

# 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 XXV** 

MARCH, 1974



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Along with receiving the benefits of membership in the Mid-Atlantic, there are certain responsibilities that each member should assume if our association is to continue to be effective.

- 1. Respond to requests for information promptly.
- 2. Attend as many meetings as possible.
- 3. If you and your guests play golf it is required that all stay for dinner and the meeting.
- 4. If you plan to move from your present job advise the employment chairman of the Board of Directors so that the association can be active in maintaining high professional standards in the area; keeping the salary level at an equitable figure; and assisting the clubs in obtaining qualified superintendents.
- 5. If you would like to play at a particular golf course, clear the request through the superintendent; your Mid-Atlantic membership card is not an automatic pass to all golf courses in the area.
- 6. Accept responsibilities and tasks for the organization when asked.
- 7. Maintain a professional image at all times.

It is requested that members desiring information about the mechanics of operating the Mid-Atlantic direct your requests through a member of the Board of Directors. Any suggestions or criticisms, notification of hospitalization or other distress of a fellow member, or other pertinent information for the good of the association should follow this same route.

J. Paul Barefoot

# MARCH SUPERINTENDENT'S MEETING

Our March meeting will be held on the 12th at Virgil Robinson's Chantilly National Golf and Country Club in Centreville, Virginia. We are hoping to have a speaker on the controversial subject of environmental protection, from an EPA firm in Washington. In that this is our first Mid-Atlantic meeting of 1974 we expect a large turn-out. Virgil has informed us that probably golf carts will not be available, as they are generally restricted during soft ground conditions prevalent in March. The golf course is open for play though, and everybody is encouraged to play this challenging course.

Cocktails 5:30 P.M. Dinner 6:30 P.M. Golf after 12:00 P.M.

Directions: Beltway 495 to Virginia Route 66 Exit West (Centreville exit). Take Route 66 approximately 1½ miles past weighing station on left to Route 28 exit. Bare left on exit cloverleaf and left on Route 28. Take Braddock Road – left – immediately after getting on Route 28. Chantilly Country Club is 3½4 miles on left side of Braddock Road.

### JIM REID -THE LOSS OF A GREAT FRIEND

Jim Reid, retired superintendent of the Baltimore Suburban Club, passed away after enduring a long illness at Chapel Hill Convalescent Home in Randallstown, Maryland.

Jim cane to the Suburban Club from Philadelphia where he was manager of the Tulley-Secane Country Club. At the Suburban Club, Jim supervised the expansion and landscaping of the golf course. During his 15 years Jim reconstructed many of the greens, tees, and fairways of the Suburban Club.

Jim was an active member of our Mid-Atlantic Association, where he served as a director for twelve years. He was also active in the national, where he received a quarter century pin for his 25 years membership. Jim was a hard worker for the superintendents association, and captured the friendship of many of our past presidents such as Joe Valentine, Marshall Farnham, Joe Ryan, Bob Shields, Paul Weiss, Sr., Jim Thomas and Bob Williams.

Jim was a true pioneer in the turf industry, one of the first Mid-Atlantic supers to instigate a well organized training program for assistant superintendents. Some of Jim's former trainees are George Gumm, George Cleaver, and Bob Miller, present members of our Mid-Atlantic.

We in the Mid-Atlantic offer our sincerest condolence to Jim's wife, Ester, and his family.

If you buy it, you'll discover that topsoil isn't dirt cheap.

### MID-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

George Cleaver, superintendent of the Chestnut Ridge Country Club at Lutherville, Maryland, and national director of our national association, presented two scholarship awards to turfgrass students within the College of Agriculture at the University of Maryland in College Park.

One scholarship went to J. Kevin Mathias of Takoma Park, an agronomy department graduate student with an urban background. The second scholarship winner was David A. Buesch of College Park, a second year student in turfgrass and golf course management at the Institute of Applied Agriculture. Buesch is a native of Belleville, Illinois. George Cleaver noted that 517 such scholarships have been presented since the GCSAA scholarship and research fund was established in 1956.

#### Assistant Position Wanted

John Tanner 5020 26th Avenue Hillcrest Heights, Maryland 20031

Received Associates Arts Degree in history in 1971.

- Attending Institute of Applied Agriculture at the University of Maryland will graduate in May 1974.
- Course Experience 6 summers on three golf courses: Henson Creek Golf Course, Oxon Hill, Md.; Tantallon Country Club, Tantallon, Md.; Brandywine Country Club, Upper Marlboro, Md.

### THOMAS DOERER -SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR 1973

This March Newsletter is dedicated to Thomas Doerer in appreciation of his devotion and advice on all matters related to turf management. Our sincere wish for his continued success go with Tommy wherever he goes.

Tom is recognized throughout the turf industry as highly competent with the management of turf and people – the two prerequisities of our profession. His abilities extend beyond this as Tom is also a leader within our association, serving as Secretary Treasurer for two years, Vice President for one year and President of our organization for two terms. Tom has been a member of the Mid-Atlantic for twenty years.

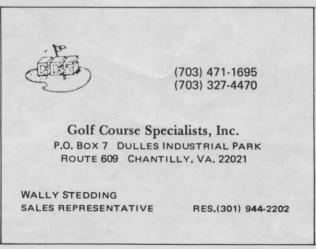
Fort Belvoir is Tom's golf course; for over sixteen years Tom has manicured, constructed and reconstructed this Alexandria, Virginia, golf course. Fort Belvoir is widely recognized as one of the best maintained golf courses in the metropolitan area. Tom has worked closely with extension agents, USGA green section agronomists, and surrounding universities with extensive testing of grass varieties, chemicals and fertilizers. Tom is now noted to have a unique strand of Bermuda which survives our unpredictable winters and is relatively free of spring dead spot. None of Tom's success has come by accident, for Tom has been involved in virtually every aspect of golf since age 12. Tom has served in every country club supervisory capacity ranging from his present job as golf course superintendent which followed his careers as a golf professional, club general manager, and pro-superintendent. During these years Tom even found time to build a golf course. To add to all this experience, Tom worked for a chemical firm, in an advisory capacity, during World War II.

In recognition of Tom's professional excellence, the Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Association has presented its highest honor, superintendent of the year plaque, to Tom at the Virginia Turfgrass Council's Conference banquet on January 29, 1974.

Sincerest congratulations are extended to Thomas Doerer on this honor. Best of luck from the Mid-Atlantic.

Floyd Landgram, famous leading golf money winner in the late 1940's, made less as leading money winner during 1951 than a second place winner made in one tournament during 1973.





### GUEST EDITORIAL -FUEL CONSERVATION IN GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE

I would be less than honest if I told you I thought there was a fuel crisis. Shortage yes, crisis no. But forgetting my personal feelings and just in case I should be wrong, it behooves us all to plan and incorporate techniques in which we can conserve energy. We owe this to our employers, ourselves and to posterity.

While looking over last year's operation here at Chantilly and planning ahead for 1974, I have jotted down a few ways in which maybe I could save energy and in turn save money. I share them with you in hopes you will share your ideas with me.

- 1. Let unused areas of rough grow. Dr. Fred Grau has been advocating this as a refuge for wildlife and as a place where wild plants and flowers might grow. A side benefit is that it would save energy.
- 2. Cut fairways and roughs less frequently. Even one time less per week would certainly help.
- 3. Plan trips to your suppliers so that you make the "rounds" and do not have to make individual trips. It won't hurt to let that "red man" see a little "orange" or vice versa.
- 4. Fertilize greens and tees in the evenings prior to a night you intended to water anyway and kill two birds with one stone, i.e. watering greens and watering in fertilizer.
- 5. In purchasing road use vehicles for the golf course, buy either four (4) or six (6) cylinder vehicles with a manual shift.
- 6. Plan your routine job functions on the golf course so that one man making one trip around the golf course

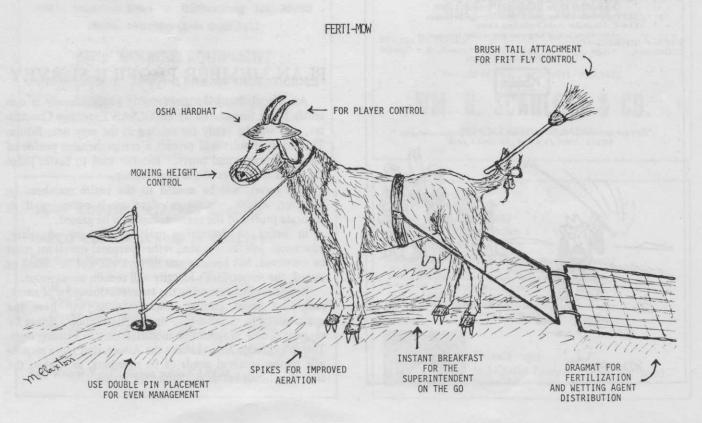
can accomplish more than one task. For instance: One man can change cups, tee markers, pick up trash and service ball washers all in one operation.

- 7. Irrigate prudently: Water that is running off the greens, tees and fairways and not going into the soil is wasted for irrigation purposes.
- 8. In securing employees, particularly summer help, try to hire men or women who live in near proximity to each other and make car pooling a condition of employment. If unemployment continues to rise as predicted, superintendents should be able to be more selective in filling job openings.
- 9. Keep pneumatic tires inflated to the proper air pressure.
- 10. Keep carburetors on all equipment properly adjusted and air filters clean.
- 11. At lunch hour, have employees leave their machines in the field (out of the line of play, of course), and "scooter pool" it into the maintenance building.
- 12. Do not carry extra weight on any maintenance vehicle.
- 13. Maintain temperature levels in maintenance building between 60 and 65 degrees.
- 14. Take soil tests frequently and apply *only* the fertilizer nutrients that re needed in the soil. For example, don't apply a fertilizer that contains phosphorous if your soil is already sufficiently high in that nutrient just because it happens to be in the analysis you are accustomed to using.

15. Curtail the use of any unnecessary lighting.

In looking back over this list, with the possible exception of point #2, we have not reduced our level of maintenance, we have only increased our efficiency. Isn't that the name of the game for the golf course superintendent?

Virgil Robinson, Jr.



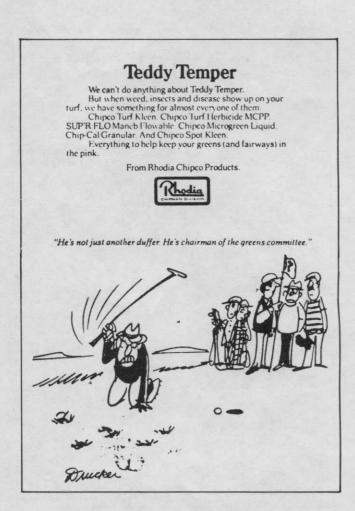
# BUILD YOUR OWN GREENHOUSE FOR 25°

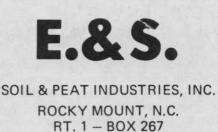
Actually the above statement should read "U.S. Government bulletin on building your greenhouse for only  $25\phi$ ," but if you've read this far you're bound to read on.

The U.S. Government Printing Office has put out a very informative 20-page bulletin concerning building greenhouses on a scale to benefit golf course superintendents. Topics include types of greenhouses, construction and frames, designing and locating your greenhouse, heating, ventilating, evaporative cooling, shading and lighting requirements, and making beds for growing small plants and environmental control units.

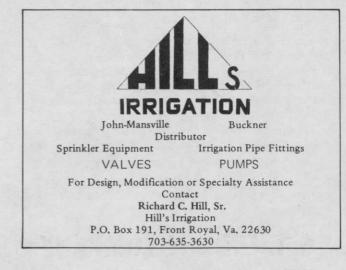
This sounds like a "must" reference for superintendents desiring to become accomplished greenhouse growers of planting material for their golf course. Needless to say small greenhouses are already in existence on many golf courses in the area, but no doubt the quarter would be well invested money, irregardless of your scale of propagatin.

Attach a small lean-to type green house to your maintenance building and you will forever enjoy the rewards of plant and flower propagation. Send 254 to Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, and ask for Ag. Information Bulletin #357.





919-443-5016 U.S.G.A. QUALITY TOPDRESSING STERILIZED SOIL MIXTURES PEAT HUMUS



### PLAN MEMBER PROFILE SURVEY

An Association-wide membership profile survey is currently being formulated by the GCSAA Executive Committee, and will be ready for mailing in the very near future. The survey results will project a comprehensive profile of the membership and provide another tool to better judge the needs and wants of the membership.

The survey will be mailed to the entire membership; however, a high percentage of return is necessary if an accurate profile of the membership is to be gained.

In order to determine national averages of salary, education, job tenure, etc., rather personal questions must be answered, but because the surveys will not be coded or signed, the respondent's identity will remain anonymous.

In addition to answering the standard questions of name, rank and serial number, each member will have the opportunity to "Have a say," in the Association's future by suggesting new programs or modifications to existing ones. This information should make the Association more responsive to the personal needs of its members, as it gives the elected officials better guidelines for action.

#### COMPLACENCY

Back in 1965, nine years ago, our East Coast suffered an "unexpected" power blackout. Nine years ago, our nation experienced its first major energy crisis, but unfortunately with no serious repercussions, for no satisfactory corrective measures were enacted to prevent our critical situation of today's energy crisis. Why??

Americans, as a whole are a complacent group, unaccustomed to the hardships their forefathers endured a hundred years ago. The repercussions of mass complacency are what we are living through today - and all for the good of every American - at least for our children's generation if not for ours.

Through hardships we either learn new industrious ways to live or falter and be absolved as a nation. Americans are noted for ingenuity, for we are made up of all walks of life and all kinds of people. With this inherent ingenuity we will resolve these present day hardships and learn from these experiences to provide a healthier more stronger nation.

Unfortunately we have yet to endure the possible recession and consequental depression to prove out this above theory. Past history has proven that mankind can endure if provided with much fewer natural resources than our North American continent has provided for the United States – that is if we don't remain complacent as we did back in 1965.

As of this date our nation has not taken the necessary evasive measures to prevent serious shortages of all our natural resources; a catastrophic mistake resulting from complacency. We will not again ever become unappreciative of our natural resources. Once we devise alternate sources of raw materials and replenish depleted supplies of existing natural resources, we will no longer be a nation of wasteful people. We will grow in strength and prosper as a result of this present day energy crisis.

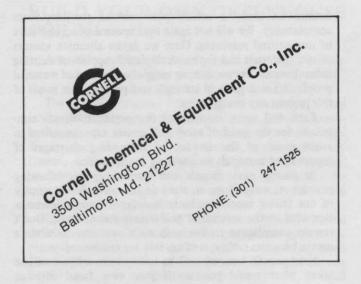
Each and every member of our organization can contribute for the good of every golf course superintendent to avoid some of the impact of impending shortages of supplies and materials we use daily in our work.

Beginning next month and continuing in following newsletter, we will try to compile the collective ingenuity of our fellow superintendents in order to supply information vital to the survival of golf course maintenance. Don't remain complacent to live with each new crisis – when a rumor becomes reality, it is too late for evasive action.

Next month a survey will be taken. Many of you will be asked what would you do if you were faced with an immediate 20% fuel cutback. Be prepared to face this reality and read next month how many of us would cut back on various maintenance operations.

- 1. Plan for severe shortages gas, fertilizer, equipment, late deliveries, etc.
- 2. Decide what to do to overcome your problem in advance, altered maintenance practice, etc.
- 3. Notify club officials of any changes in your operation before they happen.





#### DATES TO REMEMBER

Massachusetts Turf Conference March 6, 7, 8 Chicopee, Massachusetts Note: George Thompson, Columbia C.C., will participate in a panel discussing tri-calcium arsenate.

National Grounds Management Ladies Night Dinner and Dance March 16

Call Paul Barefoot for details: U.S. Soldiers Home 202/726-9100, ext. 239 Home 202/291-2095

### AVAILABLE IN EARLY MAY -TWO-YEAR TURF GRADUATES

Dr. Hawes of the Institute of Applied Agriculture, University of Maryland, reports he has twelve turf students who will graduate in early May. Six of these are currently seeking employment as assistants or technicians. These students range in age from 19 to 24 years. Their turf experience ranges from six summers plus part-time winter work to one summer season on a golf course.

Dr. Hawes also has three of 19 freshmen students who desire summer jobs in the Maryland-Virginia area. These students will be working on their placement reports.

Twenty of the 48 turf graduates from the Institute are now superintendents, fifteen in Maryland, two in Virginia, one in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and New Jersey. Fourteen others are assistant superintendents, mostly in Maryland, but also one in Ohio, North Carolina and New Jersey.

Incoming students have been mostly from Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania. He has also had one from North Dakota and California. New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Delaware have also been represented in freshman classes. EGYPT FARMS, INC.

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The gypsy moth damage to trees in the northeastern states continues to be extensive. According to a recently published USDA report, 1,773,846 acres of woodland were defoliated in nine states last summer. Pennsylvania, the hardest hit, is apparently suffering from the mobile nature of the pest, as it moves from an area of less favored food to areas where hardwood trees, its favorite food, are abundant. The Poconos region of Pennsylvania was especially hard hit, with almost 70% of the trees completely stripped. The acreages attacked by the moth in the 9 state region were: Penn., 856,710; Conn., 333-215; N.J., 254,865; N.Y., 248-441; Mass., 43,970; R.I., 35,935; Maine, 490; Vt., 200; and N.H., 30.



### IMPORTANT! FOR YOUR COUNTRY'S SAKE READ THIS

## Reprinted from U.D. PIPELINE, July 1, 1971, Vol. 7, The Official Publication of The United Dairymen's Association.

We think this is important enough to be published in every publication in the United States and in every other Free Nation on earth every week. Not to put it into practice, but to take warning for it is already now in practice in this country. It is a poisonous rattlesnake. For the sake of your home and your country, your life and your freedom, help stamp it out. Of course, we need changes, need to keep abreast of the tremendous advances of science, but not this way.

In May of 1919, at Dusseldorf, Germany, the allied forces obtained a copy of some of the Communist Rules for Revolution. Fifty years later, the Reds are still following the rules. As you read, stop after each item and think about the present day situation where we live – and all around our nation.

We quote the Red Rules:

A. Corrupt the young; get them interested in sex; make them superficial; destroy their ruggedness.

B. Get control of all means of publicity, thereby getting the people's minds off their government by focusing their attention on athletics, sexy books and plays, and other trivialities.

C. Divide the people into hostile groups by constantly harping on controversial matters of no importance.

D. Destroy the people's faith in their natural leaders by holding them up to contempt and ridicule.

E. Always preach true democracy, but seize power as fast and as ruthlessly as possible.

F. By encouraging government extravagance, destroy its credit, produce fear of inflation with rising prices and general discontent.

G. Promote unnecessary strikes in vital industries, encourage civil disorders and foster a lenient and soft attitude on the part of the government toward such disorders.

H. By specious argument, cause breakdown of the moral virtues, honesty, sobriety, continence, faith in the pledged word.

I. Cause the registration of all firearms on some pretext, with a view to confiscating them and leaving the population helpless.

How many of these rules are being carried out in this nation today? I don't see how any thinking person can truthfully say that the Communists are not involved in the chaos that is upsetting our nation!

Submitted by Harvey Dreibelbis, Hominy Hill Golf Club. 2nd Reprinting from N.J.G.C.S.A. Jan. Golf Course Report.

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> > Craig A. Spottswood Kenwood Country Club Bethesda, Maryland Editor – 301–460-5038



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