

On the Tee . . .

Many of us look upon the GCSAA as the big brother in the sky. There, but distant. "Those people" who put on the annual conference and show but from whom we don't often reap a tangible return. Well, we have now. In case you passed it over in your reading, the EPA — our nemesis — has taken action on cadmium and prohibited its use. The only exception is use on golf courses. Granted, it is restricted to tees and greens and parameters for application are restricted, but we've got an exception and we've got the National to thank for it. Information provided by the GCSAA and a demo set up at Congressional last May turned the tide against a total ban on cadmium use. Representing the industry before government agencies such as EPA is a strong argument for a strong National.

With only one issue of the newsletter left in 1987, you only have one more chance to get into the running for a \$100 bond. Remember, the Article of the Year gets the distinction and the bond, so get your ideas in!

I've now completed one year as your newsletter editor, and has it been a learning experience! Probably for you as well as me. During the past year I've harped upon the subject of involvement, some may think incessantly. But no where is involvement more crucial than with this, "your" newsletter. If it is to achieve its purpose, "to aid the advancement of the Golf Course Superintendent through education and merit" as stated above the officers' info, then you must be involved.

The betterment of MAAGCS members is not best served by a simple re-

printing of articles found in publications nationally available to superintendents everywhere. Our growth and improvement is more directly linked to what is happening here in our Mid-Atlantic backyard. What works here. Information offered and shared by our own members.

Because of this viewpoint, 95% of the articles you've read are written by us and about us. Those who contributed articles, tips and any and all information deserve our sincere thanks. They took the time and effort to share with us. They had just as many demands on their time as the rest of us but they went that little bit further and got involved. There's that word again!

I'm going to ask that you get involved again but it shouldn't take long. We'd like some feedback on how you feel about this newsletter. How would you improve it? What is not included that you would like to see included? Are there additional topics that you would like to see covered? What don't you like about it? Be honest and specific. Don't worry, I'm a superintendent so I have a thick skin! And you don't have to give your name! Take a moment and fill out the questionnaire. If you need more space, attach a sheet of paper. Drop it in the mail to me and we'll try to accommodate your requests.

Getting people to write articles has been no easy feat. If we're to keep this newsletter for us and by us — the MAAGCS — then we need your thoughts and support. The winter months are ideal for putting down on paper that idea you didn't have time for last summer. Or, maybe it was that problem and how you solved it. You could save someone time, effort and aggravation. Share it with us!

NEWSLETTER QUESTIONNAIRE

Do you agree that this newsletter should be about us — MAAGCS members as opposed to primarily national turf news?

Yes _____ No _____

Would you like to see more GSCAA news?

Yes _____ No _____

Do you receive it in a timely fashion?

Yes _____ No _____

What do you find most interesting? _____

What do you find least interesting? _____

What additional topics would you like to see covered? _____

General Comments: _____

Return to: G.E. Renault, 10323 Emerald Rock Drive, Oakton, VA 22124

Dates Worth Remembering

November 9-11, 1987, Penn State Golf Turf Conference, Keller Conference Center, The Penn State University, Univ. Park, PA. Dr. Joe Duich, (814) 865-9853.

December 9, 1987, MAAGCS Election meeting. Army Navy Country Club. Dave Fairbanks, host. RSVP (301) 381-0030.

January 4-6, 1988, Maryland Turfgrass Conference & Trade Show, Baltimore, MD. Dr. Tom Turner, (301) 454-3716.

January 13-15, 1988, Eastern Pa. Turf Conference & Trade Show, Valley Forge Convention & Exhibit Center, King of Prussia, PA. Dr. Tom Watschke, (814) 863-1613.

January 18-21, 1988, Virginia Turfgrass Conference & Trade Show, Richmond Marriott. Dr. Jack Hall, (703) 951-1527.

February 1-8, 1988, 59th International Golf Course Conference & Show, Houston, TX.

February 9-10, 1988, Northeastern Pa. Turfgrass & Grounds Maintenance School, Luzerne County Community College, Nanticoke, PA. (717) 963-4761.

February 23-25, 1988, Western Pa. Turf Conference & Trade Show, Pittsburgh Expo Mart/Marriott Hotel, Monroeville, PA., Randy Zidik, (412) 941-8552.

MAAGCS Donates Ride for USDA/RC

This past October, the MAAGCS contributed a 1985, 4-wheel gasoline Club golf car to the USDA Research Center as a token of our appreciation. It will facilitate work at the center in a multitude of ways, from enabling Jack Murray and other researchers to gather data in the field much easier, to facilitating visitors touring Jack's zoysia turf plots. And not least of all, it will allow Dr. Fred Grau a close up view of the turf plots instead of looking on from afar. The MAAGCS considers it an honor to be of assistance.

REMEMBER!

Our November meeting is a great chance to bring your spouse or steady friend to one of our monthly meetings. Instead of sitting back home envisioning images of Fred Flinstone and Barney Rubble at one of their Water Buffalo meetings, they could come along. (Wilma & Betty have been trying to get invited for years!) They'll have the pleasure of a night out, a good dinner, and an interesting speaker in Dr. Jack Hall. Not to mention the discovery that our "lodge" hats aren't quite as wild as Fred's and Barney's.