



Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER



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President's Message

I'd like to use my President's Message this month to extend a special invitation. I'd like to see every Mid-Atlantic member and his family at our annual picnic. Some of us that have been attending for so many years and enjoying the personal relationships that we have developed with our business associates evidently have not spread the word. The picnic is a lot of fun, with plenty to eat and drink, and there will be entertainment for the kids. The day offers more than that, the most important thing we have to offer is the chance for our families to meet each other. Your family will realize that they aren't the only ones that have a different summer than it sometimes seems the rest of the world does, that their Dad (husband) is a part of a small group of dedicated professionals that give a lot of themselves to their chosen work. The ladies get to know each other and will want to attend other functions like ladies night and our national meeting to see their new friends.

Take it from me, the friendships developed over the years can be a great asset to you and your family. I'm proud that my families' closest personal friends are Golf Course Superintendents and their families. Come to the picnic and find that some of your close business associates can be your best friends.



Lee Dieter, *President*

Walk a Mile for a Camel?

If you would or wouldn't, surely you would travel 12 miles from the Beltway to picnic at Bretton Woods. It's that time again — the annual event for family and friends. An IMPORTANT change to note is the correct date is Wednesday, August 12. So change the calendar and plan to have a great day!

Bretton Woods is a recreation center created for the enjoyment of employees and guests of the International Monetary Fund. The facility offers golf, swimming, tennis, playground areas, basketball courts, as well as soccer fields and volleyball courts.

The golf course was built by Ed Ault and predominate grasses are bentgrass greens which are mowed six days a week. The fairways are a combination seeking survival with any combination that will take bordering the Potomac River, floods and typical humidity problems only to mention a few related job stress factors. Fairways are overseeded with perennial ryegrass and mowed three times weekly.

Gerald Gerald, C.G.C.S. has been employed as Superintendent, since graduating from the Institute of Applied Agriculture, University of Maryland in 1968. Gerry received the GCSAA Scholarship

Award in Fall of 1967 and accepted his present position before graduating in 1968. 1975 was a good year for Gerry, bringing him certified status and the responsibilities of President of the Washington Golf Course Superintendents Association. His credentials include Past President of the Association (1986), and Board member (1980). President in 1986. Gerry and his wife Judy reside in Germantown, Maryland.

As in the past, families should bring a covered dish to serve one assistant superintendent or a group of say 10-12 superintendents which have been stranded on a desert oasis for the months of July and August. While there is no charge for immediate family members or a single guest, other guests are invited at a \$5.00 fee to be collected in the buffet line. Serving starts around 1:30 p.m., so please have your covered dish with serving utensils there earlier. Remember, the early bird gets the crabs in this instance. Play golf, swim and enjoy.

DIRECTIONS: Take the River Road exit from the Beltway (495) and go 11½ miles toward Potomac. Club is on the left side of the road. Road ends 12 miles so you can't miss it.

On the Tee . . .

Given the increasing professionalism of our field, I think it's time we give some thought to the process leading up to our MAAGSC elections. MAAGSC now boasts 250+ members from a widespread area. While there are fast friendships among members, it is unrealistic to assume that everyone knows everyone else well. As voters we have an obligation to elect the best man for the job but this is difficult when a candidate's qualifications are known only by word of mouth. This need not be the case when we have an ideal vehicle for dispersing such background information — your newsletter. Just as newspapers carry bio's on national candidates, we could run a picture and a short bio on nominees for MAAGSC elections. Give it some thought. If you're contemplating running for office, it might not be a bad idea to announce your intentions at our upcoming picnic. Gerry Gerard, our host for that event, is also Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Get involved.

Flash! Flash! A new animal was recently added to the endangered species list. Found in abundance through the past decades, this nonpredatory species appears to be in dramatic decline, particularly in metropolitan areas. It is the golf course worker! Once again, prosperity and an upward lifestyle are blamed. Hope your labor situation is better than what I'm finding in town!

Cicadas have really been doing a number on oaks, chestnuts and most new plantings. Coupled with drought conditions over the last several years, the only good news is that they won't return again until the year 2004. Gypsy moths are now profuse in town. Females could be observed depositing their egg masses all over. While this spring, larvae were only sporadic, egg masses aren't! Early detection is helpful but community effort is essential. Educate your members to the consequences and assist local extension services. Most have hot lines for gypsy moth problems. Northern Virginia and surrounding areas hang on to your . . . trees.

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