

better stand of turf than we would have had.”

I asked Wise about the three logos on his shirt and their implication. “I can’t say enough about the communications and teamwork I have received from the members of the PGA,” Wise said. “They have listened to and respected my input and have kept me in the loop at all times. Marty Kavanaugh, Senior Director of PGA Golf Properties, and Bill Cioffoletti, Head Golf Professional have been just super to work with and it’s not unusual to find Jim Awtrey, CEO of the PGA of America, strolling into my office at 7:00 AM to see how things are going. It’s been a great experience. Jim is really proud of our maintenance facility and often shows it off to visitors before they see the clubhouse. I was able to work closely with the architect and make some changes. We have a built in recycling system. We don’t release any clippings or rinsate into the environment. In fact, the whole project received an environmental awareness award from Links magazine. While all this has been going on, I have also had the new courses in the Audubon Signature program and St. Lucie West in the ACSP Certification program.”

As for the media day itself, Kevin and I found ourselves not on the print media team, The Scribes, but rather on the electronic media team, The Mics, something to do with balancing the numbers on the teams. At any rate thanks to Kevin’s 76, the Mics drubbed the Scribes -69 to -31. As for me, well my game still needs lots of work, but I enjoyed the day and was pleased that *The Florida Green* had been invited to participate. If you get a chance, swing by and take a look. You will enjoy the whole facility and the experience.

1996 Poa Annua Classic offers respite in transition

Spring means transition. Spring means renovation. Spring means The Poa Annua Classic and The Naples Beach Club. Like the swallows returning annually to Capistrano, superintendents, suppliers and their wives and families return to Naples for the rites of spring passage and the beginning of the intense hot Florida growing season.

This Poa Annua was a chance to catch our breath and swap horror stories about the worst Florida winter in the 1990’s. It was an opportunity at the Spring Board Meeting for all the FGCSA Chapters to fine tune their understanding of the impending GCSAA affiliation process. It was a time to earn continuing education credits at the Friday Seminar. It was an excuse to limber up the rusty golf swing and raise

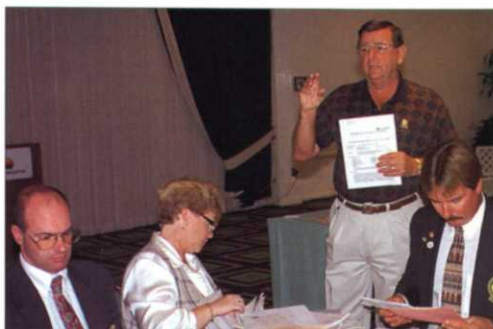


Architect Ron Forse answers a question during the break in The History of Golf Course Architecture seminar held at the Poa Annua Classic. Photo by Joel Jackson.

All ten FGCSA Chapters were represented at the Spring board meeting to discuss GCSAA affiliation, IFAS organization, research funding, legislative initiatives, public relations, education and next year’s budget. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Charlie Campbell of Dow Elanco made a brief presentation to the FGCSA Board to announce a new rebate program that will benefit turf research. Photo by Joel Jackson.



(left to right) Mark Hopkins with the Low Gross score of 67 led his Ridge Chapter teammates, Steve Ciardullo, Ray Cuzzone and Dan Smokestad to the Poa Annuia Classic team championship. Mark automatically qualifies for the Florida Team to compete in the 1997 GCSAA Golf Championships in Las Vegas. Ridge Chapter President Alan Puckett(center) holds the traveling Poa trophy. Photo by Joel Jackson.



education and research money in the Poa Annuia Classic and G. C. Horn Memorial Golf Tournaments on Saturday and Sunday. It was a time to relax with a libation and a sea breeze and watch the sun set in the Gulf without having to worry about irrigation schedules and equipment problems. It was good food, good people and good times once again!

Thanks are in order for the friendly folks at The Naples Beach Club who always make our stay a pleasure, and to Dick Naccarato and his staff for preparing the golf course to our liking. A big round of applause for Dale Walters and the Everglades Chapter for being gracious hosts once again. And a special thanks to Bruce Williams for taking time out from his Bob O' Link course in Chicago during a busy spring emerging from a tough winter to come bringing thanks from the GCSAA for Florida's contributions on the national level.

When the last putt drops and the last handshake pulls apart and the key turns in the door for the last time, we head home having celebrated another Poa Annuia together in pursuit of excellence in all that we do! Take care! See you next year!

(left to right) Marie Roberts, FGCSA Association Manager, signs in certified superintendents: Dan Jones, Larry Kamphaus, Steve Pearson and Mike Bailey in search of continuing education credits. Photo by Joel Jackson.

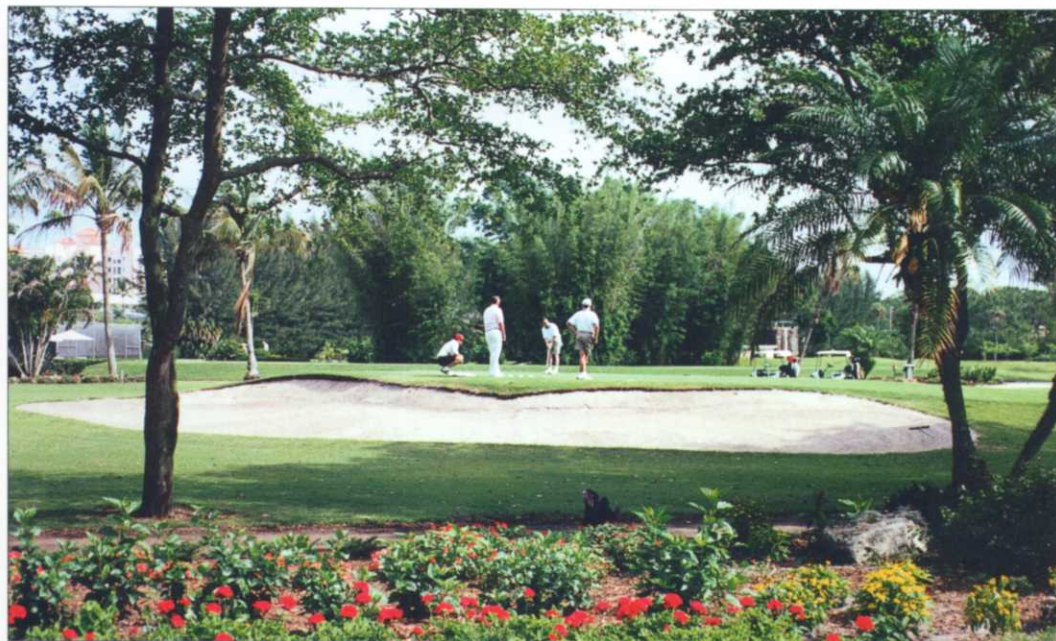


Dale Walters, CGCS, President of the host Everglades Chapter, welcomes everyone to another memorable Poa Annuia Classic weekend. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Special guest, GCSAA President Bruce Williams, CGCS participated in the Poa Annuia banquet festivities and in the Dr. G. C. Horn Memorial Fund turf research tournament. Photo by Joel Jackson.





*“...in
pursuit
of
excellence
in all
that we
do!”*

*Yes boss, we do play golf at the Poa! Proceeds are used for education and turf research funding.
(Ninth green at the Naples Beach Club) Photo by Joel Jackson.*



Out-of-towners soon became “sundowners” at the Naples Beach Club. Photo by Joel Jackson.