

Around the Mid-Atlantic

Blue Mash Underway

Construction has begun on Blue Mash, a new upscale daily fee course in Laytonsville, MD. The unusual name has some historical roots, the combination of a property called Blue Mash made popular by the production of distilled beverages. (First Whiskey Creek and now Blue Mash). The development is the second venture for Joe Hills and Tom Heally who together built Waverly Woods. Brian Marofsky, long time assistant at Chevy Chase Club is the new Superintendent.

The golf course is an Art Hills design. Brian describes Blue Mash as a tight but open layout. Earth was moved for three months to create mounding between holes. Like so many new courses, it will be bentgrass from tee to green with Providence greens, Providence/L-93 fairways, and Penncross tees. Irrigation will be Rainbird Nimbus 11. A world class driving range is planned like Waverly Woods with a bentgrass tee and target fairway. Opening is planned for the spring of 2001.

Sabbatical Continues for Bill Hughes

Bill Hughes, one half of the "dynamic duo" ownership at Turf Equipment and Supply has taken another assignment with the Toro Company. Bill is now the Vice President and General Manager of the Irrigation Division and has moved to Riverside, CA.

It has been almost twenty years since Bill and Lynn Matson bought a struggling Toro franchise in our area and made it one of the best in the country. Bill was a long time Toro factory man and took leave a couple of years ago to manage the Consumer Division of Toro back in Minneapolis. He now has a similar assignment in irrigation. He would love to hear from friends in the MAAGCS. His new number is 909-785-3610.

Bill Love Honored

Local Golf Course Architect and MAAGCS member Bill Love was featured in the June issue of Golf Course News. The Turf and Ornamental Communicators As-

sociation (TOCA) awarded his publication "An Environmental Approach to Golf Course Development." Bill is the current Chairman of the ASGCA Environmental Committee and practices out of College Park, MD.

GCSAA Committee Members Appointed

Several MAAGCS members have been appointed to GCSAA Committees. Andrea Bakalyar to Career Development, Steve Cohoon, CGCS to Tournament, Bob Collins, CGCS to Membership, Lee Dieter, CGCS to Historical Preservation, Ken Ingram, CGCS to Research, John Kototski, CGCS to Certification, Walter Montross, CGCS to Education, and Nick Vance, CGCS to Chapter Relations.

Congressional Gold Remodeled

Congressional C.C. began a remodeling project on the Gold Course in August. Bunkers and tees will be rebuilt along with

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some fairway grading and mounding. Art

Around

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Hills is the architect. McDonald & Sons began work in September. Installation of a new Toro irrigation system began in August with ISI as the contractor.

Army Navy Rebuilds Middle Nine

Army Navy Arlington, President Clinton's get-away for the past eight years, is rebuilding their third nine. Designed in the 1960's as a short course for seniors and beginners, designer Joel Weiman and McDonald & Sons are turning the middle nine into a respectable layout. The old course had three Par 3's and one Par 5, one tee on each hole and only four bunkers. One Par 3 is being lengthened to a Par 4 and one Par 4 lengthened into a Par 5 to achieve a Par 36 with four sets of tees. Two dozen bunkers and a pond are being constructed. Three new greens are being constructed and three existing greens are being expanded with the sod and soil from greens being abandoned.

University of Maryland Dedicates New Research Facility

Arguably the nation's finest turfgrass research facility was dedicated July 1st. The Paint Branch Turfgrass Research Facility replaces the old Cherry Hill Farm. The offices, pesticide storage building, and shop area are extremely nice and the envy of any Golf Course Superintendent. There is a tremendous amount of bentgrass including a 20,000 square foot research green and an excellent gray leaf spot study.

The University of Maryland has alternated for years with the USDA plots in Beltsville for field days. The USDA didn't focus on golf course turf, and field days got a negative response from Golf Course Superintendents saying there was "no grass cut under one inch." The pendulum has swung. Every study being conducted at Maryland now has an impact on golf course turf and there is more bentgrass than any other turf. It is a world-class operation in our own backyard.

Way To Go Glenn

Unbeknownst to most of us our own Glenn Smickley, CGCS, was featured in an interesting book on lawn care published in 1999. *A Man's Turf* by Warren Shultz is definitely geared to the homeowner and the author is a proponent of organic methods. There is a chapter devoted to the experts in the business with a great photo of Glenn and other pictures from RTJ. Glenn describes his award winning programs for great turf and environmental protection. It really shines a favorable light on the Superintendent.

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IAC News

The MAAGCS Board of Directors has formed an Industrial Advisory Committee (IAC). This will be a group of three commercial members serving under the guidance of the Past President of the Association. The purpose is to directly relate back to the Board feedback as it relates to Association activities and policies that affect Class F membership. Secondly, it is hoped to utilize their talents, as well as, further assist the educational programs, social and benevolence issues and governmental regulatory policies in regard to the Association. Lastly, it is hoped that this will aid in developing greater camaraderie and information dissemination.

As mentioned before, the IAC is composed of three commercial members. David Cammarota, Lance Ernst and Harry Fridley have been gracious enough to assist the Board with the formation of this concept. It is time to begin the future through an election process. The following is the plan for the immediate future:

- ♦ All commercial members will be contacted as to their interest in serving on the IAC.
- ♦ Any commercial member of the MAAGCS is eligible to run for the committee.
- ♦ Nominations will be forwarded to the MAAGCS Board of Directors by September of the year and will be solicited by the existing IAC members.
- ♦ The election will take place during the November MAAGCS regular meeting.
- ♦ Each company is allowed one vote and they will appoint a voting delegate to cast this vote. The election is structured to insure that commercial members will be electing their representatives. It is also designed to allow for small companies to be given equal weight in the election process.
- ♦ The elected individual will serve a three-year term. One of the existing IAC members will serve as an Ex-Officio member for next year and will leave the committee the following year with the advent of the 2001 election process.

It has also been decided that the MAAGCS Board of Directors wishes to invite all Class F members to remain throughout the December elections. You will not be asked to leave during the voting process. It is felt that for you to become more involved and informed you should hear and see the process in electing the Board of Directors.

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