



# 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 first week of December was a busy one for the members of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents. First, on Tuesday December the third, was George Cornell's Annual year end party for Mid-Atlantic members, club officials and guests. There was a banner turnout for the affair. Then later on in the week a small group of us attended the joint meeting between the Tidewater and Mid-Atlantic Associations. This was held at the James River Country Club, Newport News, Virginia, Friday, December 6, 1957.

The Cornell Meeting was our outstanding gathering of the year, and as usual was the best attended one. In 1951 George and his staff played host to 137; this year, six seasons later, the attendance was 238. The theme of the evening was " Good Fellowship" and with George, Brownie, Frank and their fellow workers taking care of our appetites- Maryland oysters and charcoal steaks could not help but taste good. After the long dry summer we experienced weatherwise this past year, the evening's refreshments helped to raise our spirits, so that we were able to realize that " wet" periods could still occur. It is difficult to utter the words or put them on paper to express our appreciation to Cornell's for this annual gathering of the clan. So, George, we once again say thanks to you and your assistants for an enjoyable evening.

## NEWS LETTER

Those who attended the meeting with the Tidewater Turfgrass Association at Hurley Savage's James River Course were well rewarded for their trip. It was an enlightening visit from an educational standpoint, and the hospitality extended us could not help but make everyone feel right at home. The turnout for the meeting was not too large, but what was lacking in numbers was more than balanced by the quality of the program. James Latham, Southeastern Director of the USGA Green Section, and Henson Maples, Superintendent of the Pinchurst, North Carolina, Country Club - also a Director of the National - were participants.

James River we found to be an eighteen hole course, hewn out of the native timber, and those players who stray from the straight and narrow find out to their sorrow that a straight line is still the shortest distance between two given points. 1957 was the club's Silver Anniversary Year. During this 25 year period, there has been only

four Greens Committee Chairmen, and we suspect that Hurley Savage has been greens superintendent for most of that time, and another good record - there have been but three golf professionals. There is an objective lesson to be derived from this: one needs but to look at the property to see that there has been a continuity of careful and well-planned management. The entire picture reflects harmony and cooperation.

The history of the development of the greens is interesting. Metropolitan and Washington strains of bent grasses were used until 1943 with varying success. An effort to locate and develop a suitable bent that would stand up under Tidewater weather conditions was not successful. After twelve years a switch was made to the use of Bermuda grass for summer and rye grass for the winter months. All of the newer fine leaf strains of bermuda are being tested for their suitability for future use.

Many unusual clubs are on exhibit, all specimens of the inventor's ideas and club-makers' art. In the floor cases the history of the golf ball is very well depicted from the early feather balls down to those of the present day. A library of golf books contains over 800 volumes and is one of the largest collection of such books in America. There is a 12' x 5' scale of the original old course at St. Andrews, Scotland. Also on display is a fine collection of nearly all of the well known golfing pictures. Whenever you are in the vicinity of the Tidewater area a visit to the James River Golf Museum should be a must on your calendar.

Highlights of the joint meeting and some random observations: Before embarking on any course changes or renovation, the club sends Hurley Savage around to other courses to study how they have solved the same problem.

Hurley has a major leaf removal chore to perform after the arrival of Jack Frost in the fall.

Many of the tees are located in shaded areas and this makes it very difficult to maintain good bermuda turf in these areas.

Richard Sanford, the club manager, told us that he and Hurley Savage work together as a team and that he considers each post important but separate and distinct jobs.

Those who made the trip to Newport News for the combined meeting wish to thank the members of the Tidewater Turfgrass Association for their hospitality and a fine meeting. Particularly: Fred Sappenfield, Tidewater's President; Hurley Savage, the host superintendent; C.E. Knight, and Richard Sanford- James River's Green Committee Chairman and Club Manager, respectively.

Others who attended the Tidewater meeting report a most enjoyable day also.



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Frank Haske, Russ Baker, Charlie Lynch, Bob Shields and Dick Stedman made the trip down in 35 minutes on American Airlines' Viscount. They were met at the airport by Tom Willock, Pro-Superintendent at Eagle Haven Country Club, who showed them U-3 bermuda greens overseeded to rye grass. ( Next time you see Tom ask him how he keeps such a beautiful golf course with just two hours a day.)

Then on to the James River course through the new Hampton Roads Tunnel. At the club the group was met by the club pro, Severn White and the club manager, Dick Stanford. The first tee was loaded with Tidewater area superintendents who really take their golf game seriously - you should have heard the matches they arranged. There also were Tom Dawson and Henson Maples, both of whom hit the ball a country mile - some of which are a bit straight of course. Greens Chairman, C.E. Knight visited back and forth between foursomes on the course explaining features and asking questions.

At the meeting after dinner Mid-Atlantic President Bob Shields introduced the other visitors from this area and extended greetings from all Mid-Atlantic members. He invited those present to attend the 29th National Turfgrass Conference and Show in Washington February 2, then had to ask that the group from Washington be excused to catch the 9:55 plane back home. ( Cost \$17.65 round trip )

#### A COMING EVENT YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS

The 29th Annual Turfgrass Conference and Show, sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, Shoreham Hotel-Washington, D.C. - February 3-7, 1958.

( There will be no Mid-Atlantic Conference this year. )

Registration fees: GCSA Members, \$10.00 ; Non Members \$15.00.  
Banquet tickets are separate at \$7.50 each.

Do you belong to the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America? If not, NOW is the time to join! The Mid-Atlantic has close to 40 of its members who are also members of the National.

The dues are \$35.00 per year, and in most cases this includes a \$1,000 life insurance policy. A membership blank is enclosed for your use. You are urged to become a member of the National GCSA! .

A prominent turf authority has this to say: " Every golf course superintendent - and club officials interested in golf turf maintenance- should attend the meetings sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association.

The expense of attendance at this important meeting should be an item in the budget of every private, municipal or daily fee golf course - along with a similar item for regional meetings."

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NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held in the Auditorium of the Plant Industry Station at Beltsville, Md. on January 14, 1958 at 1:00 p.m.

On hand will be Dr. Felix Juska of the Department of Agriculture and Jim Latham and Charles Hallowell of the USGA Green Section. Mr. Hallowell will show the latest USGA film strip " Golf's Longest Hour ".

Association business that should be considered at this meeting is as follows:

1. Meeting places for 1958
2. Projects for 1958
3. Discussion on the subject " What can the Mid-Atlantic do for its members?" Also, What's wrong with the Mid-Atlantic?
4. Line up participants for the 9:30 a.m. Feb. 7 program at the National Meeting when the Mid-Atlantic will put on a skit depicting a meeting and how to conduct a " Constructive Suggestion Report ".
5. Appropriate \$350 of Association funds to be used for entertainment the night of the banquet
6. Change the By-Laws to include action taken at the October 1957 meeting - that all Regular Members of the Mid-Atlantic become members of the National Association.
7. Discussion of the subject - all future applicants wishing to become members of the Mid-Atlantic be required to join the National Association as a prerequisite to becoming members.
8. Classification of association regular members who do not wish to become National members.
9. Announcement of committee chairmen for 1958

MID-ATLANTIC MISCELLANEOUS

Mrs. Clarence Lindsay has been ill for some time and is at present confined to a wheel chair. Ivy has always been one of the most active ladies at the National meetings and will be sorely missed if she is unable to attend the meeting in Washington. Her home address is Robinwood Dr., Route #1, Hagerstown, Md. A get well quick card is in order.

Why not bring your wife to the Shoreham for the big meeting on February 2 so she can see what you do when you go away each winter to attend the National Turfgrass Conference and Show. She will be impressed with the vast machinery exhibits, the amount of time given to educational sessions and the fine fellowship that exists between superintendents. Some superintendents say they are moving into the hotel for a week and that the little woman is looking forward to a chance to get away from the house for a while. Give the girl a break -

Frank Dunlap is also on the sick list. We wish you a speedy recovery Frank so you can take your usual active part in the National Meeting.

We need meeting places for 1958. Get your request in soon so the

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Executive Committee can consider it. Also, send in the post card sent you in December giving you the choice of the committee on which you would like to serve.

It's time to pay dues. The Secretary would appreciate hearing from you real soon. Statements were mailed to all regular and associate members a couple of weeks ago. Dues at present are: Regular and National \$45.00, Associate, \$10.00.

Your Greens Chairman will be given a complimentary ticket to the Exhibits, Educational Sessions and Get-Acquainted Hour when you register for the National Meeting. Be sure to invite him to this part of the Conference, but go a little further and invite him and his wife to the Banquet as your guests. This would be an easy way to repay some of the many nice things he has done for you. Banquet tickets are \$7.50 each and will be sold out well in advance, so reserve yours as soon as you can.

#### RULES OF ORDER

We have heard a lot about Rules of Order in conducting a meeting, so took the trouble to look into the idea of securing a copy of Roberts' Rules of Order. Upon examination though, this book was found to be too large and too complicated for use at our meetings.

Another publication was obtained that might serve our purpose better. It is titled "BASIC PRINCIPLES OF PARLIAMENTARY LAW AND PROTOCOL" by Marguerite Grumme, a registered parliamentarian. That's a big title, but the book is pocket size with only the basics covered. It contains 44 pages on rules, based on R.O.O.R., 24 pages on Protocol, the "how to" do things correctly in preparation and presentation. Also meeting agenda, convention agenda, a very simplified chart of motions, and 12 basic rules for a speaker.

With information contained in the book, you could question the Chair's decisions or support him in his efforts to conduct a meeting properly.

It is obtainable from Marguerite Grumme, 3830 Humphrey St., St. Louis, 6, Mo. Price is \$10..

#### REGARDING PROGRAM ADS

The entire association is grateful to the D.C. Branch of the National Association of Gardeners, the Mid-Atlantic Section of the Professional Golfers Association of America, and the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the National Club Managers Association for taking complimentary ads in the Souvenir Program of the National Meeting.

This indicates a desire for cooperation among men engaged in bringing beauty and pleasure to the golfers of this area. Let's strive for continued close harmony and understanding.

#### RESOLUTIONS

Be up to date in '58. It's fashionable to stay alive this and every year. so why not be in style. Make a resolution now to drive carefully, ALWAYS, and then -KEEP THAT RESOLUTION.



COMMITTEES FOR 1958

GOLF

Chr. Wm. Schrieber  
Lt. Ben. J. Benita  
Ruben Hines, Jr.  
Buck Whetsell

TRANSPORTATION

Leon Brown  
Robt. Adams  
Wilson Disney  
Jack Witches

MEMBERSHIP

Chr. Paul Weiss  
Tom Dawson  
Palmar Jett  
Clarence Lindsay  
Mike Burkholder

NATIONAL POLICY

Chr. Frank Dunlap  
John Connolly

EDITORIAL

Chr. James Reid  
Francis Coupe  
James Thomas

FLOOR

Hugh McRae

EMPLOYMENT

Chr. Bob Elder  
Geo. Campbell  
A. Sweeney  
Russ Kerns

PROGRAM

Chr. Ernie Stanley  
Lewis Lamp  
Ernest Parsley  
John Beavell

BY-LAWS

Chr. Wayne Jerome  
Jim Reynolds  
Ruben Hines, Sr.

NOMINATING

AUDITING

Chr. Harry Allenson  
Otho Swain  
T.S. Lumsden

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wm. Schrieber  
Jim Ried  
Robt. Elder  
Wayne Jerome  
Ernie Stanley  
Dick Stedman  
Paul Weiss, Jr.  
John Connolly  
Frank Dunlap  
Dick Watson  
Harry Allenson