

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 )

THE NORBECK MEETING

Our September meeting was held at the newly constructed golf course of the Norbeck Country Club, Norbeck, Maryland. The countryside around this community seems destined to be quite a golfing center. One finds within a radius of a few miles- The Manor Driving Range, The Manor Country Club, The Norbeck Pitch and Putt Course, The Norbeck Country Club, and The Brooke-Johns Golf Course. Norbeck is now a country club community.

The Norbeck Country Club is an A.H. Tull layout of 6,359 yards. For championship play this length can be stretched to 6,471 yards. Par is 72. Ladies yardage is 5,978 yards, with par figures being the same. Mr. Tull has created a well-balanced golf course. It is interesting and has variety. The topography of the property has been well utilized. One finds the first nine fairly open, while the last half becomes a bit tighter. The construction work is the handicraft of Mr. Frank Murray.

BUSINESS MEETING

After playing and inspecting the golf layout, the sixty superintendents and guests present retired down the road a few miles to the lawn of the Hermitage House for thier refreshments, evening repast, and business confab.

As soon as we had consumed a fine buffet dinner of roast beef and trimmings, our business meeting got under way.

Mr. Charles Schalestock, our host superintendent, was introduced to those in attendance. Charlie welcomed us, then presented several of his Norbeck officials

We of the Mid-Atlantic appreciate their hospitality and the privilege of holding our meeting with them. We are looking forward to a continuation of these pleasant relations in the years to come.

Other guests present were: Mr. Tom Coyne, representing the Skinner Irrigation Company; Mr. (PMAS) Cleary of the Cleary Manufacturing Company; Captain Cattlett of the Naval Base at Bainbridge Maryland, Sgt. Cahill of Fort Lee , Bob Harper of White Flint. Belle Haven Country Club was out in full force for the first time in several months. Their colors were carried by George Campbell, Tom Ryan and Walter Densmore. Welcome home to you all- it is good to have you with us again.

Committee reports and new business were brief and meager. "Bob" Shields announced that Dr. Cory, assisted by the committee was starting to make plans for the 1955 Baltimore Conference. He wishes that we make known our desires concerning speakers and topics.

Hugh McRae told us that plans for the family social evening to be held at the Prince Georges Country Club in November were coming along nicely, that his committee was leaving no stones unturned, and they expected the affair to be a long remembered occasion. Your tickets for the turnout will be \$4.00 per person and two will be sent to each member. Mac tells about it on a following page of this NEWSLETTER.

As October is the customary date for the annual Mid-Atlantic golf tournament. The Chair appointed Frank Haske and Ennis Kidwell as a special committee of two for the purpose of securing suitable prizes. If you have any suggestions, give them a helping hand.

Charlie Schalestock advised us that he had forwarded publicity material to both Golfdom and the Reporter.

The August issue of the Golf Course Reporter carries a very timely article by "Bob" Scott, Sr. His story- "Today's Turfgrass Challenges Grower" is well worth the reading. Also in the September Issue of USGA Journal is an article about "Bob" that you should read. Keep up the good work, "Bob", we can learn much from your sage observations.

#### CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION REPORT

"Whoever could make two ears of corn or two blades of grass to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before would deserve better of mankind and do more essential service to his country than the whole race of spellbinders put together." - Jonathan Swift, Gulliver's Travels.

Thus after many months of prolonged drouth, the above quotation is very fitting. All new construction in the Mid-Atlantic area, (Norbeck included) is faced with the problem of securing dense sod of turfgrass. The foundation exists in most cases, but sufficient density is lacking.

How will we bring about the desired result? We have often heard our good friend Mr. Turf, -(Dr. O.J. Noer) say: "Feed judiciously until the desired turf or density is secured, then maintain it with the proper rates of plant food." This season is one that the above advice applies to all turf in this locality wether new or old. This year fall fertilization should be a must.

This month Chairman Bob Scott turned the handling of the Norbeck Constructive Suggestion Report over to his fellow committee-man Rueben Hines. The following comments were brought out:

Tees. - It was suggested that the grades on several of the teeing areas be checked as a few seemed to slope from left to right. A slight grade from front to back would be a better condition. Planting tees with both warm and cool season grasses was recommended, such as 1/2 to U3 bermuda, and 1/2

to the normal cool season grasses.

**Fairways.** -Two applications of a complete fertilizer was advised, the rate of each at 400 pounds per acre. All thin areas to be spot treated until the desired sod is obtained. Reseeding of some sections may be necessary, if so, it would be well to accompany this with an organic fertilizer. Fall is the ideal time for re-seeding.

**Greens.** - Many greens have a very heavy infestation of crab grass. This should be removed immediately. Three methods are available: mechanical, chemical, and manual. We would recommend a combination of all three in a modified form. The phenol-mercurials, the arsenicals, potassium cyanate and 2-4-D in accepted prescriptions are recommended for chemical controls. For mechanical methods use verti-cut reel mowers and various types of rakes. Mr. Schalestock is acquainted with the proper procedure. After the removal of all weeds, we would remove plugs of good bent from the outer edges of the greens into their center areas. These outside areas could be seeded with a colonial bent or planted to bent stolons of a good strain of creeping bent. All of this should be followed by frequent and light applications of top-dressing and fertilizer.

It is felt that the above suggestions and recommendations will bring about good turfgrass conditions in a reasonable period of time, provided weather conditions are normal. Charlie Schalestock with his knowledge and experience is well qualified to meet the situation, since it is a problem of managerial responsibility.

**Water System.** - The artificial ponds located at #6 & 7 should be altered so as to benefit from surface run-off from #5,6,7,8 and 9 fairways. Such a change would enhance the beauty of the golf course as well as lend variety to the playability of the course.

Roughs between several fairways lack proper seeded turf and will make it difficult to contour fairways properly.

The pump house appears to be located too far from the source of water. The complications that might result from such a condition may well effect the efficiency of the irrigation system. It is apparent that the lift from water level to pump is excessive.

#### NATIONAL CELEBRITIES TOURNAMENT

A little over a week ago, one of our members was host to one of the biggest golf tournaments of the year. Wayne Jerome, Superintendent at Congressional Country Club, will start breathing normally again and sleeping nights now that the National Celebrities Tournament is past history.

From the superintendent's point of view this is a very difficult tournament because it comes so late in the season. July and August are the trouble months for turf and should a green "get sick" in those months, chances are it won't get well until cooler weather sets in in October. The superintendent must baby his greens along all summer in order to have them at their best for the big event. It's a nerve wracking and sleep disturbing responsibility that

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is not felt by any other person connected with the tournament and in most cases not even recognized.

This tournament is sponsored by a great newspaper and millions of words have been used to tell all about it - all, that is, except who produced the turf that makes the game of golf possible. Is there still no room in golf for the superintendent?

Desiring to give credit where credit is due, we wish to thank you, Wayne for carrying on under difficult weather conditions and for bringing credit to all golf course superintendents by your untiring efforts to produce the best playing surfaces possible. Your devotion to duty, your courage and determination to succeed, have been outstanding in preparing for this tournament and is another step forward toward the superintendents' Annual of Recognition through Merit.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S MAIL-BAG

The following is taken from "Western Turfletter" which is one of our favorite publications. We like it not only because the articles are always well written, informative and easy to read, but also because we know and greatly admire the writer, our old friend Charlie Wilson of the Western Office of the USGA Green Section.

We think that Charlie has put a lot of good sense in a very few words and wish to pass them on to you.

"What to Do's" when troubles occur.:

1. Allow the soil to dry out if too much water was at fault. In heavy rainfall areas this may mean additional tile and better surface contours.
2. Hand water trouble greens during critical periods.
3. Keep close check for diseases and insect damage and treat as needed.
4. Skip every other mowing until grass recovers, or increase height-of-cut slightly.
5. Spike disc or aerate to improve moisture-air relationships.
6. Fertilize lightly to stimulate grass recovery.
7. Keep algae under control with light dustings of hydrated lime.
8. If grass appears chlorotic (yellow) try iron sulfate at 3-ounce to 1,000 square feet in no more than 5-gallons of water. Do not water in.
9. Apply lime (acid soil) or gypsum (alkaline soil) to remove toxic substances that may be developing under anerobic conditions.
10. Have composite soil test made by a reputable agency. Also have water test made if alkalinity is a problem in your area."

The following is copied from the last issue of "Our Collaborator"- the monthly news sheet published by the Northeastern Golf Course Superintendents Association. We are indebted to Jack Gormley, the editor, for permission to reprint the information here.

"FOOD FOR THOUGHT DEPARTMENT - The following was sent to Tim Gagen by one of his friends who knows about Tim's interest in golf course maintenance costs. Realizing that all of us are interested in the kind of data represented, Tim turned this over to the editor for publication. This material was printed in the "Transcript", a Hotel and Club publication. We shall thank them for the privilege of reproduction:

NATIONAL TURF GRASS CONFERENCE

In 1955 the National meeting of Golf Course Superintendents will be held in St. Louis, January 16-21 at the Jefferson Hotel.

Interest and enthusiasm in this meeting is running at an all time high in the Mid-Atlantic area even at this early date. . There is even talk of chartering a bus or plane to take the group out together. Would you be in favor of such a plan?

If you have not already done so, it's time to talk the matter over of attending this meeting with your Greens Chairman. Perhaps if he were informed in advance, he would go with you to St. Louis. It would be educational for both of you as problems of mutual interest are brought up and discussed by golf course men from all over the country.

One of the reasons that good turf can be produced in this area in spite of our heat and humidity is that we have kept up with the progress of bent grass management. We have done this not only through our local association, but also by personal contacts with the best superintendents in the world at National meetings.

We have profited by efforts made by the National Association and its members.

It gives a fellow confidence to meet a thousand men all vitally concerned with the same problems that he has. The Army knows this and it's the reason that men are marched in formation; the feeling of strength comes from many doing the same thing at the same time. You will return from St. Louis with a feeling of strength, confidence and new determination to make a success of your chosen work.

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN  
MID-ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

I \_\_\_\_\_ hereby

(please print)

apply for membership in the above association

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

Sp. By \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. \_\_\_\_\_

Club or Business \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Greens Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

His Address \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership sought--- Regular \_\_\_\_\_ Associate \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\$6.00 per year dues must accompany application

KNOW YOUR HOST

Bob Scott, Jr., the Association Secretary, is our host for the next meeting.

Bob grew up in the same atmosphere as the Bull Session or Constructive Suggestion Report feature of our meetings. He couldn't help but do so with so many in the family in the business. The talk of grass was ever present when the brothers got together and young Bob listened and learned.

He worked at Baltimore Country Club and Roland Park Course during high school summer vacations and for one full year after graduation. He returned to work at the Roland Park and Five Farms Courses after serving in the Navy during the War.

Bob finally became and received much experience as superintendent in charge of the Roland Park Course under his Dad's watchful eye. He moved to Bonnie View in September 1952. He has been a member of the Mid-Atlantic since 1947 - National Association since February 1953.

Directions-

From Hagerstown

Follow Rt. 40 to 1st traffic light outside of Baltimore which is Rolling Road.

Turn Left, follow Rolling Road to Liberty Road, turn right

Follow Liberty Road one block to Milford Road, turn left

Follow Milford Road to Reisterstown Road, Turn right 1 block to Seven Mile Lane, turn left

Follow Seven Mile Lane to Smith Ave., Turn right to Club on right

From Washington & Richmond

Follow Rt. 29 to Rt. 40 ( Dual Highway ). Turn right and follow Hagerstown directions to Club

Bonnie View Country Club is on Smith Ave., Mt Washington district, on the northwest edge of Baltimore.