



Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER



VOLUME XXXX

SEPTEMBER 1987

NUMBER 4

Twin Lakes in September

Buck Whetsell will host the MAAGCS September 8th at Twin Lakes, G.C., located in Clifton, Virginia. Twin Lakes G.C. is one of five golf courses owned and operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority for which Buck is responsible. Others include Burke Lake G.C., located in Burke Lake Park; Greendale G.C., located in Alexandria, Jefferson G.C., located in Falls Church and Pinecrest G.C., located in Annandale. Architect and Construction Superintendent for Twin Lakes, which opened for play October 6, 1967, was Mr. Charlie Schalestock of Fairfax, Virginia.

Fairways are a mixture of Baron, Fylking and South Dakota Bluegrass and are mowed three times a week at one inch with a F-10 mower. The turf is fertilized in March, September and December receiving 3 to 4 pounds of nitrogen annually. The course has a fully automatic aqualdial irrigation system. Measuring 6,463 yards from the white tees and playing par 73, it will surely test your golfing skills.

Greens are Pennncross bentgrass mowed three times weekly at 1/4 inch. All are aerified, verticut and heavily top dressed in the Spring and Fall. Subsequent light top dressing is done routinely during the summer months. Turf receives 6 to 8 pounds of nitrogen annually. Greens are sprayed preventatively with pesticides for control of diseases and insect infringements.

The tees are a mixture of bluegrass and bentgrasses mowed three times weekly at one half inch. Again aerified, verticut and top dressed in the Spring and Fall. The course provides two lakes for storing irrigation water — totalling 20 million gallons of reserve for irrigating greens, tees and fairways.

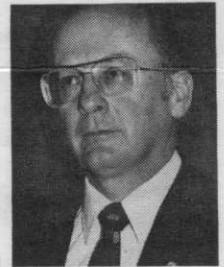
Buck has been the Golf Course Superintendent for the past twenty years. Supervising the construction and operations of these courses is part of an everyday situation for him. Prior to coming with the Park Authority, Buck was Superintendent of Westbriar now referred to as Westwood Country Club, located in Vienna, Virginia, and Tantallon Country Club, located in Tantallon, Maryland.

President's Message

The Summer of 1987 will be history when you read this, and I don't know one Mid-Atlantic Superintendent who will be sorry its over. This season has been one of the most challenging in my memory. The combination of heat and drought in July and the first half of August has put stress on our courses that hasn't been experienced in many years. The drought continues as I write this message to you on the day after our annual picnic. I never heard so many of our members complaining as I did yesterday at Bretton Woods. It seems that everybody is having problems. Disease, Water, and Crabgrass seemed to head the list. That's the benefit of getting together at the meetings, you realize that you aren't the only one with problems. Members who didn't get to the Picnic not only missed a great time, some terrific food, and the best crabs ever; you missed the chance to unload a little and we all need that whether we want to admit it or not. I thank our host Gerry Gerard and his wife GGG Judy for such a great time. It takes a lot of guts to have an August meeting and we appreciate it.

Our hosts for next month will be Buck Whetsell, now Turf Consultant for the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Course Manager at Twin Lakes Peter Furey. Make sure to call in your reservation, the first seventy get fed. See you there, we'll have end of summer CELEBRATION.

Lee Dieter, *President*



Getting started in the golf business as a caddy in 1947, he moved on to Assistant Superintendent to Mr. Alex McKay in 1952 at Goose Creek Country Club, located in Leesburg, Virginia. Buck has enjoyed being around golfing for all these years and hopes to continue to be a part of the game, especially to what the maintenance research will do, for all of us in the future.



Golf will be available after 11 a.m. Costs for lunch, drinks and golf carts will be cash only. Remember, qualifying for the MET tournament and match play

competition is slated for this day's golfing event.

DIRECTIONS TO GOLF COURSE from the Capital Beltway (495), exit on Braddock Road (Rt. 620), head West for about 12 miles. Turn LEFT onto Clifton Road. Proceed approximately 1½ miles to club on your right at 6100 Clifton Road, Clifton, Virginia.

Dinner will be served at the Black Orchid Restaurant. Cocktails will be available from 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. The price of dinner will be \$20.00 which includes New York strip steak, baked potato with sour cream, green beans, salad and coffee or tea. Beer and wine will cost \$2.00 and \$2.25 respectfully. Bar drinks will start at \$2.25.

DIRECTIONS TO RESTAURANT Exit from Capital Beltway on Little River Turnpike (Rt. 336) proceed inside the Beltway. Restaurant will be located on the LEFT, approximately 1 mile at 7410 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, Virginia. (703) 941-4400.

Please RSVP through our MAAGCS telephone listing at (301) 381-0030. It is easy and painless to announce your intentions of golf and/or dinner via reservations.