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UF/IFAS Professor Emeritus Dr. George Snyder (right) received the FTGA Wreath of Grass Award from President Mac Carroway at the FTGA Conference in September. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Association Events and Awards Wrap Up 2011

Traditional fall events began closing out the final quarter of 2011 with the FTGA Conference and Show in Palm Beach Gardens, the Bud Quandt Tournament in St. Petersburg, and the Missing & Exploited Children's Tournament in Sunrise.

At the FTGA Conference at the PGA National Resort, the association's highest honor, the Wreath of Grass Award, featured two winners.

Professor Emeritus Dr. George Snyder was recognized for his decades of research

and teaching efforts at the University of Florida. Snyder's work in fertilizer and pesticide fate in Florida soils has provided key information for developing environmentally friendly management practices.

The second recipient was our own Darren Davis. The current president of the Everglades GCSA, Davis has a two-decade record of local, state and national committee and board service. He is a past president of the FGCSA, the FTGA and is an FGCSA Distinguished



Darren Davis (right), President of the EGCSA and Past President of the FGCSA was the second recipient of a Wreath of Grass Award at the FTGA Conference. Photo by Joel Jackson.

FGCSA Past President Bill Kistler and Association Manager Jennifer Bryan at the FTGA Trade Show with the new Industry Partner brochures and posters. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Service Award winner. Davis is also currently a nominee for the GCSAA Board of Directors. Congratulations to Darren on his Wreath of Grass Award and best wishes for a successful campaign for a seat on the GCSAA Board.

While at the FTGA Conference, FGCSA Association Manager Jennifer Bryan and Executive Director Joel Jackson spent time thanking our current FGCSA Industry Partners for their support and also handing out information to prospective new advertisers and partners. The next big FGCSA event will be the annual FGCSA Reception at the Golf Industry Show March 1 in Las Vegas. The reception will be held at the Jet Lounge at the Mirage Hotel. Keep checking our FGCSA website: www.floridagcsa.com for registration and RSVP details.



The Suncoast GCSA was victorious in the Ryder Cup-style match with their West Coast GCSA hosts at their 2nd annual joint chapter meeting in September. Photo by Joel Jackson.

The West Coast GCSA had back-to-back events in September and October with the joint Suncoast/West Coast meeting at Kevin Sunderman's Isla del Sol GC in St. Petersburg and the 48th Annual Bud Quandt Research and Benefit Tournament at Mike Strube's Feather Sound GC in Clearwater. The West Coast GCSA played host to the Suncoasters by allowing them to win the joint meeting match-play golf event and trophy. Everybody was a winner at the Bud Quandt Tournament in October with food, fellowship and support for turf research and local charities.

2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

- 11 FTGA, Tampa
- 11Suncoast Vendor Appreciation Day, Plantation GC
- 12 FTGA, Ft. Myers
- 17 FTGA, Ocala
- 18SRGCSA Meeting, Continental GC
- 18SFGCSA Meeting, Crandon Park GC
- 25-28PGA Merchandise Show, Orlando
- 28 UF Turf Club Golf Tournament, Gainesville

FEBRUARY

- 7 FTGA, Orlando
- 8 FTGA, Lake Worth
- 8 SRGCSA Meeting, Williston Highlands GC
- 9 FTGA, Plantation
- 14 Florida Golf Day
- 21 FTGA, Milton
- 23 FTGA, Jacksonville
- 24-25 GCSAA Golf, Palm Springs
- 27-Mar 3 GCSAA GIS, Las Vegas

MARCH

- 1FGCSA Reception, Mirage, Las Vegas
- 20 ...EGCSA Education & Dinner Meeting, Pelican Bay
- 22SFGCSA Turf Expo, Ft. Lauderdale IFAS REC
- 22 .. Golf BMP Training & Exam Session, UF/IFAS, Citra
- 29Suncoast Scramble, TBA

APRIL

- 5 EGCSA Spring Symposium, Naples
- 16 SRGCSA Envirotron Classic, World Woods

SPOTLIGHT

Another traditional October event is the SFGCSA's Missing & Exploited Children's Tournament hosted by the South Florida GCSA. This event has raised more than a quarter of a million dollars in its 27-year history and is a shining example of golf being a positive community asset. This year the SFGCSA raised \$25,000 to the M&E Foundation.

In FGCSA news, President Mark Kann, GCSAA Field Representative Ralph Dain and Executive Director Joel



GCSAA Field Representative Ralph Dain, Erin Boyd Wilder of Sod Solutions and FGCSA President Mark Kann and FGCSA Executive Director Joel Jackson (behind the camera) met with U. S. Senator Bill Nelson's Chief of Staff Peter Mitchell in Tallahassee to discuss national golf issues. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Palm Beach GCSA President Larry Balko presented M&E Chairman Joe Pantaleo with a check for \$1,500 at the M&E Foundation fund raiser. Photo courtesy of the SFGCSA.

Jackson were accompanied by Erin Boyd Wilder of Sod Solution in an hour-long meeting with Peter Mitchell, the chief of staff for Florida U.S. Senator Bill Nelson in

Tallahassee in late September. The group discussed EPA's Numeric Nutrient Criteria and NPDES permitting process, the H2-B Worker Visa Program changes by the Department of Labor and the exclusion of the coverage of golf courses in the Federal Disaster Relief legislation. We hope the in-depth discussions will bear fruit in the upcoming senate deliberations.

In October the FGCSA Fall Board Meeting was held at the UF/IFAS Plant Science and Research & Education Unit in Citra, 20 miles south of Gainesville. The board took a quick bus tour of the property to get an appreciation for the full extent of the Agricultural and Green Industry research projects under way at the 1,000-acre facility. The board held a long range planning session to help define future operations and goals of the association.

FGCSA Officers and Directors on their tour of the UF/IFAS Research and Education Unit in Citra. Photo courtesy of UF/IFAS.

