

Turfgrass Matters



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Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Newsletter

MAAGCS Individual Championship To Be Held at Queenstown Harbor on October 11

by Bill Shirk

Queenstown Harbor Golf Links is a 36-hole, daily-fee golf course located in Queenstown, Maryland on the Eastern Shore. The two 18-hole golf courses known now as the Lakes and the River were carved out of 750 acres of woods, farmland, and of course wetlands. The property lies at the mouth of the Chester River and Queenstown Creek.

This property has been owned by Washington Brick & Terra Cotta Company since 1972. Washington Brick & Terra Cotta Company developed the golf course and still manages its operations. Both courses were designed by Lindsay Ervin & Associates, Inc. and built by Kenova Construction. On July 1, 1990, construction began on 27 holes, and enough construction was completed to open 18 holes on July 1, 1991. The third nine was opened April 1, 1992, and on August 1, 1993, construction for the fourth nine was started and that nine opened on July 29, 1994.

The original 27 holes averaged about 50,000 18-hole rounds for 1992 and 1993. The first month, which was August, 1994, QHGL did 9,350 18-hole rounds on 36 holes with three days closed due to rain. Queenstown Harbor GL is constantly trying to improve. Even at our young stage, we have already completely rebuilt one green, now known as #3 River, last October due to severe con-

touring and a perched water pocket. We have two more greens due for reconstruction in the near future, #14 River and #18 River.

I have an outstanding crew of 20 full-time employees, with two good assistants. Jeff Wolfe is a Penn State graduate and has been

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with me since March, 1991, and John Stern who is a University of Maryland graduate and has been with me for two years.

Queenstown Harbor GL has approximately 200 acres of rough which is a bluegrass and ryegrass mixture; 50 acres of fairways is Penneagle bentgrass; eight acres of tees and eight acres of greens that are Penncross bentgrass, and for good measure, approximately 200 acres of wetlands and wildlife areas.

Queenstown Harbor GL was awarded GCSAA's 1993 Environmental Steward Award at the last conference in Dallas, Texas for public golf courses in the Mid-Atlantic region—an honor we are all proud of!

Our course has already hosted several superintendent meetings in our short history, one of which was Superintendent-Pro in 1992. The owner, Arthur Birney, the head golf professional, Trent

Wright, and I are always ready to welcome any Superintendent or Pro meeting at QHGL. We are very proud of the golf courses, whether it be in peak condition or less than peak condition—which happens from time to time. I also wish that more superintendents and clubs would adopt this same attitude as many of us do.

I have been at QHGL since the beginning of construction. I have
See Shirk, page 8, column 2

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Directions: Take Route 50 east across the Bay Bridge. Ten miles beyond the bridge, on the "Land of Pleasant Living," take 301 north toward Wilmington. One-half mile on your left side is QHGL.

Dinner: Will be at Annie's Paramount Steak House. Take 50 west back toward the Bay Bridge. Take exit 42, Kent Narrows East. Turn right at the stop sign. Annie's is at the end of the road.

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Seminar to teach sound hiring and management practices

The Virginia Cooperative Extension is sponsoring "Hiring and Keeping High-Quality Employees." Dr. Bernie Erven, Extension Specialist and Professor of Agricultural Economics at Ohio State University, will address this critical point and other aspects of personnel management. Dr. Erven is recognized as one of the nation's leaders in developing labor-management programs for farms and small businesses. It is aimed at any farm, agri-business, or small business manager who wants to improve their ability to hire and keep quality employees. You will learn: How to make your business more profitable by working through your employees; How to be an effective labor

manager; How to write an advertisement that attracts the employees you want; How to recruit and hire top-quality employees; How to find the information you need while interviewing potential employees; How to train and communicate with new and experienced employees.

Locations and Dates:
 Harrisonburg—January 18,
 Richmond—January 19,
 Roanoke—January 20. **Cost:** \$25
 To receive a registration form call:
 Gordon E. Groover, Extension
 Economist, Farm Management at
 703-231-5850 or fax 703-231-7417.



Shirk, from page 1
 been a superintendent for 24 years now. Certified in 1989, I currently serve on the GCSAA's government relations committee. Also, I

am the secretary for the MAAGCS. I have been married for 21 years to Cheryl Ann who is a nurse manager for the intensive care and critical care unit at Easton Memorial Hospital. We have two wonderful children—Adrian, 12, who loves baseball and soccer, and Ashley, 10, who loves to read and get As on her report card.


I would like to use this last paragraph to personally and publicly thank our president, Lou Rudinski, for his outstanding work this year representing our industry and our profession at all of these legislation meetings, hearings, and bill proposals. He has done an outstanding job, and I certainly thank him as all of us should do. **Thanks Lou!**





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CAUTION

PRECAUTIONS OF PRACTICE (PRACTICE 1)
 If SWILLED: Call a physician or Poison Control Center. Drink 1 to 2 glasses of water per minute
 until you are comfortable. Do not eat, drink, or use tobacco until you are comfortable.
 If ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water. Get medical attention. Flush eyes with plenty of water.
 Call a physician if eye pain persists.

SEE RIGHT PANEL FOR ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS

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