

WAYNE'S PLACE



Bill Emerson has been corresponding with State Senator Smelzer on the addition of a new turf position in extension at the University of Maryland. He has received a letter from the Senator stating that the Senator's committee on Education and Human Resources has approved the new turf position. This addition will now go to the Governor for his budget and then for final approval.



Doctor Doug Hawes from the University of Maryland has asked for some feedback from us superintendents on bermuda and its winterkill at our respective golf courses. He would like to know what areas experienced the most kill following the most *brutal* winter in years. Your fertilization, watering and mowing programs on these areas will be of help. Any information will be appreciated and should be forwarded directly to him at the University of Maryland, c/o The Agronomy Department or call him at (301) 454-3716. Doctor Hawes intends to do a complete study on this year's losses, including the loss of his own Tufote lawn.



Not long ago, Superintendent Ken Braun from Bonnieview Country Club was interviewed on T.V. by

sportscaster Vince Bagli on what detrimental affects, if any, this past winter had on the local golf courses. It was a pleasure to see these questions brought to light on T.V., and to see the local media asking one of the superintendents, who really *knows* the answers, to talk about this subject. Ken came across very well, and really showed his professionalism. When Ken was asked if his T.V. exposure had changed him any, he replied that he hadn't changed at all. You'll recognize Ken the next time you see him, he's the one with the green ascot and sunglasses.



This winter undoubtedly was tough on Bermuda. This is a shame for many reasons. One of which is the fact that when Bermuda is growing it doesn't really need much water and, apparently anyone with an irrigation system has just that, not much water. Irrigation repairs this year have been ridiculous. Even those of us who drain and blow out our systems have had problems. Some irrigation experts have told us that the early winter rains and melting snow in late winter may have pushed water back down through irrigation nozzles and risers where they couldn't drain through valves, and there the water froze again, thus causing problems. Some fellows have reported that lengths of pipe, 40 and 60 feet long, were totally crushed from ice. This has brought about a dubious competition among supers as to who has the most breaks. So far, Alex Watson with eighty-two, seems to be leading. Ben Stagg is close behind with seventy-five, and yours truly has about sixty. We thought Sam Kessel would be a contender, but when we asked him about his breaks, all he did was close his eyes, bow his head, and mutter incoherently something like, "broken pipes, broken pipes, broken pipes."



Mike MacKenzie, our membership chairman, tells us that our new membership directory is in its final stages before going to print. If any members have any address changes they have not reported, please let Mike know before printing.



Congratulations to Craig Stottswood and Jack Montecaluo. Craig recently accepted a position at the U.S. Soldiers Home with Paul Barefoot. Craig will be in
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Wayne's Place

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charge of all indoor and outdoor pesticide applications. He will also have responsibilities extending to the Golf Course and Greenhouses.

Jack Montecaluo is new to our area. He is the new Superintendent at the Woodholme Country Club in Baltimore. Jack comes to us from New Jersey and is currently applying for membership in our organization.

WAYNE EVANS

Water Shortage

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extended, perhaps even sustained, until it rains, the water shortage subsides or water is delivered from alternate sources.

If turf must be replaced and it appears likely water will be in short supply indefinitely, replace with more drought-resistant turfgrasses. James Beard, in his book *Turfgrass Science and Culture*, gives the relative drought resistance of 22 turfgrasses. He rates Buffalograss, Bermudagrass, Zoysiagrass and Bahiagrass as "excellent" and crested wheatgrass, hard fescue, sheep fescue, tall fescue and red fescue as "good." Less drought resistant--in the poor-to-medium range--are the bluegrasses, ryegrasses and bentgrasses.