

Turfgrass Matters



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Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Newsletter

Swan Point Site of July Luncheon Meeting

by Mark Stoddard, Superintendent

In July the MAAGCS will convene for a lunch meeting at Swan Point Yacht and Country Club in Issue, Maryland.

Swan Point, owned by USX Corporation with headquarters in Pittsburgh, opened in June 1989, then closed in August of the same year for major reconstruction. Bob Cupp of Cupp Design, Inc., architect on call for Augusta National was hired to redesign the entire course. It was completed in January 1990.

The greens were redone to USGA specifications, several new tees were constructed, several bunkers were removed and new ones designed, ten holes were redone with Toro VT II irrigation, and a PSI pump station was installed. The greens are now pennecross creeping bentgrass and the tees, fairways and rough are midiron Bermuda grass. In August of 1991 we installed continuous concrete cart paths. John F. Stavely, our first PGA Professional was hired in May of 1991. In September we opened the entire 18 holes for play. Troy Burrows, an assistant PGA Professional, was brought on board in February 1992. Currently, we have a temporary golf shop which will be relocated in the new clubhouse in September. We expect the full service of Swan Point's new clubhouse to open this November.

Swan Point is open to public play. Within the next month or so,

it will be offering club memberships through our Director of Membership sales, Robert P. Turner, and sale of single family lots is slated for September. Currently we are landscaping the front entrance to the clubhouse and the development.

In addition, we just completed a wetlands mitigation project on holes #12 and #13. On 12 we brought the marsh in and used the excess material to construct two new tees on 12 and one on 13. Number 12 is a par 3, which now requires a carry over water. On the par 4 13th we created about 3/4-acre of wetlands down the left side and used the excess material to construct mounds and create a new landing area. This redesign has significantly improved the playability and character of this hole. Along with myself, Scott Ligon, Assistant golf Course Superintendent, Tommy Curry, Foreman, and the rest of the crew, we're happy to show off all these improvements.

Mark Stoddard has been at Swan Point since August 1989. Previously he was assistant superintendent at Ford's Colony Country Club in Williamsburg, Va. Prior to that, he was a captain in the USMC. This native of Charleston, S.C. attended Clemson University where he received a bachelor's degree in turf management in 1981. He and his wife Cindi have two boys, Michael—3-1/2 and Gregory—20 months.

Lunch: The meeting and lunch

will be between 11:00 and 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be catered by B&J's Beef. We ask that you have a check made out to Swan Point Yacht & Country Club for \$13, or cash will be accepted. Dress is casual. Please make reservations at the Mid-Atlantic number: 301-490-6202.

Golf will be a two-man tournament with a shotgun start at 1:00. Golf reservations can be made by calling the Pro Shop at 301-259-2074. Cost for golf is \$20 per team. Please make your reservations ASAP.

Directions: from Annapolis: Take 50 W to 301 S. * You will drive through Pinefield, Waldorf, St. Charles, and LaPlata. Continue on 301 S for approximately 12 miles. You will see a sign: Swan Point - Cobb Island. Turn left onto 257 East and continue for approximately 9 miles. Turn right onto Swan Point road. Shortly after turning, you will drive through the development. You will see a sign for golf parking and the temporary golf shop on the right.

From Baltimore: Take Route 3/301 South and follow the directions from * above.

From DC/Northern Virginia: Take the Beltway to Exit 7, Branch Avenue - 5/301. Take the exit to Waldorf - 301. You will be on 5/301; 5 turns into 301. Continue on 301 and follow directions from * above.