

# Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER

Published by this Association to aid the advancement of the Golf Course Superintendent through education and merit.

Claud Corrigan, *Editor*  
Joe Gambatese, *Photographer*

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## A Line from the Editor

At the April get-together of the Golf Writers Association at the Dunes in Myrtle Beach, I had the chance to meet and talk with Ron Whitten, who wrote that definitive book, *The Golf Course*, in collaboration with course architect Geoffrey Cornish. Whitten and Cornish are already at work updating their research, aided by a large number of letters from people who made suggestions, supplied information, or corrected what they believed were errors.

Whitten, who is now on the staff of *Golf Course Management*, the GCSA magazine, talked about the research that went into the book, the first complete compilation of information on golf course architects and their products. Although he and Cornish are now using computers and word processors, their initial research for the first edition was done primitive fashion, using index cards. When they finished, they had 11 feet of cards, which they discovered — when they began to work on the revision — had been tossed out by Mrs. Cornish, who thought the work was all over and done with. (The cards were probably cluttering up the study, all 11 feet of them.) After getting over the initial shock, the authors realized they could input their existing data into the computer and make the updating much easier.

The GWAA tournament in Myrtle Beach involved playing the tough Dunes layout three days running, which didn't leave much time for other courses

## Letter . . .

To the Mid-Atlantic Association of GCS:

I will be retiring as golf course superintendent of the Bethlehem Steel Sparrows Point Country Club on July 31, 1983. My association with you, the membership, has been one of true joy and lasting fellowship. I will take with me many fond memories of old friends and associates in our humbling turf progression. These past 20 plus years have been for me a rewarding, continuous learning experience through association with you in the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

I have been blest to have known and befriended many, many of our peers who have passed on. Who of us can ever forget Bob Shields, Rueben Hines, Jim Reid, Jim Thomas, Marshall Farnham, and so on, ad infinitum. These gentlemen were "all heart." I was fortunate to have served our group in many capacities since coming to the area in 1960, and the topping on the dessert was serving as your president in 1975. Then you threw me another bouquet as "Superintendent of the Year" in 1977. I would like to quote a few of George Thompson's words, if I may: "Our Association is one of genuineness, and the concern we have for our fellow superintendents can't be matched anywhere."

Vi and I will miss the many happy times we shared with you at the conferences, ladies' nights, and family picnics. Hopefully, we will visit with some of you from time to time, the Good Lord willing we remain healthy and able. We have a nice home in Tidewater Virginia, to which we will retire, and once we're settled in we would like to travel some. We also have many interests which we hope to pursue as time permits. Please visit with us if you happen down our way; the address is 883 Harpersville Rd., Newport News, Va., phone 1-894-596-2080.

You have all touched our lives in many ways, and we count you as treasured friends.

"May God Bless,"  
Al Watson

## Schedule of 1983 Meetings

**June 14** — Andrews AFB Golf Club  
**July 12** — Mount Pleasant  
**August 9** — Annual Picnic  
**September 13** — Bonnie View Country Club  
**October 11** — Ocean City Yacht & Country Club  
**November 8** — Leisure World  
**December 13** — Belle Haven Country Club

All 1983 monthly meetings will be on the second Tuesday of the month with the exception of the July meeting, which will be on the first Tuesday.

### JUNE DIRECTORS' MEETING

The June meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 9, at the Woodmont Country Club maintenance building.

before going on to The Masters, but I did get a chance to visit Oyster Bay, the new course built by Larry Young, who also built and owns Marsh Harbor, some 4 miles closer to South Carolina. Playing either course is an experience not to be missed.

### MEETING (Continued from page 1)

inches of sandy loam over impermeable blue clay.

Association members will be guests of the club on the 14th, but guests must pay the \$7.50 green fee; golf car rental is \$11.

Starting times for the match play tournament are: 11:30 - Alex Watson vs. Sam Kessel, Bob Orazi vs. winner, Vance-Robinson match; 11:38 - Dick Gieselman vs. Mike Larsen, Gerry Gerard vs. Wayne Evans; 11:46 - Dave Kroll vs. Ken Braun, Bill Neus vs. Stagg-Mason winner; 11:54 - Grant Pensinger vs. Walt Montross, Tom Regan vs. Craig Rhoderick.

Directions to the AFB golf club are: Take Exit 7A from the Beltway, Branch Ave. (Rte. 5) south to third traffic light, turning left at Alexander Ferry Road (Denny's restaurant is on the left) which brings you to the Virginia Avenue gate to the Base on the left; clubhouse is on the left when you come through the gate.

The program includes: 11:30 on - Golf; 6 p.m. - Cocktails, in the clubhouse; 7 p.m. - Prime rib dinner (cost: \$10); 8 p.m. - Meeting.

Return cards should be mailed to Bob Lambert or call him at (301) 981-4208 during the day or at home, (301) 736-8320, to make dinner reservations as early as possible.