



Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER



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Lunch Meeting Set For July 8 at Eisenhower

What better name for a busy public golf course than "Eisenhower"? The soldier-president did so much to make golf popular during its growth period in the 1950's and 1960's, and the course named for him was built in 1966 to Eddie Ault's design in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Eisenhower will be the scene of the July 8 MAAGCS meeting, which will be one of our infrequent lunch meetings, starting at 11 a.m. Since no dinner is involved, reservations are unnecessary, but the pro shop must be called (301-849-8221) for starting times, which begin at 1 p.m. Golf activities will feature the third round of the match play championship and open play for all others.

Superintendent Lou Rudinski, our host on July 8, has been at Eisenhower since 1977. He describes his course as a combination of wooded and open, over rolling land, with water hazards on the first four holes. Additional water will be provided by the installation of 7 to 8 acres of wetland by the State of Maryland, which should increase the challenge of the course by 1987.

Eisenhower, which absorbs up to 45,000 rounds of golf per year, is maintained by Lou, two full-time staff, three seasonal, and three summer employees (plus a trainee slot, yet to be filled). The Penncross greens are cut four times a week to 3/16", the mixed poa, rye, and
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President's Message

I have put off writing this month's President's Message just as the weather has put off providing us with the much-needed rain we have all been waiting for. Maybe by the time this newsletter reaches you, it will have rained on our golf courses; so far this year, we're way behind.

Just because summer is here, I hope it won't serve as an excuse for you to miss any of our meetings. I want to thank Don Rozinak for his hospitality at the Country Club of Swan Creek in June. Remember, the July meeting at Eisenhower Golf Course will be a luncheon and not a dinner meeting and that you should call the course for starting times for golf. If just coming for the lunch and meeting, please reserve by calling our office number 964-0070 (call collect if outside the area).

Don't forget to plan now to attend the annual August picnic, which will be at Hobbits Glen this year; it's shaping up as one of the best picnics ever.

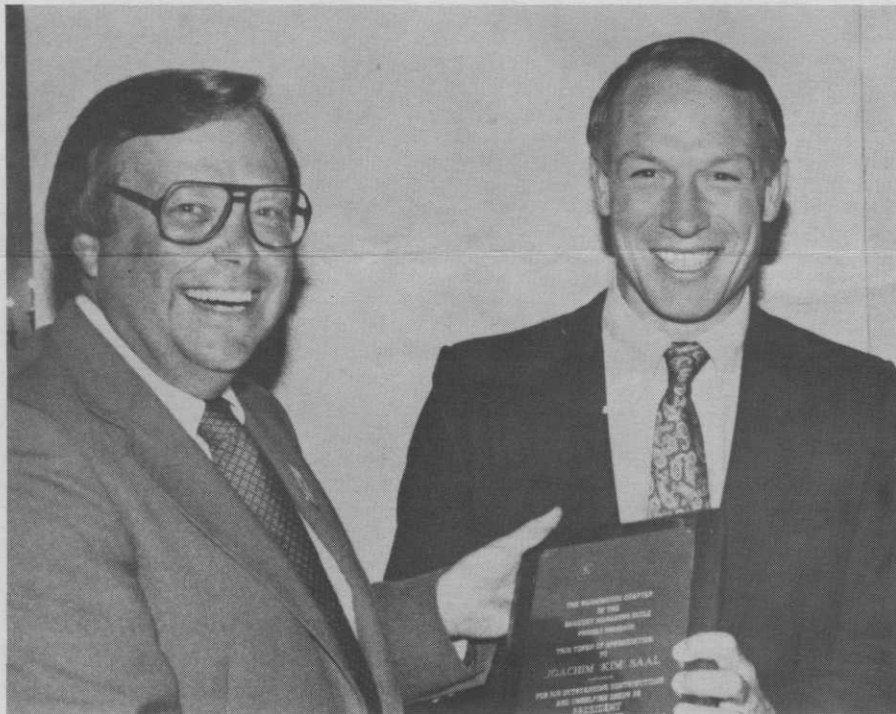
Jerry Gerard, *President*



Regan Lengthens His '86 Match Play Lead

Good rounds at Swan Creek enabled Tom Regan to stretch his Match Play Championship lead and Nick Vance to move up to a close second. His 74 on June 10 upped Tom's point total to 18½, while Nick's 71 jumped him to 16 points from his previous 6. In third place with 12½ points is Tom Walsh, a whisker ahead of Ken Ingram and Grant Pensinger, each with 12. Virgil Robinson dropped from second to fifth with a 9 point total.

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A singular honor for an MAAGCS member was announced at the recently completed Kemper Open, when Bill Buchanan (L.), PGA Tour agronomist, presented the GCSAA and PGA Tour Citation of Performance to Bill Black (R.), Manager of Greens and Grounds at Congressional Country Club. The award was based on the outstanding condition of Congressional as Bill had prepared it for the 1985 Kemper Open. Black has been Congressional superintendent since 1980, moving there from Fountainhead C.C. in Hagerstown, Md.

Turfgrass Field Day Is Wed., August 6

This year's Maryland Turfgrass Research Field Day and Equipment-Products Show will be held Wednesday, August 6, at the University of Maryland's new research facility next to the Hopkins Plant Research Farm on Cherry Hill Road near Beltsville. Tours of the research plots begin at 9 a.m. and last until 12:30 p.m. when lunch will be served (cost about \$7). Demonstration of turf products and equipment will be held during the afternoon.

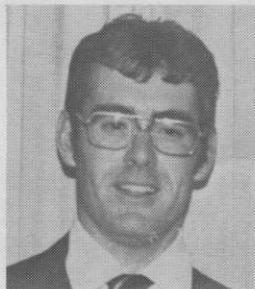
The tour will cover research being conducted in connection with the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program, weed control, disease control, plant growth regulators, and general management studies. Practical information developed during this research will be featured, along with updates on chemicals, equipment, plant varieties, management practices, and specific problems to be diagnosed. Questions regarding this field day should be addressed to Peter H. Dernoeden, Department of Agronomy, U. of Maryland (301-454-3717).

To reach the farm, leave the Beltway at Exit 23N (Rt. 29) if coming from Frederick, Rockville, or Rt. 240; head north, turn right at Randolph Rd. traffic light, proceed 1 mile to farm. Coming from southern Maryland, Eastern Shore, or Rts. 4, 50, or 202, leave Beltway at Exit 27 (Rt. 1). Head south toward College Park, turn right at first traffic light (Cherry Hill Rd.), and follow signs for 4 miles to farm on left.

Collecting Grasses for the USGA-GCSAA Research Program

by Patrick M. O'Brien
USGA Green Section, Mid-Atlantic Region

Did you ever want to discover a new grass? This opportunity is very possible for anyone who looks carefully at their grasses. The Mid-Atlantic region of the United States is an excellent area for collecting both cool and warm season grasses for our plant breeders. The extreme climate causes good variability in most grass species.



Probably the best locations on any golf course to search for improved grasses are the fairways and putting greens. The give-away to the searcher is usually a circular patch of grass with a slightly different color. I have observed many of these patches as large as four to five feet in diameter.

Obviously, if you spot some different-looking grasses, they should have some desirable characteristics. The most desirable traits include the following:

1. Dark green color
2. Heat tolerance
3. Cold tolerance
4. Drought tolerance
5. Vigorous growth

In my travels I have seen some grasses which exhibit some of these characteristics. I observed Bermudagrass growing in a fairway in Erie, Pennsylvania, and a very fine textured Bermuda on a fairway in Philadelphia. There is also a very vigorous strain of bentgrass growing in a fairway in Butler, Pennsylvania. I have also seen some nice looking perennial *Poa annua* types on putting greens in Virginia and in the Carolinas.

Historically, some of our finest grasses today were found by golf course personnel. Richie Valentine showed me the location adjacent to the No. 17 tee on the Merion East Course where Merion Kentucky bluegrass was discovered. Tommy Davis, a laboratory technician at Virginia Tech, discovered the Vamont Bermudagrass variety while he was working at the Oak Woods Country Club in Wilksboro, North Carolina. This valuable Bermudagrass was growing naturally on his No. 17 fairway. I am sure there are many valuable grasses like these now growing unnoticed at many golf courses.

MEETING (Continued from page 1)

bluegrass fairways three times a week to 3/4", and tees and collars to 5/8". Greens are treated under a spray program using Turf Cal (3 1/2 qts. per 1,000), with plans to include fairways later this year. Repaving the cart path system is projected for this summer, and a new clubhouse is planned for three or four years down the line.

Host Rudinski is a 1961 graduate of the University of Massachusetts' Stockbridge School of Agriculture. After further training under the late Richard Silvar in New Jersey, he came to Maryland in 1969, working at Bonnie View and then Baltimore C.C.'s Five Farms course. He says that a heart attack in 1977 caused him to rethink his life goals, and he then moved to Annapolis and the Eisenhower post.

Directions to Eisenhower are as

follows: From the Eastern Shore, take Rt. 50 to Annapolis (Rt. 450 exit), turn left at the stoplight, stay on West St. (don't turn left at 450), to the course 3 miles on the left. From Baltimore, take the Beltway to Rt. 3 south, Rt. 3 to Rt. 178 (Crownsville), turn left on 178, to course about 6 miles on the right. From Washington, take the Capital Beltway to Rt. 50 east, leaving Rt. 50 at the Annapolis exit and turning right onto West St. (Rt. 178); course is on the left after 3.2 miles.

July 8's program is:

Lunch - 11 a.m. (cost, \$12; no coats or ties)

Meeting - 12 noon

Golf - 1 p.m. (call for starting times, identifying yourself as MAAGCS member; crossover system in effect, using both #1 and #10 tees)

NEW MEMBERS

Dean Zeller, Class B
Assistant Superintendent
Maryland Golf & Country Club
Bel Air, Md.

Christophor J. Paradis, Class C (Student)
Assistant Superintendent
Hobbitts Glen Golf Course
Columbia, Md.

Charles R. Tasker, Class F
President, Atlas Stump Removal
Silver Spring, Md.

John Hoover, Change to Class A
Superintendent
Hillendale Country Club
Phoenix, Md.