

Turfgrass 80 A Huge Success

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some of their "Green Wisdom". Special thanks also to Roy Beziat, Kevin Mathias, Dr. Lee Hellman, Dr. Tom Turner and Dr. David Wehner all from our own University of Maryland and to Dr. Nicole O'Neill from the U.S.D.A. in Beltsville for their part in making "Turfgrass 80" a huge success.

To have a successful turf conference it takes many hours of planning and the participation of many individuals. The Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course superintendents was well represented at "Turfgrass 80" in this regard. Mike Larsen was co-chairman of arrangements, Bob Orazi filled a dual role as a member of the educational program committee and as a session chairman, Craig Spottswood, once again, put together the advertising program, Sam Kessel and George Thompson chaired sessions, Angelo Cammarota emceed the conference banquet, and Ken Braun, John Drew and our President Ron Hall participated as conference speakers, all did an outstanding job. When there's work to be done for the good of the "Green Industry", the Mid-Atlantic does its share.

The new Baltimore Convention Center was an excellent choice as a site for "Turfgrass 80". The building lends itself to conference growth and is accessible to either commuters or downtown hotel guests.

The single group that makes a turfgrass conference and trade show a worthwhile and profitable undertaking now-a-days is the exhibitors. "Turfgrass 80" drew fifty-six exhibitors who purchased eighty-four booths to show off their wares. To these companys let us first say "thank you" for investing in the turfgrass industry in Maryland, secondly, "please be patient", we know that at present, our conference and show doesn't draw the numbers that, say, Massachusetts, New Jersey, or Ohio do, but in time we will. Maryland's Turfgrass Conference is growing annually and if you'll give us a little time, you'll be glad you did.

Many hear "profit" as a dirty word when used in reference to turfgrass conferences, but it is a necessary dirty word. If the green industry is to advance, the many levels of national, state, and local beauracracy must be kept informed of industry needs. The turfgrass industry must continue to promote research and education from within. In short, it takes turfgrass conference profits to spread the gospel of "Green".

If you or your friends have any constructive criticism of "Turfgrass 80", contact Dr. Turner or Dr. Wehner at the University of Maryland, or John Strickland President of the Maryland Turfgrass Council, they'd like to hear from you.

For education and fun you better arrange your time so you won't miss "TURFGRASS 81".

1980 — Mid-Atlantic Best Year Ever!

The 1979 Mid-Atlantic year showed quite an increase in attendance, but the 1980 year should prove to be one of the best ever. There are many excuses for not attending the monthly Mid-Atlantic meetings, but there will be no excuses for not attending in 1980. This year we will be attending some of the top clubs in the Mid-Atlantic area. Bretton Woods, Maryland Golf & Country Club, Sparrows Point, Columbia, Chevy Chase, Hillendale, Naval Academy are just a few of the meeting places for the year. Golf chairman Ken Braun has put together an outstanding golf schedule starting in April with the Match Play tournament. Every member should make an effort to attend each meeting and help make 1980 the best year ever.

In the long run, the benefits of attending meetings are only realized by attending each month. Start out by playing golf or coming early and walking around the golf course and maintenance building. Just by looking at someone else's operation you are bound to pick up something that you could use at your own place.

Then take time during the social hour to meet and greet other superintendents and people in the profession. The only way to become friends with these people is to come, meet, and talk with them. The practical experience and knowledge this group has is never ending. Some of the best superintendents and educators in the country are right here in the Mid-Atlantic Association. The only way to tap this source of knowledge is to come.

Is it too much to ask of yourself to give up one day a month? That adds up to 12 days out of 365 to give to your self-betterment and education. It is especially important to the people just starting out. Whether you are an assistant or a superintendent, being well known among your fellow superintendents can be very important to your future.

Again, ask yourself, is it really too much to give up a day a month for your profession? Just look around you at the successful superintendents in this area. They all attend regularly and to be sure they will tell you that coming to the meetings has helped them.

We, the willing led by the unsure, are doing the improbable for the ungrateful. We have done so much for so long with so little that now we are qualified to do the impossible.
