SPOTLIGHT: DAVIS HONORED WITH ISA

Darren Davis’ success isn’t a fluke of destiny, but rather a product and fulfillment of his philosophy and work ethic. He has walked his talk and for that he was awarded the FGCSA Distinguished Service Award Joel Jackson

COVER STORY: DISCOVERING THE FORGOTTEN COAST

In a part of Florida where time moves just a little slower and rapid development even slower, St. James Bay has preserved small pieces of man’s history on the land.

Joel Jackson

HANNS ON WHAT’S UP WITH WEEED CONTROL

After Illoxan came out in the late 1990s to provide a new weapon for goosegrass control and Basagran and Manage were rolled out to battle the sedges, it seems as if there has been a long gap in new weed-control products. Joel Jackson

INDUSTRY NEWS: LET THE HURRICANE RECORD STAND!

The 2004 Atlantic hurricane season will certainly go down in the record books, and everyone hopes the record is never broken! Joel Jackson

STEWARDSHIP: COURSES IDEAL FOR PURPLE MARTINS

The key to attracting purple martins to golf courses is location, location, location of the nesting apartment houses. Joel Jackson

RESEARCH: MINI-RING DISEASE

Over the past several years, superintendents from Memphis to West Palm Beach have observed small, ring-like symptoms on their Bermuda grass putting greens. Brian Urnul

PAST PRESIDENT GREG PHENEGER

TREASURER MATT TAYLOR

SECRETARY/TREASURER: MATT TAYLOR

PAST PRESIDENT: CRAIG WEYANDT

ASSOCIATION MANAGER: MARIE ROBERTS

PRESIDENT: JOE PANTALEO

CALUSA: GREG KRIESCH

SOUTH FLORIDA: JIM WALKER

COASTAL PLAINS: JEFF HEGGEN

Vice President: CRAIG WEYANDT

Sun Coast: MIKE MCCULLOCH

Directors

Calusa: Greg Kriesch (239) 527-7776
Central Florida: Michael Sollitto DelRay GC/EC (765) 652-1926
Coastal Plains: Jeff Heggen Ellenton GC (941) 318-3365
Everglades: Matt Taylor Royal Palm Beach CC (239) 261-4987
North Florida: Andy Maguire Tamarac CC (904) 471-5312
Palm Beach: Peter Perrell Boca Greens CC (561) 848-8410
Broward: Jeff Brown Lake Region Y&CC (561) 852-8830
Seven Rivers: Mark Kamm Miami Oleta GC/EC (727) 816-1936
South Florida: Jim Walker Biltmore CC (786) 805-5425
Sun Coast: Mike McCullum Vero Beach GC (772) 587-9593
Treasure Coast: Ralph Dunn MC Turf South CC (772) 469-1400
West Coast: Bill Koster Tampa Palms GC (813) 972-9370

ADVERTISER INDEX

ADVERTISER INDEX

Carver. Michael Carver is superintendent, Monarch CC; 772-283-2465; fax 772-223-0665; michael.carver@ourclub.com
Curran. John Curran is superintendent, John’s Island Club; 772-231-1700; jcurran@twc.com
Davis. Darren Davis is director of golf operations, Old Florida GC; 941-353-4441; fax 941-353-4441; darrenjudddavis@aol.com
Foy. John Foy is director, Florida Region, USGA Green Section; 561-546-2620; fax 561-546-4653; jfojy@usga.org
Foy, Shelly Foy is ACSAP coordinator, Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association; 239-487-1971; fax 561-546-4653; shelly@usga.org
Hicks, Hal Hicks is superintendent, Seminole GC; 561-626-2728; fax 561-755-0298; seminole@asgca.org
Jackson. Joel Jackson, CGCS is director of communications, Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association; 407-248-1971; fax 561-546-4653; jfojy@usga.org
Lowe, Todd Lowe is agronomist, Florida Region, USGA Green Section; 941-828-2625; fax 941-828-2625; clowe@usga.org
McBath. George McBath is a retired biologist and naturalist, 772-312-2480
McCalister. Ken McCalister is IPM manager, Royal Poinciana Club; 239-261-4987; KenMcI@rpgolfclub.com
Pantaleo. John Pantaleo is superintendent, Indian Creek CC; 305-866-7224; fax 305-866-2673; jpananteo@earthlink.net
Sweet. Kyle Sweet, CGCS is superintendent, The Sanctuary Club; 239-472-6612; fax 239-472-1488; kwsweet@owr.com
Urush. Bryan Urnul, Ph.D. is extension turfgrass specialist and chair, UF/IFAS Turfgrass Working Group, UF/IFAS West Florida REC - Milton; 850-983-5216 x114; fax 850-983-5774; buffet@ufl.edu
Walker. Jim Walker is superintendent, Greyrocks Pond Golf Course; 305-945-3423; fax 305-945-3423
Weyandt. Craig Weyandt is superintendent, The Moorings Club; 561-231-4996; craigten@juno.com
Williams. Brian Williams, CGCS, MG is superintendent, Los Angeles CC; 310-276-6104; fax 310-271-3958; williams@thelgc.com
Zelezak. Daniel Zelezak is a photographer based in Burlington, Conn., 880-673-9810
SPOTLIGHT: DAVIS HONORED WITH ISA

Darren Davis’ success isn’t a fluke of destiny, but rather a product and fulfillment of his philosophy and work ethic. He has walked his talk and for that he was awarded the FGCSA Distinguished Service Award Joel Jackson

COVER STORY: DISCOVERING THE FORGOTTEN COAST

In a part of Florida where time moves just a little slower and rapid development even slower, St. James Bay has preserved small pieces of man’s history on the land.

Joel Jackson

HANDS ON: WHAT’S UP WITH WEED CONTROL

After Illoxan came out in the late 1990s to provide a new weapon for goosegrass control and Basagran and Manage were rolled out to battle the sedges, it seems as if there has been a long gap in new weed-control products.

Joel Jackson

INDUSTRY NEWS: LET THE HURRICANE RECORD STAND!

The 2004 Atlantic hurricane season will certainly go down in the record books, and everyone hopes the record is never broken! John Foy & Todd Lowe

STEWARDSHIP: COURSES IDEAL FOR PURPLE MARTINS

The key to attracting purple martins to golf courses is location, location, location of the nesting apartment houses. George McBeth

RESEARCH: MINI-RING DISEASE

Over the past several years, superintendents from Memphis to West Palm Beach have observed small, ring-like symptoms on their herbicidal potted greens.

Brian Urrah

WINTER 2005

Published four times a year
On the last day of January, April, July and October

Editor Joel Jackson, CGCS
FGCSA Director of Communications
Address Florida Green business to:
100 Harbour Drive
North Palm Beach, FL 33408
(407) 249-1372 Florida Green voicemail
E-mail address: FLGrn@aol.com

Publication Chairman Craig Weyandt
The Electrocution
100 Harbour Drive
North Palm Beach, FL 33408
(772) 241-4996

Business Manager Darrell J. Davis
Old Folks GC
19750 Vantage Boulevard Rd.
Naples, FL 34120
(239) 395-4441

Editor Emeritus Dan Jones, CGCS
Onsite

COPYRIGHT NOTICE: Copyright 2005, Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association. All rights reserved. May be reprinted in whole or in part without written permission of the FGCSA. EXCEPTORIAL: Official publication of all golf course superintendents associations affiliated with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America are welcome to use any material contained herein provided they give credit and copyright notice.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: $20 for four issues. Contact the FGCSA office at 407-249-1372.

ADVERTISING: For rates and information, contact the FGCSA office at 407-249-1372.

EDITORIAL: All inquiries should be directed to the editor, Joel Jackson. E-mail address: FGCSAeditor@msn.com. Unsolicited manuscripts and photographs cannot be returned.

CALL FOR ARTICLES

Hands on Turf: Share your best practices and tips for those specializing in this unique area of turfgrass management. groomed images that are 30 or 40 percent accepted.

Spring 2005 - Successful In-Build Projects

Summer 2005 - Oustubest Green Maintenance

Fall 2005 - Better Design and Maintenance

Please submit articles via e-mail preferably. Attached articles should be saved in Microsoft Word or in a similar word processing program. A 300 dpi file attachment is strongly encouraged. A 9 inch by 12 inch layout is preferred and please note that all photos are to be submitted online. Try to limit your text to 1500 words or less. The Florida Greenprinters prefer a 10 point font size and 12 point type body.

Digital photos must be a minimum of 5 inches wide at 300 dpi for publication-quality reproduction.

Contact Joel. D. Jackson, editor for more information. Mail 1780 Trantec Circle, Orlando, FL 32819. Phone or fax 407-249-1372. e-mail: FLGrn@aol.com

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Carver, Michael Carver is superintendent, Monarch CC; 772-283-2465; fax 772-233-0665; michael.carver@ourclub.com
Curran, John Curran is superintendent, John’s Island Club; 772-231-1700; fratz lc25@comcast.com
Davis, Darren Davis is director of golf operations, Old Folks GC; 941-353-4441; fax 941-353-9947; darenndavisdavis@aol.com
Foy, John Foy is director, Florida Region, USGA Green Section; 561-546-2620; fax 561-546-4653; jfoy@usga.org
Sherry, Sherry is ACSF coordinator, Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association; 407-248-1971; fax 407-248-1971; flgrn@aol.com
Low, Todd Lowe is agronomist, Florida Region, USGA Green Section; 941-828-2625; fax 941-828-2629; dlows@usga.org
McBath, George McBath is a retired biologist and naturalist, 772-254-7880; 321-291-9878
McCalister, Ken McCalister is IPM manager, Royal Poinciana Club; 239-261-4987; KenMcIPM@profnet.com
Pantaleo, Joe Pantaleo is superintendent, Indian Creek CC; 305-866-7224; fax 305-866-7224; jpantaleo@earthlink.net
Sweet, Kyle Sweet, CGCS is superintendent, The Sanctuary Golf Club; 239-472-6182; fax 239-472-1488; kowsweet@owva.net
Urshs, Bryan Urshs, Ph.D. is extension turfgrass specialist and chair, UF/IFAS Turfgrass Working Group, UF/IFAS West Florida REC - Milton; 850-983-5216 x114; fax 850-983-5774; jfo@uf.edu
Walker, Jim Walker is superintendent, Greenshields Park Golf Course; 305-943-3425; jogaal@aol.com
Effectiveness and economy. Two solid reasons TERRANE SP fungicide belongs in your disease control program.

TERRANE’s proven systemic action gives you first-rate protection against Pythium and Brown Patch -- two tough diseases that can do major damage in the Spring and Fall and when you’re overseeding your greens.

What’s more, on a per 1000 square foot basis, TERRANE is more cost efficient than other fungicides. Just put a pencil to it.

And remember, TERRANE gives you the same effectiveness and economy on a wide variety of ornamentals, too.

So call your chemical supplier or call Kincaid today.
Looking Forward to 2005

At our recent fall board meeting I asked by a show of hands how many of our 12 chapter executives did not experience hurricane damage at their home courses. Not surprisingly, only one person raised his hand. This further substantiated how widespread this bout with Mother Nature's destructive forces has taken place. In the near future I am sure we will all look at the storm season in a different light.

The end of the hurricane season coincides with the return of our members to our clubs. Hopefully, they have seen a snapshot of the events that transpired last fall and are being patient with our efforts to get back to some sort of normalcy. I hope everyone is beginning to put all of this behind them and enjoy this holiday season, which has quickly sneaked up on us. Spending time with family and friends is a sure way to help heal wounds and begin to look toward a strong beginning for year 2005.

The next time we will all be together is in Orlando at the 2005 Golf Industry Show in early February. This should be an exciting event with so much available to us in one short week; whether it be the wonderful educational opportunities, the world-class trade show or the networking with other turf professionals and our peers. We hope you take advantage of this unparalleled opportunity right in our own backyard. I personally look forward to seeing all of you at our FGCSA Reception at the Rosen Centre Hotel on Thursday, Feb. 10. Located just next door to the Convention Center, this event should be very convenient for all to attend. With the show being so large, it is nice to know that we can all be together for a short time in one room. It is always one of the highlights of the week for me, and I hope to see many of you there!

With the beginning of a new year comes the excitement of the pursuit of new goals and challenges. One of our biggest goals is to increase funds to be used for turf research. As many of you know, most of the turf research funding is generated from within our own profession. Many chapters have their own fundraisers, set aside funds from their chapter’s operating budgets or receive donations from turf supplier companies for much-needed research projects. While these are greatly appreciated and I hope they continue, we have been trying to look "outside the box" to take turf-research funding to an uncharted level. The time is now.

While these are greatly appreciated and I hope they continue, we have been trying to look "outside the box" to take turf-research funding to an uncharted level. The time is now. We all know that water use is currently a hot topic for the future. The elimination of chemicals, such as Nemacur and methyl bromide with no proven alternative products available, and the tightening of governmental regulations have caused us to think responsibly about future advancements in turfgrass research and breeding.

One of our fellow superintendents, Tim Hiers, brought a novel idea to the table. We have worked our tails off trying to raise funds and have overburdened ourselves and our turf suppliers for monies in the past. Why not tax ourselves? Other industries have done it very successfully and we feel we can, too. Our initial thinking is to charge ourselves $1.50 for each ton of fertilizer purchased throughout the state. In this way, we apportion only a small amount but, spread out over a large area, this can add up quickly. Coupled with the proposed matching-grant program, this could take turf research funding to much deserved and needed levels.

While there are many details yet to be worked out, this wonderful concept is just what we need to kick start the research goals we desire. Should this program take off as we expect there are many other spin-off ideas that can follow closely behind to further turf research in Florida.

Coincidentally, the University of Florida is nearing completion of a new turf research station at Pine Acres, just south of Gainesville. More than 25 acres of this site have been dedicated to turf. This site can be a huge help in pursuit of our research goals provided we can supply adequate funds for new turf breeder, Dr. Kevin Kenworthy, as well as other much-needed research projects that will help us in the future.

We have two exciting opportunities to greatly enhance our current turf research funding. With the assistance of our lobbyist, Mike Goldie, and his legislative relationships in Tallahassee and throughout the state, we are ready to unveil a Matching Fund Challenge Grant Program. When approved, the state government will match each dollar generated for turf research. We are thrilled about this program and have solidified our desire to remain in close contact with our local and state political leaders on all golf and turf-related issues. Thanks to Mike Goldie for all he has done for us, and we look forward to the approval of this program soon.

Another wonderful concept to strengthen our turf research funding was unanimously approved recently by your board of directors. One of our fellow superintendents, Tim Hiers, brought a novel idea to the table. We have worked our tails off trying to raise funds and have overburdened ourselves and our turf suppliers for monies in the past. Why not tax ourselves? Other industries have done it very successfully and we feel we can, too. Our initial thinking is to charge ourselves $1.50 for each ton of fertilizer purchased throughout the state. In this way, we apportion only a small amount but, spread out over a large area, this can add up quickly. Coupled with the proposed matching-grant program, this could take turf research funding to much deserved and needed levels.

While there are many details yet to be worked out, this wonderful concept is just what we need to kick start the research goals we desire. Should this program take off as we expect there are many other spin-off ideas that can follow closely behind to further turf research in Florida.

While turf research is an important goal of ours for this year and beyond, there are many other exciting challenges we will pursue. Enhancing and organizing our educational opportunities throughout the year, working closely with all related organizations, and strategically planning for the future are only some of the additional pursuits we have targeted for our continued strength and growth. I look forward to a productive 2005 and hope you all do, too.
AN EARLY MORNING RIDE DOWN YOUR FAVORITE FAIRWAY MAKES YOU APPRECIATE YOUR HARD WORK AND LONG HOURS.

Someone like LESCO.

SERVICE. LESCO is there with the most complete line of products available anywhere.

Everything from seed, fertilizer, control products and application equipment to flags, cups and markers. Plus so many additional services. Like custom blending, soil testing, grassing specifications and agronomic program development... just to mention a few.

CONVENIENCE. LESCO is there with 69 LESCO Stores-on-Wheels®, 235 LESCO Service Centers® and a variety of direct delivery options. No one makes it easier and more convenient to obtain the products you need...when you need them.

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE. LESCO is there with turf professionals who appreciate the challenges you face and are fully prepared to answer your questions. Turf management and product use recommendations are all part of the job...part of the convenience and service.

VALUE. Put it all together and what you get is an overall commitment from a company dedicated to meeting your needs. That's called value. And value is what that ride down the fairway is all about. Call 800-321-5325. LESCO is there.
Fulfilling Own Philosophy EarnsDSA for Davis

Darren Davis’ success isn’t a fluke of destiny, but rather a product and fulfillment of his philosophy and work ethic. As the incoming president of the FGCSA in 1999, he said in an interview for the Olde Florida cover story, “Effective superintendents today don’t just happen. They are the sum total of not only formal and on-the-job turf education, but also the intangibles of curiosity, a love for the outdoors and the traditions of the game of golf. Successful superintendents don’t sit idly waiting for things to come to them. They get out and seek knowledge and new ideas. They interact and participate. Relationships with other people in the industry are key factors in making a good superintendent.”

In a section on advice to young superintendents he said, “Obtain a formal education. Do not get wrapped up in titles. Set goals and plan your future. Do whatever it takes to obtain your goals regardless of the personal sacrifice. Once you become a superintendent, don’t forget those who helped you get there. Don’t walk around with blinders on. Travel, even if just locally, and meet and get to know your peers. Don’t be afraid to share your knowledge and experiences. Expand your horizons whenever possible. Make yourself a well-rounded golf course superintendent.”

All that makes for great quotes and sound bites, but it wouldn’t be worth the paper it’s printed on unless the author of those words actually lived by them and walked the talk. In Davis’ case that’s exactly what he’s done. And because he has, the Everglades GC CSA nominated him for the FGCSA’s Distinguished Service Award for 2004. And it precisely because he delivered on his own advice that he was selected by the board of directors to receive that honor.

Anyone who has ever read a Florida Green magazine should know by now that Davis has a permanent feature called “Super Tips” in which he shares the tips and ideas he has gleaned from his globe-trotting travels. But most of them come from his neighboring golf courses in the Naples area or his own shop, hence his advice to at least get out and visit with your local neighbors in the golf community. He has been a regular contributor to the “Superintendents’ Videomagazine,” a VHS/CD-format educational and informational instrument.

His willingness to share his experiences via GC SaA’s Golf Management magazine has earned him an unprecedented two Leo Feser Awards (1997 and 2001) for his articles. In 1996 he earned a GC SaA National Steward Award. Counting his volunteer activities serving on boards and committees for the EG CSA, FGCSA and GC SA, Davis has devoted much of his free time and energy in the promotion of our profession and in the workings and progress of our associations. A couple of his peers had this to say about Davis and his qualifications for the Distinguished Service Award:

“Darren is energetic, enthusiastic, available, willing to step out of the box, not satisfied with the status quo and always pursuing excellence. Above all this he is willing to share his experience and expertise with anyone that will ask. I have watched Darren grow as a person and a golf course superintendent and he is an asset and credit to our industry and profession.”

– Tim Hiers
The Old Colliers Club

“As a golf course superintendent, Darren has continuously been involved with the FGCSA and EGCSA from the very start of his introduction to southwest Florida. His commitment to these associations has helped bring increased research and increased interest from such high profile industry representatives such as Steve Mona had been of great benefit to EGCSA. Undoubtedly Darren played a huge role in this.

At the same time Darren has continued to elevate the role of the golf course superintendent as an integral and very important aspect to any club. He strives for excellence both on the job and his association involvement and he delivers the results.”

– Kyle Sweet
Immediate Past President, EGCSA.

Davis is a goal-oriented person. In 1999, he said he had accomplished many of his early career goals and that he would be reassessing his personal progress and making a new list of goals and then create a plan to achieve them. A man of his word,
Davis is not resting on his laurels or waiting for things to come to him. Not satisfied with his two-year technical certificate in turfgrass management from Penn State, Davis is currently enrolled at Florida Gulf Coast University and is majoring in communications.

For all his volunteer work that has accolades from his peers, his number one job and top priority has always been his role as director of golf course operations at the Olde Florida Golf Club in Naples, where he has applied his professional work ethic for more than 12 years through construction, grow-in, years of improvements and a complete regrassing renovation. He applies the tips and ideas he shares with us to create time and labor savings on his own course. We just happen to be lucky to go along for the ride via his articles.

Outspoken but thoughtful in his comments Davis continues to serve on FGCSA committees and helps to keep the association making progress in its organization, operation and services to its members. For his unselfish service and dedication to his profession and his willingness to share his knowledge with others, we say “Well done,” and congratulate him on his well-deserved Distinguished Service Award.

Joel Jackson

2004 LCCC Endowment Tournament Nets $18,000

This year’s 13th annual event held at WCI’s Hammock Bay G&CC promises to net close to $18,000 for the alma mater of many of the Florida golf course industry’s superintendents and suppliers. This year’s participants were treated to a round of golf on a wall-to-wall, 100-percent seashore paspalum golf course, which earned positive reviews from the players.

There were some great raffle prizes including three-day, two-night stays at nearly a dozen resorts from the Florida Keys to Colorado by Cary Lewis, left, and Bill Schmidt shot a 62 to capture the low gross honors at the 13th Annual LCCC Endowment Tournament. Photo by Robert Toski.

Steve Pope and Mitch Miller used their handicaps to win the low net honors at the LCCC Endowment tournament at Hammock Bay G&CC. Photo by Robert Toski.

Flanking the ice sculpture of the LCCC Endowment Tournament logo, which was the center of attention at the event, from left: LCCC alumni Glenn Zakany, David Fry, John Johnston and Scott Hamm, who have been instrumental in organizing the annual LCCC Endowment tournament. Photo by Robert Toski.
way of West Virginia, and scores of complimentary golf rounds from top Florida golf courses. The top golf winners were Cary Lewis and Bill Schmidt taking the low Gross Honors and Low Net Honors going to Steve Pope and Mitch Miller.

Most who have played this tournament in the past 12 years know that this fundraiser puts money back into the Lake City Golf Operations that were eliminated by previous state budget cutbacks. Thanks to your support and our generous sponsors, we have donated more than $125,000 as of this event.

Special thanks to our hard-working tournament committee: David Fry, Glenn Zakany, Scott Hamm, John Johnson, Odell Spainhour, Roy Bates, Mike Smith, Celeste Langer and course superintendent Rodney Whisman. Thanks to our friends from Hammock Bay Golf & Country Club: Bob Radunz, Cory Schaub, Robert Gowett, Robin Strob for helping to make our outing a special day for all LCCC alumni.

Chapter Round Up

Hurricane Recovery, Fundraisers Mark Fall Schedule

Calusa

After a couple of hurricane postponements, we held our September Superintendent/GM-Club Official outing hosted by Laurie Fritsche at the Lexington CC. Al Kinkel, chief operating officer of Lexington gave a great presentation on “What It Takes to Be a Success In Golf Course Management, From Manager to Leader.” In October we had 62 players show up for our annual Su-Pro-Liers outing at Heritage Palms, and despite the hurricanes the course looked great thanks to Greg Kriese and staff. Our annual Christmas party in December at the Kelly Greens GC netted a $1,100 donation to the Abused Counseling Treatment Center of Lee County. If you are looking for news and meeting information about the Calusa chapter be sure and check out our new website at www.cahusagcsa.com.

Central Florida

Superintendents and equipment managers held a joint meeting/golf event at the Metrowest GC on Dec. 6 to raise money for the chapter’s benevolent fund. Former Ridge superintendent Ray Cuzzone provided the barbecue lunch. Thanks to host Jim Kernoan and his staff the course was in great shape.

Coastal Plains

At our September meeting we had Joe Gallagher from A.G. Edwards speak about retirement planning for golf course superintendents. In November, Joel Jackson FGCSA director of communications gave an update on statewide issues. Joel was also up to do the Florida Green Winter 2005 cover story interview with our host Shane Bass at the St. James Bay G.C.

Everglades

Our busy fall schedule included our Pro/Super tournament in October at the Hideout Golf Club. Thanks to our hosts, superintendent Alberto Quevedo and golf professional Gene Fieger for putting on a great event. In November we held a golf outing at Tim Hier’s The Old Colliers Club and had a chance to check out the seashore paspalum turf.

The Everglades Golf Course Superintendents Association hosted its annual Christmas Tournament and Gift Drive on Wednesday, Dec. 15 at the Quail West Golf and Country Club, Bonita Springs. J. Mark Black, CGCS, EGCSA president and director of maintenance operations at Quail West, hosted the outstanding event for a record group of 132 players. The two-man scramble format was fun for all
The West Coast GCSA proudly presents the sponsors of the 41st Annual Bud Quandt Research Benevolent Tournament.

Thank You Sponsors!

Diamond Sponsor
Harrell’s Inc.

Platinum Sponsors
Coastal Equipment
Verdicon DuPont
Wesco Turf, Inc.

Gold Sponsors
Aerifine, Inc.
Agronomic Resources
Ag Resources/Pickseed
Belleair C.C.

Cypress Run G.C.
Dow AgroSciences
DuCor International Corp.
EZ-GO
Florida Irrigation
Florida Potting Soil
Golf Agronomics & Handling (GASH)
Golf Ventures
Hunters Green C.C.
IGM
Karen Baldwin, MD
Lesco
Liquid Ed, Inc.

Mainlands G.C.
Pro Plus
Pro Source One
Richard Farrell Pump Service
Seven Springs G.C.
Signs Now
Syngenta
Tampa Bay Turf Management
Tampa Palms G&CC
Tom’s Sod Service

Please patronize these companies that continue to support the West Coast GCSA

We had a blast. Hope you did too.
and the golf course was in superb condition.

For the fifth year, the gift drive was very successful with more than 300 toys donated to benefit the Children’s Home Society of Southwest Florida. All of these gifts were donated by the tournament participants and are distributed throughout Southwest Florida to provide a merry Christmas to children and their families in need.

North Florida
This fall we had a golf outing at the Deerwood Club and our Christmas outing at the Hyde Park GC in Jacksonville. Happy New Year everyone.

Palm Beach
We are sad to announce the sudden passing of Norm Pilote, superintendent of Frenchman’s Creek in Palm Beach Gardens. Norm was 50 years old and was struck down by a heart attack. Our condolences go out to Norm’s family and friends. December was a busy month with our annual Miami Dolphin football trip, and our Christmas Party (88 members and guests showed up to welcome the holidays), then we had our traditional golf outing with the South Florida GCSA at TPC Eagle Trace. We will finish up the year with a holiday golf outing at the Abacoa GC. We will kick off 2005 with a superintendents-only meeting at Emerald Dunes in January.

Ridge
Greetings from Ground Zero. The Ridge Chapter is beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. With the exception of a couple of courses, we are pretty much up and running again. Because of the recent turbulent summer we haven’t had much time to take care of a lot of chapter business, however, we did see a little sunshine at our November meeting. We were pleased to award Danny Hidayad, a turf and ornamental student at Florida State University, as the Northeast Florida Region Director John Foy and Agronomist Todd Lowe were joined by Boca Rio’s Superintendent Bob Randquist, CGCS as moderators for the 2004 USGA Regional Conference held in Palm Beach Gardens. Photo by Joel Jackson.

From the left, USGA’s Florida Region Director John Foy and Agronomist Todd Lowe were joined by Boca Rio’s Superintendent Bob Randquist, CGCS as moderators for the 2004 USGA Regional Conference held in Palm Beach Gardens. Photo by Joel Jackson.

EGCSA President Mark Black, CGCS, with Erin Sweeney, Katie Black, Simon Greer of the Children’s Home Society of Southwest Florida at the 5th Annual Christmas Tournament. Photo by Kyle Sweet.

Superintendents Tim Hiers, CGCS and Darren Davis pitch in to help out at the FGCSA display for the Collier County School’s annual Career Fair held at the Golden Glades High School in November. Sixteen professional categories to raise occupational awareness were highlighted at the event including Agriculture and Horticulture. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Abacoa GC. We will kick off 2005 with a superintendents-only meeting at Emerald Dunes in January.

Ridge
Greetings from Ground Zero. The Ridge Chapter is beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. With the exception of a couple of courses, we are pretty much up and running again. Because of the recent turbulent summer we haven’t had much time to take care of a lot of chapter business, however, we did see a little sunshine at our November meeting. We were pleased to award Danny Hidayad, a turf and ornamental student at Florida State University, as the Northeast Florida Region Director John Foy and Agronomist Todd Lowe were joined by Boca Rio’s Superintendent Bob Randquist, CGCS as moderators for the 2004 USGA Regional Conference held in Palm Beach Gardens. Photo by Joel Jackson.

From the left, USGA’s Florida Region Director John Foy and Agronomist Todd Lowe were joined by Boca Rio’s Superintendent Bob Randquist, CGCS as moderators for the 2004 USGA Regional Conference held in Palm Beach Gardens. Photo by Joel Jackson.

EGCSA President Mark Black, CGCS, with Erin Sweeney, Katie Black, Simon Greer of the Children’s Home Society of Southwest Florida at the 5th Annual Christmas Tournament. Photo by Kyle Sweet.

Superintendents Tim Hiers, CGCS and Darren Davis pitch in to help out at the FGCSA display for the Collier County School’s annual Career Fair held at the Golden Glades High School in November. Sixteen professional categories to raise occupational awareness were highlighted at the event including Agriculture and Horticulture. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Abacoa GC. We will kick off 2005 with a superintendents-only meeting at Emerald Dunes in January.

“Manni-Plex® for nutrition and Neo-Tec® S.O. for nematodes gives me the perfect 1-2 punch!”

James Darby
The Groves Golf & Country Club, Land O’ Lakes, Florida

From the makers of Consan®, Noculate®, Big Foot® and Blue Lagoon®. Call your sales representative today for more product information.
S.F.G.C.S.A.’s 20th Annual Missing and Exploited Children’s Benefit Tournament

Many thanks to our sponsors for two decades of support for this worthy cause.

**Diamond Sponsors**
- Aeration Technology
- Bayer CropScience
- Disbrow Enterprises
- GreenZkeeper
- Hector Turf/Toro Company
- Soil Tech Distributors
- Sysco
- The Print Solution, Inc.

**Golden Eagle Sponsors**
- Aeration Technology
- Area Paving, Inc.
- Atlantic FEC
- Cintas
- Fertigation Specialists

**2004**

- Pro Source One
- Pro Turf
- Quality Grassing
- Smithco, Inc.
- Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.

**Eagle Sponsors**
- Card Sound G. C.
- Club Car, Inc.
- DuCor International
- Floratine
- Florida Superior Sand
- Bob Hansen
- Hoodridge
- Howard Fertilizer/Turf Technologies, Inc.
- Liquid Ag Systems
- Melrose Supply Corp.
- Precision Small Engines
- Spreadrite Sales & Service
- Sullivan Electric
- Valent U.S.A.
Southern College, with our first Jack Harrell Sr. Memorial Scholarship. Danny is an excellent student and very deserving of the scholarship. We will be holding our annual Harrell’s plant tour and steak lunch in December and our January Superintendent/Vendor meeting will be at the Lone Palm Golf Club in Lakeland.

Seven Rivers

In November we held our 2nd Annual Fishing Tournament in Crystal River and the great weather helped provide a higher fish count than last year. We had a great turnout for our December meeting at the Brooksville CC. Tim Williams from Gatorland gave an entertaining and informative program on gators and snakes. As we close out 2004, we are already planning for the Jeff Hayden Memorial Envirotron Classic in hopes of raising even more funds for turfgrass research.

South Florida

With more than 152 golfers teeing it up in our 20th Annual Missing & Exploited Children’s Tournament at the Colony West C.C. in October, we were able to surpass our target goal of $20,000 to $22,000. Perpetual Chairman of the event, Bill Entwhistle, Jr., reflected on the long history of the event which began in 1984. Our chapter has now raised more than $206,000 for this worthwhile cause.

After we wrap up the year with our holiday golf outing at TPC Eagle Trace in December, we will be looking forward to the FTGA Regional Conference in January to kick off the new year. We are already making plans for the SFGCSA Turf Expo to be held in March at the UF/IFAS Research Center in Ft. Lauderdale.

Suncoast

Congratulations to Stephen W. Wood, CGCS, golf course superintendent at El Conquistador Country Club, Bradenton, for completing the GCSAA Environmental Management Program by earning the six required specializations. Of

Your Sand Man

- Trap Sand
- Top Dressing Sand
- Greens Mix
- Green Divot Sand

All Sands meet U.S.G.A. Specs

E. R. JAHNA INDUSTRIES, Inc.
Lake Wales, FL 33859-0840 • (863) 676-9431
the 160 superintendents working towards EMP certification, Wood is one of more than 30 to have completed the program and receive certification. The specialized training consists of six specialized certification programs: Integrated Pest Management; Habitat Development and Management; Employee Safety and Right-To-Know; Water Quality and Application; Golf Course Development; and Storage, Disposal and Recycling.

Inclement weather washed out our November Pro/Superintendent tournament, but the proceeds from registration were fittingly donated to the Red Cross Hurricane Relief Fund along with the proceeds from the Tatum Ridge Sneak Preview Tournament.

Treasure Coast

Congratulations to Melanie Mark for earning her Certified Golf Course Superintendent status at the Spessard Holland Golf Course in Melbourne Beach. As part of the process, Tom Trammell, CGCS of Hawks Nest GC and Wayne “Bo” Estey, CGCS from the Quail Valley G.C. conducted the required on-site inspection and evaluation.

Thanks to our team of Cody Boutte, Kevin Downing, Chris Gamble, Harry Hanson and Roy McDonald the TGCSA was able maintain possession of the Cavanaugh and Wagner Trophy at the joint Palm Beach and Treasure Coast Meeting in October.

Thanks to Charles Blevins and the Hammock Creek G.C. for hosting our November golf outing. It was a much-needed break from chain saws and tree stumps. On Dec. 10 we will celebrate the holidays at the Gator Trace Golf Club in Ft. Pierce. Gator Trace had some severe hurricane damage, but they report they will be up and run-

CLASSIC GREENS, INC.

Celebrating our 18th year of serving the turf industry with quality products.

Our Classic Dwarf remains genetically pure, maintains good color and vigor at close mowing heights and Superintendents enjoy the ease of maintenance.

Classic Dwarf – Tifway (T-419) - Floratex

Phil Horn, President
11151 NW 70th Ave.
Chiefland, FL 32626

Office (352)258-2695
Mobile (352) 284-8175

Computer-Exact Custom Mixes. Every Order. Every Time.

- All Loads Scaled
- Soil Analysis Available

Visit our website at www.golfAg.com!

Golf Agronomics meets all your top dressing needs with our ability to customize your mix with a variety of soil amendments including:
- Dolomite
- Hi-Cal
- Charcoal
- Wetting Agents
- Humic Acid
- Minor Elements
- Rock Phosphate
- Gypsum
- Customer Products

GOLF AGRONOMICS SUPPLY & HANDLING
Serving all of Florida
(800) 626-1359
(941) 955-4690 Fax
nning in time for our annual Christmas party.

West Coast

We are working on creating a chapter Web site in the very near future. Meanwhile congratulations go out to Andy Neiswender and Matt Felber and Bill Kistler and Jeff Ginther for respectively winning the gross and net divisions of our 2004 Pro/Superintendent Tournament. Our 2004 Bud Quandt Fundraiser Tournament held at Bill Kistler’s Tampa Palms G&CC in October raised $6,000. Besides turf research, the All Children’s Hospital and the Moffitt Cancer Center receive donations from these proceeds.

At our November meeting we began planning the 2005 calendar of events and are looking into the possibility of hosting a GCSAA Regional Seminar in August or September 2005. In December we held our Vendor Appreciation Day at the U. of South Florida Athletic Fields on campus. It was a free event complete with equipment demonstrations, food and raffle prizes.

Florida GCSA

At the Fall Board meeting at the Bradenton CC, the board approved and supported the pursuit of a $1.50 per ton surcharge on all fertilizer purchases to provide a recurring source of turf research funding. In conjunction with our efforts to get the legislature to create a matching funds rule for all donations made to turf research, it is hoped we can provide a substantial funding resource not solely reliant on inconsistent donation amounts from golf events and chapter treasuries. The surcharge idea is not new, as many Florida agriculture commodities have used surcharges to raise money for research. This concept spreads the cost around so it is not burdensome to anyone, but everyone participates, which is only fair since everyone benefits from the research into better grasses and management improvements.

At the same meeting, Suncoast GCSA members Royce Stewart and Jim Svabek were granted Lifetime Member status to the FGCSA. The board was also pleased to see the first-quarter earnings report from the new reserve funds investment plan, which consists of conservative investments, but ones that yield more than the savings and money market accounts previously used. The new investment plan is overseen by the newly formed Finance Committee, and managed by Morgan Stanley-Dean Witter.

Congratulations to Melanie Mark, CGCS, right, for obtaining her Certified Golf Course Superintendent designation. Melanie is shown here with her General Manager Rene Uzee. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Celebrating his 41st namesake tournament, Bud Quandt, center, is flanked, from left, by golfers Louis Belcastro, Mark Hopkins, Bill Fowler and Rich Wahl for a photo at the Bud Quandt Research and Benevolent Tournament held at Tampa Palms.

Congratulations to Melanie Mark, CGCS, right, for obtaining her Certified Golf Course Superintendent designation. Melanie is shown here with her General Manager Rene Uzee. Photo by Joel Jackson.

We can do the same thing for your trees – GUARANTEED!

Do you have sick yellow trees? Do you have some “Key” trees you’re worried about? Don’t cut down another tree needlessly – Save those trees – Treat them with EmeraldTree. Over 95% of our treated trees regain color and vigor and we guarantee the treatment to last a minimum of THREE YEARS!! We now offer the Arborjet insecticidal system to protect your trees from Bark beetles. Call Neal Howell @ 251-402-9848, Robert Howell @ 561-523-1295 or call toll free @ 877-779-TREE (8733). Visit our web site @ WWW.Emeraldtree-inc.com.

EmeraldTree™

We can do the same thing for your trees – GUARANTEED!

Do you have sick yellow trees? Do you have some “Key” trees you’re worried about? Don’t cut down another tree needlessly – Save those trees – Treat them with EmeraldTree. Over 95% of our treated trees regain color and vigor and we guarantee the treatment to last a minimum of THREE YEARS!! We now offer the Arborjet insecticidal system to protect your trees from Bark beetles. Call Neal Howell @ 251-402-9848, Robert Howell @ 561-523-1295 or call toll free @ 877-779-TREE (8733). Visit our web site @ WWW.Emeraldtree-inc.com.
Thank You Platinum Sponsors!
Howard Fertilizer & Chemical Company
Grey Oaks Country Club
CA-RY Industries, Inc.
Golf Agronomics Supply & Handling Company, Inc.
Wesco Turf
Florida Aquatic, Inc.
Superior Waterway Services
AquaMaster Fountains & Aerators
Coastal Equipment System, Inc.
Flowtronex
Golf Ventures, Inc.
Kilpatrick Turf & Boynton Pump

13th Annual LCCC Endowment Golf Tournament
Hammock Bay Golf & Country Club

Thank You WCI for your years of support!

Textron
Harrell’s Inc.
Lesco
E-Z Go
Greg Norman Golf Course Design
Mitchell & Starke Construction Company
Verticon
Jacobsen Turf Equipment
Evans Oil Company

Special Thanks to the Tervis Tumbler Sponsor!
Van Dyne Crotty, Inc.

Thank You Diamond Sponsors!
Metro PSI
Rymatt Golf
Pelican Preserve Golf Club
Hammock Bay Golf & Country Club
Florida Coast Equipment, Inc
Agronomic Systems Design Group, Inc
ESD Waste2Water
Tiburon Golf Ventures Limited Partnership
Hendrix & Dail, Inc.
Raptor Bay Golf Club

Advanced Aquatic
Grigg Brothers
Fort Myers Automotive & Industrial Supply
Glase Golf, Inc.
Everglades Golf Course
Superintendents
Dow AgroScience
Campbell Services
Florida Turf Grass Association
Pine Straw South Florida & Club Care
Royal Poinciana Golf Club
Florida Superior Sand
ProSource One
Aqua-Matic Irrigation Systems, Inc.
Southern Resource Services
G to Z Turf Services
Plant Health Care
Sunset Lighting & Signs

Thank You Gold Sponsors!
LCD Trucking, Inc
Precision Small Engine
Spectrum Wireless
Cherry & Edgar, PA
Growers Fertilizer Corporation
A&D Scrap Materials

Advanced Aquatic
Grigg Brothers
Fort Myers Automotive & Industrial Supply
Glase Golf, Inc.
Everglades Golf Course
Superintendents
Dow AgroScience
Campbell Services
Florida Turf Grass Association
Pine Straw South Florida & Club Care
Royal Poinciana Golf Club
Florida Superior Sand
ProSource One
Aqua-Matic Irrigation Systems, Inc.
Southern Resource Services
G to Z Turf Services
Plant Health Care
Sunset Lighting & Signs

Thank You Gold Sponsors!
LCD Trucking, Inc
Precision Small Engine
Spectrum Wireless
Cherry & Edgar, PA
Growers Fertilizer Corporation
A&D Scrap Materials

Re McMahon, Inc
Calcium Silicate
Barnes Pine Straw
Sam Galloway Ford
Dickey’s Tree Service
Highland Golf Inc
JTM Inc.
Quality Grassing
RS Walsh Landscaping
SeaDwarf Seashore Paspalum
Powell Golf Design
Ultimate Toys by Custom Carts, Inc.
Vermeer Southeast Sales & Services
FootJoy

Weed Golf Design
Risk Compliance
Wilson Miller
Aerification Plus & Almair Turf Products
J Fowler, Inc.
Liquid Ag Systems, Inc
Syngenta
Pike Creek Turf Farms
LaBelle Fertilizer
Systematic Services
Extreme Divers

Special Hole Prizes! Thank You Donors!
WCI Communities
Bloomin Nails
Caloosa Catch & Release
Chef Dean Donnell
G to Z Turf Services
ASGCA
Sean Mason
Wiley McCall
Golf Ventures
Sunset Lighting & Signs

Hole #11 Prizes Donated by Go-For Supply, Inc.
Par-3, 173-yard 17th Hole St. James Bay Club
Photo by Daniel Zelazek
In a part of Florida where time moves just a little slower and development even slower, St. James Bay has preserved small pieces of man’s history on the land.

By Joel Jackson

I’m a native Floridian and thought I had heard all the names for the various sections of the state’s lengthy coastline. From Jacksonville down the eastern seaboard there’s the First Coast, Space Coast, Treasure Coast and the Gold Coast in the Dade-Broward area. Swinging up the western side of the state there’s the, Platinum Coast, Suncoast, Nature Coast and Emerald Coast in the Destin-Pensacola area. Did I miss anyone? Evidently I did.

It wasn’t until this trip to St. James Bay at Carrabelle in the eastern panhandle that I heard Coast Radio 100.5 FM proclaim the station’s listening area as, “the Forgotten Coast from Apalachicola to Tallahassee” and realized I had discovered yet another unique coastal area of Florida. After returning home I found out more about the history of this area on the Internet at www.forgotten-florida.com. It is a story of forestry, fisheries and Camp Gordon Johnson, a World War II training camp for amphibi-
ous operations that paved the way for the Normandy invasion and the island-hopping Pacific campaign.

With the coming of St. James Bay and the first 18-hole golf course it brought to Franklin County, the “Forgotten Coast” has been discovered again and likely won’t be forgotten any more. Of course it’s really unfair to say this area was forgotten; it’s been more like a well-kept secret by people who like to get away from it all. Long on natural resources and short on traffic jams, Carrabelle (population 1,303) and its neighboring small towns enjoy a peaceful, slow-paced lifestyle. The amenities here are solitude and spectacular seafood from the famous Apalachicola Bay oysters to sports fishing.

Eddie Clark, owner and developer of St. James Bay, has taken care to respect the history and natural resources of the area. The golf villas by the clubhouse were built on the four pads used to anchor a 600-foot radio tower used by the Word War II army training camp. Wildlife and native habitat was preserved by developing the project and golf course as an Audubon International Silver Signature Sanctuary. It was Clark’s willing embrace of the blueprint for sound development and operational practices mandated by Audubon International’s program that helped overcome objections to the project by some local officials and residents. They found out that a golf course done right can be an asset to the community.

St. James Bay just became certified thanks in large part to the efforts of the golf course superintendent Shane Bass, CGCS. “Mr. Clark, by nature is a tree lover,” Bass said, “I think we had

| Location: Carrabelle | Greens: TifEagle; avg. 6,200 sq. ft.; total, 3 acres; HOC .100 - .125 in.; not overseeded. green speed goals, 9.0 - 11.0. |
| Ownership: Carrabelle Properties Ltd. | Tees: Tifway 419 bermudagrass; 3.0 acres; HOC .500 in.; not overseeded. |
| Playing policy: Public | Fairways: Tifway 419 bermudagrass; 35 acres; HOC .500 in.; not overseeded. |
| Basic Stats: 18 holes. 6,730 yards. Par 72. Course Rating/Slope, Black Tees 72.9/142, Green Tees 70.3/123 | Roughs: Tifway 419 bermudagrass; 38 acres; HOC 1.50 in.; not overseeded |
| Management: Owner Eddie Clark; Club Manager Bob Klein; Head Golf Professional Steve Hatch; Golf Course Superintendent Shane Bass. | Native areas: 113 acres of preserved wetlands. 26 acres of preserved uplands. 11 acres of upland preserve that comprises a 25-foot buffer strip across the backs of all residential lots on the golf course that must be left natural. |
| Continuing projects: Native area management Total acreage under maintenance: 80 | Waterways/Lakes: 15 interconnected lakes maintained by Biological Research Associates. They also prune and trim back wetland vegetation twice per year. |
| | Irrigation: Source: surface water, but will take some effluent from city of Carrabelle in the near future after they upgrade their treatment plant. Pumps: Flotronex VFD. Control System: Toro Site Pro/OSMAC, 730 heads; Nutrifeed fertigation system. |
| | Water management/conservation: The irrigation system was specifically designed to prevent watering of non-turf areas. A lot of adjustable heads were installed to prevent throwing water into lakes, wetlands and upland preserves. |
| | Maintenance Staff: 13 including superintendent. Scheduled 40 hours straight time with occasional overtime only as needed. |
| | Leadership: Assistant Superintendent Larry Johnson, Equipment Technician Floyd Robinson. |
| | Communications: Quarterly meetings of the whole club. Daily crew meetings. |
| | Cultural Programs: Aerification – Turf & Aquatic Management does greens aerification three times a year. Fertilization – Southern States Fertilizers. |
| | Management Challenges: Irrigation, nutrient and drainage management due to heavy soils on a few holes. |
| | Environment: Fully certified Silver Audubon International Signature Sanctuary. We closely manage our nutrients and chemicals since we are so close to Apalachicola Bay where they harvest most of the oysters consumed in the U.S. Many people in this area are down on golf courses. It is our goal and mission to show them that it can be done without harming the environment. The good news is we have made some converts already. |
*Revolution* is a new patent-pending technology that extends turf's natural antioxidant activity and significantly increases stress tolerance by balancing air-to-water ratios in the soil.

*Revolution* lets you gain control of rootzone conditions so that your turf can perform to its greatest potential. It will withstand daily abuse better, use water more effectively, and look spectacular even at the height of the summer.

*Revolution* also helps combat fairy ring by moving water and fungicides into affected areas to enhance fungicide performance and speed turf recovery.

*Revolution* has been tested in conjunction with several leading fungicide brands, and in all cases Revolution helped increase efficacy and speed recovery compared with the fungicide used alone.

---

**So what are you waiting for? Join the Revolution!**

Phone (800) 257-7797 • www.aquatrols.com

Mark Cleveland (404) 395-7268
almost 25 miles of orange-poly fencing installed to identify and protect stands of trees as we began clearing. We had lots of conversations with Robert Walker, the golf course architect, over routing and specimen tree placement and protection. I’ve been to our corporate headquarters in Dallas several times and some of the largest pecan trees I’ve ever seen are incorporated into the landscape of the office complex. The man loves his trees.”

Bass continued, “We are virtually surrounded by the Apalachicola State Forest and there are three continuous wildlife corridors running across the property that provide safe passage for the wildlife.”

Consequently the course can be described as tight and challenging for those who tee off the tips, but I played it from the white and so it is with St. James Bay as Bass found himself not only building and growing in a golf course but also working with contractors building roads and developing lots. As if his plate weren’t full enough, Bass managed to attain his certified golf course superintendent status with the GCSAA at the same time.

There’s no question that the Panhandle of Florida marches to the beat of a different drummer. While superintendents from Jacksonville south are hastily preparing for the winter migration of snowbird golfers, Carrabelle and the “Forgotten Coast” mark December, January and February as their slow season. That fact, says Bass, is why they have chosen not to overseed the TifEagle greens — or the rest of the course, for that matter. Bass says,

it up from the tips, but I played it from the white tees as a 22-handicapper and the only real trouble I had was from poor shot-making. Because the course is built in a coastal marsh environment surrounded by pine forests there are numerous car ries over preserved wetlands, but the GPS Shot Link monitor on the cart gives yardages to help club selection, shot strategy and pace of play.

Bass was hosting the November chapter meeting of the Coastal Plains GCSA during my visit, which gave me a chance to meet some of the members of the state’s smallest chapter that exists primarily in the metropolitan Tallahassee area. Although small in number, the chapter holds an important role as representing the golf industry for state legislators to see up close. Grateful thanks go to Jeff Heggen, external vice-president for his tireless efforts over many years to represent the chapter and to relay FGCSA communications to his members.

Around 16 of the 23 members made 45-mile the journey to see and play the new St. James Bay course. The whole operation had that “new car” aura about it and there wasn’t much for the Coastal Plains superintendents playing the course to comment on other than how clean the course looked. The two-year old TifEagle greens were flawless.

Bass came on board the St. James Bay at the age of 21 and three years after the course had been opened. I was included in the grand opening of the course to prepare for an LPGA event. It was there Iidentified down the road for owners who have the foresight to recognize how valuable a superintendent can be to the overall picture. Bass said, “I was included from the beginning and worked with Mr. Clark, the engineers and the architect Robert Walker. I was able to voice maintenance concerns and help the owner realize his vision of a golf course with reasonable maintenance costs. The original design concept had lots of contoured fingers in the bunkers requiring lots of Flymow work. We were able to negotiate down the number of bunkers with fingers to 13 out of a total of 60 bunkers.”

As just evidenced, communication is always a key element in any successful operation and one of Bass’s early challenges was in finding and training a golf maintenance staff in an area not previously known for the sport. Besides, it is a difficult task to negotiate down the number of bunkers with fingers to just 13 out of a total of 60 bunkers.”

“One of Bass’s early challenges was in finding and training a golf maintenance staff in a newsmark December, January and February as their slow season. That fact, says Bass, is why they have chosen not to overseed the TifEagle greens — or the rest of the course, for that matter. Bass says,”

“Sure we can have some cold days, but by being so close to the Gulf, our weather is definitely warmer than, say, Tallahassee to the northeast. We have some shaded greens we have to watch closely because of the surrounding trees, so we don’t need the extra competition with the overseeding; plus Mr. Clark is an avid golfer and he really despises transition.”
Instead of Calling Everyone For Everything...

Call Us.

COASTAL EQUIPMENT SYSTEMS
5287 NEW KINGS ROAD
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32209
(800) 275-3860

COASTAL EQUIPMENT SYSTEMS
6025 US HIGHWAY 301 NORTH
TAMPA, FL 33610
(877) 4JD-TURF

John Deere Golf & Turf One Source™ is the one call that will give you everything you need. You won't find a wider range of products and professional services anywhere else. While you already know us for the best in equipment, parts, service and financing, our arsenal of products now includes irrigation and drainage expertise, landscaping products and supplies, seed, fertilizer, and more. Call your local John Deere Golf & Turf Distributor or 1-800-537-8233 to let them show you what John Deere One Source™ is all about.

ADVANCED MICROBIAL SOLUTIONS • AQUAMASTER • HANCOR
BLUEYELLOW™ PROFESSIONAL • CALCIUM SILICATE CORP. • HOWARD FERTILIZER
HUNTER GOLF • JOHN DEERE LANDSCAPES • NU-GRO • PROFILE
PROGRESSIVE TURF • SPRING VALLEY • TEE2GREEN • TURF SEED INC.

www.johndeere.com/onesource
Golden wildflowers flourish in a preserved native area on the par-4, 16th hole. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

These golf villas were built on the foundation slabs of Camp Gordon Johnson’s 600-foot radio tower used during World War II. Photo by Joel Jackson.
Robinson. The area’s primary labor pool consisted of former fishermen and oystermen but, once they understood the mission and learned their roles and responsibilities, Bass says they have become a topnotch, dependable team.

Bass is part of the new generation of young superintendents. They grew up with environmental issues as part of their education and routine content in the news. Bass says he does not find managing golf turf within the Audubon program any more time-consuming than any other maintenance program he was involved in while learning the business.

Bass praises his mentors Steve Hill, Geri Buchheit, CGCS, and Floyd Robinson. From them he received encouragement and training in the business from the pro shop operations under Hill at Royal Oak CC in Titusville to golf course maintenance from Robinson and Buchheit at Killearn CC in Tallahassee. Bass said, “Floyd and Geri were great teachers. They came from two different generations of superintendents so I got a lot of practical turf management history and changes from them. Geri’s active involvement in environmental stewardship, the Audubon program and working with the Leon County Extension Office with their Master Wildlife Conservation Program made a lasting impression on me.”

Bass said, “The truth is we use fewer chemicals now and the course is in great shape. The only times I use a boom is to foliar feed the greens and treat greens for armyworms, which are our biggest nuisance up here. I do apply some pre-emergent herbicides for Poa annua control in the cool season. We spot treat all weeds with 2.5-gallon sprayers. I have trained three guys to identify and treat weeds. It takes them maybe three days total to do the whole course. We spend less on chemicals and labor doing it this way, and we certainly don’t
overspray in this sensitive environment.”

This selective, curative approach seemed to be working as the course was 99 percent weed-free on my tour around the links, and Bass was hard-pressed to identify any really tough turf management challenges at the course. After nudging him further, he did acknowledge that armyworms were the worst in the Panhandle than any other place he’d been from Tallahassee to Naples.

He said, “People told me that armyworms can be a problem with new turf and grow-in and they were right. But I still take a cautious approach and monitor the damage until the extent of the infestation is known. Mr. Clark concurs with a threshold-level approach to minimize pesticide use. When I treat I generally rotate Talstar and low rates of Orthene. I tired Di-Pel, but it took a little too long and the damage became unacceptable.”

Bass also said, “I do have some torpedograss problems that were self-inflicted. Fill dirt excavated around one of the original lakes on site had some torpedograss infestation and the dirt got used on the course before we had a chance to fumigate it. However, we keep an eye on known spots and make several applications of Drive during grow-
Looking for the Perfect Balance?

“Ocean Hammock sits right on the ocean and uses reclaimed water as its irrigation source. Sodium and bicarbonates are our largest problem. The main staple in our program is Superior’s Cal-Pull product, solubilizing calcium, removing sodium and bicarbonates.”

Todd McKibben – Golf Course Superintendent

Cal-Pull is a highly soluble calcium chelated product for turfgrass and soil chemistry correction. Specific benefits include:

- Soluble source of calcium to help correct deficiency
- Help balance soil pH
- Reduce excess sodium and magnesium
- Balance Ca/Mg ratio
- Balance soil chemistry
- Reduce insoluble calcium

Soil is a complex of chemical and physical properties that will always change because of frequent input. The balance of chemical and physical soil function will have a direct effect on microbial populations and activity. Cal-Pull will help correct specific soil deficiencies and imbalances that should be identified by soil and soluble test data.

Cal-Pull is derived from: Calcium Glucoheptonate and chelated with Trihydroxyglutaric Acid.

TAMPA BAY TURF
The Turf Specialist

7162 123rd Circle N. • Largo, FL 33773
(800) 229-1981

CALL YOUR TAMPA BAY TURF CONSULTANT ABOUT EXPERT SOIL ANALYSIS AND PERSONAL OBSERVATION

Tom Phillips (561) 719-6265
Carl Bronson (727) 638-5858
Jim Lawson (239) 633-6398
Frank Cook (727) 235-3637
Terry Brawley (727) 638-3481
The par-5, 15th hole doglegs around a wetland from tee to green. The wetlands are hand-pruned at least twice a year. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

Overall Bass maintains he is blessed with a great sandy site that drains well. Among other things this was once forestland harvested for paper production. Most of it is sandy and well drained. Bass says only two or three holes at the lower end of the property have heavier soils that require close moisture management. He says there are at least three micro-environments on the site.
TRUE-SURFACE®
Vibratory Greens Rolling System...

- Gives you regular green consistency within 2 to 4 inches
- Trues putting surfaces
- Vibrates in topdressing for the most non-abrasive application
- Trues up your greens following aeration
- Speeds up the grow-in process (without damaging the seedlings)
- Promotes seeding and sodding establishment
- Allows for easy dew removal

Call your Florida distributor today to request more information or to get a demo!

Tampa Bay Turf Management

SOUTHEAST
Tom Phillips
(561) 719-6265

NORTHEAST & CENTRAL
Carl Bronson
(727) 638-5858

SOUTHWEST
Jim Lawson
(239) 633-6398

NORTHWEST
Frank Cook
(727) 235-3637

TAMPA REGION
Terry Brawley
(727) 638-3481

“Great product! I swear by these rollers. They added speed & gave me truer greens. Couldn’t live without them.”
Kevin Goolsby
Indian Bayou Country Club
Destin, FL

“Great tool to have when you want to give the greens a rest from mowing!”
Rick Wahl
Bellaire Country Club
Belleaire, FL

Universal Design fits ALL greens triplex mowers!

...makes true greens!™
Here are some things you may not know about our cover story superintendent:

**Car:** Ford F-150

**The last good movie I saw:** Finding Nemo

**I stay home to watch:** FSU Sports

**The book I’ve been reading:** *The Going to Bed Book* by Sandra Boynton

**Favorite meal:** Rock shrimp and corn fritters (Dixie Crossroads, Titusville)

**Favorite performers:** Jimmy Buffet

**Prized possessions:** My family

**Personal Heroes:** My parents

**Nobody knows that I:** Would rather be surfing

**I’m better than anyone else when it comes to:** Fishing (That’s for TC & BJ)

**I’d give anything to meet:** Flip Pallet

**My fantasy is:** To work on a golf course that doesn’t allow carts

**The one thing I can’t stand:** People who are lazy or liars

**If I could change one thing about myself:** I would learn to count to 10 before I speak

**My most irrational act:** Anytime I don’t count to 10 before speaking

**My most humbling experience:** My son being born

**The words that best describe me:** Loyal, passionate and dependable.

---

**Fun Facts**

- **Bryce Bass – Future Superintendent?** Photo by Shane Bass

- **Here are some things you may not know about our cover story superintendent:**

  **Car:** Ford F-150

  **The last good movie I saw:** Finding Nemo

  **I stay home to watch:** FSU Sports

  **The book I’ve been reading:** *The Going to Bed Book* by Sandra Boynton

  **Favorite meal:** Rock shrimp and corn fritters (Dixie Crossroads, Titusville)

  **Favorite performers:** Jimmy Buffet

  **Prized possessions:** My family

  **Personal Heroes:** My parents

  **Nobody knows that I:** Would rather be surfing

  **I’m better than anyone else when it comes to:** Fishing (That’s for TC & BJ)

  **I’d give anything to meet:** Flip Pallet

  **My fantasy is:** To work on a golf course that doesn’t allow carts

  **The one thing I can’t stand:** People who are lazy or liars

  **If I could change one thing about myself:** I would learn to count to 10 before I speak

  **My most irrational act:** Anytime I don’t count to 10 before speaking

  **My most humbling experience:** My son being born

  **The words that best describe me:** Loyal, passionate and dependable.

---

**Maintenance friendly – this fairway bunker on the first hole is one of only 13 with extensive fingering out of the total of 60 bunkers on the course.** Photo by Joel Jackson.

requirements different irrigation and nutrient management approaches to maintain good healthy turf and not waste resources.

The numerous preserved wetland areas are pruned back at least twice a year by hand to keep sight lines open and shot-making over them possible. The series of marshes and lakes provides the surface water used for irrigation, although an agreement is in place for the course to take effluent as needed from the nearby town of Carrabelle in the very near future. Taking advantage of the filtering effect of properly managed turfgrass will provide efficient disposal of the town’s effluent and Bass reports that the water quality sampling in his monitoring wells required under the Audubon Sanctuary program has shown a decline in background nitrate levels already as the turf has matured.

Bass says that besides monitoring water quality, his wells are also used to measure the water table levels and he reports these depths twice monthly to the Northwest Water Management District. It wasn’t a formal requirement, but he wanted to stay ahead of the curve and demonstrate a proactive approach to working with regulators.

The irrigation system has 711 heads, mostly part circle, which were strategically located so that irrigation water would not carry into the wetlands and uplands, and the 15 lakes are interconnected so that the surface water at the low end of the property can be pumped back up the line and be recirculated allowing more filtering of the water before it leaves the property. There are no deep wells for recharging the irrigation lake.

By providing 85 acres of open turf area in the densely wooded area, the golf course has created lots of “edge habitat” which helps to increase biodiversity in the area. Bass says wildlife ranges from deer, bobcat, coyotes, foxes and an occasional bear to rabbits, squirrels and many species of birds. I saw a couple of hawks, an osprey and hundreds of perching birds on the course, including an eastern bluebird.

As man and nature learn to co-exist on amicable terms, Bass is working on a solution to a unique problem. He said, “Of course we love the wildlife; it’s part of what this is all about. But right now I am stumped trying to find a way to keep the young coyote cubs from chewing (teething) on our bunker rake handles.”

In a part of Florida where time moves just a little slower and rapid development even slower, St. James Bay has preserved small pieces of man’s history on the land, and even larger expanses of the native land itself. It’s a guarantee that this part of Florida’s coast will not be forgotten at all.
201 Crooked River Rd, Carrabelle, FL
Congratulations to Shane Bass, CGCS, and his club for being selected as the Winter 2005 cover story for the Florida Green!

From some of the companies that service and supply the St. James Bay Golf Club:

Biological Research Associates: Andy Barth (850-681-9700)

Brennan Golf Sales: Tom Brennan (904-249-9740)

Southern States Fertilizer: Mike Bishop (229-377-8306)

Turf & Aquatic Management: Mike McNamara (850-510-7919)

WESCOTURF Supply: (800-393-3366)
What We Have Here is a Need to Communicate

By Bruce R. Williams, CGCS

Golf course superintendents do a wonderful job of providing great golfing conditions. Some have learned the trade through formal education and others have learned through hard work and good mentors. At some point we all acquire the skills to keep the turfgrass looking super within the constraints of our budgets and weather conditions. However, there is one area that I believe to have a wide variance in competencies and that is our ability to communicate.

I have a couple of theories on communication and how it can affect superintendents. By sharing them in this article, I am not expecting everyone to agree with me but it may start a few people thinking about the value of communication. Here are some ideas:

• More people lose their jobs over poor communication than poor turfgrass conditions.
• Many superintendents miss opportunities to shine by not telling their stories.
• Writing, speaking, providing reports, etc. are not natural talents but skills that must be acquired. They take practice and effort.

Let’s look at a few things that you might be able to put into practical application at your golf course.

1. Do the right thing.
2. Do the right thing.
3. Tell people that you are doing the right thing!

To be successful and receive the respect you are due, you must recognize opportunities and take advantage of them. When you get a chance to attend board meetings, committee meetings, golf advisory meetings, etc. welcome the opportunity. Prepare well for these meetings and be certain to present your message professionally either verbally or in print. Too many people shy away from these opportunities. When you are invited to the Guest Day banquet, don’t turn the chance down. Sure, you got up at 4 a.m., but you owe it to yourself and your crew to rub elbows with the players and receive the accolades for the great golf course.

When problems arise on the golf course, the message is sure to get mixed up and perhaps put you in a bad light. Be accessible when problems exist. People typically want to know three things when trouble happens on the golf course.

• What happened?
• What are you going to do about it?
• When will it be back to normal?

Nobody can carry the message better than you. Communicate it every way you can until the problem is resolved.

A picture is worth a thousand words. Use pictures as a vehicle to communicate your successes or to demonstrate areas that need improvement. In this era we should all learn to utilize digital photography and power point to make powerful presentations to promote programs and projects. It is a tool that can make us all look pretty good in front of our employers.

While space does not allow me expand on the subject, suffice it to say that the largest area for communication improvement is the skill of listening. If you go to the library you will find hundreds of books on public speaking. However, I doubt if you can find any that deal with listening. Listen to what your golfers want. This can be done through customer evaluations or personal feedback. Don’t hear what you want to hear but try to understand what people are really saying. Don’t be defensive. Learn to accept constructive criticism. Employers want people that bring them solutions rather than someone who gives excuses.

Think about the top five superintendents you know. What puts them in this special category of high esteem? Is it their ability to grow grass or is it their ability to communicate? I feel strongly that today the grass growing is the fundamental part of the job but the ability to communicate is paramount to career success.

By Bruce R. Williams, CGCS, MG
Toro® Groundsmaster® 3500-D and Reelmaster® 3100-D: Two innovative trim mowers with the Sidewinder™ cutting system. The reels on the 3100-D and the ground-following rotary decks on the 3500-D move side to side for superior trimming.

Toro® Multi Pro® 1200 and 1250 sprayers: Featuring the innovative Spray Pro™ control system that directly links flow rate to ground speed ensuring precise application rate.

Who to better understand a perfectionist than a perfectionist.

At Toro we know when it comes to your course, no detail is too small. That’s why pros like you are And keep it looking great year after year. To us, it’s the perfect relationship. For more information, contact your
Toro® Workman® 1100 and 2100 vehicles: With the most capacity and power in their class, these vehicles get more done. They also feature rattle-free plastic beds for a quieter ride.

Toro® 800S Series sprinkler: Put the water just where you want it. Precision control is made possible with predictable head rotation and uniform nozzle distribution.

Toro® Greensmaster® Flex 21: The greens mower that flexes with the contour of greens to virtually eliminate scalping.

the best source for new ideas on ways to make it look great. Toro distributor at 1-800-803-8676 or visit us at TORO.com.
What’s Up with Weed Control?

By Joel Jackson, CGCS

After Illoxan came out in the late 1990s to provide a new weapon for goosegrass control and Basagran and Manage were rolled out to battle the sedges, it seems like there has been a long gap in new weed-control products other than the controversial clopyralid (Lontrel) for broadleaf control. Users who did not follow the label and let clippings of treated grass get into municipal compost operations caused the problem. Meanwhile we have relied so heavily for so long on MSMA for grassy weed control; perhaps the recent concerned focus on arsenic levels in golf course soils stirred the pot and hastened new products in the pipeline. Maybe they just needed a nudge.

Whatever the cause, Revolver and Monument have debuted recently and, according to two of the articles below, have proven to be effective weapons and can replace MSMA in some cases. One holdout that still seems to respond only to MSMA is tropical signalgrass. Sure hope the scientists are working on an alternative. The makers of MSMA are still negotiating with EPA and Florida DEP to do a study to prove that MSMA is not a problem for arsenic loading in the soil, but the jury is still out on the successful defense of the product. Don’t be surprised to see some label changes in the near future.

Just to restate some of the obvious trends that will be evident in the articles below and echoed in the cover story on St. James Bay, the days of large-scale boom spraying are over. There may be some isolated cases of course renovation and cleanup after years of neglect where large-area boom-spraying may be required, but the trademark of responsible pest management is spot spraying.

Over the past 10 years, the business and environmental climates have forced superintendents to be more frugal and sensitive to the environments they manage. Consequently less material is being applied and only where needed.

From the manufacturing side, products are becoming targeted to specific weeds. While that may drive up one aspect of the cost of weed control, the amount of active ingredient required is smaller, helping to offset the cost. Some courses are resorting to consistent, gradual hand-pulling of obvious weeds.

If you are using less MSMA and 2,4,D, make a note of that fact. Document your chemical use, especially if you are using less overall. This is a good story and needs to be shared with our regulators and legislators. From my travels, it appears to be the trend, but I don’t want to generalize. Now read on for current weed control programs at three Florida courses.

Keeping it Simple at Seminole

At the Seminole Golf Club we try to follow strong agronomic practices such as proper fertility and irrigation to keep the bermudagrass as healthy as possible, thus reducing weed intrusion and the need for chemicals for weed control. My worst weed problems have come either from over-irrigation or weak bermudagrass turf. As a result, 90 percent of our current weed control is hand-spraying post-emergent herbicides, or hand-cutting and pulling bigger weeds such as goosegrass.

The only time we really boom-spray for weeds is during the summer when the golf season is over, mainly because of the potential for discoloration of the turf and, of course, most of our weeds are more active that time of year. We do not use pre-emergent weed control because of our strong post-emergent control program.

For the first time, we now have a full-time chemical technician who works only on weed and insect control. This has almost eliminated the need for boom spraying and pre-emergent control at Seminole.

We use the following products:
1) Broadleaf weeds - Lesco 3 way, Quicksilver and Manor (for spurge)
2) Grass weeds - MSMA, Illoxan
3) Sedges - Basagran, Manage

We have experimented with Monument but have seen no great advantage over the products mentioned previously. Again, the key for us has been to keep the turf healthy and constantly "spot spray" or cut out weeds, which reduces the use of herbicides. We try to keep our weed control as simple as possible.

Hal Hicks, Superintendent
Seminole Golf Club

Timing is Everything

Revolver is great for goosegrass, but it may require two, three or, in some cases, four applications to really get the goosegrass under control, especially in heavily infested areas. Timing is critical to be successful. I made a second application 10 days after the initial application. Generally this will kill the mature weeds.

For heavily infested areas, third and fourth applications at 10-12-day intervals may be needed to control juvenile plants springing up from the germinating seed bank in the soil as long as the weather is favorable for germination. A little lower rate will work in the follow-up applications because you’ll be going after the seedlings. Again timing is the most important thing using Revolver.

Goosegrass is tough and loves heavy traffic areas, so you need to be aggressive with the turf you have, and try to cultivate a healthy turf cover to prevent infestation.

Revolver also took out Poa annua in bermudagrass very well, but Poa seed can lie dormant for years so problem areas will probably need multiple applications over the years.

I did a test study for Syngenta before Monument was labeled for the U.S. It works great on all of the sedges and kyllinga. It seemed to eliminate the sedges after two applications, where as Basagran and Manage seemed to do as well on the root systems. Monument gave longer control and it also worked well on taking out unwanted paspalum in bermudagrass. It is also labeled for tor pedgrass.
MSMA is an organic herbicide that has been used safely and performed reliably for over 40 years. Its toxicity and behavior in the environment have been studied extensively. All studies have shown that there are no significant health effects associated with MSMA, and that it does not pose risk to the environment.

The molecule of MSMA contains arsenic just like the molecule of water (H2O) contains hydrogen and oxygen, or the molecule of table salt (NaCl) contains sodium and chlorine. Arsenic, like hydrogen and chlorine, can be dangerous in certain forms and not in others.

There are two groups of arsenic compounds – organic and inorganic. Organic compounds of arsenic are those in which a carbon atom (C) is bound to the arsenic atom (As). MSMA is an organic compound of arsenic. Organic arsenic compounds are less prevalent in nature and are 10 to 100 times less toxic than inorganic compounds. They are much less toxic to aquatic organisms, are not mutagenic, and unlikely to be carcinogenic to humans.

Arsenic is a ubiquitous element occurring nearly everywhere on earth as a component of soils and natural rock formations. The common form in nature is inorganic arsenic and hence the term “arsenic” usually refers to the inorganic form. Long-term exposure to inorganic arsenic can cause health problems.

The carbon-arsenic bond found in organic arsenic is stable under a variety of environmental conditions, thus it is highly resistant to chemical degradation. A small number of soil micro-organisms are capable of metabolizing MSMA via cleavage of the carbon-arsenic bond, to form inorganic arsenate. However, conditions in field soils are unfavorable for these processes. If small amounts of inorganic arsenicals are released through this process they are rapidly inactivated in soils by forming insoluble salts of iron and aluminum.

Inorganic compounds are used in the glass and ceramic industries and as feed additives for poultry and swine. Arsenic trioxide (As2O3), the most important commercial arsenic compound, is produced as a byproduct of the smelting process of copper and lead ores. Inorganic arsenic compounds are no longer used in agriculture because of their toxicity. Organic compounds of arsenic, including MSMA, are used in agriculture, forestry and turfgrass management as pesticides and herbicides.

The greatest portion, by far, of applied MSMA binds to soil particles in the top-most layers of the soil. Most soils have been shown to have extensive capacity to trap and hold organic arsenicals tenaciously, so they are not dislodged through the soils by natural flow of water from irrigation or rainfall. In fact, when performing soil analysis in the laboratory, rigorous digestion processes (i.e. digestion in strong acids at high temperatures for a day or two) are required to remove the bound arsenic from soil particles. Such processes never happen in the natural environment. This binding or “sorption” acts as a scavenging mechanism, preventing MSMA residues from leaching into underlying groundwater. Proper application of MSMA is not likely to cause leaching of organic arsenical residues in a wide range of soil types.

In conclusion, MSMA is a nontoxic organic compound that has been safely used as a highly effective broad-spectrum herbicide for grassy weeds for over 40 years without risk to human health or the environment.

(Editors note: The facts and statements above were taken from fact sheets supplied by the MAA (MethaneArsenic Acid) Task Force (MAATF). The Problem: The only way to test for arsenic in the field samples is to measure total arsenic. The samples are put through the rigorous “un-natural” laboratory digestion process and the arsenic amounts do not specify where the arsenic came from (soil, water, fertilizer, mulch, rock or herbicide or previous human activity). The state says it currently must regulate by total arsenic levels. In some previous studies, samples from mix/load sites were combined with random samples on the golf courses thus confusing the results of normal use accumulations versus a more controllable mix/load location. The MSMA manufacturers are currently working with Florida regulators to conduct specific tests to see if the normal use of MSMA does pose a risk to the environment. If you have any questions regarding the use of MSMA or want more information, you can contact Dr. Michal Eldan, Ph.D. at MAATF, P.O. Box 33856, Washington, D.C., 20033-0856. Phone: (800) 890-3301; Fax: (901) 761-9477; Email: meldan@luxpam.com)
but I prefer Drive at 0.5 oz. in 5 galls of water. It doesn't burn the bermuda. Multiple applications will be needed. Torpedograss is a real tough one to control.

Tropical signalgrass is also a tough customer to deal with. I use MSMA at 2.25 pints/acre tank mixed with Sencor at 0.25 oz./acre with a spreader-sticker. This mix is applied on roughs mowed at 1.5 inch height and up.

When spraying tee tops and fairways, we apply the same products at two-thirds the previous rate. Second and third applications will be needed. Timing again is important. Use a 7- to 10-day interval between applications, not 7 to 11 days.

When mixing small quantities for spot spraying, the DEP people and some labels require 0.5 ounces of MSMA per five gallons of water. This just doesn't work.

(Editor's note: When you break down the ratio of MSMA (2.25 pints = 40 ounces) in a 100-gallon tank, it comes to 2 ounces of MSMA per 5 gallons of water. There seems to be a conflict concerning boom application and hand spraying concentration of MSMA in a given square foot.)

For broadleaf weeds I typically use Lesco Three-way, Trimec Southern formula, and Pro-Source Strike Three at 0.75 oz./gal. for spot spraying, and no more than 40 oz./acre with a good surfactant if using a boom sprayer. Again timely repeat applications at 7-10 days have to be done or you're just throwing money away.

As far as equipment, I use 2-gal. pump-ups and 15-20-gal. electric sprayers. I also have a small 10-foot boom sprayer calibrated to 30 gal/acre and pull it behind a cart and use it where I can.

I think the boom sprayer has been a valuable tool. You can cover in an hour what would take someone all day to spot spray. For those concerned about over-spraying beyond a solitary target weed, I feel that with the small boom you are taking out small immature weed seedlings not readily visible, especially in chronically infested areas.

Royal Poinciana is more than 30 years old. Weed control will be an ongoing program. You just have to stay with it and have some good guys or gals who like their jobs and don't let it get to you. With a good timing program, you'll get great results. Remember to follow all of the Personal Protection Equipment requirements on the product label.

Ken McCalister
IPM Manager, Royal Poinciana Golf Club

Q&A with Jim Walker, Greynolds Park G.C.
What is your No. 1 weed problem at a high-traffic municipal golf course, and how do you manage it?
Our biggest challenge is goosegrass. We apply Barricade at the label rate in October and February. We spot treat with a MSMA and Sencor mix for any weeds that break through.

Do you do any boom spraying these days or is it all spot treatments?
The only time we use a boom is for treating large patches of sedge.

Last year there was a lot of discussion about MSMA on golf course and the debate continues. What has been your approach?
We have reduced our overall use of MSMA 90 percent. As I said earlier, we only spot-treat using a 15-gal. electric sprayer to limit the treated area.

Have you tried some of the new products like Revolver?
We tried it once, but had poor results.

Anything else?
Well, we mechanically remove (hand-pull) weeds from tee tops, collars and fairways or obvious weeds anywhere. I use a paint brush to dab on MSMA on signalgrass. It's the only product currently on the market that will touch it.
LASTEC “The Articulator” HAS IT ALL!

Turf’s fastest most precise high production rotary rough mower. 21” cutting decks follow ground contours better than competitive mowers with larger decks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th># of decks</th>
<th>size of decks</th>
<th>Type of mower</th>
<th>Acreage per hour cut</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>721XR</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>21”</td>
<td>PTO Tractor Driven</td>
<td>9.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>521XR</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>21”</td>
<td>PTO Tractor Driven</td>
<td>6.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3682</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>21”</td>
<td>Self Contained 36HP</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3696</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>25”</td>
<td>Self Contained 36HP</td>
<td>6.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3372</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>25”</td>
<td>Self Contained 33HP</td>
<td>5 approx.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3386</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>52” &amp; 34”</td>
<td>Self Contained 33HP</td>
<td>6 approx.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>325EF</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>25”</td>
<td>Cutting deck only</td>
<td>5 approx.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact us at: disbrowent.com or call 954-345-8577 for more information or a free demonstration of our equipment.
Wagons Ho!

Improving the Utility of a Utility Vehicle

By Darren Davis

The phrase, “Give credit where credit is due,” was instilled in me at an early age and I have always tried to live by that rule. Unfortunately, in the case of this Super Tip, I am unable to credit the originator of this idea that increases the utility capacity of a Toro Workman vehicle.

The idea of converting the Workman into a stake-bed “wagon” originated more than five years ago when my local Toro distributor, Wesco Turf, delivered a piece of equipment that I had ordered. I noticed that the driver also had a Workman utility vehicle on his truck. The Workman caught my eye because of the high wooden sides that someone had constructed on the bed of the vehicle. I took a few pictures of the contraption and stored them away for future use.

Recently, I came across those pictures and was reminded of the idea. The task of recreating the Workman wagon was subsequently assigned to my long-time equipment manager, Guillermo Gomez. Guillermo, or “Memo” as we refer to him, accepted the assignment, analyzed the pictures, and went to work on the task. As you will see in the pictures, it is not an overly complicated piece of equipment and Memo completed the construction of two wagon accessories in less than eight hours.

Creating a high-sided wagon accessory for the Toro Workman cost less than $100. Photo by Darren Davis.

The sides, back, and tailgate are four boards high, extending 23 inches above the Workman bed. The side boards measure 64 inches in length, the back boards measure 51 inches in length, and the tailgate boards are 53 inches in length. The wood planks that we used are 5-5/8 inch high by 1/2-inch wide.

Both the side- and back boards are bolted to a 2 by 1-inch piece of channel iron that is cut to a length of 34 inches. The channel is attached to the boards (open side out) so that the channel can slide into the 2-1/4-inch square holes on the back and sides of the Workman bed. To add stability to the side and back pieces, a piece of 2-inch-wide, flat metal stock (23 inches in length) was bolted to the boards in the middle of each section.

When the two side rails and the back section are placed in the Workman bed there is a little play, which can create a rattle, and be annoying to the operator and/or distracting to golfers. For ease of storage when not in use, and for ease of installation onto the Workman bed, we did not want to permanently affix the side rails to the back. Therefore, to stabilize the sides and back when the wagon is in use, a bolt with a “hook” end was placed on both sides at the top, back of both side pieces. Between the two hooks, a 43-inch piece of chain is attached, and when the bolts are tightened it pulls the chain tight which squeezes the back of the wagon snugly into the sides.

The tailgate was constructed to the same height as the sides (23 inches) and the width is 53 inches. A 23-inch piece of metal plate was bolted to the boards in three locations to secure the tailgate. When the tailgate is desired, it easily slides into a groove created by a 23-inch piece of 2-inch “L” steel that was bolted on both side pieces. When installed, the base of the wooden tailgate rests on top of the Workman tailgate. Two 6-inch handles were also attached to the wagon tailgate for easier installation and removal.

The final step in construction was to apply a coat of Kilz primer, and then the following day a coat of “rust-stopper” black enamel was applied. Excluding labor, the cost of each wagon accessory was under $100.

Obviously, the engineers at Toro have a designed load capacity for the Workman that should not be exceeded. However, we have found the wagons very useful when we are hauling bales of pine straw, picking up palm fronds, or other light debris. We have also found the wagon beneficial when we are transporting walk-behind spreaders. The high sides decrease the likelihood of the spreaders tipping over or falling out.
Syngenta never stops working to keep your course green.

Sure, we have an unmatched portfolio of products. From Subdue MAXX®, the industry leader against Pythium, to Barricade®, the longest-lasting pre-emergent against crabgrass. But we’re never content. Keeping turf healthy means constantly refining our formulations. And developing new ones, to ensure we always have the best products. Making sure you have the tools you need, that’s what we do.

Contact Lee Bloomcamp at 1-352-495-3405, Kevin Wasilewski at 1-863-644-1467, and Pablo Perez at 1-305-969-9996 to learn more about Syngenta.

www.syngentaprofessionalproducts.com

Important: Always read and follow label instructions before buying or using these products. ©2004 Syngenta. Syngenta Professional Products, Greensboro, NC 27419. Banner MAXX®, Barricade®, Daconil®, Heritage®, Medallion®, Monument®, Primo MAXX®, Subdue MAXX®, and the Syngenta logo are trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company.
Hurricanes Set Record
Nobody Wants Broken

By John H. Foy

The 2004 Atlantic hurricane season will certainly go down in the record books, and I for one hope the record is never broken!

Things got started off with Charlie taking a sharp right turn and making landfall in Port Charlotte on Aug. 13. This devastating category 4 storm traveled across the central part of the state and moved out into the Atlantic near Daytona Beach. Over Labor Day weekend, Hurricane Frances made landfall on the south end of Hutchinson Island. This very slow-moving category-2 storm affected the lower east coast from Palm Beach County north through Vero Beach and Melbourne. After making landfall, Frances turned north and worked her way up through the central part of the state, crossing over the earlier path of Charlie. Less than two weeks later, Hurricane Ivan threatened the Florida west coast on a similar path to Charlie before making landfall just east of Mobile Bay. Ivan was an extremely powerful storm that devastated a good portion of the Florida Panhandle before moving up through the southeast and exiting into the Atlantic. While Ivan never regained hurricane strength, its remnants did circle back south, and dropped an additional 4 to 6 inches of rain over Florida.

After making a circle move out in the Atlantic, Hurricane Jeanne turned west and made landfall during the last weekend of September. Along with intensifying to a category-3 storm, the eye of Jeanne made landfall within two miles of where Frances came on shore. The odds of winning the Florida lottery are better than the odds of two hurricanes coming on shore so close together. With four major hurricanes hitting Florida, the entire state has been impacted and some areas endured the path of two or even three storms.

For the few days before and after a storm, the news media provides ample coverage of hurricane preparations, the actual storms, and then the impacts of these natural disasters. However, it is impossible to fully appreciate the disruptions and impacts on everyday life caused by hurricanes. Battening down the hatches and taking on supplies in preparation for a hurricane consumes several days, and during this time everyone’s mental and physical stress progressively increases. Regardless of whether you evacuate to a shelter or ride out the storm in your home that has been closed up with plywood or storm shutters, stress levels hit a peak. The electricity inevitably goes out and you end up spending hours sitting in the dark listening to the howling winds and battering rain. Once the storm passes, people gradually come out and make initial damage assessments. For the first several days after a storm, recovery efforts are very slow to begin because of downed trees and power lines that make the roads very hazardous. Once recovery efforts begin in earnest, life slowly begins to return to normal, but it still takes weeks to fully get back to pre-storm routines.

Essentially every Florida golf course was impacted as a result of the hurricanes. The exception to the rule were the lucky few who were on the outer edges of the storms and experienced only minor wind damage and periods of heavy rain. For the vast majority, extensive tree and landscape plant material damage was experienced. Reports of 100 or more trees blown down are common, and for courses along the Treasure Coast that were in the path of both Frances and Jeanne, damage to 300 to 500 trees was typical. While it will be possible to save many of the trees, the aesthetic character of the golf courses has forever been changed.

Another consequence of the storms was defoliation of trees and landscape plant material. The result is a look similar to the mid-winter as opposed to the end of the summer. While regrowth has been occurring, it will not be possible to make a full recovery prior to the onset of the winter play season. On a positive note, the hurricanes did help address some tree and landscape problems. While certainly not as selective as desired, damage and loss of trees has effectively alleviated shade problems that existed at many courses. The challenge will now be fighting off demands to replant trees, which would re-create shade problems a few years down the road. At many South Florida golf courses, over-planting and the use of noxious, exotic plant material is a common problem. Hurricane damage is an excellent reason for removal of this material and, where necessary, replanting with native and better-adapted materi-
Turf doesn’t want to be smothered by a 3,000-pound machine any more than you would.

Let it breathe. The Jacobsen SLF-1880™ is the smallest 5-gang cutter in the industry. It delivers an 80” tournament quality cut without compacting the turf, resulting in healthier, more playable conditions. Besides being super-light, the SLF-1880 is available in a 33-hp and 26-hp engine. It’s also MagKnife™ compatible. Just another example of the kind of innovation that you can only get from Jacobsen. **DO MORE THAN MOW.**

---

**Golf Ventures**
2101 E. Edgewood Drive • Lakeland, FL 33803
800-330-8874
5292 SW 1st Lane • Ocala, FL 34474
352-861-4653
15790-1A Chief Court • Ft. Myers, FL 33912
800-481-8911
www.golfventuresonline.com

**Kilpatrick Turf Equipment**
7770 High Ridge Road • Boynton Beach, FL 33426
561-533-1450
1620 Trade Center Way • Naples, FL 34109
239-594-1958
www.kilpatrickequipment.com

www.jacobsen.com 1-888-922-TURF
©2004 Jacobsen, A Textron Company. All rights reserved.
Clean-up of storm debris that littered every square foot of golf courses is very time-consuming and must be completed before routine maintenance practices, such as mowing, can be re-initiated. Debris cleanup can easily take a week or two, and it is being reported by many courses that finding extra help has been very difficult, further prolonging the cleanup process. Direct turf damage from the hurricanes fortunately did not occur, but having to take heavy clean-up equipment out onto the very wet and soft turf causes damage and will require additional repair work.

At the very least, the hurricanes caused a two- to three-week setback in course preparations for the upcoming winter season. For those who have had to deal with two or even three storms, the preparation setback is more in the six- to eight-week range. To compensate for environmental stresses, heights of cut have been raised, and several weeks will be required to gradually work heights back down and reestablish appropriate conditioning. It is very important to minimize scalping damage so as not to exert additional mechanical stress and further slow growth and recovery.

I have been impressed with the speed at which recovery efforts have progressed so that the courses can be reopened to play in pretty good overall condition. As we go into the winter season with a much weaker base turf cover, there will be additional challenges and problems with maintaining course condition and quality in keeping with expectations during the winter season. Regardless of inputs, making a full recovery from the hurricanes will not be possible for many until next spring and summer. Ongoing golfer education efforts throughout the winter months are advisable to foster a degree of understanding and patience about the impacts of the 2004 hurricane season.

Green Section Internship Program — A Valuable Experience

By Todd Lowe

The USGA Green Section Internship Program offers opportunities for students studying turfgrass at universities throughout the United States to travel with USGA agronomists for one week each year. Some students hope to be golf course superintendents while others aspire to be turfgrass researchers, professors, or active in some other aspect of the industry. In any case, the internship is a real eye-opener as to the issues that superintendents face on a daily basis.

The Florida Region recently completed the 2004 Green Section Internship Program. Two graduate students from the University of Florida, Tina Duperron and Nick Pool, learned a great deal about golf course renovations, managing golf course expectations, and factors affecting the long-term health and playability of golf course turf. The interns also evaluated the playability of seashore paspalum for Florida golf courses.

Some of the agronomic issues discussed during Turfgrass Advisory Service visits included putting green playability and issues affecting turf health. Nematodes were active at most of the golf courses during the visits, and various chemical and cultural programs were discussed. Also, with the peak golfing season approaching, protecting the turf against excessive cart traffic was a common topic as well. Numerous other topics were discussed and the interns were busy taking notes during each visit.

The action-packed week was filled with TAS visits, courtesy stop-by visits as well as a regional golf course superintendents meeting. The interns also interacted with Edison Community College’s Golf Course Operations director, Dr. Lee Berndt, as they toured research/demonstration plots and discussed an upcoming USGA-funded research project that will be conducted at the college. Lastly, the interns attended a golf club membership meeting, where a presentation on putting green renovation was followed by a lively discussion with the members.

Having once been an intern myself, I know that the USGA Green Section Program is a valuable experience. No matter what segment of the golf course business the interns choose following graduation, the information gained during the internship will certainly benefit them and the entire industry.
Sea Isle 1 Keeps Your Irrigation Options Open

Option A
Streams, Canals, Rivers, Ponds, Lakes, Wells & Brackish Water
Sea Isle 1 will produce high quality fairways and roughs with high quality water. It also thrives when irrigated with many medium-to-poor quality water sources. As with all turfgrass, management practices will vary depending on water quality, rainfall and season.

Option B
Recycled Water, Gray Water and Effluent Water Sources
Recycled water usually varies by location, season, quality and nutrient content. Depending on the uniformity of your source, you may need to monitor water quality daily, weekly or monthly. Sea Isle will do quite well with up to 4, 5, even 8 thousand TDS.

Option C
Use Blended Ocean Water with Aggressive Management
Fresh water is a must during the grow-in phase, but mature turf can be irrigated with ocean water/fresh water blends. This requires a comprehensive aeration and leaching program to move excess salts downward through the soil profile.

- Most Salt Tolerant Turfgrass - Tolerates Gray Water & Effluent
- High Tolerance to Salt Spray, Water Logging and Periodic Inundations
- Low Fertilization and Minimal Pesticide Requirements - Good Rooting in Sandy, Clay or Muck-Type Soils
- Darker Green Color Than Bermudagrass - Excellent Low Light Intensity Tolerance - Excellent Winter Hardiness
- Tree-Shade Tolerance Similar to Bermuda - Can Be Overseeded with Bentgrass-Ryegrass-Alkaligrass
- Recommended pH Levels: 5.5-8.0

Sea Isle 1
Certified Seashore Paspalum
www.seaisle1.com

Phillip Jennings Turf Farms, LLC Norristown GA 877 887-3626
Emerald Island Turf, Inc. Avon Park FL 863 452-6595
Pike Creek Turf, Inc. Adel GA 800 232-7453
Rapid Turf, Inc. Rincon GA 912 826-2454
Methyl Bromide Critical Use Exemption

Update

Partial Approval Granted for Florida’s Needs

It took years, mountains of paperwork and meetings all over the globe, but finally, the U.S. and ten other developed countries won a partial one-year reprieve from the Jan. 1, 2005 deadline to phase out methyl bromide. At its March 24-26 extraordinary meeting, the parties to the Montreal Protocol approved critical-use exemptions (CUEs) for 2005 at 35 percent of 1991 levels — sort of. Any increase above 30 percent can only come from those countries’ existing stocks of materials.

Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association, in cooperation with individual commodity groups, prepares and submits the CUEs for Florida crops.

Changing the Rules

The 11 countries granted CUEs are Australia (145 metric tons), Belgium (47), Canada (55), France (407), Greece (186), Italy (2,133), Japan (284), Portugal (50), Spain (1,059), the UK (128) and the U.S. (7,659). The United States requested a multi-year CUE, but faced strong opposition from the European Union and developing countries. Those considered to be developing countries have until 2015 to phase out methyl bromide.

The Crop Protection Coalition (CPC), a group of more than 40 agricultural associations including FFVA, praised the U.S. delegation’s efforts. CPC Chairman Reggie Brown said, “There’s no doubt that they tried to advance the interests of the U.S. food and agricultural industries in a reasonable and responsible way consistent with treaty provisions.”

At the same time, however, Brown said the CPC was outraged that other parties to the treaty, particularly the European Union, were unwilling to even consider the request of the U.S. “Rather, the EU focused on attempting to rewrite the rules in the middle of the game. Those parties are pushing to ban methyl bromide even where a lack of technically and economically viable alternatives has been established,” he said.

FFVA Assistant Director, Environmental & Pest Management Division, Mike Aerts agrees, and says that the Montreal Protocol had been concerned all along with production amounts, not existing supplies plus what was produced. “The Montreal Protocol was supposed to apply to amounts of material produced,” he said. “Our thinking is that because an amount was produced in 2004, it shouldn’t even be on the negotiating table for 2005,” he said. “Now that the existing stocks have found their way into the equation, they’ll be there from now on, even though the Montreal Protocol only addresses production.”

Another issue is the one-year versus multi-year exemption concept. Aerts says that the U.S. had solid reasons for requesting multi-year exemptions. “It would decrease government investment, for one thing,” he said. “From petition generation to review, throughout the whole nomination process, it’s expensive. EPA has a whole division that has done nothing but work on CUE nominations for the past two years.”

Aerts also makes the point that annual petitions put the grower at a disadvantage. “How can you plan your production schedule without knowing if you’ll have access to something like methyl bromide, and in what quantities?” he said. “And before banks lend you money, they want to know those details.”

A Little Background Information

The full name of the meeting was the “Extraordinary Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer,” or ExMOP for short. The more than 350 participants represented 114 governments, UN agencies, non-governmental organizations, intergovernmental organizations, industries and academia.

The parties discussed issues left over from the Fifteenth Meeting of the Parties last November in Nairobi. They reached a “compromise” by differentiating between usage and production for CUEs, they reviewed the work of the Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee (MBTOC), concluded that there was room for improvement in the nomination process, and established several contact groups to work on improving the CUE nomination process. They also initiated discussions regarding further specific interim reductions of methyl bromide for the period beyond 2005 for developing nations.

The Montreal Protocol is administered through the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), which was created back in May 1981. It addressed scientific evidence originally produced in the 1970s, which alleged that various substances were damaging the earth’s ozone layer. At that time, UNEP began negotiations on an international agreement designed to protect the ozone layer. The resulting Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer was adopted. It called for cooperation, but did not force parties to reduce the levels of ozone-depleting substances.

The Montreal Protocol, developed in September 1987, defined obligations to reduce levels of ozone-depleting substances and established a timetable. A number of discussions, refinements and adjustment followed, all leading up to the March extraordinary meeting. (The term "extraordinary meeting" refers to a meeting that was organized to take care of business unresolved at a previous, regularly scheduled meeting.)

Misperceptions Rampant

The decision to grant the one-year 30 percent CUEs did not go unnoticed in the media. The Inter Press Service News Agency quoted Monica Moore, co-founder of Pesticide Action Network North America, as saying, “It is a cheap reward for those farmers and agribusinesses that have refused to use alternatives to this dangerous and unsustainable substance.”

Dr. Jamie Liebman, staff scientist with the group, told the Financial Times of London that “for all of the major uses of this pesticide as a soil fumigant, there are examples of the same crops currently grown profitably, in the U.S. and other countries, without methyl bromide.”

And Fox News reported that “over the last three years, the Bush administration has repeatedly opposed or sought to weaken and delay multinational action to reduce dangerous chemicals. This is from a network considered to be fairly friendly to the current administration.”

Maybe if more people knew that a con-
Hackmeadow Farms

Stay on Course with your Landscaping requirements

Palms
Shrubs
Trees
Grasses
Natives
Exotics
Ornamentals
Contract Growing
Wetland Restorations

(561) 204-4848
Fax (561) 842-2196
centrated long-term program of research into methyl bromide alternatives was taking place, they'd be a little more open-minded. Aerts, who helped prepare the Florida CUEs and attended the extraordinary meeting, said, "It would help our effort if we were able to get all the information from everyone who has been exploring alternatives," he said. "We have the information from university and USDA research, but we need to hear from other grower-type people who have done their own experimentation with alternatives. We know people are doing the experimentation, but we don't get the feedback."

In fact, the FFVA Foundation, which funds research and education that benefits Florida fruit and vegetable growers, supported a stack of research projects into alternatives last year. Research hasn't stopped. Experimentation continues.

"It has to be a systems approach," said Aerts. "And much needs to be understood about that type of systems approach," he said.

Friday Surprise

"What the U.S. government proposed that Wednesday morning of the extraordinary meeting was a multi-year, 30 percent level in 2005, 30 percent in 2006 and 28 percent in 2007," said Aerts. "And by that Friday night, when we walked away from the meeting, we were getting 30 percent for one year plus existing stocks,".

He says the parties were under the impression that countries could not go above 30 percent according to the Protocol. "All the State Department lawyers and others in this country say it's not a statutory requirement in the Protocol, that's just their understanding of it," he said. "The U.S. government said we needed 38.2 percent of the baseline amount, and the whole point of the Protocol is that it's based on demonstrated need. That's our demonstrated need, 38.2 percent," he said. "Friday's decisions came as a surprise to many people," said Dan Botts, FFVA's Director, Environmental & Pest Management Division.

"The primary reason the European Union and others were so intransigent is pure politics. At the urging of the U.S. non-governmental organization activists, they assured a delay would result in different outcomes in the next round. "It's an election year in the U.S.," said Aerts. "They have certain feelings about dealing with the Bush administration, so they roll the dice in case a new administration might be elected. They have nothing to lose."

Credit: FFVA news release at www.ffva.org
Editor's Note: We work with the FFVA on the Spring Regulator Tour, in which we host a golf course tour at The Old Colliers Club in Naples each spring. It is never too late to keep writing your senators and congressmen to intercede on this issue.

The GCSAA, working with methyl bromide manufacturers, submitted the critical-use exemption paperwork on behalf of all golf course turfgrass managers. However this report by our friends at FFVA, who did the same for Florida agriculture, is a prime example of the difficulties encountered in trying to work out a fair and just allocation and use of this product.

As recently as October, Hendrix & Dail was asking us to send letters and emails to our legislators to impress upon EPA the need for a economical and practical allocation system so that the turfgrass industry can use the best and most environmentally sound soil fumigant since no comparable alternative has been produced.
Family

Remember when family meant “one for all and all for one”?

Harrell’s hasn’t forgotten.

In fact, we’ve always considered customers, employees and suppliers as family. Because we are all connected. Harrell’s has spent years ensuring that you can count on us for quality ingredients, state-of-the-art technology and old-fashioned service. And we’ve come to depend on you for friendship, business and new ideas. That’s a relationship to be proud of—and a family worth growing.

Call to speak with a Harrell’s family representative or call toll-free 1-800-282-8007

Or visit our Web site: www.harrells.com
The key to attracting purple martins to golf courses is location, location, location of the nesting apartment houses. The perfect site would be on the shore of a pond, lake, stream, river or bay with no tall trees within 40 feet and a home or building within 40-50 yards.

Being next to water guarantees the purple martins open spaces for soaring and hunting, availability of water for drinking and cooling eggs or chicks in very hot weather. Young purple martins defecate in membrane-lined fecal sac which the adults carry away from the nest and drop in the water, as opposed to land, so that predators cannot follow a trail back to the nest.

Before eastern Native Americans started hanging hollow gourds for purple martins to nest in, martins nested in abandoned woodpecker cavities. For the last 1,000 years or so, first native Americans, then colonists and then subsequent generations of Americans to the present have put up homes for purple martins.

East of Arizona and New Mexico’s suaro cactus deserts, purple martins have completely abandoned tree cavities as nest sites and now nest exclusively in human-supplied housing. Martins have learned that by living close to humans, should there be a predator attack (raccoon, snake, hawk or owl) frantic purple martin activity often brings human assistance to drive the predator away. Knowing this, purple martins are more likely to colonize an apartment close to human dwellings rather than one farther away.

Purple martins are preyed upon by coopers’ and sharp-shinned hawks. If the martins see a hawk coming and can get into the air, their terrific flying skills prevent them from being caught. However, if nearby trees obscure martin vision of an approaching hawk, they can be caught sitting on their apartments before getting airborne. Thus, instinctively, martins usually choose apartment sites 40 feet or more away from tall trees.

Please note however that it is not necessary to choose the absolutely perfect location for an apartment house (near water, away from trees, close to a dwelling) to attract purple martins in Florida. There are so many purple martins seeking nesting opportunities in Florida, they will frequently choose less than ideal sites. They will nest away from water if there is a dwelling and no tall trees close by. Occasionally they will nest closer than 40 feet to tall trees. The closer to the ideal site, the greater will be the probability of attracting martins.

In south Florida, a purple martin apartment in an ideal location has at least a 90 percent probability of attracting them in the first year. Of the 50 or so apartments I have erected in the last eight years, almost all had nesting birds the first year. How fast can it happen? Once at a Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary festival, I set up an apartment as a demonstration at my display booth in the parking lot at 8 a.m. By 11 a.m. there were four purple martins inspecting the housing, even with cars and people milling about close by. On another occasion I put up a martin apartment for a friend at Windstar Country Club. When I finished, we retired to his lanai to celebrate with some wine. After half an hour I heard purple martins vocalizing in the distance. In the next 30 minutes we had 10 martins going in and out of the gourds. Boy, we really celebrated then.

Some purple martin enthusiasts use a trick or two to increase the probability of success. I have not found them necessary, but I offer them if you are so inclined:

1. At dawn near the apartment, play a tape recording of the purple martin dawn song.
2. Martins instinctively know that
Trees were September 2004 we found the golf course a mess. As I do, I don’t know if that was true; it was just my observation. The smaller the animal was, the faster the return. I was looking for fish. They hover before diving and white markings on their bellies. They can soar on thermals and they were looking for new nesting sites or after the storm because their nests were blown down. There were many more ospreys after the storm then before. One bird that we did notice in its return was the osprey; not only because of its size but there was gone and water damage was visible throughout the course. While the staff and I were busy doing the clean up I would stop every so often to check around for wildlife. At first there was not much to see. I think the smaller the animal was, the faster the return. I don’t know if that was true; it was just my observation.

One bird that we did notice in its return was the osprey; not only because of its size but there were many more ospreys after the storm then before the storm. Sometimes I could count as many as 20 at one time from the No. 6 tee.

I believe that there were more ospreys after the storm because their nests were blown down and they were looking for new nesting sites or because there just happened to be an abundant amount of food in the area. Either way, it was nice to see so many around the golf course. I hope the following information helps you enjoy this bird as much as I do.

Flight and Hunting

Ospreys are fish hawks that have brown and white markings on their bellies. They can soar on wind currents, but most of their flight is with wings flapping actively. Ospreys hunt by flying over the water looking for fish. They hover before diving towards the water, then plunge in feet-first. Mullet are a good prey fish in Florida because they school, swim in shallow water, and are rich in fat.

Ospreys usually hunt alone during early morning and late afternoon. Ospreys that are not parents need to catch one to three fish a day. A breeding male, who must fish for two or three babies and a mate, has to catch six to eight fish a day.

Ospreys have special adaptations that make them better fish-hunters. For one thing, the bottoms of their feet have many short spines that help them to hang onto a slimy fish. Many birds have three toes and a thumb, but the osprey can turn his third toe around, so he can have an extra-strong grip with two fingers and two thumbs. Ospreys have extremely sharp talons and a strong hooked beak for tearing fish into bite-sized pieces. They also have very oily feathers that help keep them dry when they splash into the water.

Reference


death by an owl’s talon or crow’s beak comes through the entrance hole. They want to nest as far back from the hole as possible. Typical apartment units are 6”x6”x6”, which is effective but small. By removing the back panel of back to back units the depth can be increased. Given the opportunity, martins always choose the deeper units.

3. Since female martins have a need for calcium during egg formation, some martin landlords mount a small tray of dried, crushed chicken egg shells on the colony support pole. Because Florida has lots of limestone deposits near the surface, I think there is plenty of calcium in the food web that martins feed from. Calcium supplements have never been necessary to attract purple martins in my experience.

Yearly Cycle of the Purple Martins

For Florida residents, a year in the lives of purple martins might be as follows. Almost all martins winter in southeastern Brazil where they fly the coffee, sugar and citrus plantations feeding on insects. They migrate north to Florida by one of two routes. They leave the coast of northeast South America and island hop via the Lesser Antilles, Greater Antilles and the Bahamas to Florida; or they migrate north through Central America and congregate up on the northern tip of the Yucatan Peninsula and wait for a southwestern wind called the “Yucatan Express” to help push them in a 12-14 hour period across the Gulf of Mexico to Florida’s shores.

South Florida purple martin enthusiasts eagerly anticipate, communicate via the internet, the first martin sighting, which often occurs in the first or second week in January. However, the majority of martins arrive sometime in late February and throughout March. Late stragglers, mostly first-year birds, may arrive through the month of April.

Most martins start nesting in late March and early April. It takes them 7-10 days to build a nest, mostly of pine needles and mud. Young birds lay two to four eggs, while older adults lay four to six. Eggs are incubated for 14-16 days. Hatchlings leave the nest on average after 28 days.

A chick’s first flight is a grand and important moment. Frequently five or six adults will fly with the chick urging it on to the nearest tree or telephone wire. If the fledgling falls short of the target and falls to the ground, it is abandoned. Outside of collecting nesting materials, purple martins rarely land on the ground.

Once successfully fledged, the martins may return to their apartments for a few nights, but for the most part, nights are spent roosting in trees. Adults feed the young another 7-14 days after fledging, but from then on the young must catch their own insect food.

In south Florida, purple martins are seen accumulating in evening roosts on the coast as early as July. One evening a magic stimulus will set them off across the Gulf heading for Central or South America. Martins seen in Florida in October or November are most likely northern nesting birds passing through on their fall migration. In south
Introducing Howard ProFusion with Ronstar.

New precision process; evenly coated with Ronstar

Granules coated with a process considered the most accurate in the industry

Heat-infused. Even coated. Howard ProFusion with Ronstar is a proprietary, state-of-the-art, heat-infused coating process we apply to our AccuBlend fertilizers.

Extremely accurate. Evenly applied. In application, a precision coat of Ronstar is applied to every angle of each prill.

No Ronstar dust. Less chance of burn. Translation—no Ronstar dust greatly reduces the risk of burn and promises more consistent weed control. Meaning, there’s a more even application of Ronstar on each granule—in turn, a more even distribution of Ronstar on your course.

Contact your sales representative today to schedule an appointment. You’ll receive an on-the-spot custom assessment, AccuBlend recommendations and product pricing via our cutting-edge custom software.

For more detailed information on Howard ProFusion with Ronstar and AccuBlend, visit our Web site at howardfertilizer.com.

Howard ProFusion—A process that leaves the competition in the dust... if ours had dust.

RONSTAR®

THE CUSTOM BLEND SPECIALISTS IN THE SOUTHEAST.

ProFusion + AccuBlend = Superior Ronstar product
888-668-5868 • howardfertilizer.com
Florida, February through July are the prime purple martin months.

**Martins and Mosquitos**

Much has been claimed about purple martin diets. One manufacturer of the aluminum apartments (in a display of questionable business ethics) claims purple martins can eat 2,000 mosquitoes a day. However, since martins are a diurnal creature and mosquitoes are crepuscular to nocturnal, martins do not eat that many mosquitoes.

Purple martins are the largest of seven U.S. nesting swallows and tend to feed on larger insects like bees, wasps, moths, locust, damsel and dragonflies. A conservative estimate of 3 to 6 percent of a martin diet might be mosquitoes. In areas of the more diurnal salt marsh mosquitoes, the percentage may be higher.

Dragonflies are one of the martin’s favorite preys. Occasionally a dead, dried skeletal baby martin with a huge dragonfly stuffed in its throat will be found in an old nest, attesting to their excessive enthusiasm for these insects.

**Landlord Duties**

As a golf course superintendent or purple martin landlord, what responsibilities do you have? Duties can range from almost nothing to very extensive; it’s your choice. They can be delegated to staff members, an interested resident or club member or a hired outside consultant like me. I don’t recommend doing nothing but putting up the martin house. However, I do know of a couple of courses where the landlord effort is nil, but the martin colonies seem abuzz with activity during the nesting season.

It used to be an absolute rule that every fall apartments should be cleaned of old nests, and fresh nesting material and insect control be provided. When the Purple Martin Conservation Association did some research, they found that returning martins chose nest compartments that were not cleaned of old nest material over those that were cleaned out. Come to think of it, who emptied out the old nests before the advent of human-supplied housing? Nevertheless landlords who supply fresh nesting material and parasite control also seem to provide other needed activities.

Occasionally English sparrows and European starlings may monopolize martin housing. If so, housing must be lowered and be rid of the invaders’ nests. Aside from displacing martins from nesting, these sparrows and starlings often destroy martin eggs and kill martin young. Additionally, sparrows and starling young produced at these apartments will then go on to displace bluebirds, great crested flycatchers and woodpeckers from natural tree cavities. Better yet, eastern sparrows and European starlings are not protected by law and can be eliminated judiciously by pellet gun or traps available from the PMCA.

Some landlords may lower the housing every 5-7 days to check for egg theft, parasite problems, and predation. However, when the oldest young of the colony are 24 days old, apartment inspection should be discontinued in order to prevent premature fledging which can be tragic as mentioned earlier.

Lice and botfly are usually controlled by sprinkling or blowing diatomaceous earth into the nest material at winter cleaning. This natural product controls the parasites physically not chemically by the numerous silica spicules which scratch and penetrate the soft body of the lice and botfly larvae. If fire ant parasitation occurs, it is usually deadly, so if fire ant nests are nearby they should be controlled.

Sometimes rat snakes or black racers will climb the support poles and attack the

---

**Pasadena Wildlife**

A large flock of skimmers resting on a fairway.

A pair of cormorants wanders into skimmer territory and they hear about it.

This great white heron is one of many shorebirds at Pasadena.

Anhinga roosting among the mangroves.

Space limitations forced us to omit some photos of the abundant wildlife at Pasadena Yacht & Country Club, cover story of the Fall 2004 issue of the Florida Green. This avian collection is a bright addition to the Stewardship section.
Join us in February....

USGA Green Section Reports:
Recovering from Winterkill
Feb. 3 at Noon, Central

Three USGA regional agronomists will share their strategies during this 90-minute session, launching the new USGA/GCSAA series.

Lunch & Learn series:
Using Groomers to Condition Your Turf
Feb. 9 at Noon, Central

*presented live from the education conference in Orlando*

Milt Engelke, Ph.D. will share research results, including photos that compare field plot conditions.

Live @ 5IVE series:
Rescue 911 for Turfgrass Frostbite & Heat Exhaustion
Feb. 22 at 5 p.m., Central

Jack Fry, Ph.D., gives you the details you need to know about these seasonal stresses. Our new time slot helps you end the day on a positive note.

Seating is limited! See the complete calendar at www.gcsaa.org or call 800-472-7878 to register by phone.
young. Additionally they may cause the adults to abandon the colony. I have only had snake predation twice in eight years among all the colonies that I monitor. In both cases I found the snakes early. They were sleeping off their meal of martin young. Normally, I promote snakes on golf courses and I go out of my way not to kill them, but when they are actively eating their way through a colony I will dispatch them. An alternative is to remove and relocate them far away from the colony in an appropriate habitat.

Crows and owls are major predators of purple martin colonies. Literature suggests that almost all colony colonies have some crow and owl predation. Unless you regularly check your apartments you probably will never know this is occurring. It is very important to use crow and owl guards on apartment houses that have front porches. These porches make it easy for these predators to pluck martin young from their compartments. For the 12 aluminum apartments I use, a gridwork is available that permits martins to pass through but not the larger birds. Prior to gridwork installation, increasing crow populations on Naples Bay almost wiped out the bay’s purple martin colonies. Gourds, especially the oversized plastic ones that are now available, make it very difficult for these predators. No guards are needed on the gourds.

Children and Purple Martins

Not only do golf courses and purple martins go together, so do children and purple martins. Getting children and martins together on a golf course is a win-win situation.

A while back, Olde Florida Golf Club sponsored one of my purple martin apartments for the Laurel Oak Elementary School. For a couple of springs, the students helped me get the apartment ready for returning birds. During the outings I would present a short program on martins in the field. In early May I would lower the apartment for the students to see the eggs and young. We would then return to the classroom for a brief slide show. Both the teachers and students were extremely positive about these activities.

When teaching bird watching to fifth graders, I found purple martins to be good subjects for beginning birders to observe and practice binocular skills. Student powers of observation are heightened while determining the difference between males and female martins and between first-year and older breeding adults. Because martins are “in your face” birds they provide an outstanding opportunity to discuss many aspects of bird behavior and biology while at the colony location.

Once a golf course has three or four colonies going, it should be possible, for a period of six or so weeks, to have four or five students weekly lower the apartments and take egg and young data. In the classroom, students can present their data and follow and compare each colony for the study period. Mathematical skills can be practiced by determining means, modes and averages for each colony and the entire golf course. Also there would be an opportunity for students to relate field observations of martin behavior (and golf course stewardship) to the rest of the class.

Rewards and Satisfaction

One of the best rewards a superintendent can receive after putting up a purple martin apartment comes when the residents and golfers see what wonderful entertainment martins can provide and ask to put up their own apartments. In the Naples area this has occurred red at Pelican Bay, Marco Island, Bonita Bay West and Pelican Marsh country clubs. Both Stonebridge and Windstar now have more than seven colonies on each of their courses. Resident interest provides an opportunity for superintendents to ask residents for help in caring for and monitoring the course colonies.

Other courses in the Naples area having success with purple martin apartments that I have supplied include Colliers Reserve, Old Colliers, Bonita Bay East, Tiburon, West Bay, Wildcat Run, Quail West, Twin Eagles, Naples Golf & Beach Club, Eagle Creek, Country Club of Naples and The Colony.

Additional sources for information are local experts, Web sites and the Purple Martin Conservation Association located at the Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Edinboro, PA 16444. Phone: 814-734-4420. Web site: pmca@edinboro.edu or www.purplemartin.org. This organization is dedicated to the conservation of purple martins through scientific research, state-of-the-art wildlife management techniques and public education.

The PMCA publishes an outstanding quarterly magazine, The Purple Martin Update. This quarterly contains articles on martin biology, answers landlord questions about problems and shares landlord experiences. The magazine is known for its outstanding color photographs and representations.
Don’t miss it. That’s the bottom line.

For information, call 800.472.7878 or register now at golfindustryshow.com
Ring Around the Collars

By Brian Unruh, Ph.D.

Over the past several years, superintendents from Memphis to West Palm Beach have observed small, ring-like symptoms on their bermudagrass putting greens (Fig. 2). Symptoms typically begin to show up in the springtime, with small rings and/or patches of damaged turf. As the season progresses, the rings and patches slowly grow in size or disappear completely, or disappear and then reappear later in the season. At the onset of bermudagrass dormancy, the rings and patches become most pronounced and superintendents and golfers are forced to live with the unsightliness through the busy winter season. Because of the nature of the small rings, Dr. Mike Healy of Healy and Associates, Inc., has dubbed the phenomenon “Mini-Ring disease.”

Although ultradwarf bermudagrass varieties are the most common hosts of the unwanted rings, the 2004 season revealed that Tifdwarf and possibly Tifgreen are susceptible as well. Similarly, ring symptoms were thought to be found mainly on high sand content, low cation-exchange-capacity (CEC) putting greens. However, rings have been observed in low sand content, high CEC soils as well.

Fig. 1. Mini rings seem more pronounced in surface drainage areas and height of cut doesn’t seem to matter. Photo by Brian Unruh.

Fig. 2. Superintendents begin to see small rings in the spring. They subside during growing season reappear during fall dormancy. Photo by Brian Unruh.

Fig. 3. Water droplets are absorbed in non-damaged areas but not in the damaged areas. Photo by Brian Unruh.

Fig. 4. In the spring the overseeding seems to stimulated within the ring. Photo by Brian Unruh.
sighted on native soil, push-up greens which have higher CECs and higher organic matter content. These conditions suggest that the soil’s water-holding and/or nutrient-holding capacity may somehow be involved in the development of this condition.

Larry Stowell, of PACE Turfgrass Research Institute in San Diego, has noted the hydrophobic nature of the mycelium growing over the surface of a sample of TifEagle from Mississippi. In non-damaged areas of the turf, water droplets are immediately absorbed into the thatch, but in damaged areas, the water droplet remains on the turf surface without being absorbed (Fig. 3). In some cases — but not all — superintendents observing the rings on their putting greens regularly use wetting agents.

Superintendents have racked their brains trying to find common denominators but have found exceptions to most hypotheses. Observations that tend to recur are:

- Rings are worse in surface drainage areas (Fig. 1).
- Increased mowing height (collar) does not appear to relieve symptoms (Fig. 1).
- Subtle rings can be masked by increased nitrogen fertility.
- In the spring, the overseed is stimulated in the ring (Fig. 4).

Dr. Stowell states: “The cause of the condition remains a mystery at this point. Although several different fungi have been identified from turf samples (including Rhizoctonia, Curvularia, fairy ring and ectotrophic root-infecting fungi, spring dead spot), no one fungus stands out as the culprit. In some cases, the damaged areas are hydrophobic (water repellent), a condition that can develop due to the growth of a large number of bacteria and/or fungi.”

In extensive fungicide research and demonstration trials, the symptoms are not easily relieved via fungicide applications alone. Minimal to no control has been achieved from applications of major turf fungicides including the SI, QoI, benzimidazole, dicarboximide, and multi-site products. To date, the only treatments that appear to alleviate the symptoms are various combinations of nitrogen, peat, zeolite and the humus/manure-based products.

A team of turf scientists, plant pathologists, and industry leaders including Dr. Stowell; Dr. Phil Colbaugh, Texas A&M University; Dr. Phil Harmon, University of Florida; Dr. Healy; Dr. Henry Wetzel, Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.; Mr. Steve Davis, Bayer Environmental Sciences; and the author are diligently working on this serious turf problem. When more information is learned, it will be made available.

---

You can’t beat the Kubota turf team.

Whether you’re mowing, seeding, hauling, dumping or tilling, this threesome from Kubota can cover a lot of ground...quickly, efficiently and easily.

RTV900 Utility Vehicle
21.6 HP Kubota diesel engine
Turf tire package optional
3-range variable hydrostatic transmission

ZD Pro Zero-Turn Mower
21 and 28 HP Kubota diesel engines
5.5", 7-gauge steel fabricated deck
Shaft-drive transmission and mower deck
60" and 72" cutting width

Grand L30 Series Compact Tractor
30 to 50 HP Kubota diesel engines
IntelliPanel™ all digital display
Turf tire package optional

Visit one of these authorized Kubota dealers near you!

BRADENTON
Franz Tractor Company
5504 15th Street
(941) 758-2020

DAVIE
Growers Equipment
2595 Davie Road
(954) 916-1020

DELAND
Triple D Equipment
2820 S. Firehouse Rd.
(386) 734-2119
tripleddflr.com

FT. MYERS
Cree Tractor Company
3771 Palm Beach Blvd.
(239) 694-2183/(800) 282-7949
www.creetractor.com

JACKSONVILLE
Coastal Equipment Systems
5287 New Kings Road
(904) 924-9624

NAPLES
Florida Coast Equipment
694 Commercial Blvd.
(239) 435-1667

WINTER HAVEN
Polk Tractor Co.
3450 Havendale Blvd.
(863) 967-0651/(800) 532-8783

Kubota
EVERYTHING YOU VALUE

KUBOTA TRACTOR CORPORATION MARKETS A FULL LINE OF TRACTORS AND CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT THROUGH A NATIONWIDE NETWORK OF OVER 1,000 AUTHORIZED DEALERS.

©Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2004
California Dreamin’ in Southwest Florida

By Kyle D. Sweet, CGCS

(Editor’s note: Stories like the one Kyle Sweet is sharing here is but one more example of the talent, imagination, creativity and adaptability of golf course superintendents everywhere. By displaying a “can do” attitude, superintendents demonstrate their value to their clubs in many unexpected ways. They just don’t teach this stuff at turf school.)

Today’s golf course superintendent is a far cry from the role filled many years ago. The rising expectations for turfgrass management, environmental safety, and ongoing labor challenges are enough to keep anyone busy. Well, for the fun of it, let’s add golfer/member relations to that laundry list. Although this may be an area that many of us shy away from, I would like to highlight one great evening at The Sanctuary Golf Club that might just change your mind.

The golf season in Southwest Florida takes place from November to April. Early in the 2003/2004 golf season, a group of five members approached me about hosting a “California Dreamin’” party for more than 200 members at my maintenance facility. Their ideas were excellent and without hesitation I began to work with them on the party that took place Feb. 29, 2004.

Although our facility is only a few hundred feet from the best beaches on the Gulf Coast, we needed the beach at our front door. With 20 tons of fresh bunker sand delivered, we got it. All of the equipment was removed from the shop. If it wasn’t bolted down, it was removed. And we placed the sand throughout the entire equipment-storage area with a front-end loader. A dance floor was created with sand approximately 6 inches deep and, throughout many seating areas, the sand was installed at a 3-inch depth. A bunker rake was used to thoroughly smooth the surface and the result was amazing.

That was the easy part. Now, with the sand in place, the members and an interior decorating company sprang into action and decorated both

How to build a beach. Start with 20 tons of sand and an empty maintenance building.
the interior and exterior with palm trees, murals, ceiling coverings, food and beverage tents, bars, and seating for more than 200. Once the band set up, the preparation was complete, and the facility didn't look or feel much like the "shop" we started with earlier in the day.

Fortunately, my family and I were invited to attend along with my two long-term assistants. We greeted many members attending the party, took photographs, and of course discussed questions or comments about the golf course. The Sanctuary food and beverage department supplied the finest food and drink for the evening and a wonderful time was had by the members and staff alike.

Now, several weeks later, our department is still hearing the compliments on our cooperative effort with our members and the use of our facility in creating a “California Dreamin’” party that everyone will remember.

Bunker rake. Beach rake. What’s in a name? It smoothed out our indoor party beach just fine.

The members and interior decorators took over to finish the transformation to a beach scene.

From shop to shore, we were now ready to entertain 200 people at the beach party.
2004 Photo Contest Results

Category 2 – Formal Landscape

Formal landscape beds add color and visual appeal to golf courses, but they also require maintenance. Congratulations to the winners:

First Place – “Old Hickory Main Entrance” by John Stach, Old Hickory G&CC, Ft. Myers

Second Place – “No. 16 Tee Azaleas in Bloom” by Tom Biggy, Bent Tree, Sarasota

Category 3 – Native Areas: includes beds of native plants including trees, shrubs and grasses used in naturalized areas to reduce turf inputs and aquatic vegetation plantings used to create habitat and protect water quality.

Category 4 – Scenic Hole: includes any view of a golf hole (panoramic or close up) that demonstrates the scenic beauty of a golf course.

Easy Rules

1. Color prints or slides. Prefer prints. Only one entry per category. Digital images: Digital image entries must be taken at a resolution setting of 300 dpi or higher and saved as jpeg or tiff (tif) format images. Images taken, saved and sent at lower resolutions will not qualify for the contest. If you’re not sure. Send a print instead.

2. Photo must be taken on an FGCSA member’s course. Photo must be taken by an FGCSA member or a member of his staff.

3. Attach a label on the back of the print or slide which identifies the category, course and photographer. DO NOT WRITE DIRECTLY ON THE BACK OF THE PRINT. Each print shall be attached to an 8.5-inch x 11-inch sheet of paper using a loop of masking tape on the back of the print. Slides should be in plastic sleeves for easy access for viewing. Digital images must be accompanied by the same information in an email or document, or on a CD.

4. A caption identifying the category, course and photographer should be typed or printed on the sheet of paper below the mounted print.

5. Judging will be done by a panel of FGCSA members not participating in the contest.

6. Mail entries in a bend proof package marked PHOTOS DO NOT BEND to Joel Jackson, 6780 Tamarind Circle, Orlando, 32819. Entries postmarked after August 1, 2005 will be automatically entered in the 2006 Photo Contest.

2005 Photo Contest

Category 1 – Wildlife on the course: includes any critter on the course that walks, flies, swims, slithers or crawls.

Category 2 – Formal Landscaping: includes annuals and ornamental shrubs and trees planted in formal beds on the course or club entrance.
The year 2004 produced some memorable moments in sports.

The biggest was the amazing run of the Boston Red Sox, who won eight straight games to win the World Series. And how appropriate that their final victory came on the evening of a lunar eclipse. Or that’s what the astronomers told us happened. I believe that in actual fact the moon disappearing was the “Bambino” looking down from on high and with a big wink said “OK, I forgive them after 86 years.” The Yaz couldn’t do it, Fred Lynne couldn’t do it, the grounder through Bill Buckner’s legs kept them from doing it, but finally the curse is over.

Snuffed out by gutsy pitching, long balls and Irish Luck. The Bosox are World Champs.

How about Vijay Singh? Ten tournaments, and almost $11 million. That’s one dollar for every practice ball he hit in the last twelve months. Then there’s the Tiger who slipped from number 1 to number 3. Mild distractions like a new 155-foot, $57 million yacht, a Caribbean wedding which attracted a Who’s Who from across the globe, and the Swedish beauty herself. I’m glad to see him squeezing something beside a Golf Pride grip. About time he stopped to smell the roses, the sweet fruit of his labor, to become a complete person and not just a golf machine.

And then there’s his Orlando neighbor, Annika Sorenstam. Ten wins worldwide and over $2.5 million and already a member of the Hall of Fame, I don’t know how she keeps herself mentally for the most mentally challenging game in the world. Maybe, if they have her at the Skins game again next year, they will let her hit from the tees about 40 yards up from the guys. Having her hit from the same tees as the men is like going bear hunting with a stick.

Philly Mick ended his own curse with a Masters win. Now he is not the best player in the world without a Major victory. And how about Phil’s final round in the Grand Slam of Golf: just missing a nine-footer on the 18th for 58? He joins the 59 club. He did this after taking two weeks off before the event and announced after his triumph that he was going to take the next three weeks off. Must be nice! Wouldn’t you love to take a few weeks off after successfully overseeding your greens or completing a renovation project? Gee, them Tour pros got it tough.

How about those 2 and 9 (at this point) Dolphins? Who would have thunk it. At least their horrible season saw the departure of Dave Wrongstadt. The team needs a complete overhaul: new offensive line, new receivers, new quarterback, new running back (<ITAL>machts nichts<> on No. 34), a new front office and let’s get Jerry Glanville out of retirement to coach. Miami needs a House of Pain and you gotta love a guy who always left two tickets at will call for Elvis.

I think the Gators made a big mistake...
dumping Ron Zook. I don’t see anyone out there to replace him who could do a better job. Since “Spurs” turned them down, perhaps the school will see the error of their ways and rehire him. The poor Hurricanes almost pulled it off despite losing seven first-round picks from last year and 12 injuries to key personnel on both sides of the ball. The next two years could spell real trouble to the other top teams if the ‘Canes can stay healthy and out of jail. I guess I now have to say something about Florida State: I don’t like Bobby Bowden. I’ve never liked him and am quite sure I never will!!! Sorry Jeb because Tallahassee is such a pretty town. All those live oaks, Spanish moss, and chiggers. Then there’s the rest of the state teams who also need help: Marlins, Devil Rays, Bucs, Jags. We’ll say a little prayer for you, which won’t help because you all need BIG TIME HELP! Let’s turn up the Heat. Can they make the playoffs with an attack of the Shaq? They just lost a game to the Pistons who have two starters on suspension. Let’s close on a real high note. Ron Artest climbing into the box seats to pummel a fan who may or may not have thrown a cup of liquid refreshment – a real class act. Six or seven others also received suspensions, including Reggie Miller who received a one-game suspension for wiping up the floor after the melee. Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy 2005, let’s hope it’s not the same old jive.

While many of you were throwing down overseed to end a rough, hurricane-infested summer and sow hope for a better fall, and while sports teams were setting new all-time lows for sportsmanship in basketball and football, I was quietly becoming eligible for early Social Security at the ripe old age of 62. On the up side I may soon be able to shoot my age in golf, at least I’ll keep trying and I hope you will too.

All of us pass many milestones on the road of life, and let’s be truthful, some of them can be stumbling blocks and obstacles that make us lose sight of the big picture. But most of our milestones are ceremonial, like attaining a certain age that bestows privileges like a having a driver’s license, the right to vote, consuming a cold beer legally and alas finally drawing Social Security. Other milestones might include graduating from college, getting married, having and raising kids, surviving a serious accident or health problem and being successful in your work.

The good and bad milestones on your life’s journey will come automatically with or without your help. They say you only go ‘round once fair; it just goes on. And so must you.

I ride the roller coaster with all of you. It tickles me to hear of a superintendent celebrating his 10th, 20th, 30th year at a club. It saddens me to hear about folks with the same tenures being let go, and we never seem to know exactly why. But we have lingered long enough at the termination milestone. Too many have passed it, but thankfully most have survived and found out there is life after being fired, so you’ve got that going for you.

At age 40 you can start your second childhood. When you turn 50, AARP sends you an invitation to join and start getting those automatic “senior citizen” discounts. And at my age 62 you can start drawing early retirement with reduced benefits. One of my friends says he has signed up, and he has to live to 84 before contemporaries who wait till they are eligible for full retirement catch up to him; for my age group that’s almost age 66. That’s one of those milestones I’m trying to figure out how to handle intelligently.

Meanwhile, I’m happy doing what I do and I hope you are too. If not, then you really should be looking inward to find out what you would like to do and start moving in that direction. It makes no sense to wander aimlessly down the road of life with your shoulder to the grindstone and miss out on all the wondrous sights along the way.

The good and bad milestones on your life’s journey will come automatically with or without your help. They say you only go ‘round once in life, but if you do it right, once is enough. I’ll drink to that.

Late breaking news....

Just when Floridians are putting their lives and property back together from four hurricanes, along comes the Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunamis that have killed more than 120,000 people (as of Dec. 31). The total devastation to the homes and infrastructure and overwhelming loss of life are almost incomprehensible.

The disruption and destruction to Floridian’s lives and property is no less real, but the magnitude of the Asian Rim disaster must have us counting our blessings in retrospect. People still need help and support here at home, and so do the devastated citizens in the Far East.

The forces of nature have a way of reminding us how fragile mankind can be in the world around us. Against the backdrop of this awful natural catastrophe and its far reaching consequences, thekillings and loss of life for political reasons in the midst and else where only proves how arrogant and shallow some humans can be.

Let us resolve to live better lives in the coming year and give thanks for our blessings every day.
It's hard to beat the performance of TMI turfgrass varieties!

For Successful Seeding, call . . .

Butch Gill ..................... 706-883-8970
Joe Baggett .................. 251-583-8900
Roy Bates ....................... 239-825-8064
Michael Bonetti ............. 561-357-3286

Bodie Boudreaux .......... 251-752-0198
Jeff Fitzpatrick .......... 912-353-8815
Pete Giauque ............... 678-910-1215
Jeremy Harvey ............. 770-205-8754
Brent Holmes ............... 904-476-0413
Richard Kirkland ......... 863-698-8328
Steve Sellen ................. 404-432-3345
Roger Welker ............... 772-260-0282
Jerry Whitaker ............. 229-938-1755
Glenn Zakany ............... 239-851-1541

Compare test results of proven overseeding grasses and you'll notice similarities. V.I.P. 3 Turf Type Perennial Blend is a combination of quality and performance...and at an amazingly affordable price. Contains #1 ranked varieties. Available in specific overseeding formulations. Varieties chosen for outstanding ease of transitioning, and genetic dark green color. Contains endophytes.

PIZZAZZ promises to set the standard for the next decade. Its dark green color and dense turf make it an attractive choice for parks, home lawns and golf courses. Clonal selections contained high levels of endophytes, and this synthetic variety is lower growing than many older varieties.

Paragon is in a class all of its own. In fact, we are so certain that you will want Paragon in your turf program because of its superior turf qualities, we have taken measures to ensure that once you see Paragon for yourselves that you will be able to readily get seed for this coming fall season. It's that good. Better color, finer texture, improved disease resistance. Paragon - the professionals choice.

Paragon PERENNIAL RYEGRASS

Created to meet the specific needs for seeding athletic fields, lawns, and golf courses. Establishes quickly and performs well under moderate to low fertility. Barracuda will grow under a greater variety of conditions than other grass seed, even on soils very poor in lime. Barracuda is a perennial grass with a creeping habit of growth, darker green than common redtop. Drought tolerant, dense turf with excellent mowing qualities.

Private and university trials have shown Cypress to be a premier overseeding grass. Cypress Poa trivialis establishes fast and can be cut close immediately, even after overseeding. As your Bermudagrass goes dormant, Cypress will provide the finest dark green putting surface with no interruption in play. Cypress is tolerant to shade and damp soils. This unique prostrate growing variety thrives in cool weather and will survive cold weather that will damage Turf Type Ryegrasses. But most important, Cypress will maintain its dark green color all winter long. As the weather turns hot in the spring, Cypress will die out naturally as your Bermudagrass begins to grow. Cypress will not choke out your Bermudagrass in the spring as some heat tolerant Perennial Ryegrasses do.

TMI has spent years developing StarDust to be more disease resistant and is one of the darkest commercial Poa trivis for better color matches with some of today’s darkest green ryegrasses. University overseeding trials in Florida and Arizona have shown StarDust is setting the next standard that other Poa trivis can only hope to achieve!

Perfecting Turfgrass Performance.

33390 Tangent Loop
Tangent, OR 97389
Phone: (541) 926-8649
800-421-1735
Fax: (541) 926-4435
www.turfmerchants.com
Quality...Support...Value

With Nucrane, you can still get all three...

When it comes to providing solid quality, support, and value. The old industry joke used to go...“pick any two”...

Not so with Nucrane. Here we are able to proudly provide quality John Deere equipment, unparalleled service support, and new factory incentives geared to provide you the customer with the most competitive pricing ever.

For a true “triple play”, call us.

2020 Seabird Way
Riviera Beach, FL 33404
(561) 842-0440

72104 Corporate Way
1000 Palms, CA 92276
(760) 343-0270

6361 Industrial Blvd
Las Vegas, NV 89118
(702) 263-4512

Questions/Comments?
Email direct to:
JDMail@Nucrane.com

www.nucrane.com
www.deere.com

Nucrane Machinery

John Deere