



Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER

Volume XXXVII

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No. 1

March 8 Meet Set For Penderbrook GC

Penderbrook Golf Club, where the Mid-Atlantic's first meeting of 1983 will be held on March 8 and where George Renault is superintendent, is a relatively new course, built in 1979 and opened to play in June 1980. A fee course owned by Wayne Lynch, who is a member of the well-known golfing Lynch family, it stretches 6,465 yards from the blue tees, and its naturally rolling fairways were carved out of deliduous woodland on Route 50 in Fairfax County, across the highway from the busy Fair Oaks Mall shopping center. Mark Guttenberg is the PGA professional.

Local architect Eddie Ault designed Penderbrook, and Moore Golf Co., Inc., was the prime contractor. The greens were built on a modified USGA specification 90-10 formula foundation and were sown in Penncross bent. The fairway seed mix (100 pounds per acre) was a 30% combination of Pennfine and Manhattan rye grass, 20% each of A-34 Blue and Adelphi, and 15% each of Baron and Fylking; the same mixture was sown on the tees, which have a 2-4" layer of sand mixture over the basic clay. The greens are mowed to 3/16", tees to 3/4", and fairways to 7/8". The greens receive seven to eight pounds of nitrogen per year, fairways and tees two pounds.

When the course was built, Superintendent Renault reports, the debris cleared from the fairways was pushed into the wooded areas bordering each hole. One of his primary tasks has been to clean out this debris and scrub undergrowth, which may take as long as five years. He has also been thinning out the deciduous trees to give those retained a chance to grow. Because the land originally contained very few evergreens other than some holly trees, he has started a pine nursery and is raising young pines for future transplanting.

Penderbrook is a busy course and has been well received by Northern Virginia

The President's Message . . .

I would like to thank all of you for your help and participation in nominating and electing our officers and directors for 1983. Also, Turfgrass '83 is over and once again was a success, with attendance up for the fifth straight year. Those who missed the educational sessions this year missed some of the best ever. I would like to thank the Maryland Turfgrass Council and the University of Maryland staff for their contributions to the meeting's success.

In this issue of the Newsletter, you will find a list of this year's officers and directors, along with their committee assignments. If you have any questions concerning the association, don't hesitate to call a director in your area and ask. If he can't provide a satisfactory answer, have him take your question to the Board meeting and we'll get an answer for you.

Our first meeting of this year will be at Penderbrook Golf Club in Fairfax in March, so don't forget to send cards or call George Renault and let him know that you'll be there. And remember, the rule on wearing jackets and ties to all meetings will be enforced this year.



Ken Braun, *President*

ADDRESS CHANGES

All changes of address should be reported promptly, both to Secretary Paul O'Leary for the record and for the directory and to the Newsletter editor and his mailing list. If a wrong address is still being used and the Newsletter is being forwarded to you, please let us know about that, too.

golfers. Its men's golf association of more than 100 members is affiliated with the Virginia State Golf Association. The course closed for the winter on January 7 and will reopen March 12, so Mid-Atlantic golfers will actually be playing the course four days before it is officially opened for the 1983 season.

Program for March 8

Lunch — Not available at Penderbrook, since the course is not yet open (limited showers will be available, but no towels).

Golf — 12 noon

Cocktails (cash bar) — 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Dinner (buffet, cost - \$13) — 6:30 p.m.

Cocktails and dinner will be served at the Holiday Inn on Route 123 in Fairfax
(Continued on Page 2)

Schedule of 1983 Meetings

- March 8 — Penderbrook Golf Club
- April 12 — Evergreen Country Club
- May 10 — Washington Golf & Country Club
- 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.

New Job Openings

Assistant Superintendent,
Leisure World

Assistant Superintendent,
Herndon Centennial Golf Club

Call or write Ben Stagg for details

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

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

1983 Officers and Directors

President Ken Braun
Vice President Mike Larsen
Secretary Paul O'Leary
Treasurer Gerald Gerard
President-Emeritus Ben Stagg
Educational Chairman Lee Dieter
Membership Chairman Robert Lambert
Golf Chairmen Walter Montross &
George Renault
Social & Benevolence . . . Paul Barefoot
Editorial & Publicity . . . Wayne Evans
GCSAA Chapter Relations. Bill Emerson

LETTERS . . .

Sorry to have missed your visit but glad Mike Claffey was able to talk to you. I'll be happy to pass along some newsletter items from time to time, for what they are worth. The experience I gained as superintendent at Columbia for 18 years gave me valuable tools to carry anywhere in the country. Washington-Baltimore growing conditions can be difficult, and I don't think there will ever be a fairway grass for that area.

I have always been impressed with the long tenure of the Mid-Atlantic people. I think it's because we were never happy with the conditions of our courses, and we felt compelled to stay until we got them in outstanding playing condition. The growing seasons were normally against us, with an exception every 5 or 6 years. After the cool summer of 1981, I said, "That's it. Mother Nature won't be this kind to us for another 10 years, if ever." It was a good opportunity to leave with a beautiful, well-conditioned golf course. As luck would have it, 1982 was another exceptional year, which certainly helped those of us who were starting new jobs.

As you become acquainted with the Superintendents in the Mid-Atlantic, you will be impressed with their abilities and their genuine concern for each other. Give them all my best—I miss them and their families. Hope to see you next time you come to the Sandhills.

Sincerely yours,
George B. Thompson

Ladies Night Features Pirates of Penzance

Members and their wives who attend Ladies Night this year — March 23 at the Harlequin Dinner Theater in Rockville — will not only enjoy a cocktail hour and a buffet dinner but a performance of the Gilbert and Sullivan favorite, "Pirates of Penzance" as well. The total price is \$50 per couple, and reservations should be made by calling Paul Barefoot at either 722-3262 (office) or 291-2095 or by sending your check directly to Paul at Box 161, U.S. Soldiers Home, Washington, D.C. 20317, by March 4.

As stated, the price includes unlimited bar, except for wine by the bottle and specialty orders. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m., dinner at 7, and the show starts at 8:30. To get to the Harlequin, follow the Beltway to 270 (toward Frederick), which you leave at the Shady Grove/Gaithersburg exit. Then, turn right on Shady Grove Road, right again on Frederick Ave. (Rte. 355), and left on Gude Dr., proceeding one mile to the theater, which is on your left.

New Membership Applications

Michael J. Doetzer,
Superintendent
Rolling Road Golf Club
Class D

Bernard I. Beavan,
Superintendent
Chesapeake Country Club
Class D

Thomas E. Cassat,
Assistant Superintendent
Towson Golf & Country Club
Class D

John D. Parisien,
Assistant Superintendent
Bonnie View Country Club
Class D

Ronald C. Tumiski,
Superintendent
Forest Park Golf Course
Class B

John W. Hoover,
Superintendent
Hillendale Country Club
Class B

(ed. note: On a November visit to Pinehurst, I stopped by the Country Club of North Carolina to meet George and see if I could pick up some material. As it turned out, he was away on a duck hunt, but this fine letter resulted.)

MARCH MEETING (Cont. from Page 1)
City; the address is 3535 Chain Bridge Road (turn right at the first stoplight on Route 123 after turning left off Route 50/29-211 coming from Penderbrook; if coming from Route 66, Fairfax exit to Route 123, turn left at the stoplight just before reaching the one at 50/29-211). Return your reservations cards or call George Renault (278-8740 or 385-8121) as soon as possible.

Directions to Penderbrook

From the Washington Beltway, take either Route 66 exit (just past Tysons Corner) or Route 50 exit (next one after Route 66 if heading toward Alexandria). If you go via 66, switch over to Route 50 where they intersect, go through the underpass to the Fair Oaks Mall and turn right immediately after that on to Route 1554, which leads to the clubhouse. If using Route 50, which has more traffic and many more stop lights, just go through the underpass and turn right on 1554.

STRAY DIVOTS . . .

Headed down to the national tournament at Myrtle Beach as a stop on their way to Atlanta are Ken Braun, Paul O'Leary, Ron Hall, Dave Kroll, Bill Emerson, and Bob Orazi; all scores will be reported in due course. . . . Ken, Paul, and Tom Turner will man the hospitality suite at the national meeting, while working for Bill's election; Cornell will sponsor its annual cocktail party. . . . In case you missed it, Paul O'Leary has an excellent article on the superintendent's view of winter golf in the November-December issue of *USGA Green Section Record*.

Donald Ross Award Goes to Al Radko

The Donald Ross Award for 1983 will be presented to Alexander M. Radko, former national director of the Green Section of the USGA, by the American Society of Golf Course Architects, who annually present the award to a person who has made significant contributions to golf course architecture.

Radko was primary editor for the USGA book *Turf Management for Golf Courses*; he joined the USGA Green Section in 1947 as a Research Assistant, became Eastern Regional Director in 1953, and from 1968 until his retirement in 1981 was the National Research Director. He was editor of the *Green Section Record* and wrote more than 100 articles on turfgrass maintenance and golf course management.