



CHARTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Members:

The 49th Annual GCSAA Conference and Show held in San Antonio, Texas February 12th-17th could be termed nothing but a huge success. In excess of 5,400 people registered for the conference of which over 1,400 were golf course superintendents.



Both of these figures, I am told, are new conference and show records.

My personal thoughts in regards to the conference and show are for the most part positive except for the method employed, and the time involved, with the election of officers and directors of our international association. It is my personal feeling that the annual conference and show is cheapened somewhat by the politics involved and employed prior to these elections. My observation is that candidates for office, official chapter voting delegates, past GCSAA President and other conference attendees in general are so deeply involved in politics that the true value of the conference and show is affected in a negative way. Again let me stress these are my personal thoughts and observations, but I suggest that the appropriate GCSAA committee give some serious thought to revamping the election process. In the words of that immortal somebody, "To change is to grow, to stagnate is to die."

Looking forward to seeing you all at Twin Shields Golf Club in Dunkirk, Maryland, Tuesday, March 14th. Ed Wilson is our host, and with this being our first action-packed meeting of 1978, I'm sure you won't want to miss it.

Yours for better golf with finer turf.

Bill Emerson

March Meeting



B. EDWIN WILSON

The March meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents will be held on Tues., March 14, at the Twin Shields Golf Club in Dunkirk, Md. Our host superintendent will be B. Edwin Wilson.

Edwin is a native of southern Maryland with a lifetime background of farming and agronomy. He has actively participated in FFA (Future Farmers of America) and 4-H and held various state and local offices. He was awarded the degree of American Farmer in Kansas in 1966. On a part-time basis he continues to farm tobacco with his Dad and brother. He has completed various agronomy courses at the University of Md. and began as superintendent with Twin Shields in the fall of 1968 when the course was being completed.

HISTORY OF CLUB

Twin Shields is owned and operated as a profitable business by Messrs. Roy and Ray Shields. The course was designed by Mr. Ray Shields, and the construction of the course, which began in the spring of 1968, was supervised by Mr. Ray Shields with the assistance of Mr. Cliff Olinger as construction superintendent. The 18-hole course was completed and opened for play in May 1969. It has a fully automated Toro irrigation system on fairways, tees and greens.

The greens were seeded to Penncross Bent. Fairways and tees were seeded to 40% S.D. Common Kentucky Bluegrass, 40% Merion Kent Bluegrass and 20% Pennlawn Red Fescue. Due to disease problems of Fusarium Roseum, 70-90% of the bluegrass areas have been seeded to Manhattan Ryegrass.

We maintain our roughs at basically the same height as fairways to expedite play. Also, all tees and collar areas are mowed with fairway units to minimize cost.

The course is open for play year round except in snow conditions.

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March Meeting

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Program of Day:

Golf:	Anytime. (No green or cart fees)
Lunch:	Available at Snack Bar
Dinner:	Rod 'N Reel Restaurant Chesapeake Beach, Md.
Cocktails:	6:00 p.m.
Dinner:	7:00 p.m.
Meeting & Speakers:	8:00

*Please return postcard at earliest time.

Directions to Club: Capital Beltway 495 to Exit 34 (East) Route 4; 15 miles to Route 260 on left; half mile to entrance of Club on left.

Dinner: Continue on Rt. 260 - 9 miles to Chesapeake Beach; Turn right at light; Entrance to Rod 'N Reel Restaurant 1/2 mile on left.

From Baltimore: South on Rt. 301 to Upper Marlboro; East on Route 4; 6 miles to Rt. 260.

Who In The World Put The Hole There!

by Frank D. Tatum, Jr.
Member, U.S.G.A. Executive Committee

The Open had reached its most dramatic moment. As Jack Nicklaus crouched over an eight-foot putt on the 12th green at Pebble Beach, Arnold Palmer hunched over an eight-footer on the 14th. Nicklaus needed his putt for a bogey 4, Palmer needed his for a birdie 4, and if Arnold Palmer made and Jack missed, Palmer would lead the Open by a stroke.

Both tapped their putts at about the same instant, and both putts ran practically straight at the hole. As everyone with any interest in these things knows by now, Nicklaus holed and Palmer missed, and Jack won his third Open.

What some spectators found a bit unusual, or unexpected, was the paths of these putts. They had not expected them to run so straight. Their experience with

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