# Turfgrass Matters





March 1992, vol. 45, no. 1

Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Newsletter

# Northwest Park and Manor CC to Host March 10 Meeting

Northwest Park Golf Course and Assistant Pro/Manager Lee Carroll will host our March 10 golf outing. The dinner meeting will be at nearby Manor CC with Mitch Williams hosting.

Northwest Park is one of three Montgomery County golf facilities operated by the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning

measures 7300 yards from the back tees. Trees and 82 bunkers tighten and define the course. Veteran member Carl Schoening remembers laying out the course with Ault and Bradley Strouth, the first superintendent and one of our honorary members.

The MNCPPC is an extremely large bi-county organization with

> several divisions. Each golf facility is operated by a Pro/ Manager with maintenance facilitated through an assistant Pro/ Manager and a maintenance supervisor. Rich Conti is the Pro/ Manager at Northwest, Lee Carroll, our host,

the Assistant Pro/Manager, and Glen Linton the Maintenance Supervisor. Like any organization, it has its advantages and disadvantages.

Lee Carroll has been at Northwest Park in different capacities for six years. He has been a member of the PGA for 15 years and because of work responsibilities and his personal interest, has continued his education in agronomy, finishing the two-year program at the University of Maryland and now taking classes toward the B.S. degree in Turf and Urban Agronomy. He and his wife Pat, a registered nurse, live in Greenbelt.

Like many clubs, Northwest Park lacks the facilities for a dinner meeting the size of the MAAGCS and we were lucky to make arrangements with nearby Manor CC for the dinner. Mitch "Always There When You Need Him" Williams and Manor General Manager Randy Fischer have been kind enough to accommodate those of us coming from Northwest after golf and those coming directly to dinner.

Agenda

Golf: Any time after 11:00 Cocktails: 6 p.m. Coat and Tie required

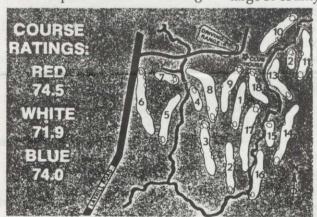
Dinner: 7 p.m., Manor Country Club

Directions:

From Washington: I-495; take Georgia Avenue north through Wheaton. Turn right at Layhill Road, course is on the right at 15711 Layhill Rd.

From Baltimore: From either I-95 or Rte 29, take Rte 198 west through Burtonsville. Turn right on Rte 650, then left on Ednor Rd. Ednor changes to Layhill at the light at Norwood Rd. Go straight through. Course is on the left. To Manor CC: From Northwest Park take Layhill Rd south, turn right at Bel Pre Rd., go to Georgia Ave., turn right. Go north to Rte 28-Norbeck Rd. Turn left and left again in a few blocks on Carrolton Rd.

From Washington Beltway: take Georgia Ave. north through Wheaton to Bel Pre Rd. and continue as above.



Commission. Northwest and Needwood are 27-hole facilities, and Sligo Creek, a nine-hole facility on the beltway. A fourth facility is planned for the Little Bennet Regional Park in upper Montgomery County. MNPPC also owns and operates Enterprise, Paint Branch, and Henson Creek Golf Courses in Prince

Georges County.

Northwest Park was designed by our long-time member Ed Ault, and built by another long-time member, David Canavan. The park opened in 1964. It is noted for its wide, open spaces spread over 400 acres, and boasts 9,000 square-foot greens. The course

#### **MAAGCS Board of Directors**

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MAAGCS Newsletter
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Editors:

Betty C. Ford, 301-384-9666; fax: 301-384-4683; Marilyn Dorfman, 410-730-5877 *Advertising*: Rhys Arthur 301-871-0365

Published 10 times a year. Submissions welcome. Send information and articles to MAAGCS, 12704 Rigdale Terrace, Silver Spring, MD 20904.

## **NEW MEMBERS**

At the February Board meeting the following applications for membership were approved.

Michael Augustin
Indian Spring CC; Class C
Corey Haney
Congressional CC; Class C
Paul Kraut
Bonnie View CC; Class B
William L. Sapp, III
Chartwell Golf & CC; Class D

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I sincerely appreciate the opportunity you have given me to take the helm of this association I love. I'm



equally proud of the Board elected with me. It's a strong team already working hard to serve you. Each director's responsibilities are listed in this issue along with their picture and phone numbers. Don't hesitate to call one of us with your questions or problems. On the other hand, if you feel you can be of service to one of the Directors, volunteer to serve on his committee.

The conferences are over and we are at the end of another Maryland non-winter. Perhaps we didn't get the break we needed but you can't help but enjoy early spring on the golf course. I'll see you at Northwest Park and Manor on March 10 and we'll spread the spring-fever with 100 other folks who enjoy what we do for a living.

Ken Ingram CGCS President, MAAGCS

## **GOLF NOTES**

Twelve members of the association participated in the GCSAA Golf Championship in Jacksonville, FL, February 10-11. The tournament was played over the TPC Sawgrass Stadium and Valley courses, Oakbridge CC, and Sawgrass CC. The golf courses were fantastic but the golf and weather left something to be desired.

Three members came away with prizes. Non-resident member Joel Ratcliff won the 2nd Flight Net prize and Gordon Caldwell placed fourth. In the 1st Flight, Bill Shirk won 4th Place Gross Prize.

#### **RHYS'S PIECES**

Due to the request of many members, the Bits & Pieces section is back. The column is designed to keep you informed of happenings that are important to the members of MAAGCS. Items we would like to include are job re-routings, business news, benevolence, or just any good gossip. If you have any good news that you think the membership would like to hear about, please submit by the 15 of the month to:

Rhys Arthur C/O Rhys's Pieces P.O. Box 6920 Silver Spring, MD 20916

President **Kenny Ingram** is now at Port America G&CC. His new number is 301-292-2623.

**Kevin Pryseski,** formerly of Sparrows Point, is now at Cattail Creek.

Kenny Braun, formerly at Bonnie View, is now a partner in Iso-lite. Dave Anderson, formerly with the TPC group, is now at Evergreen CC.

Paul Kraut from Central Pennsylvania, is now at Bonnie View. Please welcome Paul as a new member to MAAGCS.

Doug Petersan, formerly at Prairie Dunes CC, is the new superintendent at Baltimore CC. Please welcome Doug as a new member of MAAGCS.

Ed Gasper, formerly at Leesburg West Park GC is now at Springfield CC.

Barton Bullock, formerly the Assistant at Washington Golf, is now the new Superintendent at Leesburg West Park GC. Merrill Frank is now at Columbia CC.

And of course, Lee Dieter is still at Washington Golf.

Patty and Bill Brown (of G.L.

Patty and Bill Brown (of G.L. Cornell) welcomed Megan Firestone Brown on October 28. Congratulations!

# Meet the Board: Who They Are and What They Do



Vice President Steve Potter 410-486-8280 (W) 410-484-6258 (H)

Steve's responsibilities are listed in our by-laws. He has additional duties, however, that are very important. The Vice President works with host superintendents to coordinate this year's meetings, and contacts others interested in hosting a meeting in 1993.



Education Chairman Dean Graves 301-365-0100 (W) 301-762-6652 (H)

Education is the backbone of the association. Dean has several responsibilities. He secures guest speakers for meetings, arranges seminars, coordinates CEU credits, and chairs our scholarship committee. I have also asked Dean to develop a program to direct education outside the association with press releases and educational aids.

Lou's responsibilities are listed in our by-laws. Handling the minutes and correspondence of the association is time-consuming and, although he is not directly servicing the membership, he indirectly runs the Board of Directors.

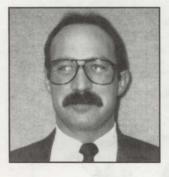


Secretary Lou Rudinski 410-222-7923 (W) 410-647-3064 (H)

Bill's responsibilities are to plan and supervise all our tournaments and monthly events, coordinate them with host clubs, collect fees. and award prizes. He is also our handicap chairman so watch out.



Golf Chairman Bill Shirk 410-827-7518 (W) 410-827-9157 (H)



Treasurer Scott Wagner 301-598-1580 (W) 301-972-3875 (H)

Scott's responsibilities are listed in our by-laws. Treasurer is a complex job with bank accounts to monitor and statements to prepare. Like the secretary, the treasurer services the Board and not the membership directly.



Social & Benevolence Mark Merrick 410-377-9204 (W) 410-828-8093 (H)

Mark plans and supervises the three social events of the association, the hospitality suite, picnic, and ladies night. He is always watchful for cards, flowers, and baby bonds when appropriate. Like education, I would like benevolence to be the backbone of the association.



Membership Chairman Mike Gilmore 410-465-0595 (W) 410-665-5469 (H)

We are nearing the 400 mark for membership and average 20 to 30 new members annually. This master file needs constant maintenance and is Mike's responsibility. All new members, reclassifications, and address changes are processed by Mike.



Communication Chairman Rhys Arthur 301-871-0365 (W) 301-871-7719 (H)

Rhys acts as liaison to our newsletter editor and our commercial members. He bills, collects, and coordinates all newsletter advertising and sponsor support for other association activities.

The Finance Chairman, along with the treasurer, is active whenever money is exchanged. This includes dinner fees, 50/50 raffles, and any sales of merchandise. He also monitors the meeting reservation list. We hope to renew the sale of shirts and sweaters on a limited basis this year.



Finance Chairman Mitch Williams 301-929-1707 (W) 410-997-8082 (H)

Nick is in charge of employment referral. If you are interested in advertising a position please contact Nick. He will process the mailing.



Past President Nick Vance 301-977-6636 (W)



# 1992 Meeting Schedule

March 10 Northwest Park GC Golf: Open play Westwinds CC April 14 Golf: Open play **Queenstown Harbor** May 12 Superintendent/Pro tourney June 9 Naval Academy GC Golf: Open play Swan Point GC July 14 Two-man tourney **Hobbits Glen** August 11 Annual Picnic September 8 Geneva Farms GC Golf: Open play October 13 Winchester GC Annual Tournament Towson Golf & CC November 10

Four-man scramble

Rolling Road CC

Golf: Open play

Lee Carroll, Host Spkr: Mike Andrejko, Versar John Haley, Host Spkr: Ken Flesik, GCS West Bill Shirk, Host Spkr: to be announced Tim Kennelly, Host Spkr: Dr.Tom Watchke, P.S.U. Mark Stoddard, Host Spkr: Dr. Kevin Mathias, U. M. Bill Neus, Host No speaker Charles Priestly, Host Spkr: Terry Laurent, CGS Preston Licklider, Host No speaker Mark Waltz, Host Spkr: GCSAA Rep Mike Bull, Host Annual Meeting

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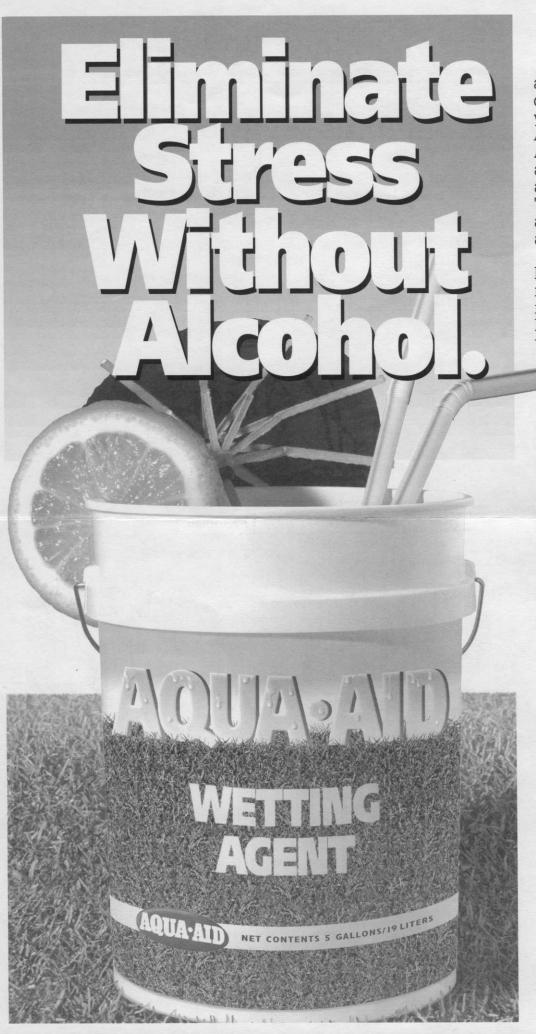
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# **Vintage Minutes**

April 8, 1929

We all tend to forget how science and the lot of the superintendent have advanced. Let these minutes from the April 1929 meeting of MAAGCS be a reminder.

The meeting was held at the Hamilton Hotel, Washington, D.C. Members present were: O.B. Fitts, Robert Scott, R. Cultrider, Richard Scott, Mr. Grill, George LeBrun, R. Granger, R.P. Hines, J. Link, W. Dunt, T. Fischer, R.V. King, Reg Giddings.

Three new members were elected to membership. They were: Harry Diffenbaugh of Clifton Park, Dave Edgar of Hillendale, and Mr. Carrol, Greenskeeper of Hitchcock and Green Spring Valley.

The President then called on Mr. Scott to tell us about his trip to Scotland and what he observed there that would interest the Greenskeepers. Bob Scott said that he had bad weather, but managed

to visit St. Andrews and Glen Eagles. He said that most of their greens are Poa Annua, but are good. He had taken along some Metropolitan bent which they had wanted to try, but upon arriving in Scotland noticed it had brown patch. He said they have brown patch but do not seem to worry about it.

Mr. Grill gave his idea of brown patch control. He claims to secure results by forking the diseased areas as soon as the symptoms appear. His main point was aeration.

Mr. Fischer discussed brown patch control. He said he thought he had more at Burning Tree than any of the other clubs. He said he has had best results using Semesan. For Pythium he recommended the use of dry soil or wood ashes.

The President then gave a talk

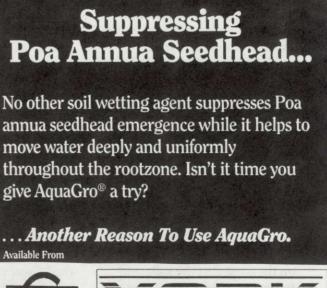
on the use of lime for brown patch control. He said there was a lot of talk about using lime for brown patch control, but that he would not use it until more research had been done showing it to be beneficial.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at the Columbia Country Club and play a golf match before the business meeting. Mr. Fitts was appointed Captain of the Washington team and Mr. Robert Scott Captain of the Baltimore team.

#### **Notice**

Several members may be eligible for reclassification. Refer to the By-laws in the back of our directory. If you qualify contact Mike Gilmore, Membership Chairman.







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# Preemption of Local Governments Regulating Pesticides

by Mary Ellen Setting, Chief, Pesticide Regulation Section, Maryland Department of Agriculture

Maryland has been actively involved for many years in the preemption issue. The Maryland Attorney General wrote two opinions, in 1985 and in 1988, supporting the position that federal pesticide law preempts the local regulation of pesticides. In late 1985 and early 1986, Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties passed ordinances relating to preposting and posting of lawns to receive an application of a pesticide by a commercial firm. Industry organizations sued the counties, claiming their ordinances were preempted by FIFRA. In June, 1986, a federal District Court Judge issued an injunction against enforcement of the county ordinances and in September, 1986, the same judge said FIFRA preempted local jurisdictions from regulating pesticides in any manner and ruled the ordinances unconstitutional and null and void.

In April 1987, the U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the judge's decision that the ordinances on lawn posting by Prince George's and Montgomery Counties were preempted and illegal. In May 1987, Prince Georges and Montgomery Counties appealed the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court, but later in 1987 dropped the appeals. Since then, the Maryland pesticide regulatory program has operated on the basis that the state and federal pesticide use laws preempted local regulation.

On June 21, 1991, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled unanimously that FIFRA does not preempt local governments from regulating the use of pesticides.

Judge Scalia stated he thought Congressional committees believed the 1972 FIFRA amendments, which gave specific authority to states to regulate pesticides, preempted local regulations, but he disagreed with using committee reports or Congressional intent to determine the meaning of laws. Regardless of Congressional intent, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled FIFRA does not contain explicit language to preempt local regulation of pesticides.

The U.S. Supreme Court had been asked by the Town of Casey, Wisconsin and Wisconsin Public Intervenor (Attorney General) to decide whether FIFRA prohibits localities from regulating the use of pesticides. In 1985, the Town of Casey, Wisconsin passed an ordinance requiring any person to obtain a permit 60 days prior to applying pesticides aerially or to public use lands. The permit request required certain information including a list of pesticides to be used, alternatives to pesticides and the environmental impact. The permit would be approved or disapproved by the Casey Town Board. The Board denied a permit requested by Ralph Mortier to aerially apply pesticides to his property. Mr. Mortier sued the Town of Casey, claiming FIFRA preempted the town order. The case proceeded to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. which decided FIFRA preempted pesticide regulation by local government. The Town of Casey appealed this decision and the U.S. Supreme Court heard the case on April 24, 1991.

Several states, Alabama,

Hawaii, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, filed "friends of the court" briefs supporting local pesticide regulation. These briefs supporting local pesticide regulation were filed by the states' Attorneys General, usually without the knowledge or support of the state pesticide regulatory agency. The State of Maryland, through its Attorney General, joined with California's legal brief supporting preemption. Several other states, Arizona, Indiana, New Jersey, Washington, filed briefs supporting preemption of local regulation.

Prior to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling, there had been at least six different cases in federal District Courts or state Supreme Courts. Three decisions supported preemption and three decisions rejected preemption.

The U.S. Supreme Court's decision reversed any decisions previously made to not allow pesticides to be regulated by local governments and ruled local governments can regulate pesticides until Congress amends FIFRA, or the Court made it clear that the states could enact laws to prohibit/restrict local ordinances.

Currently, at least eight states, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, Florida, Louisiana, Minnesota, Colorado, California, have specific language in pesticide laws that prohibits local ordinances on pesticides. Maine and New Jersey have specific language that permits local ordinances under certain conditions. The rest of the states, including Maryland, have no language which specifically restricts or permits local ordinances.

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Continued on page 10

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