

# The Florida Green

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**ON THE COVER:** 16th Hole, The Great Wave, Aberdeen G&CC. Photo courtesy of Premier Aerials International.

## FOREWORDS

### President's Message

After the winter we just had, we probably need to look into renaming the issues of our magazine. By the time this Spring issue reaches you, it may feel a whole lot like summer. Hopefully, everyone will take advantage of the warm weather and have their courses in great shape a little earlier than normal. Those of you in South Florida probably didn't have much of a break down there, so you have been going strong all winter long, I'm sure.

I hope that everyone who made it out to Las Vegas for the GCSAA Conference and Show had a good time and made it back safely and with a little bit of money left over. Congratulations to the Florida GCSA Golf Team of Deron Zandt, Bob Harper, Steve Bernard, and Steve Wright for winning first place in the Team Championship.

Thanks to all who attended the Florida Reception, especially our Industry Partners and Reception Sponsors, for making the event possible. Hopefully, everyone enjoyed the food, drink, and mingling with their colleagues. Thanks to the generosity of our attendees, we were able to raise more than \$1,000 for the Benevolent Fund. Lastly, I would like to congratulate Darren Davis who was appointed to the GCSAA Board of Directors to fill a one-year term as Director.

I heard a story on the radio a few weeks ago on the way home from church. The lesson was a bit off topic, but it got me thinking in a different way. The woman spoke about walking along the beach one morning. As she strolled with her feet just barely in the water, she came upon a small pool of water on the beach. In that pool, a small fish was struggling to get back into deeper waters. The fish was waiting for a big wave to come along and set it free.

Suddenly, a bird swooped down out of the sky and nearly grabbed the fish.

The woman telling the story said that sometimes people hang out in the shallow waters and wait for that big



Mark Kann,  
President

chance to come along. The problem is that as long as you hang out in the shallow water, you are more susceptible to predators.

The woman was talking about people getting involved in different groups. Too often, people just belong and do not participate. When they just belong and don't get involved, other groups can attack.

We have been a proactive association for a long time and we need to continue that attribute. We have been able to keep ahead of most of the attacks from our critics due to staying engaged on the issues. We were one of the first groups to create a Golf BMP Manual and now we are serving as a model for other associations to follow. We are close to moving yet another step ahead with our Golf BMP Certification Program. The program will be voluntary, but in order to stay ahead of the attacks, we need massive participation. We are finalizing details and hope to begin testing soon.

We need everyone to stay abreast of events happening in their local areas. The sooner we know about local issues the sooner we can act as an association. When we send out e-mail alerts and requests to contact your local legislators, we need your help. We need your participation!

In this age of mass communications, we maintain an updated website and have even established a page on Facebook. We have been posting news, links, and photos of various events taking place involving our Association and our membership. Check us out on Facebook!