



**MID-
ATLANTIC**

News Letter



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NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Mid-Atlantic GCSAA will be held on December 15 at Hobbit's Glen C.C. at Columbia, Md. Our host will be John "Chips" McDonald. This will be our annual election and membership meeting. Since the entire meal will be catered, it is especially important that you send the return cards back to Chip or call him to let him know you are coming. If you want to call him, his number is 301-730-6100 ext. 52. You will be able to play golf on either of the two courses at Columbia. If you go for just the meal, watch for signs along route 29 coming from either way.

DIRECTIONS TO THE CLUB

Come to Columbia on Route 29 from either Washington or Baltimore. Turn left on 108 South coming from Washington or right on 108 coming from Baltimore and the first to the left takes you to Allview, one of the two courses. To get to the Hobbit's Glen course, turn left off 108 onto Harper's Farm Road and right onto Willow Bottom road to the course. Signs will be posted from the courses to the meeting place as well as on 29. Send the cards back!!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The October meeting at Woodmont C.C. had a good attendance by supers as well as several guests. Those who golfed played on a beautifully manicured course and those who ate had superb food, service and hospitality.

There was, however, something lacking. It was not on the part of our host or his club, but on the part of a few of our members. The thing that was lacking was respect and it was quite evident by some excessive drinking, and of all things, mimicking some of the speakers.

In case you weren't aware of it, we DO have a code of ethics. Section E of this code states we should "maintain the highest standards of personal conduct to reflect credit and add to the stature of the profession of Golf Course Superintendency." I

would like to think that those individuals to whom I am referring will be men enough to apologize. It would also be great to see our attendance stay on a high level so as to help and benefit the purposes and goals of the association.

Bert

FOR THE RECORD

The code of ethics that Bert referred to above is printed below. They were published in the Golf Superintendent in January and it might not be a bad idea for ALL of us to read and absorb it.

CODE OF ETHICS

As a member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, I pledge myself to:

- a. Recognize and discharge all my responsibilities to my employers at all times.
- b. Practice and insist on sound business principles in exercising the responsibilities of my position.
- c. Utilize every opportunity to extend my professional knowledge in order to increase my value to my employers, my industry and my profession.
- d. Truly assume the responsibility for the physical well-being of my golf course by insisting on and exercising the prerogative of my professional judgment in declaring my golf course playable or unplayable, according to prevailing conditions.
- e. Maintain the highest standards of personal conduct to reflect credit and add to the stature of the profession of Golf Course Superintendency.
- f. Neither engage in or support any exploitation of my Association, industry or profession.
- g. Avoid dissemination of any malicious information concerning other golf courses and/or other Golf Course Superintendents.
- h. Lend my support to, and actively

participate in, the efforts of my local Chapter and National Association to improve public understanding and recognition of the profession of Golf Course Superintendency.

i. Extend technical help to any golf course when called upon by the Superintendent.

j. Recognize, observe and expect in return the highest standards of integrity in my relationship with other Golf Course Superintendents as follows:

When seeking employment

a. I will seek counsel of local GCSAA Chapters when applying for a position in any district.

b. I will make certain the position is open before making application to any prospective employer.

c. I will ascertain and uphold the salary of the district in which I negotiate for a position.

d. I will, when possible, speak to the man who is leaving or has left the position for which I am considered.

When visiting other golf courses

a. I will call on the Superintendent of the golf course.

b. I will present my GCSAA membership card.

PREVIEW

At the meeting at Bethesda, the nominating committee chairman, Bob Milligan, released the following slate of nominees for the annual election next month;

President - George Thompson - Columbia C.C.

Vice President - Lee Dieter - Washington Golf and C.C.

Secretary-Treasurer - Denny McCammon - Springfield Golf and C.C.

Three director nominees, two to be elected
Bob Martino - Island View C.C.

Louis White - Green Hills Yacht and C.C.

Bill Emerson - Eagles Nest G.C.

Nominations will be taken from the floor at the time of election activities and don't forget - only class A and B members are eligible to vote! But the elections can't go if you don't.

EAGER BEAVER

Well the Mid Atlantic will be on the map again this year. We have one of our members running as a National director. George Cleaver of Chestnut Ridge will be representing the M.A. this

year in Cincinnati. We have got to muster all the voting power we can get and at this particular time, it looks as though we have some pretty good support! Lots of luck, George.

RANDOM THOUGHTS

The price freeze is off now and maybe we had better give a really close look at the salaries of our help and make sure they get all the new Council of Economic's 5.5% ceiling. It still burns me up to see a "Live Better - Work Union" sticker on the back of a truck on the beltway.

Sure seemed like summer would never end this year. What about that 85 degree day the third of November? It was the highest temperature for that date in history for Washington. Maybe the world is really getting warmer. One thing for sure - we've seen the last 80 degree day for a long time, you can bet on that!

As you all know, the meeting this month will be the annual elections. It is for your own good as well as for the good of the group that you show up and vote! Too many members show up to play golf at the annual tournament each year and just chuck the rest of the meetings. A lot of these guys are the ones who bitch the loudest when things don't go the way they think they should. So get to the elections and put in the man you think will do the job the way you want it done.

Tom Doerer from Ft. Belvoir G.C. is on the program for the USGA meetings in New York City on January 28. Tom's topic will be on effective management on the golf course. Further information will be forthcoming but if you want any poop sooner, call Tom about it.

Tom Comalli from Crofton G.C. and his wife have a new baby. Heard there were a few minor complications but everyone is doing fine. Our best to the new addition and the parents.

We need volunteers for meeting places for the coming year. If you would like to commit your club for a monthly meeting, contact Lee Dieter by letter or phone (703-538-6800) and let him know you are interested. Lee said May and June are already taken, so that still leaves 10 months to choose from.

Coming events include the following:

Dec. 7	New Jersey GCSA Conference
Jan. 10-11	Mid Atlantic GCSA Conference
Jan 19-20	Rutgers U. Golf & Fine Turf Conf.
Feb. 13-18	GCSAA Nat'l Conf. Cincinnati, Ohio

NEW MEMBERS

At the board meeting on October 22, several applications for membership and two reclassification requests were read.

New membership applications are as follows:

Ralph McNeil, super at Talbot C.C. in Easton, D. The application for class A membership was signed by Russ Kerns and Lou White.

Fritz Zeller, super at Shannon Green G.C. in Fredericksburg, Va. The class A application was signed by Ernie Stanley and Mike Burkholder.

J.S. "Strick" Newsom, F.W. Bolgiano in Washington, D.C. This class E application was signed by Denny McCammon and Paul Barefoot.

Ronald Nolf, super at Martingham Inn in St. Michals, Md. the class E application was signed by Russ Kerns and Lou White.

Robert W. Evans, super at Country Club Lake in Dumfries, Va. Jim Estapp and Buck Whetsell signed the class E application.

Horace Hall, super at Elks, G.C. in Salisbury, Md. His class E application was signed by Russ Kerns and Lou White.

Kenneth Braun, ass't super at Columbia C.C. in Chevy Chase, Md. George Thompson and Bob Miller signed the application for class H membership.

Membership reclassifications were as follows:

Gerald Gerard, Bretton Woods C.C. change from class B to class A.

C. William Black, Fountain Head C.C. Change from Class B to class A.

EDITORIAL

In the September issue of the USGA Green Section Record there is an article by Wendell Wood, a pro in Eugene, Oregon with a bag full of worms in an article entitled, "Golf Shoe Spikes - Who Needs Them?" He goes on to say that he as well as the USGA as early as the 1950's conducted tests to determine 1. How effective golf spikes were and 2. If they were necessary in playing proper golf.

Results were found to be interesting, to say the least. With pictures, the author showed actually how damaging spikes really are. These shoes are in reality miniature sheep's foot rollers when one stops to think about it and it makes one wonder why there are hard uneven greens on every course in the country.

With all the signs IN the club house reading "No Spikes" due to the damage to furniture, floors, tile and carpet, doesn't it make sense to have "No Spikes" ON the golf course?

Mr. Wood advocates a regional or state golf association program to eliminate these two dozen compactors per pair of shoes only as long as there are suitable substitutes such as a modified lug type sole and a rubber type sole which cause far less damage and work equally as well if not possibly better.

Needless to say, this would surely make our job much easier due to less wear and tear near and around pins on the greens and the damage that occurs when some slob tries to tap dance 6 bars of "I'll Be Down to Get You in a Taxi Honey" on No. 14 after he sinks a 2 footer for 35 cents and a beer and drags both feet all the way across the greens where he left his electric cart parked right beside the "No Cart" sign. With fewer spikes, we might have better golf for less money. Let's have some comments from you golfers!

* * *

The certification program set up by the National has gotten a lot of press in the past two months. There have been at least six articles covering it from one end to the other but they all seem to be written by the same author, at least they all seem to say the same thing - that is that the certification program is the greatest thing since chlorophyll. No one seems to have dared raise any question concerning the murky points in the program. I'm certain no one has all the answers. Fortunately, these dark areas are few and as a whole, the program looks basically sound. Keep in mind please, that these questions, answers and comments are purely personal and this is only one opinion, not a collective one.

To start with, I wonder how much weight will the tag of "certified super" carry when in competition for say a job or even a raise with a "non-certified" super? If it means the loss of one or the other of these, or perhaps in some other area these may be other areas that may enter into it, it raises a question as to the fairness of the whole package. For example: two young men graduate from turf school, work equal numbers of years as supers, get equal experience, are equally as good, but one decides to become certified - the other does not. They apply for a job - "certified" gets it and his cohort is out in the cold. Does the club really gain anything? Suppose one step further that the certified man is really not as capable as the non-cert and gets the job because of the title? then

what? Let's hope the club takes all the factors into consideration.

The next question deals with the grandfather clause. This as I understand it means that a man who has been a class A for 20 years or more can send \$25 with his application and zap! He's a certified super with no test, no renewal or anything. Does this then mean that a man with 20 years experience knows more than a man with 10 or 15 in the business? Why should a few years make any difference? Many older supers have forgotten more than I'll ever know, and I'm not on the offensive, merely asking the question. Often times I've men men that have been in the business for 20 years or more still doing it the way they did 20 years ago and have no intention of changing. But these guys are in the minority luckily and hopefully the reason this clause was put in was due to the age factor. A man who has been at a club for many years and is approaching retirement probably has no intention of changing jobs at all. So he has really no need to go to the expense of the extra \$25 to get the book and to take the test since it would probably not really be of any benefit to him due to the impending retirement. I imagine, however, the test could be given to these older men if they so desired.

And \$50.00? Wow - books don't cost that much even at Purdue. Where is all the money going from this project? If just 50% of the eligible National members decide to become certified, that is a cool piece of change. It should really show up on the assets column in the annual statement. Will it?

As to the testing procedure: As I understand it, for my \$50 I receive a book with all the information in it necessary to pass the test. Who compiled this book? Was it supers in our group? Was it academic people? At any rate, when we take this test, it will be an open book test. The information sheet tells me that all the answers needed to pass the test are in the book! I may be very surprised, but what challenge is an open book test? I'll probably be eating words when I flunk all 6 parts. but why an open book test? It seems like mental retention would be more long lasting and be more beneficial in the long run to the man being tested.

Finally, and probably none too soon is the question of the testing places. No one can give us an answer here either. We read the tests will be given at a location convenient to the super to be monitored by someone from his area. Where are the areas and who monitors them? The area

"convenient" to us might be as the USGA sees it and be in New York, Georgia, Illinois, Colorado and California. As yet, no one can give a good answer. And who monitors these tests? An employee of the GCSAA, an educator, a super of the local, a policeman? Answers please.

Please note! I am NOT knocking the certification program. I am merely asking questions and bringing thoughts out in the open that I have had and that I know others too must have considered. I fully intend to become certified (if I can pass the test) and I am anxious to get underway. But I'd also like to hear any questions and/or comments YOU have too.

THE CHANGING TIMES

The following is from the Miami Valley GCSA "Divots"

Everything is farther than it used to be. It's twice as far from my house to the station now, and they've added a hill that I've just noticed. The trains leave sooner, too but I've given up running for them because they go faster than they used to.

Seems to me they are making staircases steeper than in the old days. The risers are higher and there are more of them, because I've noticed it's harder to make two at a time. It's all one can do to make one step at a time.

Have you noticed the small print they are using lately? Newspapers are getting farther and farther away when I hold them, and I have to squint to make out the news. Now it's getting ridiculous to suggest that a person of my age needs glasses, but it's the only way I can find out what's going on without someone's reading aloud to me, and that isn't much help because everyone seems to speak in such a low voice that I can scarcely hear.

Times sure are changing. The material in my clothes, I notice, shrinks in certain places (you know, like around the waist, or in the seat). Shoe laces are so short they are next to impossible to reach.

Even the weather is changing. It's getting colder in winter and the summers are hotter than in the old days. Snow is so much heavier when I shovel it, and rain is so much wetter that I have to wear rubbers. I guess the way they build windows now makes drafts more severe.

People are changing, too. For one thing they are younger than they used to be when I was their age. On the other hand people my own age are so much older than I am. I realize that my generation

is approaching middle age.

I ran into my roommate the other night, and he had changed so much that he didn't recognize me. "You've put on a little weight, Bob," I said. "It's this modern food," Bob replied. "It seems to be more fattening."

I got to thinking about poor Bob this morning while I was shaving. Stopping for a moment, I looked at my reflection in the mirror. They don't use the same kind of glass in mirrors any more.

ISN'T IT FUNNY?

From the "Tee to Green" - Nov. 1971

Isn't it funny - when the other fellow takes a long time to do something, he's slow. But when I take a long time to do something, I'm thorough.

When the other fellow doesn't do it, he's too lazy. But when I don't do it, I'm too busy.

When the other fellow goes ahead and does something without being told, he's overstepping his bounds. But when I do something without being told, that's initiative!

When the other fellow states his side of a question strongly, he's bull-headed. But when I state a side of a question strongly, I'm being firm.

When the other fellow overlooks a few of the rules of etiquette, he's rude. But when I skip a few of the rules, I'm being original.

When the other fellow does something that pleases the boss, he's polishing the brass. But when I do something that pleases the boss, that's cooperation.

When the other fellow gets ahead, he sure had the lucky breaks, but when I manage to get ahead, man! it was hard work that did it!

Funny, isn't it - or is it!



**SEASON'S
GREETINGS**

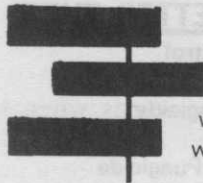
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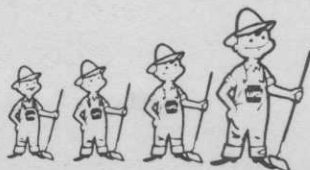
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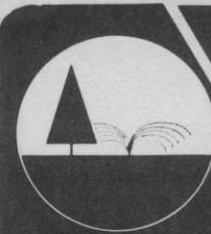


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