

Turfgrass Matters



September 1990, vol. 43, no. 7

Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Newsletter

September meeting at Leisure World on Wednesday the 12th

by Scott Wagner

Leisure World is a private adult community located in Silver Spring, Md. The community covers approximately 600 acres, with the golf course located on 100 acres directly in the center of the complex.

The golf course was designed by Desmond Muirhead & Associates, and opened for play in 1965. Leisure World golf course, being designed with adult play in mind, measures 5,134 yards from the white tees. The course has a par of 69, and a course rating of 64.2.

The putting greens are a mixture of Bent and Poa, and are very large, averaging 7,100 sq. ft. They are mowed 6 days a week at 5/32". They receive 5 lbs. N, along with 3.5 lbs. K per year.

Our tees consist of the same Bent-Poa mixture as our greens, and are on the same maintenance programs except they are mowed three days a week at 7/16".

Fairways are a rye grass-Poa mix with a very small amount of Common Bermuda scattered here and there. They are mowed three days per week at 5/8", and receive three lbs. N per year.

Our September meeting will begin with cocktails from 6:00 until 7:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m., at a cost of \$25. Hope to see you Wednesday September 12th at Leisure World.

Guest speaker: Dr. Tom Turner will be the guest speaker at the September meeting. He will



September's host, Scott Wagner, enjoying the picnic with Nick Vance, left and Walter Montross.

Speak about his many and varied experiences on golf courses in the Mid-Atlantic area this year.

DIRECTIONS

From Baltimore: Take I-70 west to Route 97 (Georgia Avenue). Take 97 south 17 miles. Leisure World will be on your left.

From Washington: take I-495 to Route 97 (Georgia Avenue). Take 97 north 6.8 miles. Leisure World will be on your right.

Golf Notes

Our September meeting will be the site of the 2nd annual two-man team championship. There will be a 1:00 p.m. shotgun start. Everyone should have received their entry form by now. Please return the form, ASAP, as I will need a good count to know how many golf carts to order.

Following golf we will have bus service to our club house where showers will be available. Please bring your own towel.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With great weather and an even better turnout, the August picnic was a great time for all. Rhys



Author did a magnificent job in preparing for the crowd. Now it's on to Ross Moor, Leisure World and the two-man team championship.

How would you like to work in a place called Leisure World? Scott Wagner tells me that you don't have to come to work until 11, coffee break till 12, lunch till 2, nap till 3, and then the chauffeur drives you home. Is this a great country or what?

My partner Jim Adams and I have been practicing diligently so as to give you all the sound thrashing you deserve. Make sure you note the date change to Wednesday, September 12. See you there!

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

Phone number change alert! Mark your Roladex:

Dr. Tom Turner, 301-405-1338

Dr. Pete Dernoeden, 301-405-1337

Note: The meeting for October has been changed to October 2. Dr. Joe Duich is the speaker.

RESERVATIONS
(301) 381-0030

Career Moves

by Jack McClenahan

It's mid-August and another hot day. I think it was hot weather that put the skids on my golf course career. It started when I installed an air-conditioner in my office in 1969. What a hot year! You would listen to the weather report at night and it would be 95 degrees with a relative humidity that paralleled that number. Hot! Hotter than high school love.

Fungus was germinating on the outside of Zineb bags. It was so bad we had to store the fungicides in the club room freezer to get control of the pythium eating up the fungicide. It was a tough year! Hot!

And you know how hard it is to get a crew to work in weather like that. I was cranky. And, like I said, the crew went from lethargic to dormant. I didn't have the greatest crew in the world to start with. The major decision of their day was whether to have Ripple or sterno with lunch.

The members, as always, were grumbling about my management of the crew. One day they found old Herb sleeping in the woods, and reported it to my greens chairman. My chairman in his stern and officious voice asked me what I intended to do about Herb. I told him, "No problem, I'll stencil *Ground Under Repair* on his tee shirt. That way, if he's taking a nap and they hit a ball near or under him, they'll get a free drop. I'll tell them not to yell 'Fore!' though, because he gets real nasty if you wake him up before quitting time." Thus, Herb became Golf's first living designated *Ground Under Repair*.

When Herb's liver gave out, we made a little memorial in the

woods. We circled it with lime and made an outline of his body like the police do with a homicide victim. Thinking back, it still tugs at my Irish heartstrings.

But, back to the story. On reflection, maybe it wasn't the air-conditioner that put the skids on my career. Maybe it was the floating duck house launching; I can't be sure. But, let me tell you about the famous floating duck house.

Each spring the members' kids would get ducks for Easter. The kids loved the little creatures, but only for a few weeks. Then the calls would come: "Can we bring

The major decision of their day was whether to have Ripple or Sterno with lunch.

the ducks out to the golf course pond?" "Sure, sure, no problem." Eventually, we built up a real herd of Quackers. The quackers were loved by all, in spite of the fact that they turned the seventh green into a litter box. The duck poop made the green so sticky you didn't have to water it to make it hold a shot. If the stimp meter had existed back then (and thank heavens it didn't) it would have rolled about a foot. It was like covering the green with a mixture of double aught grease and day-old snot. A lot of guys didn't use a putter but tried to pitch and run with a seven iron on a long putt.

Anyway, you get the picture. In spite of all this, most everyone loved the ducks, especially the neighborhood dogs. Jack, Herb and the rest of the crew were secretly cheering for the dogs.

One of the bleeding hearts at the club finally donated enough money to build the club's first floating duck house to stop the dog attacks. What a duck house! I've been on worse cruise ships. Besides that, I thought maybe it would be a way to save the assault on the seventh green, which by now had corn germinating. I found out that ducks don't digest corn any better than we do. At least it germinated in the aerator holes; even in bent grass it had a tidy geometric appearance.

But what a duck house! Now, to keep the duck house from floating to shore, we decided to take half a barrel, fill it with concrete, and use it for an anchor after maneuvering the duck house to the center of the pond. The anchor was great. We attached ten feet of chain, secured it, and loaded it on the floating duck house. The big day came. As the benefactor and greens committee gathered, we launched the Great Duck House. Everybody cheered.

I wish I could end the story right now, but responsible journalism demands I go on. When the Great Floating Duck House was centered in the pond, Herb, who was sitting on the floater, was to take his legs and push the anchor off the boat thus assuring it wouldn't drift to shore where the dogs could munch on the ducks. After pushing the anchor off, Herb was to get in a small boat and come back to shore. Simple enough, right? Wrong! Herb pushed the anchor with the ten foot long chain off the duck house. Great plan. However, the pond was fourteen feet deep! This caused an unforeseen event: the catapulting and launching of old

continued on back page.

Mid-Atlantic Newsletter Supporters

ACE TREE MOVERS, INC.

Mid-sized to large tree sales, transplanting, deep root fertilization.

Jeff Miskin Metro: (301) 258-0008
Pat Jeffries

In Leesburg, VA call: 703-777-8889

AQUA-FLO, INC.

Buckner irrigation systems and design, aerators, pump systems, irrigation accessories.

Phil DeMarco, Hammonont, NJ
800-524-0895

Rick Hill, Chantilly, VA 703-968-7081

ATLANTIC POWER EQUIPMENT COMPANY

9250 Rumsey Rd, Columbia, MD 21045
Ransomes, Bob Cat, Giant Vac, Terra aerators, Durand Wayland sprayers, Mitsubishi tractors, Power King tractors.

Lou Bezold Wash: 301-621-5060
John Mattsen Balt: 301-995-3060

J. DAVID MULLINX & SONS, INC.

14420 Howard Rd., Dayton, MD 21036
John Blue sprayers, Woods mowers, Ariens mowers.

Mike Mullinx 301-442-2688
301-489-4363

B & G TENNIS SUPPLIES

Tennis Nets, Tenex tapes, nails, drag brooms, S-hooks, line sweepers, Ty Wraps, Tidy Courts, Rol Dri's, Har Tru surfacing material, 6&9 foot open mesh or closed wind screens, Herrons rollers, ball barrier netting, crowd control netting, The Fairway drag system.

Grant Pensinger, Bob Miller
301-363-8310

CENTREVILLE SOD GROWERS

Bluegrass, sod blends and turf-type tall fescues.

Sheldon & Craig Betterly 703-361-8338

COMINSKY, KEN

Vertidrain® Deep Tine Aeration
9891 Molloy Way 703-347-4210
Warrenton, VA 22186 703-347-4247

CORNELL CHEMICAL & EQUIPMENT CO., INC.

Golf course chemicals.
Cliff Case, Don Klein, Tom Walsh
301-636-2400

C.Z. ENTERPRISES, INC.

Water well and pump service, repair; 24-hour emergency service to wells, pumps and irrigation equipment and controls. Preventive maintenance contracts, annual testing and inspection available.

Kathy Powers Balt: 301-841-6710
Conrad Zittinger Wash: 301-261-8855

EGYPT FARMS, INC.

Golf green topdressing, computer controlled precision construction mixes, white bunker sand, IBDU & Par-Ex fertilizers, R&R parts, Aqua-Aid wetting agents, Warren's Geo textile products, gypsum, mulch.

John Strickland, Mike Witt, Carol Davis, Dave Cammarota, Jeff Lacour
301-335-3700

E-Z GO/MID-ATLANTIC

GXT-1500, GXT-800, turf and utility vehicles and accessories, new and used golf cars.
Rick Arnold, Roscoe Shupe, Paul Tideman 800-962-3804

FINCH GOLF AND TURF COMPANY

John Deere turf equipment, Brouwer turf & harvester equipment, Kubota tractors & mowers, MM grinders & reels, Landpride, Coremaster, Agri-Metal & Saxon blower/vacs, Turner boom mowers.

Ed Childs, Scott Johnson, Ray Finch 800-78-DEERE
Chris Nichols, Steve Malkowski 301-876-2211

G.L. CORNELL COMPANY

Jacobsen turf equipment, Cushman/Ryan turf equipment, Rain Bird irrigation, Club Car, FMC/Bean sprayers, National mowers, Standard & Par Aide golf supplies.
Terry Hill, Russ Bull, Dave Fairbank 301-948-2000

Randy Reed, Bill Brown, Bob Lynch, Wayne Evans 800-492-1373

GROUNDS IRRIGATION TECHNOLOGY, INC.

Irrigation systems and pumping stations, IA certified design. Equipment—installation—testing—service.
Gary Phillips, Ingo Rupp 301-262-7100

HARFORD INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, INC.

TD1000, topdressing blend, TnG for bunkers and Straight Sand topdressing, CMplus and filter layer for construction.
Dorothy Stancill, V.P. 301-679-9191
Represented by Prolawn Products
Thomas Malehorn 301-876-7474
Robert Kerr 703-786-3405

JERSEY TURF SPECIALISTS

Deep tine aerifying services with Verti-Drain aerator—the solution to compacted soils.
37A Elmtown Boulevard, Elm, NJ 08037
Jack Montecalvo 609-567-9001

KECO PUMP COMPANY

Boston & Highland Ave, Baltimore
Irrigation pumps and motors, prefabricated pump stations. Sales, service design.
Bill Rose 301-276-4004

G. ANTHONY KEEN CONSULTING

Specialist in interpreting the most technologically advanced soil, water, and tissue analysis to greatly enhance turf management. Affiliated with Brookside Laboratory Associates.
Tony Keen 302-697-9575
Tak Keen 302-684-3196
302-736-6228

LEA'S GREEN MEADOWS, INC.

Fertilizers, chemicals, grass seed, spreaders power sprayers, tools, safety equipment & supplies.
Herb Lee, Harry Fridley, Rick Fritz, Bob Butterworth 301-899-3535

LEBANON CHEMICAL CORPORATION

Lebanon total turf care, manufacturers and formulators of Country Club, Greenskeeper, and Lebanon professional turf products, fertilizer.

Dick Calhoun Pa: 717-838-1169
Junior Ruckman 703-869-2826
Paul Grosh 800-233-0826
Bill Smith 215-357-6293

Lesco, Inc.

A Complete Line of quality turf maintenance products. Ask us about the Lesco 300 & 300D greens mower and the Lesco 500 & 500D fairway mowers.
Ed Walker 800-825-3726

LOFTS/MARYLAND

Grass seed and fertilizer.
Kevin Driscoll Local: 301-937-9292
Nancy Gross In State: 800-732-7773
Out of State: 800-732-3332

MCDONALD & SONS, INC.

Golf course and park construction, irrigation and maintenance.
John "Chip" McDonald 301-799-7740

MID-ATLANTIC IRRIGATION, CO

Complete golf course irrigation and automation, pumping systems, irrigation repair service, water fountain installation, drainage and trenching work.
Don Turner, Tom Turner, Ron Turner 301-294-1300 301-294-6515

MOORE GOLF, INC.

Construction of golf courses, turf irrigation system, parks and athletic fields.
David Canavan, Robert M. Ryan 703-825-9211

NEWSOM SEED COMPANY

Rockville, Maryland
Grass seed, new varieties, custom mixes fertilizers and chemicals
Strick Newsom, Mike Brumbaugh
Local: 301-762-2096 Fax: 301-762-9544
Nationwide: 800-553-2719

PAR-EX® PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

Par Ex® slow release fertilizers for turf.
Par Ex® slow release fertilizers for ornamentals.
R.A. "Dick" Doyle 301-357-8056
Vigoro Industries, Inc., P.O. Box 512, Winter Haven, FL 33882-0512 813-294-2567

THE MILTON JAMES COMPANY

Daihatsu off-road vehicles, new, used, John Deere construction equipment, sales, rentals.
301-687-1700

PROLAWN PRODUCTS, INC.

Professional slow release fertilizers, Greenskotes, fungicides, herbicides, insecticides, turf seeds: bents, ryes, fescues, blues, etc. Harford Minerals topdressing, construction mix, TnG Sand, lime, wetting agents, etc.
Tom Malehorn 301-876-7474
Robert Kerr 703-786-3405

RUSSELL ROBERTS CO., INC.

Golf course design and construction.
Russell Roberts 301-253-4066
Jack Roberts 301-762-3270
Jimmy Roberts 301-977-7961

SCOTTS PROTURF DIVISION

Soil testing, programming, turf technology, fertilizers to meet today's needs. Herbicides—monocot and dicot weed problems. Growth regulators—new technology, Poa control.

Robert Herring Va: 804-747-7027
Rich Schneider Md: 301-855-1366

SEED CORPORATION OF AMERICA

7644 Hollins Ferry Rd, Baltimore, MD 21227
Over 100 varieties of turf seeds, fertilizers, mulch, lime.

Tracy Gosselin, Debbie Primazon Balt: 301-247-3000

Alan Rosoff Outside Md: 800-482-4455

SHARE CORPORATION

Liquid turf maintenance products, equipment maintenance products.
Milwaukee, WI 414-355-4000
Ed Howser, Western Shore 301-465-8154
Ed Howser Jr., Eastern Shore 301-482-6929
Tom Howser, Shenandoah Area 301-729-1206

SUMMIT HALL TURF FARM, INC.

Myer Z-52 Zoysia (sod or plugs), premium Bluegrass blend (sod), improved Tall Fescue blend (sod), Penncross Bentgrass (sod), pelletized lime, Andgrow fertilizer products and custom blends, chemicals (herbicides, fungicides & insecticides) 60% WDG Pendimethalin.
Brian K. Finger, Frank H. Wilmot 301-948-2900

TERRY ASPHALT

P.O. Box 104, Glen Arm, MD 21057
Golf cart paths our specialty. Parking lot striping and lot clearing.
301-592-5343

TURF CENTER, INC.

Premium turf (Bluegrass, Tall Fescue, Bermuda Grass, Zoysia), grass seed & fertilizer.
Diana Patton, Emory Patton 301-384-6300

TURF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY, INC.

Toro turf equipment, Olathe, Chem Pro, SDI and Hahn sprayers, Billy Goat, Foley grinders, Toro irrigation, PSI and commercial pumps, Otterbine Aerators.
Lynn Matson, Ron Hawkins, Lance Ernst, Mike Minard, Paul Standerfer, Todd Cowing, Marty Haske, Mike Salamon
Balt: 301-796-5575
D.C. Area: 301-621-2975

STOUT ENVIRONMENTAL, INC./ DELMARVA DRILLING COMPANY

Water well construction and service, pump installation, service and repair, underground storage tank, testing and removal, 24-hour emergency service.
William J. Jefferys 301-793-0219
R. Michael Collison DE: 302-337-8254

Career Moves, from page 2

Herb. Herb did a great cannonball against his will from the great and now half submerged duck house. In short order, we also found out old Herb didn't know how to swim. The group of dignitaries present gasped briefly, then in unison and without discussion or vote proclaimed me one dumb S.O.B.

But, after years of reflection, I don't believe it was Sleeping Herb or the great duck house, but the newly installed air-conditioner that finished off my career. Let me go on.

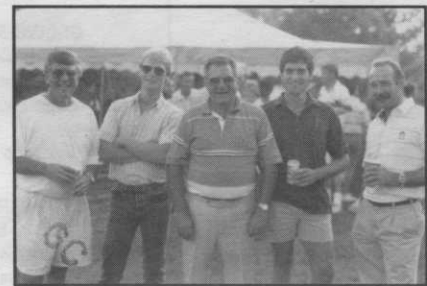
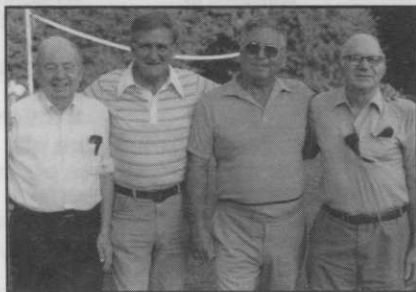
Think of the hottest weather

in which you have ever worked; and when you hear the rest of the story, I'm sure you'll understand. Sitting in my office with the thermostat set at 68 degrees, my greens chairman walks in and asks me, "What's wrong with the thirteenth green?" I say to him, "I don't know; what's it look like? Since I got this new air conditioner I don't like to go out on the course when it's this hot." I say, "Do me a favor, grab the cup cutter and take a plug, send it down to tech and let me know what they think." He goes crazy and starts screaming obscenities. (You try to help some-

one and they turn on you like a dog to a duck). So I say, "Ok, if that's too much trouble, take this Polaroid camera, take some shots and bring the pictures back to my office (my air-conditioned office), and maybe I can figure something out. Just be careful driving out there, the crew is probably taking a nap in the woods."

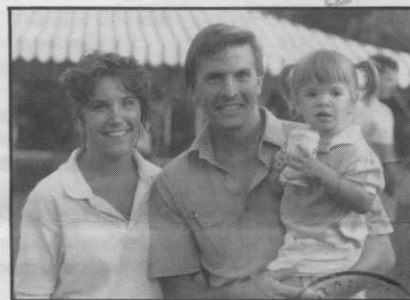
He simply reached over and pulled the plug from my air conditioner.

Jack McClenahan is a turf equipment sales representative with G.L. Cornell Company.



Picnic Pix

a great time was had by all



Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents

Mitchell Williams, Editor
Manor Country Club
14901 Carrolton Road
Rockville, MD 20853
(301) 929-1707

