# Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER

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### The President's Message

Early in May, I attended a preliminary conference with the GCSAA Board of Directors in Washington, D.C. I'rı pleased to be able to report that the Board without exception is excited about what Washington, the Convention Center, and the city's various attractions in terms of what all three have to offer for the GCSAA

1985 meeting here. As the host association, the Mid-Atlantic will, of course, have certain responsibilities. Most of these will involve acting as welcoming committees at airports and hotels, manning a host booth with information about the sights and activities in Washington, and helping to plan the spouses' program. As details develop, I will be keeping the membership fully informed.

In the near future, we will begin compiling a list of members interested in helping out with these host duties. If each of us volunteers just a small part of his time, I'm confident that the Mid-Atlantic will do its part to ensure a highly successful National Conference.

Our June meeting is at Green Spring Valley, and our host is Grant Pensinger; hopefully, the weather will cooperate. Remember to register for the meeting in advance by calling 964-0070.

Michael J. Larsen, President

#### From the Golf World

The folks who run the Kemper Open out at Congressional have asked MAAGCS members to be their guests; just present your current membership card at the ticket window (and family members are included). Other news of local interest is that Nick Vance will take your order for a fine pair of slacks for \$25. Also, next year's GCSAA golf tournament will be down at Hilton Head, where the number of courses increases every year.

This year's first recipient of the National Golf Foundation's Outstanding Service Award will be Lionel Callaway, an innovative golf professional who has given much to the game. Now 88 years old, Callaway was born in England; his father was both a pro and a golf course architect. Turning professional himself at an early age, he came to this country in 1912, and by 1920 he was the professional at Pinehurst, remaining there as pro and later as tournament director until retiring in 1971. While at Pinehurst, where he still lives part of each year, Callaway developed his handicapping system, which can be used when any of the players in a tournament do not have a current USGA handicap. Using a table of scores, a player's handicap is determined by deducting from his gross score a specified number of the worst holes. He has continued to have a number of innovative ideas for golfers and, incidentally, possesses one of the finest collections of play clubs and other ancient tools that

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ended up in this order: 6th, Bob Orazi and John Haines of Hunt Valley; 7th, Tom Haske and Glenn Brown of Westwood; and 8th, Dick Gieselman and Mike Ryan of Hidden Creek. Harold Parr and Mark Helfrich of Hidden Valley and Chevy Chase, respectively, were ninth with 66, and the final prize went to Jeff Miskins and Pete Keller of Montgomery Country Club with 67.

The special prize winners were: closest to the pin, on No. 2, Steve Nash of International; No. 4, Art Scott of Prince Georges; and No. 11, Tom Regan of Bethesda; long drive, Ken Braun for the superintendents, Mike Ryan for the pros.

We had a fine day for golf until that storm whipped in — maybe a shotgun start at 12:30 instead of at 1:00 would have saved us from getting wet. My thanks to Wayne Evans and Wheeler

your editor has yet to see.

It has now been confirmed that there will be a severe shortage of Penncross bent seed and this this shortage could affect golf course construction this summer. Penneagle is also in very short supply, and the reason is the very heavy rains that hit Oregon last harvest season. In addition, Tee-2-Green Corp., which markets the seed, underestimated the demand for Penncross. This year's supply will not be available for shipment from Oregon until at least August 15, too late for many construction projects.

Stewart, our hosts at Indian Spring, for their many contributions, to all the participating superintendents and pros for their support, and to Harold Parr, Ken Ingram, Steve Cohoon, and Dick Gieselman for all their help.

However, I would like to make several points relating to the registration and attendance at this tournament. Here are some interesting facts: 1 day before the entry deadline, 22 teams were registered, 20 of whom had paid; 5 days before the tournament, 49 teams were registered. Paid; 3 days before the tournament, 52 teams were registered, 29 paid; 1 day before the tournament, 48 teams were registered, 32 paid; an hour before the shotgun start, 9 teams no-showed, and of them 7 did not pay but did guarantee their play.

So, to register for golf events in the future, you are going to have to pay in advance and comply with the deadline date. Refunds, unless the course is closed or the tournament committee deems it unplayable, will not be made. Pro-ams have a 1-week deadline for registration, and the entry is non-refundable.

For the rest of this year, the only other tournament that will have a deadline for entry will be our Annual Championship on October 9. Entry forms for this event will go out with a later newsletter, and your help in registering early or at least before the deadline will be much appreciated.