



# MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



Director  
ROBERT MARTINO  
Editors  
JAMES E. THOMAS  
LEE C. DIETER

Published by  
Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents to aid in the Advancement of the  
Golf Course Superintendent through Education and Merit

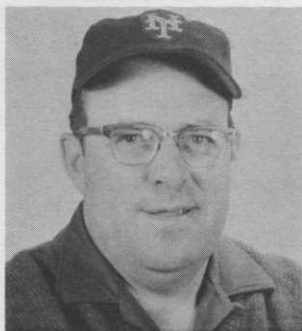
Vol. XV

May 25, 1965

No. 5

## NEXT MEETING

The June meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Association will be held on the 8th at Green Hill Yacht and Country Club in Salisbury, Maryland. Golfing facilities will be available throughout the day to all and Mr. Harry Offutt, golf professional, will be on hand to offer his assistance. Mr. Joseph Schiller, Greens chairman, will also be on hand. He is an ardent golfer, former club champion, and a real inspiration to all golfers.



RUSS KERNS

## OUR HOST

Russ Kerns originally came from New Jersey where he worked under his father at Tavistock Country Club and later served as Superintendent at Iron Rock Golf Club. To further his education he attended the Ten Week Turf Management Course at Rutgers University. In 1951 he moved to Green Hill Yacht and Country Club, "the land of pleasant living." Soon after his arrival, the club hired Alfred Tull, course architect, to lay out an additional nine holes which Russ built and opened in 1954. After 7½ years, Russ moved to Florida where he stayed for 4½ years and then came back to Green Hill in 1963.

## MAINTENANCE

The greens were originally planted in Arlington and Congressional bent. Top dressing is usually done every spring after aeration and also in the fall if time and money permit. Greens receive approximately 10 to 12 lbs. of actual nitrogen per year, starting with a good shot of complete chemical type in the spring, switching to liquid fertilizer with fungicide weekly with occasional feeding of organic fertilizer through the summer months. These greens are mowed four times a week on an average of 1/4 inch.

Fairways and tees: U3 bermuda has been used in the tees since 1951 with no winter kill, although there are some spring dead spots in extra thick thatched areas. A plan to plant Hybrid Bermuda (U3 and Tufcote) in the fairways is now in effect. Bermuda grass is fertilized in summer and cool season grass in the fall with a 16-8-8 granular type fertilizer. A fairway system is in the process of being installed.

## DIRECTIONS

Take route 50 across the Bay Bridge and continue to the outskirts of Salisbury. At the first stop light turn right on route 349. Continue for approximately 8 miles and turn left on route 352 (at the Green Hill sign) and proceed about a mile to the course which is on the left.

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Thomas Doerer, Jr.

Many thanks to Carl Schoening, Eddie Ault and Bradley Strouth for their courtesy and thoughtfulness at our May 4th meeting. The weather was perfect and those who participated in golf had nothing but fine comments on the job being done on this great golf course. There is no doubt that in the near future this course will be worthy of the National Public Links Championship. It has the length and plenty of character. The National has never been held in the Washington area and this would be an opportune time to negotiate for it.

Thanks are also in order for the use of the Manor Country Club locker and dining room facilities. Through the efforts of Claggett Stevens, their professional, this was arranged. Mike Burkholder, their new superintendent, has already made great progress in getting the course in fine shape. I am sure Mike will be an asset to this fine club.

Our guest speaker, Captain Howard Filston of the Medical Corps, Fort Belvoir, did a splendid job of the film commentary on the "City Under Ice." We regret that our good friend, Lt. Colonel George E. Renault, was not with us for this meeting. However, he has promised to show us at a later date the second portion of this fine and interesting film. Thanks to Pvt. Cotton and Pfc. Bishop for their camera work.

Mr. Angelo Cammarota has agreed to serve the balance of the term of Vice President for the year, 1965.

Please, let us all drop our valued friend, Dr. Felix Juska, a card or letter wishing him a fast recovery from his recent illness. Our best to you, Dr. Juska.

June is a big month for us as we will have the annual Ladies Night at the Washingtonian on June 29th. Tickets to this affair will be in the mail very soon. Get your reservations in at the earliest possible date.

Don't forget the meeting at Russ Kerns club, Salisbury, Maryland, June 8th.

#### NATIONAL NOTES

by Bob Shields

Curtailement of services from the national office will have to begin soon as the deadline for the proposed move to Chicago draws near. A shut-down of two weeks is scheduled for the period between June 15 and July 1. During this time the actual move will take place, new furniture and equipment will be installed and new people hired.

Only two members of our present staff in Jacksonville Beach will make the move with us. They are our executive director, Mr. Ben Chlevin (pronounced Clevin) and his assistant, Mr. Willard Titlow. On their shoulders is placed the task of interviewing, screening, selecting and training new employees to carry on our work for us. Also they must plan the new office layout, get out change of address notices, arrange for a new telephone number, a new banker, new lawyers, and new accountant as well as find new places for themselves to live.

Mr. Eddie Erwin, our capable publications department manager in Jacksonville, has tendered his resignation effective June 1, 1965. We wish him well in his new venture into the publications field in association with Dr. Nutter.

When the Mid-Atlantic members nominated me as a candidate for the National Executive Board of Directors, I promised them that if elected I'd try to keep them informed on what is going on and share my experiences with them. I've tried to do this by having something to say at each monthly meeting in regard to National affairs. The opportunity to do this did not present itself at the May meeting at Northwest Park because of the already crowded agenda so I'll try to do it now.

On April 2, I flew to Allentown, Pa., for a meeting with past presidents Paul Weiss and Leonard Strong at David Miller's Saucon Valley Country Club at Bethlehem, Pa., on the matter of chapter affiliation. They think chapters should be classified as well as individual members.

The above subject as well as many, many more will be discussed at the coming spring Board Meeting which will be held at Corpus Christi, Texas, on May 14, 15 and 16.

I wish it were possible to share with you some of this travel which takes me away from my job and my responsibilities to Woodmont Country Club. Immediately after returning from Texas I'll have one day on the job then I'm off to Latrobe, Pa., for a night meeting with the Allegheny Mountain chapter on May 17.

On Tuesday, June 8, at about 3 P.M., I'll take off for Pittsburgh's Allegheny County Airport to meet with the Western Pennsylvania chapter at St. Clair Country Club where Mr. Harold Kaufman is superintendent. I'll be back on the job by noon on June 9 but will miss the Mid-Atlantic meeting at Russ Kerns' Green Hill Yacht and Country Club.

June 15 calls for a trip to Paducah, Ky., for a meeting with the Kentuckiana chapter at Paxton Park Golf Course which is about a mile from where I was born. This trip will take two days but I thought I should take the extra time in order to visit with relatives while in that area.

This report covers May and June and I'll fill in the balance of the schedule later. It is a busy year for me and I'm hoping for good weather so there won't be too much trouble on my golf course while I'm away on National business.

#### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Once again the Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Association will host the ladies for it's Third Annual Ladies Night. This splendid evening of fun will be held on Tuesday, June 29, 1965, at the Washingtonian Country Club, Route 70S, Gaithersburg, Maryland.

The cocktail hour will be sponsored by our good commercial friends, like they have in the past, at 5 P.M. A beautiful buffet dinner will be served in the Gold Room at 6:30 P.M. After the festivities at the Washingtonian, we will all proceed to the Music Fair Theatre to see "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," starring Jerry (Beanbag) Lester. From all reports, this is going to be a great show with lots of laughs.

Reservation forms will be mailed out within a few days. If you are interested in taking the little lady out for an evening of fun, please mail your reservations back without delay in order that your committee may go ahead with their plans.

All reservations must be made by June 21, 1965. No reservations will be accepted after this date.

May we suggest that you bring your greens chairman or pro as a guest. This may stimulate our public relations.

For those wishing to play golf that day, Mr. Buddy Eig has graciously consented to extend the club facilities to all Mid-Atlantic members and their guests to play this outstanding golf course.

#### A WATER PROGRAM FOR THE SUMMER

(Kentuckiana Clippings - June, 1961)

"Water to suit the needs of the grass rather than to suit the players."

The above is a frequent admonition offered to golf course superintendents. Golfers want a green that will hold a golf shot. This is a natural desire. Many golfers want the green to hold a shot even though poorly played. The better golfer may take a different view. He wants a surface that will reward a well played shot by holding but a surface which will reject the poorly played shot.

Those who want soft greens often think that abundant water is the solution to the problem. They urge the superintendent to water more heavily and more frequently so that greens will hold. Unfortunately, the superintendent who yields to this urging by his club members is likely to find himself tending very poor greens.

The use of water to soften the greens is somewhat of a delusion. Water will make greens constructed of a compact soil a little softer temporarily. Incidentally, it also causes a little deeper ball pitting from shots played to the green with a high trajectory. When a soil is inclined towards compaction, additional frequent watering will hasten the compactive process. Trampling of wet soil destroys its natural structure which provides the desired resiliency. As the soil particles pack more closely together, the surface loses its resiliency and becomes firmer. Eventually, such a soil in the surface of a green gets to the point where it is always hard except when it is saturated with water. Thus, one who waters for the purpose of "softening" a green is actually contributing to a "hardening" process.

The detrimental effects of saturated soil on the growth of grass are well known. A soil that is too wet excludes air from the soil, the roots become inactive, and in time all but the very shallow roots may die. A weak plant with shallow roots is more susceptible to all the ills that may befall a putting green grass. It wilts quicker, it must be fertilized more frequently at lighter rates, fungus diseases are more likely to cause the loss of turf, mechanical scars (such as ball pits) are slower to heal. AND GREENS WITH A THIN TURF AND A COMPACT SOIL WILL NOT HOLD A GOLF SHOT.

Correct watering is a difficult task. It is a difficult lesson for the superintendent to learn for himself and to convey to his workmen. Adequate soil moisture is necessary for the

GUSTIN'S BALTIMORE TORO

All Types of Power Turf Equipment  
Greens Mowers - Tractors & Gangs

Complete Parts & Service

2205 E. Joppa Road, Baltimore, Md.  
NO 8-0500

**J. L. CORNELL** *Company*

4715 Miller Avenue  
Bethesda 14, Maryland  
Telephone: OLiver 2-6600



Golf Course  
Equipment  
and  
Supplies



For Golf Course Use

Seeds  
Golf Tag Fertilizers  
Milorganite  
Fungicides - Insecticides

F. W. BOLGIANO & COMPANY  
411 New York Avenue, N. E.  
LI 7-4800 Washington 2, D. C.

Specialists in Golf Course Maintenance Chemicals  
Weed Killers - Insecticides - Fungicides  
Fertilizers by Swift & Co.

*J. L. Milan Co.* 3216 Carlisle Ave.  
Phone: 947-0898 Baltimore 16, Md.



**NATIONAL CAPITAL TORO, INC.**

928 PHILADELPHIA AVENUE  
SILVER SPRING, MD.

Juniper 5-1322

Fertilizers

Sprinklers

**TORO** POWER MOWERS . . . FOR MODERN LIVING

Complete Turf Maintenance Equipment  
Complete Service Available

**WELL KNOWN  
FOR QUALITY**

Merion Bluegrass • Meyer Z-52 Zoysia • U-3 Bermuda  
Unlimited supply of premium turf grasses for golf  
courses, landscaping, etc. Acre prices available.



**SUMMIT HALL**  
*The First Turf Farm of America*



Gaithersburg, Maryland

(301) WI 8-2900

**Complete Golf Course Construction**

**MOORE GOLF, INC.**

DIVISION OF  
MOORE, KELLY & REDDISH, INC.

Roads, Lakes, Playing Fields, Irrigation Systems  
Box 606, Orange, Va. Tel. 7357

well-being of plants but too much is just as detrimental (or maybe more so) than is too little. Most well-qualified superintendents have learned this lesson. It is indeed unfortunate when a superintendent who has gained such knowledge after long and diligent study is forced to alter his good judgement to satisfy the wishes of those whom he serves.

Perhaps a discussion such as this should be aimed at golfers rather than at superintendents. However, it is our desire to urge the superintendent again to resist the pressure from those who, without knowing the consequences, ask him to water greens frequently and heavily.

THE FOLLOWING LETTER WAS RECEIVED FROM Captain H. C. Filston after the May meeting.

Dear Mr. Doerer:

Thank you so much for a most pleasant day and evening on May 4 and for the gracious manner in which you treated Private First Class Bishop and Private Cotton in addition to me.

I enjoyed the opportunity to meet your group and gain some insight into the many problems which you people must handle in keeping a golf course in playing condition. I thought your organization a most unusual and outstanding one in its work of sharing information and techniques among the membership.

Once again my thanks for all your courtesies and I know that Colonel Renault joins me in expressing our appreciation.

Sincerely,

Howard C. Filston  
Captain, MC  
USAR

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE LETTER from Dr. Elwyn E. Deal  
To the Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Association, Turf Research and  
Extension Personnel, and Friends

Perhaps you have heard by now that Dr. Felix Juska, our "Mr. Turf of Beltsville," (USDA, Plant Industry Station) had a mild heart attack in early April. He is making an excellent recovery in the Washington Hospital Center, Washington, D. C. Dr. Juska will probably remain in the hospital for another week or two, then it will be complete bed rest at home and vacation for a while. The last time I talked with him he said he expects to be back on the job around July 1.

I am sure he would enjoy hearing from you. His very efficient secretary tells me that any correspondence sent to his office will be sent to him immediately. His office address is: Dr. Felix V. Juska, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Maryland.

Dr. Juska wants everyone to know that the field day will be held on schedule August 3.

#### JOB OPEN

On a nine hole course for a man willing to work along with the men in the building of a second nine. The job will be interesting and gives opportunity for a man to grow with the course.

Starting salary would be around \$100.00 per week plus a home, utilities and gasoline and the promise of raises in the future.

Contact: Martinsburg Country Club, P.O. Box 1062, Martinsburg, West Virginia 25401, Mr. Jack Sutherland.

#### WELCOME

The Mid-Atlantic extends the welcome mat to two new members; Roy E. Walker of Ft. McNair Country Club in Alexandria, Va.; and Edward Dembnicki of Indian Spring Country Club, Silver Spring, Md.

Roy is married, has two children and has 19 years service in the U.S. Army. He was manager at Ft. Hood Golf Course in Texas; superintendent at Ft. Eustis Golf Course in Virginia; and superintendent at Verdon Golf Course in Verdon, France.

Ed is married. He has done quite extensive turf work at the University of Georgia.

### COMING MEETINGS

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| June 29    | Washingtonian Country Club, Gaithersburg, Maryland<br>Host: Buel Hitchcock<br>Ladies Night: Dinner and show |
| July       | Family Picnic   |
| August 3   | U.S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Md.<br>Host: Dr. Felix Juska, Turf Research Agronomist          |
| Sept. 14   | Rolling Road Country Club, Baltimore, Md.<br>Host: John Burt  |
| October 12 | Woodmont Country Club, Rockville, Md.<br>Host: L. Bob Shields   |
| November 2 | Crofton Country Club, Gambrills, Md.<br>Host: William J. Emerson  |
| December 7 | Open  |

There are still open dates on this schedule. If a superintendent wishes a meeting please contact any of the educational committee: Sheldon Betterly, Angelo Cammarota, Lee Dieter, Russell Kerns, Alex Watson, Frank Haske or George Gumm.

### NEWSNOTES

Angelo Cammarota has been appointed vice president to fill the unexpired term of Jack Oulla. Jack has left the area for a new position of his choice in South Carolina.

Robert Martino has been appointed to take over the golf duties of the Association for the remainder of the year.

All superintendents are asked to write their congressman regarding bill H. R. 5774 dealing with the possible reduction of 10% in the excise tax.

Also write your postmaster general, John A. Gronouski, Washington, D. C. 20260. There is a USGA request before the postmaster to have a stamp issued commemorating the game of golf. Lets all get behind the USGA in this request.

## MID-ATLANTIC News Letter

5007 - 34th St., North  
Arlington 7, Va.

