



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Board of Directors of your association, at their monthly meetings acted, they felt, in your best interests in the following actions. I feel that this board has accomplished a great deal in the past year.

The Association's records and procedures were reviewed by a C.P.A. In accordance with his recommendations, statements for receipts and disbursements for the years 1971 and 1972 were prepared and a journal of receipts and disbursements is being kept for the current year by the treasurer. Tax returns were filed for the years 1971 and 1972 with the I.R.S. and accepted by them.

A balanced working budget was prepared for the present year and a budget for fiscal 1974 will be submitted by year end. A decision to increase our dues from \$15.00 to \$25.00 was made upon reviewing the deficit of \$1,400.00 that the Association operated under the past two years. We believe that additional membership services can also be provided under the up coming budget.

The decision to move the Conference site from downtown Baltimore to the Washington Beltway for the "74" Conference was made and some thought was given to having an equipment show in conjunction with the Conference. No action was taken on the equipment show for this year. However, action could be taken on this project in a future year.

Thanks largely to an influx of new members at Mid-year from the Tidewater area, that made the Mid-Atlantic Association again truly *Mid-Atlantic*. Our membership increased by 41. We now have 196 voting members as compared to 166 in 72. Holman Griffin of the USGA Greens Section was made a complimentary member of our Association. We published an up-dated membership directory and distributed it to the membership.

A donation was made to the University of Maryland to be used by Dr. Hall for fine turf research. We felt this was a small token to this man who works so closely with us and our Turf Conference.

I'd like to take this time to express my thanks to the Board of Directors for their excellent efforts in making the progress we did in the past year. These actions taken by them made 1973 a significant year in the history of our association. We tend to take things like Ladie's Nite, the Family Picnic, our regular monthly meetings and our Newsletter for granted. But it is the members of our Board who make these activities work.

NATIONAL ENERGY CRISIS —HARD YEAR AHEAD

Our freedom of this past spring's fuel cut back is apparently coming to an abrupt end. President Nixon states we are approaching an energy crisis similar to what the United States experienced during World War II when all our gas and natural resources were severely rationed. The outcome is anyone's guess. How are we to second guess this dilemma and accurately project and avoid, if possible, the long range effects of a national energy crisis.

Some few of us can look back upon World War II and recall what problems golf courses and country clubs suffered during shortages at that time — shortages of everything including manpower. We were not as mechanized at that time, and many other differences make this comparison unpractical, except that we can envision no other similar circumstances such as the U.S. lived through during the war.

What then are the far reaching effects of national shortages of oil, gas and electricity? The energy rationing program will single out all operations not essential to our economy.

When a country club is cut back on gasoline deliveries the golf course is directly affected. When a country club is cut back on electric power, we are only indirectly affected, even if the clubhouse must close down completely.

Country Clubs . . . are they essential to our national economy? Consider if you will the electrical savings gained when golf cars are no longer recharged daily. Obviously we won't be seeing many of these cars in use in the near future — gas or electric.

How can the cities and states justify curbing the residential home use of electricity if the neighborhood's golf courses still allow the use of golf cars? The game of golf will return to the times of the enthusiastic golfer seeking exercise, especially if daylight savings time is to be extended through out the year. But what will he play on if the superintendent can no longer receive his 1000 or more gallons of gas each month of the year?

Now we are into the real crux of our future problems — gasoline rationing. No fuel allocation system can add fuel to the supply; it can only redistribute what is now available. A mandatory allocation system in our Mid-Atlantic states will essentially hurt us and benefit other states.

Dr. Jarvis L. Cain, Extension Agricultural Economist at the University of Maryland and member of the statewide