



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

MAY 1969

NO. 5

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