



# The Florida Green

Fall 2004



Number 4  
Pasadena Yacht & Country Club  
St. Petersburg  
Photo by Daniel Zelazek



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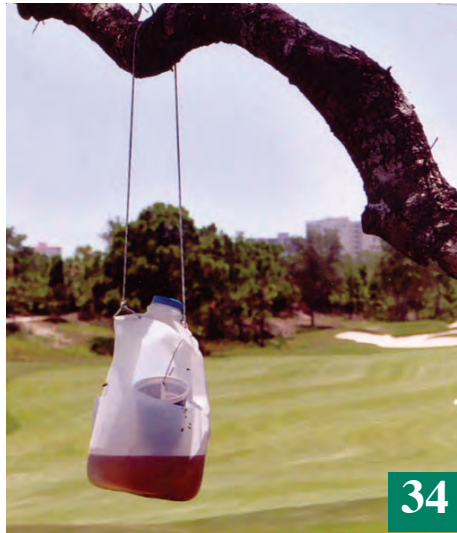
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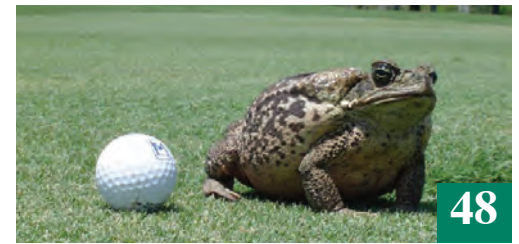
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Bob Randquist, CGCS, the director of golf and grounds at the Boca Rio Golf Club in Boca Raton, has accepted the FGCSA nomination for GCSAA Director in the 2005 elections.

## 14 COVER STORY: RETURNING TO PROMINENCE

Returning to prominence is the vision of the new owners of the Pasadena Yacht and Country Club located on the shores of Boca Ciega Bay near the southern tip of the Pinellas County.

Joel Jackson

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Many maintenance operations spend lots of time and labor on routing traffic and protecting high-wear areas from becoming dirt and/or weed patches. *Superintendent Panel*

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Everybody's talking about seashore paspalum, the latest contender for the title of "Greatest Golf Grass." Here's a comprehensive compilation of the facts. *Stacie Zinn*. Also, Federal regulations proposed by GCSAA to establish an appropriate regulatory process for registering pesticide products while protecting endangered species have been adopted. *GCSAA*

## 44 STEWARDSHIP: MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

The University of Florida IFAS Extension's Florida Master Naturalist Program's mission is to promote awareness, understanding, and respect of Florida's natural world. *Shelly Foy*

## 52 SUPERINTENDENTS JOURNAL: RESIDENT PRESIDENT

New FGCSA President Joe Pantaleo lives with his wife Lila in the center of the Indian Creek CC, a golf club, an island and a community with its own ZIP code and police force in North Miami Beach. *Joel Jackson*

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# The Florida Green

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## CALL FOR ARTICLES

**Hands on Topics:** Share your best practices and tips for these upcoming topics. Photographs or slides are encouraged. Digital images that are 5 inches wide at 300 dpi or greater accepted.

Winter 2005 - New Weed-Control Weapons.

Spring 2005 - Successful In-House Projects.

Summer 2005 - Ultradwarf Greens Management

**Please submit articles via email if possible.** Attached articles should be saved in Microsoft Word or, if you use another word processor save it as a Text file before attaching or you may just copy and paste it into the email text box. Try to limit articles to 1500 words or less. The Florida Green pays \$100 per page and \$50 for 1-3 pictures.

**Digital photos** must be a minimum of 5 inches wide at 300 dpi for publication-quality reproduction.

Do not write on the back of prints. Attach a Post-it note with ID information. All slides and photographs should include identification of persons in the picture and the name of the photographer.

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It is with great pleasure that I will serve as your president for the next year. It has been more than 23 years or so that this transplanted cheese head has been “turfin it” in South Florida. Along this lengthy journey, many wonderful people have touched my career and life, helping to shape the person I am today.

A few folks deserve mention and thanks such as Jim Walker. He provided me with my first text on bermudagrass way back in 1981. There was Alan Wietzel – showing me the ropes in the early years, especially South Florida association tidbits and

advice. Then there was Dr. Max Brown, who took a chance on me as superintendent of his home course at Ft. Lauderdale Country Club. Thanks to him for all the support, patience and encouragement he bestowed on me, especially during the early years of superintendent-hood.

A special thanks also goes out to David Court for asking me to serve on the board at the state level. Watching and learning from him over the past few years at the board level has been a very wonderful experience. I only hope that a few morsels of his wisdom has rubbed off over the years, and I hope to make him proud this year and on into the future.

Before discussing our goals for the year, I would be remiss if I did not extend our best wishes to those affected by all the hurricanes this season. No region was totally spared, but the Calusa, Treasure Coast and Ridge Chapters took the hardest hits from storm landfall fury and multiple hits in the central parts of the state as the eyes of Charley, Frances and Jeanne all passed through Polk County. We know that strong bonds have been formed during the recovery, whether it has been with family, neighbors, friends, staff and/or members at your club.

Hopefully, your club members will understand the damage not only at your courses but homes as well and will be patient as you put the pieces back together.

During Hurricane Andrew in 1992, we saw what being without power and proper shelter can do to your life, let alone the vast damage to our treescape and the like. It was kind of awesome, though, to see how the teamwork, determination and ingenuity helped us rise from such adversity. As time passes and wounds heal, we want to hear your stories. I am sure there are some wonderful encounters and experiences that have and will take place during the rebuilding process.

When the gavel was passed my way at the annual meeting in August, I told the board how excited I was about this upcoming year. What a wonderful opportunity to meet new people, learn new ideas, travel a bit, hopefully make an impact on our industry and set the table for success in the future. The turf industry

is worth fighting for — it's a \$4.4 billion business here in Florida (wow!). While we have come a long way as an industry, there is so much more to do to get to where we deserve to be.

We have seen a disturbing trend over the past couple of years in that our membership has not increased and participation at functions has diminished somewhat. As a result, Greg Pheneger, your immediate past president, helped develop a member-needs survey which was distributed to each of the 12 chapters asking for their feedback on concerns, ideas and suggestions. When all the data was compiled, it became fairly easy for me to select a set of goals for the year: ones you as members see as a priority.

We decided to keep it simple by selecting only a few important initiatives that we could complete within one year. There are only four, which may seem straightforward at first glance, but are actually very complicated and involve a multitude of committee interactions, staff involvement and industry related efforts to realize.

#### FGCSA Objectives for 2004-2005

- Increase turf research funding.
- Improve communication/coordination throughout chapters, GCSAA and allied associations,
- Improve and coordinate educational opportunities throughout the state.
- Ensure that our association is functioning efficiently and is directed appropriately to the future.

Not only are these goals ones that you requested, but they are also a great way to strengthen our foothold in the turf/golf business in Florida. In future publications, we will expand on these goals and how they will be accomplished. Meanwhile, our numerous committees will be working hard on these objectives. As members, I also look forward to some of your fresh ideas.

Coincidentally, the GCSAA has asked our chapters to be a prototype contributor in a “Chapter Assessment Tool.” Each chapter, as well as the state association, was asked some tough questions as to how we operate, what services we provide to members, our leadership, promotional development, etc. This was a lengthy and thorough exercise to complete but one that eerily paralleled our own goals well as a state organization. We will select some of the findings from this assessment and further enhance our initiatives for the turf industry.

My friends here in South Florida know me as a competitor, a good listener, one who asks way too many questions and follows up well on details; but all for a purpose – to learn and grow. As president, I am eager to help make us better as an organization. I look forward to leading this outstanding team of professionals and know we will accomplish great things. As I recently told our board, feel free to call on me anytime if I can be of assistance in our mission.

*Joe Pantaleo,  
FGCSA President*

## Opportunities and Challenges

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Joe Pantaleo

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## Chapter Round Up Hurricane Recovery, Officer Rotation Top Fall Agenda

### Calusa

Our chapter was at ground zero for Hurricane Charley's landfall. Several courses have been severely hard hit and totally devastated like some of the surrounding residential communities. The destruction is mind boggling. The clean-up has begun but it is slow going.

### Central Florida

No sooner had Scott Jamros taken over for Brian Lentz as chapter president than he accepted a vice president's position with One Source Golf Management in an offer he couldn't refuse. Chris Cartin, The Golf Club at Cypress Head, has moved up to the president's chair. Congratulations, Scott and thanks for the many years of service to our chapter as the education chairman.

Parts of Osceola, Orange, Seminole and Volusia counties were in the path of Hurricane Charley and significant tree damage was reported on many area courses.

Secretary/Treasurer/Newsletter Editor/Webmaster Brett Harris, Lake Nona Club, has been busy revamping the chapter's newsletter and Web site formats. The members are pleased with the new look. Our chapter hosted a GCSAA Regional Seminar in Orlando with the legendary turf guru, Dr. Joe Vargas. His topic was "Turfgrass Management Systems."

See Joe Ondo's report on the 28th Annual Larry Kamphaus Crowfoot Open elsewhere in this section.

### Coastal Plains

Jeff Heggen is pleased to report that membership in our smallest chapter has almost doubled this year.

### Everglades

One of the first duties of an incoming president is to present a complete schedule of meetings for the



Newly elected FGCSA officers from left: Vice President Craig Weyandt; President Joe Pantaleo and Immediate Past President Greg Pheneger. Not pictured is Secretary/Treasurer Matt Taylor who was coaching his daughter's softball team in a post-season tournament. Photo by Joel Jackson.



During the FGCSA Summer Board Meeting on July 23 in Orlando, North Florida External Vice President Andy Maguire, left, presents a check for \$5,000 to FGCSA President Joe Pantaleo to be used for turf research and other operational expenses like government relations. Photo by Joel Jackson

new fiscal year. President Mark Black, CGCS, Quail West C.C. delivered the 2004-2005 meeting schedule with dates and sites, printed and laminated on business-size cards so members stick them in their wallets to have on hand when making plans. Our proactive meeting-planning technique was recently highlighted in GCSAA News.

On Aug. 25, Matt Taylor, Royal Poinciana Club was to host the first of several FGCSA Assistant Superintendent Career Skills Workshops to be held around the state. Superintendents were to get their crack at some PDI education points on Sept. 30 when we were scheduled to host Bruce Williams,

CGCS and his GCSAA Regional Seminar topic, "Successful Project Management."

### North Florida

Andy Maguire will be serving as our new external vice president to the FGCSA Board. He presented a check for \$5,000 to the FGCSA to be used for government-relations expense, education costs and turf-research funding as needed.

Thanks to Mike Pafford for hosting our July meeting at his Fleming Island G.C. Frank Sbarro will be our host at the Sawgrass C.C. for our August meeting and installation of new officers.

The following NFGCSA

members have qualified to compete at the FGCSA Golf Championship in September: Ken Arsenault, Todd McKibben, Steve Moskos, Matt Siebel and Dana Anderson. Good luck guys.

### Palm Beach

Our annual fishing tournament was another great success. Winning captains and their anglers were: Jim Sprankle – Sean O'Reilly (dolphin); Tom DeYoung – Mike McDaniel (wahoo); Craigg Maret – Tim Rappach (kingfish). Captain Maret took top honors with a total weight of 134 pounds.

We are looking forward to our annual joint meetings with our neighboring chapters, South Florida in August and Treasure Coast in October. The inter-chapter golf competition is always good fun for all. In November we will host the USGA Green Section Regional Seminar in Palm Beach Gardens, which is always well attended. Many thanks to Immediate Past President Peter Powell for taking over external vice president duties for the chapter.

### Ridge

Polk County took a severe hit as the eye Hurricane Charley moved through the area. Several courses like Lake Region, Mountain Lake, Grenelefe, Diamondback and Southern Dunes are reporting hundreds of trees down. Clean-up in some

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Wyld West Annuals



cases will take months to restore normal operations.

Our chapter has become very active in a First Tee project taking place in Lakeland. The 50-year-old Publix Par 3 course is being renovated by golf course architect Steve Smyers, Toro is donating the irrigation system, Harrell's Fertilizer will provide turf care products and Fred Ridley, current president of the USGA and Winter Haven native, is providing some grant money to help with the costs. We will help oversee the growth and provide ongoing consultation for maintenance operations.

**Seven Rivers**

Buddy Keene, formerly at the Gainesville G&CC, is now the superintendent at the Arnold Palmer's Legends course at The Villages.

**South Florida**

The South Florida Golf Course Superintendent's Association



*FGCSA directors for 2004-2005 from left: Front row - Andy Maguire, Chris Ansley, Peter Powell and Mike Bellino. Back row - Jeff Brown, Jeff Heggen and Jim Walker. Not pictured - Buddy Keene, Ken Shakeshaft, John VanVranken. Photo by Joel Jackson.*

will be hosting its 20th Annual Benefit Tournament on Friday, Oct. 8, at Colony West Country Club. The tournament benefits the Florida branch of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. Committee Chairman Billy Entwistle Jr., pledged at last year's event that the 20th anniversary tournament in October 2004 would generate \$20,000 for the Center. The total donation for the past 19 years is \$182,000.

Dale Kuehner, CGCS is the long-time superintendent of Colony West C.C. and he and his crew will undoubtedly have the course prepared for another fun and challenging day on a tough golf course. Colony West has been the host site for the past 10 years and has continually provided excellent support with competitive pricing to keep event costs down, resulting in higher donations to the center. Colony West's management

team always works very hard to ensure a successful event with assistance with everything from placement of a hot dog stand and sponsor signs on the course, to placement of vendors participating as on-course volunteers.

The South Florida golf course community has been very supportive of this event, with some vendors participating as sponsors for the entire 20-year history. Superintendent teams from the Everglades, Palm Beach, South Florida, and Treasure Coast chapters all participate in this annual event

Randy Hunter took the President's Trophy at our chapter's annual meeting with a net 68. John Swaner captured the Vice President's Trophy for our vendor members with a net 73. Overall Low Gross finishers were Bob Harper (first); Joe Pantaleo (second); Dave Oliver (third). The Low Net winners were: Randy Hunter as noted and Curt Conrad (second) and Jim Goins (third).

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### Suncoast

We are looking forward to our annual Pro/Superintendent Tournament Sept. 21 at the Mission Valley C.C. where Bill Tyde will be our host. In November we will co-host and participate in the annual November Grounds Management Seminar at Selby Gardens in Sarasota.

### Treasure Coast

Chapter President Roy MacDonald reports that his Hobe Sound Golf Club was thrilled about hosting a U.S. Amateur Qualifier this past August. MacDonald says there was lots of pride in getting the golf course into shape for the event and even though the members had to give up playing the course for a day and a half, they came out and watched the event instead.

We had two chapter golf outings during the "dog days of August" with successive Friday golf



*We can't say "Thank You" enough to the folks at Golf Agronomics Supply & Handling. They have been donating annually since 1990 and their contributions total nearly \$50,000 in cumulative giving. Dale Mitchell, left, presents Greg Pheneger with a \$3,000 check for 2004 at the FGCSA Annual meeting at Grand Cypress. Photo by Joel Jackson.*

matches: on the 13th in the northern part of the chapter at Bo Estey's Quail Valley G.C., and at Kevin Downing's Willoughby Golf Club in the south on the 20th. The matches are patterned after the Ryder Cup format. Players weren't required to play on both

Friday's, but it was encouraged.

### West Coast

Chris Ansley, our external vice president, regrettably had to resign his position in order to devote more time to matters at his

golf course. Bill Kistler has volunteered to fill in for Chris. Thank you Chris for all your past service and to Bill for stepping up to represent us in the FGCSA.

### Florida GCSA

The Executive Council for the Florida GCSA consists of President Joe Pantaleo, Indian Creek C.C.; Vice President Craig Weyandt, The Moorings Club; Secretary Matt Taylor, Royal Poinciana Club and Immediate Past President Greg Pheneger. Directors from the 12 chapters for 2004-2005 are Greg Kriesch, Calusa; Mike Bellino, Central Florida; Jeff Heggen, Coastal Plains; Matt Taylor, Everglades; Andy Maguire, North Florida; Jeff Brown, Ridge; Buddy Keene, Seven Rivers; Jim Walker, South Florida; John VanVranken, Suncoast; Ralph Dain, Treasure Coast and Bill Kistler, West Coast.



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Long-time Central Florida Secretary/Treasurer and Newsletter editor Brian Jenkins, left, was presented the 2004 Larry Kamphaus Award by Crowfoot Chairman Tom Alex. Photo by Joel Jackson.



From left, Bob Uppenkamp, Sean Duffy, Brett Harris and Joe Ondo defended the chapter team trophy for Central Florida by posting the combined low net scores. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Mark Henderson, superintendent at Gulfstream C.C., shot an even-par 72 to win the Crowfoot Open and secure a spot on the FGCSA golf team competing in the GCSAA Golf Championship in February. Photo by Joel Jackson.

28th Larry Kamphaus Crowfoot Open

# CFGCSA Honors Jenkins With Kamphaus Award

By Joe Ondo, CGCS

The Crowfoot Open was held this year at the Grand Cypress Resort in Orlando. Special thanks to Coastal Equipment, Inc. and John Deere Golf & Turf for becoming the first title sponsor for the event. Many thanks also to all the rest of our 2004 sponsors for their continuing support of this event.

The Crowfoot weekend began with the FGCSA annual board meeting and election of officers which was held on Friday, July 23. Saturday was open for golf practice rounds and for families to go to the Disney, Universal and Sea World theme parks.

Saturday night, presenting

sponsor Harrell's/Polyon put on the traditional Crowfoot Reception at the Grand Cypress Clubhouse. Master of ceremonies Tom Alex did his imitation of Billy Crystal at the Academy Awards, only Tommy didn't sing. After cracking jokes and one-liners during the door prize raffle, Alex turned serious as he described the history of the event and the long-time service and dedication of namesake Larry Kamphaus.

Tom's eloquent and sincere recounting of Larry's service to the profession, his employer (Disney) and his church and community served as a prelude to awarding the 2004 Larry Kamphaus Award to former superintendent Brian Jenkins. Brian recently retired from his job with the City of

Orlando after serving at the city-owned Dubsdread Golf Club and in the Parks and Recreation Department. Brian served for more than eight years as the Central Florida Chapter's secretary/treasurer and newsletter editor.

Sunday morning saw 164 players tee it up on the North, South and East nines and Director of Golf Tom Alex and his senior superintendent, Jim Sullivan, and staff had the course in its traditional great shape for all to enjoy. While most of the field played a Stableford point system to speed up play, those with 0-9 handicaps played regular stroke play to qualify for a spot on the FGCSA golf team competing at the GCSAA Golf Championship in February 2005.

Thanks to presenting sponsor Howard Fertilizer and Chemicals for sponsoring the tournament.

It was a warm day out on the course but play moved briskly and we were done in four and a half hours. Everyone adjourned to the Villas Executive Center for the Awards Luncheon Presented by Golf Ventures to learn who would claim this year's prizes and trophies.

Mark Henderson carded a par 72 to capture the individual trophy and the Central Florida Team won the Crowfoot Net Trophy. Team members were Bob Uppenkamp, Joe Ondo, Sean Duff and Brett Harris. See the Crowfoot sidebar for more golf results.

A tip of the hat to Grand Cypress Food & Beverage Manager Billy Singleton and his staff for the good food and service at the reception and the luncheon. Special thanks to Jan and Bob Lloyd, Lisa McDowell, Tom Alex, Stuart Leventhal, Joel Jackson and Joe Ondo for their committee work to help make this another great event.

## Crowfoot Open Golf Results

<b>A Flight Gross (Stroke Play)</b>	
Mark Henderson	72
Bob Harper	73
Joe Ondo	73
<b>Net Play</b>	
<b>A Flight Net</b>	
Andy Neiswender	68
<b>B Flight (Stableford Points),</b>	
Bobby Ellis, +3; Bob Uppenkamp, +1	
<b>C Flight,</b>	
Sean Duffy, +8; Brett Harris, +7	
<b>Supplier Flights</b>	
<b>A Flight,</b>	
1. Gary Wilhelm; 2. Dave Oliver	
<b>B Flight,</b>	
1. Fred Marshall; 2. Cary Lewis	
<b>C Flight,</b>	
1. Bill Focht; 2. Tami Kovar	
<b>Closest to the Pins</b>	
Sean Duffy, Jeff Cochran, Joe Ondo, Greg Ellis, Tom Wallwork and Andy Neiswender	

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# 28th Annual Larry Kamphaus Crowfoot Open The Central Florida GCSA

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*Bob Randquist, CGCS*

## Florida Superintendent to Run for GCSAA Director in 2005

Bob Randquist, CGCS, the director of golf and grounds at the Boca Rio Golf Club in Boca Raton, has accepted the FGCSA nomination for candidacy for the office of GCSAA Director in the upcoming 2005 elections to be held at the Golf Industry Show in Orlando next February. It has been 22 years since a Florida superintendent has run for national office, when John Hayden, CGCS, from the North Florida GCSA was a director from 1982-84. Gary Grigg, CGCS, MG was already a GCSAA director from the Shadow Glen G.C. in Kansas when he relocated to Florida to build and grow in Naples National in 1991. He completed his remaining board service and GCSAA presidency while at the Royal Poinciana Club from 1995-97.

Randquist has been at Boca Rio since 1998 having moved here from the Southern Hills C.C. in Tulsa, Oklahoma. A veteran of public and private golf course service, Randquist has distinguished himself as a top superintendent preparing his courses for several national amateur and professional golf tournaments.

Randquist has also earned a reputation as a thoughtful

*It has been 22 years since a Florida superintendent has run for national office, when John Hayden, CGCS, from the North Florida GCSA was a director from 1982-84.*

and practical contributor to key GCSAA committees and resource groups. He served on two of the most crucial resources groups that addressed the Professional Development Initiative and the headquarters relocation issue. His other GCSAA service over the years includes stints on Conference & Show, Nominating, Public Relations, Chapter Relations, Research and Education committees. Besides his GCSAA service, Randquist has been a leader in allied association service with the Oklahoma Turfgrass Research Foundation, the USGA Green Section Committee (15 years) and he is a member of the Florida Turfgrasses Association.

The FGCSA will be vigorously supporting Bob's campaign for director by helping with brochure printing costs and hosting a hospitality suite for him in conjunction with our traditional FGCSA Reception at the national conference and show. Randquist submitted the accompanying letter of introduction to the voting delegates and to you and other GCSAA members who may not know him as part of his formal declaration of candidacy for the office of director.

***The FGCSA will be vigorously supporting Bob's campaign for director by helping with brochure printing costs and hosting a hospitality suite***

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Dear Voting Delegates and Members,

I would like to thank the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association for nominating me for the office of Director of GCSAA. I appreciate their support and encouragement as I seek to become more involved in giving something back to the profession that has provided me with such enjoyment and satisfaction during my 27 years as a golf course superintendent.

I am also grateful that my wife La Vada, daughters Jennifer and Laura, and my employer Boca Rio Golf Club recognize and appreciate my desire to serve my fellow golf course superintendents as a Director for GCSAA. Because they realize the significant impact our profession has on the game of golf, they are enthusiastically willing to sacrifice a portion of the time that I might normally spend with them. Their steadfast support of my career as a golf course superintendent and my commitment to our profession has always been an integral part of whatever success I have achieved as a golf course superintendent.

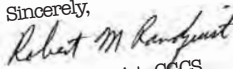
I have always strongly believed that being a member of GCSAA is an honor and a privilege. I am very grateful that fellow GCSAA members have always been willing to share information with me, provide guidance for me, and be my friends. I was attracted to our profession while working on golf courses during the time I was earning a college degree. Although my major field of study in college was rich in math and science, it was not related to agronomy. The educational opportunities that GCSAA has provided for me have been and continue to be a critically important part of my growth and development as a golf course superintendent.

I am ever thankful that past GCSAA members, officers and directors have provided the leadership that has kept GCSAA educational efforts as the main priority of our organization, and I am pleased that our current leadership has demonstrated that same commitment. Whether serving as a GCSAA Director or on future GCSAA Committees, I will continue to avidly support development of GCSAA programs that provide affordable and accessible educational opportunities for all golf course superintendents.

Serving on several GCSAA Committees and Resource Groups during the past several years has been a great learning experience for me. Though we may disagree on certain issues at times, it is wonderful to be part of an organization that encourages committees and individual members to express their opinions and ideas regarding the decisions that must be made by our elected leadership. We must be diligent in protecting and improving this process as we work together to resolve issues that GCSAA will address in the coming years. Having served on the Membership Standards Resource Group, I am very pleased that everyone is working together to make implementation of the Professional Development Initiative relevant to the needs of our GCSAA Members. It is especially gratifying to see the rapid development of expanded educational opportunities for golf course superintendents that is at the local chapter level. Compensation, recognition, and appreciation for the efforts of golf course superintendents will continue to improve as we continue to enhance the abilities and competencies of GCSAA members. This initiative will require continuing evaluation and adjustment in future years to provide the results that our members deserve.

We are fortunate to be in a profession dominated by people who love and respect the game of golf and the natural environment we are responsible for on a daily basis. Most golf course superintendents are passionately committed to their work and seek only what is best for golf and the environment. I believe my work experience and both public and private golf facilities, my long-term active involvement in local GCSAA chapters, my desire to see the game of golf enriched by the successful efforts of golf course superintendents, and my service on GCSAA Committees and Resource Groups qualify me to serve the game of golf and the GCSAA if I am given the opportunity to serve on the GCSAA Board. Thank you for considering me for the office of GCSAA Director.

Sincerely,



Bob Randquist, CGCS

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*Number 18*  
*Pasadena Yacht & Country Club*  
*Photo by Daniel Zelazek*



Pasadena Yacht & Country Club

# Returning to Prominence

*By Joel Jackson* saline irrigation water.

Returning to prominence is the vision of the new owners of the Pasadena Yacht and Country Club located on the shores of Boca Ciega Bay near the southern tip of the Pinellas County peninsula separating Tampa Bay from the Gulf of Mexico. CFC Property Holdings just closed the deal in June, but the principals aren't wasting any time in setting their vision into motion. Bunker remodeling has begun already, the first green has been rebuilt and seashore paspalum is being planted for a trial run with high

Additional personnel and equipment have been added and plans for a new irrigation system are not far behind.

All this has been good news for Superintendent Scott MacEwen, who came on board barely two years ago and has been making modest but noticeable improvements as the budget would allow. MacEwen told the excited owners that before too much dirt was moved around or new grass was planted, the irrigation system needed a serious upgrading to manage and protect any new renovations.

The irrigation system currently uses reclaimed water directly from the city treatment plant and the two pump stations are booster pumps installed in underground vaults. The equipment is so old that MacEwen says badly needed replacement parts are hard, if not impossible, to find. That is just one issue on the plate of the new team whose goal is to return this gem of a golf course to the prominent role it once had in the Tampa Bay area.

The Pasadena Y&CC has a proud and rich golf history that had been overlooked in recent years. According to a history of the

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## Pasadena Yacht & Country Club



Front row from left: Keith Lamb, Gerry Montminy, Ray Bradford, Ray Danylieko, Bennett Stein, Wesley Hutchinson, Bahama Goode, Cesar Culabutan. Back Row from left: Bill Jordan, Larry Jordan, William Skidmore, Ed Keen, George Beaty, Bob Wevley, Stephanie Meyers.

**Location:** Gulfport

**Ownership:** Pasadena Y&CC Development, LC

**Playing policy:** Semiprivate

**Number of holes:** 18 holes. 6,408 yards. Par 72. Course Rating/Slope: 70.6/130

**Designed by:** Wayne Stiles and John Van Kleek. Opened in 1924.

**Management:** Club Manager Joe Meyer; Director of Golf Jim Morrissey; Head Golf Professional

**Major renovations:** Architect Bill Dietsch, Jr did a renovation in the mid-1970s and the signature 18th hole, with a breath-taking view of the bay, was redesigned by Arnold Palmer in 1987. Consultant/Designer Corey Aurand is currently designing new bunker complexes.

**Total acreage under maintenance:** 125 acres.

**Greens:** TifDwarf. Avg. Size 6,800 sq.ft. Total 3 acres. HOC .150 in. summer, .135 in. winter. Overseeding: Poa Trivialis @ 12-15 lbs/1,000 sq. ft. Green speed goals: Smooth and consistent. No. 1 green being planted in seashore paspalum.

**Tees:** Tifway 419 bermudagrass – 5.5 acres. HOC.500 in. Overseeding: ryegrass @ 400 lbs/acre

**Fairways:** Turf – 419 Tifway bermudagrass – 30 acres. HOC .500 in.

**Overseeding:** Ryegrass @ 300 lbs/Acre

**Roughs:** Turf – 419 Tifway bermudagrass – 65 acres. HOC 1.25 in. – 1.50 in. No overseeding.

**Bunkers:** 51.

**Sand type:** 37M. Machine raked with John Deere 1200.

**Waterways/Lakes:** 12 lakes/ponds. Maintenance by outside contractor.

**Irrigation:** Source: Reclaimed water. Pump station. Control System. No fertigation.

**Watering restrictions/Conservation:** BMP. **Total staff including superintendent:** 16 full time. 40 hours per week plus 2.0 hours over-time.

**Leadership:** Assistant Superintendent Keith Lamb; Equipment Manager Larry Jordan; Irrigation Technician George Beatty.

**Communications:** Weekly staff meetings of all club department heads, Monthly staff/safety meetings with crew.

**Cultural Programs:** Greens – Summer bermuda: frequent light verticutting and topdressing. Raise HOC to .150. Deep irrigation once per week as needed. Winter – Overseeded Poa Trivialis: Fertilizer – mostly foliar feeding. Light brooming replaces verticutting. Annual total nitrogen: 10-12 lbs/1,000 sq. ft.; phosphorous 3-4 lbs/1,000 sq. ft.; potassium 15-22 lbs/1,000 sq. ft. Aerify twice a year with 5/8-in, x 10-in. tines. Tees – Fertilize monthly with 1:2:1. Mow 3X weekly. Fairways – Fertilize every other month with 1:2:1.5. Circle cut in summer. Roughs – Raise/lower heights of cut.

**Management Challenges:** Salt, trees (shade and roots), nematodes, and drainage.

**Pest Control/IPM:** Chipco Choice – rotate annually between fairways and roughs. Monitor pest thresholds.

**Wildlife Inventory:** Osprey, otter, many species of shorebirds and song birds.

**Unusual/historical notes:** Walter Hagen was the club's first golf professional. The course hosted 15 St. Petersburg Opens on the PGA Tour in the 50's and 60's and reportedly was site of one of Arnold Palmer's first four victories. The course was also an LPGA Tour stop in the 70's and 80's as the Orange Blossom Classic and S&H Classic

club written in 1974 by Men's Golf Association President Maurice Hollins, the course was designed by the New England golf architect team of Wayne Stiles and John Van Cleek. The course opened in 1924 as the Bear Creek Golf Course in conjunction with the Rolyat Hotel (now the Stetson Law School) with golf great Walter Hagen as one of the two golf professionals on staff.

Hollins goes on to say that during those Florida boom years, only about 25,000 people lived in the area. Another piece of golf trivia is that the course was the site of Bobby Jones's famous and worst defeat — 7 and 6 — at the hands of Hagen. But the boom burst as quickly as it flourished and the hotel and course were closed. The hotel and golf course, rechristened the Pasadena Golf Course reopened in 1930 amid a rising tide of golf promotion in the area. One notable match was a pro-celebrity affair starring a couple of babes. Babe Didrikson (Zaharias) and Babe Ruth took on Lloyd Gullikson and Glenna Collette Vare. Didrikson was the Ladies National Champion at the time and the Vare Trophy for women golfers was named for Ms. Vare.

The 1930s were lean years for everyone and the course existed off the seasonal play, just as many do today. When World War II broke out, the club realized that with all the shortages it could not afford to operate as a golf course. The land was fenced in and used to graze beef cattle. The clubhouse was used as an NCO club and then a commissioned officers club for the Army. After the war, the course was leased to the city of St. Petersburg, but the city canceled the lease in 1954. Marion Boswell, who initiated a Major League Baseball tournament, leased the course until 1968.

Pasadena has been host to 15 St. Petersburg Opens on the PGA Tour, six Major League Baseball tournaments and one Orange Blossom Classic. Also according to Hollins, Arnold Palmer won his first professional golf championship at the 1958 St. Petersburg Open. In 1961 Bob Goalby won the tournament when he birdied eight straight holes (8 through 15) a PGA record that still stands.

Former Pasadena superintendent and West Coast GCSA icon Bud Quandt added that during his tenure in the 1970s and '80s, the LPGA held at least 16 pro tournaments under various names like the Orange Blossom

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Afternoon shadows fall across the No. 10 green. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

Classic and the S&H Classic. The West Coast GCSA honored Quandt by naming its major annual fundraising tournament after him and the

Pasadena Y&CC hosted 33 of these tournaments that have benefited turf research and local charities.

All of this history has energized the new owners and helped to focus their restorations, not only on the grounds, but also the

## Superintendent Facts

### Scott MacEwen



**Originally from:** Miami

**Family:** Wife Kathy; Sons, Kyle (16) and Clayton (12) and daughter Colleen (10)

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts in communications from Florida Southern College in Lakeland. Turf Management Certificate from the University of Georgia.

**Employment history:** 1989-92 Golf Club of Miami,

Crew member promoted to assistant superintendent in 1991; 1992 Tournament Players Club of Tampa Bay, assistant superintendent; 1996 -2002 promoted to superintendent at TPC Tampa Bay; May 2002 to present, Pasadena Y&CC golf course superintendent.

**Professional affiliations:** GCSAA and Florida West Coast GCSA.

**How did you get into the business?** I left a good advertising job in Miami to rake bunkers. I made this career change and worked my way up.

**Mentors/Career Influence:** Cal Roth of the PGA Tour staff gave me the opportunity to become a superintendent and taught me how to be a good superintendent. I also want to thank all those assistant superintendents who worked so hard for me during my career. Most importantly my wife family who have been there for me through the good and not so good times, to help me, teach me and share my successes.

**Accomplishments:** In 1989 I was working in advertising. Seven years later I was a golf course superin-

tendent hosting a televised professional golf tournament.

**Goals:** Earn the respect of my peers. Make our course a certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. Oversee a golf course renovation maybe here at Pasadena Y&CC.

**Work philosophy:** Work hard but enjoy every moment, since life is too short. Don't sweat the small stuff because it's all small stuff.

**Advice:** Always provide more than is expected of you and never take things for granted. Do every job as if you were being interviewed for the first time. Pay attention to details.

**Memorable moments:** Hosting televised golf tournaments (Senior PGA). Second honeymoon in San Diego at the 2004 GCSAA conference. Watching my kids grow up.

**Hobbies/Interests:** Watching my children play sports. I can't get enough. Little League coaching. Fishing. Golf.

prominent role the club played in the development of golf in the bay area. I met Mike Vickers, one of the new owners, while visiting Pasadena for this story.

He said, "We are so happy that Scott is here as part of the team that will be rebuilding Pasadena. He had made good strides even before we came on board. The members are extremely happy with his efforts to make improvements."

MacEwen is not bashful about taking on challenges. His journey to Pasadena came by way of TPC of Tampa Bay, where he worked for 10 years first as the assistant superintendent and then as superintendent. Like many superintendents, MacEwen came to the business after making a career change. As a high school student working on the yearbook, MacEwen saw himself some day as the editor of *Sports Illustrated*. So after majoring in communications with an emphasis in public relations and advertising, he set out to conquer the publications world. But he found out fast that the major magazines don't hire aspiring graphic artists fresh out of college.

He found work in his hometown of Miami with a small company and was actually doing quite well as a paste-up artist, but MacEwen could see there wasn't much future down that path for someone with grander aspirations.

Somehow on his list of options, working outdoors on a golf course crept to the top. He sent out 40 resumes and got back two written rejections. So he started knocking on doors and the one that opened was at the Golf Club of Miami that the PGA had just purchased and was renovating in 1989.

MacEwen said, "I think they wanted to test this rookie golf course worker to see

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*View across the 10th green. Number 11 is in the background. Photo by Daniel Zelazek*

what I was made of because the first two weeks, all I did was pick rocks out of bunkers. The first week they would drop me off at a bunker complex with my lunch and some water and pick me

up at the end of the day. The next week I was given my own vehicle to drive myself out to the rock pile. Pretty soon I was cutting cups and before too long I was operating the sprayer.”

MacEwen’s abilities earned him a promotion to assistant superintendent in 1991 and the next year he was transferred to TPC Tampa Bay, where he began a decade of hands-on expe-



*Number 3 green and Boca Ciega Bay as seen from the fourth tee. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.*

rience under the guidance of PGA Tour agronomists. During that period, he earned a turf management certificate from the University of Georgia through correspondence courses and a proctored examination.

MacEwen said, "The TPC experience was a great training ground and great place to work. The excitement and anticipation of the annual PGA Senior Tour event was fun and I have met some great people who are now good friends. But that chapter is closed and now I'm looking forward to focusing on the needs and expectations of the members and new owners of Pasadena. We will have our own special events to prepare for."

The 80-year-old course underwent major renovation during the mid-1970s by golf course architect William Dietsch, Jr., and the Palmer Design Company redesigned the 18th hole completely in the late 1980s. While the soil tends to be sandy loam mostly, the high salt content of the irrigation water may be contributing to a black mucky layer found in many of the wetter areas. MacEwen cites the salty water and drainage as two of the biggest challenges in managing the turf at Pasadena, followed by tree roots and nematodes.

The original course layout relied solely on surface drainage to sheet-flow the water off the course. In subsequent years the mounding and wall-to-wall cart-path installation has blocked this flow in many areas. The ever-resourceful MacEwen has cut gaps in the concrete paths where it's damming up the water and installed creative metal grates over the drain channels, allowing the water to move on.

MacEwen strives to follow a deep, infrequent watering regimen saying that he prefers to manage a drier, firmer golf course.

"By the time that third or fourth day

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View of the approach of the 15th hole. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

rolls around the grass is thirsty, but it the roots are deeper too,” he said.

His cultural program for the greens includes frequent, light verticutting and topdressing, which is recognized as a proven way to keep thatch on the greens under control. During the winter on his overseeded greens, light brooming replaces verticutting. The greens receive an aver-

age of 10-12 lb. of nitrogen; 3-4 lb. of phosphorus and 15-22 lb. of potassium per year. He rotates treating the fairways and roughs annually with Chipco Choice to control mole crickets and monitors damage thresholds to identify trouble spots.

While at TPC Tampa Bay, MacEwen registered and certified the course as an Audubon

Cooperative Sanctuary. He wants to do the same at Pasadena once the renovations are complete.

“I really enjoyed improving and providing habitat for the birds and animals, and modifying our practices to be as eco-friendly as possible,” he said. “We have different surroundings here. It is a more urban location, but we have plenty of shorebirds, regular songbirds and

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## Bud Quandt



No story about the Pasadena Yacht & Country Club would be complete without a tip of the hat to Charles "Bud" Quandt, who was the "Boss of the Moss" at this venerable course for 23 years from 1968 to 1991. That he is a highly regarded and revered leader in the West Coast GCSA is evidenced by naming the chapter's premiere

fundraising event, The Bud Quandt Tournament, after him.

I'd say that Bud has abandoned the hustle and bustle of city life when he retired to his retirement getaway in the little burg of Steinhatchee, but he made his way there by way of a general manager's job at Airco G.C. after "retiring," and he just

finished an odyssey of nearly two months that ended in Mexico with six teenagers in tow. That's Bud. Always on the go.

But during his Pasadena days, Bud grew up with the industry and all its changes and advancements. He was there when golf course architect Bill Dietsch, Jr. undertook a three-phase remodeling of the course in the early 1970s and Palmer Design's rebuilding of the 18th hole in 1988. Bud reports that the PGA Tour used to make stops at Pasadena during the Hogan and Snead era, and he was totally involved while hosting 16 or 17 LPGA Tour events during the 70s and 80s.

Then there were the 33 Bud Quandt Tournaments held at Pasadena. This event has been responsible for raising tens of thousands of dollars over the years for turf research and local charities.

Bud, thanks for your professional integrity and your personal vitality and sense of humor over the years.

*Joel Jackson*

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## Fun Facts



Scott MacEwen, right, goes over bunker plans with operator William Skidmore. Photo by Joel Jackson

Here are some things you may not know about our cover story superintendent:

1. **Car:** Dodge Durango

2. **The last good movie I saw:** Castaway

3. **I stay home to watch:** U. S. Open on Father's Day

4. **The book I've been reading:** Playing by the Rules by Arnold Palmer

5. **Favorite meal:** Eggplant Parmesan

6. **Favorite performer:** Dustin Hoffman, Bruce Springsteen, Robin Williams

7. **Prized possessions:** Wine collection, boat, memories, my library

8. **Personal Heroes:** My children – Kyle, Clayton and Colleen

9. **Nobody knows that I:** Have a temper

10. **I'm better than anyone else when it comes to:** Diplomacy

11. **If I could do it over:** Nothing. I have been very fortunate. I appreciate life's pleasures as I experience them.

12. **I'd give anything to meet:** Neil Armstrong

13. **My fantasy is:** To visit Scotland. Fly in an F-1

14. **The one thing I can't stand:** Lying. Being tickled

15. **If I could change one thing about myself:**

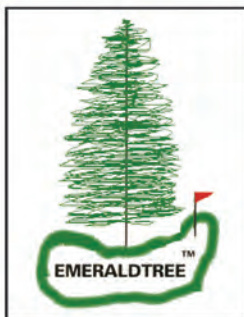
Better memory

16. **My most irrational act:** Hmmm...what was the question again?

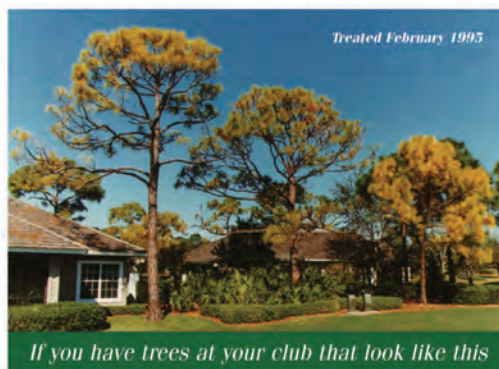
17. **My most humbling experience:** My sister's death

18. **The words that best describe me:** Intelligent, humorous

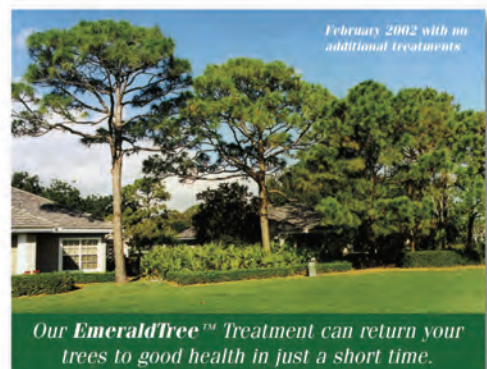
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*This decorative grate across this cart path was created from an old mower reel by Equipment Manager Larry Jordan. Several paths were cut to provide drainage for water trapped on the course. Photo by Joel Jackson.*



*Assistant Superintendent Keith Lamb. Photo by Joel Jackson.*

a few small animals, like otters, on the course. I don't expect to see deer running across our fairway, but I have seen bald eagles and osprey and that's just as exciting."

During a quick tour of the course, I spotted 12 species of birds without even trying. The most striking was the flock of skimmers

resting on one fairway and on the shores of the nearby water hazard. Several of the lakes and ponds are connected to the bay and teem with redfish, snook and tarpon. Actually I had fished those lakes back in the 1970s when I worked for the architect, Bill Dietsch, who was doing the design renovations. I have caught and released

some of the great, great granddaddies of some of those fish in there today.

But that was only 30 years ago, and this trip helped to uncover another 50 years of golf history that the new owners are embracing as a foundation to return the Pasadena Yacht & Country Club once again to prominence in Florida's golf community.

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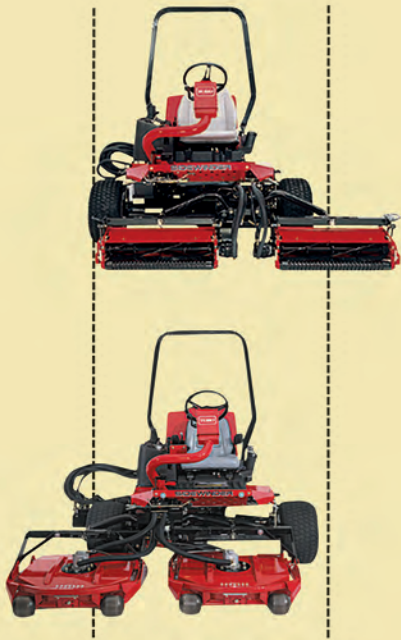
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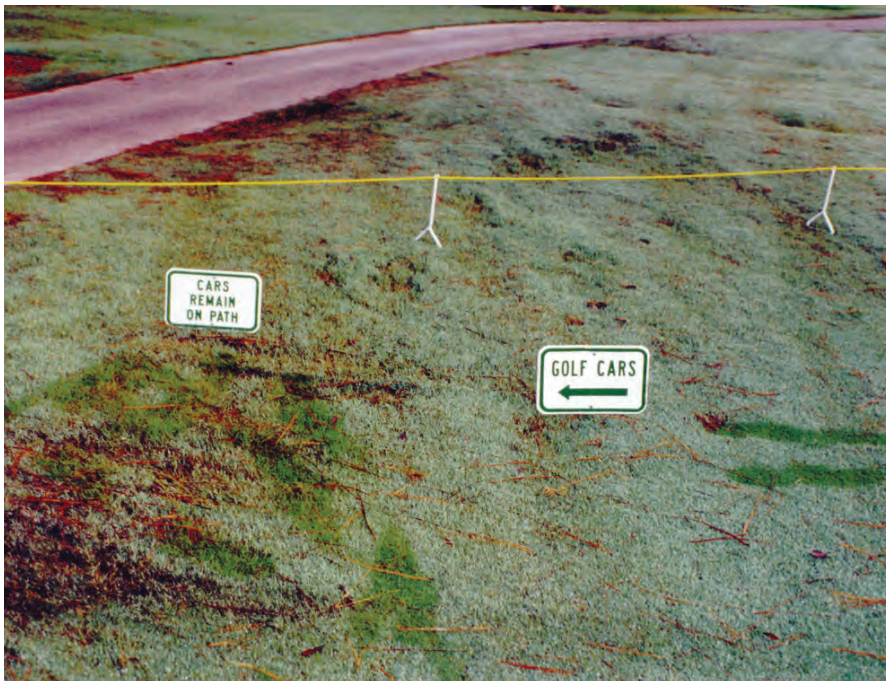


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Ropes, stakes and signs are staples in the arsenal of tools to control damage from cart traffic. Photo by Joel Jackson

chance for good root growth to survive the busy winter season.

The only other recourse seems to be erecting and moving portable barriers of all shapes and designs to keep changing traffic patterns to distribute wear of the turf. Generally these are directional signs, moveable stakes (wooden, metal or plastic) and rope; vertical posts and horizontal barriers. While the message is clear, “Don’t drive here!” somehow these portable barriers often get knocked down or moved by golfers in the course of the day and have to be set up again and again. Of course they have to be moved anyhow to relieve the latest worn “path” since golfers can’t seem to vary where they get off the path on their own.

The search for rustic and attractive barriers is one of the challenges for superintendents as they strive to keep the course looking natural and attractive and not like a safety zone at a manufacturing plant. Much of the challenge could be avoided if golfers would take a more active role in distributing their travel about the golf course, but the herding instinct is too great to overcome.

# Traffic Control — Defending the Turf

By Joel Jackson, CGCS

There are three major components to traffic control on a golf course, and two of them are beyond a superintendent’s control so you’re behind the eight-ball before you even get started. Those two factors are course design and the golfers themselves.

Greens and tees with narrow, confined entry and exit points concentrate foot traffic, creating “goat trails.” They offer very little in the way of options for the superintendent to maintain healthy turf in those areas except continuous aerification and re-sodding. Golfers aren’t thinking turf damage when they drive golf carts through obviously low, wet areas one after the other in sheep-like fashion, following the tracks in the dew ahead or they hang tires off the path on curves and at tee and green stops, creating chuck holes and bare spots.

I would be remiss if I didn’t also hide maintenance personnel who often take the road most traveled as they move about their daily tasks.

I’ve seen my share of maintenance “roads” worn into the turf as routine short cuts are used day after day. A little variety in direction would do wonders to avoid creating these ugly potential weed gardens.

The third component is defense and that is about the only proactive action a superintendent can take and even that often depends solely on the cooperation of the golfers to make it successful. Many maintenance operations spend lots of time and labor on routing traffic and protecting high-wear areas from becoming dirt and/or weed patches.

The most diligent turf managers adopt an aggressive aerification program in these high-traffic areas and perhaps the most diligent program I have come across lately is the one Greg Kriesch has adopted at Heritage Palms down in Ft. Myers. Kriesch says he’d rather wear out aerifiers than his turf along cart paths. He rotates his aerifiers back and forth almost nonstop between his two 18-hole courses during the growing season to give those built-in, necessarily high-traffic areas the best

Meanwhile after hours and hours of moving ropes, signs and barriers, the curve-cutters have still worn out potholes and bare strips along cart paths. To correct these ankle-twisting hazards and unsightly dirt patches, superintendents often pour concrete to straighten out those lovely flowing curves so adored by architects and so blatantly ignored by golf-cart, beverage-cart and maintenance-vehicle drivers. When that doesn’t stop the corner cutters; posts, boulders and cobblestones are implanted to deter the violators.

By the way, it doesn’t matter if the cart path is 4-, 6- or 8-foot wide with flare-outs for passing traffic. There hasn’t been a path designed yet that a driver won’t hang a tire off of to drive on the grass (or dirt).

In responses to an e-mail questionnaire, superintendents Matt Taylor of the Royal Poinciana Club in Naples and Jim Walker at Greynolds Park Golf Club in Miami, Peter Powell at the Boca Greens Golf Club in Boca Raton and Joe Pantaleo at the Indian Creek Club in Miami offered some

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Wooden posts and barricades are also used to alter traffic patterns. Photo by Joel Jackson.

comments on who, how and what they do for traffic control on their courses.

### Traffic Control Questionnaire

**1. Q: Who takes care of the primary traffic control on your course?**

A. Taylor: The set-up person has the initial responsibility, but ultimately it falls onto the assistant superintendent to make sure it happens each day

A. Walker: The assistant superintendent and superintendent take care of adjusting traffic-control measures during their daily rounds.

A. Powell: I will make the initial set-up and my two crew members that change the cups and tee markers will maintain and rotate our stakes and ropes.

A. Pantaleo: I take care of the traffic control during my daily inspection of the course.



Sweeping curves in a cart path are very aesthetic looking but drivers cut them short and create worn turf and potholes. Photo by Joel Jackson.

**2. Q: How long does it take to take care of moving setting up traffic control measures per day?**

A: Taylor: Besides being part of the set-up man's rotation, on a given day we may have three rough units and two fairway units mowing. Each guy may spend an extra half hour moving things around.



Without traffic control golfers tend to all follow the same path to the fairway causing severe wear damage. Photo by Joel Jackson.

A. Walker: It takes two people around two hours per week.

A. Powell: We will spend two manhours per day during the winter season. We have no need for traffic control in the summer.

A. Pantaleo: Maybe two hours total and that's generally once a week.

**3. Q: What means of communications (pro shop, permanent course condition signage, special announcements or other tools) are used to aid traffic control?**

A. Taylor: We post signs on the first and tenth tees that read: "Cart Path Only", "90 Degrees", "Summer Rules", etc. We also post any special rules in a clear plastic sleeve on the golf carts.

A. Walker: The pro shop staff advises the guests the



To avoid future potholes many courses add pavement to the curves. Photo by Joel Jackson.

cart conditions at check-in and we use directional signs along the paths.

A. Powell: All of the above, but rope is the only really effective way to keep traffic where you want it. Golfers don't think about potential cart damage once they start playing.



Wear from foot traffic can also be a problem when access points to a green are limited. Photo by Joel Jackson.

A. Pantaleo: We paint a white line to direct them away from the green slopes and refresh it once a week.

**4. Q: What is your primary traffic-control device (barriers, posts, stake & rope, other)?**

A. Taylor: We also use moveable control devices along cart paths. Primarily we use rope stakes, green recycled plastic (of course) stakes with green and white rope. We also use movable (4x4) wooden barricades painted green. The metal spikes that hold them in place often bend on the shallow limestone rock in the soil. In addition, when we place two white balls on the edge of the fairway cut, the members know that they are to return to the path when they see these markers.

A. Walker: We rely on the directional signs and our



A cobblestone treatment is used to encourage carts to stay on the path at Heritage Palms. Photo by Joel Jackson.

course rangers to monitor the traffic flow.

A. Powell: Again all of the above. I have been using short 1-foot-tall stakes to guard cart path curves and turns.

A. Pantaleo: We use directional signs and white lines painted on the turf.



Many courses use permanent signs at the 1st and 10th tees to alert golfers to daily traffic rules and conditions. Photo by Joel Jackson.

**5. Q: Under what circumstances do you impose cart path only?**

A: Depending on the time of year, if we get a rain shower during the primary play season (winter and spring) and it is close to a major tournament, this will trigger "Cart Path Only" for a day or a few hours. Usually during the summer months after a 2- to 3-inch rain, it is a no-brainer.

A. Walker: Only after a really heavy rain; it isn't that often.

A. Powell: During tournaments that can't be

rescheduled. If it's that wet, we will close the course.

A. Pantaleo: Only if we have standing water visible in the fairways.

**6. Q: If you allow carts on turf but with limitations, do you ask them to stay in roughs or fairways? This is not a trick question.**

A. Taylor: Neither. It is 90 degree or cart paths and they don't follow the 90-degree rule. One of my standing jokes at Green Committee meetings is asking what their perception of where the 90 degrees is... to the cart path or the green?

A. Walker: We ask them to keep the carts in the roughs.

A. Powell: "Rough Only"

A. Pantaleo: When it's really wet we ask them to stay in the roughs.

**7. Q: Do you do extra aerification of high-traffic areas or are they on the same frequency as the rest of the turf (fairways, roughs, walk offs, etc)**

A. Taylor: Yes, during the season we will open them up with 3/4-inch tines and fill with sand and 6-2-0, usually in January and then again in early March.

We will also spike them and pitch fork them as needed.

A. Walker: Only during regular seasonal aerifications.

A. Powell: We aerate the cart path ends and drive-off areas once per month during the winter season.

A. Pantaleo: We do two extra aerifications per year in the high-traffic areas.

**Bonus: Let us know any unique way you manage high traffic areas — crumb rubber, ceramics, extra top dressing, how much extra aerification, with what? Wetting agents, pre-emergents, anything else?**

A. Taylor: Same as above we try to keep these areas loose and growing. We have one really large tournament in mid-March. Three weeks before it happens we go hog wild with rope stakes, traffic control etc. The days of the three-day event we take down all traffic control devices. After the event they go back out. I think it helps before and it certainly looks better during the event.

A. Walker: Sometimes in bad spots we'll dress it up with wood chips. The bottom line is we only have to do traffic control between Thanksgiving and Easter. The rest of the time the turf can keep up with the traffic stress.

A. Powell: No silver bullets. We just keep moving those ropes.

A. Pantaleo: We use solid tines to aerify the traffic areas to minimize any mess or clean up.

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## Super Tip

# Beer, Bananas and a Bath: a Deadly Combination

By Darren Davis,

Often in the golf course management profession, when a unique or innovative idea is discovered, word travels fast. Brian Beckner, golf course superintendent at LaPlaya Golf Club in Naples, recently visited me for a little turf talk over lunch. While the topic was not the most appetizing, Beckner excitedly spun a tale of a massive bug slaughter occurring at The Old Collier Golf Club. The most interesting part of the story was that the control agent being used was not a traditional chemical or pesticide; rather it was a combination of beer, bananas, and soapy water!

Beckner's enthusiasm was replicated when I visited the source of the yarn, Todd Draffen, golf course superintendent at the Old Collier Golf Club. Draffen, a graduate of the four-year turf program at Ohio State University, has been employed at the Old Collier Golf Club for four years. He followed his current employer, Tim Hiers, when Hiers made the cross-town move from Colliers Reserve.

On a recent visit to Old Collier, Draffen provided me an education on the "beer, banana and bath" technique aimed at reducing the large population of the predominant flower beetle (*Euphoria sepulcralis*) at Old Collier. The problem is not the adult beetle but rather the grub it produces. While the grub is not harmful to the turfgrass, it burrows in the soil and the turf was being destroyed by armadillos and raccoons digging for them.

Dr. Eileen Buss at the University of Florida identified the flower beetle for Draffen and also gave him the Super Tip on how to reduce the population of the beetle on the property. Her tip was to construct a homemade trap that would capture the beetles when they were active in flight. The foundation of the trap is a one-gal-

lon plastic milk jug. Two of the upper sides of the container are removed to create 4-inch-square openings on two sides of the jug. A paper clip is then used to suspend an empty plastic yogurt cup in the upper half of the milk jug. Once put in use, the yogurt cup is filled with 3-4 ounces of beer and several slices of a very ripe banana. In the bottom of the milk jug, 2-3 inches of soapy water (a bath) is added.

The homemade trap is hung in a tree by rope and is placed in areas known to have a high grub count. When the adult beetles are in flight, which occurs almost year round in South Florida, they are attracted to the container by the sweet banana which they feed upon.

they are so drunk from the beer that they fall into the soapy water and die.

Draffen said he placed 11 traps on the course and, during periods of high adult activity, the traps are refreshed daily. He removed, on average, 300-400 beetles a day from each trap. The downside is that it takes him approximately an hour a day to refresh the traps in peak periods. Consequently, due to time constraints he does not have visions of the traps resulting in complete eradication of the beetle population, but he does see it as a valuable tool in his IPM toolbox to lower the overall numbers and thus reduce the foraging damage by predator animals.

While the Flower Beetle is the primary adult beetle found in the traps at Old Collier, other species of beetles and other insects are also found. When contacted, Dr. Buss concurred with this observation. In fact, she utilizes the beer, banana, bath technique to perform insect surveys when she needs to see what species are flying in a particular area. As to the




Catch and kill flying beetles in this homemade trap and you can eliminate damage from animals digging up your course looking for their hatching grubs in the turf. Photo by Darren Davis.

Simultaneously the beetles consume some of the beer in the same cup. When the beetles try to climb out of this tempting "cup of delicacies"

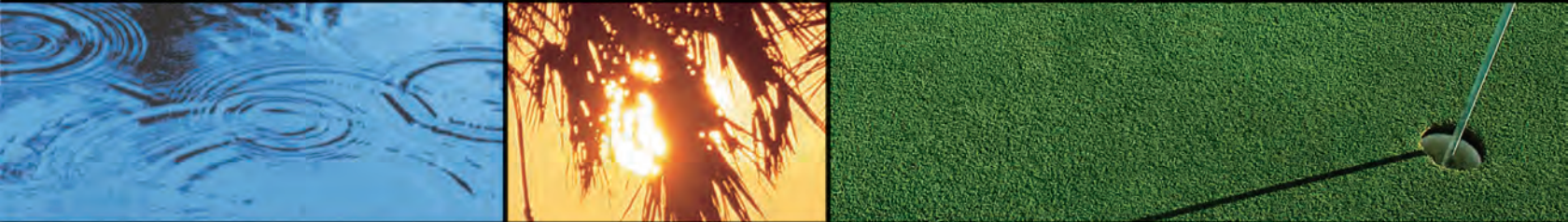
original source of the story, Brian Beckner, he continues to utilize this innovation on his golf course with very good success.

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## USGA update

# Summer Thunderstorms and Fall Preparations

By John Foy

While the Florida rainy season was a little late in getting started this year, typical afternoon thunderstorms began in late July and have continued into August. Each morning starts hot and humid with clouds building the rest of the day until intense storms let loose in the mid to late afternoon. Along with booming thunder and spectacular lightning strikes, periods of very intense rain often occur. Recently, one local golf course measured 4 inches of rain over a two-day period. If you do not have an early-morning tee time, there is a good chance that you will not finish before the lightning sirens sound and it is necessary to get off the course.

The thunderstorms have brought needed rain to replenish lakes and ponds throughout the state. Water levels had dropped extremely low due to below-average rainfall earlier in the year. At some courses along the lower east coast, self-imposed irrigation cutbacks and transfer pumping had been necessary to avoid running out of water completely.

During recent TAS visits, lake levels are back up to normal and, at most courses, major drainage problems are not being encountered. However, with continuation of the current pattern and the inevitable arrival of tropical waves or storms, saturated course conditions can quickly develop. The most modern and sophisticated irrigation system still cannot match rainfall with regards to uniform distribution and the turf growth response that follows a good downpour.

Even with afternoon thunderstorms

occurring on a regular basis, supplemental irrigation cannot be forgotten. With so much rainfall it is no longer possible to effectively manage soil moisture, and a decline in root-system development of putting greens is a common finding. A shallow root system is not able to absorb moisture just a couple of inches below the surface, and the turf has very limited drought tolerance. Thus, following several days of afternoon thunderstorms, the rapid onset of drought stress can occur and it is necessary to begin running irrigation again. This in turn can lead to golfers questioning a superintendent's competence because; "it has rained every day this week and there are wet spots in fairways, but there they go running water all over the place!"

We should not complain about the rain, however, because in Florida it seems as if we go from one extreme to another so quickly. Yet frequent thunderstorms also are starting to impact various aspects of routine course maintenance. During this time of the year, a large number of trees are hit by lightning strikes and are killed or severely damaged. Lightning also can play havoc with irrigation systems, especially the field satellite controllers and computers. Furthermore, keeping up routine mowing and accomplishing cultural management programs such as aeration can be a real challenge. Turfgrass growth-regulator treatments can really pay off with reduced scalping damage and clipping problems when it has not been possible to get out and mow fairways for several days.

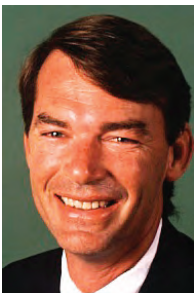
Increased weed pressure, especially rapid development of sedge and kylling infestations is another problem encountered during the rainy season. Access to local weather radar and closely monitoring thunderstorm development and movement is a big help when planning pesticide treatments. Pop-up storms still will occur, and the effectiveness of herbicide treatments is diminished if the material is washed off the leaf surface before it has had time to

adequately dry.

To golfers, afternoon thunderstorms can be an inconvenience. Golfers also incorrectly assume that frequent rain combined with constant hot and humid conditions is ideal for maintaining a healthy bermudagrass turf cover. While hot temperatures are needed to support sustained bermudagrass growth, periods of dense cloud cover have a significant negative impact. Compared to the early summer, daily solar radiation can be reduced by almost 50 percent during the late summer and fall as a result of cloud cover. This in turn reduces photosynthesis rates, and with low energy fixation, carbohydrate reserves become depleted. Unfortunately, at more golf courses there is constant pressure for fast putting speeds to be provided on a year-round basis. While maintaining extremely low heights of cut of 0.125 inch or less on a continuous basis and the resulting reduction in total leaf surface area, lack of sunlight is even more of a problem.

While rapid bermudagrass shoot growth is occurring, the turf is in a weakened condition from intense environmental stresses, and employment of a survival management philosophy is needed. Along with raising heights of cut, care needs to be exercised when conducting cultural management practices such as core aeration and verticutting. Coring replications in August and September are very important for maintaining good oxygen and moisture infiltration, promoting good root system health, and preparing for the fall and winter months. To minimize surface disruption and recovery issues using smaller (3/8 to 1/2 inch) diameter tines is advisable.

By August, a survival management philosophy also is in effect at many courses up north, but shortly after Labor Day, milder temperatures will prevail. However, in Florida, a change in the weather really will not happen until October or November and then we will be heading right into



John Foy

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*Nematodes killing ryegrass overseeding and weakening the base bermudagrass.*

the winter play season. The weather can make it difficult to stay on schedule with course maintenance programs, but if basic and necessary practices are deferred or cancelled, problems will be experienced later in providing the level of conditioning desired through the winter golf season.

**Nematode News**

*Four hurricanes have struck Florida which have magnified John's comments about summer weather stress on turf. Meanwhile, nematodes are replacing molecrickets as the number one pest problem. In the last issue we reported on the work of Dr. Billy Crow as he examined some biological alternatives to Namacur, which is being phased out.*

*By May 31, 2005 golf courses located on vulnerable soils will not be able to use the product any longer. And all uses of the product will end by May*

*2007. Nematodes are a leading cause of weakened turf. See the following excerpt from July's Regional Update by Florida's other USGA Green Section agronomist, Todd Lowe.)*



Todd Lowe

...Another common topic of concern on recent Turf Advisory Service visits includes nematodes. Nematodes are microscopic worms that begin feeding on turfgrass roots in the spring and continue to create problems throughout the summer and early fall months. Nematodes damage turfgrass roots, weakening the turf and making it prone to drought stress and poor nutrient uptake. At the recent University of Florida Gulf Coast Research Field Day, Dr. Billy Crow reported that nematodes are definitely a major pest on Florida golf courses as he sampled damaging infestation levels on 87 per-

cent of Florida golf courses.

"He also reported that after two years of product testing, the only nematicides that consistently suppress or reduce nematode damage in bermudagrass turf are Namacur (fenamiphos), Curfew (1, 3-dichloropropene) and an experimental mustard-based product. Namacur will soon be taken off the market, leaving Curfew as the only effective commercially available product..."

## Is Seashore Paspalum the Next Great Golf Course Grass?

By Stacie Zinn

The words "seashore paspalum" have been on the lips of many Florida golf course superintendents recently. Those words are usually followed by comments something like this:

"I just put it on my golf course."

"I heard so-and-so just put it on his

golf course."

"How do you take care of it?"

"What is it?"

"Huh?"

If you've been hearing or talking about seashore paspalum, you've probably heard a combination of all of the above.

To answer your questions, let's start with the basics. Seashore paspalum, (*Paspalum vaginatum*), is a salt-tolerant, warm-season turfgrass. It requires up to 50 percent less water for irrigation than bermudagrass, and up to 75 percent less nitrogen for fertilization.

Seashore paspalum is believed to have come to the United States from Africa as bedding in the bottom of slave ships, but some schools of thought actually attribute seashore paspalum as a native of Asia.

It was introduced to Australia from Africa in the 1930s for use in salt-affected areas as forage and for soil stabilization. By the 1950s and 60s, seashore paspalum had become popular in Australia as a lawn grass and for bowling greens.

In the book, *Seashore Paspalum: The Environmental Turfgrass*, authors R.R. Duncan and R.N. Carrow outline the introduction of the grass as a commercial product into the United States from Australia in the 1960s for use on golf courses and home lawns. According to Duncan and Carrow, those early varieties, mostly Futurf and Adalayd, met with limited success because end users did not know how to properly maintain the grass:

"No additional breeding work was conducted on Adalayd after its initial introduction into the United States. Additionally, no management packages were developed for this grass and it was essentially handled like hybrid bermudagrass. The use of too much fertilizer and untimely irrigation



*WCI's new Hammock Bay Golf Course on Marco Island is grassed in SeaDwarf seashore paspalum from tee to green. Photo by Rich Redles.*



Lou Conzelmann, regional agronomist for WCI said that Paspalum was chosen initially for its tolerance to poor water quality, but it looks so good they're using it on three more new courses. Photo courtesy of WCI Communities.



Tim Daniel, golf course superintendent at the Crown Colony G. & C.C. likes the fact that he doesn't have to deal with overseeding and transition issues and he's using less water and fertilizer. Photo courtesy of Crown Colony G&CC.



Tim Daniel, superintendent at the Crown Colony G&CC in Fort Myers holds a plug of SeaDwarf from one of his greens, showing the deep root structure. Photo courtesy of Crown Colony G&CC.

scheduling eventually led to disenchantment about its performance and its ultimate demise.”

Though those early varieties were somewhat coarse in texture, the real downfall of Futurf and Adalayd was a failure on the part of those who introduced the grass to the United States to educate golf course superintendents and other end users how to properly care for it.

But that, as they say, is history.


### New Cultivars, Renewed Interest

Recently, new cultivars and customer demand for turfgrasses characterized as environmentally-friendly have propelled seashore paspalum back onto the mainstream golf market. Among the newer cultivars that are fine-bladed and bred for golf course use are:

- **SeaDwarf:** SeaDwarf is the only dwarf cultivar of seashore paspalum. It has a fine

texture and tolerates a wide variety of mowing heights, (1/8-inch to about 4-inches), which makes it ideal for tee-to-green and rough applications on golf courses. On a golf green, it demonstrates no grain and has documented green speeds at 10.5 on the stimpmeter and faster. It is often compared to bentgrass in look and texture.

- **Aloha:** Aloha is a hearty variety of seashore paspalum with a rich, luxurious color. It



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was developed here in the Sunshine State at the University of Florida. Aloha has a slightly wider leaf blade than SeaDwarf. It can be mowed from 1/8-inch to about 6 inches and can be used tee-to-green and in the rough on golf courses where overly fast green speed is not a requirement.

• **SeaGreen:** SeaGreen is a fine-textured, warm-season, halophytic cultivar of seashore paspalum for use on golf tees and fairways. It has a fine texture and is adapted to a wide salinity range.

• **SeaIsle1:** Sea Isle1 was introduced in Argentina. SeaIsle1's texture is comparable to Tifway 419 hybrid bermudagrass, and also boasts a high resistance to saline. SeaIsle1 is suitable for use on fairways, tees and roughs.

• **SeaIsle-2000:** SeaIsle-2000 was developed by plant geneticist Dr. R.R. Duncan at the University of Georgia's Griffin Experiment Station from a sample collected at Alden Pines Country Club in Bokeelia. Alden Pines is owned and operated by Stewart T. Bennett. SeaIsle2000 can be used on golf greens and tees, especially in salt-challenged environments.

• **Salam:** Salam seashore paspalum is a succulent, low-growing, warm-season turfgrass. Salam's leaf texture is similar to Tifway 419 hybrid bermudagrass, and under optimum management practices, the leaf texture becomes fine enough to be used as putting green turf.

**Attributes Of Seashore Paspalum**

Attributes and tolerances of Seashore Paspalum vary by cultivar, but in general it is:

- Highly salt tolerant
- Can be irrigated with low-quality, recycled, reclaimed or brackish water
- Takes up to 50 percent less water to irrigate than bermudagrass
- Requires up to 75 percent less nitrogen than bermudagrass
- Requires up to 50 percent less fertilizer than bermudagrass
- Drought tolerant
- Fairly shade tolerant
- Resists wear and heals quickly
- No need to overseed

A report by Todd Lowe, agronomist for the USGA Green Section's Florida Region, indicates that seashore paspalum can tolerate a salt/salinity level of 34,500 ppm, which is well above the salt levels of most effluent water supplies.

The University of Florida's Laurie E. Trenholm, Ph.D., also reports that seashore paspalum has "excellent salt tolerance."

In their book, Duncan and Carrow reaffirm seashore paspalum's salt tolerance: "It is the

most salt-tolerant, warm-season turfgrass that is known with a salt tolerance of ocean-water levels."

Stewart T. Bennett, CGCS, is credited with discovering SeaDwarf Seashore Paspalum, the only dwarf seashore paspalum. Bennett cultivated SeaDwarf for use on golf courses, sports fields and residential lawns. SeaDwarf Seashore Paspalum is marketed by Environmental Turf.

Bennett said he has successfully irrigated SeaDwarf with water salinities up to 20,000 ppm in good quality soil, and on a regular basis irrigates the SeaDwarf on his course with water up to 13,000 ppm of salt without having to flush the soil for salt.

Seashore paspalum not only thrives under poor water quality conditions, but because of its excellent drought tolerance, seashore paspalum takes less water to irrigate than some other popular turfgrasses.

The USGA's Lowe reports that seashore paspalum requires 50 percent of the water needed to irrigate hybrid bermudagrass. Seashore paspalum, Lowe said, creates a deep root system that holds in moisture.

A 2004 study conducted on deficit irrigation at University of Florida by Joon H. Lee, Dr. Laurie Trenholm and Dr. J. B. Unruh, showed that, by its very nature, seashore paspalum will develop an extraordinarily strong and "deep root system" to seek out water at lower soil depths when overhead irrigation is decreased.

In general, seashore paspalum is more shade tolerant than bermudagrass.

"It's cultivar dependent. It's not for a shady course, necessarily, but if you have a few palm trees, it's not a big deal," Bennett said. "Paspalum has a good tolerance to low-level light intensities. If it gets four hours of really bright sun or 10 hours of cloudy weather, it's the same thing to paspalum."

Ed Miller, superintendent at Quail Ridge Country Club in Boynton Beach, said he's seen first-hand the shade tolerance of seashore paspalum since he renovated 18 of his 36 holes last year. His previous bermudagrass golf course with TifDwarf greens now has SeaDwarf greens, SeaIsle1 fairways and tees. He retained the 419 bermudagrass in his roughs.

"I have some greens out here that do not get full sunlight 'til 9, 10 o'clock in the morning and they've been doing well. I haven't seen any issues," Miller said. "The bermuda would just never last. It was horrible. Those areas died out, very thin."

Seashore paspalum also resists wear and heals quickly from divot damage.

Superintendent Tom Trammell of Hawks Nest Golf Club in Vero Beach recently conducted a

divot-repair test at his golf course. Trammell tested the amount of time it takes to repair similarly sized divots in SeaDwarf seashore paspalum and bermudagrass.

Trammell's results demonstrated that for a divot of the same size, diameter and depth, it took the bermudagrass 10 days to heal. It only took the SeaDwarf seashore paspalum five days to heal. Trammell surmised that the SeaDwarf's dual root system, utilizing both rhizomes and stolons, helped the SeaDwarf to heal twice as fast as the bermudagrass.

Research conducted by Dr. Trenholm, when she was a graduate student at the University of Georgia, yielded similar results.

"We found that for the paspalum on average, the wear tolerance across the species varied considerably depending on the texture of the grass. Across the board, you would get large differences. The coarse-leaf-blade types, the ones that might be more utilitarian types like Adalayd, had very poor wear tolerance," Dr. Trenholm said. "We find the finer the texture, the better the wear tolerance. So, your commercially available cultivars that I worked with, like SeaIsle1 and SeaIsle-2000 — and potentially SeaDwarf, though I didn't test it specifically — those had very good wear tolerance. We found that when we looked at those fine-leaf-bladed types, that their wear tolerance was as good as or better than TifWay bermudagrass."

Tim Daniel, golf course superintendent at Crown Colony Golf & Country Club in Fort Myers is now into his third year with SeaDwarf greens and SeaIsle1 fairways. Daniel said his grass stays green all winter and he does not overseed his golf course.

"It shines from the fall, winter and spring, which is our snowbird season. You don't have to overseed it," Daniel said, adding that this fact alone saves him time and money. "Because of the need not to have to overseed, there is a reduced cost."

He said he also doesn't have to worry about bothersome overseed transitioning.

"The reduced time involved in overseeding, the reduced playability of the course during the overseeding, you get no gaps there," Daniel said. "Most of our northern guests are used to playing on bentgrass and cool-season grasses and this turfgrass, paspalum, looks very similar and feels very similar to the northern grasses that they're used to playing."

**Big Developer Taps Seashore Paspalum**

Perhaps what really brought Seashore Paspalum to the forefront of Florida golf industry "buzz" was when Florida-based mega-developer

WCI signed on to put SeaDwarf on four of its new golf courses. All of a sudden, the grass wasn't an oddity. It was a commodity with a big player in the golf development world ready to bet on it.

"The original plan when we started out, we were going to do one (golf course in SeaDwarf) at Hammock Bay because they have poor quality water there," said Lou Conzelmann, regional agronomist for WCI. "And then as we looked at it, we thought that it was a good grass. We decided to expand it and do it on some more courses."

Hammock Bay Golf & Country Club is an 18-hole course designed by PGA Tour Pro Peter Jacobsen and Jim Hardy near Marco Island. Rodney Whisman is the superintendent at Hammock Bay. The course is grassed tee-to-green and in the roughs with SeaDwarf.

All of the community's common areas and residential lawns are SeaDwarf, as well. Grassing began in January 2003 with just four holes and some residential areas. The back 14 holes were grassed in stages as construction of homes in the community progressed. Hammock Bay opened for play in March 2004.

As WCI's experience with SeaDwarf grew, Conzelmann said the company decided to use

it on at least three more golf courses. Parkland Golf & Country Club near Boca Raton, designed by Greg Norman and Harry Lincoln is superintendent, opened in June. Old Palm Golf Club in Palm Beach Gardens, designed by Raymond Floyd, Lee Bladen is superintendent, and Tuscany Reserve in Naples, designed by Greg Norman and Pete Dye and Kevin Shields is superintendent, are both nearing completion.

"Initially we used it because we had the poor quality water so being tolerant of salts is the first advantage," Conzelmann said. "Beyond that, I think esthetically it's a prettier grass than bermudagrass. It's more cold tolerant compared to bermudagrass. We use the same grass in all areas. We use the SeaDwarf for everything: greens, tees, fairways, roughs. That's an advantage. You don't have the grasses contaminating each other and mixing into each other. It's easier to maintain it that way."

#### Research Continues

Of course, no grass is perfect. Sod webworms are a factor in seashore paspalum just as they are in bermudagrass.

Not all herbicides are labeled yet for, or are safe for, seashore paspalum, which can make

buying products a bit tricky. (One tip is to look for products labeled for bahiagrass. As paspalum and bahia are the same genus but different species, *Paspalum vaginatum* and *Paspalum notatum*, products labeled for bahiagrass are generally safe for seashore paspalum.)

And the learning curve in changing from a bermuda-type regimen of high nitrogen and high irrigation to a seashore paspalum regimen of low nitrogen and less irrigation can prove a challenge for some superintendents.

To ease the transition from a bermudagrass mentality to a seashore paspalum program, the industry and the research community have stepped up their efforts.

University of Florida's Dr. J. Bryan Unruh is in the middle of a three-year study, funded by the USGA, on the management of seashore paspalum. In addition, many other researchers and companies are beginning to use seashore paspalum right along with varieties of bermudagrass in their research studies on everything from deficit irrigation to herbicide testing.

The industry has also increased efforts by funding research, developing materials and hosting educational events. For example, in October the



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FTGA, University of Florida and Environmental Turf, the company that licenses SeaDwarf and Aloha Seashore Paspalum to growers world-wide, hosted a field day at Emerald Island Turf sod farm in Avon Park. At the event, the university's Drs. Laurie Trenholm and J. Bryan Unruh presented the latest information on seashore paspalum as well as acted as guides on a tour of several seashore paspalum varieties at the sod farm.

Environmental Turf also presents CEU-approved seminars on seashore paspalum around the state at various FGCSA chapter meetings. (Call 772-460-5575 to schedule and event for your chapter.) Environmental Turf has also developed a book on the subject titled "Suggestions for the Care of Seashore Paspalum." The book includes research information as well as first-hand plans of action from superintendents who are growing the grass on a daily basis. The book is available for free to industry members. (You may call 772-460-5575 have a book mailed to you or it is available for free download as a PDF file at [www.environmentalturf.com](http://www.environmentalturf.com).)

"I think it's a revolutionary turfgrass," said Crown Colony's Tim Daniel. "We're using less water, we're using less fertilizer. There's less potential for nitrogen leaching. In this day and age with everyone's eye on the environment, it's prudent for golf managers to utilize every tool available."

*(Editor's Note: The FGCSA is not advocating or endorsing the use of paspalum grass varieties to replace bermudagrass across the board. There is no doubt paspalum has applications in coastal regions where brackish water is available and fresh water is scarce. As noted in the article, "no grass is perfect," but because of the escalating interest in this grass and some of its reduced inputs, the grass deserves consideration as a selection. I asked Stacie Zinn to compile and present this information so that superintendents can have access to as much information as possible. Zinn is also a freelance writer who contributes regularly to turf industry magazines.*

## Federal Agencies Adopt New Process For Pesticide Approval

GCSAA launched a grassroots campaign at the 76th International Golf Course Superintendents Conference and Show in San Diego in support of proposed federal regulations to establish an appropriate regulatory process for registering pesticide products while protecting endangered species. The regulations have now been adopted.

Our sincere thanks to all of you who

took the time to provide a positive comment to the Federal Register docket as well as to all GCSAA chapters who actively promoted the campaign through chapter Web site postings and broadcast e-mails.

The adopted regulations aim to put a stop to lawsuits brought against the EPA by anti-pesticide groups. In recent years, anti-pesticide groups have sought to obtain court-ordered injunctions severely restricting access and use of vital pest control measures. This spring, activists were successful in using the Endangered Species Act to restrict the use of many pesticides used on golf courses in northwestern states.

The ESA requires a federal agency (such as EPA) to consult with other federal wildlife agencies when it takes any action with the potential to harm endangered species. In the past, not having a formal consultation process in place made it difficult for these consultations to occur. The new regulations, which define this consultation process, were developed following a comprehensive scientific review of EPA's risk assessment methodology.

The improved procedures, developed in cooperation with EPA and federal fish agencies, will provide a framework to ensure necessary measures are taken to protect fish and wildlife. They also will ensure that golf course superintendents have the pest control products they need. As finalized, the regulations provide:

- By using the most sophisticated scientific methodologies available to protect wildlife from potential pesticide risks, EPA can determine that the use of a pest-control product is "not likely to adversely affect" a listed species or its critical habitat without either concurrence of the services or informal consultation. The wildlife agencies can perform periodic reviews of the methods that EPA employs to arrive at these determinations to ensure EPA is making determinations that are consistent with the requirements of the ESA.

- When formal consultation is required, EPA may utilize an optional procedure to develop a determination of the effects of the pest-control product on listed species for the services' review. The procedure also allows EPA to request direct involvement of representatives of the services in the effects analysis. As required by law, the services would make the final determination whether threatened or endangered species are likely to be jeopardized by a FIFRA action.

GCSAA Greens & Grassroots

## Plants of the Year

**Common name:** Shishigashira Camellia

**Botanical name:** *Camellia sasanqua* Shishigashira

**Hardiness:** Zones 7 – 9



*Shishigashira Camellia*

Mature height and spread: 10-15 ft. tall x 6-10 ft. wide

**Classification:** Evergreen flowering shrub

**Landscape use:** Shrub for

hedges or specimen/accent plant to tall ground-cover.

**Characteristics:** Compact long-blooming type with rose-red double to semi-double flowers in late fall and early winter. This evergreen shrub has multiple trunks, simple serrated leaves and a symmetrical crown.

**Common name:** Silverado Aglaonema

**Botanical name:** *Aglaonema Silverado ppaf*

**Hardiness:** Zones 10b & 11

**Mature height and spread:** 36 in. x 36 in.

**Classification:** Interior foliage plant/ornamental foliage plant

**Landscape use:** Interior/landscape (shade)/specimen

**Characteristics:** Aglaonema Silverado ppaf is a new hybrid Aglaonema in the Stars of India Collection. Interior plant enthusiasts, collectors, as well as professional interiorscapers will appreciate its full, regal appearance and beautiful



*Silverado Aglaonema*

tricolor leaves. This low-light performer is highly resistant to disease and is very cold tolerant into the mid 30s. Silverado

ppaf rarely flowers, a very unusual characteristic in aglaonemas which is appreciated by anyone who has spent time removing them.

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## Stewardship Notes

# Florida Master Naturalist Program – A Resource and an Opportunity



Dr. Martin Main (blue shirt and hat) leads Florida Master Naturalist staff and graduates on a tour of Corkscrew Swamp. Photo by Ginger Allen.

By Shelly Foy



Shelly Foy

There is nothing quite like late summer in Florida, right? Is it going to rain, or not rain (currently we are below our annual rainfall, but that can change quickly). Are we going to be spared from hurricanes (Darn that Charley! Frances! Ivan! Jeanne!)? Are we going to get the summer renovation projects finished on time? The list goes on.

In the Foy Family we add the worries of our older kids starting college and every morning trying to convince the youngest that kindergarten is a lot of fun! Life is full of complications and full of fun moments, and making sure we take the time to savor them both is so very important. Our hearts go

out to all of the people whose lives were affected by hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne, and we hope they will be able to put their lives back together as quickly as possible.

In stewardship news these days, I found a great program that all golf course superintendents should consider. The University of Florida IFAS Extension has a program called the Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP). The mission is to promote awareness, understanding, and respect of Florida's natural world.

There are three courses, Freshwater Wetlands, Coastal Systems, and Upland Habitats. The cost of each course is \$200 and each course has 40 hours of educational contact hours including classroom learning, field trips, and practical experience. Oh, by the way, there are no tests or final exams, and that is a definite perk!

You have to be 18 to take the class, which I am sure is not a problem for any of you. I scoped out some of the course schedules and the one I was looking at was every Saturday from 8 a.m.

to 4 p.m. Upon completion of each course you receive UF certificates, patches and pins that announce your area of expertise, example Wetlands Naturalist, Coastal Naturalist or Upland Naturalist. Once you finish all three classes you will be registered in the UF database as a Florida Master Naturalist.

Now, I know you are all excited about the possibility of receiving patches and pins, but there are other important reasons for doing this! Beyond the fact that it would be “way cool” to be considered an expert in something new, the program fosters principles in sustainability, connectivity and biodiversity. The bottom line is that you will learn about Florida's environment, and more importantly you will be able to share what you learn with others. It goes back to that whole “communication is the key” philosophy we talk about from time to time. As a golf course superintendent, it would greatly benefit you to increase your knowledge of Florida's natural systems, the plants and animals that depend on those systems and the role you and your golf course play in being stewards of the land.

Dr. Martin Main, program leader for the FMNP, believes that other individuals (club members, local residents, etc.) who complete the training could also be important resources for golf course superintendents by leading evening bird walks, developing interpretive signs to explain native plantings, wildlife, wetland values, etc.

According to Dr. Main, “The FMNP has been creating a dynamic human resource that can be used to increase environmental awareness among Florida's citizens and visitors. Golf course superintendents can establish connections with these individuals (FMNP graduates) by taking FMNP training (get to know the folks directly), or by contacting local FMNP training locations and indicating the interest to FMNP instructors, or by posting volunteer opportunities on the FMNP Web site. Superintendents can also e-mail a request directly to [info@masternaturalist.org](mailto:info@masternaturalist.org) and we will work to assist in the process.”

I know that I have personally spoken with many of you who want to know whom to contact about doing nature walks for your mem-

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bers/golfers. Well, there you go, contact the Florida Master Naturalists!

Since the program started in 2001, more than 1500 certificates have been issued and there are 150 trained FMNP Instructors representing 85 organizations/entities, and they are in 43 counties in Florida. Workshops are held throughout the state, and you can find more information about this program and even register for classes through their website, [www.MasterNaturalist.org](http://www.MasterNaturalist.org).

Larry Livingston, CGCS at Camp Creek Golf Club in Panama City Beach recently completed the classes and he thinks it is a great program for all superintendents to consider. "I am really glad that I decided to take the class. It not only teaches about our environment, but teaches 'how to teach' as well." So, if you won't listen to me about taking the classes, listen to Larry. He is now the "expert." I really like the quote the FMNP has on its Web site:

"For in the end, we will conserve only what we love. We will love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught." – Baba Dioum

That's very cool and very true.

An Environmental Case Study for ACSP Certification

# Butterfly Garden Revamp

**Project Title:** Butterfly Garden Revamp

**Property Name:** Chi Chi Rodriguez Golf Course

**Location:** Clearwater, Fla.

**Project Coordinators:** Jamye Pecci, program coordinator and Albert Boline, golf course superintendent

**Project Description. Give an overview of the project. Why did you choose it? What were conditions like before and after implementing the project?**

The project was a revamp of an existing butterfly garden to provide ample food, additional areas for egg laying, and expansion of the garden into another courtyard area. Our purpose in doing this was to create a self-sustaining butterfly garden and attract a wider variety of butterflies. The previous garden had been smaller and had fewer plants to sustain the butterfly population. The

results were quick defoliation of plants, plant death and butterfly attrition as they moved on to search for food.

**Goals: Please list your goals for the project.**

1. Expand current garden into second garden courtyard.
2. Research butterfly food plants available and stock garden with plenty of plants.
3. Add butterfly houses.
4. Involve students, teachers and aides from on-site fourth- and fifth-grade classes.

NOTE: The Modesta Robbins Partnership School is the only privately funded public school in the United States to be located on a golf course. There are currently two classrooms which house fourth- and fifth-grade students. The school is part of the Pinellas County School System. The school caters to students who are struggling in a large classroom setting and/or have low self-esteem.

**Implementation and Maintenance: What specific steps did you take to implement it? What kind of on-going maintenance does it require? Please give sufficient detail so that someone interested in duplicating this project could do so.**

1. Research was conducted by the fourth- and fifth-grade students, resulting in a list of plants that attracted butterflies and that grew in our planting zone.

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**James Darbey**

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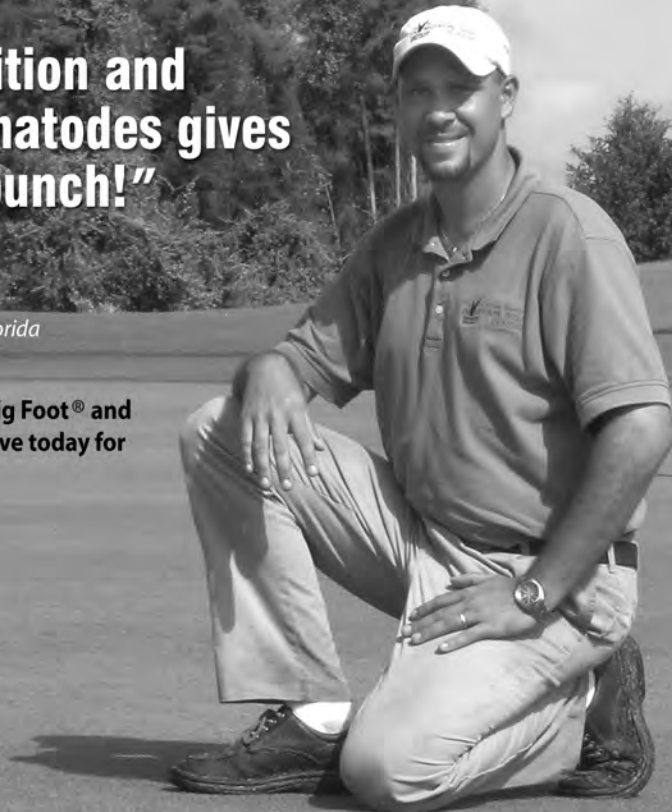
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Thirty-eight fourth- and fifth-grade students at the Modesta Robbins Partnership School helped with the ACSP Butterfly Garden on the Chi Chi Rodriguez Golf Course. On the back row from left: Jayme Pecci, Ginger Francisco, Garth Boline and Lori Vander Klok supervised the project. Photo by Chuck Grussing.

2. The school applied for and received a grant from the SAVE (Students Against Violence Everywhere) Foundation to pay for the project.
3. The students, teachers and horticulture personnel took a field trip to a county extension project garden to view plant life and butterflies in a real life situation.
4. After amending the soil and buying plants, 38 fourth- and fifth-grade students, two teachers (Ginger Francisco and Lori Vander Klok, two teacher assistants

(Leslie Melko and LouAnn Brown), Jayme Pecci, the school counselor and Garth Boline, golf course superintendent and Chuck Grussing, horticulturist from Chi Chi Rodriguez, did the actual planting.

5. Two butterfly houses were added.
6. Very little maintenance is needed, as plant population is fairly dense. The only maintenance needed is general weeding, fertilization, plant replacement, and upkeep of the butterfly houses and bench.

**Results: Describe the results you achieved. What were the environmental benefits? Please be as specific as possible about any tangible results (e.g., number of acres naturalized, new species observed, increase in habitat acreage, number of birds fledged from nest boxes, number of gallons of water saved, acres taken out of intensive management, increase or decrease in man-hours needed to maintain, increase or decrease in equipment wear and tear).**

1. Increased numbers and breeds of butterflies are being observed in the garden.
2. The increased density of plants in the two gardens is able to supply more food for the butterflies and actually decreases maintenance frequency and efforts. The students do the general weeding with help from the horticulture and golf course maintenance staff. The plants are basically self-sustaining, low maintenance, and

drought tolerant. Weed reduction is apparent because of shade.

3. The butterfly garden is now 1150 sq. ft. – approximately double the prior size.
4. Perhaps the greatest benefit is that the project is an ongoing science project for the school. Each class goes out once a week for a formal science class. The students monitor the kind and amount of butterflies on a daily basis. Additionally, they monitor the health and growth of the plants and determine what interventions are needed to maintain them. They keep track of the butterfly life cycle through documentation throughout the school year.

**Golfer/Employee Response: How did golfers respond to the project? How did you communicate about your actions?**

The entire Chi Chi Rodriguez community has given very favorable comments about the revamped garden and was very proud of the involvement and leadership provided by the students, teachers and administrators of the school.

The students are very proud of the garden. Updates of the progress of the project are provided in our management team meetings and golf course newsletters.

**Perspective and Recommendations: What, if any-**

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**thing, would you do differently if you were to do the project again? What would you recommend to others implementing this project?**

This was an easy project to do and involved a lot of collaborative fun putting it together. By using the grant process, the financial impact was minimal. Highlights of the process were visits to the county Extension gardens and the actual purchasing of plants. The committee consists of teachers, school staff, and students who actually compiled the list through research and visiting the Extension gardens. The golf course and horticulture staff were always available to answer questions. Garth Boline, superintendent of grounds, Chuck Grussing, horticulture, and Jayme Pecci, school counselor, purchased the plants.

**Economic Costs and Benefits**

**What was the funding source for the project:** A grant from SAVE (Students Against Violence Everywhere)

**How much did it cost to implement this project?** \$675

**What are your anticipated or actual financial savings?** Monies will be saved through reduced maintenance costs

**Wild Side  
Toad in the Road!**

*By Craig Weyandt*

One of our employees was edging a flower bed when a giant toad popped out. It took the worker several tries to contain it and bring it in alive for identification. I had seen these *Bufo* toads before, but not this far north. We took a couple of photos for our wildlife scrapbook and released him back into the wild. Here is what we found out about these critters.

*Bufo marinus* is also known as the Cane Toad, Giant Toad, or Marine toad. The species is not native to Florida, but was introduced here, the Caribbean Islands, and Australia to control French and Grayback beetles on sugar cane. (Tyler, M, et al, 1996)

The toads, however, can jump only about 30 centimeters, and were therefore not able to reach the beetles, which normally stay in the upper regions of the cane stalks. Also, when the time of year came that served as breeding season for the beetles and their larvae was profusely found crawling from the ground, *Bufo marinus* was nowhere to be found.

One of the reasons Cane toads are so successful when introduced to new areas is that they possess a remarkable ability to adapt to a wide range of habitats. One study conducted in 1990 by Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization showed that these toads are very effective

competitors with other insect-eating animals, were highly toxic to many possible potential predators, and also could have a negative impact on other native frog species. (Zug, et al, 1979)

*Bufo marinus* is a tropical species that if



*Imported in the 1930s to control sugar cane beetles, the Giant Toad is a threat to the native frog populations in South Florida. Photo by Craig Weyandt.*

given a choice, prefers to inhabit forested areas with water, and therefore insects, nearby. The species is usually much more active at night, but can also be seen hopping along sidewalks and resting in or near canals or pools of water. During the daytime hours and even in cold or dry seasons the toad will remain inactive underground in small shallow excavations or hide under debris, fallen trees, stones, or any other covering found typically outdoors. (Zug, et al, 1979)

*Bufo marinus* exhibits two prominent, triangular paratoid glands that extend from the anterior side of the tympanum to the halfway point down the toad's back. It is from these glands that the toad expels a milky-white fluid when attacked or threatened, capable of irritating the mucous membranes of the attacker. This toxin is largely composed of cardioactive substances, and the toxins can lead to profuse salivation, vomiting, shallow breathing, twitching, and even collapse of the hind legs if ingested.

Although many species of snakes and birds seem unaffected by this poison, it may seriously sicken or even kill small mammals, and dogs and cats that have been exposed have been frequently reported as victims of its effect (Carmichael and Williams, 1991; Conant and Collins, 1991).

An interesting aspect of *Bufo marinus* reproduction is that males are able to reproduce without the presence of female toads because they possess a structure called a rudimentary ovary. (Behler et al, 1994).

Marine toads are voracious, omnivorous animals and will prey on a large variety of animals. They have been known to consume small vertebrates, mollusks, arthropods, plant matter, and even dog and cat food when found (Krakauer 1968). They have

been reported to scavenge garbage and vegetable matter that had been discarded such as fruit and vegetable peels and pits in Florida (Alexander 1964). Lab specimens have even been kept on strict diets of small mice!

An idea of the size of the toad population in a particular area can be correlated to the size of individual toads found within it. It is thought that when the toads first populate a new patch of land, there is a fresh and "untouched" abundant supply of food. The toads gorge themselves and eat every possible food source imaginable, growing up to their maximum lengths. Once they begin to multiply and increase in numbers, the food supply is not able to regenerate to the previous amount in existence at the time prior to the toads spreading, and because food then becomes more limited the resulting sizes of the toads found tend to be smaller than the previous ones.

Although there is still much work to be done in areas such as Australia where *Bufo marinus* continues to spread, there are reasons for optimism as far as the control of the problem. (Aguirre et al, 1999) In areas where the toads have been around for the longest times known to this day, their population numbers tend to decline after the initial breeding sprout and increase.

One of the reasons is that some native animals are learning to get around the toxins and have adapted to eating them. The Keelback snake can detoxify the toxins found in *Bufo*, and it has been shown that some species of ibis, water rats, and crows have developed ways to eat them by ingeniously "peeling" the skin and glands off, thereby avoiding the venomous secretions.

We are still a very long way to effectively controlling *Bufo marinus* population numbers and stopping their continual expansion, however. They are definitely a great example of what can happen to native species when an exotic species is introduced into the ecology of a new habitat.

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## Gainesville Turfgrass Field Day

# Tours, Demos, Education Highlight Annual Event



*Interim Dean for Research Wayne Smith welcomes the crowd to the Field Day.*

Approximately 200 people attended Gainesville's annual turfgrass field day July 22. The opening welcome was given by Interim Dean for Research Wayne Smith, who encouraged the crowd to take the opportunity to learn about all of the turfgrass research currently under way at UF-IFAS.

Morning research tours included talks by Katie Barbara, Bernard Cardenas, Billy Crow, Joon Lee, Grady Miller, Mark Mitchell, Laurie Trenholm, and Jan Weinbrecht. Dr. Kevin Kenworthy, the new turfgrass breeder, also had the opportunity to interact with and speak to the crowd.

Attendees had choices between educational sessions in the afternoon. They selected talks on pest management with speakers Phil Busey, Eileen Buss, Lawrence Datnoff, and Phil Harmon, or the best management practices session with speakers Grady Miller, Russell Nagata, or Laurie Trenholm.

Money raised from the field day goes

directly for the support of the G.C. Horn Turfgrass Research Laboratory and helps to provide research data to help all phases of the turfgrass industry.

We would like to thank Bayer Environmental Sciences, Syngenta Professional Products, and Green Technologies, Inc. for their sponsorship of this event.

Next year's field day will be held at the Plant Science Research and Education Unit in Citra, just 20 miles south of the main campus, where development of the new G.C. Horn Turfgrass Field Laboratory is currently under way.

The new field laboratory will include several golf holes and a variety of specialty sites to study irrigation techniques, runoff and leaching, effects of shade and other facets of turfgrass management. Site design has been completed and construction will soon be under way. Turf industry partners are donating time, materials and funds to support this effort.

*Laurie Trenholm, Ph.D.*



*Jan Weinbrecht, senior biological scientist, talks about his research on mowing height and water use in St. Augustinegrass.*



*The crowd of 200-plus enjoys lunch at the Field Day.*

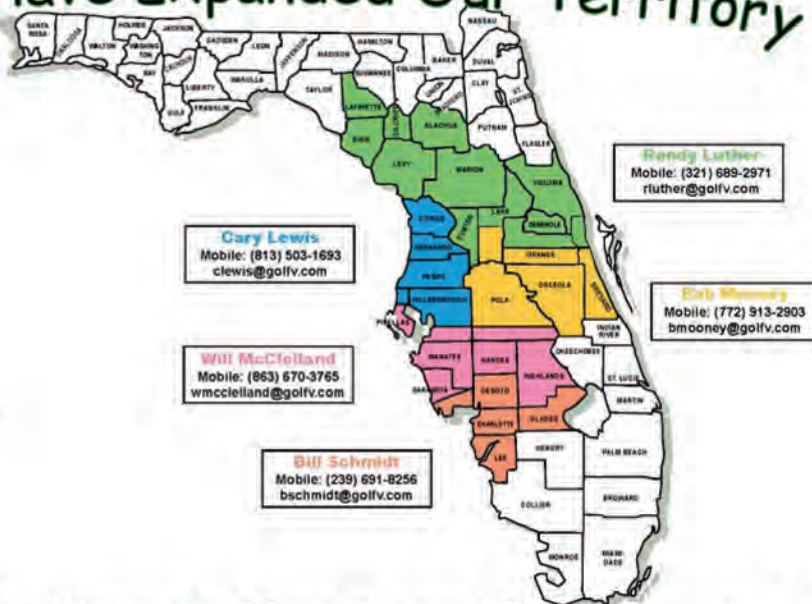


*Dr. Grady Miller describing some of his research on the Envirogreen.*



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## And Would Like You to Meet our Equipment Division

### Don DeLaney-Vice President of Equipment Sales

Don joined **Golf Ventures** in 1995 and has over 31 years of experience in the golf course industry. Don's progressive leadership and continued focus on customer service within the equipment sales division, has established **Golf Ventures** as one of the most successful Jacobsen dealerships in the country. Don is past president of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association.

### Mel Hallack-Equipment Sales Manager

Mel started with **Golf Ventures** in 1993 as a Territory Manager for Equipment and T & O Sales. Mel was recently promoted to Equipment Sales Manager because of his leadership ability, knowledge of the Jacobsen line and his dedication to customers. Mel has 16 years experience in the Golf Course Equipment Industry and is a board member of the Suncoast Chapter of the Superintendents Association.

### Cary Lewis-Equipment Territory Manager

*Territory-Citrus, Hernando, Northern Hillsborough, Pasco and Northern Pinellas Counties*

Cary started with **Golf Ventures** in 2001 as Territory Manager for Equipment and Turf & Ornamental Sales. Cary has 27 years experience in the golf course industry and is a former superintendent and past president of the FGCSA, Florida West Coast GCSA, Everglades GCSA and a USGA Green Selections advisor for 10 years.

### Will McClelland-Equipment Territory Manager

*Territory-Hardee, Highlands, Southern Hillsboro, Manatee, Northern Sarasota, Southern Pinellas, Southern Polk Counties*

Will started with **Golf Ventures** in the service department in 1997 and was the first Customer Service Specialist for Golf Ventures. Will has been promoted to Equipment Territory Manager and is a member of the Suncoast Chapter of the Superintendents Association. Will is also a member of the Steta Mechanics Association.

### Randy Luther-Equipment Territory Manager

*Territory-Alachua, Northern Brevard, Dixie, Gilchrist, Lafayette, Northern Lake, Levy, Northern Orange, Marion, Seminole, Suwannee and Volusia Counties*

Randy has joined **Golf Ventures** as Equipment Territory Manager for North Florida. Randy comes to **Golf Ventures** with previous Jacobsen experience and has 7 years experience in golf course equipment sales. Randy's experience makes him a great addition to the **Golf Ventures** Team of professionals.

### Bill Schmidt-Equipment Territory Manager

*Territory-Charlotte, Desoto, Glades, Lee and Southern Sarasota Counties*

Bill brings to **Golf Ventures** over 30+ years experience in the golf industry. Bill started his career in Pittsburgh, PA as an Equipment/Chemical Salesman. He was previously General Manager with Tresca and is now Equipment Territory Manager. Bill is President and Chairman of the Board for the O.J. Noer Turf Grass Research Foundation and a Charter Member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association.

### Bob Mooney- Equipment Territory Manager

*Territory-Southern Brevard, Southern Lake, Southern Orange, Osceola, and Northern Polk Counties*

Bob Mooney joined the **Golf Ventures** family in January, 2004 as Equipment/Signature Irrigation Territory Manager. Bob brings 18 years experience in the golf course industry. Mooney's experience as a former superintendent, project manager of golf course construction and renovation is an asset to his position with **Golf Ventures**.

## President Profile

# Resident President



View of the 18th hole and Indian Creek clubhouse. Photo by Joel Jackson

By Joel Jackson, CGCS

No, Joe Pantaleo isn't a native Floridian. Actually he's from Wisconsin where he majored in business management. He also earned a master's degree in human resource management/sports business at Biscayne College with an eye to perhaps becoming an athletic director at a college or university some day. The residency refers to the fact that he lives with his wife Lila in the center of his golf course, the Indian Creek C. C. in North Miami Beach.

Indian Creek is a golf club, an island and a community with its own zip code and police force. The 300-acre island lies in

north Biscayne Bay and this year the club celebrates its 75th anniversary. The golf course occupies about half of the island with residential lots taking up the rest. Movers and shakers in business, entertainment and sports make this gated community their sanctuary. While there are only 30-40 homes on the island, there are several hundred club members. Pantaleo stepped onto this secluded but seasonally active island in 1996 and was greeted that first year with the beginning of a long-range plan to restore the original 1920s look to the golf course. The renovations continue today.

Because he was very sports minded and loved golf

already, Pantaleo became interested in classic golf-course architecture. Spending hours with golf-course architect Ron Forse, a specialist in Donald Ross course restorations, fueled his desire to learn more and it has become a hobby that serves him well in his role as a *Golf Digest* panelist who plays and rates courses across America.

"As panelists, we have very specific details and questions that must be noted and evaluated," Pantaleo said. "This isn't just a golf road trip with your buddies. The fun comes in seeing and playing some of our country's greatest tests of golf, but it is also serious work with timelines and schedules that must be met."

Indian Creek was designed by William Flynn, a Ross contemporary, and built by the firm of Toomey and Flynn. Howard Toomey was a civil engineer who specialized in railroad construction.

"The site was an architect's dream and nightmare at the same time," Pantaleo said. "Created from scratch — dredged up from the bay — Flynn had a blank slate to work with to recreate elevations and contouring. The big negative was access, which meant everything from mules to manpower had to be barged in. We are working with Geoff Shackleford and a couple of other writers who are working on a book about Flynn's contribution to American golf. He hasn't really



The beach along the par 3, 12th hole is preserved as a reminder that seaplanes once ferried people to the island. Photo by Joel Jackson.

## Joe Pantaleo



Joe Pantaleo literally lives on his golf course and loves it. Photo by Joel Jackson

### 24th President of the FGCSA

**Originally from:** Beloit, Wis.

**Education:** B.S. in business management, U. of Wisconsin Eau Claire; M.S. human resource management/sports business, Biscayne College

**Employment history:** 1996 to present, superintendent, Indian Creek CC, Miami; 1995-96 superintendent, Delaire CC, Delray Beach ; 1990-95 superintendent, Ft. Lauderdale CC; 1989-90 superintendent, Eagle Trace GC, Coral Springs; 1984-89 superintendent Key Biscayne Links; 1980-84 superintendent of various parks and golf courses for Dade County Parks and Recreation Department

**Professional affiliations:** GCSAA, FTGA, FGCSA

(director, and all officer chairs), South Florida GCSA (past president 1989-90)

**Philosophy/Advice:** Those who know me know I don't satisfy easily. I'm always looking to improve myself in my current position and for the future. I always try to elevate the facility where I work to new levels of excellence. I encourage team effort and only consider myself the "head coach" of the operation. My players do all the work and should have share of the credit. Since I didn't have a formal turf education, it was necessary for me to be aggressive early in my career. I couldn't stand mediocrity and I could see early on that getting to the top wasn't going to be easy. Hard work, long hours, patience, perseverance, and many questions later, I've arrived here. That formula for success has stayed with me for my entire career. Anyone knows that staying on top requires intense effort. The down side from this effort is the strain it can put on family relationships. It cost me my first marriage. I only knew one speed coming up, full ahead! Be careful to keep the big picture in perspective, especially with your family and friends.

**Memorable moments:** Sports: High finish in state high school golf tournament; state championship in 1975; winning the Poa Annuu Classic in 1993, the FGCSA State Championship in 1997 and the GCSAA Golf Championship in 2003. Playing historic golf courses and meeting people as a *Golf Digest* course-rating panelist. Hosting pro golf events, Senior

PGA Tour's Royal Caribbean Classic and the PGA Tour's Honda Classic. Last, but not least, is the valuable construction and renovation experience at Ft. Lauderdale CC, Delaire CC and now at Indian Creek.



Candid camera caught Joe at the 2004 Poa Annuu Classic in a rare miscue on the course. This watery recovery attempt cost him a bid for a second Poa Classic title. Photo by Joel Jackson



been recognized like Donald Ross a few others of that era.”

That first year in 1996 found Pantaleo growing in new greens complexes that Forse had restored complete with redan greens and risk-and-reward approaches. (*A “redan” green is wider than it is deep, is angled so that the left is further away than the right, and slopes front to back and right to left. The name comes from The Redan, the 192-yard 15th hole at North Berwick Golf Course in Scotland.* -Ed)

Fast forward to 2004 and Pantaleo and staff are still at it as each year they tackle a few fairway bunker complexes and tree removal or relocation as shot values are compromised by the growth of well-intentioned but misplaced trees in the past. Pantaleo said, “Not all the renovation is on the course. The clubhouse is also an historic landmark. Ongoing restorations on the Maurice Fautio design are aimed at preserving the heritage of the architecture and interior design of the 20s.

“There are always pros and cons to living on site. The members can find you pretty easily, but then it sure comes in handy to make adjustments to irrigation programs based on the weather and I don’t have to commute in our heavy south Florida traffic.” The superintendent residence on site is a vestige of many of the golf courses built in southeast Florida during the early 1900s.

Teamwork is essential at any golf club and Pantaleo has general manager Michael MacDonald, CCM in his corner when it comes to his participation in the Florida GCSA. MacDonald himself is a director of the Seminole Region of the Club Managers Association of America. MacDonald said, “We totally support Joe’s participation in the association. In fact I would like to see the various Florida golf industry groups have more joint meetings so we can strengthen the

industry and support the issues with a united effort.”

Pantaleo’s management style is highlighted by his thoughtful and analytical approach to fact gathering and decision making. He is a careful listener and asks lots of questions and that applies from agronomy to association business. He credits south Florida superintendent Jim Walker for nudging him into the superintendent ranks.

Pantaleo said, “I was working in the pro shop at Greynolds Park back in 1980 and asking all those questions about the golf course. Jim got tired of me bending his ear every day, so he gave me my first book on turfgrass management. He has been a true friend and mentor over the years, and I appreciate his inspiration and advice that helped to launch and sustain my career.”

All work and no play makes Jack (or Joe) a dull boy, so Pantaleo is a devout sports nut. Even though he’s from Wisconsin, he somehow became a Chicago Bears fan. “I am considered the black sheep of the family because I got turned onto the Bears,” he said. Pantaleo is no idle couch-potato athlete however; he also loves to play basketball, billiards, all water sports including fishing, which he admits he hasn’t done that much of lately. Of course there is also golf.

A collegiate golfer at University of Wisconsin Eau Claire, Pantaleo is a veteran of many amateur tournaments at both the state and national levels. He won the Florida GCSA State Championship in 1997, and perhaps his proudest golf accomplishment was in capturing the GCSAA Championship in February 2003 at Hilton Head, S.C.

Pantaleo had never placed higher than 13th at seven previous championships and had no reason to expect a victory this time around. Pantaleo indicated in a GCM magazine interview that his game was rusty because a tough winter that year had demanded all

his time on the course and gave very little opportunity to hone his game. He thought a nagging hip injury might keep him from playing his best and he questioned whether he should even make the trip, given the busy time of year in south Florida.

After shooting four-over-par on the first day at the Palmetto Dunes G.C., Pantaleo played solid golf in the final round on Pete Dye’s Harbour Town G.C. The leaders in the final group, perhaps focusing to on each other, began to self-destruct, but Pantaleo buckled down on the back nine and made several par saves from bunkers. A key birdie on the 14th hole put him firmly in command of the tournament.

Buckling down and getting the job done is perhaps a fitting keynote to what Pantaleo hopes to accomplish during his Florida GCSA presidency.

“We have been blessed with some forward-thinking leaders in the recent past, who have set in motion ideas and goals that will strengthen our association’s future,” he said. “Using the input from a recent FGCSA member-needs survey and ideas from a GCSAA chapter-assessment tool, I plan to carry those goals forward and build on them to better serve our members.”

### As It Lies

### Reflections: Objects in the rear view mirror may be closer than they appear

By Jim Walker

The day before yesterday it was 1962 and I was an 18-year-old hotshot golfer and baseball player who, when asked what he planned on doing after college,



responded: “I’ll either play major league baseball or be a professional golfer.” No wonder the phrase “youth is wasted on the young” was coined.

During that summer between graduating from high school and entering college, I was rear-ended by a 1960 Ford station wagon which was larger than some of the ships the Japanese sank in Pearl Harbor.

After fiddling around for some years not wanting to give up the ghost of my dreams, I finally realized you don’t get guys out with 84 mph fastballs and you had to hit it 250 yards off the tee to be a real player.

So, in 1971 at the tender age of 27, I took my first job as a “working superintendent” for Jim Yancy at Ocala Golf Club. Damn, I’ve been getting up early for 33 years growing and mowing grass.

What prompted this rambling preamble is twofold: first, my wife is planning my “Oh NO, the Big 60” birthday party next month, and second, was the August 2004 issue of *Golfdom* magazine. On the cover is a wonderful picture of David Swift, the superintendent at Whistling Straits, which just hosted a very successful and exciting PGA Championship.

Now you may be asking yourself why Mr. Swift would trigger old memories. He’s 27 bloody years old!! Are you kidding me? I’ve got socks and tee shirts older than that.

He was born in 1977. Think about it. Before he was born, we fought wars in Korea and Vietnam, color TV came into existence, and we put men on the moon and brought them back. Eisenhower created the federal Interstate highway system, Tricky Dick at al succumbed to the Watergate scandal, a Peanut farmer with very large teeth was elected President. The Miami Dolphins had won two Super Bowls, the AFL merged with the NFL, the ABA merged with the

# 2004 Photo Contest Results



**First Place -**  
*"Unplayable Lie" by Teri Hoisington, Lansbrook G.C., Palm Harbor*



**Second Place**  
*"Florida Osprey" by Jim Mandeville, Bear's Club, Jupiter*

The submissions for the 2004 contest have been judged and the first- and second-place winners in each category will be presented over the next four issues. This is the first year we accepted high-resolution digital photographs. We begin with the winners of Category 1 – Wildlife.

## 2005 Photo Contest Categories

**Category 1 – Wildlife on the course:** includes any critter on the course that walks, flies, swims, slithers or crawls.

**Category 2 – Formal Landscaping:** includes annuals and ornamental shrubs and trees planted in formal beds on the course or club entrance.

**Category 3 – Native Areas:** includes beds of native plants including trees, shrubs and grasses used in naturalized areas to reduce turf inputs and aquatic vegetation plantings used to create habitat and protect water quality.

**Category 4 – Scenic Hole:** includes any view of a golf hole (panoramic or close up) that demonstrates the scenic beauty of a golf course.

## 2005 Photo Contest Easy Rules

1. Color prints or slides. Prefer prints. Only one entry per category. Digital images: Digital image entries must be taken at a resolution setting of 300 dpi or higher and saved as JPEG (minimum compression) or TIF format images. Images taken, saved or sent at lower resolutions or at high compression will not qualify for the contest. If you're not sure. Send a print instead.

2. Photo must be taken on an FGCSA member's course. Photo must be taken by an FGCSA member or a member of his staff.

3. Attach a label on the back of the print or slide which identifies the category, course and photographer. **DO NOT WRITE DIRECTLY ON THE BACK OF THE PRINT.** Each print shall be attached to an 8.5 x 11-inch sheet of paper using a loop of masking tape on the back of the print. Slides should be in plastic sleeves for easy access for viewing. Digital images must be accompanied by the same information in an email or document, or on a CD.

4. A caption identifying the category, course and photographer should be typed or printed on the sheet of paper below the mounted print.

5. Judging will be done by a panel of FGCSA members not participating in the contest.

6. Mail entries in a bend-proof package marked "PHOTOS DO NOT BEND" to Joel Jackson, 6780 Tamarind Circle, Orlando 32819. Entries postmarked after Aug. 1, 2005 will be automatically entered in the 2006 Photo Contest.

NBA, and Major League Baseball expanded to 112 cities. Palmer was past his prime and Nicklaus, Irwin, Watson, and Johnny Miller were in theirs. The top tennis players were Jimmy Connors, John McEnroe, Bjorn Borg, Chris Everett, and Martina Navratilova. Cassette tapes had replaced eight-tracks and the vinyl LPs were about to be replaced by CD's.

There are a lot of other things I could mention, but I think you get the point, which is: I'm growing older, but not growing up. David Swift has a brilliant career ahead of him. In closing I would like to pro-

vide some hints on how you can tell you are getting longer in the tooth as well. You know you're getting older when:

- You walk into a room and upon arrival can't remember why you went there.
- You meet and introduce yourself to someone on the first tee and when you get to the green you have forgotten their name.
- In the middle of a very intellectual conversation, you completely lose your train of thought.
- You know all the answers to the Jeopardy questions, but you can't think of them at the moment.

- When you turn your arms or legs into certain positions, your skin gets all wrinkled.
- You discover there is only one stronger magnification in reading glasses.
- One of your favorite channels is TV Land where you watch Gunsmoke, Leave it to Beaver, and I Love Lucy among others.
- Lovemaking used to take a minute to get ready and would last an hour, now it takes an hour to get ready and lasts a minute.
- You hate rap, heavy metal, electronica, dance and new wave music, and love the Beatles, Beach Boys and

James Taylor.

- You want a Porsche, Corvette, Viper, or Mustang Cobra.
- You would love to have a cherry 1969 G.T.O "Judge" with a really big block engine.

These are just a few clues to the wonder of the aging process. There are many others everyone discovers in their own sweet way and the own sweet time. At least I still have a full head of hair, most of my teeth and impeccable hearing.

Good luck to David Swift and all the other youngsters in the business. I hope your next 33 years will be as good as mine.

By the time this issue hits the street, only the people who lived and sweated through Hurricane Charley and its aftermath will still remember that Friday the 13th in August that changed some lives forever. After the initial relief of actually surviving the storm and after the shock and awe of surveying and cleaning up the debris is over — the ripple effects will take over.

In some cases it will be post-traumatic stress for those who lost homes or had family members lose homes, or the financial burden of costly repairs, rebuilding or relocating. These folks will not necessarily be the same focused employees they may have been before the

storm. They can definitely be on edge until their lives return to normal.

Golf courses will be shelling out lots of bucks to repair structures and remove debris, and there may be significant lost revenue going on at the same time. I know courses will be racing to reopen as soon as possible to minimize those losses so they can pay the bills and salaries and serve the customers. But it may be months for some courses to reopen.

Massive clean-up efforts will divert staff from normal turf programs designed keep the turf in tip-top shape. Mowing schedules likely got behind and lack of power kept shops in the dark and equipment technicians from servicing equipment as thoroughly as before or lapping and grinding reels on schedule. There may be some ugly mow patterns for a few weeks and scalping the tall turf as crews struggle to catch up and afternoon rains complicate the process keeping the ground too soft to mow.

The look of many courses has been altered dramatically as reports of thousands of downed trees are coming in. Some of the older, stately courses have been torn asunder by the eye wall of the storm as it crossed the state. Hundred-year-old oak trees will not be replaced in some members' lifetimes.

If large specimen trees are affordable by some clubs, the heavy equipment needed to bring them may also cause collateral damage. Meanwhile the replanting and replacing of trees takes time and money away from routine course grooming and the new trees need staking-up and extra watering until they get established.

There may also be a large investment in time and effort to replant key mature trees that fell over. A noble sentiment but one fraught with its own set of pros and cons since the weight of the big tree will be a liability to the damaged root system, and unless the big tree is securely anchored with guy wires and cables, it can fall again in a severe thunderstorm.

And remember hurricane season isn't over yet.

But there are also good ripples from the crisis. Golf course superintendent have been swapping and borrowing chain saws and blowers and helping each other to clean up, and vendors are hauling these loaners to clients with their trucks and trailers. Of course they have made some sales too; as folks have added a blower to the inventory or replaced an old one.

Another positive ripple comes from the folks at Grandezza and Old Cypress golf clubs in the stricken southwest Florida area. They have been cooking and serving more than 6,000 meals for survivors and volunteers in the hardest-hit areas. Reports are also filtering in about members pitching in with the course clean-up and some are grilling burgers and hot dogs in their backyards for crew members working so hard cleaning up the mess on the courses.

A more subtle ripple effect will be that on the local ecosystems. Perhaps no damage was as severe as on the islands of Sanibel, Captiva, North Captiva, Cayo Costa, Boca Grande and Pine Island. The foliage on many — if not most — of the trees was stripped off by the strong winds. Once-shady cool areas will now be exposed to the grueling sun. Temperatures will be hotter and force critters to seek shelter elsewhere. To some extent the same is true for those courses inland losing hundreds of — if not close to a thousand — trees. Lots of creatures will now be fighting for new territories or moving out of the area with the loss of food, cover and habitat. Some courses also will be battling back from salt and sediment contamination of the turfgrass and water sources.

A hurricane makes a big splash when it hits, but the ripple effects linger on long after the storm is gone. These ripples now have turned into shock waves thanks to hurricanes Frances, Ivan and Jeanne.

## Ripple Effects

### GREEN SIDE UP



Joel Jackson, CGCS

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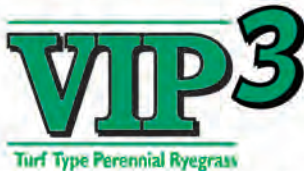
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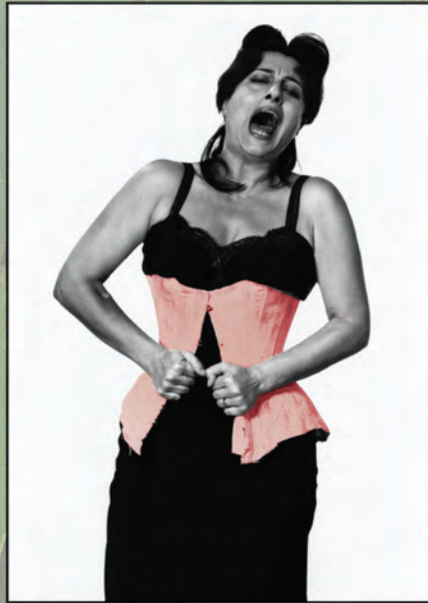
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