



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



PUBLISHED BY

MID-ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS TO AID IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT THROUGH EDUCATION AND MERIT

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THE FOUNTAINHEAD COUNTRY CLUB MEETING

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2nd, 1955

The August meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents was held at Fountainhead Country Club, Hagerstown, Md. on August 2nd. An excellent attendance of fifty-five members and guests made for a successful day. Our host superintendent was Mr. Clarence Lindsay.

Fountainhead entertained us in their usual warm and hospitable manner. They are always perfect hosts and make us feel more than at home. Even though the day was one of the hottest of the season, (98 in the shade), we were well rewarded for having made the trip. Eighteen holes of golf over a well-groomed course, a pleasant social hour, and a fried chicken dinner with all trimmings prepared us for the meeting that was to follow.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by Chairman Bob Shields. Host Clarence Lindsay introduced his club officials. We met Mr. Al D. Lakin, Club President; Mr. Lloyd Stauffer, Greens Chairman; Mr. John Coblentz, Golf Chairman; Mr. Bill Straussbaugh, Golf Professional; and Mr. Clarence Lindsay, Jr., Assistant course Superintendent. It is well to point out that Mr. Lakin and Mr. Stauffer have held their respective offices for many years, and in addition to this unique situation three generations of Lindsays have been in charge of the golf course. This is an outstanding and enviable record of team work and achievement - one that all golf clubs could follow to good advantage. The results speak for themselves - harmony and accomplishment.

Other guests were the following Green Committee Chairmen: Dr. Freeman, Shenadoah Retreat Country Club; Mr. Gilbert Shapiro, Norbeck Country Club; and Mr. Jim Hess, Hagerstown Municipal Course. Mr. Sid Factor, Superintendent, Chestnut Ridge Country Club, Baltimore; and Mr. Charles Hallowell, Mid-Atlantic Director of the USGA Green Section.

Jim Reid introduced our guest speaker of the evening who was Mr. Bob Miller of the DuPont Chemical Company. His subject was "Turf Diseases." Other DuPont personnel present with him were: Mr. Roger Fouracre, Regional Director and Mr. Henry Edis, Representative. They each had a message for us and we appreciate their finding the time to visit with us. May we see them often, and not just once in a while.

A brief summary of Mr. Miller's talk follows :-

TURF DISEASES AND CONTROL

The topic of turf diseases and control is constantly being discussed, and a great deal of good work is gradually being accomplished. Unfortunately,

(2)

at times, it appears that experimental people are very slow. I know you would like to hear that turf diseases have ceased to be complex, that each disease is distinct and easily identified, and that we have a new chemical that is highly effective, safe to apply, economical, and will control all diseases. At the moment this material is not in sight. And unfortunately, the more diseases studied, the more complex they seem to become. However, certain basic concepts of disease have been solidified, but in doing so, we become increasingly aware of the inter-relationship of environmental conditions, fungicide applications and cultural practices in disease control.

It is important that we give attention to this relationship in the study of all turf diseases.

When we speak of fungicide applications we think of curative and/or preventive treatment. Very few superintendents that I know are using a curative schedule. Disease organisms are always present, but not always active, or could be active and not apparent. Therefore, by preventive applications of fungicide we hope to keep disease organisms under control. I know of few fields that the old saying "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is more true.

We also speak of specific or general purpose treatment. In the past the major effort has been to determine a specific treatment for a specific disease. But now, the trend seems to be away from the specific and toward the general fungicide treatment. This is exemplified today in the popularity of the "Tersan"-Mercury spray tank mixture.

The slides shown should aid in pointing out that disease control is not a simple identification of disease, and the application of the proper fungicide. Too often two or more diseases may appear at the same time.

Diseases can be complex and their control requires all the knowledge and artistry you superintendents can muster. It is more than applying a fungicide. It is fitting your fungicides into your cultural practices, and being able to quickly modify the practices to meet changing conditions. In this a general purpose treatment appears to be the best hope where disease control is difficult.

CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION REPORT

The constructive suggestion report was conducted by Charles Hallowell. Rather than write a long summary, we will put down the questions and answers as they come.

GREENS

Charles Schaelstock- I think your Poa Annua turf on aprons is outstanding for August. How is it done?

Clarence Lindsay- To hold Poa Annua, keep the ground cool. Use water whenever necessary. Our greens are mostly comprised of Poa Annua, but there is some scattered C1 and C19 bent mixed with it. Polycross bent is being plugged in to all greens. Nursery was seeded to Polycross Bent and has never been weeded. Polycross keeps weeds out. Some greens were poorly constructed originally and are very hard to keep. Layers of humus lie close to the surface.

Jim Thomas- When were the greens last aerified?

Clarence Lindsay- About the first of July. All plugs were removed and greens were fertilized with one hundred pounds of Milorganite applied to each.

Bob Scott, Jr. - How are aprons kept in such good condition?

Clarence Lindsay- Putting green mowers are not turned on the aprons. All

turning is done beyond. Aprons receive the same treatment as the greens.

Question- Does Arsenate of lead or any other chemical affect your Poa Annua?

Answer- No., not with the small amounts we use.

Consensus of opinion - Nursery of Polycross bent was outstanding.

Jim Reid- What about a Zoysia grass apron around a green?

Clarence Lindsay- Zoysia and Bermuda are no good in the Hagerstown area.

Charles Schaelstock - What is your fungicide treatment?

Clarence Lindsay- PMAS and Tersan are used. Chlordane is added for insect control.

Chas. Hollowell- Do you use any Arsenate of lead ?

Clarence Lindsay- Ocassionally, but mostly Chlordane.

Jim Reid- What about the use of Aldrein?

Charles Hollowell - Shows as much promise as Choldane, but is not used as often.

Bob Shields- We have often heard you speak about number 15 green. How is it this year?

Ernest Stanley- Needs cooler weather

Ruben Hines - A job for a bulldozer. Green is badly built and located, needs to be rebuilt and tile drained.

Charles Schaelstock - This green needs an improved soil structure.

Sergeant Mason- Why is number 15 fairway so good and the green so bad?

Clarence Lindsay- Number 15 green needs to be tototilled to improve the soil mixture and elevated more. It has to be watered very carefully. We plan to rebuild the green in the near future. All greens are nearly thirty years old.

Editor's Note: It has been the contention of Ruben Hines and many others that when a green becomes twenty years of age, it should be rebuilt. A troublesome green should be rebuilt much sooner.

Clarence Lindsay- Greens are fed with Milorganite every thirty days.

Jim Reid- At what rate?

Clarence Lindsay- At recommended rates. A 5-10-5 is applied in February.

Jim Thomas- Have you used any of the new materials that are being recommended for the control of crabgrass?

Clarence Lindsay- No, but I intend to experiment on a tee first and then a green.

Jim Reid- Inan getting very good results on greens with D1-Met by cutting applications down about fifty percent. Full rates are being used on other areas.

Pete Petrone- Have used Crab- E- Rad on greens with good results. There was no injury to the turf.

Question- Can Crab-E-Rad be used to prevent the germination of weed seeds?

Charles Hollowell- It is only effective after the plant has emerged from the soil.

Charles Hollowell- On Uramite- Plots fertilized last September are looking very good. Same is true where it was used on a green in the Pittsburgh area at the rate of four pounds per thousand sq. ft. It should be used in the fall for best results. The grass is fed as it needs feeding.

TEES:

Admiral Phillips- Tees are outst anding for this time of year.

Charles Hollowell- What is the program for tees?

Clarence Lindsay- Tees are composed of bluegrass, bent and Poa Annua grasses. They receive the same treatment as the greens, but not as often.

FAIRWAYS:

Rueben Hines, Jr. - What is the height of cut?

Clarence Lindsay- Nine-sixteenths of an inch during summer months, lower in spring and fall.

Jim Reid- When is fertilizer applied, and at what rate?

Clarence Lindsay- A 10-6-4 is used in the fall at the rate of four hundred pounds to the acre.

Because of the late hour, discussion of traps and rough was not brought out.

GOLF COMMITTEE REPORT

Twenty-seven members and guests braved the blistering heat to compete in the Handicap Tournament at Fountainhead at the August meeting. George Cornell starting with an outgoing and shaky 39 got as hot as the weather on the back nine to come in with a one under par 34 for a 73 and 1st low gross. Joe Reposkey with an even par 36 on the outgoing nine wilted with the heat and took a 40 for 76 and 2nd Gross prize. Bob Williams and John Connolly posted identical 78's to tie for 3rd Gross.

In the handicap division, guests walked away with the top prize when Doc Freeman and Jack Thompson both of Shenandoah Retreat Club posted 66's to take the 1st prize. Doc Freeman with a 101-35-66 and Thompson an 84-18-66; remaining prizes to Richard Dick of Winchester 82-15-67, Pete Petrone 82-12-70, and P. Carson 91-20-71.

Louis Bergmann, Golf Chairman

JANUARY CONFERENCE

It's time to start thinking about the Mid-Atlantic Turf Conference again. This event will be held in Baltimore in January and Dr. Cory who has kindly consented to act as Director, would like for you to make suggestions as to what subjects you would like and who the speakers should be. As in the past, he wants to make this your conference, tailored to fit your turf grass needs and desires. Let us know what those needs are and we think we can give you a conference that you will like much better.

INVITATIONS

Word has been received from officials of the Country Club of Virginia that the members of this association are invited to attend the National Amateur Championship at the James River course in Richmond, September 12-17. Just present your membership card at the gate and see what our vice-president has done to ready his course for this big event. While there, express our thanks and appreciation to Mr. Gray and Mr. Easterly for the invitation.

Mr. Alex Strachen, president of the Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents writes that on September 20 the members of that association will celebrate their 30th anniversary and will recognize five of their members who helped start the organization. The event will take place Tuesday September 20 at Whitemarsh Valley Country Club with golf in the afternoon and dinner at 7 p.m. Members of the Mid-Atlantic are invited to attend. Dinner reservations are \$7.50 and must be in to Mr. Strachen by Sept. 15.

Let's make up car loads and take advantage of these two events.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, September 13, 1955

Sparrows Point Country Club
Wise Avenue, Sparrows Point,
Baltimore, Maryland

Golf- 12 noon
Social Hour - 5:30 - 6:30
Dinner - 6:30 p.m.
Meeting - following dinner

DIRECTIONS:

From Frederick, Rockville, Silver Spring, Northwest section of Washington-
Take Rt. 29 to Rt. 40, east on Rt. 40 through Baltimore, to double over-pass;
take Rt. 151, right off of Rt. 40, south to Wise Ave. Turn right off 151,
three blocks down Wise Ave. to Country Club.

From Washington, Virginia -

Take Baltimore- Washington expressway to Rt. 40 in Baltimore, Follow same
directions as above from this point.

From points east of Baltimore -

Follow Rt. 40 to double over-pass and turn left on 151, down 151 to Wise Ave.

KNOW YOUR HOST

Paul Weiss, Jr., our host at Sparrows Point, was born on a golf course -
Lehigh Country Club in Pennsylvania - where his father was and still is employed
as superintendent.

Paul's golf course training started early. Like all boys, he wanted to ride
the tractor, so his ingenious father rigged up a seat with safety straps
to hold the little fellow on. His "pay", of a nickle a week, for keeping
the seat warm, made him the lowest paid and youngest "man" on the course.
Later he worked on weekends and during summer vacations until he graduated
from high school.

After high school, the wander-bug led him to the west coast and many diff-
erent jobs around San Francisco and central California. He even wandered up
into Montana where he worked for Mavor Boyd at Highland Country Club in
Billings, then put in a few licks at Yellowstone Country Club.

After a hitch in the Navy, he went back to work at Lehigh again, then took
his present job at Sparrows Point in September 1953. He is a member of the
Golf Course Superintendents of America.

GOOD READING

"THE GOLF COURSE REPORTER" - published by and for golf course superintendents. Subscription - \$3.00 per year. Box 106, St. Charles, Illinois.

"TURF MANAGEMENT" - H. B. Musser
Tells how to design, build, operate and maintain a golf course. A must for all superintendents. Write McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc. Trade Dept. 330 W. 42nd St., New York, 18, N.Y.

"THE CARE AND FEEDING OF GARDEN PLANTS" - published by American Society for Horticultural Science and The National Fertilizer Association, Washington, D.C. 184 pages, 78 illustrations, 50 of them in color. Price \$3.00

COMING EVENTS

Meeting- Suburban Club of Baltimore, Jim Reid, host superintendent, Oct. 4. Annual Association Golf Tournament.

Nov. 1 - Meeting at Norbeck Country Club, Charles Schaelstock, host superintendent. Election of officers.

December Meeting - G.L. Cornell Co., 4715 Miller Ave., Bethesda, Maryland

January - Annual Turfgrass Conference, Lord Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland, E.N. Cory, Director

February- National Turfgrass Conference and Show, Municipal Auditorium, Long Beach, California.

FAMOUS SAYING.

" Be a golf course superintendent - not a greenskeeper "- John Leavell.

EMPLOYMENT OPENING

A new course under construction at the greens planting stage is in need of a superintendent.

Interested parties should write Mr. Francis Karn, Chestnut Ridge Country Club, Lutherville, Maryland., giving full particulars regarding experience and qualifications. Say you saw it in the Mid-Atlantic "NEWSLETTER ".