

Around the Mid-Atlantic

Thompson to Retire

In what is surely bad news for ducks and wildlife across the country, George Thompson CGCS, superintendent of the Country Club of North Carolina plans on retiring at the end of the year. George remained a MAAGCS member after leaving Columbia CC in 1982. George won the GCSAA Distinguished Service Award earlier this year. George is an avid sportsman and in planning the "Grand Slam" of duck hunting in January on big lakes throughout the south. Congratulations George.

Maryland National Underway

We must have more "National" golf clubs in our area than anywhere in the country. Augusta National was said to have a national membership and for years had that exclusivity. By my count we have Virginia, Reston, Fairfax, Williamsburg, and Penn National golf clubs all within an easy drive. Welcome Maryland National. Maryland

National is being built just north of Frederick, MD between Braddock and South mountain. It is an Art Hills design. Furness Construction from Michigan is the contractor. Brian Zickafoose is the superintendent. It will be a high end daily fee operation owned by a partnership from the Pittsburg area. Brian describes the course as a links style design with nice elevation changes. The deep roughs will be fescue with 20% Little Bluestem. Greens will be L-93, fairways and tees will be L-93I. Irrigation will be Rainbird Cirrus.

Westwood Begins New Maintenance Building

After years of planning, zoning hearings, and permitting Westwood C.C. has begun construction of a new maintenance building. The property was originally a dairy farm and the old barn has served as a cart storage and maintenance building for years. Not that this scenario is that unusual but this barn

was in the parking lot of one of the areas premier clubs. The new building is 11,000 square feet (maximum size for the site) and designed by Ralph Lallock and Walter, the contractor is Webb Construction. Target date for completion is March 1st. Then an ambitious clubhouse renovation begins. Good luck Walter.

Hobbits Glen Wins Cammarota Memorial

It's hard not to imagine Angie looking down on the Hobbits Glen team of Bill Neus, Dave Haber, Bob Bellamy, and Carl Oesterling. Their two net best ball of 122 won the Maryland Turfgrass Council's Angie Cammarota Memorial Tournament October 17th at Queenstown Harbor. Angelo worked for years with the Columbia Association that owns Hobbits Glen. Proceed from the event fund turfgrass research at the University of MD.



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News From Old Friends

Lee and Rita Dieter spent the month of August in Germany touring and researching their family tree. I can't prove it but I think the trip was promised to Rita after Lee brought home this old 1951 Toro Master tractor from the fair. Lee thinks it came from a course in the upper Shenandoah Valley and would like you to call if you have any information. Of course if you have any spare parts he would really appreciate the call.

Test Plot

MAAGCS member Tom Walsh, from York Distributors was featured on the front page of The Capital, a large local newspaper in the Annapolis, MD area. Tom, as many of us know, maintains his front lawn as a putting green. The article titled "Smooth Surface" really shines a favorable light on Golf Course Superintendents.

Musket Ridge Under Construction

Musket Ridge is a new, privately owned upscale daily fee course just a few miles from Maryland National. The architect is Joe Lee from Florida and the superintendent is Scott Campbell formerly an assistant at P. B. Dye Golf Club. Musket Ridge is very hilly, almost a mountain course and will have tremendous views actually looking down I-70. The greens will also be very undulating. Grasses are L-93 from tee to green. The contractor is Quality Grassing and they are installing Toro OSMAC irrigation as well. Opening is planned for the summer of 2001.

Going High Side on Pillow Rock

On October 2nd several brave MAAGCS members went on a white water raft trip on the Upper Gauley River in West Virginia. Tom Lipscomb from P.B. Dye G.C. organized the trip. Tom and his wife, Walter Montross took the entire family, Ed Walker, Ed Gasper, Bart Bullock, Mike Minard, Jeff Vance and others had a memorable day Bart took a swim in Lost Paddle Rapids but Walter had the best story of the day. When the guide fished him out of the water he said in all sincerity, "That white water swimming is over-rated ain't it?" If you have ever been there you know it's true.



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