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Superintendents Aid Turf Fund

By VINCE SMITH

The Everglades Chapter of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association is one of the most active and intense organizations of its kind in the nation.

The Everglades Chapter contains, as its members, the men who are in charge of maintaining the playing surfaces of all golf courses in Southwest Florida.

The association meets monthly and during these sessions, a wide variety of subjects are discussed, the superintendents listen to talks from key figures in the turf management field and then they get to play a round of golf themselves.

Last month's meeting at Myerlee Country Club produced a good cross-sample of the activities members become involved in and foremost, the continuing new problems each of them face in their daily efforts to keep Southwest Florida's golf courses green.

At the Myerlee gathering a research donation of \$400 was presented to Dan Jones, vice president of the Florida Turf-Grass Association.

To the casual golf club member, this small grant does not reflect the full impact of the reason for the gift. But for golf course superintendents, the \$400 was a gesture of intense purpose which is a portion of a head-to-head confrontation with the increasing crises facing these professional workers.

The money chipped in by the Everglades Chapter will be pooled with donations from the state's seven other chapters. The total fund will be used for specific golf turf research at the University of Florida.

The almost frightening problems golf course superintendents are facing today because of environmental regulations, possible water shortages and the banning of proven pesticides are forcing research into new areas of turf management.

Some of these new territories include biological control of pests and grasses more resistant to wear with less water and fertilizer.

To maintain the quality playing surface that today's golfer demands research is going to play a vital role in the future.

And no one is more aware of this than the members of the Everglades Chapter of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association.

Although the superintendents' prime concern right now is research, the Everglades Chapter also concerns itself with the continuing education of young people seeking careers in the turf management field. ■

(Continued on Page 17)



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Two scholarships were presented by the Everglades Chapter during its meeting at Myerlee.

Dick McCandless received the Jesse Medhurst Memorial Scholarship. He will be graduating from Lake City Community College in May with an A.S. degree in Golf Course Operations.

McCandless' on-the-job training experiences came at Jekyll Island, Ga., and Arnold Palmer's Bay Hill Club near Orlando. He worked at Lely County Club in Naples under Superintendent Chuck Belyea before attending Lake City.

Brad Walters was recipient of the Ken Willis Memorial Scholarship. He is currently in his second year of the turf management curriculum at Lake City.

A graduate of Cypress Lake High School, Walters has worked at several Lee County courses including Myerlee and last summer took on-the-job training at Palmetto-Pine Country Club in Cape Coral under Superintendent Mark Selby.

Both McCandless and Walters received checks of \$250 from the Everglades Chapter to help in their schooling.

Meanwhile, the chapter is looking forward to its seventh annual Poa Annuu Classic, its No. 1 golf outing each year.

Strictly a fun-type day, the Poa Annuu Classic will be held at Mirror Lakes Country Club in Lehigh Acres, April 28. Rick Cook is host superintendent and expects his fellow maintenance technicians and turf suppliers to quickly fill the 144 openings for the 11 a.m. shotgun start.

But up until that one-day, 18-hole picnic, members of the Everglades Chapter will be hard at work, applying all their knowledge and skill to further combat the daily annoyances that constantly disrupt the tee-boxes, fairways and greens of the golf courses we all love to play. ■

Reprinted from Fort Myers News-Press, Wednesday, March 11, 1981.

Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, Nobody

By CLINT SMALLRIDGE, C.G.C.S.
Royal Ponciana Golf Club

This is a story about four people:

Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody though Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when actually Nobody asked Anybody.

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