



CHARTER

# Mid-Atlantic Newsletter



PUBLISHED BY:

Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents to aid in the Advancement of the  
Golf Course Superintendent through Education and Merit

Volume XXX

January 1978

Number 13

## January Meeting

SHERATON-LANHAM

### Program for MAAGCS Conference 1978

#### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 8, 1978 through  
Thursday, January 12, 1978

Sunday, January 8, 1978

(Early arrivals at Sheraton-Lanham Motor Inn after 1:00 p.m.)

Tuesday, January 10, 1978

MORNING

8:30 am Coffee and Pastry

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Monday, January 9, 1978

MORNING

8:30 am

**Registration**

10:00 am

**Call to Order and Welcome**

George B. Thompson, *Superintendent*  
Columbia Country Club

**President's Message**

William J. Emerson, *Superintendent*  
Chevy Chase Club

10:30 am

**Bentgrass Management in the Hot, Humid Southeast**

Dr. A. Robert Mazur,  
*Professor of Turfgrass Management*  
Clemson University

**Liming Golf Turf**

Dr. Henry Indyk  
*Specialist in Turfgrass Management*  
Rutgers University

12:00 noon

**Lunch**

AFTERNOON

1:30 pm

**Presiding**

Sam Kessel, *Superintendent*  
Country Club of Fairfax

**Water as a Natural Resource**

Dr. J. R. Watson, Jr.  
Toro Manufacturing Company

**Contour Mowing of Fairways**

Sherwood Moore, *Superintendent*  
Woodway Country Club, Inc.

**Flowers from Greenhouse to Frost**

David S. Fairbank, *Superintendent*  
Army-Navy Country Club

**Professionalism**

Angelo Cammarota, *Superintendent*  
Hobbets Glen and Allview Golf Courses

EVENING

6:30 pm

**Social Hour**

7:30 pm

**Banquet**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Fellow Members:

It is said "Time flies when you're having fun", well, 1977 flew by for me. A new job, new home, new schools for my kids, and being your president made 1977 a year I'll long remember. Looking back, there were times when the pressure of all these

happenings gave me cause to ponder the wisdom of trying to serve as your president with so many new goings on in my own personal sphere. Looking ahead, the experiences of 1977 can do nothing but help me to cope with other action-packed times in my future.

The accomplishments of my year as president of our association were few, the failures fewer. The most dramatic lesson I learned first hand in 1977, as president, was that to improve our association's response to members' needs is difficult, if not impossible, as we are presently structured. The weakness that I see in our system of leadership is that the officers of our association are "Lame Duck" as soon as they take office, so it is difficult to get significant plans on programs moving onto a successful conclusion, because there, just plain and simple, is not enough time. I see the need for a paid

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# Check-In From Denny

December 6, 1977

Dear Wayne,

Well, I guess it's time for my annual check-in with you guys in the Mid-Atlantic. Needless to say, play here has slowed considerably with over 48" of snow on the ground already. It looks as though this will be a more "normal" year at least compared to the snowless winter of '76-'77. It was bleak here to say the least.

Summer was good to us however. We had good rains that were well-timed, and the course came of age. Play was up 65% over last year, and next summer is looking up with reservations already. It will be a busy place again.

We are in a new house we built this summer. It is about 10 miles out of town on a mountainside covered with aspen and oak, and our closest neighbors are a herd of deer, a family of 3 bears, a pack of coyotes and a horny bull elk! It sure beats 37 kids on minibikes!

I'm enclosing a little release that I thought you might be interested in. It is self-explanatory, but thought the guys might be interested. Besides—my name is in it! Ha!

We are looking forward to San Antonio in February. Should be a nice drive down and it will be fun to see green grass—or any grass at all—at least the kind you mow).

Hope to see everyone there—

Best wishes for a good holiday to all the M.A. members.



Denny

P.S. Tell Sam Kessel if he has trouble finding meeting places, we'll host the fall outing here!

## DENNY'S RELEASE:

This summer saw the formation of the Colorado Western Slope TurfGrass Association. This is the first organized group of its type in the Colorado Rockies and was established primarily due to the "out of the ordinary" problems and general growing conditions experienced in establishing and maintaining ornamental,

(continued on page 6)


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# WAYNE'S PLACE



I'm going to make my column very short and to the point this month. At our December election meeting the elections were influenced by one group of people from one section of the Mid-Atlantic region. In essence what they did was right, proper and very necessary. It was necessary, because, for many years people have been getting elected because they were from a particular area or group and were backed by the smaller groups. These people may not have been the best people for the jobs, in some cases they didn't even want the jobs, but by cornering a block of votes, they were put in office. We, as the Mid-Atlantic, have been fortunate in that most of our boards and board members have been viable, but it could have gone the other way. This small group has finally brought this situation to a head.

The groups we're talking about here are the Baltimore, Washington and Eastern Shore areas. For the last few years the Mid-Atlantic has grown larger, and because of this it has been hard to get a lot of members to travel far distances every month or every other month to meetings. Many people in the different groups have

voiced concern about this. My comment to this is, you joined the Mid-Atlantic Association. This is a large area. You knew when you joined it wouldn't be close to home every month. Many of the members who used to go to all the meetings, no matter where they were, have become complacent and stopped attending meetings regularly. Let me remind you, your best representation is by attending all these meetings yourself.

Now we've come to the crossroads. Do we continue this bickering between sections or do we settle it here and now? If you take the position of saying it's not a problem, or if you feel that you shouldn't rock the boat, shame on you. It's time that we took an objective look at this thing. Some people have talked of separating into sub-chapters. They feel that the Mid-Atlantic would not suffer, but gain more interested and informed people. Others feel that dividing and going into sub-chapters would dilute the association's position nationally. I feel whatever the majority feels is best should be decided upon *NOW!!!*

I would offer the newsletter as a vehicle to carry anyone's opinions, pro or con, on separation. In this issue we have heard Virgil's opinion. I would like to hear others. I would like to see us bring this thing to a head professionally and stop talking casually about it over cocktails. Whatever the outcome of this situation, let it be whatever is best for the Mid-Atlantic Association.

May God bless you all and your families in the New Year.

Wayne Evans

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## Classification Changes

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Superintendent at Charnita Country Club.

Anyone having any opposition to this reclassification should submit it in writing to the M.A.A.G.C.S. Board of Directors within 30 days. If no opposition is given, this change of classification will be automatic.

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## Dates to Remember

### JANUARY 9 THROUGH 12


Turfgrass '78  
Sheraton, Lanham, Md.

### JANUARY 18TH AND 19TH

Virginia Turfgrass Council Conference  
Sheraton, Fredericksburg, Va.

### FEBRUARY 12 THROUGH 17

GCSAA Conference Show  
San Antonio, Tx.



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# A Night in December

As an elected member of The Board of Directors of The Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents, I feel I owe an explanation to the membership for the unilateral action I took in resigning from that Board.

It has bothered me for the past several years that our organization, with a few individual exceptions, is divided into two factions or cliques, namely the Baltimore Clique and the Washington Clique. Nowhere in our By-Laws, which I helped revise, or in our organization name, do I see the word Baltimore or Washington, I do see *Mid-Atlantic*.

The deliberate rigging of the election process by the Baltimore faction at our election meeting on December 13, 1977 is nothing that hasn't happened in the past with the Washington faction. Both are equally to blame! Does that make it right? Is that the professional image we want portrayed?

I felt very strongly at the election meeting, as I do now, that it is time this issue be resolved for the *good* of the Superintendents in the Mid-Atlantic area.

I felt, maybe wrongly so, (time will tell) that I was the individual in the best position to bring this to a head for a couple of reasons.

First, two years ago at the Hillendale election meeting my name and that of Bill Emerson were brought forth for Vice-President. The Washington group, *at that time*,

was trying to rig the elections by car pooling voting members to the meeting, voting members, incidentally, who very seldom made the meetings. When I saw what had happened, and not that it would have made any difference in the outcome of the V.P. election, I removed my name from the slate. Bill Emerson was, and is, a very capable and deserving individual, and I did not then, and do not now, want to be identified as anything but Mid-Atlantic. At the time I was told that was the wrong thing to do, that I would not be nominated again, etc. BIG WHOOP!!!

Second, I am an individual who has no overriding desire to move up in the Association. This fact is hard to get across to many people. This does not mean that I will

(continued on page 6)

## President's Message

(continued from page 1)

"Executive Director" to operate the day-to-day business of our association and to insure continuity between past and present Boards. And more importantly than that, to give you and I, as members of the Mid-Atlantic, a consistent, solid source that we can go to for, and with, information that is needed for the good of the membership.

I want to thank our other officers and Board of Directors for their individual and collective efforts on our behalf in 1977. Many hours of effort went into the operation of our association, and these men did it willingly; so to Dave, Sam, Angie, Ron, George, Wayne, Ben, Ken, Mike and Virgil—Thank You. Thanks also to my wife Pat and my kids Shawn, Sharen and Scott, for allowing Dad the extra time away from them to do his thing. I especially thank the membership for allowing me the privilege to serve; I learned, and I enjoyed it.

In closing, I wish much success to our 1978 officers and Board. And I look forward to seeing everyone at "Turfgrass '78", January 9th - 12th.

Yours for better golf with finer turf.

Bill Emerson

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## Night in December

(continued from page 5)

not help in anyway possible for the betterment of the Association. It does mean that the action on my part was not generated by the "sour grapes" syndrome. That I was not elected to a higher office was a not a factor in my decision. When approached by the nominating committee to be placed on a slate as Vice-President, my first question was, "Have you asked the Secretary of our organization who is a hard-working and qualified individual?" I was assured that he had been contacted and declined. I put forth other names to no avail.

It was brought to my attention the day after the election meeting that the 1977 Mid-Atlantic Board was comprised of 7 or 8 members who also are members of the Greater Washington Golf Course Superintendents Association. This fact seemed to explain the debacle that occurred the night before. Again, BIG WHOOP!!! I for one enjoy the meetings of each group and have for a number of years. I have never seen an attempt by GWGCSA to interfere in, or ramrod the affairs of the Mid-Atlantic. I have never seen a Golf Course Superintendent not welcomed to a GWGCSA meeting whether he be from Baltimore or Washington. Sorry gentlemen, that excuse will not fly. I will continue to attend meetings of each association.

Lest I be misunderstood, I fault no single individual for what has happened. We are to blame as an Association for allowing this type of split to occur; we are responsible as an Association to correct it. Either we bury the hatchets of each faction and go forth as the MAAGCS unified, strong (nationally), and respected, or we split into two area groups divided, weak (nationally), and stained. I prefer the former.

We have elected a highly qualified *Mid-Atlantic* President and *Mid-Atlantic* Board. All we need now is a *Mid-Atlantic Association!*

Virgil Robinson, CGCS

## Denny's Release

(continued from page 2)

recreational and income-producing crops at the high elevations found on Colorado's Western Slope.

Membership is restricted to any person involved in a horticultural endeavor, whether it is on a golf course or in a fruit tree orchard. Even though the group is only three months old, nearly 30 people have become members. Considering the large geographic distances between potential meeting places, this is a satisfying number.

Officers of the Association are:

*President* - Dennis McCammon, C.G.C.S. Golf course superintendent, Steamboat Village C.C., Steamboat Springs, Colo.

*Vice President* - Jim Ledonne, Golf course superintendent, Rifle Gap G.C., Rifle, Colo.

*Secretary* - Bill Goodrich, Superintendent, Eagle County School District, Eagle, Colo.

*Treasurer* - Bill Jobe, Golf course superintendent, Bookcliff C.C., Groland Junction, Colo.

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## From the Board

The past two Board of Directors meetings have been taken up with the usual year-end closeout of committees and preparation for the National Convention in February.

Virgil Robinson has submitted our operating budget for 1978. The board accepted this budget unanimously after a long and very close look at our financial status. We feel that the budget is something we can live with; but we all felt that we should keep a close eye on our own individual departments and stick very closely to our budget. The budget is included at the end of this report.

As we all know, George Cleaver is running for GCSAA President this year. The board has decided to look into renting a room for one night after the elections at the national. We felt that after George is elected that a "Ya'll Come" celebration is in order. We will not be operating a hospitality room for the entire week. This decision was made due to expenses and to a lack of participation the last two years.

Items which will be taken before the advisory committee at the National by the MAAGCS will be: 1) Local Chapters should have the privilege of selecting their own representative for GCSAA and 2) To become a national member you must be a member of a local chapter.

Our two-day conference during the first two days of Turfgrass '78 has all been finished. Besides the regular

conference we *will be* opening our hospitality room the night before, Sunday, January 8th.

From all of us on the board to all of our members and families, we hope you had a good Christmas, and we wish you all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

## 1978 Proposed Budget

Income:	Dues	\$5,000.
	Newsletter Ads	3,600.
	Interest	400.
		<u>\$9,000.</u>
Expenses (operating):	Vice-President	\$ 50.
	Secretary	500.
	Treasurer	200.
	Ed. Chairman	275.
	Newsletter	4,200.
	Social and Benevolence	650.
	Golf	625.
	Membership	500.
	Editorial and Publicity	1,000.
		<u>\$8,000.</u>
Expenses (fixed):	Educational Fund	\$ 500.
	Benevolence Fund	500.
		<u>\$9,000.</u>

Respectfully submitted,  
Virgil Robinson

## MAAGCS Conference

(continued from page 1)

9:00 am	<b>Presiding</b>
	Mike Larson, <i>Superintendent</i> Hillendale Country Club
	<b>Disease Control in Perennial Ryegrass</b>
	Dr. Houston Couch, <i>Professor</i> Plant Pathology Dept., VPI & SU
	<b>We Built a U.S.G.A. Green</b>
	L.R. (Bob) Shields, <i>Superintendent</i> Woodmont Country Club
	<b>Maintenance and Playability of Bunkers</b>
	William J. Buchanan, <i>Agronomist</i> USGA Greens Sect., Mid-Atlantic Region
	<b>Bunker Placement &amp; Design</b>
	Geoffrey Cornish, <i>Golf Course Architect</i> Amherst, Massachusetts


### "TURFGRASS '78" - Registration

## AFTERNOON

12:00 pm	<b>Exhibit Hall</b> Exhibitors serving the turfgrass industry display their products.
12:30 pm	<b>Maryland Turfgrass Council</b> Election Luncheon
4:00 pm	<b>Cocktail Hour</b> Cocktails and refreshments served in the Exhibit Hall.

## EVENING


8:00 pm	<b>Stewards of the Soil</b> A computer-controlled multiscreen slide presentation by the STAUFFER CHEMICAL COMPANY.
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# To All Members of GCSAA:

You have been told in various newsletters and elsewhere that the GCSAA's Executive Committee has been reviewing and investigating various ways to make available a pension plan for our members.

Many different plans have been investigated over a period of several years.

These investigations are completed, and I am happy to report we have appointed Mr. Earl H. Whitney, CLU, President of Whitney Associates, Inc., 18 Cleveland Street, Orange, New Jersey, as our official Pension Consultant. He will make available to all members of the GCSAA Individual Retirement Annuities (IRAs).

In our investigation, we found that any plan which is available to GCSAA members must meet the provisions of the Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. This act created an excellent method by which employees who are not included in an employer qualified pension plan could provide, for themselves, tax-favored retirement income.

This method involves the establishment of an Individual Retirement Savings Program, commonly referred to as "IRA." The Executive Committee believes that IRA programs constitute excellent ways for you to prepare for your retirement needs. Wd

Contributions to an "IRA" are income tax deductible by you. Any contribution you might make to an IRA is set aside in a tax shelter. The interest which is earned and accumulated on your IRA funds is accumulated tax free. You may collect your IRA Pension Benefits as early as age 59½ and as late as age 70½. Obviously, since your contributions are tax deductible and the interest is tax sheltered, you will have to report all proceeds from an IRA as income when you start to receive the pension benefits.

Your Executive Committee has given permission to Mr. Whitney to write each of you concerning the specifics of IRAs. He and his organization are prepared to explain the many details involved in such programs, answer your questions, and assist you in setting up your own IRA program, if you desire to do so.

We recommend to you that you give serious consideration to the information Mr. Whitney will be sending you. The IRA plans he will offer are an excellent means for you to set up a viable pension program for your retirement.

Sincerely,

Theodore W. Woehrle, CGCS  
President

## Mid-Atlantic Newsletter

WAYNE EVANS  
1804 Ironton Drive  
Oxon Hill, Maryland 20021  
301-567-9386

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Published monthly by the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents to aid in the advancement of the golf course superintendent through education and merit.

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