



Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER

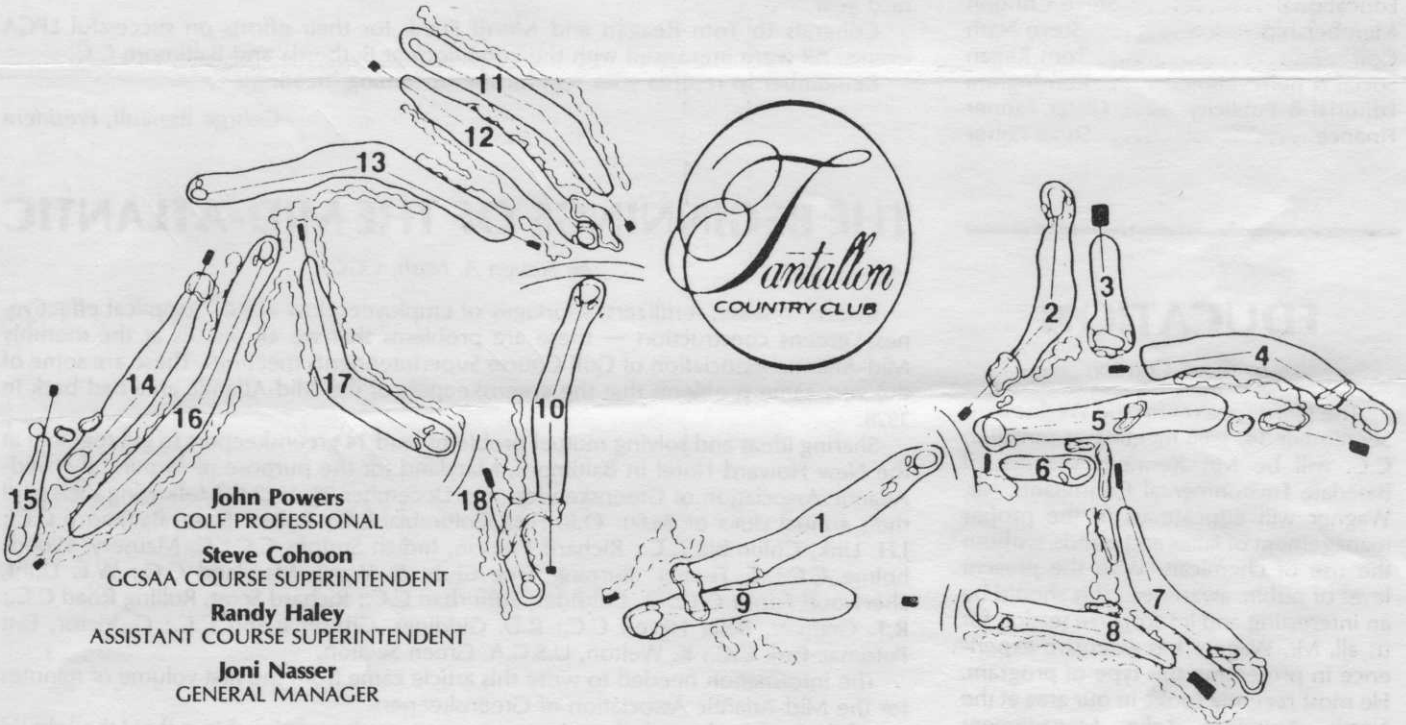


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September Meeting - Wednesday, September 14 - Tantallon C.C.



Steve Cohoon is our host for the meeting. We would like to remind everyone again that the meeting is being held on WEDNESDAY this month. Please remember to call in your reservation by Friday, September 9th, (301) 381-0030, Thanks. Members of our association will be able to play golf from noon on. Call for a tee time, (301) 292-0003. Cocktails will be served at 6:00 p.m. (cash bar) and a buffet dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m. The cost will be \$10.00 per person.

Tantallon Country Club is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. The course was completed in the Spring of 1963. The front nine was completed the previous year. The layout was designed by Theodore Robinson and measures 6,730 yards and is rated at 72.5 from the blue tees. It sits on the shore of the Potomac in a woody, natural setting. Steve invites you to come to the meeting and play the course. He'd like you to see the course now and perhaps come back to see some

of the improvements they are planning. Sand bunker renovation, cart path installation, conversion of the fairways to Bermuda grass, and the upgrading of the manual system to automatic are among the long range plans for the club. Other improvements in the works are the reconstruction of greens 7, 11, 13 and 15, several of the tees, and the planting of ornamentals, flower beds, and other aesthetic improvements. Steve reports that he's also implemented an equipment replacement program. Quite an ambitious program underway for a first year on the job Steve. We sure will be pleased to come back again and see the fruits of these plans and your efforts.

Steve reports the following conditions and maintenance practices at Tantallon. The Poa/Bent greens are growing on three to six inches of prepared top dressing on a clay base. They receive 3# of N. per year, and are treated with Ronstar/Betesan product in April. They are mowed

six times a week at 11/64". The greens are inclined to have summer patch problems, as they have this year. Steve plans to deep tine aerify them this fall and start on a TGR program. The tees are bent/blue/rye/bermuda, receive 3# of N. per year and receive an application of Pendmethelin at 2# per A. The fairways right now, as Steve explains, are Bermuda grass and dead cool season grasses. They were treated with Ronstar in April. The fairways and tees are mowed 3 times a week at 3/4".

The University of Maryland is Steve's alma mater. He graduated from the institute of applied agriculture in 1982. He was working as George Renault's assistant at the time at Penderbrook Country Club. When George moved to Chevy Chase, Steve took over as the Superintendent of the club. He remained at Penderbrook five years, until this May when he moved to Tantallon. Steve is now

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ORNAMENTAL PEARS

by Brian K. Finger

The Bradford Pear, *Pyrus calleryana* cv. "Bradford" has become one of the most widely planted ornamental trees in the Mid-Atlantic states. Many states list it as one of their "Ten Most Recommended Trees".

The Bradford Pear is a very vigorous grower and because of this can outgrow its designated area. Sometimes this growth becomes a maintenance problem, especially where there are still electric and telephone lines. Another problem is the susceptibility to ice breakage. Because of the dense branching habit, ice can cause breakage of limbs and in many cases an entire side of the tree may be lost.

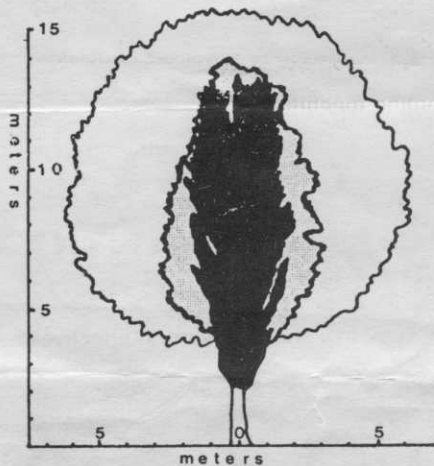


Fig. 1. Silhouette drawings taken from photographs of 'Capital' (center-black) 'Whitehouse' (intermediate-speckled) and 'Bradford' (outside-plain).

There was definitely a need for a less vigorous grower and a tree with better branching (right angles and less dense) with a narrow crown. The following are some varieties for you to consider:

ARISTOCRAT — This introduction has excellent dark green waxy foliage that turns to brilliant red in the fall. A very heavy spring bloomer. It is a more wide open tree than the Bradford due to wider crotch angle branches.

REDSPIRE — Introduced by Princeton Nurseries in New Jersey. This selection has a narrow oval crown with larger flowers and clusters than the Bradford. The glossy green foliage turns to purple/crimson in the fall. Tree will obtain a height of 30' to 35'.

WHITEHOUSE — This pear was developed by the U.S. National Arboretum. It is a heavy bloomer with a narrow pyramidal form. It does turn color earlier in the fall than other varieties. The leaves turn dark red/purple changing to red as the season advances.

CAPITAL — This is a columnar form ornamental pear. This selection offers potential as a long lived replacement for the Lombardy Poplar. It could be used as a windbreak or screen planting. In addition to its distinct shape, it has good spring flowering, excellent summer foliage, and bright purple/red fall coloring.

Most all of the improved pear varieties are budded or grafted on *Pyrus calleryana* (common pear) understock. This is because of the greater adaptability of plants on this understock to a wide range of soil conditions.

Commercial pear plantings have been repeatedly damaged by severe outbreaks of fireblight. All of the above introductions show a high degree of resistance to fireblight.

Although the Bradford Pear is the most widely known, these new varieties deserve some consideration.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

(Continued from page 1)

a Certified Golf Course Superintendent, having just received notice that he passed the tests on the fifth of August. Congratulations Steve!

The Cohoon family live in a newly completed home on ten acres in Loudoun County. Steve and his wife Michele have a eight month old son Daniel Ray. The couple have been married for five (happy) years according to Steve. We certainly wish them both many more happy years together. We all know that being a Superintendent's wife isn't always easy. Hang in there Michele!



Steve Cohoon and family

Teaching the Turf Care course at Northern Va. Community College has been a rewarding and interesting experience for Steve. He has been the President of the Greater Washington Superintendents Association and is currently on the board of our association, where he serves as education chairman. Steve has also been President of the alumni association of the Institute of Applied Agriculture of the U. of Maryland. He is one of that special kind of person who are ready to serve their profession in any they can. I know we all appreciate his efforts. Thanks Steve, for your efforts on our behalf, and for hosting a meeting at this most difficult time of our growing season.

DIRECTIONS TO THE CLUB: From the capital beltway (95) take Indian Head Highway (Exit 3) south approximately five miles to Fort Washington Road, turn right and go approximately 3 miles to St. Andrews Drive (just past the elementary school). Turn right on St. Andrews Drive to the club entrance. Members coming from Baltimore should stay on 95, the east side of the Washington Beltway.

1988-1989 MAAGCS SCHEDULE

Date	Location/Host	Speaker/Topic
September 13-15	VPI Field Days Drs. Schmidt, Hall & Chalmers	Tournament Research, Category 2 Recertification
September 14	Tantallon Country Club Steven Cohoon, CGCS *WEDNESDAY MEETING	Mr. Kenneth Wagner Pond Water Management
October 11	Rehobeth Country Club Thomas List, CGCS	John Segui, GCSAA President, Certification
October 21	Columbia Country Club Kenneth Ingram, CGCS	60th Anniversary, MAAGCS Ladies Night, Dinner-Dance
November 8	Bethesda Country Club Thomas Regan, CGCS	Stanley Zontec, USGA Winter Play
December 13	Turf Valley Country Club William Blackert	Election Meeting
January 9-11	Maryland Turfgrass Expo 88	Conference & Trade Show
January 17-19	Virginia Turfgrass Conference	Conference & Trade Show