



Pelican Pointe G&CC: Twenty-seven reasons to play golf!

On the southwest coast of Florida just below Sarasota, situated roughly halfway between Interstate 75 and the Gulf of Mexico, the LittleStone Management Group operates a 27-hole golf course complex in the residential-golf community of Pelican Pointe in Venice.

The Meadows and Preserve nines opened in 1995 and Hatchett Creek nine opened seven years later. The 40-acre Hatchett Creek Conservation area lies within the confines of the golf course and provides ample cover for a diverse

wildlife population, which utilizes the 40 lakes on the property. Residents and golfers who are birding enthusiasts must have a field day on the course. I know I enjoyed my bird and critter watching during my two visits to do the story.

Since this is a residential-golf community, home sites border many of the holes, but every hole is also bordered by a waterway or wooded native area, giving the course a very natural feel. The man in charge of keeping everything looking good and playing well is Dan

Haubein. Haubein rose to the rank of superintendent much like an enlisted person in the service who receives a battlefield commission – he earned it!

Haubein's dad is a retired navy master chief, who finished his naval career in the Jacksonville area and that's where Dan's golf career began almost by chance. Haubein explained, "After high school I enrolled in a manager training program with the Food Lion Corporation, but as an athlete, I really loved being outdoors. A couple of my high school buddies were

SUPERINTENDENT FACTS

Meet Dan Haubein

Originally from:

Bangkok, Thailand.

Family: Fiancee Amy and their dog Teak (a boxer and pit bull mix). Dan and Amy's wedding is scheduled for April 20th as we go to press.

Education: Graduated from Fletcher High School in Jacksonville Beach in 1992

Employment history: 1993 – 1996 Crew member at TPC Sawgrass; 1996-98 Irrigation Tech, Marsh Landing CC; 1998-2000 Spray Tech/Forman Hidden Hills CC; 2000-02 AS St. James GC; 2002-04 Superintendent St. James GC; 2004-07 Superintendent Crystal Lake CC/ Tam O'Shanter CC (36 holes); 2007-2008 AS Indian River GC with LittleStone Management. 2008 – Present Superintendent Pelican Pointe G&CC also with the LittleStone Group.

How did you get into the business: I was working for Food Lion and enrolled in a manager training program with them when a couple of ex-high school friends mentioned they were working at the TPC course in Ponte Vedra and mentioned there were openings on the crew. The rest is history.

Professional affiliations/awards: 8-year member of the GCSAA. Currently serving as the Secretary of the Suncoast GCSA. This year the Southwest Chapter of the North Florida Section of the PGA of America presented me with the Superintendent of the Year Award.

Goals/Accomplishments: One goal I've been thinking about is to have Pelican Pointe join the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program and become a certified sanctuary. On the accomplishment side, I'm proud to have taken several formerly contracted-out seasonal operations like aerifying, bulk fertilizing, etc. and brought them in-house and reduced operating costs. Also, we've fine-tuned the irrigation system to reduce run times and make the system more efficient environmentally and economically.

Personal philosophy of work: You have been put in to a position of leadership. Control your emotions and choose your words wisely. Your actions are a mirror image on your club, course and staff. Be open-minded and respect your staff. I would never ask anyone to perform a task that I haven't done or wouldn't do myself.

Hobbies and Interests: Fishing, hunting, golf, Tampa Bay Rays baseball and generally just enjoy life.



DAN HAUBEIN

Dan Haubein with his Superintendent of the Year Award. Photo by Joel Jackson.

The 9th tee complex with one of the 40 lakes on the course. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Bottom right: Mind the gap! You have to thread the needle on your tee shot on No. 18. Photo by Joel Jackson.

working at TPC Sawgrass and mentioned they were hiring. I longed to be out in the fresh air and sunshine so I interviewed and went to work on the crew.

"I enjoyed the work. I listened and I asked lots of questions and they often gave me the tough jobs because they knew I would get it done. Following three years on the crew at TPC, I spent the next four years split between being an irrigation technician and a pest control spray technician. So I learned all the jobs on the golf course. During my spray tech days I was also the crew foreman. Nine years after starting at the





The 19th hole. It's not in the clubhouse. It's on Hatchett Creek. Photo by Joel Jackson.

INVEST IN TRUE GREEN.

**MustGrow™
Invest™**

Get MustGrow™ Invest™ for
outstanding nematode control.



FOR MORE INFORMATION: mptmustardproducts.com

02/13-20810_MPT3

bottom, I got my first superintendent assignment.

"I had help along the way, of course, and it all began with the foremen and assistant superintendents at TPC who were willing to answer my questions and teach me the "how and why" of doing the things required on a golf course. Mitch Clark was one of those assistants at TPC and he was the biggest influence in my full development as a future superintendent when he asked me to be his assistant at the St. James Golf Club in Port St. Lucie. After two years under his tutelage, I was named to fill his shoes as superintendent when he left St. James."

After tours of duty at the 36-hole complex of Crystal Lake and Tam O'Shanter in Deerfield Beach and the Indian River Colony Club in Melbourne, Haubein came to Pelican Pointe in 2008. He joined the Suncoast Golf Course Superintendents Association and he is an eight-year member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. He is currently the secretary of the Suncoast GCSA.

Involvement in professional associations helps superintendents continue to develop not only their agronomic skills through formal education programs and networking, but also in developing communication, leadership and business skills. One of the greatest investments a golf facility can make is encouraging their superintendents to become actively involved with their

HAUBEIN FUN FACTS



Photo by Joel Jackson.

Vehicle: 2008 Ford F-150 4-door Crew Cab

I stay home to watch: Swamp People

Favorite performers: Blue Collar comedians – Jeff Foxworthy, Bill Ingvall, Ron White and Larry the Cable Guy

What I've been reading: Fishing and turf magazines

Favorite meal: Anything but brussel sprouts

Prized possessions: My new bride and — oh yeah, my boat also

Personal heroes: My Mom and Dad

I'm better than anyone else when it comes to: Putting a smile on my fiancée, Amy's face.

Nobody knows that I: Played running back in high school averaging 6.8 yards per carry was offensive player of the year.

If I could do it over: Get a college degree

I'd give anything to meet: Both my grandpas one more time

My fantasy is: To visit every major league ball park

The one thing I can't stand: Scalped cup plugs

If I could change one thing about myself: Grow back the hair I had in high school

Most humbling experience: Overseed transition in 2008. We quit overseeding greens after that.

The words that best describe me: Forgiving and patient

My dream foursome would be: My dad, brother and nephew

My best fish story: Hooking, fighting and landing a 180-pound tarpon.

My most amazing/lucky/important golf shot: Tee shot on TPC's infamous #17 par 3. The ball bounced off the top of the bulkhead and stopped one ball rotation from going in for a hole-in-one.

WINFIELD
SOLUTIONS
PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

Solutions To Help You Win

**ONLY WINFIELD SOLUTIONS®
CAN OFFER:**

**An industry-leading portfolio that includes
herbicides, insecticides, fungicides,
adjuvants, micro nutrients and grass seed**

Paul Fox 727-423-9280 pgfox@landolakes.com

Bill Lund 239-340-4712 wtlund@aol.com

Gary Cotton 941-737-0722 gwcotton@landolakes.com

Mike Bailey 772-216-7917 mjbailey@landolakes.com

Chad Burkett 772-260-8660 bcburkett@landolakes.com

Doug Raynor 239-707-9261 jdraynor@landolakes.com

Ken Gagne 407-256-6710 kwgagne@landolakes.com

Ron Leathers 813-917-1849 rmlathers@landolakes.com

Tim Wheatley 321-508-1169 thwheatley@landolakes.com

PELICAN POINTE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB



Pelican Pointe Crew Members. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Location: Venice, FL

No. of Holes: 27 holes. The Meadows Nine, Preserve Nine and Hatchet Creek Nine.

Yardage: Meadows/Preserve Course – The longest at 7,182 yards Par: 72 Slope & Rating: 140/75.5

Ownership: LITTLESTONE Management Group

Playing Policy: Semi-Private. Average 60,000 rounds per year.

Designed by: Ted McAnlis.

Opened: Meadows and Preserve nines opened in 1995. Hatchet Creek nine opened 2002.

Management Team: Club Manager Tom Weaver; Head Golf Professional Bill Neal; Superintendent Dan Haubein.

Special and Ongoing Projects: Laser-leveled the par 3 tees and constructed 2 new tees for better playability yardage. Annual conditioning of our crushed concrete and shell rock cart paths.

Aggressive invasive species removal program targeting Brazilian pepper trees around the borders of the property. Renovate selected bunkers, bulkheads and bridges. Removed hard concrete paths around par-3s and installed shell rock paths.

Total property acres: Acreage under

maintenance: 160. Total acres: 180

Greens: TifDwarf; average size 7200 square feet; 5.0 acres total; height of cut: .140 to .125 depending on green-speed goals.

Overseeding: none. Green speed goals: In season 10 to 11; off season 9 to 10.

Tees: Tifway 419. 6.0. acres HOC: .550 - .650". Overseeding: 3-Way Perennial ryegrass @ 400 lbs. per acre.

Fairways: Tifway 419. 45.5 total acres; HOC: .550 - .650" Overseeding: 3-Way Perennial ryegrass @ 400 lbs. per acre.

Roughs: Tifway 419 Total acres: 90. HOC: 1.50 – 2.0". Overseeding: None

Bunkers: 73. Sand type: GA30; machine-raked. Equipment: Groom Master II with brush finish.

Landscaped and/or naturalized areas/beds: 40-plus acres of conservation area. Crushed shell rock, native vegetation; maintained with Earth Balance.

Waterways/Lakes/Ponds: Total 40 on or bordering golf courses; 60 lakes total in the development. 39 littoral shelf plantings, 3 designated wetland areas, and Hatchet Creek flows through property from east to west. Lake maintenance by Aquagenix Lake Company.

Wildlife Inventory: Bald eagles, hawks and songbirds of all varieties plus coyotes,

red-tail fox, and gopher tortoise inhabit the uplands. Alligators, otters, turtles, waterfowl, shore birds and wading birds find food and shelter in the lakes.

Irrigation: Effluent water plus two 100-ft. lake fill wells. Pumps: two 75 hp VFDs and two 60 hp VFDs. Controls: Toro OSMAC Site Pro CCS. Heads: 1,460, 60-foot spacing. No fertigation system.

Water Restrictions: None currently.

Water Management/Conservation practices: We strive for firm and fast playing conditions. The use of adjuvants and hand watering helps maintain proper soil moisture levels.

Staff: Total including superintendent: 19 with 16 full time and 3 part-time crew members. Schedule: 40 hours straight time. Technicians may get up to 4 hours OT weekly.

Key Staff: Assistant Mike Scheyhing; Head Equipment Tech Keith Taylor; Assistant Equipment Tech Randy Plyer; Pest Control Tech Kevin Fincher; Irrigation Tech Bucky Lucey.

Meetings/ Communications: Daily crew meetings. Weekly technician meetings. Manager meetings weekly in season and monthly out of season. I also attend any Club or HOA meetings when scheduled.

local superintendent's chapter and providing in the budget for membership dues, meetings and travel to annual regional and/or national conferences. Golf pros, club managers and golf course superintendents all have excellent continuing education programs that help all of them to do a better job for their facilities public or private.

Let's get down to some grass roots information about the turf management at Pelican Pointe. Haubein likes having a 27-hole operation. He's allowed to close nine holes for a week at a time to get necessary aerification, verticutting, top dressing and pesticide and fertilizer applications done in an orderly fashion.

Primary pest control applications include three large-scale herbicide applications for weed control. In October they apply Barricade to the roughs to prevent stray fairway overseeding from popping up during germination in the fall. Then in January there is a follow up application to keep volunteer ryegrass seeds from doing late season germination.

In April, Ronstar is applied with fertilizer to prevent warm season weeds from germinating and to give the native bermudagrass a boost to help with transition in the overseeded fairways. A little later in the spring — around



The 530-yard 12th hole has a wicked little dogleg right in front of the green. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Legendary greens and bunkers have one thing in common... they both began with the best soil.

Beneath every meticulously groomed green is dirt. And, the best dirt doesn't just happen. At **Golf Agronomics Supply & Handling** we've been perfecting golf course soil and sand for more than a decade. Our computerized soil blending equipment ensures that the mix you receive meets your exacting specifications — every order, every time. With production facilities located throughout the Southeast, Golf Agronomics offers volume orders and next day service.

GOLF AGRONOMICS SUPPLY & HANDLING

Serving the Carolinas and Florida
800-626-1359 • FAX (941) 955-4690
www.golfag.com



The 10th hole showing off its striped ryegrass fairway. Photo by Joel Jackson.

May and/or early June — insecticide applications are made to control mole crickets and grubs. Weed or pest activity is monitored and any outbreaks are spot-treated where needed.

Greens are aerified three times a year. Once a year, a heavy verticutting with a Mat-a Way is done for thatch removal. Thereafter greens are verticut

and topped monthly. Primo growth regulator is applied at 5 ounces per week.

The tees, collars, approaches and fairways are aerified twice per year and verticut once. Primo is applied at 15 ounces per acre during the summer months. The roughs aerified once per year and scalped down to 3/4 inch to

help remove thatch.

Each course has its unique challenges with water and soil qualities. Haubein spoke about some site-specific issues at Pelican Pointe. He said, “Holes 19, 20, 21 and 27 were built using soil dug up between the 19th tee and the 27th green. Unfortunately it contained a lot of limestone rocks and boulders. On

Burrows +
Turfgrass Services



= Accurate Information For Continued Success...

Laboratory Analytical Services - Environmental Testing - Compliance

Mark Burrows
(772) 215-1816

Brett Harris
(407) 433-4907

hole 27, the soil was so rocky and the turf cover was so thin that we had to designate that hole as "cart path only!"

"We began a very aggressive aerification program to help break up the rocks to improve drainage and root growth. We also removed some trees to allow more sunlight and air movement. By staying on a consistent program we have been able to drive carts on the 27th fairway all year long for the last three years."

Other projects and programs include laser-leveling par-3 tees and in 2010 constructing two new tees to offer better playable yardages. There is annual maintenance and renovation to the concrete and crushed shell rock cart paths and waste bunker areas. The club also embarked on an aggressive exotic plant removal program, tackling the Brazilian pepper trees bordering the property. And with 40 lakes on the site, there is always plenty of annual selective bulkhead and bridge renovation work to do.

In some of the photos for this story you'll see striped overseeded tees and fairways. However, after a disastrous greens transition in 2008, Haubein convinced the club to stop overseeding greens and just let him manage the TifDwarf greens.

We've had a generally warmer than normal winter this year and during my recent visits in January and February the greens were looking good and rolling fast and true.



Golf Course Renovation & Construction

- **EXCAVATION AND GRADING**
- **DRAINAGE**
- **GREENS CONSTRUCTION**
- **LASER GRADING**
- **BUNKER CONSTRUCTION**
- **ATHLETIC FIELD CONSTRUCTION**
- **GRASSING SERVICES**
- **EQUESTRIAN CENTERS**

William H. Wright, CGCS
PRESIDENT

Robert Farina
VICE-PRESIDENT

749 NE 70th Street • Boca Raton, FL 33487

(561) 756-0068

Fax (561) 994-6861
countryclubsvcs@aol.com

239.267.0156

www.sepfla.com
to find a local
SEP
representative

SEP SOUTHEAST PARTNERS

0-5-34 Sunflower Seed Hull Ash

The Natural Way to Increase Potassium Levels

Advantages of Sunflower Seed Hull Ash:

- Longer Lasting
- No Burn Potential
- No-Salt Impact
- Organic-Based
- Homogeneous Granule
- 80 SGN
- Releases Consistently Over One Month
- Very Slow Phosphorus Release
- Enhances Soil Microbiology

Also Available in Homogenous Greens Formulas 9-0-9, 12-0-24 & 16-4-8 and Mixed with Topdressing Sand.

Week	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
2	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
3	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
4	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
5	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
6	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
7	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70
8	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80
9	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
10	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

SEP is a registered trademark of Southeast Partners, Inc. © 2011 SEP. All rights reserved.

A Sandhill Crane stalks the shoreline along the lake on #22.



A pair of Marsh Hens disturbed by a nosy photographer on #26.



A flock of Lesser Scaup ducks becomes a flotilla on the Hatchett Creek nine.

Pelican Pointe G&CC –
A place where you can score lots of birdies

Photos by Joel Jackson



A Little Blue Heron looking for minnows in the lake on #25.



Birds are scarce around this bull gator on the 12th hole on the Preserve nine.

Egrets and Herons congregate in the marsh grass on the lake on hole #2.