



TURFGRASS MATTERS

MAY/JUNE 2005

Volume 76, Number 2

People vs. Pro/Superintendent/Assistant

Rich Sweeney, CGCS, Golf Committee Chairman

April 5, 2005

The Mid-Atlantic kicked off the year with a great event at Mike Hueys' Waverly Woods. It brought the best out of Scott Wagner (Leisure World of Maryland), who qualified in the event to compete in the BASF People vs. The Tournament in Austin, Texas, August of this year, Good luck Steve!

Along with the BASF tournament, we had an Assistant/Superintendent Tournament. Those who did not qualify for one had a great time in the other. Here are the results:

Closest to the Pin #5: Dean Graves, Chevy Chase Club

Closest to the Pin #15 Jeff Vance, Laytonsville Golf Course

Long Drive: Rich Sweeney, Mt. Vernon Country Club

1st Place Gross, Superintendent/Assistant: Dean Graves, Chris Harriman (79), Chevy Chase Club

1st Place Net, Superintendent/Assistant: Brett Post, Jeff Rice (62), Cross Creek Golf Club

2nd Place Gross, Superintendent/Assistant: Quent Baria, Keith Kizer (81), Towson Golf & Country Club

2nd Place Net, Superintendent/Assistant: Richard Sweeney, John Dunker (66), Mt. Vernon Country Club

1st Place Gross, Open Flight, Paul Tideman (78), Golf Car Specialities

1st Place Net, Open Flight, Steve Slominski (68), Herod Seeds

We hope you make time to come out and enjoy meetings this year. If you and your club are interested in hosting an event for next year, do not be shy, please volunteer your facility and contact our office.

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President's Message

Drew Scully, CGCS

This presidency goes quickly as May is just around the corner but it still feels like March. I want to thank John Stevens, CGCS for his service to the Board. Unfortunately John has left the Board of Directors having taken a position outside of the golf industry. I wish him the best of luck and hope he returns to the golf business soon. Our first events of 2005 have been very successful. First, I would like to thank Mr. George Barger and Nutramax for their sponsorship of the hospitality room in Orlando. The event was well attended and well under budget but Mr. Barger graciously donated the balance of his contribution for the good of the Association to be used at the Stewards of the Chesapeake event this year. Special thanks to Education Director Bryan McFerren on the March day of Education which had an excellent turn out and speakers. Our April meeting at Waverly Woods was a great event for the Association thanks to Mike Huey and staff and to Ted Huhn and BASF for the People vs. the Pro event. It culminated with member Scott Wagner winning the opportunity to play in the big event in Austin, Texas in September and the Association receiving a \$2,000 donation to the Education Fund from BASF. Several Assistant Superintendents also attended which was great to see. One more thank you to our advertisers and sponsors year to date, they have really allowed us to host three nice events.

The Board will be working this year to revamp the Membership Directory in order to better protect the privacy of its members while maintaining the directory as a valuable resource for the Association. The Board will also be considering downsizing the Board of Directors and reducing the number of monthly

Association events in the future. These changes are being driven by the inability to maintain a ten member Board for the last several years, difficulty in finding candidates to run for the Board, changes in the membership, and changes in focus caused by internal and external forces. I will expand on this topic in the next issue of the newsletter. The GCSAA Board of Directors is rotating their quarterly meeting around the country and will be in Washington, D.C. the first weekend in August. I have been invited to attend the meeting along with Theresa Baria and members of the ESGCSA & VGCSA. Please feel free to email any concerns you would like me to try and address as I prepare a presentation for the GCSAA Board.

Twin Shields will be hosting the June meeting where we hope to present turf spray nozzle efficacy demonstrations. The busy season is almost here along with the perennial stress it brings, good luck and remember that the Association is here to assist you in any way it can to help get you through the season.

A Historical Preservation Committee has been set up with Ken Ingram as the chair. If you would like to assist Ken on this committee, please give him a call. (301) 948-5405 ext317



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Turfgrass Matters

Brett Post - Editor

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WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT VELOCITY®

Peter H. Dernoeden, Professor, University of Maryland

Velocity (bispiribac sodium) was labeled for the purpose of controlling annual bluegrass and roughstalk bluegrass post-mergently in established creeping bentgrass and perennial ryegrass fairways and tees in late 2004. Velocity also controls some broadleaf weeds, suppresses annual bluegrass seedheads, and is labeled for suppression of dollar spot. Velocity inhibits the enzyme acetolactate synthase, which plants require to produce three essential amino acids. The herbicide is both foliar and root absorbed, but most appears to enter through leaves and sheaths. Velocity can move off foliage in heavy rain and run-off to adjacent sites, where it can injure sensitive species. Kentucky bluegrass can be severely injured. Tall fescue also is sensitive, but mature stands likely will recover when contacted by this herbicide. Tall fescue seedlings, however, are intolerant of Velocity, and likely will be killed or severely injured by this herbicide. Mature perennial ryegrass can be discolored and seedlings can be damaged by Velocity. Prograss (ethofumesate) is safe to apply overtop tall fescue and perennial ryegrass seedlings and should be considered the preferred herbicide for controlling annual bluegrass in young stands of these species. Preliminary findings from a University of Maryland study, however, indicate that fairway height creeping bentgrass seedlings will tolerate Velocity, when the herbicide is applied five weeks after emergence.

The major use of Velocity will be to control annual and roughstalk bluegrass in creeping bentgrass fairways and tees. Velocity often elicits a yellowing or chlorosis in creeping bentgrass, which is referred to as the "yellow flash." The "yellow flash" appears in about three days following treatment and can remain evident for 7 to 14 days. No thinning or long term damage are expected, but more will be learned in 2005 after Velocity has had widespread usage on golf courses. An intense "yellow flash" generally indicates that the herbicide has not properly translocated out of the foliage. It also may be an indicator that weed control will be less effective.

Velocity seldom provides effective control of annual or roughstalk bluegrass following a single application. Hence, two or more applications are required for maximum control. Velocity should be applied during sunny weather when air temperatures range between 65 and 80F (16 and 27C), and when turf is actively growing. A heavy, pre-application irrigation to moisten soil thoroughly should improve Velocity performance. Mowing within 24 hours of application, and applications of Velocity when rain is in the forecast should be avoided. Velocity has a short soil residual and treated sites can be overseeded ten days following the final herbicide application.

Rate selection for Velocity needs fine-tuning. Rates in the range of 1.3 to 2.0 ounces of Velocity 80WP per acre (30-45 gr ai/A) are suggested. Currently, it is recommended that Velocity be applied twice on a 14 to 21 day interval.

Where more than 15 to 20% of the stand is dominated by either annual or roughstalk bluegrass you may want to take a more conservative approach. Lower rates (e.g., 20 gr ai/A) may be better suited to phytotoxically suppressing the targeted weeds without creating large areas of bareground. Superintendents should test Velocity on a small scale to gain experience and local knowledge on the behavior of this herbicide. As always, carefully read the label and familiarize yourself with the precautions stated when using this or any other herbicide. Much more needs to be learned about Velocity, but the following discussion summarizes some observations by university researchers. Velocity should not be tank-mixed with surfactants or other adjuvants as severe bentgrass injury may occur. Unless otherwise stated on the label, do not tank-mix Velocity with plant growth regulators, other herbicides, or products formulated as emulsifiable concentrates. Also, there may be enhanced bentgrass injury when Velocity is applied in cold weather. Furthermore, you may not realize how much annual or roughstalk bluegrass you have until you use Velocity. Superintendents should be prepared to overseed or sod sites when large losses of these weedy grasses occur. Finally, Velocity should not be considered the "silver bullet" for annual or roughstalk bluegrass control. There always are survivors and Velocity-tolerant biotypes of *Poa annua* are known to exist. Velocity will be a valuable tool in the management of annual and roughstalk bluegrasses. Superintendents, however, should continue to utilize other cultural, herbicide and plant growth regulator management approaches to promote bentgrass competition with these grassy weeds.

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Bullets from the Boardroom

MAAGCS Secretary - Randall Pinckney



All the candidates we supported at the GCSAA annual meeting in Orlando won. Tim O'Neill, Pres., Sean Hoolehan, V.Pres., Ricky Heine Secretary/Treasurer, James Fitzroy, Mark Kuhns and Bob Randquist are directors.



MAAGCS received \$1,300 in scholarship money back. BOD decided to give the scholarships to the respective recipients.



Quent Baria spoke at the Urban Nutrient Management Workshop on water quality benefits of golf courses and general nutrient management.



The GCSAA Board of Directors will hold a meeting in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, August 6th. MAAGCS President Drew Scully, CGCS and Executive Secretary Theresa Baria have been invited to attend along with members of the ESGCSA & VGCSA.



John Stevens, CGCS recently resigned his position on the MAAGCS Board. John has found employment outside the golf industry.



Executive Secretary Theresa Baria attended the Chapter Executive education seminar at GCSAA Headquarters in Lawrence, KS on April 11th & 12th.



Plans are underway to hold a Ryder Cup format golf competition between MAAGCS and other local GCSAA chapters in early November.



The MAAGCS television commercial began airing again on April 23rd in Anne Arundel & Baltimore Counties.



The MAAGCS Board voted to be a \$300.00 sponsor for the Shields Memorial Golf Tournament to be held at Twin Shields GC on May 13th.



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MAAGCS Honorary Member

L. W. "Brownie" Brown

By Ken Ingram

The MAAGCS lost a great friend and one of our Honorary Members on March 4th with the passing of L.W. Brown, or "Brownie" to everyone who knew him. He was 87 years old. I find myself writing about another one of our members from Tom Brokaw's Greatest Generation and it's very awkward. I'm not half the man that these guys were, they went to war as teenagers, came home to work and build the worlds greatest economy, raised families and never seemed to ask anything in return. (Brownie would damned sure tell you about it all though.) Brownie was a native of Missouri. He met George Cornell in the Army Air Corp in WWII. He moved to Maryland after the war in 1947 to work with George Cornell and John Connolly with the G.L. Cornell Company. Superintendent's from that era told me Brownie would give you the shirt off his back to help you out. The staff at G.L. Cornell was so well thought of by the MAAGCS that at one time four men, George Cornell, John Connolly, L.W. Brown, and Ken Baker were all Honorary Members.

Back in the late 1940's and through the 1950's the MAAGCS December meeting was hosted by the G.L. Cornell Company and Superintendents were treated like kings. This is a portion of our minutes from December 1949:

"Approximately 100 members and guests of this association were the guests of the G.L. Cornell Co. in Bethesda and were served a delicious steak and oyster dinner. A regular meeting was scheduled for this time but President McRae decided not to call a meeting to order because there was no important business to be transacted. Also, the refreshments served before dinner put those present in the proper frame of mind for conversation- a meeting was almost impossible! Mr. Cornell, as usual did a fine job as host and Brownie made sure that each man present was served a juicy steak cooked on the charcoal grille exactly as ordered. L.R. Shields, Secretary."

These December get-togethers grew too large for the confines of the G.L. Cornell Company and evolved into parties at the GCSAA National Conferences but the hospitality never changed and Brownie was always there. He retired in 1984.

Brownie was married for 65 years. He had three daughters and a son Bill who we all know at the G.L. Cornell Co. today. If you weren't lucky enough to have met Brownie, Bill has the act down pretty well. He stops whatever he's doing, great handshake, quick with a joke, the smile never leaves his face, and he finds the information or part you need no matter what it takes.

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Education Seminar "2005"

Bryan McFerren, Education Chairman

Our MAAGCS seminar back in March was a huge success, made possible by some very informative speakers, and a lot of hard work behind the scenes. In addition, the conference was approved for .65 education points through GCSAA.

Among our distinguished guests were: Dr. John Cisar (University of Florida), Dr. Keith Karnok (University of Georgia), Mr. Keith Happ (USGA), Mr. Dean Graves, (Chevy Chase Club), Mr. Ralph Friedgen (University of Maryland Head Football Coach), and Mr. Bruce Williams (The Los Angeles Country Club).

This year was exceptional for me as every speaker who was asked, responded by saying they would be happy to participate. These individuals were the first people I contacted as well. I should also add that Dr. Danneberger from Ohio State was scheduled to join us, but he had some unexpected travel problems arise, removing him from the scheduled program. He wanted to express sincere apologies to everyone, and offered to help us in any way possible in the future.

I want to thank all those who helped make this day special, especially Mr. Steve Evans for once again providing a great deal of help with this event. He did an outstanding job with organizing the presentations!

Our annual seminar is truly becoming a first class event. The speakers who have joined us in the past years have all said how nice it was to have been able to join us!

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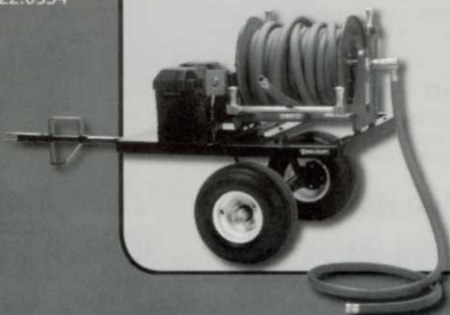
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2005 Calendar

June 14	Twin Shields GC
July 12	Picnic Mayo Beach
Aug 1	Sparrows Point CC (Stewards)
Sep 20	Worthington Manor GC (Joint with GWGCSA)
Oct	Suburban Club (Date TBA)
Nov	(Date and Place TBA)
Dec	Annual Meeting (Date TBA)

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Turfgrass Matters
Brett Post - Editor

News & Notes

New Members

Class A

Christian Paul, Turf Valley Resort

Class B

Ryan Howard, Hartfield National
Richard Maran, to South River
Bill Reil, Gibson Island Club

Class C

Matthew Brant, Bretton Woods Rec. Center
John Decker, Mt. Vernon CC
Chris Harriman, Chevy Chase
Matt Hopper, Waverly Woods
Jeff Rice, Cross Creek Golf Club

Class D

Richard Berry, U of MD
Matt Cooper, U of MD
Christopher Fauble, Holly Hills CC
Gregory Horner, Kansas State University
Justin Lumpkin, U of MD
Ryan Renehon, Greenspring Valley Hunt Club
Wade Shaw, Greenspring Valley Hunt Club

Class F

Bill Beairsto, Organic Gro
Phil Jackson, Synatek
Rob Lyons, Tipco
Jud Soko, Garrison Financial, LLC
Rich Valentine, Aer-Cor

Class G

Erin Stevens, Golf Club of Mayakoba

Best Wishes

Congratulations to Doug and Kim Fleming on the birth of their son, Ryan Joseph.

To Bryan and Kerry Kelbaugh on the birth of their son, Austin Douglas.

To John and Jennifer Casady on the birth of their daughter

To Mark and Theresa Menusan on the birth of their son, Brooks Walker

To Bill and Marci Augustin on the birth of their daughter, Stella Josephine Porritt

To Jamie and Ann Galvin on birth of their son Zachary James

To Darin and Katie Bevard on the birth of their daughter, Samantha Marie

Moving Up

Jeff Vance at Laytonsville Golf Club recently earned the CGCS credential as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent