

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

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EDUCATION

by Steve Cohoon

The guest speaker for the Wednesday, September 14, 1988 meeting at Tantallon C.C. will be Mr. Kenneth Wagner of Basedate Environmental Consultants. Mr. Wagner will educate us in the proper management of lakes and ponds, without the use of chemicals. With the present level of public awareness, this should be an interesting and informative session for us all. Mr. Wagner has extensive experience in presenting this type of program. He most recently spoke in our area at the North American Lake Management Society convention last winter. He has been highly recommended and I encourage all our members to attend. Don't forget to make a note of the WEDNESDAY meeting date and don't forget to RSVP your reservation. In fact, why not do it today? Again the number is (301) 381-0030. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

RELOCATIONS

Congratulations to both Jeff Granger and Jim Christy, both of whom have accepted new positions. Jeff is moving from Pinehurst #2, where he has just completed the conversion of the greens to bentgrass. Raleigh, N.C. is his destination where he will be the Superintendent of the McGregor Downs C.C. Jim Christy is moving back into the metropolitan area as the Superintendent of the Norbeck Country Club. Greg Rosenthal has moved to Herndon Centennial as assistant to John Tutich.

President's Message

I would like to say "well, we made it through another one!" But since this is being written in early August that would be a bit premature. And, I am a firm believer in Murphy's corollary that just when you think you're home safe something will crop up to bit you in the "!" So, I will continue to watch the weather channel and jump for joy when those night time temps drop to a sweltering 70 degrees.

I trust Ken Ingram has recuperated from slaving over the hot coals at the MAAGCS picnic. Nice job Ken, not just on the cooking but also on arranging all the food and drink. The clown was terrific — not just for the little ones but also for those older ones who were occupied trying to figure out how she managed the tricks. Our thanks also to Bill Neus, our host, for all his efforts. For a hot day we had a lot of cooperative effort and a good time.

Our best to Paul Barefoot who is recovering from heart surgery. We wish you a speedy recovery. Your famous sparerib recipe was missed but we hope to have it back next year.

Congrats to Tom Reagan and Merrill Frank for their efforts on successful LPGA events. All were impressed with the conditions at Bethesda and Baltimore C.C.

Remember to reserve your seat for the upcoming meeting!



George Renault, President

THE BEGINNINGS OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

by Steven A. Nash, CGCS

Insects, disease, fertilizers, shortages of employees, low wages, chemical effectiveness, greens construction — these are problems that we all discuss at the monthly Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents meetings. These are some of the very same problems that the greenskeepers of the Mid-Atlantic area had back in 1928.

Sharing ideas and solving mutual problems lead 14 greenskeepers to get together at the New Howard Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland for the purpose of forming the Mid-Atlantic Association of Greenskeepers. On December 28, 1928 the following men paid their annual dues of \$5.00: O.B. Fitts, Columbia C.C.; Robert Scott, Baltimore C.C.; J.H. Link, Columbia C.C.; Richard Watson, Indian Springs C.C.; C. Mausey, Woodholme C.C.; T. Fischer, Burning Tree Club; R. Ward, Maryland C.C.; W.E. Dunt, Sherwood Forest G.C.; R. Cultrider, Suburban C.C.; Richard Scott, Rolling Road C.C.; R.T. Granger, Belle Haven C.C.; R.D. Giddings, Gibson Island C.C.; C. Victor, East Potomac Park C.C.; K. Welton, U.S.G.A. Green Section.

The information needed to write this article came from the first volume of minutes for the Mid-Atlantic Association of Greenskeepers.

While reading through them I came across some interesting things that I thought I'd pass along. One of the early effective fertilizers was chicken manure. An early cure for Pythium was 1/3 bucket of hardwood ashes, 1/2 bucket of sulphate of ammonia mixed in 2 buckets of topsoil in order to be able to spread it evenly.

The first Greenskeepers/Pro tournament was held June 1938 at the Suburban Golf Club. It was held to benefit R. Cultrider, Superintendent at Suburban, who was injured in an automobile accident.

At the August 1938 meeting, the Superintendents adopted the policy of staying for dinner if you play golf.

Members at that time would play golf to see the golf course and then at the meeting that evening, everyone would offer their suggestions for improvements to the golf course.

The University of Maryland held its first Short Course for the Superintendents on January 25-26-27, 1939. At the February 1939 meeting, a policy was adopted that a guest speaker talk at each meeting.

The first joint Mid-Atlantic/Philadelphia meeting was at the Baltimore Country Club on June 11, 1934. The second was on October 8, 1934 at the Pine Valley Golf Club.

Since these early years, the ranks of the Mid-Atlantic have grown from 14 to over 300. There have been many highlights in those 60 years. Some of them being home to the first USGA green section; hosts to 4 GCSAA conferences - 1937, 1958, 1967, and 1985; 3 GCSAA Presidents - James E. Thomas, L.R. "Bob" Shields, and George Cleaver; the last association to have back to back National Golf Champions - Bob Martino 1973 and 1974 and Angie Cammarota, recipient of the GCSAA 50th Anniversary Outstanding Service Award.

These are just a few of the many accomplishments by members of the Mid-Atlantic. We have had a great 60 years and I am sure the MAAGCS will continue to be progressive leaders in the turf management industry.