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Let’s Get to Work!

It is truly an honor to serve as the next President of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association. I would like to thank everyone for this opportunity and am anxious to get to work. I am blessed to be surrounded by great chapter leaders and a hardworking staff that are committed to seeing the FGCSA continue to thrive for its membership.

I would like to thank Bill Kistler for his service to the FGCSA, as he now steps down from our Board of Directors. Also, I wish him good luck as a newly elected director for the Florida Turfgrass Association. Another thank-you goes to Gary Myers for his dedication as President of the FGCSA over the past year. The FGCSA faced several issues over the past year and Gary did an excellent job handling them.

In the near future, all FGCSA members will be receiving a member survey. The goal of the survey is to get direct feedback from our members concerning a variety of issues. This isn’t the only way you can provide us with comments. We always encourage you to contact the FGCSA Office or Board members at any time with your concerns. However, this survey will allow us to get a better overall picture of what our membership wants and needs. Among the topics covered in the survey will be the collection of membership dues, Web site content, and the Golf BMP Certification Program.

One of the biggest projects that we are working on is the Golf BMP Certification Program. Over the past year, we have made tremendous strides in launching the program. Several individuals have been responsible for getting the program to the progressive state that it is today. I would like to thank Ralph Dain, GCSAA Field Representative for Florida, for his tireless effort as the driving force behind the program. I am encouraged by the excitement of several chapters that already have asked to set up sessions for reviewing and taking the test. We are still a little way from launching the program full time and I ask for your patience while we iron out the last details. This is a program that needs to be handled correctly to ensure its credibility.

At the Crowfoot Seminar in August, we held our first Golf BMP Review Session followed by a “beta” test. Although, the review covered only one out of three sections of the test, all attendees took the full version of the test. Results from the two versions of the test were quite similar and the scores revealed that the test was fair but, by no means, easy. Those who took the test were encouraged to make comments and we are in the process of refining it accordingly.

The next steps in the process are to request endorsement from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and to finalize the review presentations. A letter requesting accreditation will be mailed out in early September and we hope to hear back from the FDEP within a few weeks. A few more sections need to be made into presentations so we can have a consistent experience at all review sessions. It is our plan to have the program up and running on a full-time basis by the end of this year or early next year.

Again, I am greatly encouraged by the excitement and interest of our membership towards the Golf BMP Certification Program and I don’t want to lose our momentum. Please keep in mind the importance of doing this right to maintain the credibility of the program. In the meantime, go ahead and crack open those books and get to studying!
Those Ridge rascals have gone and upset the apple cart. Instead of the usual sandbagging scramble team format, this year’s Jack Harrell Sr. Memorial event in June was an 18-hole, par-3 tournament with hole-in-one contests on every hole. Depending on the yardage, an ace could be worth $5,000, $10,000 or $25,000 if you made it into the finals. Harold Wilhelm of BWI likes the new format as he took home $5K for his ace on the 15th hole. Besides a chance for an ace on every tee, players scored points for their golf scores and those with the best totals at the end — along with any ace-makers — got to tee it up on the 18th hole for a shot at $50,000 to be split 50-50 with the chapter’s charities. Kudos for the Ridge Chapter for coming up with a fun and exciting format that kept everyone in the game all day and helped raise money for their worthwhile charities.

Down in West Palm Beach, Steve Pearson, CGCS was hosting the PBGCSA’s Future of Golf Tournament at The Falls CC. This annual event has been the primary fundraiser for the chapter’s many philanthropic ventures including support of junior golf programs in the area. This event also marks the 2nd Bayer Power Pak product auction of the season. This year Shannon Wheeler’s bid of $6,000 accepted by Bayer’s Brian MacCurrah went to the chapter’s fund-raising efforts.

The South Florida GCSA’s annual meeting and chapter championship was held at Doral’s Blue Monster this year thanks to host Tom Trammell and Ronnie Brooks. The chapter made a $20,000 SHARE donation to the UF/IFAS Research Station in Ft. Lauderdale. This money funds maintenance and research on the FGCSA’s Otto Schmeisser Research Green. Playing the Blue Monster...
Thanks to our sponsors and volunteers for making our new Hole-in-One format a smashing success.

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Congratulations to Harold Wilhelm for making an ace worth $5,000.
humbled more than a few golfers, but Effrain Maldanado and Dave Oliver prevailed and captured the President’s and Vice President’s cups for 2011.

As we get to the end of summer it’s always time for the Central Florida Larry Kamphaus Crowfoot Open. This year we pause to pay tribute to Vilma Kamphaus who passed away in June and joined Larry in the great hereafter. Vilma and Larry organized and ran the Crowfoot Open for more than a decade before Larry died in 1997. Grand Cypress was the venue and Tom Alex did his usual stellar performance as emcee, while his able staff had the New Course in flawless shape. Perennial contender Steve Bernard from the Adios CC shot a 72 to win the event and a spot on the FGCSA Golf Team. This year’s Larry Kamphaus Award went to Dwight Kummer, VP of Operations at Howard Fertilizer. Dwight has been a leader in Central Florida GCSA affairs both as a superintendent at the Bay Hill Club, and in his current role on the commercial side of our industry. Congratulations. Another tradition at the Crowfoot has been Golf Agronomics’ annual $3,000 Research Fund donation. GASH reps Dale and Wes Mitchell made it official when they presented FGCSA President Mark Kann with the check at the Crowfoot Open reception.

And that brings us to the FGCSA Superintendents at the PBGCSA Future of Golf event with a net 57 were, from left, Kevin Fipps, Jacaranda GC; Steve Antal, International Turf Partners; Robert Anderson, Miami National GC; and Drew Summerill, ICD Sports Group. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Taking first place at the PBGCSA Future of Golf event with a net 57 were, from left, Kevin Fipps, Jacaranda GC; Steve Antal, International Turf Partners; Robert Anderson, Miami National GC; and Drew Summerill, ICD Sports Group. Photo by Joel Jackson.

We fondly remember Vilma and Larry Kamphaus for their unselfish service to the Central Florida GCSA as Co-Chairs of the Crowfoot Open for 13 years. Vilma died this past June. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Superintendent Effrain Maldanado, left, captured the SFGCSA Presidents Cup and affiliate member David Oliver took home the Vice President’s Cup at the SFGCSA Golf Championship held at the Doral Resort in July. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Steve Bernard from the Adios CC shot a 72 to win the Crowfoot Open and a spot on the FGCSA Golf Team to compete in Palm Springs next February. Photo by Joel Jackson.
31st Future of Golf Tournament
At the Falls Country Club

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- Tom and Mark Burrows - Turf Consultants
- Sanford Golf Design

Many thanks to our Sponsors for their generous support.
From left, Dale Mitchell and Wesley Mitchell present GASH’s annual $3,000 research donation to FGCSA President Mark Kann at the Crowfoot Open in Orlando for over $54,000 in contributions over the years. Photo by Joel Jackson.

From left, Ralph Dain, GCSAA Florida Field Staff; Erin Boyd Wilder, Sod Solutions Company, and Mark Kann FGCSA President met with U.S. Senator Bill Nelson’s Chief of Staff in Tallahassee in September on key issues facing the golf industry. Not pictured is Joel Jackson, FGCSA Executive Director, who took the photo.

2011-12 FGCSA Directors are, from left, Trent Inman CGCS, Brad Smith, Brian Main, Mark Todd, Rickey Craig, Ricky Reeves, Jim Shaffer and Jim Foster, CGCS. Not pictured are Carlos Arraya, Bill Davidson and Jim Rowland. Photo by Joel Jackson.

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our SPOnSOrS and support
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SPOTLIGHT

As he leaves the FGCSA Board, Past President Bill Kistler (left), received a plaque recognizing his FGCSA Board service from Immediate Past President Gary Myers, CGCS during the August annual meeting in Orlando. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Board meetings held the day before the Crowfoot. During this year’s meeting, the progress of the BMP Certification Program was discussed along with appeals for chapters to focus on membership drives to get former FGCSA members to rejoin and to encourage local commercial members to consider FGCSA’s Industry Partner Program and other advertising opportunities. Following the summer board meeting, the annual meeting and election of officers and directors took place. Following the elections, Immediate Past President Gary Myers, CGCS presented Past Present Bill Kistler with a plaque to recognize his service to the FGCSA.
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Two Chapters Present 2011 President’s Awards

Wayne Kappauf, CGCS was presented his 2011 President’s Award by EGCSA President Alberto Quevedo, CGCS at the chapter’s annual meeting in July. Photo by Robert Toski.

The Everglades Golf Course Superintendents Association was pleased to nominate Wayne Kappauf, CGCS for the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association Presidents Award for Lifetime Service. Having been instrumental in the affairs of both the EGCSA and the FGCSA while serving as a director for each, and having been employed for more than 20 years in the turfgrass industry as a golf course superintendent, Kappauf certainly meets all of the qualifications for the award.

Kappauf has been the golf course superintendent at Island Country Club in Marco Island since 1995. Previously he was the golf course superintendent at Quail Run Golf Club in Naples in 1982-1995. He grew up in Naples and graduated from Naples High School in 1978. He then attended Florida Southern College in Lakeland and was graduated in 1982 with a B.S. in business management.

Kappauf has been an active member of the EGCSA since 1982. He is past president and served on the EGCSA Board of Directors from 1991-1996 and 2000-present. An avid golfer, he has served the EGCSA for numerous years as chair of the golf committee. A Certified Golf Course Superintendent since 1993, Kappauf enjoys the friendships and brotherhood of the profession and compares it to his fraternity days at Florida Southern. Married to Melody in 2002, Wayne has a daughter Aimee (28) and son Kyle (22) from a previous marriage.

Bryan Singleton, Biltmore GC, Coral Gables
By Ricky Reeves, Miami Beach GC

The South Florida Chapter was proud to nominate Bryan Singleton for this year’s FGCSA President’s Award to recognize his service to the South Florida GCSA.

His willingness to volunteer and serve have been exemplary. Bryan served on the SFGCSA Board in all positions except external vice president from 1997 – 2004. He recently stepped up to serve once again as the secretary/treasurer for 2010. Bryan has hosted our annual meetings and golf championships six times. He volunteered as an NBC spotter for the PGA Doral Championship from 1998 to 2007. He has also repeatedly volunteered at the annual SFGCSA/IFAS Turf Expo Field Day from 1997-2001.

Professionally, Bryan began his career in 1983 as superintendent of the Wilmington CC in Delaware. He moved to Card Sound GC in 1987 as an assistant and in 1991 he became the superintendent at the Riviera CC in Coral Gables. In 2006 he began his current job as superintendent of the Biltmore GC.

Bryan Singleton received his 2011 FGCSA President’s Award from SFGCSA President Marcus Prevatte during the Annual Meeting at Doral. Photo by Joel Jackson.