



Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER

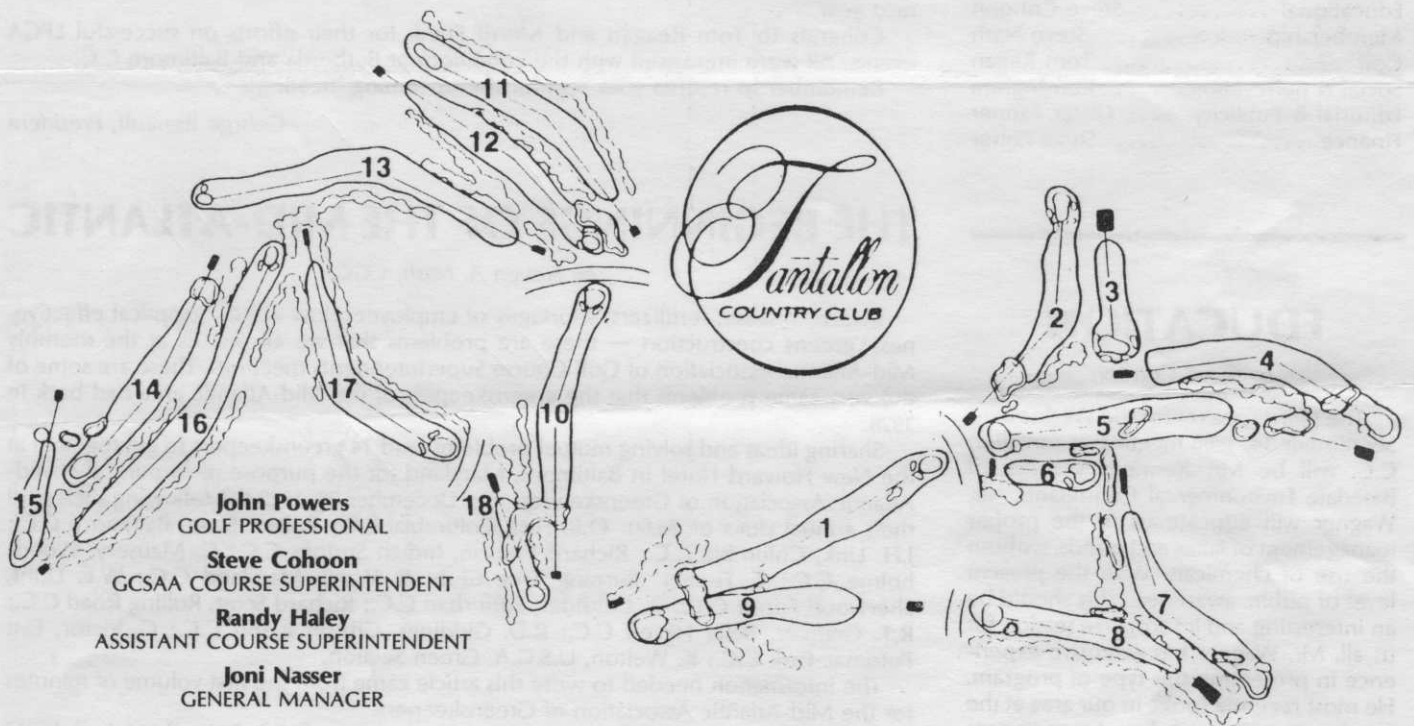


VOLUME XXXXI

SEPTEMBER 1988

NUMBER 7

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

(Continued on page 3)

Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER

Published by this Association to aid the advancement of the Golf Course Superintendent through education and merit.

Lee Dieter, C.G.C.S.
Editor

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EDUCATION

by Steve Cohoon

The guest speaker for the Wednesday, September 14, 1988 meeting at Tantallon C.C. will be Mr. Kenneth Wagner of Basedate Environmental Consultants. Mr. Wagner will educate us in the proper management of lakes and ponds, without the use of chemicals. With the present level of public awareness, this should be an interesting and informative session for us all. Mr. Wagner has extensive experience in presenting this type of program. He most recently spoke in our area at the North American Lake Management Society convention last winter. He has been highly recommended and I encourage all our members to attend. Don't forget to make a note of the WEDNESDAY meeting date and don't forget to RSVP your reservation. In fact, why not do it today? Again the number is (301) 381-0030. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

RELOCATIONS

Congratulations to both Jeff Granger and Jim Christy, both of whom have accepted new positions. Jeff is moving from Pinehurst #2, where he has just completed the conversion of the greens to bentgrass. Raleigh, N.C. is his destination where he will be the Superintendent of the McGregor Downs C.C. Jim Christy is moving back into the metropolitan area as the Superintendent of the Norbeck Country Club. Greg Rosenthal has moved to Herndon Centennial as assistant to John Tutich.

President's Message

I would like to say "well, we made it through another one!" But since this is being written in early August that would be a bit premature. And, I am a firm believer in Murphy's corollary that just when you think you're home safe something will crop up to bit you in the "!" So, I will continue to watch the weather channel and jump for joy when those night time temps drop to a sweltering 70 degrees.

I trust Ken Ingram has recuperated from slaving over the hot coals at the MAAGCS picnic. Nice job Ken, not just on the cooking but also on arranging all the food and drink. The clown was terrific — not just for the little ones but also for those older ones who were occupied trying to figure out how she managed the tricks. Our thanks also to Bill Neus, our host, for all his efforts. For a hot day we had a lot of cooperative effort and a good time.

Our best to Paul Barefoot who is recovering from heart surgery. We wish you a speedy recovery. Your famous sparerib recipe was missed but we hope to have it back next year.

Congrats to Tom Reagan and Merrill Frank for their efforts on successful LPGA events. All were impressed with the conditions at Bethesda and Baltimore C.C.

Remember to reserve your seat for the upcoming meeting!

George Renault, *President*



THE BEGINNINGS OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

by Steven A. Nash, CGCS

Insects, disease, fertilizers, shortages of employees, low wages, chemical effectiveness, greens construction — these are problems that we all discuss at the monthly Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents meetings. These are some of the very same problems that the greenskeepers of the Mid-Atlantic area had back in 1928.

Sharing ideas and solving mutual problems lead 14 greenskeepers to get together at the New Howard Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland for the purpose of forming the Mid-Atlantic Association of Greenskeepers. On December 28, 1928 the following men paid their annual dues of \$5.00: O.B. Fitts, Columbia C.C.; Robert Scott, Baltimore C.C.; J.H. Link, Columbia C.C.; Richard Watson, Indian Springs C.C.; C. Mausey, Woodholme C.C.; T. Fischer, Burning Tree Club; R. Ward, Maryland C.C.; W.E. Dunt, Sherwood Forest G.C.; R. Cultrider, Suburban C.C.; Richard Scott, Rolling Road C.C.; R.T. Granger, Belle Haven C.C.; R.D. Giddings, Gibson Island C.C.; C. Victor, East Potomac Park C.C.; K. Welton, U.S.G.A. Green Section.

The information needed to write this article came from the first volume of minutes for the Mid-Atlantic Association of Greenskeepers.

While reading through them I came across some interesting things that I thought I'd pass along. One of the early effective fertilizers was chicken manure. An early cure for Pythium was 1/3 bucket of hardwood ashes, 1/2 bucket of sulphate of ammonia mixed in 2 buckets of topsoil in order to be able to spread it evenly.

The first Greenskeepers/Pro tournament was held June 1938 at the Suburban Golf Club. It was held to benefit R. Cultrider, Superintendent at Suburban, who was injured in an automobile accident.

At the August 1938 meeting, the Superintendents adopted the policy of staying for dinner if you play golf.

Members at that time would play golf to see the golf course and then at the meeting that evening, everyone would offer their suggestions for improvements to the golf course.

The University of Maryland held its first Short Course for the Superintendents on January 25-26-27, 1939. At the February 1939 meeting, a policy was adopted that a guest speaker talk at each meeting.

The first joint Mid-Atlantic/Philadelphia meeting was at the Baltimore Country Club on June 11, 1934. The second was on October 8, 1934 at the Pine Valley Golf Club.

Since these early years, the ranks of the Mid-Atlantic have grown from 14 to over 300. There have been many highlights in those 60 years. Some of them being home to the first USGA green section; hosts to 4 GCSAA conferences - 1937, 1958, 1967, and 1985; 3 GCSAA Presidents - James E. Thomas, L.R. "Bob" Shields, and George Cleaver; the last association to have back to back National Golf Champions - Bob Martino 1973 and 1974 and Angie Cammarota, recipient of the GCSAA 50th Anniversary Outstanding Service Award.

These are just a few of the many accomplishments by members of the Mid-Atlantic. We have had a great 60 years and I am sure the MAAGCS will continue to be progressive leaders in the turf management industry.

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.

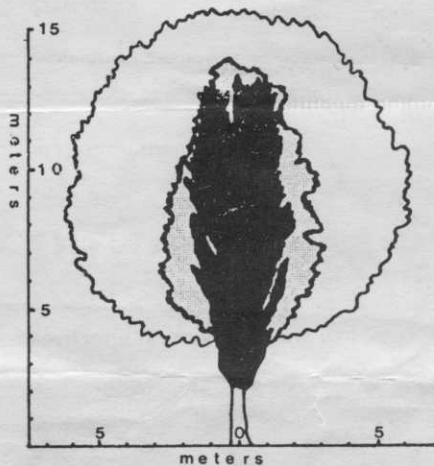


Fig. 1. Silhouette drawings taken from photographs of 'Capital' (center-black) 'Whitehouse' (intermediate-speckled) and 'Bradford' (outside-plain).

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.

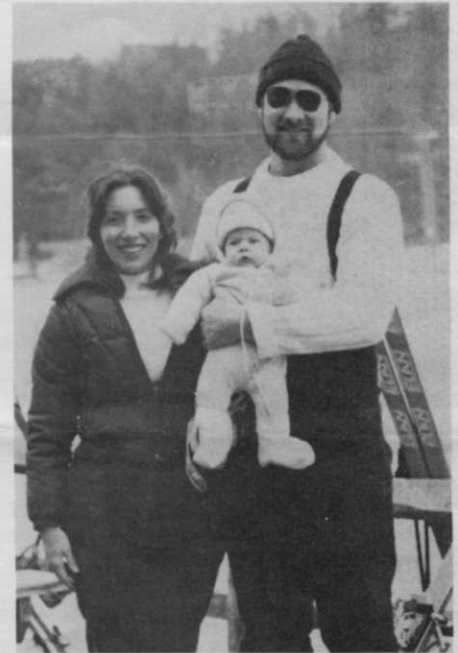
Although the Bradford Pear is the most widely known, these new varieties deserve some consideration.

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

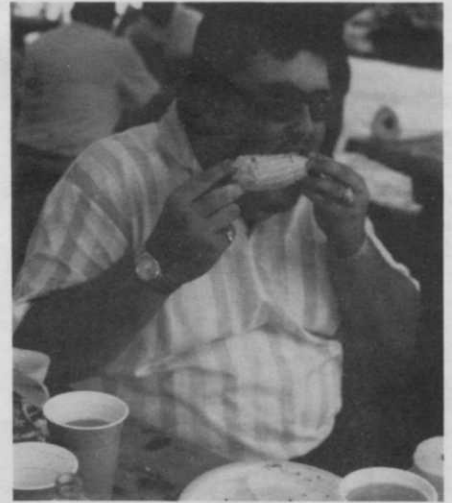
1988 PICNIC

About 60 members and their families enjoyed the annual picnic at Hobbits Glen on August 9th. As usual, Bill Neus was an excellent host. How would you like the August meeting every other year? Any Volunteers!

We hope that it was the heat that limited attendance this year. Less than half the anticipated crowd showed up. No one that was there had to eat any dinner that night. The Mid-Atlantic would like to thank Turf Equipment and Supply Company for the beer, John Strickland for the corn (not easy in a year like this) and lastly, Lou Rudinski and Bob Larsen for the tents. If you didn't make it this year, try a little harder next year. It's a great get-together.



The Supplier



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Lindsay Nash & Family



The Water was Great!



Al Waston, Honorary Member



Clowning Around

CHEF RECOVERING



Our President and the Chef

Get well wishes to Paul Barefoot who is home recovering from triple bypass surgery. Paul was operated on August 11. If you see Paul out for one of his walks during the coming weeks, honk your horn. Better yet, give him a call or drop him a card. We all want Paul to know how much he was missed at the picnic this year, the first he missed in over twenty years. We missed our chief cook and auctioneer. Get well quick Paul!

Welcome New Members

The Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents would like to welcome four new members:

Archie Hall, Class D
Superintendent at Cedar Point G.C.

Mike Minard, Class F
Sales Representative for TESCO

Robert Karnei, Class D
Assistant Superintendent at
International Town & C.C.

Richard Schneider, Class F
Technical Representative for O.M. Scotts

Please welcome our new members at our next monthly meeting.



Pot Luck



The Crabs Were So Good!

GOLF

by Tom Regan, CGCS

The final round of the point tournament will be played this month. The date of the meeting/tournament is Wednesday, September 14th and will be held at Tantallon C.C. The leader after four meetings is Russ Bateman with 27½ points followed by Ken Ingram with 23½. The rest of the top ten are Nick Vance 22½, John Newcomb 19, Jeff Yingling 18, Steve Cohoon 17, George Renault 15½, Bob Orazi 14½, Grant Pensinger 14, and last and certainly not least is Tom Regan with 14 also.

We will be playing a blind bogey this month. I'd like to correct last month's newsletter item concerning low gross at Kenwood C.C. Joel Ratcliff of Indian Springs was the low gross winner for Superintendents with a dazzling 76. Sorry Joel!

The October meeting will be the Memorial Tournament. It will be held at Rehoboth Beach. We will be competing for the Ruben Hines (low net) and Bill Glover (low gross) Trophies, as well as some excellent prizes. See you there.

Congratulations

To Steve and Carla Nash. These baby boomers have started another boomlet with their third, Lindsay Ann who was born July 10. Lindsay is big like her dad, weighing in at 10 lb. 4 oz. Those of us that were at the picnic had a chance to see the family and little Lindsay.

LADIES NIGHT Oct. 21 - Columbia

Our 60th Anniversary Ladies Night is coming up on October 21st at Columbia Country Club. We are planning a first class affair with dinner and dancing. All our wives should be speaking to us again by then so make plans to attend. Invitations will be mailed in September.

REMEMBER VINCE TRIPLETT

At the last board meeting your directors voted to help the family, and a check has been sent. We would like to follow up with another gift from his friends in December. Checks may be sent to the association office. Make them out to MAAGCS, it may help the family have just a little better Christmas. THANKS!

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NEWSLETTER**

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First Class Mail

