

Mid-Atlantic Newsletter



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Fellow Members:

Turf Grass 78, the first educational conference and trade show for the "Green Industry" of Maryland is now history. The Mid-Atlantic's portion of the conference was outstanding. Our Educational Director, George Thompson, and his

ommittee deserve high praise for putting together uch a terrific educational program. George will give a detailed report on Turf Grass 78 and the results of the Mid-Atlantic's participation in it at the March Board of Director's meeting. I'm sure George would appreciate your comments prior to that meeting, so why not drop him a note.

The Mid-Atlantic would also like to acknowledge the hard work of the members of the Board of Directors and the Maryland Turf Grass Council for their efforts involved in Turf Grass 78. And also a special thanks to Dr. Chuck Darrah, the General Chairman. Gentlemen, you proved it could be done; it is viable; we thank you.

As is tradition, February brings with it the annual Turf Conference of The Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America. This year's conference is being held in San Antonio, Texas, February 12-17. Our own George Cleaver is a candidate for President of our National Association. We wish him success and pledge him our support through his tenure as our national spokesman.

In closing, I thank the membership for reelecting me president of our association. I'll give you what I have. I ask for the participation of all nembers for the good of the "entire" Mid-Atlantic

Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

Yours for better turf for better golf.

Bill Emerson

"Congratulations Al" Superintendent of the Year

At the banquet during our annual Mid-Atlantic conference we awarded the Superintendent of the Year award to a most deserving super! This year's recipient was Alex Watson from Sparrow's Point Country Club in Baltimore. Anyone who knows Al knows that there is no more deserving person than he.

Al was born in Glasgow Scotland and came to the United States when he was two years old. Al was raised in Warwick, Virginia. He attended and graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute class of '49. Al also graduated from the American Landscape School. Al became a Certified Golf Course Superintendent in 1976. Al has been the Golf Course Superintendent at Sparrow's Point for 17 years.

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Left to Right: Sherwood Moore, Bob Shields and Ted Roberts

A Salute to Sherwood Moore

On November 12, 1977 a surprise party was held for Sherwood Moore. The party was put on by a group of Connecticut superintendents who worked as student trainers over the past twenty years. Yours truly was one of the first.

In addition to inviting all previous students that had worked for Sherwood, they invited past members of the GCSAA that had worked with him. Sherwood is a past president of GCSAA.

Superintendent of the Year

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During Al's membership in the Mid-Atlantic he has served on the Board of Directors and is Past President of the Association. On a national scale, Al has served us as our representative to many committees including the advisory committee of GCSAA.

"Al", we salute you!

Your MAAGCS Friends

Improve Your Image - Paint

This is the time of year that we try to get our equipment in shape for the coming season. At the Hamlets we are doing this by repainting our tractor, trailers and other grounds maintenance equipment. We believe that our level of professionalism is judged not only by the quality of work we do, but also on how we present ourselves to those who see us. We feel that if we perform our duties with equipment that appears well maintained, we give a better impression than if we perform with rusted, oil-dripping machinery.

The procedure we use is to first thoroughly steam clean the machine to be painted. This unit is then placed back into normal operation for about a week. This gives us time to locate various oil leaks, bad seals and other defective parts, and to get these parts from the suppliers to initiate repairs. After this observation period the machine is taken out of service and the repairs are made. A thorough check is made to insure that everything is in good working order. Rust removal and needed body repairs are also made at this time. Then a final steam cleaning is done just prior to actual painting.

For the painting operation itself we utilize an open shed which we have temporarily enclosed with polyethylene plastic. The shed we use has no heat and a dirt floor. We use extension cords and air hoses to provide power for lights and air for the spray gun. The floor is covered with plywood to reduce dust. Heat is provided by a portable kerosene forced-air heater. As you can see this job can be accomplished under rather primitive conditions.

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