



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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No. 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Angelo Cammarota

January was named for Janus, the Roman God, in Roman Mythology. The God of doors and gates, Janus is usually represented with two faces, one looking forward and the other looking backward. The two faces of Janus carved in the prow of many ancient sailing vessels was symbolic of guiding the course of the journey, as we look ahead to the tasks that lie before us in 1967, it would be wise to look back on some of our past experiences to guide us in our decisions of the future. I suppose we can say we must put on the head of Janus, to direct us throughout the year.

The coming National Conference in Washington D. C. has taken up much of our time and effort. At our enjoyable meeting with the ladies at Andrews A. F. B. Officer's Club, the Ladies Committee had an opportunity for discussing their various duties they expect to perform at the Conference. The meeting the following day at the Hilton Hotel with the Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen reviewed their plans and had a good look at all the facilities at the hotel. George C. Gumm, our General Chairman has completed his job of organizing the many Committees. Frank Haske's Ladies Programs were finalized and ready for press and publicity. Bob Shields has hands full coordinating all the details of the "Grinding Demonstration" at the Conference Equipment Show.

I have been appointed as Chairman of the "Reception Committee" with ten members to assist me. They will be notified by separate letter, however, this will hardly be enough to perform all of the duties of this group. Actually, every member is part of the "Reception Committee". You will be given a host pin and ribbon to wear when you arrive at the hotel. I am asking everyone to give me a few hours of their time to help us greet the guests as they arrive on the first few days of the Conference Saturday afternoon, Sunday and Monday, February 4, 5, and 6. We will be located at the entrances of the hotel. Not only greeting the visitors, but also giving information of the different areas of activity. I would like everyone to come early and get acquainted with the hotel facilities. We can do an excellent job of helping our guests. I am sure you will find this task most enjoyable and perhaps you will make some new friends. Be sure to have your name put on the schedule to serve with us on one of the first days of the conference.

We will have a final meeting on February 1st, at 7:30 P. M. at the Hilton Hotel. This will be your opportunity to preview all the areas of activity in the hotel. I will be looking for you at this meeting. We are in urgent need of some volunteers to help us on Saturday afternoon February 4th. If you cannot attend

this meeting you may call me if you can serve with this group. I would be most pleased to have you with us.

I wish to appeal to all of our members and their ladies to Pitch In and help wherever they can and we will make this affair a terrific success, something our Association will look back on with pride.

HOST MEETING

The Mid-Atlantic Association as host to the 38th Annual International Turf Grass Conference has a big job cut out for it. We need the help of every member. Let's all turn out for the final meeting with our wives. Here's a chance to see the HILTON and get to know your way around a little bit. The meeting will be held Wednesday, February 1, at 7:30 p. m.

ASSOCIATION ROOM

by Lou White

The Host Association Room will be open for your convenience and our guests Sunday, February 5th from 5:00 p. m. to 7:30 p. m. Mr. Luther Parsons, Mr. Bill Wright, Mr. Bob Miller, Mr. Ed Blizzard and Uncle Jim Reid will assist. We will close for dinner and open again at 9:00 p. m. until 11:00 p. m. You are welcome to invite a guest at anytime during these hours and any other time that we may be open.

Gentlemen, please don't end the hospitality at this point! We are in the middle of the north and the south, but have had a reputation in the past of southern hospitality and congeniality. Make the guests in our capital and our association area welcome all week. See you all!

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Oral Lee Redman Jr.
Crofton Golf Club
Class - D

Charles W. Mock
Army-Navy C. C.
Class - B

The above applicants will be considered for membership by the Board of Directors at their next meeting, unless there is objection in writing within five days after mailing of this notice.

POSITION OPEN

Rolling Road Golf Club is looking for a qualified man as Golf Course Superintendent. Contact Mr. Joseph Lane, Rolling Road Golf Club, Hilltop Road and Valley Road, Catonsville, Maryland 21228.

NATIONAL NOTES

by L. R. Shields

The big news at National now is the National Turf Grass Conference and Show coming to Washington in just a few days.

Detailed plans have been made and much work has been done. Now all that remains is to put the pieces of the puzzle together and go on with the show.

This is one National Conference that no Mid-Atlantic member can afford to miss. Not only to gain through meeting other superintendents and exchanging information, but also to see the latest in golf course maintenance equipment, and to perhaps help fit some of the final pieces of the puzzle together.

Ben Chlevin and Bruno Daube were in town January 10th to meet with committee chairmen and hotel officials on final arrangements, and many last minute details were clarified.

This will be my last National Notes contribution to the Mid-Atlantic Newsletter. I will be leaving the National Board of Directors at the Washington Conference after five years of service – two years as a Director, one year as a Vice President, one year as President and this past year as President Emeritus. These have been very enjoyable and rewarding years and can never be forgotten. I will always be most grateful to Mid-Atlantic members for their support which sent me to GCSAA in 1962 at the Miami Beach Meeting. Since 1962, I've seen our National Association increase by nearly 1000 members, our magazine improve considerably, a new Executive Director employed, and our headquarters moved to Chicago. We now hold a bigger and better conference and show. Our financial picture is in a much improved condition, and we have made a definite increase in services to members. Best of all, many more Superintendents have adopted a professional attitude toward their work and their jobs.

There is still much work to be done. A campaign to make non-member Superintendents aware of the advantages of GCSAA membership and to urge them to join with us in our efforts to aid all Superintendents. We need more educational aids for the use of members eager to improve themselves. We need a Public Relations expert to help us sell ourselves and our work. We need more young Superintendents who will get up in front of the group and say what they have to say. We need more older Superintendents who will write their experiences so their knowledge can be shared by others.

I wish George Gumm success in the coming election. If he is elected Director, I hope his experience on the Board is as rewarding and enriching as mine has been and I hope he enjoys writing National Notes as much as I did.

GREEN CHAIRMAN SUPERINTENDENT
RELATIONSHIPS

by Tom Doerer, Jr.

Golf's increasing popularity might be great for the cash register but it is also the source of many headaches for both the Superintendent and the Green Chairman.

Golfer's are gradually becoming more skilled and discriminating. They not only expect greens to be rug smooth, close cut and weed free, they also demand fairways to be manicured to the texture of a carpet, and to be cut at heights that are not conducive to growing good grass. These same fairways are expected to withstand abusive treatment through heavy traffic.

If this trend continues, who knows but that soon the Superintendent and the Chairman may be on the end of complaints critical of the roughs and hazzards.

To maintain a golf course to-day is quite a challenge. The Golfer of to-day demands the impossible and the superintendent endeavors to satisfy the golfers desires to play on a well groomed course. To this end, and to accomplish the objective of providing club members with a playable course second to none, an amiable relationship between the Superintendent and the Chairman is an essential commodity.

Having devoted most of my life to the game of golf in managing, merchandising and maintenance, I have learned that successful maintenance management of a course can best be obtained through the mutual development of pleasant relations with his Green Chairman.

The Green Chairman, acting as spokesman for the Superintendent, is in a position to resolve many problems which arise from day to day on matters concerning labor, maintenance, budget expenses, playing conditions, and proposed improvements on the playing and practice areas of the course. He performs in an executive capacity in the discharge of specific duties and responsibilities, and as such, represents an important functionary of the golf directors in directing the operations of a golf club.

Past experience in the field of Green Chairman-Superintendent Relationships have been pleasant because of the cooperation and spirit exercised by those concerned.

The willingness on the part of the Green Chairman to take the time to sit down and discuss problems of a minor or major nature with the Superintendent has helped considerably to promote, develop, and maintain the best possible golf facilities for the enjoyment and benefit of the golfer.

Many problems have been solved by open and frank discussions. The green chairman need not be well versed in the mechanics of a golf course. The superintendent, on the other hand is a professional and an accepted authority in his field. He must abide by a code of ethics and his reputation is dependent on the manner in which he performs the duties expected of him. Therefore, a superintendent can contribute much towards the successful accomplishment of the duties and responsibilities required of a green chairman.

For the enhancement of a good public relations, proper supervision and proper administration of the maintenance procedures, one deserves the support of the other.

There must be continued cooperation and a smooth flow of communications between these two individuals to assure the highest practical standard objectives.



- Lt. Col. B. M. Morris, PFC Jerry Hall Golf Professional, CWO 4-Andrew Yuhas, Tom Doerer, Jr. Superintendent. Lt. Col. B. M. Morris is the Green Chairman, CWO 4-Andrew Yuhas is the Co-Green Chairman. Picture taken on the 18th green at the Ft. Belvoir Golf Course.

Green Chairman must assist the superintendent to mobilize whatever resources may be available to accomplish approved projects. Plan, supervise, and coordinate all funded and contributed personnel, material and equipment. Recommend requirements for maintenance facilities, equipment, and supplies.

The green keeper of to-day, by following a few of these suggestions will become the Turf-Manager of tomorrow.

The green chairman of to-day will become the Turf Councillor of tomorrow. When this has been achieved the courses of to-day will become better as the programs are carried out.

Due to the complexities and personalities that arise at the various courses, these relationships become a tough one to deal with, however, they are not impossible.

OUR NATIONAL CONFERENCE

by Sheldon R. Betterly

We have the opportunity of the decade - to have a National Conference right in our own Mid-Atlantic area. For those of our membership who have not been fortunate enough to have attended one of the National Turfgrass Conferences now is the time to do so.

Take out your Golf Superintendent issue of September-October and turn to page 54. Here is a program of activities that is a must for the modern Superintendent. Look down through the topics listed and note the many and varied subjects offered in the educational sessions. The National Educational Committee has drawn carefully from the top turf men across the country to bring you these topics.

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Along with the conference we have the opportunity to see the equipment show. At the show you can talk personally to the manufacturers of chemicals, turf and irrigation equipment, and other allied turf products. Ask these manufacturers questions. Tell them your problems. These representatives are the companies top men and they probably can give you the answers. Everything you learn will help both you and your club. For me, the National Conference is one of the most exhilarating experiences in my life as a Superintendent. The new concepts that you gain in relation to your own job are invaluable. You meet many other Superintendents who have the same problems and joys that you do and you can laugh together about your experiences. A club manager once said to me "You Superintendents sure are a gregarious bunch". I thought that was a pretty good compliment. We get together to solve our problems. Our National meeting is just a larger gathering to do the same. See you there.

YOU AND YOUR ASSOCIATION

by Lee C. Dieter

Why should I work on the Newsletter? I just don't have time. I'm in a new job and I don't think I should right now. I have other commitments that take a great deal of my time. I'm new in the area.

These are some of the answers I get in asking other members of our association to take over the job I've been doing for four years. I can answer each of these questions from my own experience.

I first started working on the Newsletter to do a service to the association that had shown such warmth to me, a new member in a new area. I had been a member for almost three years, had reaped all its benefits but had not contributed to my association. I felt that the Newsletter would offer me this opportunity.

We all know that our jobs are a 24-hour-a-day occupation, especially during the growing season. And it doesn't change. In fact, it gets to be a 26-hour-a-day job after a few years.

I have a wife and growing family and belong to several organizations, among them the Knights of Columbus and the Arlington Jaycees. It does take a great deal of effort to find time to work on the Newsletter. Is it worth it? YES!

As a new member and a new superintendent in the area I feel that I have progressed in direct proportion to my interest in my association. The friendships, discussions, turf conferences and meetings at other clubs all have had a direct bearing on my success as a Superintendent. The increases in salary and fringe benefits as material evidence is there.

You men, especially you young men new to the area, the Mid-Atlantic is not equaled anywhere in the country in its warmth, admiration and understanding of new men coming to the area. We all have been accepted for our ability not our age. Show your association you appreciate this. Put some of yourself into your association. Remember your association is only what you put into it.

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