members of the Association during the years of 1928 and 1929 were made honorary life members of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents. These memberships are dues free and will carry full privileges of the organization. These are presented with great respect and admiration by the other members and represent the highest honor ever bestowed by this association.

The following founding members voted life memberships are still active in our group: O.B. Fitts, Robert Scott, Sr., Richard Watson, Richard Scott, R.D. Gidding, R.P. Hines, Dave Edgar and Carroll Hitchcock. This is a just and fitting tribute to those men who gave us our start and the benefit of their guidance and experience throughout the years. We all owe them a debt of gratitude.

By unanimous vote, the membership present instructed the Executive Committee to carry on further negotiations with the National Capital Committee of the Washington Board of Trade in regards to bringing some future Conference of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America to the Washington area. Request has been made for the year 1957 or 1958.

Our Flower Committee informs us that "Redge" Giddings is convalescing at home. "Redge" would appreciate a few cards or letters from some of us. His address is: Seaford Country Club, Seaford, Delaware.

Hugh McRae reporting for the special Social evening to be held this fall tells us that the date set is Wednesday, November 3, 1954. Dinner, dancing and entertainment will be the program for the evening. In addition to a charge of \$7 per person, it was voted that the Association also appropriate \$150.00 from the treasury to help defray expenses.

A cocktail hour will be provided for by C.F. Armingier, F.W. Bolgiana Baltimore Toro, George L. Cornell, and National Capital Toro. These firms always unselfishly extend a helping hand. Truly, they are our big brothers and we are grateful.

Hugh, you and your co-workers; Joe Cockrell, George Cornell, Wilson Disney, Rueben Hines, Bob Holmeade, Bob Scott and Jack Witcher deserve a rising vote of thanks for a job well done. This social gathering is our first attempt at getting the ladies together and is due to be one of the top affairs of the season. Help make it a success and we will make it an annual affair.

Jay Seacrist acting as Golf Committee Chairman, reported the following winners: Purdy Carson, Ruben Hines, G.M. Harbaugh, D.E. Miller, A. Markholm and George Cornell.

CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION REPORT

Educational Chairman, Bob Scott, Sr. led the Constructive Suggestion discussion, ably assisted by his fellow colleague, Rueben Hines. (Due to fatigue, the other member of this trio, a southern gentleman, huh, retired early after a strenuous nine holes played only to impress his greens chairman. Anyhow, he prefers the water.)

The Fort Meade golf links is a very interesting design of 18 holes. The front nine holes are comparatively new and due to the prolonged drouth the fairways have been slow to fill in and cover with grass. As those on the back side are part of the original nine hole course, they have a fair stand of bermuda grass.

The soil on this property is of a sandy loam texture. Bermudagrass in the fairways will thrive on this type of soil under heavy nitrogen feeding. This should be done in the late spring or early summer, when danger of frost has passed. Late May or early June would be an ideal time for this operation. In the early fall, (October) a second feeding with a complete fertilizer such as one of a 10-6-4 analysis should be applied. This would provide nourishment for whatever cool season grasses are present and encourage them to spread.

If the above practices are carried out, the results will be outstanding in a very few seasons. A few pounds of fertilizer properly applied to existing turf has far more value in this area than an expensive fairway watering system or a large scale reseeding program. However, at this time perhaps some seeding on the first nine holes would be advisable.

The putting greens are well covered. Their texture, density, and appearance is good. They seem to be well-fed and not in need of fertilization at this time. There is a small infestation of crab grass which should be removed at once by hand weeding. This pest should not be allowed to form seed heads this year. Also, PMS applied at the manufacturer's recommended rates of application will help to hold this weed in check on the greens, in newly planted areas, and in nurseries. This should be done without delay as weeds are fast approaching maturity and will soon be forming seed heads. Timely control now will greatly lessen next year's crop.

The most serious problem facing Fort Meade is the invasion of bermuda grass into the bent putting surfaces. Wherever this occurs, bermuda should be treated and considered as a weed. (a plant out of place) This unwanted grass needs to be removed from the putting surfaces and replaced with clean bent sod. It would be well to establish a large sod nursery on sterilized soil for this purpose. One planted this fall would be available for next season's use.

Proper and substantial feeding of bent greens during the cool seasons when bermuda is dormant will go a long way in holding it in check, because at these periods its growth is not very aggressive. As an example; in the deep south bermuda greens are overseeded to a cool season grass in order to provide a green cover during the winter months. This practice often acts as a smother crop to the bermudas and creates a problem of re-establishment of the warm season grass in time for summer play. This gives us a clue towards our fight against bermuda infestation in putting greens. Feed heavy in the cool periods of the year so as to provide a dense smother crop of bent.

Rueben Hines suggested that C-7 bent was able to hold its own against bermuda. He expressed the opinion that a search should be made for strains of bent which would hold off bermuda invasion. Rueben even thought that a test green of fine leaf bermudas should be tried out in this area, perhaps as a practice green.

Sufficient trained help also plays a vital part in this picture. It is work that requires thorough knowledge of what is to be done, plus experience, proper management, and supervision. We know that Sergeant Slack is well-qualified to perform his duties, but for complete success he needs adequate help. Golf course employees should be as much as possible of a permanent nature, "not here today, gone tomorrow."

NEXT MEETING

Our next regular meeting will be held at Norbeck Country Club, Norbeck, Md. on Tuesday Sept. 14. Charlie Schalestock, Vice-president of the association, will be host at this meeting and has a brand new golf course to show us. We remember the interesting demonstrations he put on before this group while at Farmington and are looking forward to seeing what has been done at Norbeck. Charlie says he has been doing some work with sodium arsenite on greens for the control of crab grass and asks that we look at the check plot he has left on the 9th green.

Please bear in mind that Norbeck has been open for play just three months. There is no club house as yet, but plans are being laid for its construction in the very near future. Because there are no facilities for changing clothes, eating etc, Charlie was reluctant to invite us at this time, but was prevailed upon to do so in order that you might see the golf course at this stage in its development and then return at some future date and be able to say "I saw it when".

Being very thorough in whatever he does, Charlie has made arrangements for most everything except showers. Plans call for golf at noon with transportation provided for those who want to tour the course the easy way. There will be soft drinks and sandwiches at the first tee for those who desire them. Dinner at 6 p.m. will be at The Hermitage House which is a restaurant located across the road from Olney Theatre in Olney, Md. The dinner will be served buffet style on the lawn with seconds for all who desire. Remembering the long trips he has made from Charlottesville, Charlie has asked Pres. Jimmie Thomas to make this a short meeting so that those traveling to Richmond and other distant places can get home before it's time to go to work. He asks that dress be informal- no coats or ties.

There are other courses in the Norbeck area at which you might like to take a quick look. There is Manor Club, Brook Farms Manor Club, and Danny Melnick's new Pitch and Putt course all within a couple of miles. Argyle and Woodmont are within five miles.

KNOW YOUR HOST

Charlie Schalestock has been in greenkeeping work for 24 years, and has been Superintendent at Norbeck since last September. He has been an active member of the Mid-Atlantic group since 1947 and a member of the National Association even longer. He takes a very active interest in National affairs and attends National Annual meetings where he always joins in the discussions. He was a member of the Nominating Committee last year and his name was placed on the ballot as a candidate for the office of Director, but Charlie asked that it be withdrawn so that the other Mid-Atlantic candidate, Jimmie Thomas, would have a better chance. Perhaps we can persuade him to run again in the near future.

Before coming to Norbeck, Charlie was Superintendent at Farmington Country Club for six years and was host to this group at that club on two different occasions. At one meeting he demonstrated his method of aerifying and top dressing simultaneously and at the other, the use of dynamite to loosen the sub-soil under a green. He is up-to-date in his methods, progressive in his thinking, and is considered one of the leaders of this association. You can learn something from Charlie.

DIRECTIONS

From Washington- go out Georgia Ave. extended to club sign on left about a mile beyond Norbeck. Turn left on Emory Lane and follow signs to club.

From Baltimore- Take Frederick Rd. (Route 29) to Ashton. Go on through Ashton to Olney, then turn left. Look for club sign on right. Turn right on Emory Lane and follow signs to club.

NEWS ITEMS

We have a celebrity among our members. George Cornell is one of that select group who can say they have played a round of golf with the President of the United States. As club champion of Congressional Country Club, George had the honor of playing with Ike at Congressional on July 16, making up a foursome with H. Loy Anderson, Club president, and Parker Nolan, former club champion. When Leo Freudberg, Greens chairman at Woodmont, won a dollar playing golf with Eisenhower, he framed the dollar bill and everybody heard about it for months, but George has said nothing about who won or lost. Get beat, George? If so, then Ike should frame the dollar.

Hugh McRae, a past president of this association has been nominated for Vic-president of the National Association of Gardeners. We extend our best wishes for your success, Mac.

When you read this, the Westbriar Country Club at Vienna, Va. will be open for play. Seventeen putting green surfaces were purchased from Hillendale in order to step up the scheduled opening date. Parker Nolan is Greens chairman at Westbriar and will no doubt soon send a representative to Mid-Atlantic meetings.

Note: Greens chairmen are ex-officio members of this association and they and other club officials are invited to attend as many meetings as possible. The NEWSLETTER is sent to the Chairman free of charge when his name and address has been sent in by the Superintendent.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The President has appointed a committee to draw up a list of names to be submitted to you in November for your consideration for next year's officers. The Committee wants to carry out your wishes, so let your preference be known. The Chairman is Tom Dawson. Other members are: Clarence Lindsay, Hugh McRae, Howard McCarty and Ernie Stanley.

NEWSLETTER SUBJECTS

We want your ideas for improving the NEWSLETTER and also need your help in writing it. If you have a pet project, a certain technique, or an idea, then put it on paper and send it in. This might be a way of cutting length of meetings- write it instead of talking about it in front of the group.

IMPORTANT

Will the following members please contact the Secretary at once in regard to a very important personal matter (\$\$\$\$\$\$).

Charles Ganey	Howard McCarty
Milton Hancock	Ed Myerly
Gus Hook	Tom Ryan

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE

The program for the Annual Turf Grass Conference to be held at Lord Baltimore Hotel in January, is in the process of being made up. If you have a subject you would like to hear discussed or a speaker you would like to hear, let it be known and every effort will be made to get it on the program.

Dr. Ernest Cory, State Entomologist and Professor of Entomology at Maryland University has again graciously agreed to act as Director of this event as he has done for so many years in the past.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The National Turfgrass Conference and Annual meeting of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America will be held January 16-21 at the Jefferson Hotel in St. Louis. This is the biggest event of the year in the life of every golf course superintendent and not one should miss it. You can't afford it? No, we don't suppose you can, and we are sure your club doesn't expect you to pay for it. Most clubs recognize this expense as essential in helping them keep up to date on maintenance and are happy to have their superintendent represent them at this National Affair, because of the benefits that revert back to the club. Have a talk with your Greens Chairman and see if this item can't be included in your greens budget. Explain to him that the Conference is a gathering of golf course people from all over the country and that the latest and best methods of all phases of golf course work and problems are discussed with the aim of helping you to do a better job for your club. Explain that the information you receive and the new methods you learn must be put to service for your club before they are of any value to you. The club benefits first. It isn't too early to start making plans now, so think it over and we will meet you in St. Louis, Louis

PATERONIZE YOUR LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR

Your local golf course supply dealers are in business to serve you. They take a vital interest in your troubles and problems and are always ready to assist you in solving them. Due to their contacts with other golf courses and other superintendents, they are able to help you by explaining how some one else has overcome the same difficulty. If you are having trouble getting a machine to do a specific job, then explain the job to your dealer and let him demonstrate the machine which he recommends. This also applies to chemicals or almost any item he sells.

Our local suppliers are backers and boosters of this association and contribute much in time, money and machines to every project we attempt. Their generosity at Christmas time is overwhelming and their everyday good fellowship can't be beaten. They are top men in their field and are worthy of your cooperation, support and respect. They create employment for local people and a large part of their tax dollar is put to use for local schools and roads. It pays to buy from distributors in the Mid-Atlantic area.

* NEXT MEETING *

* Tuesday September 14, 1954 *

* NORBECK COUNTRY CLUB *

* NORBECK, MARYLAND *

* Charles Schalestock, Host Superintendent *

* GOLF 12 noon - no showers *

* Inspection of golf course - any time *

* DINNER 6 p.m. - HERMITAGE HOUSE *

* (Restruant opposite Olney Theatre) *

* Olney, Maryland *

* MEETING 7 p.m. *

* Dress - sport shirts, no jackets *

* ADJOURNMENT 9 p.m. *

1955 MEETINGS

It's time to get next year's meeting places scheduled. If you would like to have a meeting at your club, please fill out this form and return it to the Secretary as soon as possible.

(Note: We are indebted to Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association for this form. Thanks, Mr. Lambert)

.....

..... Date.....

The..... invites the

(Name of club or golf course)

Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents to hold

their..... or meeting

(Month, 1st choice) (Month, 2nd choice)

at our club or golf course.

Signed.....

Note: Regular monthly meetings are held on or near the first Tuesday of each calendar month. Mail this invitation to the secretary, Robert E. Scott 1409 Medfield Ave., Baltimore, 11, Maryland

.....