



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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President's Message

by Lee C. Dieter

I have just returned from attending our joint meeting at Shannon Green with the Central Virginia Turfgrass Association. Our congratulations and thanks to Fritz Zeller. He was a gracious host.

I was disappointed, however, at the attendance at the meeting. Only 50 Mid-Atlantic members attended this meeting. That is just slightly over half of our regular attendance. Let's all get out to our next meeting at Laurel Pines.

A change in procedure at our Fredricksburg meeting was the collection for dinner tickets at the pro-shop. We are trying to discourage those few members and guests who feel they don't have the time to spend an evening with us at our meeting. They do, however, have time to come and play our host's golf course.

If the occasion should arise that personal matters would make it impossible for you or your guests to attend the business meeting, proper etiquette would require you to be excused by your host and the president of your association.

MAY MEETING

Our next meeting of the Mid-Atlantic will be held at Gilbert Shapiro's Laurel Pines Country Club, Laurel, Maryland on May 8.

Gillie owns and has operated the whole country club at Laurel Pines since it's opening in 1959, which features an 18 hole regulation size golf course, swimming pool, driving range, and clubhouse.

Gillie is currently involved in major reconstruction on two holes, 13 and 14, which suffered severe damage from Hurricane Agnes. The golf course will be open for play through out this reconstruction and everyone is urged to bring their golf sticks along. For those of you not planning on playing golf, get out there early enough to walk out and view the reconstruction that is now underway.

The renovation plans include elevating 13 and 14 fairways and reconstructing the tees and greens for those two holes. Also under construction are two ponds, one of which is to be a two acre lake. The dredging for the large lake will provide the necessary fill for elevating the two fairways.

Social hour will be at 6:30 pm and dinner will be at 7:30 p.m.

Directions to the club:

From Virginia — Take the Baltimore Washington Parkway to Maryland Route 197 (Laurel-Bowie). Turn left. Club is on the right about 2½ miles.

From Baltimore — Take the Baltimore Washington Parkway to Route 198 to Laurel. Turn right. Go to light at Route 197. Turn left. Club is on left 1/3 mile.

APRIL AT SHANNON GREEN

Fritz Zeller's Shannon Green Golf Course was the site of our joint Mid-Atlantic, Central Virginia, and the Tidewater Golf Course Superintendents Associations.

The rains came down, and even sleet and snow were visible at times during the day, accompanied by occasional gusty 50 mph winds; all of which never deterred over 40 entries in this month's golf tournament. Low gross went to Steve Skowronski with a 79. Lou White and Gene Day followed with a tie for low net for 71.

Dr. A. J. Powell of V.P.I. was our guest speaker for the evening. His topic, cost analysis of fertilizers, brought out some valid reasons why we all should be aware of what makes up the cost of fertilizer production. Rarely are any two similar fertilizers available at similar prices. Some of the variables mentioned below will help us justify the selection and cost of the fertilizer we choose to use. Basically our costs of fertilizers are determined by the following:

1. Volume sold
2. Raw products used
3. Blending costs
4. Shipping costs
5. Physical characteristics