



Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER



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HERNDON IN NOVEMBER

The November 10th meeting of the MAAGCS will be hosted by Superintendent John Tutich and Herndon Centennial Golf Course. Owned by the Town of Herndon, the golf course is part of a lovely 4 square mile recreation center. You may have already had the pleasure of enjoying some of its facilities if you've ever attended the annual GWGCSA picnic. Or, if you enjoy cycling, you know it well because of the celebrated Washington and Old Dominion Bike Trail that winds through the Herndon Golf Course. Designated a National Recreation Trail, the bike path begins at Four Mile Run Park in Shirlington and runs 34 paved miles through the Virginia countryside to Leesburg. Part of the Northern Virginia Regional Park system, the trail averages over a million cyclists annually.

Opening July 1, 1978, Herndon Centennial was designed by Ed Ault following the concept of the town manager who envisioned a golf course set amongst 1½ acres of flower beds. Construction of the course began in April of '78 and was completed the following November. It is a popular course with play this year exceeding 65,000 rounds.

Measuring 5900 yds., Par 71, the greens of penncross bentgrass receive 7-8 lbs. of nitrogen annually and are mowed 5 times a week to 5/32". Fairways are a combination ryegrass/bluegrass and receive 6 lbs. of nitrogen annually beginning in the spring and being spooned through November. They are mowed 3 times weekly to 3/4". Tees are also a combination ryegrass/bluegrass which are mowed 3 times weekly to 1/2" and receive 6 nitrogen yearly.

The course is renovated in the fall and receives heavy top dressing in the spring and fall, with four additional light applications throughout the remainder of the year. John uses the same material that the greens are constructed with — bankrun sand — for top dressing. The irrigation system is a fully automatic Buckner KCS system with water coming from a 4 million gallon holding lake which is replenished from 5 wells and storm runoff.

Head Pro at Herndon Centennial is

Jack Walker, PGA. John's Asst. Supt. is Donald Doxee.

Our host, John Tutich, originally started in this business as a caddy. John's first superintendent position was with Hannastown Golf Course in Pa. Before coming to Herndon in 1978, he was previously affiliated with Crofton Country Club and Willowbrook Country Club.

In 1959, John had the pleasure of installing the first automatic irrigation system with central controller in western Pennsylvania. A superintendent for 28 years, he remembers mixing fungicides with sand and peat and applying the mixture to greens by hand. John enjoys his work immensely, considering it a hobby, not a job.

Golf is available after 11 a.m. with a snackbar lunch, cash only. Note that showers are not available. Cocktails and dinner of prime rib will be held at the Dulles Holiday Inn. Cocktails are open bar and dinner is \$24. Dr. Jack Hall will be our guest speaker. Come and enjoy! Remember to RSVP to the MAAGCS hotline at (301) 381-0030.

DIRECTIONS TO COURSE: Take Exit #12 (Dulles Toll Road) from 495 (Capital Beltway). From Dulles Toll Road take Exit #2. Turn left onto Centreville Road. Travel 1 mile. Turn left onto Ferndale Road. Golf course is on left.

DIRECTIONS FROM COURSE TO DINNER: From course turn right onto Ferndale Road. Proceed to Elden Street. Make right onto Elden Street. Travel 300 feet to light. Make right at light onto Sully Road (Rte. 28). Dulles Holiday Inn is 1 mile on right.

DIRECTIONS TO RESTAURANT: From 495 (Capital Beltway), exit Rte. 7 West. Make left at Sully Road (Rte. 28). Dulles Holiday Inn is 5 miles on left.

IT'S A BOY!

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Tom Ritter, on their new arrival Andrew Michael Ritter. Andrew arrived June 10, 1987. Our best wishes for happiness and health go to you all.

VPI Professor Guest Speaker for November Meeting

Dr. Jack Hall, a professor at VPI and an Agronomist with the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service, will be our guest speaker November 10th at the Herndon Centennial Golf Course.

A long time member of the MAAGCS, Dr. Hall is an organizer and speaker of the Virginia Turf Conference and Virginia Tech Field Days. Additionally, he serves on the Advisory Council for Landscape Management Magazine.

Topics for the evening discussion will include various ongoing research projects in the areas of growth inhibitors on poa annua, plant hormones, evapotranspiration, and more. Dr. Hall will provide the latest up-to-date information on the cutting edge of the turfgrass industry. Make plans to attend to find out how this information can be used to better your course.

Nominations MAAGCS Elections

The following candidates have been nominated for elective position within the MAAGCS. Voting will occur at the December 9th meeting at Army Navy Country Club. As a member, it is your duty to familiarize yourself with the candidates and cast your vote accordingly. Voting is not a privilege, it's a duty!

President: George Renault, CGCS
Chevy Chase Club

Vice President: Walter Montross, CGCS
Springfield Golf & Country Club

Secretary: William Neus, CGCS
Columbia Park & Rec. Assoc.

Treasurer: Nick Vance
Laytonsville Golf Course

Directors

(two to be elected)

Ken Ingram
Columbia C.C.

John Hoover
Hillendale C.C.

Jim Meier
Belle Haven C.C.

Steve Potter
Woodholme C.C.