

## 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!

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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