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From left, FGCSA Voting Delegate Dale Kuehner, CGCS; GCSAA Director Darren Davis and GCSAA Past President Bob Randquist, CGCS at the conclusion of the GCSAA Annual Meeting and Election of Officers in Las Vegas. Photo by Joel Jackson.

The Florida GCSA Scores in Three Big Events

Recent February and March events brought good news and results for all the members of the Florida GCSA. On Feb. 14, a delegation of leaders of the major state and national allied golf associations met in Tallahassee to witness the proclamation of Florida Golf Day.

Besides being a springboard for improved coordinated relations among all golf associations at the state level, the event gave the Florida golf industry a chance to meet en masse with government agency leaders to discuss the huge economic impact and environmental benefits that golf brings to Florida's economy and natural resources.

The ceremonial house and senate resolutions on Florida Golf Day were nice,

and the governor's press conference put an official seal on a day full of meetings and displays at the state capitol. Perhaps the most satisfying was the Business Roundtable meeting in which the allied association and state department heads met and exchanged facts and promises of improved cooperation going forward.

Members of the golf and turf industry attending the event included FGCSA officers Mark Kann, president, Nancy Miller, CGCS, vice president and Executive Director Joel Jackson; GCSAA's Field Representative Ralph Dain; USGA Agronomist Todd Lowe and FTGA Executive Director Pete Snyder. At the national level GCSAA CEO Rhett Evans



Mark Kann, Nancy Miller, CGCS and Joel Jackson (back left) sat in on the Florida Golf Day business roundtable meeting, where Rhett Evans, GCSAA CEO, Steve Mona, World Golf Foundation, and Drew Bartlett, Florida DEP, praised the FGCSA and superintendents for their environmental stewardship efforts. Photo courtesy of Capitol Alliance Group.

and World Golf Foundation head, Steve Mona did an excellent job of highlighting the impact of the contributions that golf course superintendents and their associations make to the success of the golf industry.

On March 2, the GCSAA's Annual Meeting and Election of Officers took place in Las Vegas during the 2012 Golf Industry Show. Everglades GCSA President and Florida GCSA Past President, Darren Davis, was running for a seat on the GCSAA Board of Directors in a field of four candidates, which included two incumbents seeking re-election, for two spots on the board. Darren finished in a strong third place more than 3200 votes ahead of the fourth-place candidate.

Because the newly elected Secretary/Treasurer Keith Ihms, CGCS had one year remaining on his director's term, incoming GCSAA President Sandy Queen, CGCS held a quick caucus of GCSAA board members and he appointed Darren to fill that vacancy. Congratulations to Darren for running a strong race in a tough election cycle, with outstanding incumbents seeking re-election. Congratulations also to now Immediate Past President Bob Randquist, CGCS who has done an excellent job representing the GCSAA and Florida during his service on the GCSAA Board.

The only sad news for the FGCSA coming out of these recent events is that FGCSA Past President and long time GCSAA Voting Delegate for Florida, Dale Kuehner, CGCS has announced that he and his family will be leaving Florida at the end of March to return to Pittsburgh, PA to run the family-owned golf course up there. Dale's service and commitment to the South Florida GCSA in hosting many of the successful annual Missing & Exploited Children Tournament at Colony West and his dedicated service to the Florida GCSA all these years is deeply appreciated and will be missed. Congratulations and good luck Dale.

Before the education and elections rolled out at the GIS, the Florida GCSA golf team of Steve Bernard, Bob Harper, Steve Wright and Deron Zendt won the overall Team Championship in the 2012 GCSAA Golf Championship. We don't have a team photo from the event, but you've seen them all throughout 2011 as they won their individual qualifying events. Congratulations guys! ■

2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**MAY**

- May 2** West Coast GCSA Social Meeting, Courtside Grill near Feather Sound
- May 17-20** Everglades GCSA Poa Annua, Naples Beach Hotel & Club
- May 17** Florida GCSA Board Meeting
- May 18** FGCSA/USGA Poa Seminar, Naples Beach Hotel & Club
- May 22** Treasure Coast GCSA, Blue Pearl Tournament, Quail Valley GC
- May 22** Suncoast GCSA Annual Business Meeting, Sara Bay CC

JUNE

- June 5** FWCGCSA Chapter Championship, Old Memorial G.C.
- June 14** EGCSA Vendor Appreciation Day, Colliers Reserve
- June 21** Seven Rivers Chapter Meeting, Candler Hill G.C.

JULY

- July 1** Florida GCSA Membership Renewal
- July 10** EGCSA Annual Meeting and Golf Outing, Grey Oaks – Pines Course
- July 11** FWCGCSA Annual Roundtable Discussion, Beef O'Brady's, Odessa

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