

Turfgrass Matters



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Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Newsletter

MAAGCS Annual Tournament To Be Held at Winchester GC on October 13

The MAAGCS Annual Tournament will be held at the Winchester Golf Club, Winchester Virginia, on October 13. Host superintendent Preston Licklider encourages one and all to visit his historic club.

Located in the scenic Shenandoah Valley, Winchester GC was founded in 1923. This 18-hole course measures about 6,450 from the back tees. Here, in Blue Ridge country, however, the tee markers are not the traditional blue, white and red; they are red, yellow and green—the colors of (what else?) apples.

This private club boasts a membership of approximately 550. Not all are golfing members, however; tennis is quite popular now.

Two years ago Preston supervised installation of an automatic irrigation system and this past year the club renovated the clubhouse. The greens, all bentgrass, are mowed daily at 5/32". Most tees are also bentgrass and, with the aprons, are mowed three times a week at 9/16". Fairways are mowed three times at 3/4".

Preston, who grew up in Front Royal, learned to be a superintendent by working for his father who was superintendent of Winchester GC before him. He has been there for a

total of 13 years, now.

When not working on the course, Preston is playing. His major pastime, he says, is golf. He plays a lot, on as many

Here in Blue Ridge country, the tee markers are red, yellow and green—the colors of (what else?) apples.

different courses as possible, and finds doing so a great asset to his profession. A note of warning to visiting supers: he plays to a four handicap.

Though he doesn't get to many of the MAAGCS meetings, Preston regularly attends meetings of the Shenandoah Turf Association, most of whose members are clubs on the western side of the Blue Ridge.

At home, Preston is fully occupied with his two sons, Wesley and Cody—ages two and three. "They're both wild," he says, "and into everything."

When not on the course or chasing his boys, Preston enjoys deer hunting, primarily from his place near Browntown, Va., not far from the Shenandoah National Park.

The second week of Octo-

ber is traditionally prime time for fall foliage, so make an effort to play this lovely course at its most beautiful; and bring home a bushel or a peck of apples.



Golf: Tee off any time between 11 and 1. Reservations not necessary. Just show up.

Meeting: Cocktails are at 6:00 (cash bar) and dinner at 7:00 p.m. (\$20).

Directions: Winchester GC is located beside I-81 in the heart of Winchester, Va., a beautiful area but hard to reach. From Baltimore and even the northern part of Washington it is best to take I-70W or 270N to Frederick, then 340W through Harpers Ferry and Charlestown to Route 7. From Washington and northern Va. take Route 7W through Leesburg. Route 7 crosses I-81 and into town, turn left on Pleasant Valley Road (Post Office on right), then left again on Cork Street (big cemetery on right), then through the park, over I-81 and the club is on your right. Driving time should be two hours from Baltimore and 1-1/2 hours from Washington.

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MAAGCS Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Many thanks to Charles Priestly, our September host. I wish more of you had driven up to Street, Maryland. It was a wonderful day.

Attendance is always a problem when we schedule a meeting that is more than an hour's drive. I really don't understand this. Why more guys don't team up for a scenic drive and some shop talk along the way is beyond me. The old minutes of the association record frequent meetings in the Richmond and Philadelphia areas with carloads of MAAGCS members making the trip. And I'm talking the 1940s! How do chapters like the Carolinas' even exist when long drives are possible every month?

Conversely, though, does the state of Virginia really need four golf course superintendents associations? Granted, this is why smaller, local associations are popular. There's nothing wrong with this until members stop supporting their GCSAA chapter. The idea of regions or divisions in the Mid-Atlantic has been discussed, much like the New Jersey GCSA. The chapter meets four times a year and the regions meet monthly. The Mid-Atlantic has three distinct regions: Washington, Baltimore, and the shore. Two already have local associations. What I think would happen is that active members would attend every meeting in every region. I know I'd be over that bridge in an instant. Inactive members would only attend regional meetings and still miss a lot of those. We really wouldn't accomplish anything at all.

For our October 13 meeting in Winchester, Va., some of you are thinking only about a two-hour

drive. Not me. I'm thinking about winning that Ralph McNeal Trophy, fall foliage, apples, and a great day with my fellow superintendents. See you there.

Ken Ingram, President

RHYS'S PIECES

○ Everyone should know that Paul Standerfer, Irrigation Specialist at Turf Equipment & Supply Company (TESCO), is moving to "the Top-of-the-World" in Denver, Colorado, with his wife Leslie and daughter Katelin. Paul will be missed by all of us in the Mid-Atlantic area, and we all thank him for all his help and expertise over the years. Good Luck goes to the entire family.

○ John Haley, host of our May meeting at Westwinds C. C., and his wife Stephanie are celebrating the birth of their new daughter, Maghan Hill—6 pounds, 13 ounces—on August 10 at 9:15 a.m. Stephanie is reported to be doing fine; Now John has something more important to worry about than just aerification!

○ Lentz Wheeler, Superintendent of Hidden Creek, and his wife Jane are the proud parents of Kathryn Elizabeth, born on September 4 at 12:38 a.m. However, Lentz, just because you had to stay up all night with Jane and your new daughter is no excuse for missing work the next day! Best wishes to all!

○ Our "Baby-of-the-Year" award goes to Dave and Lottie Kardos of River Bend C.C., who, on September 1, welcomed into the world Brian David Kardos, weighing nine pounds! Congratulations, Dave and Lottie!

○ After a minor accident, Denise Ingram (our First Lady) is recovering from recent elbow surgery. We all wish Denise a speedy recovery.



Rally Around the Flag Boys!

by Rhys Arthur

It does not take much imagination to see how much exceptional talent there is in the MAAGCS. We are a large group of professionals, bonded by our love for the game and the environment, doing a difficult job, in one of the most influential cities in the world. We are educated, dedicated, and we continually strive to promote and improve our profession. We are Mid-Atlantic Superintendents.

Over the past ten years, our association has grown almost twofold. Through the fine efforts of many superintendents who have volunteered their time to serve on the board, this association has steadily moved forward. We have improved our education, our communications, and our professional standards. Whether you know it or not, we are a very prominent chapter, and we are rapidly becoming one of the best in the nation.

Now, our association is putting its best foot forward and supporting George Renault for national office. Nothing could be better for our affiliation. The superintendents in the Mid-Atlantic are leaders in our profession. We should be represented on the national level, and we should have a voice in the way our organization is headed. This is something we can all be proud of.

Who else is more qualified nationally? We, as a local chapter of the GCSAA, located in the backyard of Capitol Hill, can have tremendous influence on the lawmakers and environmentalists who govern us. We are an enormous asset to the national organization, and we need a link between us.

Having representation on the national level will also serve each

and every member of the MAAGCS. It will certainly keep us informed on what is going on in Lawrence, and how our membership monies are being spent, but it will also bring home a great deal of other benefits including seminars, conferences, scholarships, and support for our local universities. We also need national to be aware of issues and problems that relate to members of *this* chapter.

Having one of our members run for national office is one of the best things to happen to the MAAGCS in a long time. This election can spark a new energy within the association and unite us in one common goal. We are a **first class chapter**, a good reason for us provide the needed leadership to the national association.

The time is right, we have the right man, and this fall we should all work together to support George Renault for National Office. We are all behind you, George. Go get 'em!

Golf Power

According to a survey by the National Golf Foundation golfers are a politically active bunch. Imagine the potential force behind these interesting facts:

- ✓ In the upcoming presidential election, nearly 17 million voters (1/5 of the total voting electorate) will be golfers.
- ✓ Of America's 23 million adult golfers, 92.9% are registered voters compared to 57.1% of the general population.
- ✓ Nearly 80% of voting-age golfers report always voting in national elections.
- ✓ Six out of 10 golfers always vote in state elections, and five out of 10 in local elections.
- ✓ Golfers are involved citizens: 56.8% of those polled say they have contacted a public official by mail, phone, or in person.



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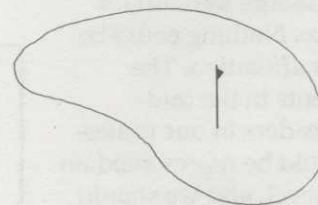
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Another Wet Year— MAAGCS Minutes of September 11, 1933

We often get so busy with day-to-day hassles that we think we're the only ones who have problems. Perhaps it would help to know our predecessors had similar struggles—and without modern fungicides or other products of turf research.

The meeting was held at the Maryland Country Club, eighteen members attending. Thirteen members played golf and turned in their cards.

[They] advised him to apply 15 pounds of lime to the thousand square feet to counteract the effect of the salt water when the greens were flooded.

All present spoke about the improved condition of the greens on this course.

Each member gave a report on the damage to his course due to the heavy rains and the intense heat of the past month. Most of the damage seemed to have been caused by the drowning out of the roots and the surface roots not receiving enough water, causing them to burn out. Those greens having good drainage stood up the best. Mr. Maury said that he had saved most of his greens by topdressing when he first noticed the symptoms.

Mr. Williams of the Naval Academy said that his Experimental Station had advised him to apply 15 pounds of lime to the thousand square feet to counteract the effect of the salt water when the greens were flooded.

In connection with the article on Bermuda grass by Al Houghton

which appeared in the Washington papers, a committee was appointed to write an article to combat this uneducated propaganda. Houghton claimed that Bermuda grass would be best for greens in this section of the country due to the following reasons:

—That Bermuda grass would be at its best when bentgrass was at its worst.

—That thousands of dollars expended annually in an effort to control brown patch on bentgrass would be saved.

—That Bermuda grass was free from grain, this not being true of the bents.

The committee, composed of the following members: Mr. Fitts, Bob Scott, Mr. Hines, Reg Giddings, and Tom Ryan, were to write an article giving the Greenskeepers' viewpoint, and endeavor to have it published in the paper.

It was voted that Mr. John Connolly of the Army-Navy Country Club be invited into the association as an active member.

The next meeting will be held at the Burning Tree Golf Club, October 2, 1933.

Locating well sites

If you have had to stand by and watch one of your fairways turn brown from lack of water, you've probably asked yourself an obvious question: "Am I really getting all the water I should from the available groundwater supply?"

This begs another question? "Are your wells in the best location to take full advantage of the subsurface conditions in your area?" If your wells have been located with primary consideration given only to the physical layout of your other key facilities,

See Wells, page 6



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GOLF NOTES

Winners at the September meeting at Geneva Farm Golf Club were:

Gross

Terry Laurent	71
Ed Cashman	75
Scott Wagner	75

Net

Mark Merrick	61
Darrell Oxyer	63
Michael Evans	64

Thanks to Charles Priestly and his staff for having the golf course in fine playing condition. Considering the unfavorable weather condition the previous week, this was not an easy task. Thanks again Charles! And, thanks to the rest of the staff at Geneva Farm for the great meal and to Mike Healy, golf pro, for his help with the tournament.

Next month will find us at Winchester Golf Club where we will play our annual championship. Superintendents will play for the W.H. Glover Trophy [gross], and the Ralph McNeal Memorial Trophy [net].

Only Class A superintendents are eligible for these awards. There will be a division for everyone to play in, so please come out and enjoy a beautiful golf course in a wonderful area of the Mid-Atlantic region.

Remembering Bill Glover

For years the G. L. Cornell Company has been generous enough to donate the Bill Glover Memorial Trophy for our annual Memorial Tournament. We thought it would be nice to tell you something about Mr. Glover before the tournament.

Bill Glover was a tremendous leader in the golf course superintendent business during the World War II era. He was president of the MAAGCS from 1944 to 1946. Mr. Glover was a fine superintendent, working at the Country Club of Fairfax when it was privately owned by John Connoly. Mr. Connoly also owned what is now the G. L. Cornell Company.

Mr. Cornell remembers Bill Glover not only as a great friend but as a man whose advice helped him tremendously in the early years of the company. Mr. Glover always strived for good turf. L.W. Brown, who retired from the G.L. Cornell Company, remembers a day when Glover got all the superintendents in the area together to plug a fairway at Fairfax to Zoysia as an experiment in the late 1940s.

Mr. Glover died suddenly in 1953 of a brain aneurysm.

Wells, continued from page 5

the answer is, "Probably not."

The preferred way to site water wells to obtain the highest possible yield is by using the scientific technique known as *fracture trace analysis*. A fracture trace is the surface expression of a near vertical zone of fractured rock. The origin of such fractures is related to the cracking of the earth's crust during its earliest formation, resulting in joints and partings in the bedrock. These fractured zones can be identified by an experienced hydrogeologist having an understanding of the local geologic conditions, and using aerial photographs supported by field reconnaissance. Well sites located on fracture traces, or at their intersections, can result in well yields many times that of wells drilled in non-fractured areas. This is because groundwater moves much more readily through the fractures in comparison to the dense, non-fractured bedrock.

Employing fracture-trace analysis to locate well sites can therefore reduce drilling expenses by maximizing well yields and minimizing the number of wells required, providing an economical and more dependable groundwater supply. While other factors bear on the production of your water supply, if your wells are located with proper respect to fracture traces, the answer to your original question could be at least a qualified "Yes."

This article is reprinted from Groundwater Management Newslines, published by R. E. Wright Associates of Westminster, Maryland.



Ladies Night!

By this time all of you should have received your special mailing about Ladies Night, scheduled for October 10 on the Spirit of Baltimore. Reservations for this event were due on September 28. If you have not sent your check, and still wish to attend, mail it immediately to Mark Merrick (165 Stanmore Rd., Baltimore, MD 21212). Don't miss out on this terrific event!

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