



*Hole-in-the-Wall is unique in South Florida. It is a golf course adapted to its natural surroundings. Nature and golf are to be enjoyed equally.*

## *Don't hurry, don't worry, and be sure to smell the flowers along the way*

BY SHELLY FOY  
*USGA Green Section*

From: The introduction of Hole-in-the-Wall Golf Club: A History

"Hole-in-the-wall" is unique in South Florida. It is a golf course and only a golf course.

It is adapted to the natural surroundings. The flora and the fauna remain intact. Nature and golf are to be enjoyed equally. "

"You're only here for a short stay  
Don't Hurry, Don't Worry,

And be sure to smell the flowers along the way."

Located a couple of miles north of the center of Naples, Hole-in-the-Wall is 200 acres with an 18 hole golf course and no houses on property. There are 90 acres of

play area, 20 acres of non-play area, 30 acres of roughs, 50 acres of swamps and woodlands and 8 to 10 acres of open fresh water. There are no natural streams or creeks, however, the Gordon River, although not visible, runs along the eastern boundary of the property.

Ron Sanborn, Golf Course Superintendent, gives a little history of the golf course: "Back at the turn of the century, what is now Naples and its surrounding areas was divided by a swamp known as "The Wall" because it could not be crossed by land traffic. Eventually a path was built through the swamp and became known as "The Hole in the Wall."

In 1944, Ed Frank purchased 200 acres

which was named "Hole-in-the-Wall Ranch".

Mr. Frank was responsible for many things around town, including his invention, the swamp buggy.

At the time, the Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club was the only golf course in town.

The course was used primarily by hotel guests, but annual memberships were sold to local residents. At the same time, Port Royal was being developed with only a social club and no golf course. As Naples continued to grow, it was apparent that one golf course would not accommodate everyone.

In 1957, Naples watched the birth of

Hole-in-the-Wall Golf Club. Dick Wilson was hired as the golf course architect. The club opened in 1958 as the first private golf course in Naples. The members today play a Par 72, 6,286 yard course."

On January 4, 1994, Hole-in-the-Wall Golf Club became the 11th golf course in the country and the 2nd in the State of Florida to become a fully certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. Becoming fully certified was only the beginning for Hole-in-the-Wall however, and they continue to implement the principles of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program (ACSP) as part of every day operation of the golf course.

### Constant and committed leadership

Every project needs a leader, and in the case of Hole-in-the-Wall, Fred Yarrington has really made a difference. Since joining the program in January, 1992, Hole-in-the-Wall Golf Club has had a constant and dedicated leader of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program. Mr. Yarrington is a former Green

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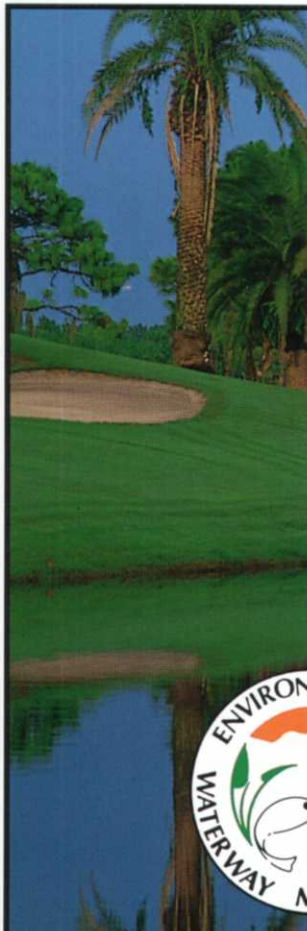
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Chairman and Board Member of Hole in the Wall Golf Club. He is a current member of the U.S. Junior Championship Committee and former Director of the Connecticut State Golf Association.

According to Mr. Yarrington, “I think it would be difficult to generalize on how to become certified in each of the categories. So much is dependent on the characteristics of each individual golf course. We’re lucky to be located in an area friendly to wildlife and with no housing bordering the golf course.

We have been amazed at how little cost and effort there can be in a program of making a golf course more compatible with the environment. To anyone considering the program, I would point out that they should expect a great deal of interest and support from their membership.

Although it is difficult to evaluate the program in dollars and cents, I am certain by following Audubon suggestions, we will save much more long term from the program than any of the modest expenditures we have made directly. The plus in all of our efforts is that raising the level of environmental consciousness is truly cost effective in the long term.”

Mr. Yarrington is generous in his willingness to share information and help other courses get involved with this program. He stays in regular contact with several other ACSP member courses in the Naples area. He serves as ACSP Resource Committee Chairman and has put together an enviable committee who have worked together to make Hole-in-the-Wall an even better place for golfers and wildlife. Other members of the Resource Committee are listed in the accompanying sidebar.

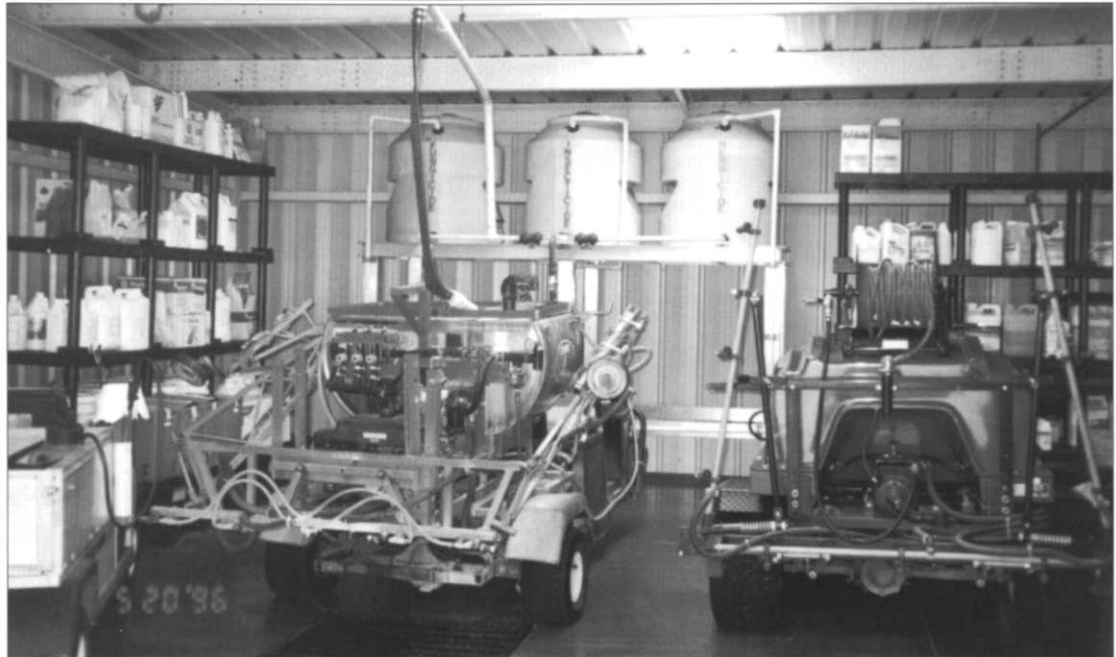
The property is surrounded by Royal Poinciana Golf Club to the north and east, and Wilderness Country Club to the south. One quarter of the total property is unused and the majority of this is maintained in a natural state. The large acreage of cypress swamps, woods, water and open space on the property provide a great diversity of wildlife, as evidenced by the wildlife inventory seen at Hole-in-the-Wall. This in addition to the open space provided by the surrounding golf

Before



*In 1995, part of the IPM improvements was to have proper storage of chemicals and fertilizers.*

After



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*Perhaps objectives is a better term than goals, since as long as we continue participation in the program, the goals will never be reached because there is always a new idea or project which would have a positive effect on each of the three stated goals."*

courses, creates a large corridor for wildlife.

What stands out most about Hole-in-the-Wall is their continued support and commitment to the ACSP. Even after becoming a fully certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary, they continue to research and implement projects to provide the membership with a first class golf facility that is in harmony with nature.

In 1992, the Hole-in-the-Wall Golf Club ACSP Resource Committee had three goals:

1) To insure that activities on the club

property have a positive environmental impact.

2) To improve the wildlife habitat on the club property

3) To educate and inform the membership regarding the program.

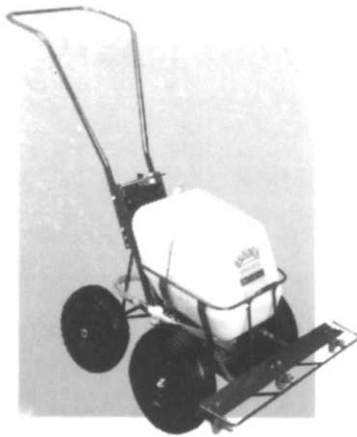
Have they accomplished these goals? "We are pleased with the progress we've made since joining the program. Perhaps objectives is a better term than goals, since as long as we continue participation in the program, the goals will never be reached because there is always a new idea or project which would have a positive effect on each of the three stated

goals."

The accompanying chart looks back at the past five years and identifies the focus of the Resource Committee.

"I have enjoyed the educational experience and personal contacts developed from our participation in the program, and the opportunity I have had to share this information with our members. I am very pleased to be part of a proactive program which is providing a positive response to allegations of environmental harm due to golf courses, allegations based purely on speculation rather than fact," said Mr. Yarrington.

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*Since 1992, aquatic plantings have been an important part of improving Hole-in-the-Wall's waterways.*



*In 1994, the project continues as another lake bank is being planted. The goal is 100% lake and canal bank plantings.*

	1992 Establishing A Plan (Environmental Planning)	1993 Implementation	1994 Certification	1995 Continuation	1996 Staying on Track
<b>Environmental Planning</b>	* Joined the ACSP * Formed Resource Committee	*Continual update of plan and regular meetings with committee members	* Writing certification requests	*Site visit by Jean Mckay, Audubon Society of New York	* Master landscape plan developed
<b>Wildlife and Habitat Management</b>	*Surveyed out of play areas, made recommendations on native plantings and nestbox sites, * Reviewed initial aquatic plantings * Surveyed existing wildlife food sources and ideas for increasing them	* Installed several wood duck boxes * Installed Osprey platform * Started converting out of play areas using native plants * Started program of removing exotic plant material and replacing with natives	* Ecological Restoration is goal for year, * Removed more than 30 Melaleuca trees and replaced with native material, *Addition of more nestboxes	* One acre naturalization project in small cabbage palm hammock, * Removed more exotics (haveremoved 100 in three years, 50 more to go), Replacing with sable palms, red maples and pines	* On-going exotic removal and replacement, * Planting Cord Grass and aquatics, * Trimmed dead pine tree to create snag for habitat
<b>Water Quality Management</b>	* Evaluated enlargement of buffers	*Continued aquatic plantings, Lakes are cleaner than ever before and membership is favorable to more,* Increased number of wading birds due to aquatic plantings	*Continued aquatic plantings, Entire perimeter of largest lake planted, Goal: Continue aquatic plantings till all lakes and canals are planted	* Soil and water testing conducted twice a year	*Buffers, as recommended by USGA, around all water bodies, * Adhere to spray and fertilizer guidelines published for proximity of water
<b>IPM</b>	*Documented previous two years chemical usage and set reduction goals, * Established details of current IPM program, * Met with Dr. Kim Erusha, USGA, to discuss IPM practices	* Ongoing review of organics and biological controls	* Regular turf scouting and mapping of problem areas, * Increasing aerifications including deep drilling greens and tees, * Changing mowing heights for the different seasons, * Tissue and soil tests twice a year for fertilizer program	*Renovation/Reconstruction of maintenance facility, including closed loop wash stand forcleaning equipment and building proper storage areas for chemicals and fertilizers,* Have reduced pesticide and herbicide usage, spot spraying only of herbicides and no broadcast spray applications for mole crickets, * 40% fertilizer used on greens is organic	* Using parasitic nematodes for mole crickets, * Bio-insecticides (Bacillus Thuringiensis) used for webworms, cutworms, etc., * Thinning canopies and root pruning trees to help turf, * Increasing staff involvement in IPM by encouraging them to become certified pesticide applicators (currently have 4)
<b>Water Conservation</b>	*Evaluated current water usage and set goals for future reductions, * Full irrigation system review,checking for ways to modify system to reduce consumption	*Monitor progress of negotiations with City of Naples for re-use water, * Installing new control and heads for the irrigation system	*Pumps and controls related to effluent usage refurbished, *Remainder of irrigation system upgrading, *60% irrigation is reuse water, 25% deep well, and 15% storm water retention	*Increased use of effluent, * Installed automatic rain sensor to shut down irrigation in case of unexpected storm, *Modifications to bunkers will improve turf quality, *Sodded several tees with zoysiagrass, which requires less water and fertilization	* Re-design and installation of irrigation system (piping and heads), * Increased effluent usage to 90%, *Sodding another shady tee with zoysia
<b>Member/ Public Involvement</b>	*Established plan to educate membership about ACSP, * Started wildlife inventory, planto have members help identify and record species	*Plan to familiarize memberswith some of the more common birds and wildlife on property	* Participate annually in bird count	* On going member involvement/input through committee meetings	*Book on Florida birds placed on coffee table in clubhouse, * Sheet on Golf Bulletin Board in clubhouse where members can list special sightings of wildlife, ex. River otter spotted fishing in pond on #18 or bobcat and kitten playing on 4th hole

Chart 1  
Strategic plan at Hole-in-the-Wall

*"I have enjoyed the educational experience and personal contacts developed from our participation in the program, and the opportunity I have had to share this information with our members. I am very pleased to be part of a proactive program which is providing a positive response to allegations of environmental harm due to golf courses, allegations based purely on speculation rather than fact."*

**- Fred Yarrington**

**ACSP Resource Committee Chairman**

*Conclusion: A Golf Course and Only A Golf Course? No, Hole-in-the-Wall Golf Club is much more than just a golf course. It is a place*

*where the members care about the land and practice good stewardship everyday. It is a place where wildlife can thrive and flourish. It is a place*

*where people and nature meet and co-exist. It is a peaceful place, where, yes, you will definitely want to take the time to stop and smell the flowers.*



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## RESOURCE COMMITTEE

**Robert W. Fischer**, Green Chairman

**Ronald W. Sanborn Jr.**, Golf Course Superintendent. Has major responsibilities in areas of IPM and water conservation.

**James Ware**, Member of Tree Committee. Has been active in Audubon Society activities in the Chicago area and Naples. Conducts numerous bird walks and plays a major role in the annual bird count conducted in the area.

**Mary Dearholt**, Former Chairman

of the Board of the Conservancy in Naples, Florida. Mrs. Dearholt has an active interest in the trees and plants on the golf course.

**Bruce Durkee**, Former member of the Board of the Conservancy and Secretary of the Hole-in-the-Wall Golf Club. Mr. Durkee has particular interest in restoring several out of play areas to a natural setting to provide cover and food for wildlife.

**Dyanne Singler**, Director of the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center at the Conservancy. Serves as

outside resource member and advises on all phases of the program.

**Hubert Howard**, Tree Committee Co-Chairman. Active in many local civic committees and projects. General interest in the entire program.

**William Harvey**, First Vice-President of the club with a special interest in the tree program.

**W. Newton Burdick, Jr.**, Member of the Board and Golf Committee.

## WILDLIFE INVENTORY

**Mammals:** bobcats, possums, river otters, fox squirrels, gray squirrels, raccoons, black bear, armadillos and red fox.

**Butterflies:** Sulphur, Florida White, Zebra, Orange-barred, Milkweed, Red Admirer and several different swallowtails.

**Reptiles/Amphibians:** Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnakes, Southern Black Racers, Florida Water Snakes, Water moccasins and a variety of Florida turtles and numerous alligators

**Birds:** Great Blue Heron, Moorhen, Anhinga, Morning Dove, Tri-colored Heron, Red bellied woodpecker, Northern Mockingbird, American Kestrel, European Starling, Northern

Cardinal, Blue Jay, Red Shouldered Hawk, Kildeer, Northern Flicker, Yellow Rumped Warbler, Ruby Throated, Hummingbird, Pileated Woodpecker, Pervla,

Blue Gray Gnat Catcher, Great Crested Flycatcher, Black & White Warbler, Solitary Vireo, White Ibis, Great Egret, Fish Crow, Red Start, Palm Warbler, Carolina Wren, Turkey Vulture, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Black whiskered vireo, Yellow throated Warbler, Boat-tailed Grackle, Common Grackle, American Goldfinch,

House Sparrow, Brown Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Gray

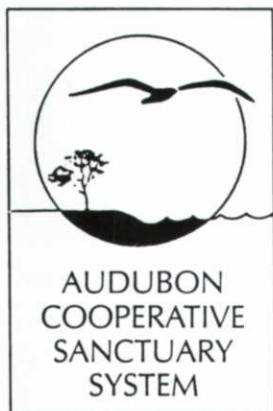
Phase Screech Owl, Great Blue Heron, Little Blue Heron, Cattle Egret, Green-backed Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Wood Stork, Wood Duck, Hooded Merganser, Osprey, American Swallow-tailed Kite,

Bald Eagle, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Merlin, Wild Turkey, Ring-billed Gull, Morning Doves, Common Ground-Dove, Eastern Screech Owl, Barred Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Purple Martin, Brown Creeper.

# Audubon school program teacher training video filmed in Florida



*Rob Kloska (center), Superintendent of the Jupiter Island Club is filmed by a GCSAA staffer (far right) as the Treasure Coast Chapter helps Hobe Sound Elementary School students plant royal palm trees on campus.*



**T**he GCSAA was in Hobe Sound, Florida recently filming a teacher training video for the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Schools. This video will be a part of registration packages sent to schools involved in this program and will be available by August. “The video will help teachers, students and parents across the country that are just starting out in the program and allow them the opportunity to see what has been done at other schools (in the program),” said Neil A. Gifford, Environmental Educator for Audubon International. There are currently more than 50 schools from New York to Florida to California involved in the program.

Lisa Wick, Media Relations & Video Services Coordinator with GCSAA spent two days in Florida interviewing principals, teachers, parents and students at Hobe Sound Elementary School about their involvement in the ACSP for

Schools. Hobe Sound Elementary School is the first school in the country to achieve certification in the Audubon School Program, and are currently certified in three out of four categories: Environmental Education, Waste Management, and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement. They are currently working on the fourth certification, Resource Conservation. Once this fourth certification is complete, they will become a fully certified Audubon Cooperative School Sanctuary.

While here, Lisa also interviewed several members of the Treasure Coast Golf Course Superintendents Association about the Blue Pearl Tournament and their involvement with the school program. The TCGCSA have raised \$18,000 in the last two years for the ACSP for Schools. This money is all spent locally through grant applications to schools in their region.

*Shelly Foy*

# EGCSA Spring Seminar Supports ACSP for Schools

The Everglades Golf Course Superintendents Association hosted their annual Spring Seminar on Friday, April 26 at the LaPlaya Resort in Naples. Over 90 people were in attendance for the full-day seminar.

During the day, presentations were made on a wide variety of golf course and turf management topics. The program was started off with Shelly Foy, USGA Green Section, giving an update on the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program in Florida. Dr. Charles Peacock of North Carolina State University followed with a very good presentation on Best Management Practices. Then Darren Davis, superintendent at the Olde Florida Club in Naples, discussed Environmental Concerns for the Maintenance Facility. Dr. Pat Cobb from Auburn University finished out the morning session with

a very entertaining and informative talk on mole cricket control.

After lunch John Foy, USGA Green Section Director, gave a talk on Trends and Turf Tips for Florida Golf Courses, and then Paul Latshaw, superintendent at Congressional Country Club, told everyone about Preparing a Golf Course for a Major Tournament. Jan Beljan, Fazio Golf Course Design, wound up the day with an update on the Environmental Impact of Golf Courses.

This is the second year that the EGCSA have donated all proceeds from the Spring Seminar to the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Schools. This year over \$3,000 will go to adopt schools into



Speakers for the EGCSA Spring Seminar were from left: John Foy, Shelly Foy, Paul Latshaw, Jan Beljan, Dr. Pat Cobb, Darren Davis and Dr. Charles Peacock.

the program and provide these schools with grant money for projects and supplies.

Shelly Foy

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# ACSP:



BY SHELLY FOY

# Who, What, Why, Where, When and How

These are some of the most common questions asked about the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses (ACSP). I thought they might help motivate some of you to get more involved.

In future issues of the *FLORIDA GREEN*, we will address other questions you may have about the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System. Send your questions to:

USGA Green Section  
P.O. Box 1087  
Hobe Sound, FL 33475  
Fax: 561-546-4653.

Question: My time is so limited. I want to get involved, I just can't seem to find the time. Any suggestions?

Answer: One of the first things you will do when you get involved with the ACSP is form a Resource Committee. This committee is just that, a resource for you to use. It can be made up of staff, golfers, board members, club officials, community persons such as Native Plant Society members, local Audubon members, a local utility company representative, a person from your solid waste authority, cooperative extension service or our local fish and wildlife agency just to name a few. Let your Resource Committee do their part by helping you out with anything from filling out the Resource Inventory, to initiating projects, locating sources, etc. No where in the program does it say that the golf course superintendent has to do all the work.

Another idea is to have your assistant superintendent or secretary handle the paperwork of the program. These are two people who are also fairly knowledgeable about the golf course and its operations. They could arrange meetings and schedule projects for you.

Don't be afraid to delegate portions of this program! The key to success is when you share the program with others. After all, one of the main things you want to do is to educate people about the environmental benefits of the golf course. If you keep it all to yourself, you have gained nothing and your success with this program will be limited, at best.

Question: My Green Committee already drives me crazy. I don't need more people knowing everything I do. Why is it necessary to have a Resource Committee?

Answer: Again, the Resource Committee can and should be a valuable asset to you by helping with projects, paperwork, resources, etc.. Remember, the whole point of the ACSP is to let others know what environmental stewards you are and how a well managed golf course can be a benefit to people and wildlife. By finding the right community representatives to be on your Resource Committee, they will learn for themselves the benefits of golf courses and will be more than willing to spread the news.

With board members on your Resource Committee, you will have the opportunity to educate them on various

aspects of your job. As their understanding of your job increases, you will gain valuable support for the projects and programs you want to implement on the golf course.

Question: My membership does not think the New York Audubon should be working on Florida golf courses. They can't seem to get past the New York in the name. What can I say to convince them this is a good program?

Answer: The Audubon staff recognizes that this is a concern for some people, so they have restructured their organization and the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program now comes under Audubon International. Audubon International specializes in sustainable resource management.

You can also tell them that this program is sponsored by the United States Golf Association, and has been from the beginning. The ACSP is also supported by groups such as the GCSAA, ASGCA, GCBA, LPGA, PGA, etc.

Besides, I am sure your members do not think the *New York Times* is only a local newspaper either

Question: This ACSP package has been sitting on my desk for months. What is my first step in initiating this program?

Answer: The first thing you need to do after joining the program is to make sure you fill out the Resource Inventory. This form helps you describe your property, the projects you are already involved in, as well as helps identify areas where your

interests may be (birdfeeders, nestboxes, wildlife gardens, etc..)

After completing the Resource Inventory, you need to start thinking about putting together a Resource Committee of persons who will be able to help you with this program.

Next, the Environmental Planning Worksheet takes you through all of the certification categories and should be used as your "map" or "blueprint" of projects you will be working on. This worksheet should constantly be referred to, as it will help you gauge where you are in the program. Then, you should be ready to start implementing projects and applying for certification in the five other categories.

For additional suggestions, be sure to check previous issues of the *Florida Green!*

Question: My golf course is very private and does not want the public on-site. How can we fulfill the public/member involvement category?

Answer: The Audubon staff realizes

that some golf courses are concerned with their privacy. While some courses may have the ability to bring groups of people on-site for tours, this may be the last thing that other courses want.

There are, however, many opportunities to educate your own membership about environmental concerns on and around the golf course. With the average golf course being constructed on 120 - 150 acres, you have plenty of opportunity to enhance and preserve wildlife, conserve and protect water sources, implement IPM programs to minimize chemical and pest pressures as well as reach out to members, their families and guests to help them become more aware of what a benefit a well maintained golf course is to its surrounding environment.

The first thing you should do is let your members know about the ACSP. You can do this by writing an article for your club newsletter, or posting an announcement in the clubhouse or pro shop. You may be pleasantly surprised how

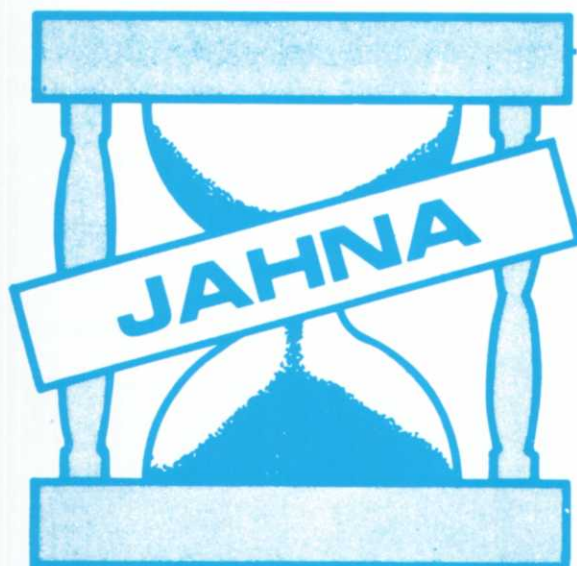
much interest you will receive. Ask for help with projects such as starting a wildlife inventory, building and monitoring nestboxes, or installing a butterfly garden. Your interested members will be glad to help you come up with a list of projects they would like to see implemented on the golf course.

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Question: How many golf courses are registered in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses (ACSP)?

Answer: As of the end of May, there are over 2160 golf courses who

are registered in the program nationwide. Of these, 72 are fully certified, and another 125 have achieved certification in one or more category.

In Florida, over 180 golf courses are currently registered in the program, 10 are fully certified, and another 15 have achieved certification in one or more category.

When you think about Florida having over 1100 golf courses, the number of ACSP members in Florida should be much higher than it is. Call Audubon International today at (518) 767-9051 and ask for membership information.

**Other project ideas are:**

- Host an Audubon day at your golf course and invite all members.
- Arrange for wildlife demonstrations (a good way to meet community groups who might be willing to serve on your Resource Committee), composting seminars, information that members might utilize in their backyards.
- Offer "kits" to members which might include a nestbox, birdfeeder, butterfly garden plants, etc...
- Have a designated area in your clubhouse or proshop where members can help with a wildlife inventory by listing species that they see while they are out on the course.
- Host mini-seminars or educational workshops for members. Speakers could be from local Audubon chapters, cooperative extensions, garden clubs. Make sure you encourage them to initiate some of the same programs in their own backyards as you are on the golf course.
- Perhaps start a reference library on Florida birds, wildlife, plants, etc. Make these references available for anyone who might want to borrow them.

**USGA announces first wildlife links grant**

The United States Golf Association (USGA) has awarded three grants totaling approximately \$100,000 to initiate Wildlife Links, golf's first comprehensive program to investigate its relationship with wildlife and its habitat.

The Wildlife Links program was established in early 1995 to fund research, management, and education projects needed to provide the game of golf with state-of-the-art information on wildlife management issues. The USGA will contribute \$100,000 annually for the next three years. The LPGA has also committed funds for this program.

The program is administered by the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) out of Washington, D.C. Congress established NFWF in 1984 as a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of natural resources — fish, wildlife and plants. Among its goals are species habitat protection, environmental education, public-policy development, natural resource management, habitat and ecosystem rehabilitation and restoration, and leadership training for conservation professionals. To date, NFWF

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has undertaken 1,205 projects in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and 17 other countries. These activities have leveraged more than \$152 million of private funds for fish and wildlife protection.

The advisory committee for the Wildlife Links program includes: Dr. Peter Stangel, Director of the NFWF's Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Initiative chairs the committee. Other members are: Jim Felkel, of the U.S. Forest Service; Dr. Mike Lennartz, of the U.S. Forest Service; Dr. Dan Petit, of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service; Ron Dodson, President of Audubon International; and Jim Snow, National Director of the USGA Green Section.

The overall goal of the Wildlife Links program is to protect and enhance, through proper planning and management, the wildlife, fish and plant resources found on golf courses. The first three grants awarded by the USGA are to:

- The Colorado Bird Observatory, headquartered in Brighton, Colorado to

create a manual that will provide golf course architects and superintendents with practical information about how to enhance golf course habitat for bird species. The working title of the publication is Golf Courses and Bird Conservation: A Management Manual, and it will appear next spring.

- Donald F. Harker and Gary W. Libby, environmental researchers located in Frankfort, Kentucky, were awarded a grant to underwrite production of a publication with the tentative title Wetlands Management Manual for Golf

Courses that is expected to appear in early 1997. This illustrated booklet will contain narrative, drawings, case studies, and key restoration techniques to help golf course superintendents understand wetlands, and create programs to create, conserve and manage them.

- Audubon International, headquartered in Selkirk, New York, has received a grant to help computerize their substantial database of statistical informa-

tion about golf courses that has been gathered through their management over the past six years of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses.

Golf courses, especially in more developed regions, hold great potential as hospitable areas for many species of animals and plants. The Wildlife Links Program represents golf's best mechanisms to examine these issues and develop appropriate strategies.

Complete information about these grants or the Wildlife Links Program may be obtained by contacting either:

**Dr. Peter Stangel**

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
1120 Connecticut Avenue N.W.  
Suite 900  
Washington, D.C.  
(202) 857-5676 or:

**Dr. Kimberly Erusha or Marty Parkes**

USGA Green Section  
P.O. Box 708  
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*Last year, the Treasure Coast GCSA raised over \$8,000 which was used to adopt ten schools, provide books for each school library, and set up a \$5,000 grant fund for those schools to help pay for projects and supplies. On Saturday, May 4, 1996, they contributed another \$10,000.*

*“By funding environmental and ecological awareness programs in grade schools from Hobe Sound to Vero Beach, we can inform and educate not only the students, but also teachers, administrators, and parents.”*

**Dick Gray**  
TCGCSA President



*From left, Ed Davito, Dick Gray, President of the TCGCSA, John Sullivan, owner of Loblolly Pines and Jerry Snetler tee it up for the ASCP School Program.*

## **Blue Pearl Tournament largest single fundraiser for the Audubon Sanctuary Program for Schools**

**F**or the second year in a row, the Treasure Coast golf Course Superintendents Association have donated all funds from their annual Blue Pearl Charity Tournament to the ACSP for Schools.

Last year, they raised over \$8,000 which was used to adopt ten schools, provide books for each school library, and set up a \$5,000 grant fund for those schools to help pay for projects and supplies.

On Saturday, May 4, 1996, they contributed another \$10,000 to the ACSP School Program, for a two-year total of over \$18,000. Crystal Lake Elementary, in Stuart, Fla., has received the first grant

to build a nature trail. Other schools are in the process of applying for grants to work on such projects as constructing a slat house for native plant nursery, aquatic enhancement projects around water bodies, and butterfly gardens.

Dick Gray, president of the TCGCSA, says, “By funding environmental and ecological awareness programs in grade schools from Hobe Sound to Vero Beach, we can inform and educate not only the students, but also teachers, administrators, and parents. We can foster and nurture an age of children who grow up knowing the benefits of a healthy environment and the benefits golf courses offer to people, wildlife and the envi-





Mike Wallace of Palm City was the winner of the \$1,000 Golf Ball Drop raffle to raise money for the ASCP School Program.

ronment.”

The Blue Pearl Tournament is hosted by Loblolly Pines Golf Club in Hobe Sound. Owners John and Susan Sullivan are very gracious hosts for this annual event, and course superintendent Fred Hinkle and his staff work very hard to provide top quality conditioning and a very challenging course setup.

*“We can foster and nurture an age of children who grow up knowing the benefits of a healthy environment and the benefits golf courses offer to people, wildlife and the environment.”*

### Tournament winners this year were:

#### Low Gross First Place:

Roy Kimberly, Coary Fisher, Mark Henderson, and Roy MacDonald

#### Second Place:

Mark Atherholt, Dave Oliver, Randy Vaughn, and Joe Hubbard

#### Third Place:

Jeff Veneklas, John Swaner, Steve Bernerd, and Steve Trailes

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