



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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On Tuesday, April 7th, 1959, the members of the Mid-Atlantic visited the Bethesda Country Club for the regular monthly meeting. Bethesda is the home course of Mid-Atlantic member T.S. Lumsden. Lum, as most of us know him, is one of the old timers of the district and has been at his present location better than a decade. Under his supervision Bethesda Country Club has grown from a small nine hole layout to a full length course of eighteen holes.

Those of us who have seen this expansion take place fully realize what has been accomplished by this man's untiring efforts. In reviewing the fruits of Lum's work the old adage comes to mind of "Little strokes fell great oaks." This has really come to pass at Bethesda. A pleasing golf course has been created under very trying conditions, such as a small working budget, poor terrain and bad soil conditions.

It has only been a few years back that the greens were heavily infested with crab grass and poa annua. These pests have been overcome and what was once a superintendent's headache is no longer a problem. Under Lum invasion of weeds and unwanted grasses has been reduced to a minimum and is no longer a cause for worry and concern.

Roughs which were once a jungle of undergrowth and an eyesore to the players are now a thing of the past. A general cleanup of all unsightly areas has taken place and their appearance now is most pleasing to the eye. The condition of the fairways has shown a marked improvement under a sound, well managed fertilization program. Side hill erosion has been brought under control and where badly eroded places once existed the spots have been repaired and grassed over.

The greens were well carpeted with a good tight sod, although a few of them were beginning to show signs of grain and too much mat. However, at the time of our visit, Lum had not gotten around to his usual Spring program of verticutting and aerifying. No doubt but that this has been done and is out of the way. The putting swards by now should be in excellent condition ready for the season's onslaught of players and hot weather.

It can truly be said, superintendent T.S. Lumsden has mastered many of the obstacles that have stood in his path. He has used adverse conditions and hard going as a guide and a pattern on how to create and maintain a better kept golf course. He has profited by his mistakes, and used them to an advantage. This is a lesson we all could follow and copy. We know that the membership of the Bethesda Country Club must be very proud of their golf course superintendent.

FROM THE SECRETARY

Three new members were accepted at the April meeting as Regular Members. They are : Angelo Commorola, Green Hill Yacht and Country Club, Quantico, Maryland; Cliff Olinger, G. Oak Lodge, Chestertown, Maryland; and Fred Sappenfield, Willow Oaks Country Club, Richmond, Virginia. These men are all members of the National Association and bring many years of experience to our fellowship. We welcome them to our association.

As mentioned at the Bethesda meeting - Mid-Atlantic lapel buttons are available thru this office at \$3.00 each. If you do not have one, see me at the next meeting. Those of us who have them wear them with pride.

If you have not mailed in the questionnaire I sent you about a month ago, then please do so at once. This office needs up-to-date information on each member, so send the form to me at Fort Belvoir Golf Course, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

A change of address notice should be sent to me as soon as a change is made so that your " NEWSLETTER " will continue to come to you.

Applications being held in our files until they are approved by the National:
Louis F. Knight- Turf Garden Supplies, Norfolk, Va., Fred M. Risil - U.S. Naval Base, Bainbridge, Maryland; William Jett - Turf valley Golf Club, Ellicott City, Maryland; Capt. Paul Harris, Fort Belvoir Golf Club, Fort Belvoir, Va.; Sgt. James W. Wells, Fort Belvoir Golf Club, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Tom Doerer, Jr. , Secretary.

MID-ATLANTIC MISCELLANY

Mike Burkholder has moved from Fairfax Country Club where he has been superintendent for many years to the superintendent's job at Courthouse Country Club, not far from Fairfax. He has requested the October 6th meeting be held at Courthouse.

Ruben Hines, Jr. is now superintendent at Sunset Country Club, Snell Isle, St. Petersburg, Florida and has joined the West Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association.

Frank Murray has an 18 hole golf course under construction at Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

The dates for the Mid-Atlantic Turfgrass Conference have been set for January 5-6, 1960 at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland.

Mid-Atlantic superintendents were well-represented at the April 3rd opening of Baltimore's new Pine Ridge Golf Course. Park superintendents, Gus Hook and Ed Myerly and superintendent Howard Mc Carty are to be commended for a big job well done.

Suburban Club at Baltimore has removed the club house and maintenance shop to make way for a new course and club house. Superintendent Jim Reid says there is no place to hang his hat so he is out on the golf course working.

Glenbrook Golf Course, the old Woodmont course in Bethesda, was closed to play recently and is now history. Superintendent Bradley Strouth is giving his full attention to Sligo Park, the other Park and Planning Commission course in Silver Spring. Brad says the revised 9 at Sligo will be opened to play May 15. Careful planning on the part of designers, Ault and Jamison, kept the old nine in play while the new holes were being built.

It is now a fact that Montgomery County will build an 18 hole course for public play on Falls Road in Rockville. Construction to begin this summer with plans drawn by Ault and Jamison.

Frank Haske is no longer with the G.L.Cornell Co. He has taken a position with Thrasher Nursery and will specialize in contract maintenance. Frank says he is very much interested in the affairs of the association and will retain his membership.