



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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NEXT MEETING

The June 3 meeting of the Mid-Atlantic GCSA will be held at the Suburban Club of Baltimore County in Pikesville, Md. The golf course will be open to anyone wishing to play after 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be served in Kneipe at 12 noon. Cocktails will be served from 6 to 6:45 with dinner at 7 p.m. Guest speaker will be Bob Harvey and Dan Austin of Johnson Communications Co. giving us an insight into the value of radio communications on the golf course.

OUR HOST

Bob Miller came to the Suburban Club in 1964 as the assistant to now retired Jim Reid. On April 15 of 1967 when Jim retired, Bob took over as superintendent. Bob is a director in our association and is the present membership chairman. In past years before coming to Suburban, Bob worked at the Woodholme C.C. and Talbot C.C. Bob and his wife Donna have three children, Tommy, Debbie and Bob Jr.

THE CLUB

The Suburban Club was organized in 1901 and the course measures 6191 yards long with a par of 70. The club has two pools and 15 tennis courts.

DIRECTIONS TO THE CLUB

From Washington and points south - come north on the Baltimore Beltway 695 to exit 21 (Park Heights Ave.) Go south on Park Heights to traffic light. Continue south to the club on the right side of Park Heights Ave. From Philadelphia and points north - come south on 95 and 695 to exit 21 (Stevenson Road). At the top of the ramp turn left on to Stevenson Road and go to the traffic light. Turn left at the light and the club site is on the right side of Park Heights Ave.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

On your return card please state if you are going to play golf. Pairings will be made for an A-B-C-D tournament. Prizes will be awarded to the foursomes with the winning scores. Golf carts will be allotted one per foursome due to the number of carts available for use.

FROM THE EDITOR

Here we are well into a very unusual spring - unusual in as much as we have had a certain semblance of one with warm days, cool nights, some rain, though not enough, and a lack of help.

Last week (while I was mowing fairways) I had an idea. What about some form of government supported training programs in groundskeeping and related fields in our area? After all, we do live near the Nation's capital so it seems that this could bear some looking in to.

With all the government "handouts" going to organizations like VISTA, HEADSTART, JOB CORE and others, why couldn't some of those funds be spent right here? After all, there are just as many people supposedly looking for jobs right here as in the places where all these Federal funds are winding up.

These students could be trained in all phases of groundskeeping with golf course maintenance being included as one of the first items. Seemingly enough, it is certain there wouldn't be enough students to fill all the jobs that do now and will continue to exist, but this is at least a thought for a potential source of labor.

Going one step down the ladder, if these funds after examination were not found to be available, then what about going to the state or local levels? There is a school in California which is municipally supported where the curriculum entails exactly this kind of training. After graduation, the students are placed in jobs and according to officials, all are well versed in their labors and satisfied with their training.

Even within public schools is a good place to start. In Virginia and Maryland, there is an area in student training called Distributive Education, where students learn the ins and outs of the business world by being able to participate actively to see how it really feels to earn a living. And at the same time they are getting school credit for this on the job training. But right away we find our line of work doesn't qualify because of one reason or another.

Why this injustice? Within Fairfax County, there is a training class in the evenings during the entire year where a person can learn bricklaying, plumbing, welding, even basketweaving, all which can be used to his advantage. But what about grounds keeping and related studies? Nothing! Absolutely nothing appears other than one class in how to landscape your backyard.

Naturally then one wonders "Why"? The answer looms again - money. We are all too familiar with the same old saw about paying more money to the help, and it is really beginning to look like the two must go hand in hand before help is going to arrive in one way or

another.

Although we can't claim much in the way of benefits, we can offer a job with full time employment, at least a 40 hour week and no discrimination. Any super who claims these things don't apply to him isn't kidding anyone but himself. As the population increases by leaps and bounds, the golf course is more and more becoming a place for a nerve taut businessman to take out his anger and frustrations. But where do we go? The tensions and troubles we all share would surely be relieved a great deal if we could tell how many men would be at work tomorrow and that they could and would do their jobs properly.

DR. DEAL REPLACED

Word comes from the University of Maryland that Dr. Elwyn Deal, recently promoted to the position of Assistant Director of Agricultural Programs, has been replaced in the Turf Management Department by Dr. A.J. Powell.

Dr. Powell will be doing research and extension work in turf management as well as teaching the course and advising graduate students.

His B.S. and M.S. degrees in soils were earned at the University of Kentucky, his home state. The Ph.D. degree was earned at V.P.I. in turf and biochemistry. After working as a research and teaching assistant for seven months at Tech, Dr. Powell entered the service at Ft. Bliss in Texas and after another seven months was moved to the Fort Bliss Golf Course as the club officer. This gave him some excellent experience in growing turf on a solid rock caliche in a semi-desert climate.

While he was there, he also helped organize the Rio Bravo Turf and GCSA with nearly 50 members. We welcome Dr. Powell and extend to him our help whenever he might need it.

FEATURE ARTICLE

The following article is reprinted in part from the March 1969 issue of the USGA Green Section Record. It was written by Dr. Fred M. Adams whose personal resume follows the article. The article is excellent in content and it is being reprinted in the hopes of giving some moral encouragement to other superintendents who are becoming disenchanted in their jobs for one reason or another. The article is entitled "Committees: Their Role in Course Economy."

In the past 12 years as Chairman of the Green Committee at Orchard Lake Country Club, a family club of 600 members in Michigan, and for the past six years having served in a similar capacity with the Golf Association of Michigan, I feel that I have made enough mistakes to qualify as an expert. I would like to share with you some of my observations regarding this Committee's functions, malfunctions, pitfalls, trials and tribulations both from the Committee's and the green superintendent's point of view.

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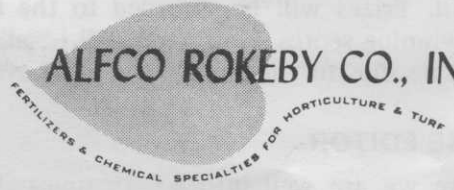
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