



**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 XXVII

April 1976

Number 4

## Pity the Poor Student

When was the last time you hired a turf student — Mr. Superintendent? I am not speaking of the summer time person that is gone in the fall. I am speaking about the turf school graduate. Many of us have hired summertime placement students from turf schools, but these individuals leave to go back to school and don't present a problem to us as far as having to lay them off for the winter. The turf school graduate is another problem. Consider what you have done for that summer student. You have helped well round his education by giving him some valuable field experience. You have given him a little more attention and responsibility than the average crewman. You have made him want to be a superintendent of his own course some day. You have imparted some of your knowledge to him and in return you have had some more technically oriented labor. Now it is one year later and you have a turf school graduate at your door. What now — Mr. Superintendent? What are you going to do for that kid you encouraged last year? What if you had two or three of the students? Are you going to hire this technician in May and lay him off next winter? Unless you are looking for an assistant, or planning to build a smaller full time crew from students, you have a problem. It is not feasible to keep these students all year unless you have room or a large budget. You probably already have the nucleus of a good crew that's been with you for some time. You have just burst that kid's bubble.

Maybe we as superintendents could help to relieve this situation by reviewing our position on hiring students. Ten years ago the industry was screaming for qualified people to maintain golf courses. Those of us coming out of school back then had unlimited opportunities. This is not the case today. For the last 10 years many colleges have been pumping out turf students and now the supply far exceeds the demand. For example, out of eleven students graduating from the two year program at the University of Maryland, only two have jobs as assistants or better. As we all know, the Superintendents Association aids deserving students by awarding scholarships. We also give many dollars to fund turf research and create a better atmosphere for our students. What can we as superintendents do to help ease this frustrating situation for the students? This is a very good question with very few good answers. The next time a young person comes to you for advice on a

Golf Course Superintendent's career, be honest with him and yourself. Sure, you love your field of endeavor, you'd have to, to stay in this business, but think before you talk. Don't build this kid up for what might be a big let down. When you talk to this young person, don't tell just the good parts, point out to him that the bad days sometimes outnumber the good. Tell him that a good portion of your life is spent on that golf course and that its a truly dedicated person that becomes a superintendent. If possible, have this individual work with you before he enters school. Check out his working habits, see if he's got what it takes. Be honest with him, if you have any doubts about him, discuss it with him. This business isn't for just anyone. If he's not ready, tell him; you will be doing him a favor. If you really think he's ready, push him, he'll overcome any obstacle if he really wants it.

The only good way to stop the overcrowding is to encourage the exceptional individual.

Wayne Evans

## The President's Message

Now that we have absorbed this past winter's education from our turf conferences, let's look ahead to this coming season and apply the worthwhile knowledge we gained from listening to our speakers. It would be a waste of time and money if we came home and put aside all that we learned or read over the winter months. This past winter in the Mid Atlantic area has been one of the most unusual for many years past. During January, some areas in metropolitan Washington had minimum temperatures of 30 or less every day of the month. In contrast, February has some of the warmest weather on record, reaching as high as 80° on the seventeenth. What ever happened to those good old snowy winters? With this printing the golfing season will be in full swing and we will be too busy to think about all the play we had this past winter; we can only dream about enjoyable skiing and sledding on our courses next winter. Have a good season.

David Fairbank

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## 1976 PGA

During the 1976 PGA at Congressional, the Superintendents Association has been asked to help. Our duties will be protection of the golf course putting greens during evening hours. Each individual who volunteers to help will have free parking and clubhouse privileges during his days there. Eighteen volunteers are necessary in order that everyone will be able to work only 4 1/2 hour shifts. Anyone wishing to help should contact Angelo Cammarota at 301-730-5962. This is a great way to see the worlds greatest golfers for free.



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May — Pro-Superintendent

Date and Club to be announced

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## 1976 Handicaps

Anderson, Dick	7	McCominsky, Ken	22
Baker, Ken	38	Mason, Earl	16
Barefoot, Paul	38	Martino, Bob	5
Braun, Ken	10	McKenzie, Mike	23
Brown, L.W.	38	McKenzie, Paul	16
Bull, Russel	40	McNeal, Ralph	40
Comalli, Tom	6	Miller, Bob	12
Cornell, George	6	Milligan, Mike	12
Cammarota, Angie	40	Montross, Walter	21
Cammarota, Dave	22	Nolf, Ron	22
Culbertson, Norm	15	Novelli, Bob	15
Day, Gene	28	Orazi, Bob	5
Drew, John	40	O'Linger, Cliff	8
Dieter, Lee	40	Pensinger, Grant	16
Doerer, Tom	10	Pecora, Chuck	14
Emerson, Bill	7	Rhoderick, Craig	6
Elseroad, Walter	35	Robinson, Virgil	11
Evans, Wayne	40	Rudinski, Lou	19
Fairbank, Dave	26	Schoening, Carl	14
Finger, Brian	40	Shapiro, Gillie	21
Fisher, Dick	14	Shirling, Parker	40
Gerard, Gerry	40	Spottswood, Craig	25
Hall, John	11	Stagg, Ben	28
Hall, Mike	12	Strouth, Ralph	40
Hall, Ron	7	Stanley, Ernest	18
Hanna, Mike	36	Seward, Allan	36
Harris, Tom	24	Thompson, George	30
Hawes, Doug	18	Tutich, John	20
Hendrie, Don	6	Watson, Al	16
Heinlien, Herb	11	Weeks, Paul	18
Hill, Dick	32	Wilson, Ed	40
Hoenig, George		White, Lou	19
Kessel, Sam	11	Whetzell, Buck	24
Lawson, Stan	12	Yingling, Bert	12
Livingston, Bill	22	Splanger, Ernest	15
List, Tom	26	Stedding, Wally	20
Lumsden, Grafton	7	Skowrowski, Steve	6

**Employment Referral Service  
Golf Course Superintendents  
Association of America**

February 23, 1976

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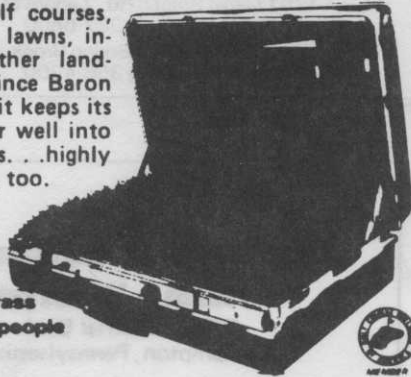
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## Overdue Dues

If you haven't paid your 1976 Mid Atlantic Dues, don't wait for an overdue notice. Don't risk being dropped — get your dues in. If you have turned it over to your club to pay, check them out. Don't let their mistake be your misfortune.

## Action Request

To: Presidents, Secretaries, Affairs Chairman,  
Newsletter Editors and Special Recipients

From: Conrad L. Scheetz, Executive Director

Re: 50th Anniversary Celebration

As you know, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America will be 50 years old on September 13, 1976.

This is, of course, an auspicious occasion in the history of any association. This occasion will be celebrated at the place of our founding, Sylvania Country Club, Sylvania, Ohio, with exhibits, a banquet and a golf tournament, September 13, 14, & 15, 1976.

We have requested the President of the United States to designate the week of September 12-18, 1976, National Golf Course Superintendents week. This matter is under consideration by the President and was accomplished through our Senator and local Congressman.

It would be extremely helpful if each of you could take some action through your individual Senator and Congressman in this regard. It would show the President the national character of the Association and bring the name of the Association and superintendents in particular, to the attention of the public.

Your prompt attention to this request would be appreciated as the matter is now under consideration.

# Turfgrass Information

The American Society of Agronomy is offering the "Second Proceedings of the International Turfgrass Society" for sale. This text has been recommended by Dr. John R. Hall, Turf Specialist of the University of Maryland as perhaps being beneficial to many golf course superintendents in the Mid Atlantic area. Contact Dr. Hall at the University of Maryland if you would be interested in this addition to your library.

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# Meeting Places

Anyone interested in hosting meeting places for the Mid Atlantic this year? If you are, please contact Bill Emerson at 301-252-6-26. We have only two confirmed clubs for 1976 and don't have a course confirmed for our Pro-Superintendent tournament May 11. If you haven't hosted a meeting in the last few years, or if you never hosted a meeting, please help us out. We all would love to get out and see more golf courses.

**TORO**

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# April Meeting

The April meeting of the Mid Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents will be held at Indian Spring Country Club, Silver Spring, Maryland on April 13, 1976. Herb Heinlein will be our host.

Herb has been at Indian Spring for four years, and has had his son Mike as his assistant since he has been there. Of the forty four years Herb has been a superintendent, he has belonged to the GCSAA for 27 years and served as president of the Allegheny Mountain Golf Course Association for 15 years and president of the Golf Course Owners Association of Pennsylvania for 5 years. He presently owns 50% of two 18 hole courses in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Herb, and his wife Thelma, have two children, Janet and Mike, and two grandchildren.

To reach Indian Springs, take Beltway #495 to Georgia Avenue (Exit #21) and follow Georgia Avenue, North to Layhill Road. Turn right on Layhill Road and go for 1 1/2 miles. Indian Springs will be on your right.

Cocktails at 5:00 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m., and golf carts will be available after 8:00 a.m. Lunch is available anytime after 11:00 a.m. in the mixed grill.



## Membership Changes

Application for membership, or membership changes to the Mid Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents has been made by the following people. These requests are being published here in accordance with our by-laws. Unless written objection is received within 30 days after publication, these men will become active members with their requested classification.

### Changes of Classification:

Ron Nolf  
Martingham Country Club                      Class F to Class A

### New Members:

Vincent Triplett	Class D	Signed by
Elkridge Club		Bill Wright
Baltimore, Md.		Ed Blizzard
Jim Meier	Class D	Warren Bidwell
Congressional Country Club		Gerry Gerrard
Bethesda, Md.		

## Employment Referral Service

Our employment chairman this year is Alex Watson. So far this year he has received 8 job opening announcements through the GCSAA employment referral service. If you are looking for a new position, contact Al at 301-477-7498. This is the quickest and easiest way for you to find job openings. You may also get your name on the mailing list to receive these job openings directly from GCSAA employment referral service office at the GCSAA home office in Lawrence, Kansas, by writing them directly and requesting it.

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## A Future Superintendent

Congratulations are in order to Mike and Pricilla Liska. They are the proud parents of a new 8 lb. baby boy born Monday, March 1, 1976. Mike is an old Mid Atlantic alumnus and is currently superintendent at West Shore Country Club in Camp Hill, Pa.

# Reprinted from Golfdom 1976

*Editor's Note: Many Superintendents are not aspiring general managers, but it is nice to be recognized as the most scientifically oriented and probably most qualified of the club executives.*

Professionalism at the golf course superintendent level has made giant strides in recent years. And at least one golf executive feels the determined effort to improve makes the superintendent the logical choice to take over general manager responsibilities at clubs where the golf course is of paramount interest.


These were Bill Carey's thoughts in a recent column carried in *Florida Golfweek*. Carey is executive director of the Florida State Golf Association. In the piece, Carey questioned Palmer Maples, president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. Maples spoke at the recent meeting of the Florida West Coast Superintendents. Maples said:

"Superintendents have the degree of professionalism and experience required to take over general management. Our association's national education program anticipates expansion in that area." Maples pointed out superintendents are required to be versed in agronomy, horticulture, entomology, plant pathology, landscape architecture, construction, accounting, meteorology, civil engineering and mechanics, as well as public and labor relations.,

Continued recognition and understanding of the superintendent's qualifications and responsibilities by owners and governing bodies of golf courses would seem to put the superintendent in a good position to move into general management spots. Carey wrote. To strengthen his standing in the time-honored management triumvirate system of manager, pro and the man in charge of the playing grounds must seek a realistic liaison with club members.

Observations gained from good rapport with the membership should communicate to the superintendent the level of condition desired on the golf course. The real professionals will then work within budgetary and environmental restrictions to bring the course to the desired level of excellence, Carey said. The bulk of a club's budget is spent on the course. Current cost increases of supplies, labor, environmental protection are driving many facilities to the wall, he said. To cope best with the stringent technical and economic demands of operation of these days it would make sense to put a scientifically oriented person in charge.

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## Incidentals

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