



# Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER



VOLUME XXXX

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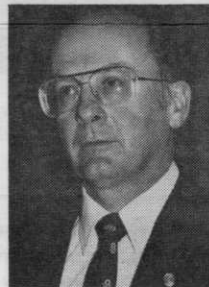
NUMBER 1

## President's Message

I'd like to begin this first of my monthly articles with a Thank You for the confidence and trust you expressed in me by electing me to another term as President of our Association. I will do my best to serve your interests and promote a stronger Association with a more active membership and a more interesting program of activities.

We have an extremely competent and interested Board of Directors. It's this group and their committees who are going to provide you with your membership services during the coming year.

I'd like to close by asking you to use your board. You should feel free to communicate with them about your association. If you need help in any area or can offer assistance, please contact the Director responsible or write a letter directly to the Board. We are here to serve you.



Lee Dieter, President

## Something New . . .

### Article of the Year Tip of the Month

Many of us have excellent thoughts and ideas that might well help a fellow superintendent, assistant, student or even an ordinary golfer. That is, it might help if it was ever passed on.

Unfortunately, many still remember the atmosphere of twenty years ago when superintendents didn't share their ideas under the pretext, "If I told you, you could do what I do!"

This newsletter is a case in point. How many times have you read an article

contributed by a colleague which offers a suggestion, idea, or learning experience.

Well, we've come a long way in twenty years and while we do share ideas, we tend to limit them to social occasions. To get these into our newsletter we are establishing two new monthly articles — Tip of the Month — and — Article of the Year.

Subject matter should relate to our field and incentives to contribute are a \$25 bond for the tip of the month and a \$100 bond for the article of the year. Material should be submitted to George Renault.

If the purpose of the MAAGCS and this newsletter is to aid our advancement through education and merit, we need to hear from you.



Fredericksburg Country Club

## Fredericksburg C.C. To Host 1st Meeting

The first meeting of the MAAGCS will be held at Fredericksburg Country Club on March 10th.

Originally a 9-hole facility during the 1920's, greens were seeded with C1, C7 and C19 Bentgrasses. The back nine was constructed in 1960. As can be imagined, drain tile does not exist except on #6 green which was built in 1985 to Ed Ault's design.

The clubhouse retains the charm and hospitality of the southern plantation it once was. The course, measuring 6,200 yards from the white tees, is a par 72. Greens are mowed six times a week at 5/32" and receive 5 lbs. of nitrogen annually. Fairways are cut at 3/4" and mowed three times per week. Comprised mainly of bermuda and ryegrass, fairways receive 4 lbs. of nitrogen annually. The course is watered automatically via a KCS Buckner system.

Our host, Ron Barley, is a Certified Golf Course Superintendent and has been located at Fredericksburg Country Club for the past three years. Formerly at Prince William G.C. and Shenandoah Retreat G.C., Ron was featured in April 1986's issue of Golf Course Management magazine in the article "Of Watt and Water: One Proven Technical Approach to Protecting Power, Quality."

Golf will be available around 11 a.m.; sandwiches and bar purchases can be made by cash or charged back to your club. Golf cars will be available, weather permitting. Cocktails will begin at 5:30 p.m. with dinner and meeting commencing at 7 p.m. The \$15 dinner fee will be a buffet and open bar.

An accurate headcount is required so RSVP as soon as possible to the MAAGCS Hotline: 301-381-0030.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take I-95 South to Fredericksburg exit 46 A (Rt. 3 East). Head East on Rt. 3 turning right on Rt. 2 & 17 South. Go two lights, turn left, then immediately right at first light under railroad bridge. Go to the flashing red light, bear right, proceed 2.5 miles to club on left. Club has white fence in front directly across from Celco Moraine (General Motors) plant.

## 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.

George Renault, C.G.C.S.  
Editor

### 1987 Officers and Directors

President ..... Lee Dieter  
Vice President ..... George Renault  
Secretary ..... Bill Neus  
Treasurer ..... Walter Montross  
President Emeritus .... Gerald Gerard  
Educational ..... Steve Cohoon  
Membership ..... Virgil Robinson  
Golf ..... Nick Vance  
Social & Benevolence .... Steve Nash  
Editorial & Publicity .... Lester Tanner  
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## New Board of Directors



From left to right: George Renault, Steve Cohoon, Bill Neus, Nick Vance (standing), Lee Dieter, Gerry Gerard (standing), Tom Regan, Steve Nash, Lester Tanner, Virgil Robinson and Walter Montross (missing).

## 1987 Golf Roundup

by Nick Vance

With the 1987 golf season just around the corner and all of us thinking about the work we have at our respective courses, I would like to give everyone a quick look at the schedule we have for this year.

To start with, I would like to congratulate all of the individual winners from the Mid-Atlantic who participated in the National Tournament in Tucson in January.

In the RED Flight, George Renault won 2nd low net and Ken Braun won 5th low gross. In the GREEN Flight, Dave Kroll won 9th low gross, and last but certainly not least, the Mid-Atlantic #2 team (George Renault, Steve Cohoon, Ken Braun and Nick Vance) won 2nd low net.

At this time I would like to thank our membership for the support given to our teams by way of the 50/50. This money helps offset some of the expenses while we are at the tournament and I know all of the participants are grateful. THANK YOU.

With a good start like we had in Tucson, we would really like to keep the ball rolling back home by getting a lot of support with our own golf program. Our program is only as good as the participation we receive. If it doesn't work, we have no one to blame but ourselves. If you don't like something we are doing, let us know. The golf committee is very receptive to new or different ways to make golf a major part of our program.

To start the year off at Fredericksburg Country Club in March, we would like to have our own Skins Game. In order for

this to work, we need you to play. It would help the scoring team tremendously. The price for the Skins tournament will be \$5.00 and all prize money will be used for prizes for that day.

Starting in April we will start our Point Tournament. This year we will change the scoring around a little. Last year we gave more points to low gross than we did to low net. After seeing this done one year, the golf committee feels the tournament will be more competitive if we give more points to low net. We will start with first low net getting 10 points and have 10th place getting 1 point. Low gross will get 7 points and 7th will get 1 point.

The reason for the change is the low gross prize is usually won by one of about 5 players. On the other hand, low net can and usually is won by a number of players, therefore the points are distributed more among the participants. Our goal is to try to make things fun and keep them competitive.

Also starting in April, we are going to start our qualifications for the MET tournament to be held in October. When we received our invitation last year we had only once chance to qualify and we did not have much time to prepare and select a team. This year I would like to hear from anyone who would like to compete in the tournament. I will put their names on the qualification list and we will pick the 6 best to represent us in Long Island. We will use the 3 best scores from our April, June, July and September meetings. That gives anyone a chance to qualify and should give us a good team to send up there. This tournament is open to all members so sign up early.

I will have information on our Supt.-Pro and Annual Meeting in the next issues. Have a good season.

## Tip of the Month . . .

Little over a year ago I quit smoking. One reason among many that I didn't kick the habit sooner was that whenever I tried to do without in the summer, the gnats, flies, and mosquitoes almost carried me away. So I would light another one, puff, and buy myself a temporary reprieve.

But I was determined to quit and finally found a solution to my summer-time pests — Vitamin B. A complete (all the various B's combined) vitamin B tablets once a day and the bugs no longer find me a sweet treat. They may buzz inches from my face but they no longer get in my eyes, up my nose, or suck my blood. Occasionally one may land but he doesn't stay.

## Maryland Turfgrass Conference '87

In past years, the Maryland Turfgrass Conference lived up to every expectation. While the switch from banquet to luncheon format was well received, this year's conference left many confused and muttering under their breath. The reduced accessibility of the trade show was a major drawback and fueled the concerns of a number of distributors.

If you were one of those disgruntled attendees, please pass on your comments to Dr. Tom Turner at the University of Maryland or to the MAAGCS for forwarding. This conference is a worthwhile regional event and certainly deserves our input and support.

## On the Tee . . .

Congratulations to the newly elected Officers and Directors of GCSAA. They are: President Don Hearn C.G.C.S.; Vice President John Segui C.G.C.S. Newly elected Directors are: Steve Cadenelli C.G.C.S.; Randy Nichols C.G.C.S.; and Dennis Lyons C.G.C.S. For those interested in vote counts, John Segui received 2,318 for Vice President. For Directors, Steve received 2,832, Randy received 2,625 and Dennis received 2,823.

Outgoing President Riley Stottern, C.G.C.S. and the Board of Directors decided to expand Headquarters by an additional 4,500 square feet. An open invitation is extended to those who happen by the Lawrence, Kansas site.

Twenty-three Regional seminars are presently scheduled for 1986-1987. Others may be added later. For details see Golf Course Management magazine.

The proposed annual dues increase passed at Phoenix. Because of dwindling excess revenue, the motion passed by an overwhelming majority.

For planning purposes, Houston will host next year's Conference and Show.

Dates are February 1-9, 1988; Anaheim, 1989; Orlando and Vegas 1990 and 1991.

Approximately 432 men and 28 women competed in the 1987 Annual Tournament in Tucson. Plans for 1988 include using the Woodlands Inn and Kingwood Country Club. The Woodlands is approximately 30 miles north of Houston Airport which allows participants easy travel to the Conference and Show. Remember to register early if you plan to attend — the tournament fills up fast.

Congratulations to the Staff and Education and Certification Committees for receiving the 1986 American Society of Association Executives award for "Excellence in Education".

The Certification Committee implemented a new exam December 1, 1986. Considered fair but more difficult, the new test was established as part of a long-range plan. All Superintendents taking the exam will be surveyed for their input. As of December 15, 1986, 807 people were certified (up 102 over 1985 figures), and 119 applications were in process.

The Membership and Chapter Relations Committee received the go ahead from the Board of Directors to establish a GCSAA/Chapter Liaison,

aimed at strengthening communications. MAAGCS responded negatively to this idea and directed GCSAA to utilize our President as any communication focal point. Membership throughout 1986 has continued to grow. As of January 1, 1987, 3,753 are Class "A"; 962 Class "B"; 333 Class "C"; 694 "Affiliate"; 437 Student; 18 Associate; 187 Retired; 36 Inactive; 7 Honorary; 291 Class "AA" and 3 "AA" Charter.

New membership benefits planned for 1987 are:

- 1) Relocation service through Century 21 Real Estate Corp.
- 2) MasterCard may be applied for through the Association with reduced annual membership and interest rates.

New membership policies permit 2 Class "A" Superintendents for each 18 holes of golf. For each additional 18 holes a Class "A" member may be added.

Unemployed members may now retain their classification for up to six months beyond employment.

Contributions to the Ellis Island Foundation on behalf of GCSAA early dues payment totalled \$2,950.00 for 1986. The Lady thanks you.

## A LOOK AHEAD

For planning purposes, below are the 1987 meeting sites and our upcoming educational program. A well deserved thanks to Steve Cohoon for lining up a fine field of speakers. Those open dates will be filled prior to the March meeting and the information passed on to you.

While the conference season has drawn to a close, the education never stops. This schedule will hopefully enable you to plan for the best time to bring your assistant or board member. If you have suggestions for topics or speakers, give Steve a call.

Also noted are the big tournament dates — so mark your calendar. Remember to confirm your golf and/or dinner reservation with your MAAGCS office telephone HOTLINE # 301-381-0300, collect if you must.

<u>DATES</u>	<u>HOSTS</u>	<u>SPEAKERS</u>	<u>TOPICS</u>
March 10	Fredericksburg Country Club Ron Barley, CGCS Skin Match	Mr. George England	Pressure treated lumber Applications & usage
April 14	Redgate Golf Club Raymond Evans, CGCS Match Play Tournament	Not confirmed	Marking the golf course
May 12	To Be Announced Superintendent & Pro Tournament	Open due to Tourney	To Be Announced
June 9	Green Hill Yacht & Country Club James Kelly Match Play Tournament	Jim Pfafflin	Stress Management
July 14	Columbia Country Club Ken Ingram Match Play Tournament	Dr. H. Couch	Summer Diseases
August 11	Bretton Woods Recreation Center Gerry Gerard, CGCS Open Play	Picnic	Games & Fun
September 8	Twin Lakes Golf Club Barclay Whetsell Match Play Tournament	Dr. T. Turner	Current Turfgrass Issues
October 13	Belle Haven Country Club Jim Meier, CGCS Superintendent Memorial Tournament	Open due to Tourney	To Be Announced
November 10	Herndon Centennial Golf Club	Not confirmed	To Be Announced
December 8	Army Navy Country Club Dave Fairbank, CGCS	Election Meeting	

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