

From the Board

One of the major topics of discussion at our last two board meetings has been our 1978 operating budget. This budget will include all meeting expenses, newsletter expenses and income, educational committee expenses for the two-day conference and the national conference expenses. Also included in the budget will be tournament committee expenses and social and benevolence committee expenses including Ladies' Night, picnic expenses, and expenses for members children's births, and flowers for the sick members or their families. This budget is quite extensive, so as we did in 1977, each individual chairman will prepare his budget and submit it to the finance chairman to prepare a total budget for the year. The budget will then be brought before the board as a whole to be accepted, rejected, or altered.

George Thompson reported that all is set for the Turfgrass '78 at the Sheraton Lanham, January 9th through 12th. As in past years M.A.A.G.C.S. will have its program on Monday and Tuesday. This year other local P.G.M.S. groups have combined with us so that Turfgrass '78 will be four days long including an equipment show which starts Tuesday at noon.

Wayne Evans reported that many ads for the Newsletter were dropped in 1977 for various different reasons. Because of this fact the Newsletter operated

over budget this year. At present we have more new ads for next year, and the ad prices will be raised moderately so that we can operate the Newsletter on a self-supporting basis.

The Board voted on and elected our Superintendent of the Year for 1977. Seven men were nominated. They were Lou White, Alex Watson, Ron Hall, David Fairbank, Bob Miller, Virgil Robinson and Bill Emerson. The ballot was a secret one and only one of our board members knows who it is. The plaque will be awarded in January at our annual banquet.

A lengthy discussion on complaints from the floor at our November meeting was held. All complaints that could be dealt with and remedied immediately, were. It was the feeling at the board that there was a drop off in attendance at meetings, but not in membership. We believe that quality of meetings is far more important than the quantity of people there. We know of many reasons for the drop off in attendance: costs, distances to meetings, too much golf, too little golf, not enough educational meetings, and many more. Believe us, we've heard them all, and we will do all within our power to rectify what we can. If this improves the quality, then the quantity will follow. We would like the members to realize, when you joined M.A.A.G.C.S. you should have made up your mind to support it. Not attending our meetings is your prerogative, but by doing this you can't voice your opinions or concerns, and you won't know what went on. The M.A.A.G.C.S. can be a great benefit to all its members if each member chooses to support it by his attendance. "If you don't come to the well, you can't drink the water."

If anyone has any complaints, comments, criticisms, or compliments to bring before the board, he may write or call any of our board members. Our next board meeting will be held December 13th at the U.S. Naval Academy prior to our regular membership meeting.

Dates to Remember

DECEMBER 13
U.S. Naval Academy
Election Meeting

JANUARY 9 THROUGH 12
Turfgrass '78
Sheraton Lanham

JANUARY 16 THROUGH 19
Penn State University Turf Conference
University Park, Pa.

JANUARY 27
U.S.G.A. Green Section Conference
San Francisco, Ca.

FEBRUARY 12
G.C.S.A.A. Conference and Expo
San Antonio, Tx.

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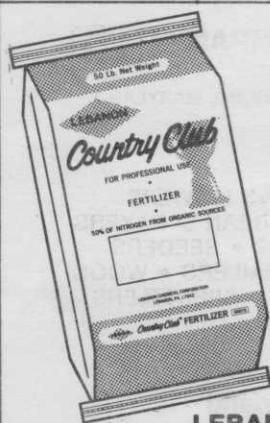


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