



PRESIDENTS AWARD WINNER

Growing Grass in Shakeshaft's Heritage

For Ken Shakeshaft it has been a long journey from Port Charlotte to North Fort Myers... a journey that resulted in his selection by the Calusa Chapter as a recipient of the 2000 FGCSA Presidents Award for Lifetime Service.

Ken moved to Port Charlotte in 1958. It was a sleepy retirement community with no golf course — certainly not the logical location for a future golf course superintendent to grow up.

Despite his location growing up, Ken knew that growing grass was in his blood. His grandfather spent 35 years as the greenskeeper at Century Country Club in Westchester, N.Y. and his uncle, Dick Shakeshaft, was the golf course superintendent at Punta Gorda CC for 17 years.



Ken's experience in golf course management started at Punta Gorda CC during the summer after high school and prior to attending Edison Community College. It only took one summer for him to know that he wanted to follow his grandfather's and uncle's footsteps in the golf maintenance business. In 1974 he started full time for his uncle and entered the Lake City Community College Golf & Landscape Operations program in the fall of 1975.

When Ken finished school, he started as the golf course superintendent at the Oakland Hills course in Rotunda West. This was the course that the Superstars competitors played golf on for the televised competition. In 1986 he moved to Sun Aire GC in Haines City. He started for his current employer, Six Lakes CC in North Ft. Myers in 1993.

Six Lakes C. C. is a private, resident-owned, 18-hole, 3,100-yard course with 300 members. In addition to the maintenance of the golf course, Ken is responsible for the lawn maintenance for 594 home sites. His staff of 10 employees also does the common area landscape, trash removal and often residential utility work.

Ken is a board member for the Calusa Chapter,

which he helped form. He believes the chapter was needed because of the growth in the Fort Myers area. The chapter has a strong fellowship because many of the members face similar challenges on a daily basis. Ken has previously been a member of the Central Florida, Ridge and Everglades Chapters. He also helped to found the Ridge Chapter while he was at Sun Aire GC.

When presented with the FGCSA Presidents Award at a recent Calusa chapter meeting, Ken said, "As a 17-year-old edging bunkers at the Punta Gorda C.C., who would ever have thought that I would someday be standing here receiving such a wonderful honor from my peers."

BY MIKE MONGOVEN, CGCS Shell Point G. C.

2001 POA ANNUA CLASSIC

State's Oldest Fund-Raiser Nets \$28,000

The Everglades Chapter of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association hosted the oldest continuous superintendent fund-raising event in Florida May 17-20 at the Naples Hotel and Beach Club.



FGCSA President Cary Lewis, CGCS accepts a \$1,000 Research Fund donation from West Coast GCSA President Eric Joy.



Thomas Maloney of Cornell University, left, goes over the seminar schedule with Greg Pheneger, FGCSA Education Chairman.

The Poa Annuia Golf Classic began 31 years ago in 1970 when the Everglades Golf Course Superintendents Association invited the South Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association to a friendly get-together and golf match on Marco Island. The event rotated around to several Southwest Florida venues including Lehigh Acres, Mirror Lakes, and Oxbow before settling into its permanent home at the Naples Beach Hotel in 1980. The event has grown into the major turf research and education fund raiser for the Everglades Chapter.

However, the event is not just fun and games. The Florida GCSA holds one of its four statewide board meetings at the Poa, and there is always a well-attended professional education seminar. This year Thomas Maloney of Cornell University gave a seminar on "Finding and Hiring The Best Employees."

At the FGCSA Board meeting Thursday afternoon, Bryan Singleton, president of the South Florida GCSA.



Bryan Singleton, left, president of the South Florida GCSA presents Cary Lewis, CGS, FGCSA president with a check for \$27,000 to the FGCSA Research Fund during the FGCSA spring board meeting.

presented a check for \$27,000 to the FGCSA Research Fund from this year's SFGCSA Turf Expo, and Eric Joy, president and external vice president of the West Coast GCSA, added to the FGCSA Research Fund with a \$1,000 donation. Detailed minutes of the business meeting will be sent to all FGCSA members in the next *Green Sheet* newsletter.

On Friday morning, 47 people attended the GCSAA

Superintendent Leadership Seminar by Maloney, and his interactive teaching style kept everyone involved in the presentation. Superintendents earned .35 CEUs upon completion of a test at the conclusion of the seminar. Friday night everyone gathered for the annual luau on the Watkins Green behind the hotel.

A full field of players tackled the Naples Beach Golf Course on Saturday and



The Poa Annua Classic winners this year were from the defending champion Everglades Chapter. From left: Tim Haskins, Tom Calaguire, Bob Roessing and Scott Hamm, who wasted no time in getting back into "beach mode" after the tournament.

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Mark Black, CGCS, aced the 160 yard, third hole at the Naples Beach Golf Club to nail down closest-to-the-pin.

four superintendents tied for low gross with scores of 71. In a match of cards, Bob Roessing took first place followed by Joe Ondo, CGCS, Mark Hopkins and Mark Henderson. Roessing led the Everglades Chapter to a first-place net victory in the team championship. Joining him on the team were Tim Haskins, Tom Calaguire and Scott Hamm. The highlight of the event was a hole-in-one scored by Mark Black, CGCS of the Quail West CC. Mark pulled off his ace with a six iron on the 160-yard 4th hole.

Sunday morning the hardcore golfers and UF alumni teed it up in the G.C. Horn Memorial Endowment Tournament. This annual event is held in memory of Dr. Granville Horn, who brought the Florida turfgrass industry to the forefront in the 1970s and '80s. Proceeds from this event have funded the Horn Fellowship which has produced two recent scholars who are actively involved in turf research at the University, Dr. Laurie Trenholm and graduate

student Raymond Snyder. This year's winners of the fun format event:

- G.C. Horn Winners**
- Overall (Net 56.5): Wayne Kappauf and son Kyle Kappauf.
- Scramble Nine (Net 25): Bob Shevlin and son Matthew Shevlin.
- Alternate Shot Nine (Net 27): Mike Hamilton and Cliff Anderson.

JOEL JACKSON

EVERGLADES SPRING SEMINAR **Symposium Tackles Drought Issues**

The Everglades GCSA Spring Seminar this year held at the Naples Beach Club April 18 zeroed in on water issues and managing turf under drought conditions.

Here are some of the highlights from the presentations by the distinguished panel of speakers and their topics.

Thomas Missimer, Ph.D, P.G., Missimer & Associates (Where Will Our Water Come From in the Future?)

- In the past six years we have had three 100-year droughts.
- The largest water user is the natural system the hydrologic cycle. Man uses one percent of the annual rainfall.
- The future will see higher water costs; desalinization plants using brackish groundwater; aquifer storage and recovery of treated water. Golf courses will have to use effluent if its available; we must find ways to better store water for use in drought times.



The Everglades GCSA's 2001 Spring Symposium notables from left: Mike Smith, symposium committee; Dr. Ray Cooper, nematology; John Foy, USGA; Col. Sam Sifers, plant physiology; Jim Turner, water repellancy in turf; Dr. Shoumo Mitra, rooting influenced by stress; Steve Durand, EGCSA president; Matt Taylor, EGCSA education chairman. Not pictured: Dr. Tom Missimer and Tom Burrows. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Col. Samuel Sifers (Physiological Responses To Turfgrass Drought Stress)

- Nutrient management and cultural practices are man's only controls over drought stress to turf: nitrogen, potassium, sulfur and iron levels; mowing heights; irrigation frequency, disease control, aerify, slicing promoting root growth; and using growth regulators to help decrease water use.
- Most warm season grasses cease evapotranspiration, turn brown, go dormant and will recover when rainfall resumes.

Dr. Ray Cooper (Nematology)

- To lessen impact of nematode damage during droughts: water deeply and infrequently; avoid excess nitrogen; don't mow too close; avoid compaction and poor drainage.
- Nematode eggs can survive five years without hatching.
- Sample edges of damaged areas and adjacent healthy looking areas, not the

centers of weak areas.

- Depend on plant responses not on nematode counts to judge success.
- Biodegradation of Nematicur is becoming a problem with continued use. Most bio-control products have not shown good results. Possible exceptions are Avermectin and Synzyme, but mostly anecdotal results only.

Tom Burrows, Brookside Labs (Interpreting Soil Samples)

- Use only accredited labs that subscribe to North American Proficiency Testing.
- Consider pesticide screening of soil and water samples to document existing levels and establish baseline levels to refute member concerns and outside claims against your club.
- Request sodium levels in soils test. Amounts greater than 100 pounds per acre can inhibit growth if they are equal to or exceed potassium levels.

John Foy (USGA Update)



- While we have rattlesnakes, purple grackles and raccoons as pests on golf courses, at the World Amateur Championship in Singapore they were dealing with cobras and monkeys. They also use “cowgrass” in their roughs. Guess what — it’s tropical signalgrass, a weed we battle over here.

- The USGA percolation test is a guide and not absolute. Pick a lab and stick with them. Different labs can use different methods yielding conflicting results.

- Ultradwarf grasses grow lower but are not necessarily faster.

- Check temperatures of sprigs when delivered. Temperatures over 140-150 degrees can kill the plant, making grow-in and establishment more difficult.

- Paspalum turf management using higher saline water requires regular fresh water flushing cycles or salts will build up too high and harm the plant.

- Paspalum may have acceptable shade tolerance at tee and fairway heights of cut.

James Turner, Eco Soil Systems (Factors Influencing Water Repellency)

- Ionic plus and minus charges of soil and organic particles control the attraction or repulsion of water molecules.

- Surfactant, adjuvant and penetrant products have different modes of action for specific situations.

- Understand completely how a “wetting agent” product works and the results it gives before



Misty, the Mooch

Misty, the white-tailed deer, unofficial mascot of the Misty Creek CC, takes full advantage of the club's Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary status as she mooches a handout from a club member during the Suncoast GCSA's annual Suncoast Scramble event at the club. Photo by Joel Jackson.

wasting time and money misapplying a product.

JOEL JACKSON

Ah... spring at last when a superintendent's fancy often turns to fundraising. It seems that March, April and May comprise the primary fund-raising season for the FGCSA chapters with a few more taking place later in the summer. This year is no exception and the local chapters are to be commended for their efforts to raise money not only for research and education, but also be good community neighbors and assist local charities. Here's a quick round-up of this year's events.

JJ



Tom Crawford, president of the Suncoast GCSA, center, presented \$2,500 checks for each organization's research funds to Don Benham, FTGA director of public affairs, left, and Joel Jackson, FGCSA director of communications.

RIDGE INVITATIONAL

10-Year-Old Event Raises \$7,500

On March 12, the Ridge GCSA celebrated the 10th anniversary of their Ridge Invitational Tournament and Fundraiser.

The chapter made it special by having a blind drawing among all participants for three people to have a chance at a million dollar hole-in-one shot. The lucky, but unsuccessful, ace attempters were: Ralph Brannan, Coastal Equipment; Dennis Mosely, Central Florida Soil Testing and Scott Wynn, DJ from WPCV, 97.5 FM Country. Meanwhile, the rest of the hackers and whackers were raising \$7,500 for turf research and local charities.

Winners of the tournament held at the Grasslands CC:

Gross Division - Brian Mortillaro (75); Steve Bernard (78); Jim Torba (78)

Net Divison - Bobby Ellis (64); Bayne Caillavet (67); Bobby Jacoby (68)

Supplier Division - Mark Wheaton (74 gross); T. Sellers (66 net)

ROY WILSHIRE

SUNCOAST SCRAMBLE

19th Annual Event Sells Out Again

The 19th Annual Suncoast Scramble was another sell-out success. The traditional format calls for a chapter business meeting, entertainment, lunch and then golf followed by a reception while the scores are tallied. This is the major fund-raiser each year for the Suncoast GCSA. Tom Crawford made sure the real winner was turf research as he presented the Florida Turfgrass Association and the Florida GCSA each with a check for \$2,500 for their respective turf research



Bemuda Maverick comedians Les McCurdy (left) and Ken Sons put on their improv skits and stand-up comedy routine. Audience participation makes this part of the program a big hit each year.



accounts.

This is one chapter that really reaches out to build superintendent relationships with golf pros, club officials and the community. This sense of community makes the Suncoast Chapter one of the most stable in our business. Each foursome in the tournament is made up of a superintendent, golf pro and club official from an area club and the team is filled out with a supplier who serves the area.

Congratulations on another great event that supports turf research, junior golf and local charities.

JOEL JACKSON

SOUTH FLORIDA EXPO

Nearly 400 Turn Out For 14th Turf Expo

Nearly 400 people attended this year's event held March 22 at the UF/IFAS Ft. Lauderdale Research & Education Center. The attendance continues to increase as golf courses, local municipalities and lawn maintenance companies send their operators and technicians to the event.

Field tours of the research plots featuring presentations by Drs. Lawrence Datnoff (fungicides & Pythium blight), Phil Busey (weed ID & control), George Snyder (nitrogen leaching), John Cisar (FYN Project & ultradwarf management), Robin Giblin-Davis (nematode control) and Al Dudeck (fairway bermudagrasses) kicked off the event from 8:30 to 10 a.m.

From 10 to Noon saw the product exposition and equipment demonstrations



Some of the nearly 400 participants at the 14th Annual SFGCSA Turf Exposition watching an aerifier demonstration on part of the FGCSA Otto Schmeisser Research Green at the UF/IFAS Research & Education Center in Ft. Lauderdale. Photo by Steve Pearson.

followed by the now - traditional barbecue lunch provided by Emerald Island Turf, Inc. Donation of the lunches enables the Expo to clear enough profit to sustain the FGCSA's Otto Schmeisser Research Green.

After lunch Bruce Adams from the South Florida Water Management District gave an update on the current and pending water restrictions. Then from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. the crowd moved indoors to hear presentations and workshops on athletic field management (Dr.

Monica Elliott, UF/IFAS); pest management and regulations (Lee Bloomcamp, Syngenta); sprayer calibration and worker safety (Dr. Vernon Vandiver, UF/IFAS & Joe Limberg, Hector Turf); troubleshooting electrical problems (Terry Staten & Jay Milano, John Deere Corp.); troubleshooting hydraulic problems (Shay Maley, Kilpatrick Turf); fault finding & wire tracking (Charlie Barcellona, Boynton Pump); sprinkler spacing & nozzle selection (Dave Ragan, Boynton Pump, Hector Turf



Dr. John Cisar, left, the Turf Expo Whip with Wiley McCall, president of Emerald Island Turf. McCall has been donating barbecue lunches at the Ft. Lauderdale, Gainesville and Milton Turf Expos and Field Days, which means more proceeds go to turf research. Photo by Steve Pearson.

and Kilpatrick Turf).

The event raised \$27,000 for the FGCSA Research Account and the check was presented at the FGCSA Board meeting at Naples in May.

STEVE PEARSON

CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER

Danny Burgess Memorial Draws 70

This year's Danny Burgess Memorial Golf Tournament held at the Windermere CC April 2 attracted 70 players from around Central Florida area to help raise money for turf students at Lake City Community College in the form of scholarships.

Burgess, the Windermere C.C. superintendent died in a boating accident five years ago. A memorial oak tree and bronze plaque on the first tee reminds everyone of Danny's contributions to our chapter and to his golf course. The annual tournament helps prepare future superintendents for our industry.

Between the players and hole sponsors, the gross receipts for the event totaled over \$5,400. The chapter also will donate a large portion of the \$3,025 raised at this year's Bay Hill Invitational golf tournament to the Danny Burgess Scholarship Fund. This money was earned by CFGCSA members serving as TV spotters and scorers for NBC Sports' coverage of the golf tournament. Our big winner this year is second-year turf student Rickey Craig receiving a scholarship check for \$1,200.00.

BRIAN LENTZ



Front row from left: Carol MacCurrach, Mary Ann Richards, Clayton Estes NFGCSA president. Back row: Scholarship recipients Chris Durkee, Craig Banister and Jason Waller. Photo by Butch Singo.

NORTH FLORIDA CHAPTER

Richards Memorial Adds 3 Honors

The North Florida Golf Course Superintendents Chapter held the Ninth Annual Mike Richards Memorial Scholarship Tournament April 9 at the prestigious Jacksonville Golf and Country Club. The host golf course superintendent for the 108 participants was Greg Tharp; Ray



Jeff Hayden, left accepts the Alan MacCurrach Lifetime Achievement Award given posthumously to his father John Hayden from Tom Cowan. Photo by Butch Singo.

Barr was host golf professional.

History

Kim and Jim Shine initiated the Mike Richards scholarship tournament in 1992 to honor Mike Richards, sales manager for Tresca Industries, and his dedication to the profession. Over the past eight years, the NFGCSA has awarded \$42,000 in scholarships to deserving turf students in the North Florida area.

A Mike Richards Foundation has been established that has funds totaling \$30,930.00. The hope for this event is for the Foundation to become self-sustaining so as to be able to provide financial help to students.

The family of Alan MacCurrach has also been instrumental in promoting a scholarship fund in memory of Alan and his accomplishments in the golf field as an agronomist for the PGA Tour.

Scholarship recipients

Three separate scholarships totalling \$6,000 were awarded at the tournament.



Mrs. Ed Dyer (seated) was on hand with her sons Joe (left) and Jimmy to receive the MacCurrach Lifetime Achievement Award given in memory of Ed Dyer. Photo by Butch Singo.

Chris Durkee, a third-year student at Lake City Community College received the \$3,000 Mike Richards Scholarship. Chris

currently works with Greg Tharp at Jacksonville Golf and Country Club.

Recipients of \$1,500 Alan MacCurrach scholarships were Jason Waller, a first-year student at Lake City Community College and Craig Banister, a first-year student at Abraham Baldwin College in Tifton, Ga.

Lifetime Achievement

A new tradition was started at the Mike Richards Tournament this year. The board of directors of the NFGCSA presented Lifetime Achievement Awards to three distinguished past members. The award itself was named the Alan MacCurrach Lifetime Achievement Award in honor of a person who demonstrated the meaning of lifetime achievement. MacCurrach passed away in 1997 and epitomized professionalism and dedication to the "Keeping of the Greens."

The recipients were



Tom Cowan, right, presents the MacCurrach Lifetime Achievement Award to the Ellison family recognizing the contributions to the North Florida Chapter by the late Gary Ellison. Jimmy Ellison accepts the award for the family. Photo by Butch Singo.



chosen by the Historical Committee chaired by Tom Cowan. The Lifetime Achievement awards were presented to the families of the following past members of the NFGCSA: Ed Dyer, John Hayden and Gary Ellison. We extend our congratulations to the families of these wonderful men.

Golf Winners

Low Gross Team - Tom

Brennan/Ron Hill; Jim Ellison/Mike Ellison

Low Net Team - Fred

Klauk/Brad Tucker; Fred Klinfelder/Greg Tharp

Putting Contest - Steve

Moskos

Closest to the Pins - Tom

Brennan (#3), Steve Cantrell (#12), Fred

Klauk (#6) and Glen Klauk (#17)

GLEN KLAUK AND TOM COWAN

SEVEN RIVERS CHAPTER

Barbaron Lifts

Envirotron Classic

The Barbaron Company stepped up its commitment to this event and to turf research funding by increasing their annual Champion Sponsorship to \$13,500.

Led by Barbaron's generosity, the other sponsors and participants helped the Seven Rivers GCSA once again raise nearly \$50,000 which is earmarked for specific research projects conducted primarily at the Envirotron Research Lab on the



Barbaron, Inc. ups the ante at the 9th Annual Envirotron Classic by increasing its annual Champion Sponsorship by \$1,000 to \$13,500. From left, Terry Legree, Barbaron, Inc.; Glenn Oberlander, tournament chairman, Stuart Bozeman, Seven Rivers GCSA president and Ron Kitchen, Jr., Barbaron, Inc. Photo by Joel Jackson.

University of Florida campus.

The Seven Rivers GCSA, on occasion, authorizes money from the Envirotron

Account to fund other deserving turf research projects on a case-by-case basis.

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Dr. Terril Nell, chairman of the UF environmental horticulture department thanked all the sponsors and participants for their support of IFAS Turf Research. Photo by Joel Jackson.

World Woods Golf Club for donating the facilities helping to increase the profits from the event. Congratulations to Glen Oberlander, Tournament Chairman and Seven Rivers GCSA President Stuart Bozeman and the corps of volunteers who helped cook the steak and shrimp dinner and helped with the par-3 contests and to Golf Ventures for providing the hot dog tent again this year.

Pine Barrens Results

1st Gross (57) - Ron

Chaney, Dave Brooks, Don Rider, Bob Crabill

1st Net (56.8) - Bobby Jacoby, John Carlin, Dan Green, Ryan Willis

Closest to Pins - Dennis Byrnr (Hole-in-One on



The men from GASH make a splash at the Envirotron Classic with their coordinated outfits. From left: Dale Mitchell, John Swaner, Richard Colyer and Chris Leahy. Photo by Joel Jackson.

#3); Chad Sartain (#7), David Holloway (#10), Kevin Vereb (#16)

DeSear, Steve Lyerly
Closest to Pins - John Swaner (#2), Pat Murphy (#7), Tom Diggins (#10), Steve Lyerly (#16)

Rolling Oaks Results

1st Net (55.7) - Roger Hruby, John Neville, George

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