

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting of the Mid-Atlantic will be held on Tuesday, November 13 at River Bend Country Club, Great Falls, Virginia. Tom Haske will be our host.

River Bend was built in 1960 on 150 acres in Great Falls. The greens are C-1 and 19 with some C-7. The fairways are blue grass fescue mixture as are the tees.

Our host Tom Haske graduated from the Institute of Applied Agriculture at the University of Maryland and has been at River Bend since 1968.

This summer they have been trying to fix a lot of wet areas and have laid over 5,000 feet of tile. Also this summer they have put down over a mile of cart paths. Right now they are trying to get the construction mess cleaned up for seeding. Plans for the winter include renovating some tees and building a green house.

Our annual Mid-Atlantic Golf Tournament will be held this month at River Bend due to rain cancelling out last month's golf. Everybody come early and bring along your golf sticks — you will have a shot at one of the prizes — over \$300 in trophy-prizes.

Golf may be played anytime after 12 noon; Social Hour — 5:30; Dinner — 6:30.

Directions to the club — Take Beltway (495) exit number 13 to Route 193. Go towards Great Falls to Shell Gas Station. Turn right on Walker Road. Go about 3 miles to Beach Mill Road. Turn right and go about 1/3 mile to club entrance on right.

COMMON SENSE

A few weeks after moving to a new country club, a superintendent complained to the retiring superintendent of the golf course about the poor cooperation he had received from the club's general manager and also about how poorly he felt the whole operation was run by the club officials in general. He had hoped the retiring superintendent might repeat his feelings to the management of the club.

The next time the new superintendent went to the club house the general manager greeted him with a big smile, told him how happy he was to see him and that he hoped he liked his new home town and to please let him know if there was anything he could do to help him and his wife get settled. The manager also mentioned that several prominent members of the club were very pleased with the progress on the golf course in the short time he had been there.

Later the superintendent reported to the retiring superintendent of the miraculous change he had encountered with the manager. "I suppose you told the SOB how poor of an operation I thought he was running," he said.

"Well, no," the old superintendent said. "In fact — and I hope you don't mind — I told him you were amazed at the way he had built up this small club into what it is today; and that you thought it was one of the best run country clubs you had ever seen."

Moral to story: It's always easy to criticize something or someone — but where does it get you if you are not offering constructive criticism. The goal of criticism is to leave the person with the feeling he has been helped.

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