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MAAGCS Newsletter

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MTC Tourney - Oct. 20

The Maryland Turfgrass Council will hold its Annual Research Golf Tournament at Breton Bay Golf & CC on October 20, 1992. Proceeds from this worthy event are directed toward Turf Research at the University of Maryland. The format will be a low two-ball net event. You can make up your own groups, or they will pair you. Contact Bernie Bevan for more information at 301-475-8070, or watch for a separate mailing coming soon. If you haven't played Breton Bay, you owe it to yourself to get out and play this wonderful course.

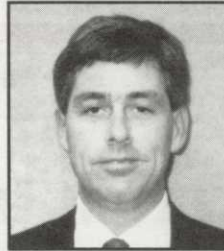
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Golf Course superintendents and their families are perhaps the only people who could enjoy a picnic in the rain, and that was just what they did on August 11 at Hobbit's Glen. Our host Bill Neus pulled off another outstanding party despite the weather.

The association's coffers would be stretched to the limit feeding such a crowd so I have to thank the G. L. Cornell Co., TESCO, LESCO, Aqua Flo, Finch Services and Egypt Farms for their generous contributions. Also, having worked for this association for eight years, I know how much work Mark Merrick puts into the picnic. He is the picnic. Talk about delegating responsibility, though. Where would he be without Darrell Oxyer. I don't know how many burgers he flipped, but it was a bunch just for Tutich's table.

On September 8 we get back down to business again with a lunch meeting at Geneva Farms.

Charles Priestly has really supported the association since coming to our area and I hope you will all attend his meeting and reciprocate. No excuses about the long drive. If John Drew can do it for all these years, so can you.

**RHYS'S PIECES**

○ Tom Knoll, superintendent at Chantilly National, had a hectic week on July 29. Boasting more than six inches of rain on his course, and his wife Christine giving birth to a baby girl, Emilie Ann. From speaking with Tom, it sounded like he was in "Labor" keeping the grass alive after that much rain. However, both Christine and the grass are reported doing fine.

○ The Assistant Superintendent at International Town & CC, Robert Karnei and his wife Darcy are celebrating the birth of their new son, Kyle Robert on July 3. Congratulations to both Robert and Darcy.

○ Congratulations, or condolences (whichever is appropriate), to Rick Hill of Aqua-Flo Inc. who is celebrating 20 years of work in the Irrigation Industry this September. Rick started working for his father's business in 1972, and now manages the Chantilly office for Aqua-Flo. Rick, that's twice as long as I've been in the business. What I want to know is: What year does your hair turn Grey?

See Pieces, page 8



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Fire, continued from page 7

Most are weakened by strong detergents.

A fire site will be isolated and secured; waste and runoff may be toxic. Federal, state and local authorities will be contacted for disposal instructions and approvals. Waste and runoff will be handled the same way as a product spill. Personal protective equipment is required.

Let's hope no one in the MAAGCS ever has to face this horror, but a little preparation can certainly avoid a larger problem. Inspect where you store pesticides and fertilizers and eliminate fire hazards. Have a pre-fire plan in place and an up-to-date set of material safety data sheets on hand. A brush-up course in first aid, especially dealing with pesticides, would be of benefit as well.

Get to know your local fire marshal. If he inspects your facility and suggests or requires changes,

make them quickly. Call him for a reinspection. Your concern with safety and complying with fire codes will go a long way to establish a good rapport with the department.

This article was adapted from one that appeared in The Greenside, newsletter of the GCSA of New Jersey. Thanks also to Robert Nemchin, Montgomery County Division of Emergency Management who helped with the adaptation.

Pieces, continued from page 2

○ Don't Forget! Ladies Night is scheduled for Saturday, October 10, from 6:30-10:00 on the cruise ship Spirit of Baltimore. The Ship will leave promptly at 7:00 p.m. More details will follow in future issues of **Turfgrass Matters**. This is a great event, so don't forget to bring your wife, or your girlfriend, but definitely not both! See you there!

Mr. Ralph McNeal, former superintendent of the Talbot Country Club, Easton, Md. for 26 years died on June 23 at the age of 69. Ralph was a longtime member of the MAAGCS and the Eastern Shore Association of Golf Course Superintendents, and was named an Honorary Life Member of this organization at the time of his retirement. He was highly respected by his peers for his quality of performance, endless energy and sense of humor. Ralph never had the privilege of enjoying his retirement as he had a stroke that resulted in paralysis on the left side and never recovered. His strength of character was evident during the two and a half year period of illness as he never showed remorse nor expected sympathy. He will be missed by those who knew him. He was a man of character, ability, pride of workmanship and a true "Eastern Shoreman."

Ken Baker, MAAGCS retired

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