**SPOTLIGHT: AWARDS, CHAPTER ROUNDUP**

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**OFFICIAL BUSINESS: A LOADED GUN TO OUR HEAD**

The Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association is the most effective broad-spectrum postemergence herbicide for use on grassy weeds. It is also a heavy element and Class A human carcinogen.

**RESEARCH: LUBRICATING SCALE INVADES**

A new threat to urban landscape plants as well as to native plants in natural areas is a scale insect known as lobate scale. It is now found throughout Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties.

**JOURNAL/AFTERTOWARDS: NECROLOGY, JOE LEE, BAND**

Jeff Hayden, a founding member and former president of the Seven Rivers GCSA, and Mike Couch, a key member of the Everglades and Calusa GCSAs as dead this past fall. John Morsut is superintendent, North Palm Beach CC; 561-626-5252; fax 561-622-8904; jdmorsut@aus.com.

**Hands on: Frost in Florida!**

A footprint made on a putting green that’s covered with frost can kill the grass, necessitating costly and unsightly repairs. Also, a survey of latest information on insect control, an important technique for creating a dry environment for pvc cement, and some “Junior Tips.”

**COPY COVER: SAN JOSÉ C.C.**

Born in the Florida land boom of the roaring 20s, the San José Country Club was envisioned as a resort and a planned community on the eastern shore of the St. Johns River, just five miles south of the heart of downtown Jacksonville.

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Good News/ Bad News

David Court, CGCS
February. We will be collecting donations at the door from contributors (attendees) and then have a drawing at the end of the reception for a 50/50 split. This will be a great way to jump-start this fund plus it will be good for the lucky person whose ticket gets drawn.

Dale’s second idea is to have an FGCSA booth at select LPGA and PGA Tour events. This will be a good way to showcase our involvement in the world of golf. Items that we will consider for this exhibit include involvement with ACSP, irrigation efficiency and IPM programs. This will take some time to produce but hopefully we will have it together for select tournaments coming up in 2003. We will need volunteers to help man this booth so let us know if you would like to help participate and please give us your ideas.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to the families of Mike Cantwell and Jeff Hayden. Mike was the superintendent at Miromar Lakes Country Club in Ft. Meyers. He lost his life in November. A trust fund will be created to benefit Mike’s children. Mike is the fourth golf course superintendent to tragically lose his life this year joining Al Cowing, Chip Fowkes and Tom Crawford. We need to get this benevolent fund underway to help these families in time of need.

Then the sad news that long-time superintendent and recent Golf Ventures sales representative Jeff Hayden also died in early December. The family requested that any remembrance of Jeff be made in the form of a donation to the UF/IFAS Envirotron. See the article by Dr. Howard from IFAS in this issue.

Time for the good news!

Joel Jackson, our director of communications, will receive one of GCSAA’s highest honors, the Distinguished Service Award. The presentation will be at the Opening Session of the 2003 Conference and Show in Atlanta, Georgia. If you are attending the conference, please make the Opening Session part of your plans. Joel, the drinks are on you at the reception.

I would like to welcome Steve Wright back to Florida. He will be taking over the position of director of golf course maintenance at the Boca West Country Club. Some of you may remember Steve from the Central Florida Chapter where he was the superintendent at Alaka Country Club. Steve has also been involved as president of the Carolinas GCSC this past year and I know he will bring a lot of great enthusiasm back to Florida. Steve is replacing a legend in South Florida in Billy Wright (no relation). Billy will be starting a golf course construction/renovation business and will be leaving Boca West after some 25 years. Best of luck to both Billy and Steve.

Finally, I would again like to thank Shelly Foy for the work that she did organizing the ACSP workshops that were held in December. Last report is that around 150 people attended. That’s a good start. Let’s keep it up. I know that this is a great program and one that golf course superintendents must embrace if we are to truly be stewards of the environment.

May 2003 be your best year ever.

Another dark cloud is making its presence known is Lobate Lac Scale. This insect pest has been a problem in several counties in Florida including Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and Martin and, if left untreated, can kill such species as ficus, coco plum, wax myrtle, green and silver buttonwood. So far it has been seen on a total of 50 plant species. See the article by Dr. Howard from IFAS in this issue.

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May 2003 be your best year ever.
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Kevin Downing: President’s Award for Lifetime Service

I’ve known Kevin Downing for the better part of 16 years, first as a student, and then as a fellow superintendent. I never would have thought that I would one day be presenting him an award of any kind. Not that he is undeserving. I just never saw myself one day being president of a chapter and presenting an award to someone I always looked up to. I’m not going to say I want to aspire to be like him, because Kevin spends way too much time on association-related issues. He lives for this industry and the game of golf equally. If I spent a fraction of the time he spends, I’d be divorced.

Kevin’s career began after he received his degree in golf course operations from Lake City Community College in 1975. His first job was superintendent at Oxbow Golf Club in Stuart where he has been since 1988 as the golf and landscape manager. Kevin was responsible for overseeing the design and construction of the course initially and recently just finished a successful rebuild of the course from tee to green.

Besides being a superintendent, Kevin has a very creative side. He likes to be involved in golf course and landscape design. He has been involved in various projects with Architects Rees Jones, Gary Player, John Sanford and Arthur Hills.

Aside from his managerial responsibilities, his professional involvement includes being active on the Treasure Coast chapter board of directors where he has responsible for securing education for our monthly meetings for the past four years. He was president of the Florida GCSCA in 1983 and continued serving as Research Committee chairman for nearly a decade. He also serves as the alternate voting delegate for the FGCSA at the GCSCA Annual Meeting. He also serves as a director in the Florida State Golf Association. He has served on numerous committees and resource groups for the GCSCA. Everyone knows him in Lawrence. Kan. I’m just surprised that he has never ran for office at the national level.

His commitment to the game of golf is a very personal one. I should know. Whenever I am checking on things at my golf course during the evening, there’s Kevin at the range working on his swing, analyzing every detail about it. He would ask me to stay and tell him where he is in his backswing. Yeah, me; a superintendent with a handicap of 28 helping a guy with a 7. Sorry Kevin, but that is a bit desperate.

I am glad to have been able to know and now work with Kevin. In him the industry truly has someone it can count on. The Treasure Coast chapter is lucky to have him as a member. I wish him all the best in the future and hopes he continues his commitment to the industry for all of our sakes.

John A. Morsat

You Got Me!
FTGA Wreath of Grass Award a Total Surprise

When Tom Alex took the podium in Tampa to introduce the 2002 FTGA Wreath of Grass winner, I thought, “That’s right they always present it at the annual luncheon. Wonder who it is this year?”

It only took a couple of sentences into his speech and I knew I was the one. There aren’t too many folks who graduated from the U. of South Florida with a major in geology and made their way into the golf business via the U.S. Coast Guard and Orange County School System.

Torn roasted me well that day and the assembly was witness to an emotional acceptance speech.

The Florida turf business is amazing and usually underrated. The challenges are outweighed by the rewards. For me it has fed, clothed, housed and educated me and my family and given me opportunities to meet some of the most interesting people in the world. I am grateful that my peers have seen fit to pronounce my efforts in the industry worthy of this recognition. Thank you very much!

Joel Jackson

Kevin’s Professional Affiliations

USGA Green Section Committee
US Golf Association
Golf Course Superintendents Association of America
National Golf Foundation
Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association
Florida Turfgrass Association
Florida Native Plant Society

Achievements

• Certified Golf Course Superintendent 1980
• President, Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association 1982-83
• Consultant, National Golf Foundation 1986-87
• Vice-Chairman, Palm Beach County Amateur Golf Association 1988-93
• Recipient, Native Plant Society Award Martin County Chapter 1989
• FGCSA Distinguished Service Award 1990
• Speaker, PGA seminars on Golf Course Design and Construction 1989-94
• USGA Green Section Advisory Committee 1989-97
• Director, Florida State Golf Association 1996-Present
• Advisory Board, South Fork High School Golf Maintenance Training Program 1990-Present
• FGCSA President’s Award forLifetime Service 2002
• Continuous meritorious service on FGCSA, FTGA and GCSAA committees and resource groups throughout his career.
• Played or visited 70 of the 100 top-ranked golf courses.

Chapter Round Up
Calusa

We regret to report that Mike Cantwell, GCS at Miromar Lakes passed away unexpectedly on Nov. 11 (see related article). On Nov. 19, the Calusa Chapter was the host for a three-chapter meeting as members of the Everglades and Suncoast Chapters joined them at Edison Community College in Ft. Myers to hear Hannes Combest of the GCSCA review the upcoming changes and requirements resulting from the Professional Development Initiative.

Central Florida

Congratulations to Joel Jackson, CGCS on receiving the FTGA Wreath of Grass Award.
The S.F.G.C.S.A. would like to thank the following **Eagle Sponsors** for their generous support of the 2003 **Missing & Exploited Children’s Benefit Tournament**.

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Two pests have long been the leading insect problems for superintendents in the South — mole crickets and fire ants. Now, one family of insecticides brings you the ultimate solutions for these problems with low-dose fipronil formulations — Chipco® Choice™, Chipco TopChoice™, and Chipco FireStar™.

Launched in 1996 as a slit-applied product, Chipco Choice quickly became the product of choice for mole crickets — providing control for six months or more with just one slit application. Now, the new label adds new sites, pests and the flexibility of broadcast application. When broadcast-applied for fire ants, a single application of Chipco Choice provides up to 52 weeks of control and bonus control of mole crickets (4 months), fleas & ticks (1 month), and nuisance ants (3 months). The broadcast application requires a spreader capable of applying 12.5 lbs. product/acre.

New Chipco TopChoice provides one-step fire ant control for up to a full year. Formulated specifically for broadcast application with a standard spreader (87 lbs. product/acre), TopChoice is designed to be very different from other fire ant treatments: No multi-step processes. No time-consuming mound treatments. Just one easy, broadcast application is all it takes to get up to 95 percent control in 4-6 weeks, and eliminate the threat of fire ants for up to a year. Plus, an application of Chipco TopChoice for fire ants will also control mole crickets, fleas, ticks and nuisance ants.

New Chipco FireStar delivers fipronil in a unique, easy-to-use granular bait that’s highly attractive to fire ants. The result is effective control with just 0.00015% active ingredient, the lowest concentration in any fire ant treatment. FireStar makes an excellent partner for Chipco Choice or TopChoice — use it to treat landscape beds, embankments and sand trap perimeters, the bases of trees, and other hard-to-reach places fire ants favor.

To learn more please talk with an authorized Chipco agent. Call 1-800-843-1702 for the agent nearest you, or visit our website at [www.fipturf.com](http://www.fipturf.com) for more information.
Wreath of Grass Award at the Conference and Show in Tampa last September. On Dec. 9, the Annual Past Presidents Outing was scheduled to be hosted by John Kopack, GCS at the Legacy Club at Alaqua Lakes. Following a round of golf the past presidents and the current board members will sign Christmas cards to the chapter members and have dinner together. Wayne Hodis, Fla. Dept. of Agriculture, will make a presentation on pesticide labeling at the Dec. 16 meeting at the new Mystic Dunes G.C., Jason Moore is the GCS host; Kicking off the 2003 season Jan. 13, the chapter will hold its annual superintendent/vendor tournament to raise FTGA research funds at Stuart Leventhal’s Interlachen CC. Guest speaker John Foy will give an update on ultradwarf grasses. Chris Cartin, former superintendent recently promoted to general manager, will host the chapter’s annual superintendent/vendor tournament at the Deltona Hills G&CC Feb. 24.

Everglades
The chapter hosted an environmental education fundraiser for the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed at Bonita Bay East on Oct. 5. At the end of the day EGCSA President Jim Leiseberg handed CREW Executive Director Ellen Lindblat a check for $9,000. Pelican Sound’s River Club hosted an ACSP Workshop on Dec. 2 to kick off a series of four workshops designed to get courses on the path to certification. The EGCSA and TESTA 2002 panel discussion was at Jason DiMartino’s Audubon CC on Dec. 12. A panel of four superintendents and four equipment managers fielded questions from superintendents, equipment managers, mechanics, and vendors in the audience.

Although the LCCC Endowment Fund Tournament isn’t an official chapter function, it is organized and run primarily by EGCSA members and takes place in southwest Florida. Roy Bates announced that this year’s event at Jason Brod’s Raptor Bay G.C. raised $15,000 for Lake City Community College. The committee consisted of David Fry, Glenn Zakany, Scott Hannam, John Johnson, Brod, Bates, Mike Smith and Odell Spanhour. Bates added that the success of the event, besides the obvious fantastic support by sponsors, was the hard work and effort by David Fry and WCI Communities, Inc.

North Florida
The September meeting of the NFCGSA was held at Lake City Community College. The chapter chartered a bus and visited the Golf Course Operations program at Lake City Community College. After a tour by John Piersol of the facilities for golf course management, turf equipment technicians, irrigation certification and forestry management, the group teed it up at the Lake City Country Club. The take-home message: Chapters can help Lake City continue to train excellent future superintendents by participating in career days at their local high schools. Congratulations to Chris Neff for having the Timaquana Country Club in great shape for the 2002 U.S. Senior Amateur Championships. The USGA gave Chris a big “thumbs up” on the excellent conditions. This year’s Christmas tournament will be at the Ponte Vedra Club and hosted by Jay Reister.

Palm Beach
The Chapter won the Cavanaugh Cup five-and-two at the annual joint meeting with the TCGC-SA. Mike Perham, CGCS will host the Chapter’s Holiday Golf Outing at Jonathan’s Landing. In November, eight members of the chapter participated in a day-long spokesperson training program with communications consultant Dr. Tom Morgan. The program focused not only on how to deal with crisis communications, but how to work with the media to get out positive stories about golf. Eric Jorgenson hosted the Southeast Region ACSP Workshop at the Mizner GC on Dec. 3. The chapter’s annual chartered bus trip to a Miami Dolphins football game was Dec. 15.
11th Annual LCCC Endowment Golf Tournament

With a special thanks to David Fry and WCI Communities, Inc. for their time and effort, please join us in thanking and supporting our sponsors who make our fund raising a success.

Special thanks to our Reception Sponsor Jacobsen & EZ-Go Company

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Q Grady Minor
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The Colony G. & C.C.
Waste Management
Ridge
Our new secretary/treasurer Clay Marshall, GCS of the River Greens GC in Avon Park hosted our October meeting to get some members in the South Ridge more involved. At the November meeting at Cleveland Heights GC in Lakeland hosted by Bob Solns, a technician from the Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa did a skin cancer ID and prevention program. We held our traditional December meeting at the Harrell’s Office in Lakeland with Jack Harrell, Sr. as our guest speaker. Then we enjoyed an afternoon of bowling for a change of pace. Our chapter Christmas outing will be at the Bartow GC thanks to Ridge President Mark Hopkins. In January Jeff Brown will spruce up the Lake Region Y&CC for our Superintendent/Vendor golf tournament. We will not have a February meeting due to the GCSAA conference in Atlanta. Our big fundraiser, the FTGA Invitational, will be March 3 at the Grasslands CC in Lakeland and we expect Roy Wilshire, CGCS will have the greens fast as usual.

Seven Rivers
We regret to report the death of our friend and founder Jeff Hayden (see related article). Jeff passed away at his home on Friday, Dec. 6. We will miss his friendship and support. World Woods GC will be the cover story for the FTGA Turf Digest’s Jan/Feb 2003 issue. World Woods also recently hosted the finals of the Champions Tour Qualifying School, which kept IGM superintendents Mike Swinson, CGCS, David Younger (Pine Barrens) and Ryan Willis (Rolling Oaks) busy with tournament prep and overseeding grow-in. SugarMill Woods hosted the final 2002 ACSP workshop on Dec. 6. Buddy Keene of the Gainesville G&CC will host the December chapter meeting on Dec. 10.

South Florida
Bob Harper led the SFGCSA team of Jim Torba, Seth Strickland, Joe Pantaleo and Kelly Cragin to a convincing victory in the FGCSA Golf Championship at the Southern Dunes GC in Haines City. For the past 17 years the SFGCSA has been a steadfast supporter of the work done by the Florida branch of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to the tune of $150 in contributions. This year Florida Executive Director Nancy McBride announced the total has now reached $177,000 thanks to the overwhelming success of the 18th Annual M&E Tournament at Dale Kuehner’s Colony West C.C. The M&E committee

FTGA president and director of golf maintenance Bobby Ellis of ChampionsGate (red shirt) recently hosted a tour of his golf courses for the Hawaiian Ag Leadership Tour, which visited agriculture operations on the mainland. In Washington while visiting the USDA Office, one worker asked the group, “Hawaii has a governor, right?” Hmmm. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Heights GC in Lakeland hosted by Bob Solns, a technician from the Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa did a skin cancer ID and prevention program. We held our traditional December meeting at the Harrell’s Office in Lakeland with Jack Harrell, Sr. as our guest speaker. Then we enjoyed an afternoon of bowling for a change of pace. Our chapter Christmas outing will be at the Bartow GC thanks to Ridge President Mark Hopkins. In January Jeff Brown will spruce up the Lake Region Y&CC for our Superintendent/Vendor golf tournament. We will not have a February meeting due to the GCSAA conference in Atlanta. Our big fundraiser, the FTGA Invitational, will be March 3 at the Grasslands CC in Lakeland and we expect Roy Wilshire, CGCS will have the greens fast as usual.

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