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SPOTLIGHT: TWO PRESIDENTS AWARDS

Jim Walker and Ron Hill were accorded the FGCSA Presidents Awards by the South Florida and North Florida GCSAs respectively.

COVER STORY: THE VILLAGE GREEN

In a suburban transitional area between city and wilderness west of Boynton Beach, the Country Club of Florida literally serves as the village green for Florida’s incorporated Village of Golf.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: IT’S ALL ABOUT ATTITUDE

What a blessing it was for the late Jim Martello to have an employee walk in the door with the right attitude, a working knowledge of the business, a willingness to please, and an all-around team player.

HANDS ON: IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT

It is critical that superintendents keep their owners advised of water-use issues and solicit their help in educating politicians, water management districts and the general public about golf’s true impact on the community.

STEWARDSHIP: WATER USE BECOMES TOP CONCERN

Water use has replaced pesticide use as the industry’s major environmental concern. The bottom line is that there is only so much to go around.

AFTERWORDS: COURT, JARREL & JACKSON

David Court looks back over 30 years of golf course management, Mark Jarrell describes the impact of recent state budget cuts on the UF/IFAS turfgrass program and Joel Jackson does unto himself what he usually does to others.

About the use of trade names: The use of trade names in this magazine is solely for the purpose of providing specific information and does not imply endorsement of the products named nor discrimination against similar unnamed products. It is the responsibility of the user to determine that product use is consistent with the directions on the label.
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FOREWORDS

Well, to put it into the proper perspective, I should say, "The 'shows' go on." If I take advantage of all the educational opportunities and trade shows offered by the associations I am a member of or affiliated with in early 2002, I'd be away from work with the exception of one week during the period from Jan. 12 through Feb. 10.

I would fly from Orlando to West Virginia (National Institute of Golf Management, Jan 13-17) to Phoenix (NGCOA Conference Jan. 19-23) to Harrogate, UK (BTME Jan. 22-24) back to Orlando (PGA Merchandise Show Jan. 24-27) and finally after a week at work (GCSAA Show Feb. 3-10). All of these conferences are directly related to our industry. All are equally important in terms of the information they provide and all of this going on when I'm up to my armpits in members down here for the season!

So which conferences to attend? Without a shadow of a doubt, you should pencil in the GCSAA conference and show regardless of the location (those who attended last year will know what I mean). If travel costs are an issue, at least attend every third year it is held in Orlando.

The conference and show provides great educational opportunities for everyone with topics from communication skills to agronomic principals and environmental awareness. The opportunity to network with those from other states and from abroad, who share the same passion for their jobs as you do, is invigorating. The opportunities to experience the latest and greatest in equipment; to discuss new chemistries now available for pest control and see the advances in fertilizer technology are boundless. Don't forget the little guys and new companies. It's amazing what some of those little guys will grow into.

Secondly if you and the golf professional are on good terms (as I know you all are) then ask if you can attend the PGA Merchandise show with him/her. If a joint trip isn't possible, then go yourself. The show is immense and just walking around the exhibits will help you realize the magnitude of our industry. Your appreciation for the work the golf professional performs will increase as well.

The third event I would definitely attend during the year would be the Florida Turfgrass Association Conference in August. It's a little quieter time of year if there is such a thing. It's a little closer to home in the way of travel expense, and a whole lot closer to home in terms of particularly relevant information, the virtues of which I will extol upon in a future column.

The point to all this is, don't be caught with your head in the sand; you can make no excuses for the lack of opportunities that are available to you. Present your case to the powers that be. Highlight the benefits of attending and continuing your education so that as you grow personally, so too will your net worth to the club or facility be increased.

May everyone have a happy and a prosperous New Year.

Geoff Coggan

President's Message

The Show Goes On

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Jim Walker never gave up his love for baseball even though he never made it to "The Show." Much to our benefit, he traded in running bases to running golf courses. In tribute to his leadership, the SFGCSA presented Walker with the FGCSA President's Award for Lifetime Service.

**SFGCSA Presidents Award**

**It Has Been A Long Road From Night Water Man**

*An Autobiography*

The road leading to my receiving the 2001 FGCSA President's Award from the South Florida GCSA began 31 years ago at the Pecan Valley Country Club in San Antonio, Tex. I was the assistant irrigation technician (night water man) plugging in quick couplers and doing course prep work.

Pecan Valley hosted the PGA Championship in 1968 and it was a great place for a golf hound like me to begin my career. The course was a J. Press Maxwell design and I consider myself lucky to have run or worked at many courses that had great architects.

After Pecan Valley, came the Ocala Golf Club where I worked under Jim Yancey, older brother to Mel Sligh, the superintendent and golf professional. He had hired Jim to be a working superintendent and the experience there was great. Bert hosted tour players Frank Beard and Deane Beamon who studied under Dr. G.C. Horn and had a lot of knowledgeable friends in the area. I drove Mel nuts asking technical questions, but I'm glad I did. About a year later Mel left for the Palma Ceia CC job in Tampa, and there I was, the superintendent of a first-class private club. The course is a Desmond Muirhead track spread out over 250 acres with water and sand everywhere.

In 1976 I went back to San Antonio and worked for Watson Distributing. They were the Jacobsen, Cushman, and Ryan distributor for all of Texas. Selling orange and green iron for a couple of years was another learning experience I was happy to have had. While there, San Antonio hosted the GCSAA National Convention and meeting the factory engineers and designers was very educational.

Two years later I returned to Florida and the Miami area where I was born and raised. While growing up in Miami I had played golf and baseball for Hialeah High School. I attended Miami Dade Junior College and Valdosta State College on a baseball scholarship and, in my senior year, I was on the NCAA Division 2A National Championship team. I was MVP for the series going 8 for 11 at the plate with three home runs, a triple and a double. I got looks from the Chicago Cubs and Boston Red Sox after college, but my fastball was too slow and major league pitching is a world of difference from college ball.

For the past 23 years, I have been the manager or superintendent at various times at the Key Biscayne, Palmetto, Briar Bay and Greyrolds Park golf courses for the Miam-Dade County Parks Department. It was also in 1978 that I met Alan Weitzel, my long time friend and sometimes boss. Those 23 years have been interesting to say the least. I'm a Howard Cosell type of guy so politics was never my bag. I give Alan a lot of credit for helping me see the importance of junior golf. Over the years we did a lot of work bringing this wonderful game to kids. Many of those kids go on to become successful leaders in the golf industry over the years. Some of these recognizable names include: Bobby Weed, Tim Hiers, Barry Collett, Bill Griffith and Bruce Blanchard.

Ron has also enjoyed a fairly successful amateur career. In 1978 and 1979 he made it to the match play rounds in the United States Amateur Championships. He was the Jacksonville area medalist for the 1979 Amateur qualifier. Other golfing accomplishments include member of several Florida GCSA teams competing in the GCSAA Golf Championships and being on at least one national title team; past winner of the Crowfoot Open; participating in the Gate Senior Tournament in Jacksonville in 1997.

We salute Ron Hill, CGCS for his commitment to education, golf and in promoting the golf industry through his leadership. Congratulations Ron!

**Glen Klauk**

Secretary
North Florida GC

**FGCSA Golf Championship**

**Ondo Defends Title in 3-Way Playoff at Southern Dunes**

Joe Ondo, CGCS also defending his individual title at the FGCSA Golf Championship by winning a three-way playoff. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Steve Bernard, Joe Pantaleo and Joe Ondo all posted scores of 75 on the windswept Southern Dunes golf course in Haines City as the 6th Annual FGCSA Golf Championship narrowly averted a
The Palm Beach Chapter defended its FGCSA Team Championship at Southern Dunes GC. From left, front row: Steve Bernard and Mark Henderson. Back row: Terry Kennelly, Tyler Warner and Jeff Klontz. Photo by Joel Jackson.

rainout on Sept. 29.

In a sudden-death playoff under threatening skies and falling temperatures, Bernard, from the Adios GC, said “adios” on the first hole of the playoff when he failed to get up and down from just short of the green. Pantaleo made a routine four and Ondo scrambled from behind the green to save par and force extra holes. The two matched routine pars on the second and third holes. On fourth hole, a par-five into the wind, both players were over the green in three and had long putts after chipping up. Pantaleo’s putter, which had made some 30 footers earlier in the day, failed him in the clutch and he three-putted, allowing Ondo to two-putt for a bogey and a victory.

Ondo’s victory secured a spot on the FGCSA team to compete in the GCSAA Golf Championship in February at the World Golf Village in St. Augustine. The team consisted of Steve Bernard, Mark Henderson, Terry Kennelly, Jeff Klontz, and Tyler Warner. Palm Beach eked out a one-stroke victory over Central Florida.

Ondo’s victory secured a spot on the FGCSA team to compete in the GCSAA Golf Championship in February at the World Golf Village in St. Augustine. Joining Ondo on Florida Team No. 1 will be Bob Roessing, the Pus Annuw champ; Chris Cartin, winner of the Crowfoot Open and Mark Hopkins with the low average in two of the three qualifying events. Steve Bernard will be the first alternate in the event one of the qualifiers cannot participate. Other prize winners were first and second low net finishers Chris Clark and John Lammrisch.

Only five chapters managed to muster up teams who braved the ominous forecast of stormy weather over the state for the weekend. A stationary front managed to keep most of the rain south of central Florida and the 36 players struggled in the windy conditions and light sporadic drizzle to complete the tournament. Our thanks to superintendent Bayne Calliavet and the folks at Southern Dunes for their assistance and hospitality in hosting our annual championship for the sixth time.

Joel Jackson and Joe Ondo

SOUTH FLORIDA GC
17th Annual Event Raises $15,000 for Kids in Peril

For the last 16 years, the South Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association has sponsored a tournament to benefit the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children/Florida. To date, the tournaments had raised more than $140,000 to support Florida programs. On Oct. 5, the donation increased to more than $155,000 with the tremendous success of the 17th annual tournament held at Colony West Country Club in Tamarac.

Twenty years ago, the Center began its work out of tragic circumstances, the abduction and

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murder of Adam Walsh. Today the center is part of a national network of nonprofit centers helping thousands of children and their families every year.

"The SFGCSA is one of our charter supporters and partners," said Reve Walsh, co-founder and Board member of NCMEC. "The children in Florida have access to child safety information and programs, and their parents have access to an efficient and effective response team if their child is missing. This would not be possible without the continued loyal support of the SFGCSA."

Players in the tournament enjoyed a day of golf that culminated in an awards presentation. The SFGCSA was presented an award for 17 years of outstanding support from Mike Christiansen, a NCMEC Board member and trustee, and the chairman of the Florida Branch Advisory Board. Colony West Country Club was also presented an award for hosting the tournament for the past five years.

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, a private, 501(c)3 organization, was established in 1984 as a national resource center on child protection and a clearinghouse for information on child victimization. Since its creation, NCMEC has assisted law enforcement on over 77,000 cases of missing children, and has played a role in the location and recovery of more than 60,000 children.

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children/FL Branch is the central point for NCMEC child protection education and prevention. Through September NCMEC/FL received 523 missing-child cases and participated in the recovery and location of 308 children. The organization made 88 presentations to 2,073 children and 322 adults, and eight presentations to 205 law enforcement officers.

The Treasure Coast Golf Course Superintendents Association held its annual Blue Pearl Charity Golf Tournament Oct. 1 at the Medalist Golf Club. Once again Nucreane Machinery was the presenting sponsor.

The Blue Pearl has always promoted the preservation of the environment in which we live. The Treasure Coast GCDSA has accomplished this goal by supporting the Audubon Program for Schools with the proceeds from the Blue Pearl event.

However, in light of the tragedy which befell our country on Sept. 11, the proceeds in 2001 will be directed toward an entirely different group of children. After a unanimous vote, the board of directors of the TCGCDSA decided to donate the proceeds to the "Families of the Victims Fund."

Barbara Tierney
John's Island Club

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2nd Place (62): Walt McMahon, Tyler Warner, Steve Bernard, Terry Kennelly
3rd Place (63): Roy MacDonald, Mark Henderson, Gary Fischer, Roy Kimberly

NET DIVISION
1st Place (56.7): Dale Mitchell, John Swaran, Phil Peterson, Mark Heater
2nd Place (57): Jim Colo, Paul Leffler, Michael Gibson, Mike Maxwell
3rd Place (57.8): Roger Welker, Randy Vaughan, Scott Bell, Craig Baker

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