



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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Course Superintendent through Education and Merit

L. R. SHIELDS *Editor*, Woodmont Country Club, Box 352, Rockville, Md. HA 7-7482

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THE DECEMBER MEETING of the Chapter was held at Westbriar Country Club on December 6th with sixty-seven members and guests in attendance.

This was the first December meeting scheduled in many years and there was much concern as to what the weather would be. As it turned out, everything was fine and the only thing that hindered the golfer was Old Man Par. The Blind Bogey winners were Morgan Tiller and Bob Martino who tied for first place. Also tied in second place were Lewis Lamp and Walter Glenn and Carl Schoening, and Buddy Cain, third.

CHAIRMAN FRANK DUNLAP INTRODUCED Superintendent Buck Whetsell who in turn asked Pro Ernie Garlen and Golf Chairman Charles Bell to take bows. Next was Leo Horowitz, owner and originator of Westbriar who extended a warm welcome. Charles Hallowell, Director Mid-Atlantic Green Section of the USGA gave a short talk on some of the problems and accomplishments of some of the superintendents in his area. He stated that the new bent grass, Penn Cross, was being used more and more. Its creeping characteristics, color, density, disease and drought resistance all look good on greens in play several years. Cohansey (a favorite of Ruben Hines) looks very good in North Carolina. As usual Charlie closed with a word of wisdom - this time he said "Work not done in the Fall never gets done." Fall of 1960 was a great year for Fall work. Even greens that were planted as late as October have been mowed and topdressed.

WE WERE HONORED by the presence of the President of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, Jimmy Thomas of Army-Navy Country Club in Arlington, Virginia. We are dissappointed that the National President could not attend more regular Chapter meetings this past season but realize that two 18-hole golf courses to look after is a load for any one man. Jimmy extended a plea for more National members and dwelled briefly on the benefits of membership. He also gave a plug for the coming National Turfgrass Conference January 29-February 3, 1961 at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto, Canada and announced that one of our local members would represent the Mid-Atlantic on the speakers program.

CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION REPORT. In discussing the condition of the golf course at Westbriar, the group thought it in good shape and that Buck Whetsell had done a good job. There was some comment on the late fertilization of bent grass greens with high nitrogen inorganic fertilizer. It is approved maintenance procedure in this area to fertilize late in the season, but if inorganics are used it should be applied before the water system is drained for the winter so it can be watered in immediately after application. If a spreader is used the operator should be instructed on how to turn carefully and cautioned on overlaps to prevent double the rate of application. The newly developed hydraulic proportioner seems to be the best and safest method of applying burning type fertilizers. The safest way to get on extra nitrogen at this time of year is to use one of the non-burning natural organics or one of the new urea forms. Do this in late November after the greens have been mowed for the last time. If it should become necessary to mow again then do so without the grass catcher so the material won't be removed from the

surface. No watering in will be necessary with non-burning types of nitrogen properly applied at moderate rates.

Our host at Westbriar asked for a bermuda grass tee planting and maintenance program that he might use in converting his Poa Annua tees. This subject was covered in detail in the September 1958 issue of the " NEWSLETTER " in an open letter to Ernie Stanley, written by Bob Shields.

NEW CHAPTER OFFICERS. The members present at Westbriar elected the following men to lead the Chapter during the year 1961 :

PRESIDENT - George Gumm, Ocean City Yacht and Country Club.

VICE PRESIDENT - William Wright, Norbeck Country Club.

SECRETARY-TREASURER - Angelo Cammarota, Green Hill Yacht and Country Club.

These men have been given the responsibility of serving you by running the Chapter for you. They need your help, support and cooperation if they are to advance the profession just a little higher than it was before they took office. It's at the club and on the golf course that superintendents advance by doing a good job. Chapter Officers can do little for individual members along this line except guide, cooperate, set a good example themselves for others to follow and inaugurate a good educational program for the benefit of all. These things our chosen officers will do, but they need the help of every member and ask that it be given freely that they might do that which is best for the entire group. It's a thankless job and a difficult job so give these men any help you can.

The new officers will be officially installed at the Baltimore Turfgrass Conference January 9-10, 1961.

SPECIAL AWARDS COMMITTEE . At the request of Mr. Martin Mc Carthy, President Dunlap appointed a committee to help the USGA find an eligible individual to receive an award for outstanding accomplishment and distinguished contribution to golf through turfgrass work. Named to this committee were: James Thomas, Chairman, Tom Dawson, John Connolly, Bob Shields and Eddie Ault.

NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY. The new Membership Directory, compiled by Membership Committee Chairman, George Gumm during 1960, is now finished and ready for distribution. It is the most complete and comprehensive roster the Chapter has ever assembled and contains names, addresses and phone numbers of each member, as well as of each club. One change of address arrived to late to be included - Hugh MacRae now lives at 1634 21st St., N., Arlington, Va.

The entire Chapter is very economy minded this year, which is a good thing, therefore every effort was made to keep down the cost of this project. The cost for 200 copies of the 18-page Directory is itemized below:

150 Double Past cards @ .06¢ ea. - \$9.00
18 Offset Duplimats at .10¢ ea. - (From " NEWSLETTER " stock -) \$1.86
Typing Duplimats (By " NEWSLETTER " typist) - No additional outlay
Paper - 4000 sheets @ 500 for 2.50 - \$20.60
Duplication - \$30.00
Assembly & stapling (" NEWSLETTER " staff) - No additional outlay
Distribution (Deliver in person at Baltimore Conference) - No additional outlay.
Delivery to Baltimore - No additional outlay.

TOTAL COST - \$ 61.46

Members not attending the Baltimore Conference will receive a copy by mail.

BALTIMORE TURFGRASS CONFERENCE. One of the big events on the Mid-Atlantic calendar is coming up. The Baltimore Turfgrass Conference, sponsored by this Chapter, will be held at the Lord Baltimore Hotel in Baltimore on January 9-10. At this time the members get together for a mid-winter discussion of turfgrass problems encountered during the past summer and how they may be minimized in the future.

We are fortunate in again having Dr. George Langford, head of the Entomology Department at the University of Maryland, as Conference Director. Tom Doerer is Program Committee Chairman.

A glance at the enclosed program will convince you that the committee has assembled an impressive list of speakers. There is the President of the National Association, Jim Thomas. Bill Clark, President of the Mid-Atlantic PGA to tell us how we can work with our Pro. From Cleveland comes Mal McLaren, past President of the National, Editor of the Northern Ohio Turfgrass News, one of the leading superintendents in the country and a good speaker - don't miss him.

Mr. William Chapin, Chairman of the USGA Green Section, had to be a Greenschairman a long time to get that job and we all admire Greens Chairman. Then comes the turfgrass scientists Dr. Wm. Daniel, Dr. H.B. Couch, Dr. James O'Donnell, Dr. Paul Santelmann, Dr. Fred Grau, Dr. Felix Juska and Dr. Richard Schmidt. Bring your technical questions to these men.

How about this one? Charlie Wilson at one time helped arrange for speakers on the Baltimore Turfgrass Conference Program. Now he returns as the replacement of the one and only O.J. Noer. How's that for a success story.

Also there will be local superintendents to give you the benefit of their experiences. You won't want to miss this meeting, so why not fill in the enclosed Hotel Reservation Card now and plan to be there both days.

SUPERINTENDENT TRAINEES, Professor Joseph Troll of the University of Massachusetts has 21 boys graduating this June from his two-year course in Turf Management. He is very anxious to get them placed in jobs under a good superintendent for a few years so as to gain experience. These boys have at least six months of training and practical experience on which they were graded, as well as their class room work. If you are interested in a young man for your course or more information, write to : Professor Joseph Troll, Dept. of Agronomy, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Mass.

NEW GROUP FORMING. A group of superintendents led by James E. Thomas, Tom Doerer, John Connolly and Francis Coupe are forming a new branch of the Mid-Atlantic to be known as the Northern Virginia Chapter. The advantages of such an organization (as quoted from the group's meeting notice) would be : 1. The ease of travel to and from monthly meetings. 2. A greater opportunity for more active membership participation in all activities. 3. A strong educational program featuring all phases of turf grass culture and related problems connected with the operation and maintenance of a golf course.

We question the need for such an organization since the Mid-Atlantic is set up to provide all the above mentioned advantages and more too, if the group would exert their efforts toward the good of the Chapter. Let's ask them to carefully examine their motives and desires to see that any action taken is for the good of all superintendents.