

President's Message

Teaching, advising, praising, and consoling are all part of his job. He is in constant touch with our golf club members. Sometimes we envy him and at times we pity him. June 12 is your day to thank him for the job he is doing for you and your club. We have all talked about Pro-Superintendent relations — well, here is your chance to put your words into action. Let's all bring our golf professional to our June 12 meeting at Washington Golf & C. C. and show them a terrific time.

Good food — cash prizes (for the pros) — and a fine social hour is planned for this meeting. Lets get those reservation cards in and bring along verification of your handicap if you intend to use a handicap. The Callaway system will also be in use for this tournament. I hope to see you and your golf professional on the 12th of June.

LEE DIETER
PRESIDENT

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MAY AT LAUREL PINES COUNTRY CLUB

Gillie Shapiro hosted our May 8th meeting which featured Dr. Jack Hall, University of Maryland, as our speaker for the evening. Dr. Hall spoke about the Turfgrass Research Programs for the state and cited some of the more promising varieties of experimental bluegrasses they are working on at the research plots in Beltsville.

Bob Orazi won the golf tournament with a low gross of 78. Fortunately the threatening rain clouds did not close out our golf for the day, or the viewing of Gillie's major construction work on the 13th & 14th holes. Gillie has made great strides towards his recovery from the devastating Agnes storms of 1972. The whole golf course was under water and covered with silt and debris. Most impressive was the extensive reconstruction of the 13th and 14th fairways, greens, and tees; all of which are being elevated with soil taken from a two acre lake that Gillie is making for future watering of the golf course.

Everyone enjoyed the dinner and the hospitality and are looking forward to a return visit to see the results of his renovation work.

JUNE MEETING - PRO-SUPT. TOURNAMENT

Our meeting will be held on June 12 at Washington Golf & Country club in Arlington, Virginia, the host will be Lee Dieter. This day will mark a new first within our association, a Pro-Supt tournament. Everybody is invited to attend. Bring along your club Professional or assistant Pro. and enjoy a round of golf—you may even get a free lesson! Postcards and flyers were sent out to those of you with professionals and you are requested to promptly return the cards to Lee Dieter if you have not already done so.

Lee Dieter, superintendent at Washington Golf & Country Club since March 1961, has almost set a Virginia record for staying at one club for over 12 years. Lee contends his longevity at Washington C. C. is due to having good greens committee chairman, of which he has had only four. Good committee chairmans—an asset to any superintendent—are not always a bit of luck. For Lee to have continuously had “good luck” is false thinking, for obviously Lee has worked hard at winning over his chairman's confidence and can get across his ideas of the needs of the golf course.

Over the years Lee has improved the golf course in many ways. To date Lee has rebuilt 13 tees and 5 greens. Eleven of his rebuilt tees are Penncross bentgrass and were constructed from a mixture of 80% sand and 20% peat. Two of his five rebuilt greens are also of this mixture. Lee uses a construction grade sand, usually with 4% silt and 4% clay ranging in size from ¼mm.-1mm. This “dirty” sand provides a mixture suitable for increased water retention and improved soil characteristics without leading to compaction.

Also evident at Washington C. C. is tee to green cart paths, one of the few “paved” courses in our area. The tee to green cart paths, plus good drainage through out the course, enable Lee to keep his course open for play after any rain.

Landscaping on the course is abundant. Lee has planted almost all the trees on the course, some \$600.00 to \$1,000.00 is spent annually for landscaping materials. At the present time you can see over 150 varieties of trees and shrubs on the club grounds and golf course.

Lee, now President of the Mid-Atlantic Assn., has held every office on the Board of Directors including Editor of the Newsletter for four years. Rita, his wife, has been a big help with his chores that accompany a board member's responsibilities. Rita knows that when Lee has been elected to do a job that she has also been elected and willfully devotes much of her time to his success.

Lee and Rita have three boys which make up Lee's family foresome for golf- Fred-6, Chris-7, and Michael-11.

DIRECTIONS TO CLUB: From the Virginia Beltway #495 take Route #123 towards McLean. Go about 5 miles and turn right on Old Dominion Drive. Continue on Old Dominion past the traffic light at Williamsburg Blvd. and turn left on Rock Spring Road. The parking lot is ½ block on the right.