



didn't have to contend with bad weather except for a fog delay one morning.

This year's tournament courses were The Copperhead, Island and Hawk's Run courses at the Westin Innisbrook Resort in Tarpon Springs and the Pine Barrens and Rolling Oaks courses at World Wood Golf Club in Brooksville along with Southern Woods Golf Club in Homosassa Springs. With the GCSAA Conference and Show coming to Orlando every three years now, the golf committee is trying to offer the players a variety of venues.

Scores for Florida's #1 team: Buck Buckner (151); Jim Torba and Chris Cartin (152); Joe Pantaleo (153) and Joe Ondo (156). All these

players were in the top 20 scores. The low gross team was the #1 Team from the Midwest Association of GCSA from Illinois. Chandler Masters, playing out of Henderson, Nev., won the individual low gross title with a 145 and a three-shot margin over defending champion Al Pondel.

The GCSAA Championship, in partnership with the Toro Company, gets better each year. Tee prizes, breakfast each day, 19th hole receptions daily, the victory banquet and great golf courses are included in your entry fee. If you have never played in this event, try it once to see if you don't agree with me that it is worth the money. Plan now to play in Mobile, Ala. next year when

the GCSAA Conference and Show is in New Orleans.

*JOE ONDO, CGCSA
FGCSA Golf Chairman*

PRESIDENTS AWARD, PBGCSA

Stanley Carr Retires After 30 years at Gulfstream

Thirty years ago Stanley Carr, a graduate of Glasgow Technical School, was appointed superintendent of the Gulfstream Golf Club. Nothing so unusual about that except Carr was an electrical engineer by trade and was in charge of the clubhouse.

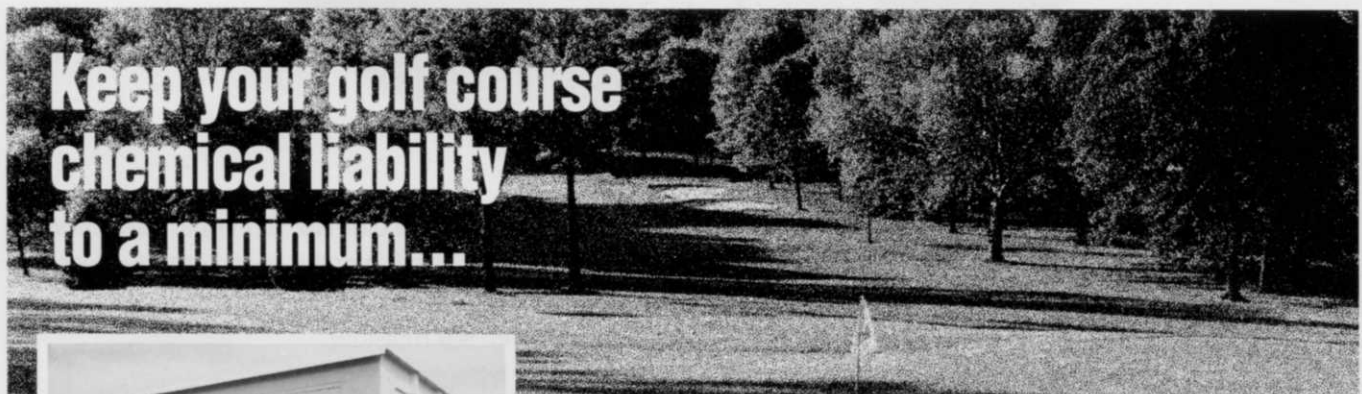
But Carr was also a thorough and creative professional in the conduct of his business and that caught the eye of the

1998 FGCSA Presidents Awards

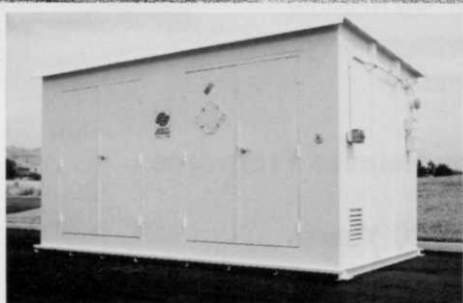
- Jim Callaghan
- Stanley Carr
- Dwight Wilson

members.

Carr came to Gulfstream from the Bethesda Hospital in Boynton Beach where he was employed in the engineering department. He took the hospital job after he immigrated to the United States in 1963 from his native Scotland. His early years after school were spent as an apprentice electrical engineer aboard luxury ocean liners like the Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth, the Franconia, the



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France and the S.S. United States. In 1969, he heard about the opening for a maintenance engineer at Gulfstream, and was hired to take care of the building and the adjacent grounds.

After a few years of that assignment and improving the landscape around the club, which had been sadly neglected, the club president asked Carr if he would take over management of the golf course as well. Like a true Scotsman, Carr negotiated the \$2.85 per hour offer up to \$3.00 per hour and accepted the position. Thus began the Stanley Carr years at Gulfstream.

Carr began learning turf management through the school of hard knocks, but he had lots of help, which he

gratefully acknowledged.

"The club hired Hans Schmeisser as a consultant who would come by daily in the beginning to show me the basics," he said. "Then there was Dr. Max Brown and through him I met Tom Mascaro and it seemed like every couple of weeks we would all sit down and have an informal meeting and talk about turf and the golf course and how things were going.

"And there were others who helped teach me the ways of bermudagrass and golf course operations like Jimmy Blackledge, Karl Smith and even Laurie Auchterlonie of St. Andrews. I also took Max Brown's turf management class at Broward Community College like so many other

superintendents of that era.

"Even Joe Lee, the golf course architect became a friend and advisor. He was always a friend to the superintendents. I am deeply indebted to them for their help."

With such rare longevity at one club, I asked Carr what were some of the secrets to his success.

"I would tell each new green chairman two things. One, I can't give you a problem-free golf course all the time. It's just impossible. Two, I want to feel safe in disagreeing with you if I believe it's in the best interest of the golf course. If we agree on everything, then they don't need one of us.

"Create a 'we' atmosphere at your club. Make

sure you keep your chairmen advised of what you're doing and be sure and ask their opinions on issues.

"Take care of business. If you are scheduled to go to a meeting or conference and conditions at the course are shaky, stay home and tend to business. It's not a good image for the captain to be gone if the ship has sprung a leak. Or as Hans Schmeisser used to say, 'If the cows need milking, you can't go.' I once flew back from a SE Turf Conference in Alabama when I got word that we had been flooded by a storm and the pumps weren't working. The club president and green chairman found me working on the problem when they assumed I was out of town.

"Maintain a high profile



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After 30 years at the Gulfstream G. C. and receiving his 1998 Presidents Award from the Palm Beach Chapter, Stanley retired to the DeLand, FL area to grow orchids and play the bag pipes. Photo by Joel Jackson.

or high visibility, especially at a private club. Members want to feel that 'their' superintendent is on the job. I made time each day during our season to ride through the course and let the members see me walking greens and making notes, whether those notes were critical or not. I talked to groups and answered any questions they might have. I have seen top-notch superintendents who put in lots of hours at their clubs get fired because they just weren't visible or didn't communicate effectively."

- "Cultivate working relationships with outside experts. USGA, IFAS, county agents, etc. Invite them for a tour of your course during the good times and have

lunch with them and introduce them to your green chairman or board members. Then when you ask them back to consult on a problem, they are not just strangers brought in to defend the superintendent.

- "When disciplining an employee, appeal to their feelings, not their intellect. People need to be motivated not managed. Acknowledge the good things they do but let them know how disappointed you are with their poor performance.

- "Remember, a superintendent's job is 70 percent working with people: employees, management, members, and committees. The other 30 percent is growing grass, so develop

sufficient communications skills.

- "When you go to meetings and conferences be sure and bring back information to share with your green committee. Make a report and talk about the new regulations and equipment and how it will affect your course or your responsibilities. It will help them understand the value of your continuing education."

I asked Carr what he thought the major advancements in turf management were in his career. He didn't have to think long to come up with two rather quickly:

- "Automated irrigation systems has to rank right up there as one of the top improvements in turf

management. I can remember trying to find our night water man out on the course running only one or two heads at a time. The system was so poorly designed. Being able to apply water when and where you needed it was a major breakthrough."

"The other area I think has to be the superintendent's image. We have become executives. The superintendents has the most responsibility of any member of the team at a club because he is in charge of the most significant asset. We have to keep more records and attend more meetings and be managers instead of doers as in the old days.

"Therefore it is important that we dress the part. That means coat and tie for committee meetings and it means rain suits and rubber boots during a storm. I am troubled when I see young people in the business coming to meetings in tee shirts and sneakers with shirt tails hanging out."

By taking care of business and conducting himself as a professional, Carr was able to retire comfortably to DeLand, where he and his wife purchased five acres. They plan to take two months to tour the U.S. and Canada this spring, traveling over an estimated 12,000 miles. This summer Carr will attend a Scottish bagpiping school in North Carolina and then they will spend a month in Europe visiting old friends.

Carr has a fine orchid collection and he meets with a Scottish pipe band once a week at Stetson University. He hopes to do a little side work playing his bagpipes at



county club and golf association events.

Carr did play at a GCSAA Conference the year that Mel Lucas was president and he met President Gerald Ford. Ford shook his hand and said, "We beat the hell out of you during the War of Independence, but you got even. You gave us golf!"

And Scotland also gave us Stanley Carr, a gentleman and a true professional in our business.

JOEL D. JACKSON, CGCS

PRESIDENTS AWARD EGCSA

Wilson Took Early FGCSA from Shoe Boxes to Computers

When Dwight Wilson was president of a loose threesome of local chapters in the 1970s he carried the association's business in a shoe box. By the end of his tenure he had doubled the association because he had to use two shoe boxes to hold everything.

This past September, Wilson was presented the Presidents Award for his pioneering service to the profession at the Everglades Chapter meeting in Naples. President Mike Mongoven, CGCS made the presentation.

Wilson spent a lot of time traveling among the three chapters: South Florida, Everglades and West Coast. Long before fax machines and computers, he pioneered the association in Florida.

Dwight grew up in Palm Beach County where he spent a lot of time in and around the Jupiter inlet. He attended the University of Florida, where he studied agriculture



Dwight Wilson, left, received his 1998 FGCSA President's award from Mike Mongoven, CGCS at an Everglades chapter meeting last fall. Photo by Bill Kilpatrick.

and entomology until the Korean War robbed him of his last year of college. While in the service, he met his wife Christa when he was stationed in Germany.

After the war he returned to Florida but was unable to complete his degree. He went to work with his father who had a garden supply and spray business. Eventually they expanded the business to grassing bermudagrass lawns. This started to go well and someone suggested that the Ormond bermudagrass that they were planting would work well on golf courses. They started planting golf courses with bermuda.

If you work on a course

built in the late 50s to mid-60s you may be on a course planted by Dwight. Jupiter Island and Rio Mar in Vero Beach are two beachside examples of his work. In 1966, Dwight did some work at the South Seas Plantation on Captiva Island. The developer liked his work so much that he convinced Dwight to stick around to manage the course. Dwight planted the golf course on a sandbar then stayed around to manage that sandbar for 17 years. He lived on the course and raised his two children on Captiva. What a spot for kids to grow up!

While at South Seas Plantation, he hooked up

with Bob Sanderson to start the Everglades Chapter. He held all of the offices and eventually presided over the state association.

In 1983 Dwight helped to build and grow in Hideaway G.C. in Fort Myers. Dwight eventually retired from the Hideaway after years of battling Tifway II on his greens. Dwight relaxed by sailing his boat in the Gulf and continues to do so in retirement. He has a couple of grandchildren who visit. He is really enjoying his retirement and when he is not sailing he is playing his guitar, gardening or traveling. The Wilsons like to return to Europe and Germany to see his wife's family.

Dwight saw our industry and association grow from infancy to this huge business that it has become. He has seen grass change from common to Ormond to Tifway. He has seen the FGCSA grow from a shoe box to what we have today.

SCOTT BELL

NIKE TOUR FLORIDA CLASSIC

Hosting Tour Event is a Winner for Gainesville C. C.

Hosting the Nike Tour's Florida Classic this past February turned out to be a win-win situation for all parties involved. The Nike Tour got a superbly conditioned golf course to play and Gainesville C. C. got some long overdue improvements.

Superintendent Buddy Keene learned last October that his course would be hosting the event this