



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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THIS ISSUE OF THE MID - ATLANTIC "NEWSLETTER " IS DEDICATED TO ADMIRAL JACK S. PHILLIPS, GREENS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, ARMY-NAVY COUNTRY CLUB.

ADMIRAL PHILLIPS MOVES TO FLORIDA

Mid-Atlantic booster Admiral Jack Phillips has announced his intention to move to Florida. President Shields, at our last meeting, expressed the membership's appreciation to Admiral Phillips for his guidance and service to the members and to the Association.

We know we are going to miss him, but we will always remember the support he has given to our National organization, his participation in our Mid-Atlantic Turfgrass Conferences, and his attendance at our monthly meetings.

He has long been the Superintendent's Champion at meetings of the United States Golf Association, and the District and State Associations.

The Admiral's tenure and administration as Greens Committee Chairman of the Army-Navy Country Club has been an excellent example for the other clubs and Chairmen.

We will always expect him to play and meet with us when he visits this area.

We wish Mrs. Phillips and our Admiral much happiness in their Florida home.

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And then the rains came! So did some forty Mid-Atlantic members and guests journey through inclement weather to the Cedar Point Golf Club at the Patuxent Naval Air Base, Patuxent River, Maryland. The day was a wet one and was not conducive to the playing of golf. There were none brave enough amongst us to venture forth against the elements.

However, the day was an interesting and instructive one. It was one of the best educational meetings we have had in a long while. Those making the trip were well rewarded for their efforts. Our hosts were most gracious in receiving us. John Burt, the host superintendent, introduced his club officials as follows: Captain A.G. Becker, assistant to Admiral Clark, the Base Commander; Captain A.C. Byrd, the Golf Officer; Captain Charles Pitts of Special Services; and Mr. MacQuire Mattingly in charge of grounds at the Base.

Guests in attendance at the meeting were: Fred Sappenfield, President of the Tidewater Turfgrass Association and superintendent at the new Willow Oaks Country Club, Richmond, Virginia; Ed Jones, superintendent of the Bonnie View Country Club, Baltimore, Maryland; Bill Heflin, manager of Swift's Baltimore Fertilizer Department; Mr. Gilbert

Shapiro, owner of Laurel Pines Golf Course. A late arrival was Mr. Martin Mc Carthy, Golf Committee Chairman of Columbia Country Club. By mistake he took the long way around and came by way of Solomon's Island.

As the gathering was an indoor one, we enjoyed an old fashioned "bull session " during the afternoon. A few of us had visited the nearby eleventh green which had recently been rebuilt. Previously it had suffered from poor drainage; the reworking of the green included a new tiling system, and the incorporation of sharp sand into the soil mix. Examination of the drainage outlet below the green showed the tile to be operating satisfactorily by running a good stream of water.

The green had been planted to a mixture of C-1 and C-19 bents; they were growing nicely. However, it was suggested the grass had been allowed to get too long and needed mowing. Close clipping would help the surface to fill in quicker and also provide the texture needed for a good putting surface. (Caution- never cut off more than one-half inch of blade at any one time .) There were a few bare places in the front of the green, plugs of good sod could be taken from the solid areas and inserted into the vacant spots. Top dressing after mowing would help too.

A discussion on the use of arsenate of lead also took place. Before the advent of the newer chemical insecticides, arsenate of lead was the material used for the control of most insects, grubs, earthworms, etc. In some soils it retarded the germination of crabgrass and gave some control of infestation from this weed.

Lead is again coming into favor for the suppression of crabgrass and poa annua in putting greens. Authorities recommend that it be applied at the rate of ten pounds per thousand square feet of surface. Applications to be made twice a year, preferably spring and fall. For good distribution it should be mixed with screened topsoil or one of the organic fertilizers and spread evenly over the surface of the green, then thoroughly poled or washed into the soil. An excess of phosphorous in the soil is said to nullify the action of the lead to some extent.

John Burt, our host superintendent, outlined some of Cedar Point's good and bad features. Some of the greens were originally seeded to colonial bent mixtures one of which appears to be an outstanding strain. Where penncross seed has been used the results have been good. On certain greens the invasion of bermuda grass has been troublesome. The use of one of the wetter water agents has appeared to be beneficial.

A short pro and con discussion on the use of tile in putting greens had its inning. Tiling is a costly operation, and some have successfully gotten by without using it in putting green construction. However, when soils are oversaturated with water, the excess supply of moisture must be removed, or grasses will succumb to suffocation from lack of air in the soil. This becomes particularly true in hot muggy weather. Seepage, surface runoff, and excessive amounts of moisture in the soil profile have to be eliminated and prevented. A proven axiom is - " Quality turf cannot be grown without adequate drainage plus good water management. "

The guest speaker for the evening was Dr. O.R. Lunt of the United States Department of Agriculture. His theme - The Construction of Putting Greens. Dr. Lunt strongly advocates the use of sand in the construction of greens and recommends particular attention be paid to drainage. He stresses the need of good management in all phases of golf maintenance work.

The Doctor told us we must see that our soils were not too impervious to the

entrance of water and that slow percolation was not desirable. Any ground containing an excessive amount of water was always lacking in aeration and would puddle easily under trampling. Plants growing in such compacted soils were more subject to disease and wilt.

We were advised to carefully watch the field moisture content of our putting green soils and guard against their over-saturation. His experience shows that soils should be able to receive one inch of water per hour. Small separate sand layers in the soil profile slow down and retard good percolation.

The danger point of compaction is in the top inch and one half of the surface. Fine silts and heavy materials are more prone to compaction. The necessity of a good soil mix was strongly emphasized, one that contained a high amount of coarse sharp sand, a fair proportion of a good loam, plus a minimum of organic matter. Such a mixture would provide better root pasturage for our grasses and would simplify many of the problems of turfgrass management.

Our good friend and benefactor, Charles Hallowell of the USGA Green Section gave a few timely maintenance tips on how to meet some of the problems that could arise from the abnormal weather conditions of this spring. First, he said it was necessary to provide for the removal of seepage water through adequate drainage. Also, see to the run-off and removal of surface water. Apply lime where needed, and aerate the soil structure. Air should be gotten into the soil as soon as possible to dry it out, and start grasses into more active growth. Fertilization should be in moderation and not over-done. This would help to prevent too succulent and soft growth of grass and would help to control diseases and check the infestation of poa annua.

REGARDING THE " NEWSLETTER " MASTHEAD. -(Extracts, from the minutes of the GCSA Exec. Committee meetings held at St. Charles, Ill. on April 12 and 13, 1958)

" Considerable discussion was held upon the use of the G.C.S.A. emblem design as currently used on stationery, printed material, awards, pins, etc. as requests had been received from commercial interests as well as members for the use of this design in their own stationery and promotional material. The emblem design has been in use since April 1953. President directed the Secretary to have the emblem design registered in the U.S. Patent Office. Mr. Lambert moved "that permission for the use of the GCSA emblem design must be approved by the Executive Committee ". Seconded by Mr. Moore, motion carried. Mr. Border moved " That no commercial firm be allowed the use of the GCSA emblem design for stationery and/or literature". Seconded by Mr. Thomas, motion carried. Mr. Lambert moved " That the request from Aquatrols for the use of the emblem be denied." Seconded by Mr. Moore, motion carried.

A request was received from Mr. Thomas as Co-Editor of the Mid-Atlantic Association for use of the emblem design to appear on the " NEWSLETTER ". Mr. Thomas moved " That the request from the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents for the use of the G.C.S.A. emblem design on their " NEWSLETTER" be granted and that the word " affiliated " be used with such use. " Seconded by Mr. Border, motion carried. In discussing the use of the G.C.S.A. letterhead design of the emblem design for others than the Association, Mr. Bertoni moved, " That the letterhead design as now in use be used only for official business of the G.C.S.A. Seconded by Mr. Lambert, motion carried. Mr. Border moved " That approval be given the Secretary to provide personal type stationery with the addition of the word " Member " appearing thereon." Seconded by Mr. Lambert, motion carried. "

MID - ATLANTIC PARTY

Local members have received a return ~~post~~ card for use in making reservations for the Association Party to be held June 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the new Indian Spring Country Club on Layhill Road in Silver Spring.

This card should be returned to Bob Elder at once so he will know how many to prepare for.

This is the Association 's first attempt at holding a Social affair since the dance at Prince Georges several years back. Attendance at this one will show whether or not there is enough interest to warrant such get-togethers.

Remember, bring the ladies and as many guests as you care to. Charge is \$3.00 per person.

Layhill Road is out Georgia Avenue at the water tower in Wheaton.

NEXT MEETING

PLACE - Jefferson Lakeside Club
Lakeside Avenue
Richmond, Virginia

HOST - Harry Allanson

GOLF - 12 noon
Social - 5-6 p.m.
DINNER - 6:00 p.m.

FROM THE HOST

To get to Jefferson Lakeside Club - if you are traveling No. 1 Highway - about one mile north of Lakeside Avenue you will come to a Glass House Restaurant, which will be a good place to get your lunch as they do no cash business at the Club. Lakeside Avenue will be the second main road or avenue on the right after you leave the Glass House.

Traveling No. 301 - You will follow this route to the City limits, where 301 and No.1 come together. Take No.1 to the right. Come back north about one mile. Turn left on Lakeside Avenue to the Club.

My Greens Chairman is Mr. Bernard Strause, Club Manager is Mr. Emil Ewancho and Golf Professional is Mr. Allan Brodie.

After looking my course over, I'm pretty sure that you may be able to find something to talk about, but I do not have any troubles that I do not understand.

We are looking forward to a nice day and a nice turn out. Tell everybody to come.

Harry N. Allanson.