

Mid-Winter News Notes

James B. Moncrief

There will only be one "Mr. Bermooda Grass" among all who have traveled the country on behalf of better turfgrasses for golf. James Burton (Monty) Moncrief was that tireless teacher and ambassador of good will for the USGA Green Section from 1957 through his retirement, in 1982. Monty died suddenly on February 25, 1987, at his home, in Athens, Georgia.

Monty had criss-crossed our southern tier for 25 years, from Georgia to Arizona (and South America as well), making over 5,000 golf course visits, and along the way at least twice as many friends. He had much to do with the discovery of Tifdwarf bermudagrass. He was a member of the Oklahoma Turfgrass Hall of Fame, and recipient of the Texas Turfgrass Association's Diamond Award. He was a member of the American Society of Agronomy and the USGA Turfgrass Research Committee. In February of 1986 he received the coveted USGA Green Section Award for distinguished service to golf through work with turfgrass.

This is in tribute to James B. Moncrief. To his countless contributions, to his great knowledge, his experience, and the ready, wide smile he gave so freely to all who passed his way. These are and will be our timeless memories.

Timothy P. Moraghan Appointed Agronomist for USGA Championships

Timothy P. Moraghan has been appointed Green Section agronomist for USGA Championship Courses, effective March 1, 1987. A native of Connecticut with degrees in biology from Niagara University and in turf management from the University of Massachusetts, Tim has been in golf course turf work for 10 years, and was most recently regional golf course superintendent for the American Golf Corporation, in Miami. He has earlier experience at Myrtle Beach National Golf Club, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; Pinehurst Country Club, in Pinehurst, North Carolina; Tournament Players Club, Ponte Vedra, Florida; and Las Colinas Sports Club, Dallas, Texas. An experienced and personable young man, Moraghan will also assist in Green Section Turf Advisory Service visits when he is not on USGA championship assignments.



James B. Moncrief



James G. Prusa



Timothy P. Moraghan

Green Section Personnel Changes

Charles (Bud) White resigned from the Green Section staff, effective January 1, 1987. Bud was the Regional Director in the Southeastern states for the past five years, and served earlier as the Southeastern agronomist, under the late James B. Moncrief. He joined the Green Section staff in 1979. His many friends wish him continued success in his new position with the Lesco Corporation.

Patrick M. O'Brien, who has also been a staff agronomist since 1979 and visited USGA Member Clubs in the Mid-Atlantic Region, now becomes the Director for the Southeastern Region. Pat has broad field experience with both warm and cool season grasses, and has visited clubs throughout the Southeast for many years. The Southeastern Regional office remains at Box 4213, Campus Station, Athens, Georgia 30605 (404) 548-2741. John H. Foy, Southeastern agronomist, continues his Green Section work and club consultations out of Hobe Sound, Florida (305) 546-2620, and will be working with Pat O'Brien.

James G. Prusa resigns GCSAA Post

James G. Prusa, GCSAA associate executive director and director of education for the past five years, announced his resignation effective in early February. "Jim's ideas, his spirit, and his perseverance will be missed throughout our Association. In just a few years, he has helped advance the GCSAA significantly," said John M. Schilling, executive director.

"Jim's departure represents a great loss to us, but his accomplishments represent lasting gains for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America," said outgoing president Riley L. Stottern.

The Green Section too will miss Jim Prusa. He brought dedication, innovation, and integrity to his post. Through his efforts, there developed a new era of understanding, cooperation, and mutual respect between the GCSAA, the USGA Green Section, and other organizations in golf. Everyone gained, the game most of all. Prusa will now enter private business. Nevertheless, he will continue as a member of the USGA Turfgrass Research Advisory Committee.