

**BALL MARKS
AND BIRDIES**



**GREEN SIDE UP
By JOEL JACKSON**

Metaphorically speaking, I've made a couple of ball marks recently that I needed to repair before the Green Committee revoked my membership.

In the Spring *Florida Green* I incorrectly identified the name of the club of the GM member of the winning team at the Central Florida FTGA Research Tournament. I

printed a correction in the next issue to make amends. Dedicated writer/editors are pretty fussy about getting it right, not getting it first, which is not a big deal in a quarterly publication anyhow. Thankfully, we're not in a 24-hour news cycle.

In the last issue, in the 40th Anniversary article, I wrote that the *Florida Green* ran the two-page foldout cover format for 15 years from 1983 to 2008. A quick review on the calculator app on your smart phone and it is obvious that I must have had an inter-cranial malfunction, commonly called a brain cramp!

Meanwhile up in Connecticut, Daniel Zelazek, the photographer who shot those foldout covers was not having a brain cramp and his phone call, though mostly congratulatory on the anniversary issue, reminded me that it was 25 years that he took those iconic covers. Do the math!

Forget ball marks, in the Official News section in this issue, I was sad to read that some golf courses were taking divots in the pesticide regulations by using off-labeled MSMA for weed control.

If turf use in Florida is on the label (that would be old stock) you can use it. If folks are trying to skirt the law, FDACS will catch you when they make their visits. The fact that we have had some violators means they will likely focus on your MSMA application records and tour your pesticide storage room.

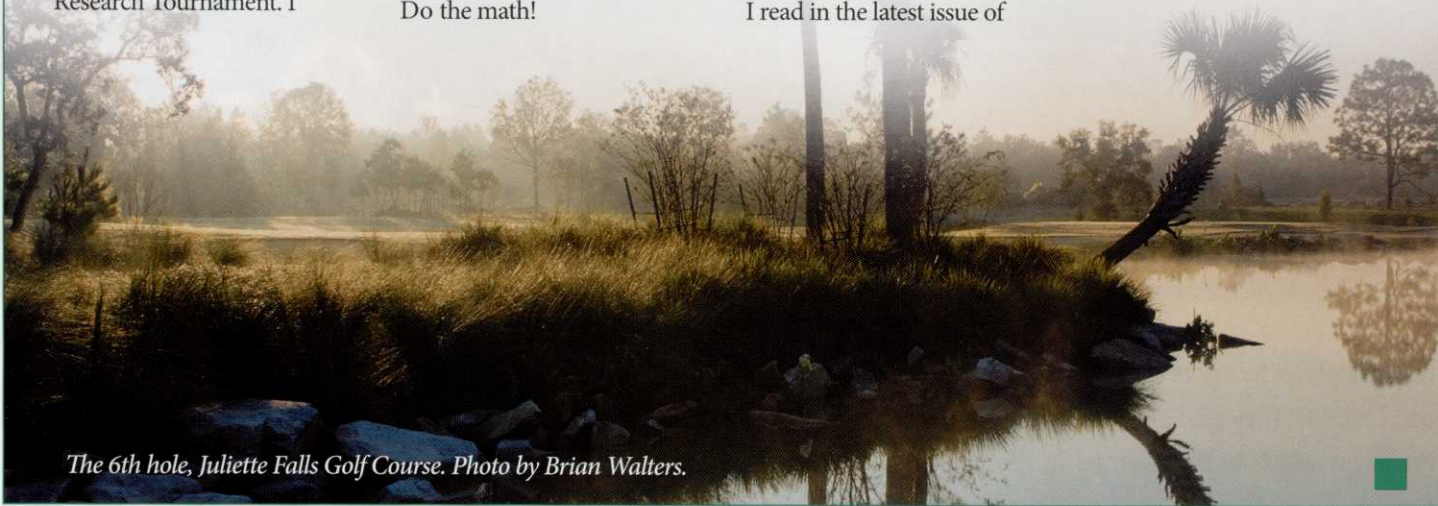
Another head-scratching divot was the low participation rate in the 2013 Rounds-4-Research program. Florida only had 37 courses out of roughly 1,200 total courses participate. We need to fix this divot ASAP, so we can fund turf research that helps the environment and the industry.

I did manage to find a couple of birdies to talk about when I read in the latest issue of

the *Golf Course Architecture* magazine, that several new courses were coming on line in Florida very soon. It doesn't mean that the trend of course closures is over, but every new one that opens is positive news.

Architect Erik Larsen is rebuilding the Selva Marina course in Jacksonville and the new Atlantic Beach course is due to open in 2014. Meanwhile down in Sarasota, architect Carl Wilczynski has 15 holes shaped at Esplanade and expects completion in the next few months.

Have a great golf season everyone and help your club management attract and help new golfers "Get Golf Ready!" Hope to see you at a chapter meeting when I make my rounds of events. And tournament chairmen, it's OK to have a "Tee It Forward" division so everyone can have fun playing golf!



The 6th hole, Juliette Falls Golf Course. Photo by Brian Walters.

ADVERTISER INDEX

Aerification Plus	29	Golf Agronomics Supply.....	23	ShowTurf.....	Inside Back Cover
Agrium Advanced Technologies.....	11	Golf Ventures	Back Cover	SMR Farms.....	25
Ameriturf	14	Harrell's Fertilizer.....	Inside Front Cover	Sod Solutions	8
Bayer	15	Howard Fertilizer	27	South Florida Grassing.....	29
Beard Equipment.....	Inside Back Cover	Independent Turf Partners	14	Southeast Partners	10
Briggs Golf Construction.....	17	Kelly Tractor Company	25	Southern Aerification	25
Civitas.....	31	Palm Beach GCSA	5	The Andersons.....	35
Country Club Services.....	29	Pike Creek Turf Farms	14	TifEagle/TifSport	Insert
Dryject	9	Ridge GCSA	7	Tifton Physical Lab.....	18
		Sealsle 1 Growers Association	23	Tom Burrows Turfgrass	19
		Sealsle Supreme	Insert	Toro Distributors of Florida	20