



CHARTER

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 XXVI

November 1975

Number 11

SHADY GROVE MUSIC FAIR LADIES NIGHT

JOHNNY CASH — JUNE CARTER

November 18

Reservations: Paul Barefoot

Home: 291-2095 Work: 762-9100 Ext 239

\$25.00 Couple

Name the Mid-Atlantic Newsletter

Response from last month's request for naming our monthly publication have not been much — only three members have volunteered any suggestions.

Carl Schoening: 1) The Mid-Atlantic Flag Staff
2) Just Putterin' Around

Bill Black: 1) Nations Capital Grass Roots

Holman Griffin: 1) Capitol Turf Topics

2) Capitol News Notes

3) Capitol Clippings

4) Turf Topics

5) Mid-Atlantic Greens Clippings

6) Hooks and Slices

7) National Greens Notes

Note: Holman also states he sees nothing wrong with the present name of Mid-Atlantic Newsletter.

The above ideas are good but we would like to see more membership participation. Come on fellas — send in your ideas. Maybe we should plagiarize and use Angie's New Maryland Turfgrass Council logo — "Up Your Grass". Angie is now selling this logo as a bumper sticker — buy one and support the Maryland Turfgrass Council.

Dates to Remember

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| November 11 | Piney Branch Golf & C.C.
Hampstead Maryland
Open discussion on Golf Course
Host: Eugene Dyke |
| November 18 | Ladies Night — Shady Grove
Johnny Cash — June Carter
Reservations: Paul Barefoot
291-2095 or 762-9100 Ext. 239 |
| Dec. 9 | Army Navy Country Club
Host: David Fairbank
Election & By Law Meeting |
| Jan 5-6 | Mid-Atlantic Conference
Holiday Inn Exit 17 off 695 |
| Jan 30 | USGA Green Section Conference
Baltimore Hotel New York City |
| Feb. 8-13 | 47th GCSAA International
Turfgrass Conference & Show
Minneapolis, Minn. |

OSHA Inspectors Now Visiting Area Clubs

Golf Courses in Virginia, Baltimore and Washington are now getting visits from OSHA inspectors — and fines!

Most frequently violated standards (listed in descending order of frequency).

- 1) Failure to ground lines and equipment; overloading lines; frayed wires; improper insulation; unprotected switch and fuse boxes.
- 2) Unguarded belts, fly wheels, drive chains and gears.
- 3) Outdated fire extinguisher inspections, improper mounting and inaccessible locations.
- 4) Inadequate point-of-operation guards for all machines.
- 5) Unguarded saw blades on wood working machinery.
- 6) Unprotected drops of four or more feet with in floors, wall openings, or holes.
- 7) Unclean and wet working areas; projecting nails and splinters.
- 8) Improper storage of compressed gases.
- 9) Improperly adjusted grinder tool rests and missing guards.
- 10) Unmarked exits, sometimes locked or improperly lighted.
- 11) Improper storage of flammable and combustible liquids.
- 12) Sanitation.
- 13) Spray painting using flammable materials and failure to post "No Smoking" signs.
- 14) Failure to ground or replace guards on hand and portable power tools.
- 15) Portable ladders with broken or wobbly legs, broken or missing rings.
- 16) Inadequate or missing first aid kits.
- 17) Failure to provide and have employees wear protective clothing or goggles.

Footnote: Dick Anderson of Burning Tree C.C. in Bethesda Maryland was fined for not having the proper pressure nozzle on his air compressor.



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Miracle Fertilizer

Today there are more and more recommended ways to make plants grow larger and faster: music, love conversation, just to mention a few. Strange enough the story of Jack and the Beanstalk may very nearly come true one of these days thanks to something entirely different. An accidental discovery may turn out to be the biggest agricultural news of this or any other century.

The discovery was made by a medical doctor working with NASA a man named Walter Kemmerer. What happened was this. Dr. Kemmerer wanted to find out if moon dust contained any contamination that might infect earth plants. So he took a bunch of plants, scratched their leaves, and inserted some moon dust.

Except for one plant, a fern; it didn't lend itself to leaf scratching. So the doctor simply sprinkled a bit of moon dust on the soil around the plant, just to see what would happen.

What happened was that the fern tripled in size! A flabbergasted Dr. Demmerer, knowing he was on to something very big, immediately conducted other tests. . . all with the same fantastic results.

So far it's a mystery, although scientists do know that moon dust contains more titanium, zirconium and

chromium than earth soil, and they're testing to see which of these three elements . . . if any. . . is the miracle fertilizer.

More exciting, the surface of the moon itself might be ideal for farming, although the problems of getting water there and building greenhouses big enough are pretty forbidding, all the same NASA was seriously thinking about having future astronauts erect a small greenhouse there and test some fast-growing plants.

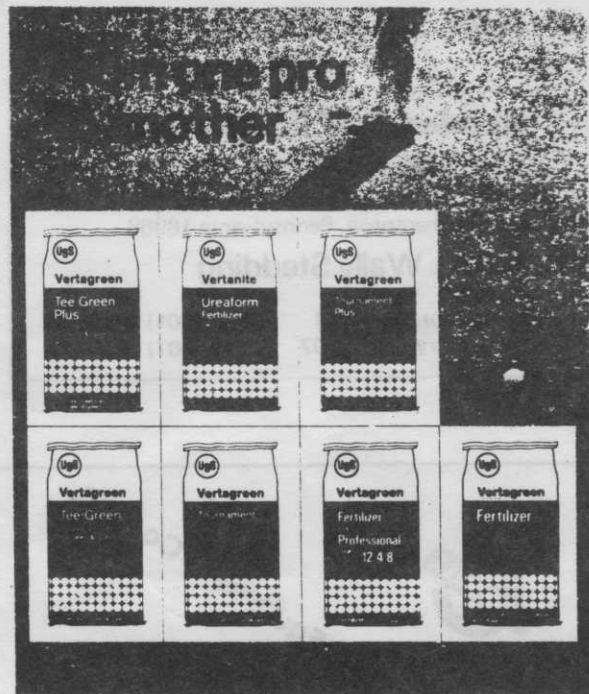
Tri-Stater News
 Ed Boyd, Editor

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Nov. 11 Meeting— Piney Branch. . .

Years ago, long before my generation even considered turf management as a career, The Mid-Atlantic Greenskeepers Association was formed which gave forth the birth of exchanging information pertinent to turf management. This radical view of letting your neighboring superintendent know your secrets was in the form of an open discussion of the host's golf course. In that many of us have not experienced such an educational meeting, I feel compelled to generate interest to all of us to attend such a meeting.

Speculating, I would guess we will formalize our social hour! Quite often I have come home from a meeting and have been grateful for ideas other superintendents have given me during a moments talk before our dinner and educational program. After years of attending meetings I have learned to value the social hour equally as much as our educational program, for at this time we can discuss our common problems or seek advice on a particular problem. Our upcoming meeting on "An Open Discussion of the Golf Course", will be along this line and certainly well worth attending. Don't miss this opportunity to participate with everybody in exchanging knowledge on all aspects of golf turf management.

The meeting will be held at Piney Branch Golf and Country Club. Eugene Dyke will be our host superin-

tendent and has provided us with the following information.

Piney Branch is situated in the rolling farmland of Baltimore and Carrol Counties, the course covers approximately 206 acres of prime farmland. Designed by Eddie Ault, the contractors for the course were Del-Val Company and Robert Vincent and Co. The course was opened in 1965 for 9 hole play and was completed in June 1971 for 18 hole play. The course is 6,915 yards long. The grasses on the greens are Penncross bent, the tees have Merion Blue and Pennlawn fescue, the fairways are Kentucky blue and creeping red fescue and the roughs are Kentucky 31. The greens average 7,000 to 8,000 square feet and tees are 35 x 70. The irrigation system is manually controlled for greens, tees and fairways. The course has a nicely nestled five acre lake and 2 small ponds fed by nearby springs. For your convenience there is a practice green, tee, fairway and sand trap. Par is 71.

Our PGA pro Tim McCoy and his assistants will meet you in the pro shop, and the dining facilities are handled by Ronnie Warehime and his staff.

Our host Eugene Dyke has been associated with Piney Branch since 1970. He is a self taught superintendent with 10 years experience between Piney Branch and Sleepy Hollow, Charlestown, West Virginia. Prior to becoming a superintendent he was associated with several golf courses in their maintenance department.

Golf may be played anytime after 11 a.m. There will be prizes awarded, including the use of a 1976 Plymouth Duster free for one year to the superintendent having a hold in one on the 9th hole. Social hour will be 5:30 to 6:30 and dinner will be at 6:30. Golf carts will be available to those people who want to see the golf course before the meeting. Directions are as follows:

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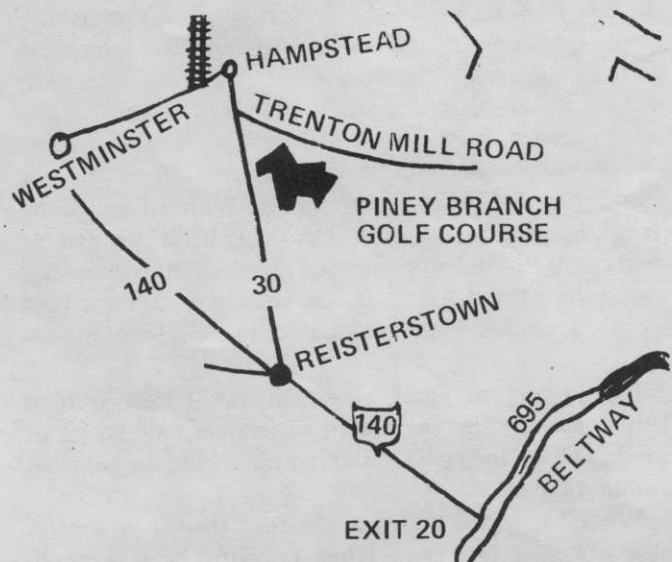
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Woodmont Meeting

Unseasonably warm weather, brilliant fall color, and sunny blue skies set the scene for our annual memorial tournament at Woodmont Country Club. Over 60 golfers tested their skills on Bob Shields' challenging bermuda grass south course. Anyone who missed this opportunity to get our with fellow superintendents missed a sparkling clear fall day that was more enjoyable than our golf game (especially the way I played golf!)

Tournament Results

Class A & B

1st low gross	Bob Martino
2nd low gross	Ron Hall
3rd low gross	Jim Shuey
4th low gross	Bert Yingling
5th low gross	Dick Fisher
6th low gross	Herb Heinlein
1st low net	Grafton Lumsden
2nd low net	Dick Anderson
3rd low net	Charles Schalestock
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5th low net	Bill Livingston
6th low net	Paul McKenzie

Class C

1st low gross	Walter Montross
---------------	-----------------

Class E

1st low gross	Charles Pecora
2nd low gross	Carl Schoening
3rd low gross	Charlie Johnson

Guest

1st low gross	Charles Percell
2nd low gross	Terry Haveland

Ladies

1st	Ruth Milligan
2nd	Jimmie Barefoot
3rd	Jan Anderson
4th	Mary Lou Spottswood

Longest Drive	Bob Martion
Closest to the hole	Dick Fisher

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Our Woodmont meeting was different. From the individual club welcoming signs on the long entrance road to inviting wives to attend a regular meeting. Regular is hardly the right word for we had live entertainment in place of our educational program. Dr. Chang, famed "Chinese" magician-humorist, mixed up his magic and continuously surprised everyone with his quick wit and humor. Special commendations go to those in our group who were called upon to assist Dr. Chang, for the rest of the audience certainly enjoyed the way they entertained us from the stage.

With the beautiful weather, the immaculate golf course, the fine buffet dinner, and the evening of entertainment, this meeting was certainly one of the most enjoyable of the year.

The Golfer's Responsibility to the Golf Course

The Georgia Turf-Grass News
James P. Callaghan, Assistant Superintendent
Athens Country Club, Athens, Ga.

Authors note: This is the first of a series of articles aimed to educate the golfing public on pertinent aspects of golf course management. I trust that these articles will find their way to a conspicuous area where the golfer will have an opportunity to read them.

Today's golf course superintendent has a very responsible job — everytime something goes wrong, he's responsible! Like the superintendents, the golfer has various responsibilities. When properly performed, he is adding to the playability and appearance of the golf course and lessening the burden of the superintendent and his crew.

The golfer must first realize that by simply playing the game, he is inflicting injury in many different ways to his golf course. Chopping pieces of turf out of the ground, scarring the putting surface with his approach shot and golf spikes, upsetting the playability of the sand trap and riding around in a very efficient compacting machine are the most common injuries afflicted by the golfer to his course. It is the golfers responsibility to remedy the wounds made by him as well as the wounds made by others who tend to be forgetful.

Immediately after a divot is taken, it should be replaced. There are several ways pertaining to this (see editorial). Some individuals have stated that a divot taken from an area of predominantly creeping grasses, need not be replaced for it will be covered in a relatively short period of time. The only problem with this trend of thought is that a golfer landing a divot, will have some degree of difficulty in executing his next shot. Now, you may ask, since the player gets to place his ball on the tee, is it necessary to replace a divot taken from a tee? Absolutely! A vast amount of time

and effort goes into the fine grading of a tee. Constant failure to replace divots results in an uneven surface which will lead to poor appearance caused by uneven mowing.

Immediately after a ballmark is created, it should be repaired. This is one injury that cannot wait for treatment from the grounds crew; it is essential that the one who puts it there clears it up. A ball mark repaired immediately will take 24 hours to heal. A ball mark repaired 24 hours later will take two weeks to heal.

Immediately after the golfer gets to within a few feet of the putting surface, he should be aware that his feet should move in a manner that will not mar the putting surface. Dragging a golf spikes and putting greens aren't a favorite combination. Remember that the person who plays behind you cannot repair injury caused by your golf shoes until he has holed out (Rules of Golf). If you have heavy feet, be sure to repair damage caused by your golf shoes.

Immediately after negotiating a sand trap, the golfer should rake it out as level as possible. He who lands in a depression in a sand trap is not the happiest golfer in the world. In addition to having a difficult shot, the golfer must be aware that his club cannot touch the

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sand on the backswing. It takes very little effort to keep the sand trap in the same condition you found it in, if not better.

Immediately after taking command of a golf car, the golfer should realize that he is operating a grass plants' nightmare. It is the most devastating facet in routine turf management on the golf course. The golfer should operate the vehicle in a manner that will minimize its detrimental aspect. Operating the golf car in rough areas whenever and wherever possible is a must. He should confine the vehicle to designated paths. Staying clear of wet areas and worn turf will result in better quality turf.

Another area of responsibility that rests on the golfer is permitting work to be accomplished on the course. The superintendent and his crew are constantly trying to meet work schedules around the golfers. However, there are times when the golfer should sacrifice a minute or two in order to let a particular job be completed. If a green is being sprayed and the operator has almost completed his job, let him finish. It seems quite absurd that the worker should stop for five minutes to let a foursome through when he can have his job completed in a minute or two. The same aspect applies to the men cutting tees, aprons, greens and fairways. If the golfer can observe that the job is just about completed, let the worker finish the job and let him move on. It is amazing how many man-hours can be saved if the golfer shows the same courtesy to the crew that the crew strives to show the golfer.

The last responsibility to be discussed is that of keeping the course clean. Wherever people gather, so does trash. Nothing mars the appearance of a golf course more than garbage, and the guilty ones are the golfers. It is the golfers responsibility to dispose of refuse properly.

By carrying out his responsibilities, the golfer will certainly add to the betterment of his golf course. By carrying out his responsibilities, the golfer will certainly win the respect of the superintendent and other golfers. By carrying out his responsibilities, the golfer will certainly become an asset to the operating of the golf course.

Some people are confident they could move mountains if only somebody would just clear the foothills out of the way.

Human nature seems to endow every man with the ability to size up every man but himself.

GCSA Certification Programs Changes

The Certification program now requires two, rather than three years as a Class A member of GCSAA. Specific requirements and procedures for recertification and retired status were also clarified.

All members interested in the Certified Golf Course Superintendents Program should direct their inquiries to the Director of Education, at GCSAA Headquarters Office, 1617 St. Andrews Drive, Lawrence, Kansas 66044.

Our Mid-Atlantic CGCS climbed to 21 this month with the additions of Ed Schmitt from the University of Maryland Golf Course and Robert Bingham, who now operates his own turf management company.

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