



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

Affiliated

L. R. SHIELDS
JAMES E. THOMAS

Editor Woodmont Country Club, Box 352, Rockville, Md.
Editor Army Navy Country Club, Arlington, Va.

MARCH 1959

JIM THOMAS ELECTED

After a tough, hard fight our own Jim Thomas of Army-Navy Club was elected Vice-President of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America at the Chicago Meeting on January 28.

This is the first time in the history of our association that a Mid-Atlantic member has attained this high office in the National Association. We wish Jimmy every success in this new position and hope that he is nominated for President next year.

The man behind the scene during the election was Walter Cosby of White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. Walter started the campaign last summer by contacting his many friends around the country asking for their proxies so he could vote them for Jimmy. The result was that he carried to Chicago a handful of proxy votes from individuals who could not attend the meeting but would like to cast their votes for Jim. These extra votes added to Jim's personal popularity, brought about by a good record on the Board of Directors and turned the tables in his favor.

The members of the Mid-Atlantic are proud of the new Vice-President and extend to him our warmest congratulations. We stand ready to help him in his new job and offer our assistance and cooperation in any way possible to assure him a successful term.

Because of National policy that only one man from an area can serve on the Executive Board, Bob Shields was forced to withdraw his name from nomination when Jim Thomas was elected. We wish him better luck next time.

ILL AND IN DISTRESS

Member Jim Shepherd, of Country Club of Maryland at Baltimore, is in St. Joseph's Hospital with a heart attack and won't be out for several weeks.

We wish you a speedy recovery, Jim, and urge you Baltimore boys to take it easier.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

January was a very successful month for the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents. We had two important projects for this month and both were completed successfully.

First, our Baltimore Turf grass Conference was a complete success. The enrollment was over one hundred and fifteen, our speakers were some of the best in their fields and their subjects were both current and interesting.

Our thanks to the Program Committee whose members were Dr. George Langford, Jim Thomas, Bob Shields, Charles Hallowell and Francis Coupe.

Our second project for January was to elect Jim Thomas Vice-President of the National Golf Course Superintendents Association at the Chicago Meeting. This was accomplished by the hard work of our National Policy Committee whose members were Walter Cosby, Jim Reid, Bob Shields and Frank Dunlap. Our thanks for a good job well done. We certainly recognized the honor bestowed upon Jim and say that it couldn't have happened to a better man. He has earned it.

Bob Shields as usual gave a very good talk at Chicago titled " Progress in Techniques " and it was well received. He no doubt will be our next member running for National office.

Jim. Reynolds

NEWSLETTER

The golfing season is just around the corner - are you ready for the months that lie ahead?. As a final check-up, all of your equipment should have been thoroughly overhauled, cleaned and painted. Everything should be in working order and ready to go, as soon as it is time for the maintenance schedule to start.

At this period of the year, we start thinking of the days that are in front of us. There are still odd jobs that should be done before the active playing season gets under way. All outside fixtures such as Shelter houses, benches, fences, bridges, guard rails, signs etc. will need repairing and along with it a good coat of paint. Before too long, outside temperatures will permit work of this nature.

This is also a good season of the year to observe areas needing better drainage. It not be possible to undertake the work at the present moment, however, the locations can be noted and the corrections made at some future date. Embedded rocks and stones are always easier removed during the early spring as the heaving caused by the winter's frost has loosened up the soil around them. Some spot seeding may be needed where erosion has taken place or where a good stand of grass was not obtained from a fall planting.

There is still time left to do a bit of new planting. New shrubbery can be set out, and existing trees trimmed, pruned and fertilized for better growth and appearance. Last, but not least, comes the final clean-up of the debris that has been accumulating around the property during the winter. There are broken limbs to be picked up, and fallen leaves to be raked from the fence corners and the sheltered places.

Have we made our maintenance plans for the coming year? Advance planning pays big dividends. It not only makes our work easier, but also helps us to avoid costly mistakes and errors. The dollar can be spread a little further if our work has been planned ahead.

Nearly all of us operate under a fixed budget, and from past experience we should be able to fairly well estimate how we will spend the money that has been made available to us for operation. This is where a good simple system of record keeping can be a big help. A " goods received " sheet, showing the cost of repairs and replacements, gasoline and lubricants, chemicals, fertilizers, sand etc. is not hard to keep and such a record helps us stay within the allotted purse strings. Such a system can also enable us to arrive at next year's budget requirements.

A work diary showing all of the principal maintenance operations for the year can be made to serve a very useful purpose. One should know the dates of the first and last frosts each year, along with the average date of the last killing frost. It is well to know when the greens were mowed for the first time, also the fairways. The time, amounts and brands of all fertilizer, fungicide, herbicide and insecticide applications should be recorded. It is well to be informed on when to expect the first and last disease attacks.

All of this may sound like a lot of paper work is involved, but such is not the case if it is done daily. However, should it be allowed to accumulate and not kept track of regularly, all you will have is a homogenous mass of facts and figures. What we are striving for is to "BE PREPARED " at all times.

DUES FOR 1959

Dues for this year are due and payable. The present By-Laws say dues must be paid by May 1st or the delinquent member will be dropped from the membership.

National dues were due October 1 and those who have not paid lost their insurance coverage January 1st.

A Mid-Atlantic By-Laws change last March made it compulsive for all regular members to become members of the National Association. We regret that some of our old friends could not go along with this idea and have decided to resign, but the majority feel that the change will benefit the majority of superintendents and the profession as a whole.

Be sure to pay your National dues also in order to qualify for Mid-Atlantic membership.

MEETING PLACES FOR 1959

Following is a tentative schedule of meeting places for 1959.

March 3 - James River Country Club, Warwick, Virginia - Hurley Savage
April 7 - Bethesda Country Club, Bethesda, Maryland - T.S. Lumsden
May 5 - Fort Meade Golf Club, Fort Meade, Maryland - Sgt. Fred Slack
June 2 - Hermitage Country Club, Richmond, Virginia - Pres. Jim Reynolds
July 7 - Winchester Country Club, Winchester, Virginia - Lewis Lamp
Aug. 4 - Turfgrass Field Day, Beltsville, Maryland - Dr. Felix Juska
Sept. 1 - Beaver Creek Country Club, Hagerstown, Maryland - John Burt
Oct. 6 - OPEN
Nov. 3 or 10 - OPEN
Dec. 1 - G.L. Cornell Co., Bethesda, Maryland, "Genial George" Cornell

These are only tentative dates and places. Changes are bound to be made during the season, so do not go by this schedule entirely. Consult your monthly " NEWSLETTER " or notices for correct information.

NEXT MEETING

James River Country Club
Warwick, Virginia

Date: March 3, 1959

Course - Very fine and well kept - has bermuda grass greens.

Time : Golf 12 noon
Social period 5 p.m.
Dinner 6 p.m.
Meeting after dinner

Host : Hurley Savage, superintendent

TRANSPORTATION

The trip to James River can be made by car or plane. By car the travel time is approximately 5 hours. Take U.S. Route 60 east out of Richmond to Warwick, north of Hampton Roads, and turn right into the club. There is a Motel on Route 60 near the entrance to the club that is available to those who drive.

By plane the travel time is about 45 minutes - the fare is \$21.07. Capital Airlines has a Viscount flight into Norfolk that leaves National Airport at 10:30 a.m. and arrives at 11:16. Russ Jermigan, Tommy Whillock and Fred Bingham say they will meet us at the airport, take us to James River and drive us back to the airport after the meeting in time to catch the plane back to Washington. The return flight leaves at 10:40 and arrives in Washington at 11:26.

Just drive your car to the airport and leave it in the parking lot - parking charges are 25¢ for the first three hours, plus 15¢ for each additional 3 hours. You won't be away from home any longer than if the meeting were across town, but you will have traveled south to a climate similar to that which you will have a month from now.

Let's have a big turn out at James River!

MID-ATLANTIC MISCELLANY

Secretary-Treasurer Tommy Dorer is now at Fort Belvoir Golf Course. The Army is going to have a civilian Superintendent which this Association has advocated for a long time.

John Burt moves from Cedar Point Golf Club at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station to the new Beaver Creek Country Club at Hagerstown when his Navy retirement becomes final in June.

Iva Lindsay, wife of Clarence Lindsay at Fountain Head, still suffering after 14 months in bed. The Gallant Girl says she will make the Houston, Texas National Meeting next year even if she has to go in a wheel chair !

Wayne Jerome has notified Congressional officials of his intention to resign. He will build Cedar Crest, a 36-hole layout near the new airport site at Chantilly, Virginia. His good work at Congressional is paying dividends.

George Gumm who left the Mid-Atlantic a couple of years ago to take the superintendent's job at West Chester Golf and Country Club, West Chester, Pa. is returning as superintendent at the new Ocean City Golf and Yacht Club at Berlin, Maryland.

National Capital Toro is now in process of moving to new and larger quarters a couple of doors up the street from their present location.

News from the South indicates that Admiral Jack Phillips is well established and happy in his new home at 1071 Tennessee Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. He is active in golf and the Southern Florida Superintendents group. We hope he will be an inspiration to them as he was to us for so many years.

Frank Murray has started construction of a golf course near Ft. Lauderdale. Murray and Roberts are to build a new Cavaliers Golf and Country Club near Wilmington, New Jersey. Russell Roberts is now flying his light plane into New Castle- Wilmington airport.