



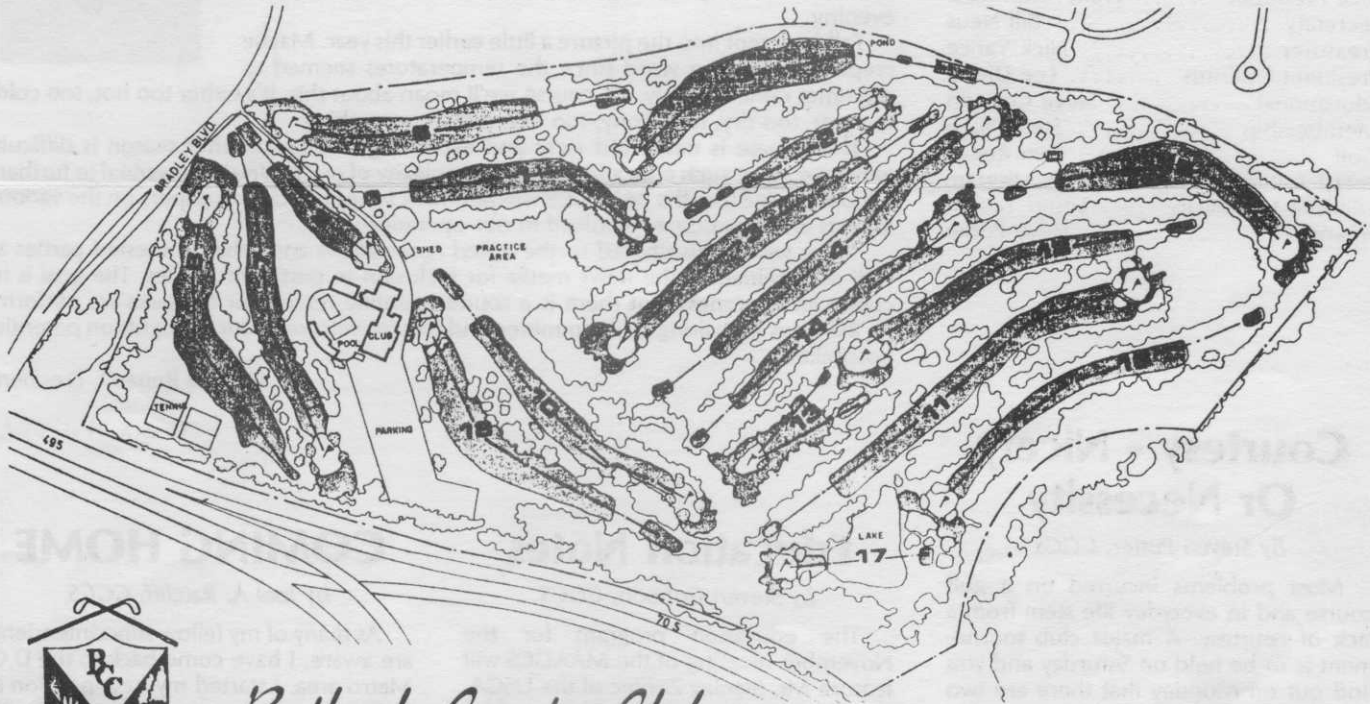
Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER



VOLUME XXXXI

NOVEMBER 1988

NUMBER 9



Bethesda Country Club

SITE OF NOVEMBER MEETING

The Association will meet on Tuesday, the eleventh of November, at the Bethesda Country Club. Our host will be Tom Regan, CGCS. Tom is presently a member of our board of directors and serves as our golf chairman. He has represented the association as a member of the Mid-Atlantic golf team at the national tournament. He graduated from Penn State in 1976, and then worked as an assistant to Richey Valentine at Merion for five years. He came to Bethesda in 1980. As some of you may have already guessed, from his smooth swing and low handicap, Tom has been involved in golf from an early age. He comes from a golfing family, his dad was a former amateur champion in Massachusetts, and he has lived and breathed golf since he began playing at the age of five. He entered the Coast Guard after high school and spent four years in the service. After considering a career as a golf professional, he settled on our profession and entered the Penn State program. We're sure Tom would



Host Tom Regan, CGCS

RESERVATIONS
(301) 381-0030

have made a great golf professional but we're glad he has put his efforts into growing grass. Tom has been doing an excellent job at Bethesda as you will be able to see on the eleventh. He also puts a lot of himself into his profession, his association and into the game of golf.

The Bethesda Country Club was organized on September 2, 1947. The original name was the National Womens' Club and was founded in the twenties. The National Womens' Club was the scene of many important social events in the Washington area. The Clubs' membership included many prominent personalities. The Mrs. Calvin Cooledge, Woodrow Wilson, Herbert Hoover, and wives of many members of the diplomatic community were active in the club. In the spring of 1932, fifty five elm trees were planted along the drive of the entrance to the club. Each tree was dedicated to the memory of a national heroine of the countries participating and the respective

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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.

Lee Dieter, C.G.C.S.
Editor

1988 Officers and Directors

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Courtesy - Nicety Or Necessity

by Steven Potter, CGCS

Most problems incurred on a golf course and in everyday life stem from a lack of courtesy. A major club tournament is to be held on Saturday and you find out on Monday that there are two ladies' guest days with shotgun starts that week. The ladies are upset when noisy work must be carried out throughout these entire guest days. Members are upset when they see you aerifying greens the same day they bring an out of town guest. You go to dinner without reservations and have to wait an hour to be seated. You go to a MAAGCS meeting without reservations to find out that they may not be able to accommodate you the same as those who have made reservations. These are just a sampling of the problems that can occur when courtesy is not treated as a necessity.

Courtesy is an obvious solution to these problems, but it is the one most often ignored. People by nature do not like surprises in their everyday lives. Inform your members of any maintenance activity that will disrupt normal play such as aerification. Request a schedule of all golfing dates that do not follow the everyday format like shotgun starts. Call a week in advance for dinner reservations. Call the MAAGCS office for meeting reservations. Grant the people that you will be associating with the same courtesy that you expect yourself. You will be surprised how much smoother every day goes.

President's Message

A sincere thank you to Tom List for hosting our annual event. Sorry I had to miss the meeting, but the general consensus of those who had the good fortune to attend was that the course played well and the accommodations were great.

A special thanks to John Sequi, CGCS for taking time out of a busy schedule to join us and particularly for his certification update. Thanks also to Tom "Hollywood" Regan, CGCS, who certainly knows how to organize an event, and to our sponsors G.L. Cornell Co. and T.E.S.C.O. for their much appreciated support.

The response to Ladies Night was the best ever and perhaps indicates that Ken Ingram, our Social and Benevolence Chairman, has untapped talents. It was a wonderful evening that will be hard to match in the future. Our gratitude to Ken and Columbia Country Club for a most enjoyable and memorable evening.

Fall has crept into the picture a little earlier this year. Maybe crept is too slow a word since the temperatures seemed to plummet rather quickly. Of course we'll moan about this. It's either too hot, too cold, too wet, too dry, too sunny, too overcast, or something.

The climate is never just right and explaining this season after season is difficult. However, since such education on the complexity of our business is essential to furthering our profession, the MAAGCS will publish a series of position papers on the various aspects and procedures involved in our operation.

These will be distributed to the Allied Associations and other interested parties as well as provided to the news media for inclusion in pertinent articles. The goal is to create an awareness that there is a sound scientific reason for the tasks we perform.

Bill Neus is chairing this committee and would welcome your thoughts on potential possibilities.

George Renault, President



Education Notes

by Steven Cohoon, CGCS

The education program for the November meeting of the MAAGCS will feature Mr. Stanley Zontec of the USGA. Mr. Zontec is the regional director, serving the Mid-Atlantic area, for the USGA Greens Section. He has been the guest speaker for this association before, and has been on the program of the Maryland Turfgrass Conference as well. His topics and presentations have always proven both informative and timely and I'm sure this meeting will be no exception. With Winter closing in, clubs are faced with the tough decision about what to do with the golf course. Should they close down completely, use temporary greens and/or tees, or play the course as normal? Mr. Zontec will discuss the pros and cons of the problems associated with Winter play and their effect on our golf courses. He will also fill us in on the problems Winter play causes Bermudagrass, the results of a recent study sponsored by the USGA. So please come one and all to this month's meeting at the Bethesda Country Club. This is an excellent meeting to bring a greens chairman or other club official to. They will be able to hear first hand about a problem most club members know little about. I'm looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. Please don't forget to RSVP your reservation to the Mid-Atlantic office. The number once again is (301) 381-0030.

COMING HOME

by Joel A. Ratcliff, CGCS

As many of my fellow superintendents are aware, I have come back to the D.C. Metro area. I started my new position at Indian Spring Country Club on May 25, 1988. The course looked great. This soon changed, as the Valley Course was flooded from 8" of rain. In what seemed like a very short period of time, the reality of summers around the beltway hit me. Temperatures climbed and hovered above 90° (at 11:00 p.m.)! Grass started to disappear. I assume it went to the mountains where life is slow and cool.

I did manage to learn many things this year such as summer patch, brown patch and fusarium blight can and will kill grass. I now know why everybody sprays fairways for pythium. Actually, it is a wonderful disease, as it seems to occur just in time for renovation, eliminating competition for the 10,000 lbs. of ryegrass that we planted on our 36 fairways.

This long hot summer went by rather quickly. I suppose this came from working during all available daylight hours. Traffic has been no problem at all because the beltway moves just fine at 5:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.

The best part of all is being close to my peers who are without a doubt some of the finest individuals, with some of the toughest jobs, apart from the one on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Thanks for the welcome home!

NOVEMBER MEETING

Continued from page 1

Ambassadors were in attendance. The United States tree was dedicated to Clara Barton. Joan of Arc, Cleopatra, and Florence Nightengale were honored by their countries. Unfortunately, Dutch elm disease destroyed many of those original trees in the 1970's. It was certainly fitting that the Club was just recently involved as the host to the LPGA's Greater Washington Open. A tribute to its heritage as the National Womens' Club. The Club will continue to host this event through 1991. This year's tournament winner was Ayako Okamoto of Japan.

The course was originally designed by Fred Finlay. The building of the Washington beltway in 1962 caused the club to undergo major reconstruction. At the present time, there are only four of the original greens remaining (2, 6, 9, and 18). Ed Ault was the architect for the reconstruction and is credited with the existing design.

The course is open twelve months of the year and averages 40,000 plus rounds. The Bent/Pos greens are maintained at 5/32nds and are mowed daily with walk-

ing greens mowers from April through October. A triplex mower is used the remaining months. A Poa annua control program was started this Fall on all of the greens using TGR at the full rate. The fairways are a mixture of Poa, Bluegrass, Ryegrass, and a smattering of Bermuda, according to Tom. The fairways are overseeded in the Fall with Perennial Ryegrass. Consideration is being given to start seeding areas of the fairways with Bermudagrass in the Spring. The tees are predominately Ryegrass/Poa and are maintained at 1/2 inch with Bunton 26" tee mowers. The greens, tees, and fairways at Bethesda are sprayed preventively. Tom says that summer patch has been the biggest problem at Bethesda. At the recommendation of Dr. Pat Sanders and Cieba-Giegy, a program using Banner at 4 oz. per thousand was used this season. Beginning around the second week in April (or when the soil temperature hits 45 degrees) and continuing until Mid-August, monthly applications of the product were made. This was the first season that summer patch was not a problem at Bethesda. Crabgrass control for the entire course is with Acclaim EC. The greens are sprayed at 3 oz./acre every two to three weeks mixed with

nutriculture at an 1/8 lb.N/per thousand. Tom begins this program in late May and continues until the end of August. Tees and fairways are sprayed at 16 oz./acre every three to four weeks during the same period. The irrigation system on the tees and greens is Toro automatic and the fairways are manual. A new automatic system is being designed for the fairways. Also on the drawing board is a new maintenance facility, construction will begin in February.

THE MEETING: Golf will be available at your convenience, however, you must call the starter (Jim Bailey) at 365-1703 to make arrangements for a tee time. Cocktails will be served at 6 p.m. (cash will be accepted), and dinner will be at 7 p.m. The cost of the meal will be \$25.00. We would like to remind you that coat and tie are the required dress at all of our association meetings.

DIRECTIONS: From the Washington beltway (495) exit at River Road (exit #39) toward Potomac, Md., at the first light (Seven Locks Rd.) turn right, proceed on Seven Locks Rd. to the next light (Bradley Blvd.) turn right. The Club entrance is approximately 1/4 mile on the left hand side.

GOLF

by Thomas Regan, CGCS

The annual Memorial Tournament was held at Rehoboth Beach C.C. All who attended were treated with a great golf course and dinner. A special thanks to our host, Tom List and the golf professional Ron Barrows for the courtesies that were extended to us.

We played for the Vince Triplet Memorial (low net) donated by the G.L. Cornell Company and the Bill Glover Memorial (low gross) donated by TESCO. This year's winners were Steve Potter of Woodholme with a net 70, and Nick Vance of Laytonsville with a gross 78.

The results: 1st gross - Nick Vance, 78; 2nd gross - Tom Regan, 78; 3rd gross - Bob Orazi, 81; 4th gross - John Hoover, 81. 1st net - Steve Potter, 70; 2nd net - Jeff Yingling, 71; 3rd net - Mike Smith, 72; 4th net - Bil Neus, 76. The longest drive was won by John Hoover of Hillendale, and the closest to the pin was won by Dean Graves of Kenwood, six feet one inch (he made a four on the hole).

I would like to personally thank Larry Cornell and Lynn Matson and their companies for the contributions made to the tournament and our association. These two gentlemen donated the first prize trophies for this tournament and are always willing to support us. I'm proud to be associated with both of you. Thanks again for your continued support.



1988-1989 MAAGCS Schedule

Date	Location/Host	Speaker/Topic
November 8	Bethesda Country Club Thomas Regan, CGCS	Stanley Zontec, USGA Winter Play
December 13	Turf Valley Country Club William Blackert	Election Meeting
January 9	GCSAA Seminar Budgeting and Forecasting	Virginia Conference
January 9-11	Maryland Turfgrass Expo 88	Conference and Trade Show
January 16	GCSAA Seminar Negotiating	Virginia Conference
January 17-19	Virginia Turfgrass Conference	Conference and Trade Show

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