

Activities around the state

Successful seminars

The Everglades and South Florida Chapters have every right to be proud of their successful seminars that took place last April 9. The attendees at both seminars were treated to some outstanding education and they also have the satisfaction of knowing their registration fees went for funding the Otto Schmeisser Research Green in Fort Lauderdale and the FTGA sponsored Envirotron at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Ridgerunners rejoice

The Ridge Chapter began its fund raising efforts on an equally successful note as a full field of superintendents and suppliers plied their skills against the new Grasslands course in Lakeland on April 27. Host superintendent Bobby Ellis had the course in superb condition. The golfers had to contend with near gale force winds as the wide-open layout proved to be a stern test — not for the faint of heart. The post-tournament barbecue and awards ceremony was highlighted by an impromptu appearance and door prize gift donation by PGA Tour player, Andy Bean, who represents the Grasslands C.C.

Building bridges and mending fences

On April 28, the president of the Central Florida GCSA, Stuart Leventhal, was assisted by three former CFC presidents, Joel Jackson, Joe Ondo and Steve Wright, at a turf management presentation for the North Florida Section of the PGA. The superintendents spoke on the roles and responsibilities of a superintendent, overseeding, renovation and pro-superintendent communications. The panel avidly solicited the aid and support of the golf professionals in helping to educate the golfing public about benefits of turfgrass and the challenges the industry is facing. The seminar took place at the Isleworth G & CC and was hosted by Bob Yount of the FTGA. Also on the program in the morning session was Ralph White, turf consultant, and Naomi Whitney of the St. John's River Water Management District. It was refreshing to see members

Creative Fundraising



The Central Florida Chapter worked the Nestle Invitational Tournament at Bay Hill for NBC during the telecast last March. The 24 volunteers worked Saturday and Sunday afternoons on the spotting and scoring lines to the production trailer.

of the audience go up to the dais after the seminar concluded and thank the superintendents for their presentation and ask additional questions.

'Who's Away' revisited

Taking a page from the Palm Beach Chapter's fund raising notebook, members of the Central Florida Chapter with an assist from Alan Puckett of the Ridge Chapter worked the Nestle Invitational Tournament at Bay Hill for NBC during the telecast last March. The 24 volunteers worked Saturday and Sunday afternoons on the spotting and scoring lines to the production trailer. It was fun being "inside the ropes" and hearing the tournament unfold on your headset as the leaders approached your green. The Central Florida Chapter netted \$1,200 for a couple of hours work each day, and

each person got an NBC sports cap that was drawing \$25 and \$30 dollar offers from people in the gallery.

Earlier in the month, I was contacted by a Texas superintendent who had heard about the "Who's Away" story in *The Florida Green*. He was looking for our NBC contact, Lou Safrin, so the Texas GCSA could participate on the PGA swing through the Longhorn State and raise a little money of their own. I hope all the chapters around the state and nation are taking advantage of this interesting way to raise scholarship and research funds and have fun. Just a tip if you do participate. They would like to have your association's TIN number and some logo stationery handy so they can cut your check on Sunday.

— Joel Jackson