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Editorial

During the next year, each newsletter will have an editorial column. These type columns, as you know, are opinions of the editor and in no way represent an opinion of the Superintendents organizations' or the Board of Directors.

The Golf Course Superintendent of today is the most important figure in the correct operation of his golf course. He is, however, still being done an injustice. He is still known as the "Greenskeeper" at some clubs and is still the low man on the management totem pole. The question is "How can we improve our image or status in our clubs and communities. There must be a way to tell people what kind of a person becomes a superintendent and what he does. We superintendents have discussed at length what we feel the Mid-Atlantic and National Superintendents Associations can do for us, but have we considered what we can do for ourselves. It is easy to be critical of the associations. It's about time to look at ourselves and try to decide what we as individuals can do. The associations are only as good as those who represent it. One way an individual can help is through public speaking. Many superintendents have done this. Public speaking does not have to be the "mission impossible" many golf course superintendents assume it to be. Speaking-out in his own best interest and for his profession should be an opportunity sought out and enjoyed by the superintendent, not avoided and dreaded. Some local superintendents have gotten involved in public speaking and found it very rewarding. Not only have they spoken to club associations and communities but also to outside groups. Community service groups such as Rotary Clubs, Kiwanis, Lions club and Civic associations have found superintendents to be very informative and entertaining. The members of these groups are surprised to find out how technical the superintendents line of work is. They find the subject of planning for tournaments very interesting and are always full of questions. When the Superintendent finishes a feeling of accomplishment is felt. You have



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informed and educated people and they have a new found respect for a Golf Course Superintendent. What better way to help yourself and fellow superintendents better their image?

Public Speaking is not for everyone, but you'll never know if its for you if you don't try it. It is time well spent.

Wayne Evans

Correspondence

January 8, 1976

Mr. Robert Orazi
16 Canterbury Lane
Fallston, Md. 21047

Dear Bob:

Frances and I thoroughly enjoyed the evening with the Mid-Atlantic group. Thank you for the courtesies shown us. The complimentary dinner was unexpected but pleasurable.


I am proud to be a member of Mid-Atlantic! It was 1931 when I started working with the group. O.B. Fitts, Tom Ryan and Bob Scott were among the top men then. Crabgrass control was the big push. I got a leg up on it on the U of M campus with sodium arsenite (now a no-no) for my master's degree in 1933. That was in the days of the depression.

The Mid-Atlantic superintendents have to take some sort of prize for appearance, for no-nonsense delivery of papers and for excellent conduct of meetings. I'm just as glad I am one of you!

My very best wishes for a successful 1976 season devoid of Fusarium, Poa annua and dung beetle.

Sincerely yours,
For Better Turf,

Fred V. Grau



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