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## New Year's Pause

As I began putting together the files and photos that will make up the 2006 Winter Issue, I took a moment to consider where we've been, where we are and where we are going as the magazine enters its 32nd year.

Looking ahead is not all that easy. I'm sure we will be investigating an online version of the magazine before very long, but that is beyond my ken for now. I marvel at where we are with the magazine and how technology has changed how we put it together.

My job is to collect the editorial material and photographs that will appear in each issue. I write, proofread and edit the material initially for readability and accuracy and I format the photos to send to our publication manager. And that is where we begin our acknowledgments.

Larry Kieffer, president of Janlark Communications has been involved with the Florida Green since the Dan Jones era and has been guiding this superintendent turned journalist-writer for lo these 15 years. He takes the raw materials I assemble and turns them into the respectable publication that is the Florida Green. Larry, thank you for your expertise, guidance and friendship over the years.

And a big thanks to Rinaldi Printing in Tampa for working with us so well for over a decade. The conversion to the digital process has been a big time-saver for everyone.

None of the articles, tips or information would see the light of day if our advertisers didn't buy space in the magazine. Some have been with magazine forever, and thankfully new clients come on board every year. Marie Roberts rounds up materials and deals with the ad agencies. At the GCSAA and FTGA shows she visits booths and presents media kits with a low-key sales pitch. Of course Marie is the chief cook and bottle washer of our bimonthly Green Sheet newsletter. I send her some editorial copy and a few photos, but she puts it all together with her buddy over at Peacock Imaging in Stuart.

Our most senior "employee" is photographer Daniel Zelazek, who travels from his home and job in Connecticut to shoot the courses for our cover stories. An

industrial photographer for the Pratt-Whitney Company, Daniel's artistic eye has seen your handiwork through his custom-made camera that looks like a throwback to the civil war era. Thanks "Z" for capturing the beauty, contrast and unique settings of our Florida golf courses.

*Should old acquaintance be forgot and never brought to mind...*

Over the years several dedicated individuals have lent their talents to the magazine. Our venerable editor emeritus Dan Jones and his wife Irene shepherded the magazine for over 13 years back in the days of cut-and-paste layout. And today I send stories and photos with a click of a button; simply amazing.

Others who were instrumental in the growth and development of the content and quality of the magazine were regular writers and photographers like the Bailey brothers, David and Mike. Dean of all columnists is my friend, Mark Jarrell. Mark's soul-searching commentary made us all take a good look at our industry. Long ago in a galaxy far, far away he used to write a column about superintendents for Golfweek. He set the stage for us with his integrity and intensity.

*We'll take a cup of kindness yet...*

And as we start this New Year I salute my cohorts who like their predecessors devote their time and energy to fill our pagesy. Darren Davis with his wonderful Super Tips is the consummate "Hands On" contributor. Our resident curmudgeon, Jim Walker, takes often nostalgic and witty looks at various slices of superintendent life and the human condition. And last but not least, Shelly Foy has been the voice of hope and reason to give us access to success stories on the environmental front. Environmental and natural resources issues remain the most contentious and misunderstood facets of our business. Thanks to Shelly and our friends at Audubon International.

*And days of auld lang syne...*

And to those of you who have written articles and submitted photos, we thank you for your contributions as well. Keep them coming.

Belated Happy New Year everyone and whatever you do in 2006 - Keep the Green Side Up!