



# 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

VOL XIX

JUNE 1969

NO. 6

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### "New Minimum Wage Bill Introduced in Congress"

Both H.R. 10948, introduced by John Dent (D-Pa.) and S. 2070, submitted by Senator Harrison Williams (D-N.J.) will be considered by the Committees on Education and Labor in the House and Labor and Public Welfare in the Senate. While Congressional action may not be rapid it would be well to review the important points of this proposed law. They are:

1. Immediate increases to \$2.00 an hour for all employees currently receiving \$1.60 an hour.
2. An increase to \$2.00 an hour in 1972 for all employees reaching the \$1.60 level in 1971.
3. Repeal of the provisions in the present law which permits tips to be applied to 50% of the minimum wage.
4. Repeal of all special exemptions to both the minimum wage and the overtime provisions presently applying to clubs, restaurants, and hotels.
5. Removal of the gross volume and interstate commerce tests. The new definition would be "is engaged in retail or service business, including any activity relating thereto," and "engaged in commerce or the production of goods for commerce or is employed in an enterprise engaged in commerce or the production of goods for commerce." This would bring every social club in the country under the law without regard to size.

This new proposal is regarded as most important. It is as serious as the amendments passed in 1966, and may have an even broader impact on our industry.

We all realize that our valued employees must receive a fair wage. In order to retain them, I am certain managers reward them financially. But we are in an industry that could provide a good training ground for youngsters who would like to work at menial jobs, for less than the minimum wage. Due to age restrictions and existing minimum's, we must send our valued employees on the menial tasks.

We have no voice in the government process of continuing rules and regulations, so we tend to think of mechanizing the golf course, enabling our small crew to cover the job. But aren't we avoiding the issue? The boy we could not hire because he was too young to operate a mower (legally) may go door to door mowing lawns, without supervision, instructions, demonstrations or proper equipment.

Bob Milligan

## OTHER NEWSLETTERS

This month we are reprinting several articles or items we feel might be of interest that are from other newsletters and publications. Copies of several other chapter newsletters are on file each month and comparison is both worthwhile as well as interesting.

The first item of interest comes from an outside source, however, the May issue of the Ladies Home Journal. The items states "keep old golf balls away from children who might try to find out what makes them bounce by taking them apart. What is inside? Sulphuric acid, barium salts, zinc sulfide, silicons, gelatin, corn syrup — under incredibly high pressure (up to 2500 pounds per square inch). If cut open, some golf balls can explode; a group of Philadelphia ophthalmologists have already treated eight children with serious injuries resulting from such explosions." Makes you wonder about all the times you have cut up balls yourself to see what's inside, doesn't it?

And from Our Collaborator, the newsletter from the Northeastern Chapter, a prose poem called "A Friend".

A friend is someone who likes you. Some one with whom you can really be yourself one who appreciates the good in you overlooks the bad in you and brings out the best in you. With a friend you can share

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 One who lifts you up and never  
 lets you down.  
 And who makes you feel it's a  
 pretty nice old world after all.  
 Let's all be friends.

One of the most interesting newsletters comes each month from the New England GCSA, whose contributing editor is Gerry Finn, often a writer for the Golf Superintendent. In their newsletter each month is a quite timely four page insert whose topics range from water to weeds. The insert is published by a branch of one of the state governments with space for their chapter name and heading. In the June issue, the topic was DDT and insect control, primarily mosquitos. Both were extensive articles and the following are excerpts from them.

"There are two main approaches to controlling mosquitos — the biological and the chemical. Here is a brief summary of some important facts about each.

#### Natural Controls

The biological method reduces mosquito population by reducing the habitat of the larvae — no larvae, no mosquitos. It costs more than using pesticides, gets results more slowly, and takes more skill and thought on the part of the operators. On the other hand, it gives longer lasting control and is much less damaging to wildlife.

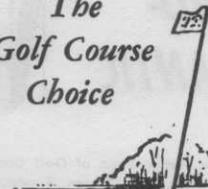
#### Sanitation

The most common is Culex, the house mosquito. Like pigeons and rats, Culex has adapted to living with man. Its eggs infest rain filled pails and toys left outdoors, house excavations, etc. In warm weather, the eggs develop into biting adults in about 8-10 days.

#### Water Control

Ditching and draining was used by the acient Greeks and Romans as well as ourselves. Properly placed ditches can drain stagnant woodland pools, prevent red maple swamps from being shallow, mosquito breeding

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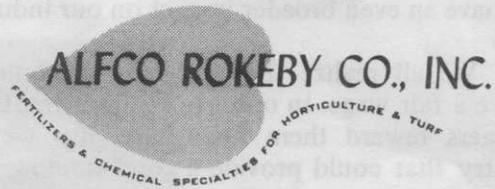
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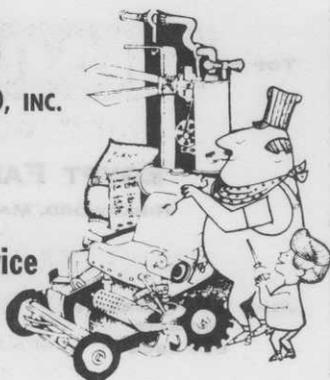
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ponds in the spring and enable high tides wash salt marsh larvae out to sea.

Overuse is the danger with ditching and draining. Too zealous a program will cut down on important wildlife habitat and probably reduce ground water supplies.

### Prevention of Water Pollution

Mosquito larvae thrive in water far too polluted for their most efficient predators, fish. As soon as water is cleaned up enough so that fish can be introduced, the fish take care of the larvae. In the Northeast the recommended species for larval control are goldfish for ornamental pools and blue gill and bass for anything larger.

### Zoning to Prevent Construction on Lowlands

This is natural control with a reverse twist; people are kept away from the mosquitos. Favorite breeding places for the Aedes are lowlands, especially river flood plains and a large proportion of their victims are the people who live in these low lying areas which should not have been built upon in the first place.

## A MOSQUITO'S LIFE

To put mosquitos in their place, they are a minor kind of fly. Nearly 2500 species have been catalogued for the world, about 150 for the United States, and 45 or so for the Northeast of which only half are common. They made their earliest appearance in recorded history about 3000 years ago when the Egyptians wrote about mosquito nets and smudgepots. A few years later philosophers in India were wondering if it was necessary to apply the doctrine of nonviolence to mosquitos.

Like other insects they grow from egg to adult through larval stages. Some mosquito eggs are laid in permanent water, such as ponds and swamps. Some are laid in temporary water, such as tree rot-holes and buckets filled with rain. And some are laid in damp debris and on the ground in low places that will at some time in the future be covered with standing water.

Wherever the eggs may be laid, the larvae can exist only in water. The eggs laid in permanent water have no problem. They develop methodically through the larval stages and emerge as biting adults one to several weeks later. But eggs laid in dry habitats don't become larvae until their site has been flooded. Then they race through the larval stages in order to become adults before the temporary water disappears. It has

recently been found that these eggs can remain viable for at least three years and probably many more. So naturally we suffer from a bumper crop of the pest in the first year of normal rainfall after a long drought.

Male mosquitoes are vegetarians who live on nectar and other plant juices. It is only the female that bites animals, and her bite is actually a sucking operation. With her "drill" she penetrates the skin, injects a fluid which prevents the blood from clotting, and then sucks blood. It takes her about one minute to drink her fill. After the blood meal she retires, like a gorged lion, to sleep it off. She then lays her eggs.

While some female mosquitoes can lay eggs while living on plant juices, most need blood before they can lay their first batch. In order to keep on producing all require a series of blood meals, rich in protein.

Their "hum" is the vibrating of their wings. The average life span is only a month or so, but several species can live through the winter as adults and more lead active spring and autumn lives while passing the summer in a state of torpor. Many can produce nine or ten generations a year.

## FROM THE EDITOR

This year has been a real experience with greens chairmen. The second new chairman this season has just taken office and his headaches have just begun. But as far as his new greens committee is concerned, he has yet to select anyone to serve. So a thought, rare as they may be, did come to mind. Put yourself in the new green chairman's place — you have all the complaints of both the men and women to listen to, you can bet you would give a heck of a lot of thought to who you picked to be on your committee.

Although personal experiences do play a part in the editor's thinking, unfortunate as it may be, the wife in a family does hold somewhat of a controlling interest on a lot of items within a happy family. (As I recall) And the more unfortunate part of this is that if the family belongs to a country club, the course and its condition often times fall into this category. So eliminate a lot of friction between husbands and wives and lady golfers and greens chairmen, consider only please, a lady greens committee member. This could be beneficial in a few respects, to wit:

In the daily or weekly work plan, the committeewoman could relay the information concerning work to be done as it might affect the regular weekly play or the special events such as field days, invitationals, etc.

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\*\*\* GOLF at the Washingtonian Course at noon

\*\*\* COCKTAILS will be served from 5:00 P.M.

\*\*\* BUFFET DINNER at 6:30 P.M.

The "Jack Benny Show" will be the main attraction at the Shady Grove Music Fair at 8:30 P.M.

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The appearance of both the golf course and the crew might well be viewed differently by a woman. From her viewpoint, she might occasionally offer some criticism or suggestions which may or may not be of some value to the operation.

Aesthetics is another area in which a woman might be able to help. She may, if she is a reasonable woman, offer ideas for the beautification of the club. Ideas in the form of flower bed locations, entrance plannings, flag poles, etc. And the benefit that a woman may be is well worth the effort if she acts as a liason between the superintendent, his problems and his budget, and her cronies, the lady golfers whom we all cuss every ladies day because they think we work Monday thru Friday just to torment them for the sake of their husbands so they can play on the weekend.

Again, this is just a suggestion — something to think about because it does have some merit. Although the long range effects may be devastating if it should get out of hand, it does bear looking into from an objective point of view.

\*\*\*\*\*

The verbal fiasco at the Suburban Club meeting last month brought out the need for some comment and clarification. Both of these areas deal directly with the boundaries which may or may not be overstepped by the editor. There are a few items which came up which will be clarified here and now as far as the staff and the newsletter content are concerned.

In the first place, any article which does not give credit to a specific contributing author or source is done by the editor and no one else. Any complaints should not be made at an open meeting in front of guests, hosts, and club officials, but should be made directly to the Board of Directors IN WRITING as is explained in your by-laws for those who may not be very familiar with them!

In the second place, any news which is true and factual and which has no restriction placed on it as far as its being sacred or censored will be printed if it is worth being relayed to the membership.

And in the third place, any member who gets bent out of shape because someone calls a spade a spade can damn well give bet that there will be other instances when it will happen again. And when it does, it's gonna' be in print. So if you don't like it, don't let it happen!

This is an enjoyable job and the news will continue to be put before the membership as in the past issues. If being straight and open is a detriment to this association, then consider this an apology. But it is neither, although this statement may sound opinionated and the content will not change. At least this proves the members are reading everything in the newsletter each month and if there is controversy, then it follows that there must be thought. Keep up the good work, members!

## NEW MEETING

The next meeting of the MAGCSA will be held on July 9 at the Sterling Park Recreation Center of Sterling Blvd. in Sterling, Va.

Our host Bob Martino informs us that there will be a wide variety of things to do including golf, badminton, baseball, horseshoes, volleyball and any other games which may be available. And of course the ladies will naturally get the privilege of being treated to watching the hundreds of kids who will be there. Bob has made the complete center available to us and it should prove to be a very enjoyable day.

The meal will consist of the usual picnic items such as hot dogs, salads, drinks, and so on. There is a large screened-in pavillion with rest room facilities on the spot and of course the club house will also be at our disposal.

## DIRECTIONS TO THE CLUB

From 495 get off the beltway at Exit 9 and go west on Route 7 for about 15 miles. This brings you to Sterling Park, and at the top of the hill near the development, turn right on county Route 637 and proceed to the club. The hours for us to be there will be from noon 'till dark.

## NEWS FROM THE VIRGINIA AREA

By Sam Kessel

At Westwood, Jack McClenahan is cleaning up after the storm. They lost five trees and had heavy trap damage. Jack has been busy with his landscaping

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CONVENIENCE OF APPLICATION

program and has installed a flagpole in front of the clubhouse. The pole is surrounded with a 1,200 sq. ft. flower circle which contains over 3,000 petunias. A redwood fence has been installed around the maintenance building and the club entrance is to be landscaped in the near future.

Out at Twin Lakes, Buck Whetsel is in the middle of a weed spraying program. Buck says he is getting good control on clover in his Penncross tees with MCPP. He is also very pleased with his new triplex greens mower. One man cuts 190,000 sq. ft. of putting surface in four hours. How's that for saving labor?

In Arlington town, Lee Dieter at Washington Golf and C.C. is getting ready for several local tournaments as well as a member-guest go-round. The three new greens are in play and Lee says the Penncross is doing fine.

Virgil Robinson out Chantilly Club way has just finished an extensive weed control program. Virg used Dicambe plus 2,4-D and says he obtained excellent results. The construction on the new grill and pro shop enlargement are now under way and are to be completed this fall.

At Springfield Golf and C.C., Denny McCammon has had his hands full watching his help drive trucksters in the lake and pull reverse upside-down wheelies with his new tee mower. "Sure sums up the fact" he says "that good help is sure hard to find."

And here at home base at Country Club of Fairfax, we are planning reconstruction of number 3 green and four new tees - numbers 1, 4, 8, and 17. The work on the course has included clearing out some woods and planting flowers around the clubhouse.

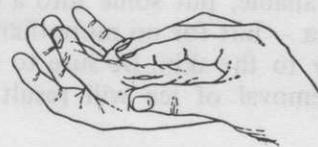
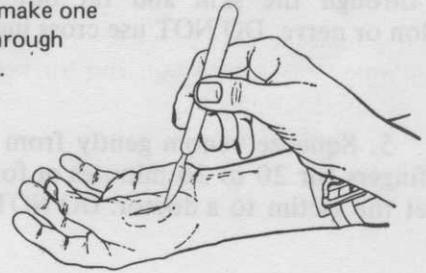
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## SNAKES IN THE GRASS

By Sam Kessel

Camping and other forms of outdoor recreation in remote areas are increasing in popularity every season and more and more people are answering the call of the out of doors. For those of us who venture to the hills and waterways, there is a chance of meeting up with a poisonous snake and you sure can't spray for a snake bite.

The following information is from an article which was in the March issue of Outdoor Life, and given treatment recommendations of a noted snake bite authority, Dr. Clifford Snyder. If a snake strikes:

1. Avoid exertion and excitement. Sit down and calm yourself. Panic may bring on shock.

2. Kill the snake if you can and take it with you when you leave for later identification.

3. Apply a flat tourniquet, such as a belt, tie, or handkerchief, between the bite and the heart. If bitten on a leg or an arm, place the tourniquet 2 or 3 inches above the bite. Keep it above the swelling. Use no tourniquet if the bite is on the face. The tourniquet should be loose enough so that you can insert a finger beneath it without force. If it is any tighter it can cut off blood circulation. Such a loose band can be left in place for an hour without harm. Do not loosen it every few minutes as many hand books suggest.

4. Sterilize the fang wounds with alcohol sponges. With a scalpel or a knife sterilized in a flame, make one straight incision that connects the fang marks with the cut extending 1/4 inch past each puncture. Deepen the cut through the skin and fat but not into muscle, tendon or nerve. DO NOT use cross incisions.

5. Squeeze venom gently from the incision with the fingers for 20 to 30 minutes or for the time it takes to get the victim to a doctor. DO NOT use oral suction.

6. If ice is available, put some into a cloth and apply to the bite area — but for no more than an hour. Don't bind it tightly to the skin. Be sure to remove it gradually; sudden removal of ice will result in rapid uptake of venom.

7. Antivenom can be administered in the field in an emergency, but the instructions included in each package must be followed rigidly and the required skin test for allergy must have proven negative.

8. Get the victim to a doctor or a hospital as quickly as possible but without exertion on his part. The doctor's first task is to identify, if possible, the kind of snake that inflicted the bite.

Sketches show the first-aid methods favored by Dr. Snyder. He rules out oral suction and it sure shoots holes in the old Boy Scout Manual, but maybe we need a new manual.

**BE SURE TO SEE INSERT ON  
"LADIES NIGHT"**

Published monthly by the 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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## **MID-ATLANTIC** News Letter

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