



# 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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JUNE 1959

The May meeting of the Association was held at Cedar Point Golf Club at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station on May 5, 1959. There were 38 members and guests present but, for the first time in many months, neither Baltimore nor Richmond had a representative in attendance.

Distinguished guests present were Captain Woods, Commanding Officer of the base and Commander Fleishley, the base recreation officer. Also present to welcome us was Mr. Woods who is in charge of works and grounds. After introductions and welcome talks were over, acting chairman Tom Doerer called on Cedar Point's former superintendent, Bill Schrieber, to give a short history of the base golf course. Bill spoke of how the course had to be revised to make way for a longer runway and how the job was done.

Ruben Hines conducted the Constructive Suggestion Report that brought out many points for discussion.

John Connolly stated that he had recently seen Admiral Phillips in Florida and passed greetings from him.

With the season of high temperatures and humidity just ahead of us, it is well to review some of the highlights of our 1955 Baltimore Turfgrass Conference:

Al Radko reminded us not to be misled by the other fellow's budget; statistics are often misleading.

#### WATER MANAGEMENT - Dr. O.J. Noer

Excessive moisture can cause more damage to turfgrass than extreme dryness.  
Golf players are justified in expecting putting greens to hold properly played pitch shots.  
Proper soil texture, plus adequate fertilization will help to maintain resilient greens.  
Ponded water is the cause of much trouble during periods of hot weather.  
Soil moisture should never exceed its field capacity.  
Soils need a proper balance of air at all times - over saturation prevents this.  
High moisture content along with high humidity encourages diseases.  
Changes in management, treatments and the like should be done in a gradual manner, not abruptly.  
Be on the alert for all possible sources of seepage.  
Be sure to use the proper kind of grass on watered fairways.  
Water applications must be balanced with proper fertilization.

#### CHARLES K. HALLOWELL told us -

Deep applications of moisture are needed during periods of drought.  
The chemical, Di-Sodium-Methyl-Arsonate appears to have much value for the control of both smooth and silver crabgrass.



TRENDS IN GRASSES - Jack Harper

Cool season grasses such as Kentucky blue grass and the fescues will not tolerate the close mowing that modern fairway management requires. Heavy increases in play shows a need for better grasses on small teeing areas.

Bermuda grass is proving to be a popular grass around swimming pools, both belong to hot weather.

Hall's U-3 appears to be the best bermuda for the Mid-Atlantic area.

Bermudas like the bents can be divided into many different strains, some good, some bad.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT - Bob Scott, Sr.

Search for progress endless.

If drainage is good, roots are deep and the grass plant has a pleasing appearance as to density and texture.

Good soil composition is necessary for the above.

FUNDAMENTALS OF TURF MANAGEMENT - H.B. Musser

Too much fertilizer encourages large brown patch - too little can be a factor in the development of dollar spot.

The best policy is not to go to extremes in either direction, keep to the middle of the road.

Kind of fertilizer is not important, but method and time of application is.

MANagement :

Man is needed for management.

Men, tools and equipment he needs in order to secure results.

Men must be efficiently trained in their jobs, if not, the management program fails.

Tools must be plentiful and must be kept at a high precision level or results will not be good.

We must continue to improve ourselves and our courses. Golfers won't let us go backwards.

Think perfection and strive for it.

Consider soil bacteria first - grass second. Bacteria must eat before the grass can.

Work from the roots up.

TURFGRASS FIELD DAY

Dr. Felix Juska announces a turfgrass field day ( morning and afternoon ), Tuesday, August 4th. The new comparison strains of bent plots will be exhibited for the first time. These include approved strains now on greens on several courses, and several unnamed strains of creeping bent from Agriculture Experiment stations.

Plots of bermuda include strains from Africa, Florida, Georgia and Texas. All the bermudas in the trials survived the recent cold winter temperatures.

Selections of individual creeping red fescue are most interesting. Several plants have leaves as wide as Kentucky bluegrass, and appear hardy to summer temperatures and humidity.

Speakers will include representatives of the U.D. Dept. of Agriculture who will tell of their work in the Plant Industry Stations auditorium following the lunch hour.

NEW SLIGO COURSE NOW OPEN

Sligo Golf Course maintained by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission has been completely revamped due to the proposed route of the Washington Circumferential Highway across the northern edge of the course. In 1956 the Commission employed golf course architects " Ault and Jamison " to redesign the nine hole course. Philip Mason was also employed to design a new clubhouse, the old one having been destroyed by fire.

Without interfering ~~toogreatly~~ with play, the Park Department has newly constructed nine greens, nine tees, two practice greens, installed underground irrigation, piped the open storm drainage stream flowing through the center of the course, paved walks and parking areas and landscaped the clubhouse. Eventually the entire course will be landscaped and fenced.

Dedication of the clubhouse was May 14th and the grand opening of the new course for play was May 15, 1959. The redesigned course and clubhouse totaled \$120,000.

Bradley Strouth, golf course superintendent, certainly deserves a " Well Done" for the splendid way in which he has prepared this new course for the spring season 1959.

Unique about the course will be the illustrated charts at each tee indicating the hole outline, distance and par.

LOCAL SUPERINTENDENT RECEIVES PUBLICITY

According to a recent picture and write-up in an Annapolis newspaper, great things can be expected at Annapolis Country Club now that H.A. ( Pat ) Sheridan has taken over the superintendent's job there. Such publicity is good for all, Pat. We hope you get much more.

NEXT MEETING

The June meeting will be held at Hermitage Country Club, Richmond, Virginia on June 2, 1959. Association President Jim Reynolds will be your host and extends an invitation to all members to attend this first meeting ever to be held at Hermitage.

For your education, Mr. Bob Miller of the Du Pont Co. has been engaged as speaker of the day and will talk on turf disease, and how sound fungicidal practices fit into a modern maintenance program.

Next Meeting

Date - June 2, 1959

Place - Hermitage Country Club  
U.S. #301, Richmond, Virginia

Golf - 12 noon  
Social Hour- 5:30  
Dinner - 6:30

NOTE: Richmond is on Standard Time - one hour behind Washington time.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to take this opportunity to apologize for missing the April and May meetings, but I honestly couldn't help it.

Our Board of Directors asked me to attend a very important meeting at our Club in April and in May I was summoned as a witness in a court case in which Hermitage Country Club was suing the Virginia State Highway Department for damages.

They tell me that quite a few of you have missed our meetings in April and May. How about taking June 2nd off and come down to Hermitage for the June meeting? Hermitage Country Club is a very nice golf course built about 1920. It has Washington bent greens and Bermuda fairways which I would say are the best in our area. Come on down and play our golf course and enjoy a little Southern Hospitality.

Bob Miller of Du Pont will be our speaker and will have an interesting message for all of us.

Directions to Hermitage:

Coming down Route #1 - take first right after passing Richmond Auto Court into Hilliard Rd. You can see the club from the highway.

Coming down #301 - turn right where #301 runs into Chamberlayne Ave. Turn right again at Howard Johnson's, proceed on Route #1 until you arrive at the bottom of the hill. Turn left into Hilliard Rd. See you there.

Best Regards-  
Jim Reynolds

AT PRESS TIME

George Gumm, superintendent at Ocean City Golf and Yatch Club received a half page spread of pictures and publicity in the May 18 issue of the Salisbury Times- Salisbury, Md.

Congratulations George, from the members of the Mid-Atlantic. We wish you every success.