



CHARTER

Mid-Atlantic Newsletter



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Number 1

TURFGRASS 79 Attracts Over 450 Turf Professionals

by Charles H. Darrah

On January 8-10, 1979 the largest educational conference ever held in Maryland for professional turfgrass managers took place in Baltimore. In addition to the education conferences, there were over 55 exhibitor booths filling the Baltimore Hilton Ballroom. Between 450 and 500 people with interests in turf management were on hand for this event which was sponsored by the Maryland Turfgrass Council.

President's Message

I would like to thank our membership for electing me President. I assure you I will do all I can in behalf of our Association.

January and February is conference time and I hope to see a lot of our group at the local conferences. The Mid-Atlantic usually has a good turnout at the national conference so I hope to have seen everyone in Atlanta. For any conference or meeting to be successful requires not only good speakers but good participation by all, so let's do our part.

My congratulations to Bob Orazi for his part in Turf Grass 79 — a fine choice of speakers and session chairmen. *Thanks Bob.* Also to Chuck Darrah and his committee for the overall organization of Turf Grass 79. *Thanks Chuck* for a job well done!

I am looking forward to seeing a lot of old faces at our first meeting in March and I hope to see a lot of new faces. If you know someone who has been lax in attendance, give them a call.

Sometimes a little personal interest is a big help. Remember good meetings require participation.

May your toughest problem this year be cool weather in August. Ha!

Sam Kessel

The educational conferences were led off on Monday by the 50th Annual Conference of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents. After a short welcoming address and the President's Message from Sam Kessel, Dr. Jack Harper, PSU Extension Turf Specialist, opened the educational conference. Dr. Harper's presentation was often humorous, but not for those who have ever experienced some of the unusual turf situations he described. Dr. Gerry Pepin, Research Director at International Seeds, Inc., flew in from Oregon to present some of his work with improved ryegrass varieties. He contrasted the breeding and production methods of the improved ryegrasses with the methods used in Kentucky bluegrasses. Promising new varieties of ryegrass will continue to find their way into the turf seed market according to Dr. Pepin. The morning session concluded with a presentation on golf turf cultivation management. Bill Buchanan, USGA Green Section Agronomist, covered the wide range of cultivation practices employed on golf turf and emphasized the need for greater attention to the aeration and other cultivation needs of non-putting green turf areas on the golf course.

After a break to visit the trade show and enjoy a New York-style sidewalk lunch, the afternoon session convened with topics on soil testing for turfgrasses and tank mixes and chemical compatibilities by Tom Turner and Dr. Sortoretto, respectively. Mr. Tom Turner, PSU graduate student, presented some interesting information on liming and the phosphorus and potassium requirements of turfgrasses. He also presented information on the proper procedure for taking soil samples of turfgrasses. Some of this work is published in the May/June 1978 issue of the *Greens Section Record*. As the temperature in the conference room warmed so did the topics. Dr. Dave Wehner, U of MD turf researcher, reported on some of the work which he started at Penn State and will continue here at Maryland. Dr. Wehner has developed a rapid method to determine the ability of turfgrass plants to withstand heat stress. This work holds great promise in screening new cool-season turfgrass varieties for their ability to persist in the transition zone. Jack Murray, USDA Research Agronomist, wrapped up the afternoon session with some pointers on managing warm season grasses in the transition zone. At the end of the sessions, confer-

(continued on page 2)

TURFGRASS 79

(continued from page 1)

ence attendees were able to cool off as freely flowing beer was served in the exhibit hall.

On Tuesday morning the golf course superintendents were joined by over 200 other turf managers for the 14th Annual Maryland Sod Conference and the 2nd Annual P.G.M.S. Winter Turf Conference. The combined session on Tuesday morning brought together Dr. Joe Vargas, Michigan State Univ. Turfgrass Pathologist, Dr. Haruo Tashiro, Cornell University Turfgrass Entomologist and Ms. Pat Sanders, PSU Turfgrass Pathologist for an excellent session on disease and insect topics.

After another lunch-time visit with the commercial exhibitors, conference goers could select from three individual sessions to attend. The golf course management session was highlighted by presentations from golf course superintendents Guy Tedesco and Larry Bunn, both of whom traveled down from Massachusetts. Pat Sanders held a disease identification workshop late in the afternoon where superintendents got a chance to identify turf diseases using a microscope. This same workshop will be held in Atlanta at the GCSAA Convention, but for a \$20 extra registration fee!

At the same time as the golf course management session, sod growers were hearing the latest in sod production, harvesting and installation practices in their individual afternoon session. In another session commercial lawn care personnel were covering some of the business aspects of lawn care operation such as advertising, marketing and projecting a professional image to their customers.

Tuesday's events ended with the TURFGRASS 79 banquet and awards program. Dr. Darrah was presented an Outstanding Service Award by the Maryland Turfgrass Council for his work in organizing and coordinating TURFGRASS 78 and 79. The Mid-Atlantic presented Bill Emerson with the Past President's Award. Dave Fairbanks received the MAAGCS Superintendents of the Year Award and Angelo Cammarota received the Distinguished Director Award. In addition Bob Shields presented the Emmet Gary Scholarship Awards to four Univ. of MD agronomy students on behalf of the Mary-

land State Golf Association and Lambert Cissel presented the Parker Shirling Turfgrass Scholarships to another agronomy student on behalf of the Maryland Turfgrass Association.

On Wednesday morning, the last day of TURFGRASS 79, the educational session updated attendees on the latest information concerning grub control in turf, the control of ornamental insect pests, new turfgrass herbicides and the latest on pesticide regulations and certification. Also in this session was an excellent presentation by Mr. Jim Vaccaro of the Dow Chemical Company on the safe handling and use of turfgrass pesticides.

TURFGRASS 79 presented the opportunity for the professional turf manager to attend 12 hours of educational sessions. Over 27 speakers were on hand, 21 of which were out-of-state guests, superintendents, sod growers or lawn care businessmen. In addition there were over 10 hours when attendees could visit with commercial exhibitors to discuss the use of their products. The post-conference comments have been highly favorable and the MAAGCS Educational Committee deserves a great deal of praise for their efforts in helping to organize and coordinate the program for TURFGRASS 79.

Mid-Atlantic Golf News

Ken Braun

Match Play Tournament

Anybody interested in playing in this tournament, please attend the April meeting: this is the qualifying round. The low 16 golfers will then compete at the next meeting, eliminating 1/2 of the field. This will continue each month until a final round. Everyone will receive *full* handicaps at the qualifying round: the second round will be 85% of the difference in the handicaps between the two players of each match. If you qualify, the time and pairings will be made for the future match.

MID-ATLANTIC OFFICERS 1979

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Ronald E. Hall, *Vice-Pres.*
Maryland Golf & C.C.
Bel-Air, MD
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(301) 757-4406

Bill Emerson, *Past Pres.*
Chevy Chase Club

Ken Braun, *Director*
Bonnie View C.C.

Wayne Evans, *Director*
Marlton C.C.

Meetings

Greg Bayor

March 13, 1979.....Country Club of Fairfax
 Host: Sammuel L. Kessel, President Mid-Atlantic
 Golf: anytime Cocktails: 6:00 p.m. cash bar
 Carts: fee will be charged Dinner: 7:00 p.m. \$12.50
 Directions: Take the D.C. beltway to the Bradick Road exit
 West. Follow Bradick to Route 123, turn left (south).
 Take Route 123 approx. 1/2 mile, the club will be on
 the left.

Course Notes

Length: 6700 yards
 Traps: 63
 Water holes: 3 lake holes, 2 stream
 Irrigation: Quick-couplers/Fairways Manual pop-up/Greens
 and Trees

The original layout was built in 1950. In 1965 Sam was deeply involved in the design of 5 new greens that changed the layout of the entire course, and consequently the character of the course. Since then 4 more greens have been rebuilt, all with Penncross. 1977 saw a complete rehabilitation of hole #14; in order to incorporate a new irrigation lake. This new green, along with 4 tees built at the same time, are all 80/20 sand mix, with Penncross. All those greens that haven't been rebuilt by Sam, are a mixture of C1, C19, C7, and Poa. Since 1967 Sam has been overseeding his fairways; presently he is using a mix of 80% rye, 20% blue. The clubhouse has just gone through extensive renovation, in the fall of 1978, and should prove to be a beautiful site for first meeting of 1979.

REMINDER: THE ATTACHED POST CARDS ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT PLEASE USE THEM IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND

Mid-Atlantic Board Meeting Briefs

Ben Stagg

Many members of our association have expressed a desire to hear what transpires at board meetings. I believe this to be a beneficial request, that I'll honor as Secretary. The following is a brief synopsis of the January meeting.

President Sam Kessel, made the following appointments:

Monthly meetings	Ron Hall (301) 879-2025
Employment.	Bill Emmerson (301) 656-6323
Education.	Bob Orazi (301) 666-9475
Membership	Stan Lawson (301) 278-2823
Assoc. membership.	Steve Nash (301) 428-8144
Social/Benevolence	Mike Larson (301) 592-8803
Editorial/Publicity	Greg Bayor (301) 396-6101
Finance.	Wayne Evans (301) 567-9386
Golf	Ken Braun (301) 486-2054
Chapter relations	George Thompson (301) 656-4995

If you have any suggestions, problems, or questions, don't hesitate to call any of these people: they work for you!

The Membership committee was directed to canvass the entire Mid-Atlantic area for all non-members. Association members near these "non-members" will be asked to assist in influencing these persons in the benefits of our Association.

Dates and Sites of forthcoming meetings were discussed, (they can be found elsewhere in this issue). Especially of note, is the meeting in April at the Green Spring Valley Hunt Club, which is to be a joint meeting with our fellow Superintendents, from the Central Penn. Association. This should be a major event ... see you there.

Finances

Mike McKenzie

Only major item of interest is our membership dues. So far 122 out of 167 members have paid their dues: for the 122 — great, but for the rest of you, please send your remittance ASAP.

Future Meetings:

- April 17 — Green Spring Valley Hunt Club,
Garrison MD Joint Meeting, Central
Penn Association
- May — Hogs Neck Golf Course, Easton MD
Pro/Superintendent Tournament
- June — Open
- July — Mt. Pleasant Golf Course, Baltimore MD
- August — Mid-Atlantic Picnic
- Sept. — Open
- Oct. — Open
- Nov. — Open
- Dec. — Marlton C.C., Upper Marlboro MD

V.P. Report

Robert Hall

The Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents Annual Election of Officers and Directors was held at our December Membership Meeting at the Naval Academy Golf Club, Annapolis, Maryland, December 12, 1978.

The following individuals were elected for the coming year:

President

Sam Kessel
Fairfax Country Club
Fairfax, Virginia

Vice President

Ron Hall
Maryland Golf and Country Club
Bel Air, Maryland

Secretary

Ben Stagg
Hogs Neck Golf Club
Easton, Maryland

Treasurer

Mike McKenzie
Naval Academy Golf Club
Annapolis, Maryland

Directors (New) 3 Year Term

Mike Larsen
Hillendale Country Club
Phoenix, Maryland

Steve Nash
Potomac Valley Country Club
Poolesville, Maryland

Remaining Directors are:

Ken Braun
Wayne Evans
Stan Lawson
Bob Orazi
Bill Emerson (President Emeritus)

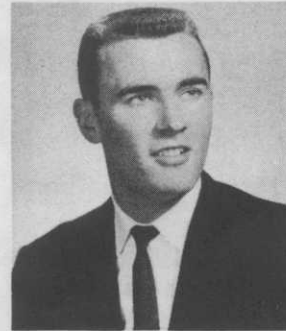
Long, Long, Ago...

Greg Bayor

• 15 yrs. Feb./Mar. 1963...

Northwest Regional Park's 18 hole public golf course is under construction, at a cost of \$195,000!

Island View Golf Course is seeking a Superintendent... starting salary: \$7,000.



"There is serious talk of permanently locating the National office in the Jacksonville area." by L. Robert Shields

• 10 yrs. Feb./Mar. 1968...

George Cleaver became president of the Mid-Atlantic.

The March meeting was held at the Green Spring Valley Hunt Club; the host is pictured here?

• 5 yrs. Feb./Mar. 1973...

George Cleaver was elected as Director of GCSAA at the Boston conference. (Seems like 5 year cycles for George!)

Angelo Cammarota and Bill Livingston received their 25 year pins at Boston. Also receiving 25 year pins from GCSAA were Dr. Fred Grau and George Cornell. George is the first commercial member ever to receive the award. According to George "he joined when he was 16 years old."

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It is made in three sizes, to cut in breadth 8 inches, 12 inches, and 16 inches respectively; and is so easy in working, and at the same time so effective, that even ladies can work it without feeling fatigued, there being no occasion to stoop on account of the long wooden handles attached to the machine, and a greater quantity of work can be done in a given time than by any other method.

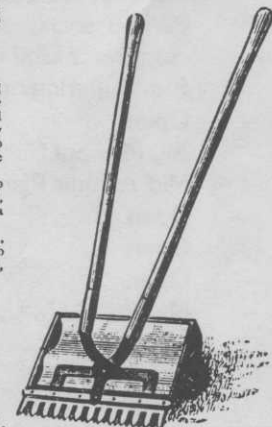
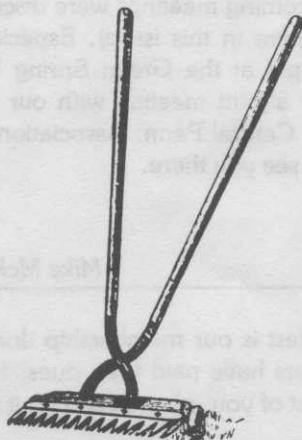
This invention is also applicable for Farm purposes—Reaping Corn and other Crops, Clover, Rye, &c., equally as well as accomplishing the objects for which it is required in the garden; and the cost being so small in proportion to the saving in time and quality of finish effected, it is placed within the reach of all, and needs but a trial to prove its superiority.

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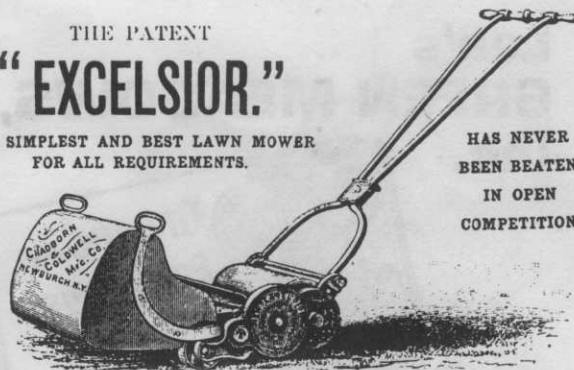
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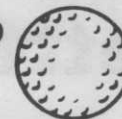
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Mid-Atlantic Job Openings

Bill Emmerson

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Deadline of March 15, 1979.

Employment to begin May 1, 1979.

Benevolence

Mike Larsen

This department is one of the most difficult of all to write, since some articles are of cheer and others are sad. All of these items are of special interest to our Association; therefore, a simple list of brevity will suffice.

- Congratulations to Bill and Lynn Neus, Faulker Springs C.C., on their *first* baby, Sarah.
- A hardy welcome to Merrill Frank, at Baltimore C.C. Merrill comes to the Mid-Atlantic from Brookside Golf and C.C., Columbus Ohio.
- A speedy recovery to Chuck Darrah, who had a serious accident in Boston recently.
- Congratulations to Steve and Carla Nash, Potomac Valley C.C., on their recent marriage.
- Our sincere regrets to Al Watson, on the recent death of his father, John Watson.



Mid-Atlantic Newsletter

FIRST CLASS MAIL



GREG BAYOR, *Editor*
 2090 Woodbourne Ave.
 Baltimore, Maryland 21239
 301-426-4615

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