



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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Golf Course Superintendent through Education and Merit

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NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the MAGCSA will be held on July 14 at the Columbia Country club. The club is located at 7900 Connecticut Avenue in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Our host is George Thompson who has been the super there for six years.

DIRECTIONS TO THE CLUB

Take 495 (Washington Beltway) to the Connecticut Avenue exit. Go south on Conn. Ave. about two miles. The club is on the right.

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY

All the forms seem to be in as of this writing. To those of you who didn't send yours back, never let it be said that the association hasn't tried to help you in your budget and salary. Results should be published in the July or August Newsletter.

MEETING PLACES

We are still homeless for our November and December meetings. It seems rather far off now, but the sooner we can fill these open dates, the better off we'll be. Some of you guys who have never had a M-A meeting or haven't had one for quite a while, how about offering your club. The worst they can do is make money off the deal.

July 14, Columbia C.C. Host - George Thompson;
August 11, Elks Club - Salisbury, Md. Host - Tom Ramburg;
September 8, Md. Golf and C.C. Philadelphia Joint Meeting-Host Ron Hall;
October 13, Turf Valley Golf Tourney - Host - George Riddle.

NEW MEMBERSHIPS

At the last Board of Directors meeting, the following people applied for new memberships:

Ed Wilson, 6685 Clagget Ave., Fairhaven, Md.

Ed is with Twin Shields G.C. and is applying for a

class B membership. His application was signed by Bob Shields and Lee Dieter.

Samuel Thompson, Leesburg Golf and C.C., PO Box 936, Leesburg, Va.

Sam is applying for a class E listing and his form was signed by Paul Barefoot and Allan MacCurrach.

Ronald James Shuey, Montgomery Village G.C., Gaithersburg, Md.,

Jim is applying for a class B membership. Dave Fairbank and Sam Kessel signed his application.

James B. Stagg, Nassawango G.C., Snow Hill, Md.

Jim is an Eastern shore man and is applying for a class E membership. George Gumm and Lou White are the signers of his application.

James Fladung Belair Golf and C.C., PO Box 140, Bowie, Md. 20715.

Jim is applying for a class E membership and had his application signed by Ron Hall and Bernie Heilig.

Unless any objection is received by the board within 30 days after publication of the above names, the applicants will be received as new members. One classification change request was received also. Wally Stedding requested that his classification be changed from class B to class A. All qualifications have been met as established in our by-laws and the change has been made.

A quick insertion here if we may. If you have met the qualifications for a classification change and want it done, be sure to notify Bob Miller, our membership chairman. You must request this by letter because just saying you want it done or expecting it to be changed automatically just because you have met the requirements will not be sufficient.

ADDRESS CHANGE

Buddy Loving, 1010 Harris Street, Charlottesville, Va. 22901.

POSITION FILLED

The Ocean Pines job outside Ocean City has been

filled by Bob Bingham, Bob was previously at Montgomery G.C. in Laytonsville, Md. Good luck at the new job.

BERMUDA BOO-BOO

For those of you who think you're the only poor soul in our area who lost some Bermuda, you're in for a big surprise. Almost everyone in our region has lost from a little to a lot of their established Bermuda. The strains affected ranged from the ratty old common to the more sophisticated ones like 328 and Tif-green.

As near as anyone can determine, it was just a case of severe winter dessication. But whatever it was, it really played hell with the grass. The fellows who have experienced the greatest losses haven't been able to find even one green rhizome under the ground anywhere and when Bermuda dies that dead, it is dead!!

Pure stands of the grass suffered the worst. But where there was a higher percentage of Poa or other grasses with it, losses seemed to be lower. What is the answer? Who knows. But at least you're not alone.

SUPER FIRES MECHANIC-MECHANIC FIRES BACK

Funny, huh? Well it really happened and the truth is the man is fortunate that nothing more happened than did. Homer Crissinger, super at the Royal Ottawa Golf Club in Canada was ambushed by one of his former employees in April. The guy shot him with a .22 rifle! Out of six shots fired, only two connected and that's enough. Luckily Mr. Crissinger's injuries were not serious, but he was laid up for a while, according to the "Greensmaster", the Canadian GCSA publication. So the next time you are in a bind for men, use a little care in who you choose to do your dirty work, 'cause he may try to do some on YOU!.

RANDOM THOTS

Better tell your crew to be getting their tetanus shots now that summer is finally here. The college boys will probably have had them, but others on your crew should find out if they need them or not.

Sam Kessel from C.C. of Fairfax reports heavy tip burn on bent when Diazinon is used in temperatures above 80 degrees. He says he would recommend having the foliage quite damp before application as well as watering it in immediately after it is put on.

One quart of Banvel-D in 200 gallons of water knocks the heck out of Knotweed. Sure doesn't seem like much material, does it?

EDITORIAL

Well, it's June and all the Supers have finally settled down, literally speaking. All the job changes have

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been made, the furniture has been moved and introductions to new memberships, chairmen and maintenance crews have been made. Now the job begins. And how!

The fact that the super in his new position has made the usual financial gain is true. The fact that the super has maybe also bettered himself prestige-wise is also evident many times, and there is always the possibility of a gain through many other items or benefits which may be associated with the job.

But whatever the gain that the super might make, who gains? For the first year or two, really no one. Let's stop and analyze just what happens for the first year the super is on his new job.

Job changes usually take place in the winter or early spring. This is good, right? Wrong! While no figures have been published to prove this, most budgets are drawn up and approved (or rejected) in the fall toward the end of the growing season. Already the super is walking into a real bag of worms right off the bat since he already has money set aside for materials, equipment and improvements that he doesn't even know he's going to need.

To be sure, winter is really the only time a conscientious man would leave one job for another, but it is a difficult problem to him.

The club, on the other hand, is also faced with a problem the first year with the new man getting acclimated to his new surroundings. This means he has to find out everything about everything, meanwhile the grass is growing, disease, drought and famine persist and the poor guy is really run ragged. The results — sometimes the course suffers, through no error on the super's part, however, except that he is just having to learn the course. We have all been through it and it is exasperating at times.

But fortunately, most clubs tend to overlook this with their new supers. The membership from the Chairman of the Board, to the last man on the list, sort of shut one eye to the mistakes that are made. In fact, most clubs bend over backwards to make the new man feel at home. So, obviously, the time for the super to make gains for his course as well as for himself is during the first year.

When we talk about gains, what does this include? Well, usually we supers think mainly about the same things when it comes to improvements or changes. So the chances are good the previous man had the same ideas about improving a certain area as the new man. This particular area may have been a big part of why the man left, maybe due to the fact the club would not let him fix it or change it. But who do you think will be able to do it and probably even more? The new guy — right? Suppose the past man had wanted to do the job 5 years ago but the club said no. How much do you think labor, material and equipment costs have increased during that period? The club sometimes loses.

And while we are thinking about improvements, let's look at the salary picture. Contrary to opinion, we are ALL in this business for the same reasons, right? Okay, let's pretend. A super asks his club for a \$2,000 increase. He likes the job, but he feels he has proved himself to be worth more money. He is refused the raise and finds another club close-by that will pay him the money. Naturally, when he leaves, the club will have to look for a new man. Guess how much more money they come up with right away to make the job more attractive to a new applicant? But this increase doesn't include the costs either monetary or mental of moving, relocating and learning a new golf course.

Doesn't it seem to make more sense for the club to pay the man the money or come up with some benefits? Now this isn't to say that if a man is not happy with his job that he should stay on. If he is unhappy, the worst thing for him to do to himself and to the club is to stay on there. Both of them will suffer because of it. These remarks are made on the supposition that the man and his club are happy with each other.

There is nothing wrong with a man bettering himself if it is done with thought. If a job change is made without thought, as to what can, will and should be done, then the man is better off to wait until he is able to look objectively at it.

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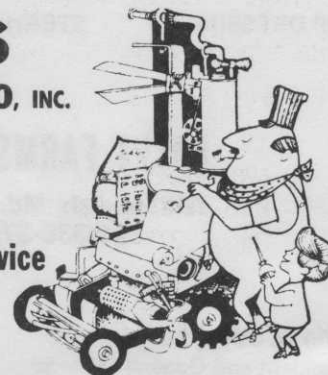
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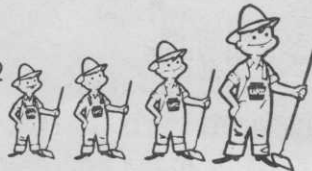
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Telephone 703-451-6619

Denny McCammon
Springfield Golf and Country Club
Editor-Director --- 703-451-6619

Sam Kessel
Country Club of Fairfax
Virginia Editor --- 703-273-7094

Dick Silvar
Baltimore Country Club
Baltimore Metro Editor - 301-252-0110
or 301-252-4498

Dave Fairbank
Lakewood Country Club
D.C. and Suburban Md. Editor - 301-762-0570
or 301-946-3159

Above are the names, addresses and phone numbers of the area editors. For contributions or information, contact the person covering your area.

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8301 KEENE MILL ROAD
SPRINGFIELD, VA. 22150

