

Turfgrass Matters

July 1990, vol. 43, no. 5

Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Newsletter

Caroline Country Club to welcome MAAGCS members

by Jim McHenry

Caroline Country Club is a private, 18-hole family-oriented facility just outside Denton. It began as a nine-hole course in 1965 with an additional nine holes added in 1974. The clubhouse overlooks the Choptank River and the club also has a swimming pool, lighted tennis courts and a dock. The 300 golfing members enjoy the privilege of not having tee times any day of the week.

The large greens, averaging over 8000 sq. ft., are Penncross bentgrass and are mowed at 5/32" 6 times per week. They receive 4 lbs. N, 1 lb. P, and 4 lbs. K per year. A TGR program was started 2 years ago with applications being made in the fall. We have also recently purchased a Toro GM 3000 with grooming reels to add to our maintenance program.

The fairways are Tufcote bermuda grass. Except for the winter of 1977-78, they have experienced very little (knock-on-wood) winter kill. However, spring dead spot continues to be a problem. The fairways are cut to 1/2" 3 times per week using an F-10. They receive 3 1/2 lbs N and 4 1/2 lbs K per year. The cutting height is gradually raised through September to 1" to promote winter hardiness.

The tees are one of our biggest problems because they are small and consist of a hodge-podge of grasses. Some tees are ryegrass, some bermuda grass, some bentgrass, and a few have all

three. We are beginning a 5-year improvement plan for tees to include building some new tees for ladies, rebuilding others, and reseeding all tees to bentgrass.

Currently they receive 3 lbs N, 1 lb P and 3 lbs K and are mowed 3 times per week at 7/16".

Other projects that keeps Caroline C.C.'s 5 full-time crew busy are rebuilding sand traps (5 holes have been done so far this year using Egypt Farms C-144 trap sand) and completing our cart path system to protect the bermuda grass during its winter dormancy.

I was hired as golf course superintendent in October 1985 and worked previously as assistant superintendent at Prince Georges C.C. and Manor C.C.

I have been married for 10 years and have finally convinced my wife, Gaye Ann, to play golf. My two boys, Todd, 8, and Brandon, 4, enjoy playing golf and come out with Dad as much as possible.

Caroline C.C. looks forward to being your host. Please come and enjoy your day!



Craig Roderick and Mike McGinnis receive their trophies from Scott Wagner upon winning the Supt-Pro Tournament

DIRECTIONS:

Follow 50 east to Rt 404 east to Denton. Take Rt 404 past Denton to traffic light at Rt 16 (approximately 2 miles east of Denton). Turn right. Proceed 1 mile to Pealiquor Rd. Turn right and follow Pealiquor Rd. to club.

Golf Notes

The July 11 meeting at Caroline Country Club will begin with lunch at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$8.

Golf available after 1:30. No tee times required. Carts are \$11/person. No greens fees.

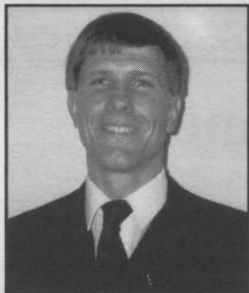
Anyone wishing to stay for dinner following golf may do so, Reservations must be made by Thursday, July 5. Golf attire is permitted. Order from the menu.

Notice

The Md. Turfgrass Research Field Day/Products Exhibit will be held on Wed. July 18 at the University Research Facility: 301-454-3717.

President's Message

*T*was the dawning of summer and all through the course, Golfers were everywhere; I was full of remorse.



Cup cutters were strewn 'bout the floor with no care, Equipment was broken down everywhere.

On this hot humid morning there arose such a fear, My disease kits were smokin', my mission was clear.

On, Banner! On, Chipco! On, Manzate! On, Subdue! You better perform or my job here is through.

Keep your wits intact and your sanity well, It's the only way to survive the 100 days of hell.

*Bill Neus, C.G.C.S.
President*

Bits and Pieces

○ The winner of the name the newsletter contest is Larry Ott, Grounds Superintendent at Bretton Woods Recreation Center. Larry came up with the title "Turfgrass Matters." It's the name of the column he writes for the BWRC newsletter. Larry says that the title has two meanings. It's a promise of information relating to turf and a statement about the importance of turfgrass. For his suggestion, Larry wins a \$50 savings bond.

John Haley, Sean Remington, Greg Roman, Jeff Carson and Carl Ballas all sent in excellent ideas as well and I would like to thank them for the contribution.

○ One hundred nine people showed up for the June meeting at Chestnut Ridge. The attendance at this year's meetings has been phenomenal and hopefully this trend will continue. However, some folks have still been remiss in making their reservations on time. Please call in your reservation before Friday at 3 p.m. Better yet, call in your reservation as soon as

you receive the newsletter; hopefully the newsletter will arrive well before then.

○ Dean "Roots" Graves is hosting the Mazda LPGA at Bethesda Country Club in July. This is going to be the largest purse the ladies have ever competed for and it's quite an honor for both Dean and Bethesda. Mr. Graves is looking for a few good men to help prepare for the event. If you're interested or can spare a good man for the duration (July 23-29) contact Dean at 365-0100 and leave a message.

○ If you happened to miss the June 1, 1990 edition of the *Washington Times* you may want to obtain a copy and turn to page D-5. On that page is an article entitled, "Courses Stay Green, But at what Cost?" Here are a few excerpts:

"...because the shrubs and grass cannot maintain such beauty without artificial help [pesticides]. It's basically the same thing as the drug problem. Once a life form is hooked on a chemical, you either take them off of it or you maintain them on it." "Right now they [golf courses] ought to be treated as hazardous waste sites. The average golfer has no idea how bad it has gotten."

Hazardous waste sites? Drug problem? These types of comparisons are unnecessary and inflammatory. My letter to the editor has already been sent. If you read the article I think you will be incensed enough to do the same. If we remain silent some day we may wake up to discover that well-informed, rational people are no longer making the decisions that effect our livelihoods.

New Members

Gordon M. Caldwell

CGCS at Greenspring Valley Hunt Club, Garrison, MD. Class A

S. Darrel Oxyer

Assistant, The Elkridge Club, Baltimore, MD. Class D

Steve Gilson

Superintendent, Imperiel Resort Hotel, Swan Lake, NY. Class G

Michael J. Luciano

Assistant, Army-Navy Country Club, Arlington, VA. Class D

Jeffrey Alan Facto

Assistant, Heritage Harbour Golf Club, Ellicott City, MD. Class D

Michael D. Del Biondo

Assistant, Hunt Valley Golf Club, Hunt Valley, MD. Class D

Fred Heinlen

Golf Course Superintendent, Hunt Valley Golf Club, Hunt Valley, MD. Class A

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Assistant, Robert Trent Jones International, Gainesville, VA. Class D

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"The Blues Golfers" look forward to playing golf at Caroline Country Club on July 11.



Lee Dieter holds his audience captive with his whimsical wit.

Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents

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