



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's that time of year when we get out our winter clothes. Do your winter sizes run a little larger than your summer sizes? For those of us who answer yes, let's try to correct this problem as it is not healthy.

First of all, we spend more time at the desk catching up on the paper work we set aside during the growing season. We are not as active on the course. Then we have the Turf Conference tour. Think of all the roast beef and potatoes to be put away while resting on our ever broadening buttocks. Finally, our golf playing time has been reduced by foul weather.

The answer is for us to burn as much Energy as we take in. In the dormant season we don't add much Nitrogen to the turf so we will have to add only a minimum of E to our body. To equal a minimum intake of E we must exert a minimum of E. Each one has his own favorite means of burning E. I favor my daily dozen exercises, some ping pong and golf, plus some chores. I find the hardest part, the push-aways, pushing away from the table to limit E intake.

If you fill your personal spray tank with liquid E, you can't drain that tank all the way. You will have an E residual. (FAT)

Bob Milligan

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Mid-Atlantic GCSA will be held at Indian Spring Country Club in Silver Spring, Md. This will be the annual election meeting, so it is quite important that we have good attendance at the business meeting. Please pay particular attention to the date of this meeting. It will be held on December 2 which is the first Tuesday of the month instead of the usual second Tuesday. Our host is the Secretary-Treasurer of the organization, Ed Dembnicki.

DIRECTIONS TO THE CLUB

To get to Indian Spring, take Georgia Avenue north from the Beltway to Layhill Road. Bear right onto

Layhill Road and proceed to the club, which will be on the righthand side of the road.

NEW MAGAZINE

Dr. Gene Nutter, past executive director of the GCSAA has done it again. He's editing another new publication, this time with southern golf courses in mind. The name of the magazine is Southern Golf Course Operations and will be published four times annually. The first issue had several excellent articles for all of us in the Bermuda belt.

SPRAYER STORAGE

The October issue of Grounds Maintenance magazine listed eleven steps in winterizing spray tanks. Winter moisture and cold is hard enough on metal even if it is clean, let alone dirty. These are excellent measures and if followed, would probably extend the spray tank life by maybe two or three years.

11 STEPS TO PREPARING SPRAYERS FOR STORAGE

1. Completely clean the sprayer's exterior surfaces using steam or high pressure. Flush the tank and all lines with a detergent solution. Coar the interior of the tank with an oil spray or grease to prevent scale buildup. Caution: When working inside the tank, stand on a sack or mat to prevent damaging the protective coating of the tank's interior.

2. Remove all nozzles from the boom; soak in gasoline; then clean using a small brush and compressed-air. Store nozzles in a closed container to keep them free of dirt and foreign particles.

3. Remove and drain the pump assembly. Gear and piston pumps should be flushed with a new lightweight engine oil. Do not use used engine oil as it may contain acids expelled from the combustion process. These would adversely affect the pump's components. Cast iron gear, vane or nylon roller pumps can be stored for prolonged periods in oil. Do not use oil in pumps having rubber fins.

4. Drain the boom and store it inside off the ground and away from dirt.

5. Remove the gun and coat inside parts with lightweight oil. Leave gun in open position and store in dry area.

6. Remove pressure regulator and drain. Water left inside the gauge could freeze and distort the instrument.

7. Remove, drain and inspect sprayer hoses for cracks and deterioration. Coil and store in a cool dry area.

8. Touch-up rust spots on trailer, boom, brackets, etc., to prevent rust or deterioration.

9. Lubricate wheel bearings, u-joints and pto shaft as required.

10. On engine-driven sprayers, prepare the engine for storage.

11. If possible, park your sprayer indoors throughout the off-season.

PRESIDENTIAL PUTT PUTT

From the Southern California GCSA, we learn that President Nixon is really going first class in California. He is going to have his own personal golf course adjacent to the Western White House near San Clemente. It will be a 7 hole layout, longest 220 yards and the others from 90 to 120 yards.

According to a White House spokesman, it will resemble slightly the Royal and Ancient Golf Club in St. Andrews, Scotland where the greens have two or more holes. This course, however, will have 7 tees and 4 greens. Three of the greens will have two holes and the fourth will have one hole. After putting the fourth hole, the President and his foursome will return and play the extra cups on the first three. Members of the SCGCSA will do the work to build the course. Supers and one or two of their men will donate time to do all the sodding, seeding, and whatever else needs to be done.

By the way, money for this project is not coming from the taxpayers, but from a private group in California.

The project really sounds like some good publicity for the SCGCSA. Hope everything goes OK.

RAMBLINGS


Are you going to decorate your clubhouse this Christmas season? How about outdoor lights for around the trees or shrubs outside the club for the annual Holiday Dance? Better be moving things out of the barn that might freeze, A lot of materials don't go back into solution or the right chemical suspension after they are frozen. There are a lot of grubs present in the bluegrass this fall. Better check to see if you have any.

Is the exhaust system OK on your pickup? Cold

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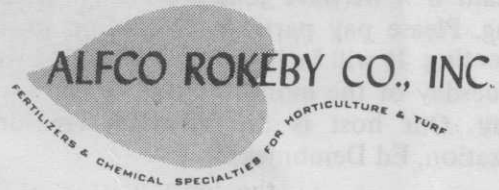
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weather means a lot of windows up driving around the course and going to meetings. Better double check to make sure. Anyone going to go to Mexico after the conference in Houston? The planned tour really sounds like a lot of fun, especially the tour of the 5 Mexican golf courses. "Ole"

NEW MEMBERS

At the board meeting held on October 20, 1969, two new memberships were discussed and are to be considered for acceptance. Following our by-laws, unless we hear any written objections within 30 days, these men will become members after this waiting period.

The first applicant is Robert Paul LaRoche, George Thompson's assistant at Chevy Chase. Bob is applying for a class E membership and was sponsored by George and seconded by Alan McCurrach.

The other applicant, Mike Wilkins, is at Argyle C.C. and is applying for a class E membership also. He was sponsored by Bob Miller and seconded by Ed Dembnicki.

ELECTIONS

As you all know, our annual elections are in December. This is one meeting that every voting member should make every attempt to attend. This year, as every year, we are going to chose the men who will run our Mid-Atlantic Association and who will be the top guns in maintaining our excellent reputation. It is our responsibility as members of the M.A. to do our part in electing the men whom we think can do the best job in upholding our status.

The nominating committee made their selections known at the board meeting in October after deliberation and this is the results of their work.

For President Russel Kerns, Woodholme C.C.
For Vice-President . . . Bert Yingling, Beaver Creek C.C.
For Sec'y-Treas. . . . Ed Dembnicki, Indian Spring C.C.
For Directors . Bob Miller, Suburban Club of Baltimore
Dave Fairbank, Lakewood C.C.

Please be aware of the fact that these are the selections made only by the nominating committee and that nominations for any office can be made from the floor.

EDITORIAL

A few Sundays ago, the sermon topic at church was "Think About It." One particular quotation that came from this sermon was "You are not what you think you are, you are what you think." This has a terrific meaning on our lives, both as persons and as

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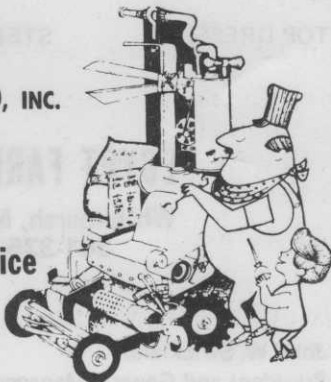
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professionals. Let's look at the professional side in two or three instances and enlarge a little on each.

In our field, we must think diplomatically. We must not think we are a diplomat, but must think like one. For example, how do you handle the question - "Why is the golf course closed?" Is your answer a straight-forward "None of your damn Business", or do you choose your words accordingly and offer a thoughtful, polite, gentlemanly explanation? This same attitude exists when one of your employees asks a simple question about why he is doing a job. In either case, it could mean the difference between a member badmouthing you to the membership or looking for someone to replace the kid you yelled at and called a stupid jerk.

We must think intelligently. We must not think we are educated, we must think as though we have been educated. When a member asks a question such as "Why can't we play on the greens when there is frost on them?", do you tell him "Because" or do you explain to him the physiological reasons why? And, naturally, the next logical statement to follow is that the best way to educate yourself to be able to give intelligent answers to these questions is by attending local, regional, and national turfgrass association meetings for the sake of learning something! If your prime reason for going is golfing and drinking, join another group-not one of these. This is not our primary business.

We must be persistent. We must not think we stick to a job until it is done, we must make sure we do and that the job is more than just "done" when it is finished. If a piece of equipment gives you a lot of trouble and keeps giving you fits, it sure is a lot easier to fix it right the first time than to keep seeing it in the shop every other day.

And we must be frugal. We must not think we are getting the most for the members' dollar, we must think about ways and ideas for getting the most for the buck and then make sure we do. Good spending records are a must and the overall purchasing operation for the golf course must be simple but as closely observed as your time will allow. One person in the club operation who must work closely with us is the bookkeeper. Many times a poor relationship with this person can and does cause a lot of grief for one or the other, especially at the end of the month or at the end of the fiscal year.

But in any event, we must all try to develop the thinking habit. Only something like 1 or 2% of the brain's thinking capacity is ever used by any person during his life. Maybe while you are trying to develop this habit, you might stumble onto an idea for a newsletter article. So far this year, we have had only one or two articles from any association members other than our staff. It sure seems that there should be more thoughts, ideas, disagreements, or comments in this large a group than that! It does make one wonder if this

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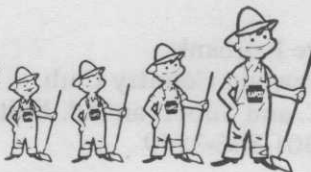
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might be a land where no one has any problems or troubles, where we all live without sharing. Let's hear it for peaceful co-existence!!! But we all know better than that. Winter's here now, and we all have plenty of time to sit by the stove and write.

MEETING AT BURNING TREE

The November meeting of the MAGCSA held at the Burning Tree Club was a great success. A large turnout was on hand and quite a few played the course on a beautiful afternoon. Our thanks to the Tree, Mr. Cornell, and Dick Anderson for the hospitality and the nice time we all had.

Dr. George Langford from the U. of Md. was the guest speaker at the evening meal. He told us with slides and commentary of his trip to Europe and the Soviet Union.

Golf winners were as follows:

Guest winners - Herb Sommers, M. Zuckerman;
Commercial - Leon Brown, Bernie Nees;
Superintendents - Charlie Schalestock, Tom Commali,
Dave Fairbank.

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NEWS FROM THE VIRGINIA AREA CLUBS by Sam Kessel

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you might think you are at Dulles Airport. Jet planes? No, it's just short of a thousand or two sweepers, blowers, and assorted gadgets for leaf removal. There really is a bumper crop of leaves this fall and as usual, they are all dropping in one big bunch. However, some people are more fortunate than others. At Westwood, Jack McClenahan says he has no leaf problem and there are a lot of people who would gladly trade places with Jack for that reason. His fairway overseeding looks very promising and he feels it was due to his new seeder. The seed mix was 70% Kentucky blue and 30% Fylking.

Lee Dieter at Washington Golf has been quite busy this fall. He has built five new tees and one green. The green is 8,000 square feet and was seeded to Penncross. By the way, for anyone who may not have heard, which is unlikely, the mix in the green is 90% sand. Lee devoted a lot of time and study to different mixes and he feels this is the best for his conditions there. The tees are from 5 to 6,000 square feet in size and were also seeded to Penncross. Should be interesting to see how they hold up.

This seems to be the year for construction, because at the Country Club of Fairfax, we have just completely rebuilt two holes. The construction included two greens, four tees, and two fairways. The greens included a new putting green and were seeded to Penncross.

The tees average 6,000 square feet which is a good size and were seeded to a mix of Merion and Fylking. The fairways were seeded to a mix of Merion, Fylking and Kentucky common. All the fairways were overseeded and the results all look very promising.

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