



# 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

VOLUME XXIII

SEPTEMBER, 1972

No. 9

## OVER THE HUMP

The Almanac assures us that the days are getting shorter and our local meteorologist informs us that the average high temperature has dropped from 88 to 87. This means that our 140 days (Bill Smarts 100 days) are almost over, growing conditions are becoming more favorable. We can forget about the goosegrass and Pythium for another year. It is not a time of rest however, this is the time to aerate, cultivate and renovate. Try some of those new grass varieties that you have heard so much about, work a few in that problem hillside or shady tee. Aerate that compacted green 4 or 5 times and work in a lighter mix. What we do this fall has a direct bearing on course condition next summer. This is by far the season to make the most progress. In many respects it is the most important season of the year.

George B. Thompson Pres.

## SEPTEMBER MEETING - 3rd Tuesday

The September meeting of the Mid-Atlantic will be held at the Cavalier Country Club, Stanton, Delaware, on September 19th. Our host will be Arthur Menard, and it will be a joint meeting with Delaware, Philadelphia, and the Mid-Atlantic. The speaker will be James Vitaliano, who is a district attorney in Philadelphia. Golf can be played anytime after noon, social hour is at 6:00 and dinner at 7:00. Directions are as follows: Take I-95 north (Delaware Turnpike) to Stanton exit (just past Newark exit and toll booth). Turn right at Churchman's Road and cross cement bridge. Right again - go about 500 yards, to club on right. (Club is to the right of I-95). SEND BACK CARDS

## CHOICE OF FIELD DAYS IN SEPTEMBER

Sept. 12-13 Penn State field day, University Park, Pa.  
Sept. 13-14 V.P.I. field day, Blacksburg, Va.

Watch your mail for more information on these two field days. Everybody should attend at least one day - let's keep up to date with the new developments in turf.

## AUGUST MEETING

Our August meeting was held at the Country Club of Fairfax in Fairfax, Virginia. Sam Kessell was our host superintendent.

Thirty three members challenged the rolling hills and water hazards of Sam's course. Glen Swenson won first place with a net 67; Tom Comalli came in second with a net 68, followed by Steve Robinson and Gillie Shapiro.

George Cleaver was unanimously re-elected to run for a 1973 GCSAA National director position in Boston, George ran for office last year and lost by only forty votes. If we are to be represented properly in the National we all must support George by attending our annual National Conference at Boston in January. We are indeed fortunate to have a well qualified member willing to devote his time and effort for the advancement of our association. **SUPPORT GEORGE CLEAVER IN '73 - EVERYONE GO TO BOSTON!**

George Thompson, our Mid-Atlantic president, presided over an open membership meeting. The chosen topic for discussion was Tri-Calcium Arsenate. The widespread devastating loss of Poa Annuua during the heat and drought that followed Agnes brought to light the adverse effects of excess heat, humidity and water on greens under a tri-cal program.

Lee Dieter, vice president of our Mid-Atlantic, began the discussion by relating back to a talk called "Living with Poa Annuua", that he presented at the 1969 V.P.I. Turf Conference. Lee contends that you either rebuild the Poa infested greens or learn to live with them. He also stated that there are too many contributing factors involved with Poa infested greens, such as poor drainage, poor soil mixtures, poor air circulation, and compaction - all of which are conducive to Poa infestation and cannot be chemically eliminated.

Sam Kessel, of Fairfax Country Club, defied anybody to accurately estimate the percentage of Poa one has on any given green. Without this information an arsenical program of Poa eradication becomes very risky. Some of Sam's greens were thinned out to 15% - 20% bare ground, while other greens resembled a superintendent's dream of perfection.

Sam's hardest hit greens were his aged greens that no longer drained properly or lacked good air circulation. These conditions, coupled with over 30 inches of rain,

followed by two and one half weeks of stagnant heat and humidity, knocked his Poa out almost overnight.

Dennis McCammon, of Springfield Country Club, also spoke of his total loss of Poa Annua, at application rates of no more than 2 lbs./m of actual material - not actual arsenate. Denny had two applications down before the crisis began, the first was last fall and the second this spring. Denny felt that one of the problems with Tri-Cal is that we don't have enough knowledge of the chemical itself, especially in relation to varying soil conditions. We don't know for sure how many actual pounds of arsenic are built up in the soil. Variations of sand, silt and clay differ in all greens and therefore different soils can hold, release, or change the chemical composition of arsenic to a rapid release material. These factors, connected with unpredictable weather, and unreliable phosphorus soil tests, compound the risk of starting a Poa eradication program.

Dr. Jack Hall, of the University of Maryland, capped off our discussion by stating that adequate research on tricalcium is not yet available and that the superintendents are far ahead of research and most often provide the proving grounds of many chemicals. Jack is presently preparing a report of tri-cal to relate the full scope of current test reports concerning the adverse effects of iron, phosphorus, and soil pH in relation to arsenic release patterns.

#### FUTURE MEETING DATES

- October 12th Eagles Nest Golf Course - Timonium, Md.  
Host: Bill Emerson  
SECOND THURSDAY - NOT TUESDAY
- November 14th Norbeck Country Club - Norbeck, Md.  
Host: Bill Livingston
- December 12th Green Spring Valley Hunt Club - Garrison, Md.  
Host: Jack McClenahan  
ELECTION MEETING

#### A WOMAN'S POINT OF VIEW

(The following article was written by Cynthia Lee, who has been working for four summers as an employee of the 36 hole golf course operation at Woodmont Country Club. Cynthia, daughter of Phil Lee, of G. L. Cornell Co., is presently a senior at Cornell University. Upon her graduation, she hopes to study law and obtain her master's degree.)

I sit on the tractor (watch the line, you have to roll the line) or on the planter (stuff that grass in there as fast as you can) and try to imagine what a twenty year old girl could possibly write that would be amusing or at least interesting to a group of men who read a newsletter about the golf business. There was this travelling superintendent . . . oops, my mind slipped.



I suppose I should start at the beginning (clever), the summer of 1968, when as a poor, inexperienced, sixteen year old girl who was thinking of money for college, I cajoled Bob Shields into hiring me for the grounds crew. And so began my illustrious career as a golf course worker, which has included everything from picking up trash (oh look, Rose, Woodmont is such an ingenious club. a little Daisy May) and picking crab grass off greens (are you paid by the hour or the basket, honey?) to planting Bermuda sprigs and mowing fairways.

During those four years at Woodmont I have been asked many times what I hope to gain from being a grounds maintenance worker. I began with only one thing in mind - money. But through the years I realized that I have gained much more. Perhaps I will never find use for the few skills I have acquired (driving a tractor and a fairway unit for example) but I have gained a certain mechanical confidence that will help and has helped me in changing a tire, checking the oil in a car, and even knowing how to operate a gas pump (a lot of aerospace engineers found that knowledge useful). As well I have gained the experience of working with men, with nothing but men. This means being the butt of every joke, being put down as incompetent and lazy (they never meant it), and being constantly reminded of ineptitude of my sex (Not bad, for a woman that is). All this without the comfort of an ally, or, when I am the center of attention, the problem of a competitor. Being a woman on the course also meant a little special attention from the men. Being helped down off the equipment, having the men carry heavy objects for me, starting equipment for me, and generally keeping an eye out for me were all a part of the kindness and caring of the twenty men I worked along side of.

I have learned from work on the golf course to respect people for what they are, not the job they hold or the amount of money they earn. I have learned that even in this day and age of equality there are still those who believe that the woman's place is in the home. One such man was a co-worker, who finally quit because he did not think it right for a girl to be on the golf course.

More important, however, is that I believe that I HAVE TAUGHT the men something - that a woman can compete with a man and develop the same abilities and deserve the same amount of money as a man. I believe that the men at Woodmont, Mr. Shields included, thought I would never last in the kind of job I had undertaken, especially working with a crew which demands perseverance and the ability to take an endless joke. But I think that I have proved to the men at work, as well as to myself, that at least one female in this world can compete in a man's world and come out on top.



This is essentially what I have found to be my four years at Woodmont. As I leave, for the last time (I have said that before) I take a lot of good memories with me, as well as the knowledge that all the work has helped put me through college. And if nothing else comes of my hours of hard labor I am secure in the knowledge that I can finally back a car into a parking space.

### THE NEW MARYLAND TURFGRASS COUNCIL

Angelo Cammarota has provided us with this up to date progress report of the newly formed Maryland Turfgrass Council.

April 20th was the first initial meeting. Many interested members of the turfgrass industry were invited to attend a meeting to consider the formation of a Maryland Turfgrass Council. A steering committee was appointed to draft a set of by-laws and establish an organizing board of directors. The members were: Lou Block, Paul J. Barefoot, Clifford Case, Angelo Cammarota, Dr. Jack R. Hall, J. S. Newsom, Parker Shirling, W. F. Kirwin, Richard Moffett, and R. A. Traband.

May 4th marked the first official meeting of the Maryland Turfgrass Council. The group reviewed various sets of by-laws, selected the name of Maryland Turfgrass Council, discussed the purpose and objectives of the Council, and drafted a set of by-laws. The Council was formed for the promotion of quality turfgrass in the state and recognition of the professional people in turf production and management.

June 1st, the second meeting of the Council, officers and directors were appointed and a complete set of by-laws approved by the Council.

#### OFFICERS:

President	Angelo Cammarota Mid-Atlantic GCSA
Vice Pres.	W. F. Kirwin Landscape Architect
Secretary	Dr. J. R. Hall Turf Specialist, Univ. of Md.
Treasurer	J. S. Newsom Bolgiano Turf Supplies

#### DIRECTORS:

Parker Shirling	Princeton Turf Farm Sod Producer
Clifford Case	Cornell Chemical Co. Ag. Chemical Sales
Richard Moffett	Maintenance Supervisor State Highway Dept.
Paul J. Barefoot	U. S. Soldiers Home Prof. Grounds Mgr.
R. A. Traband	Extention Agent Hartford County, Md.
Lou Block	Home Builders Assn. Maryland

July 6th was the date of the third meeting. Membership classes were established and annual dues determined.

Classes of Membership:	Individuals	\$ 5.00
	Organizations	25.00
	Industrial	25.00
	Complimentary	no fee
	Honorary	no fee

The standing committees of the Council were determined at this meeting and the directors appointed by the President during the following August 17 meeting.

COMMITTEES	DIRECTORS
Programs & Educational	R. A. Traband
Technical Advisory	Dr. J. R. Hall
Nominating Committee	Board of Directors
Membership Committee	Richard Moffett
Legislative Committee	Clifford Case
Publicity Committe	W. F. Kirwin
Finance Committee	J. S. Newsom

Also discussed at the August meeting was the solicitation of members and a publication of a pamphlet to describe the purpose and objectives of the Turfgrass Council. Their greatest need is financial support from contributions and dues from membership income. Everyone interested in the state of Maryland is urged to become a member of the Council. Big participation brings big success — join early and help get the organization rolling.

#### Membership Forms Maybe Obtained From:

Maryland Turfgrass Council  
c/o Dr. Jack Hall  
P. O. Box 214  
College Park, Maryland 20740

### HOW TO BUTCHER A TREE

Before you begin to butcher a tree you need the following equipment: A pair of tree climbing spikes. The spikes on these are about 3" long and really help you climb. If you have not used them much, you can really impress your customers how dangerous tree butchering is with blood coming down your legs from gaffing yourself with the spikes. Spikes are also ideal for scarring a tree. This shows your customer how high you had to climb up into the tree.

Next, you need a machete so you can cut off the suckers. These are the little branches that grow off the main branches of the tree. The machete works well in cutting these off and also does a good job of scarring the tree so the customer can see how many suckers you have cut off. It also works well in cutting up your leg while you are climbing; again to show the customer how dangerous the job is.

The next thing you need is a combination pruner and pole saw at least 25' long. This makes it easy to use. The pruner on one side works well in pruning while the saw on the other side is scarring the tree at the same time and vice versa when you are using the saw. If the combination pruner and pole saw is 25' long or longer you may break a few second-story windows and if you're lucky, the owners may pay you to repair them.

Now a word about the real art of butchering. Always make a cut from the top only. This will cause the branch to rip off bark on the bottom of the branch and down the tree as it falls. You can paint this wound with a water base paint. The tree will look good, but it will not prevent disease or stop insects in any way. If you are lucky the tree will die and you'll get a removal job.

Never cut a branch next to the main trunk. Always leave a 6" to 12" stump. This will make less brush to haul away and the owner will eventually get tired of looking at them and maybe call you back to cut them off. More money.

One final word. Never rope a branch; just let them fall. Be sure to let the owner know you repair fences and replace damaged sod. For a price, of course.

Now a few words about your own personal safety: Never hire anyone to help you when you are butchering. In this way you will not have to share the profits. If you play your cards right the homeowner may feel sorry for you and offer his help. Free of course.

Never use a rope and saddle when butchering as it will hamper your movements in the tree. Also, you could accidentally cut it if you are using a chain saw in the tree.

Always use a ladder that is too short for the tree as this will keep you in shape shimmying up and down the tree.

A word about chain saws. Always use the chain saw with one hand only as this will show the homeowner how brave you are. Also, always cut towards yourself with the saw. Again this will prove to the homeowner how dangerous the job is when you cut yourself. Never call out the power company to drop power lines if these are in the way of the branches you are going to cut off. Just cut the branches off and if they break the power line, they break it.

If you follow these instructions you will have no trouble at all butchering a tree, but it is wise to keep your health, accident and life insurance policies up to date. Just remember to hire a competent tree trimmer to trim your own trees.

I just want to say I am in no way responsible for personal injury or property damage when my instructions are followed.

(This article was reprinted from the Minnesota Newsletter as received from Dr. George Blake, of the University of Minnesota)

## NATIONAL GCSAA NEWS

Bob Shields, of Woodmont Country Club, was recently appointed committee chairman of the 1972 GCSAA Nominating Committee. Ted Roberts, former chairman, resigned his position due to a heavy work load at his Canoe Brook Golf Course in Chatham, New Jersey. Warren Bidwell, of Congressional Country Club, was also appointed a member of the five-man Nominating Committee. The Committee will meet September 16-17 in Chicago to review nominations from chapters and, by October 1st., prepare a slate of candidates for officers to be filed at our next annual election in Boston.

## FOREMAN OR SUPERINTENDENT

Excerpts from article taken from the Georgia Turf Grass News by Dr. Jack Eggens of the University of Guelph.

Are you a foreman or a golf course superintendent? The dictionary defines a foreman as a "principle workman supervising others"; whereas a superintendent is defined as "officer or official having control, oversight or direction of business, institution, etc." In other words, the superintendent formulates decisions or courses of action; whereas the foreman carries out the decisions and directions formulated by someone else.

The classification of an individual such as a foreman or superintendent is not easily accomplished, for there are gray areas between the two which are difficult to clarify.

A man can be an excellent foreman, but a poor superintendent.

1. A superintendent is an innovator or idea man, always after something that will provide better playing conditions for the golfers, while the foreman follows only familiar or accustomed programs or routines.

2. The superintendent attends professional association meetings, short courses, or conferences in search of ideas and answers, while the foreman rarely attends.

3. The superintendent actively elicits tours, comments and criticisms of his course by his peers; the foreman discourages comments on his golf course and is openly antagonistic to anyone who might want to tour his golf course.

4. The foreman wants to do everything himself or with his men to ensure that the job is done right; the superintendent does everything to ensure that his men know what to do and how to do it, and that they have the freedom of action to do the job their way as long as it is done correctly.

5. The foreman retains all control for the operation of the golf course in his own hands; the superintendent astutely delegates his authority to his key men.

6. The superintendent presents well reasoned arguments to the club executives for approval of the type and direction of necessary programs for the golf course; the foreman does not help make decisions, but rather carries them out as instructed.

7. The superintendent actively promotes good public relations and communications with the club members; the foreman leaves that problem to the greens chairman.

8. The superintendent seeks assistance and guidance from his peers when problems arise; the foreman may often ignore his problems and hope that others will not notice them, or that the problems will disappear.

9. The superintendent has a clean shaven heads-up and shoulders-back attitude with just a trace of arrogance; the foreman can rarely be distinguished from his workers.

10. The superintendent occasionally plays golf with the greens chairman and other club officials for better public relations and to gain the golfers point of view, the foreman usually does not play golf with the club members.

11. The superintendent always has some bright young man that he is training and promoting; the foreman is afraid that the bright young man will take his job.

12. The superintendent is visible and available around the clubhouse at least once a day when he is on the course; the foreman confines himself to the course and the maintenance shop.

Last but not least, the superintendent's position should be a job of supervision; he is not a high priced laborer.



## COLUMBIA CITY MARYLAND

John McDonald, former superintendent of the two Columbia golf courses, has been promoted to general manager of land maintenance and development for the Columbia Parks & Recreation Association. Our congratulations go to John for a fine, well deserved promotion.

Angelo Cammarota will take over management of the two 18 hole Columbia City golf courses, Hobbitt's Glen and Allview Country Club, starting September 1st. Glad to keep you in the Mid-Atlantic area Angie!

### IT'S A GIRL !

Congratulations to Gerry Gerard of Bretton Woods on the arrival of a baby girl born August 5. Jennifer Daria, weighing in at 8lbs. 14ozs., joins the family along with a big brother of 3½ and a big sister of 2½.

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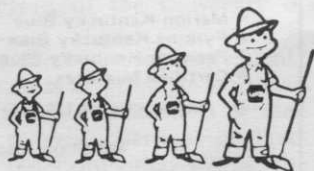
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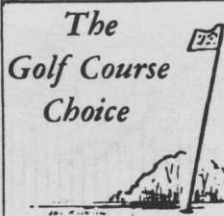
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Published monthly by the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents to aid in the advancement of the golf course superintendent through education and merit.

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Above are the names, addresses and phone numbers of the editors. Contact either of them for contributions or information.

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