

## Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents N E W S L E T T E R

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## NOVEMBER MEETING — FIRST TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7 Please Note Change

The Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents will meet at the Manor Country Club on Tuesday, the seventh of November. This date is the first Tuesday of the month, not the usual second Tuesday. Please make note of this change. Our host for the meeting is Mitchell Williams. He has been Superintendent at the club since February, 1987. Prior to accepting the job at Manor, Williams was the Golf Course Superintendent at the Maple Dale Country Club in Dover, Delaware and the Assistant Superintendent to Steve Potter at the Woodholme Country Club in Baltimore, Maryland. When he was in high school he worked for Bill Blackert on the crew at the Turf Valley Country Club in Ellicott City, Maryland. Mitchell graduated from the University of Maryland in 1983 with a B.S. degree in agronomy. He and wife Stacey live in Columbia, Maryland.

The Manor Country Club was founded in 1922 by E. Brooke Lee, T. Howard Duckett and Charles Zeller to provide professional and business men respite from the heat and pressures of the city. At that time (1922) the club was described as being located "at the extension of Georgia Avenue, when the nearby Glenmont area consisted of a single gas station and a general store." The original clubhouse, once owned by Contantia Bache, a great granddaughter of Benjamin Franklin, burned to the ground on January 27, 1952. On July 14, 1953 the new clubhouse was officially dedicated by then Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

When Mitchell was hired, his first goal was to establish turf on four greens that had recently been reconstructed. Having accomplished that feat he moved onto projects that had been outlined in a Master Plan created by Ault and Associates. In the Winter of 1989, all the bunkers on the Championship 18 were reconstructured and new sand was added to them. All this work was done in house and was a project Williams says he would be happy to undertake again, in another twenty or thirty years. In the Spring of 1989, the material that was excavated from



Mitchell Williams Superintendent at Manor Country Club

the sand bunkers was used to build a practice tee that measures just under 20,000 square feet. The new tee was sodded using locally grown zoysia. The turf has stood up well to the pressure that practice tees are subjected to and the members thoroughly enjoy the new surface. The biggest project undertaken to date, however, was the installation of an entirely new irrigation system installed by Irrigation Services and Aqua Flo. The heart of the system is an IBM PS/2 Model 30 computer that changes irrigation scheduling from a chore to a joy. In the future, the club has plans to complete the cart paths on the back nine of the Championship 18 and to build an additional maintenance building to store equipment and supplies.

The Manor Country Club consists of a Championship 18 hole course and an executive 9 hole course named the Harry Pitt 9. The club has 9 outdoor tennis courts and 3 swimming pools.

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