

	President	
Vice President	James E. Thomas	Secretary-Treasurer
Charles Schalestock	Army-Navy Country Club	Robert E. Scott, Jr.
Norbeck Country Club	Arlington, Va.	Bonnie View Golf Course
Rockville, Maryland		Baltimore, Maryland

T U R F N E W S L E T T E R
 (Official Organ of Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents)

NECROLOGY

On Friday, October first, Reginald D. Giddings passed away at his home in Seaford, Delaware. He was buried on Tuesday, October fifth. The services were held at the Singleton funeral parlors, Glen Burnie, Maryland. Many Mid-Atlantic members were present.

Redge, as we all knew him, was a charter member and one of the founders of our Association. He also was a member of the Golf Course Superintendents of America.

For many years he was Pro-Superintendent at Gibson Island, Maryland. The last few years he served in the same capacity at the Seaford Country Club, Seaford, Delaware.

We have lost a friend, one whom we all will miss. To his family in their sorrow and bereavement, the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents extends their deepest sympathy.

BONNIE VIEW MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents was held at the Bonnie View Country Club, Baltimore, Maryland on Tuesday, October 5th, 1954. Sixty-one members and guests were present.

Bonnie View's gently rolling hills and dales are under the guidance and care of our Association Secretary, Mr. "Bob" Scott, Jr. Bob was our host for the day and we thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality that he and his club officials extended to us.

The weather man was also gracious and smiled our way; he provided us with a day that was overcast and somewhat cooler. Conditions were ideal for the playing of our annual golf tournament, which was won by Mr. John Connoly of the Fairfax Country Club, Fairfax, Va.

This tournament was played under the Calloway system of handicapping. This was necessary as our golf committee changed personnel several times during the season, as a result no records were kept, so no permanent handicaps were available. We plan to establish regular handicaps next year.

The Association wishes to express its thanks and appreciation to Frank Haske and Dennis Kidwell for securing us a nice assortment of prizes. As a committee of two, they did an excellent job.

Many thanks are also due the following companies who supplied the prizes:- G.L. Cornell Co., National Capital Toro Co., F.W. Bolgiano & Co., C.F. Armingier Inc., Upjohn Co., West Point Products Co., American Agriculture Chemical Co., Sydnor Pump & Well Co., Baltimore Toro Co., J.L. Milan Co., and S.G. Leoffler Co.

GUESTS

The following guests were in attendance: Major Jednoff of the Quantico Marine Base; Commander Cantrall of the Bainbridge, Maryland Naval Base; Dr. William Klomprens, Plant Pathologist, Upjohn Company; Mr. Alexander M. Radko, Northeastern Director of the USGA Green Section, and Mr. Sidney Winkler, Greens Chairman and Mr. Bob Shear, Golf Chairman, Bonnie View Country Club.

Al Radko told us of his many visits to golf courses in the Northeastern Section. He said that the regional turf plan of the USGA Green Section was being well received and supported by both superintendents and club officials. Al also complimented the Mid-Atlantic for the good fellowship and harmony existing in their Association.

Dr. Klomprens gave those present a resume of the results of his study on grass plugs sent to him during the season for the identification of plant diseases. He briefly stressed three points of turf management necessary for the prevention of diseases on putting green grasses; 1- Water management, the dangers of oversaturation; 2- The necessity of providing good air circulation; 3- Surface and subsoil drainage of surplus moisture, so as to facilitate the removal of unwanted excess water. He said that the above three practices would help to lessen the need and use of fungicides.

While waiting the report of the tournament committee, Mr. Tom Dawson entertained with a special olio number. Tom gave us a brief and interesting description of how he is preparing the James River Course at Richmond for the United States Amateur Championship. He told us of his visit to the 1954 tournament at Detroit and all about the good things to eat at the home of Steve Forton, Superintendent at the Country Club of Detroit. He said that superintendents in that area do much outside advisory work on home lawns and were widely recognized as turfgrass specialists.

Tom brought out one vital point, and this was confirmed by Al Radko. We learned that the United States Golf Association does not dictate to golf clubs holding their official tournaments on the amount of water that should be applied to putting greens. They expect putting surfaces to be firm yet resilient enough to hold a properly played pitch shot. Soft and spongy greens are "taboo" and are considered as a detriment to championship golf.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive: Chairman Bob Shields asked for articles suitable for publication in the NEWSLETTER and ideas on how publication might be improved.

Nominating: The following slate of officers for the year 1955 have been selected as candidates for the annual election to be held at the Argyle Country Club;-- President, Mr. John Connolly, Fairfax Country Club, Fairfax, Va., Vice-President, Mr. Charles Schalestock, Norbeck Country Club, Norbeck, Maryland; Secretary, Mr. Robert E. Scott, Jr., Bonnie View Country Club, Baltimore, Md. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the proper time.

Golf Committee Report: Red Hancock and Franke Haske acting on behalf of the Golf Committee reported the results of the annual golf tournament. First place was won by John Connolly, second went to Joe Reposky and third to our Vice President, Charlie Schalestock. Twenty prizes in all were awarded thanks to our hard working prize committee.

CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION REPORT

Bob Scott, Sr. presided over the constructive suggestion report. The following recommendations were made for the improvement of playing conditions on the Bonnie View golf course.

Tees should be enlarged wherever possible and planted to a good strain of bermuda grass, such as U-3

The second green needs to be remodeled and redesigned so as to afford a better presentment for an approach shot into the green.

On other greens where it is apparent that poor drainage may exist a program of aerification should be inaugurated and be accompanied by frequent top-dressings of good prepared compost containing a high percentage of silica or concrete sand. This practice would greatly help to improve existing soil conditions.

The greens on the third, fifteenth and sixteenth holes, due to their pocketed positions, need to be closely watched for both drainage and air circulation. The thinning of trees and underbrush around them is advisable so as to permit the entrance of more air and sunlight.

The fairways have a good stand of cool season grasses, however an application of a complete fertilizer would thicken them up considerably and provide a playing sod of more density. Also, a treatment of 2-4D should be made so as to remove all broad leaf weeds.

The water hazard on the ninth fairway could be cleaned out, concreted and made smaller. This would make it less expensive to maintain, there would be fewer lost balls, play would be speeded up considerably.

Bob also suggested a tree planting program along the roadway of the ninth hole, and the property line of the first fairway. Plantings around

several of the tees and greens would provide a background and remove their appearance of bleakness. Long-living and slow growing evergreens were recommended. It was brought out that good soil preparation is necessary when setting out trees and shrubs. A small tree planted in a hole filled with good soil is better than a large one planted in a small hole filled with poor materials.

We suggest that a turf grass nursery containing some of the improved strains of bent and bermuda be established. The bents should be planted this fall so as to have a head start on crab grass next summer, but the bermudas do better when planted during the summer. Small amounts of nursery planting material can be obtained from other Superintendents- usually without charge.

The nursery should be located near a water outlet and should be near the maintenance shop so the men can work on it between jobs.

A collar improvement program should be initiated this fall to improve the area around the putting greens. The least expensive is thorough aeration followed by seed and fertilizer, then lime if needed. The use of chemicals is faster, but is more costly, more dangerous to the green and if used, extreme caution should be taken.

MEETINGS FOR 1955

There are still some meeting dates open for 1955. If you would like to have this association meet at your club, just fill in the invitation form that was printed in your August NEWSLETTER and mail it to the secretary.

The Executive Committee decides where meetings will be held and is governed to a great extent by past policy which has been to meet where we are wanted. Send in your request or contact Jimmy Thomas, Bob Scott or Bob Shields.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUGGESTION

1955 Annual Golf Tournament-

Because of the feeling that the recent tournament might have been unfair to some, the Executive Committee makes the recommendation that the following rules be adopted so as to improve the tournament next year.

To qualify for prizes in the annual tournament one must-

1. Be an active or life member of this association and be in good standing.
2. During the year turn in to the golf committee chairman at least three 18 hole score cards for golf played on the course where the meeting is held and played on meeting days.

Explanation-

The committee feels that perhaps the prize donor would prefer that prizes go to Golf Course Superintendents. In good standing means that the member's dues must be paid.

The three score cards turned in can be averaged by the golf committee and a handicap determined. No handicap- no participation. It is the player's responsibility to get his score card in to the golf chairman after the round.

By requiring that the round be played at the club where the meeting is held and on the meeting day, it is hoped that meeting attendance will increase.

We urge that this or similar set of rules be set up to govern this special event so that the golf chairman can conduct the tournament in a fair and intelligent manner in years to come.

Your Executive Committee

NATIONAL MEETING - JANUARY 16-21

The next National Meeting of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America will be held January 16-21 at the Jefferson Hotel in St. Louis.

At this meeting of superintendents and others interested in turf grass work, problems of mutual interest are discussed at length and new ideas and new techniques are exchanged between individuals. This is a week-long educational meeting and it is a must for all up-to-date, progressive superintendents who have a sincere desire to produce the very best turf possible for their clubs.

The Mid-Atlantic has had good representation at the last three or four meetings in spite of the small National membership within our group.

The 1955 meeting holds promise of good attendance from this area, judging from the interest and enthusiasm that has been shown by many of our members. You do not have to be a National member to attend. Will you be there?

Jay Seacrist has gathered these transportation cost figures for your information and to help you estimate the cost of the trip to St. Louis. Most clubs are glad to pay this expense because they realize the benefits that revert back to them by having their representatives attend.

<u>Means of Transportation</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Round Trip</u>
B & O Railroad	20 hrs.	\$56.76
Eastern Airlines	4 hrs. 1st class	\$97.02
Eastern Air Coach	4 Hrs.	\$74.36
Eastern Night Coach	4 hrs.	\$66.44
Greyhound Bus	24 hrs.	\$32.78

A WORD FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE

Dear Member:

May we urge you make early payment of Membership Dues so as to lessen the year-end load in the St. Charles office. Billing is made on October 1 under provisions of the By-Laws.

For continuous insurance coverage, dues must be received before January 1, 1955. Special requests for extension or delay of payment can be granted as provided under Article III, Section 5 of the By-Laws.

Insurance coverage for Members making payment of dues after January 1, 1955, will be effective the first of the next month following payment of such dues.

Don't lose you continuous insurance coverage by the late payment of dues.

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

Agar M. Brown, Secretary

If you wait until the National Meeting you won't have insurance coverage during the month of January. Pay your National dues now.

A NEW ASSOCIATION

We have a new neighbor. To our south, at Norfolk, a new association of golf course superintendents has been formed and is known as the Tidewater Turfgrass Association.

Its officers are: Harry McSloy, Aero-Pines Golf Course, President; W.E. Renn, Oceana Naval Air Station, Secretary-Treasurer; Directors are F.G. Bingham, R.H. Jernigan, F.E. Sappenfield & H. Savage. There is a membership of 28 at the present time.

The members of the Mid-Atlantic wish this new group every success in the future and are ready to offer any organizational help that might be needed. We are certain that the atmosphere of friendliness, good fellowship and cooperation that exists among all superintendents everywhere will prevail here and we are looking forward to a joint meeting in Richmond in the very near future.

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Only game fish swim upstream.- John Moore

EMPLOYMENT OPENING

The Woodberry Forest School Golf Club, Woodberry Forest, Orange, Virginia is interested in hiring a greens superintendent. Mr. Alfred P. Moore is the Business Manager and is in charge of the golf course.

He is interested in someone who is now working as an assistant greens superintendent. The salary would not be much, but he indicated living quarters might be furnished.

This information was supplied by Leon Brown of the G.L.Cornell Co. If you are interested, contact Brownie or write to Mr. Moore.

NEST MEETING

For the November Meeting we ride out to Argyle Country Club for golf at noon, social gathering 5 to 6, dinner 6 to 7 followed by the business meeting.

KNOW YOUR HOST

Perc Le Duc the "Duke of Argyle" is host superintendent and has a golf course to show you of which he is very proud. He has a right to be proud, not only because of the fine greens and fairways, but of the fact that he built it himself. Yes, Mr. LeDuc holds the rare distinction of being superintendent, greens chairman, Vice -President, stock holder, architect and builder, all of which makes him a very important man at Argyle.

Perc traveled a most unusual route to become superintendent at Argyle - he was Argyle's greens chairman for over 25 years. He built the old 9 hole Argyle Club(now Sligo Park Golf Course) and was chairman there for many years while he held down his position with the Dept. of Agriculture. After the war, he got the members together, bought property and built the present 18 hole layout. About that time, having accumulated enough service and having reached retirement age, he retired from the government to become full time superintendent. Confidentially, we believe Perc would retire from the Superintendents job if he could find the right man to carry on for him in a way that would continue to keep him and the members proud of their golf course.

Perc has been a member of the Mid-Atlantic for about 5 years and is a member of the National Association. He will be on hand with his jeep for a tour of the course with any one who does not care to play golf,

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Pursuit of perfection is what gives meaning to life.-

Logan P. Smith

DIRECTIONS

Argyle is located on Layhill Road, which runs east off Georgia Ave. extended, just north of Wheaton.

From Washington and Virginia-

Go out Georgia Ave. to Layhill Road at Glenmont, then turn right to club. Look for the water tower at Junction of Georgia Ave. and Layhill Rd.

From Baltimore-

Take Route 29 to Ashton. Continue straight thru Ashton to Olney, then turn left on Georgia Ave. Follow Georgia Ave. south to Layhill Rd. on left at water tower. Turn left to club.

TRANSPORTATION

We have a committee that likes work, but seldom is called upon for service. That is the Transportation Committee, consisting of Jack Witcher in Baltimore, Wilson Disney, Washington, Bob Holmead, Silver Spring and George Cornell, Bethesda. Any of these men would be happy to share their automobile with you on the trip to Argyle. George might run out of gas and Jack is sure to get lost, but such incidents only add to the fun and fellowship.

Group riding is more educational too, because the men talk about grass all the way over and all the way back. Lots of good ideas can be picked up just by listening - try it. Call the Transportation Committeeman nearest you and reserve your seat.

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God gives skill, but not without men's hands.-

George Elliot

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