



FGCSA Members and Chapters in the Spotlight

Central Florida

On Jan. 7 the Interlachen CC in Winter Park hosted its 25th annual Turfgrass Research Tournament sponsored by the CFGCSA. On the program for the day, CFGCSA President Mike Gay talked about the reorganization plans for the chapter to reach out to the courses in the eastern region of central Florida. FGCSA Director of Communications Joel Jackson talked about the local ordinances and the FGCSA Golf BMP program; GCSAA Regional Representative Ralph Dain discussed the Rounds4Research campaign being conducted by the Environmental Institute for Golf division of GCSAA.

Then Pete Snyder, executive director of the FTGA, gave a presentation dealing with the



Arlington Ridge GC Superintendent Ron Hibbard and Big Cypress GC Superintendent Gary Newcomb teamed up for a 63 to win the Turf Research Tournament at Interlachen CC in Winter Park. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Central Florida chapter and Florida's golf and turfgrass industries.

Following lunch, the attendees participated in a two-man scramble on the always-lightning-fast Interlachen greens. Arlington Ridge GC Superintendent Ron Hibbard and Big Cypress GC Superintendent Gary Newcomb teamed up for a 63 and won in a match of cards over Jim Ellison and Bill Sellers who also fired a superhuman 63.

On March 4 the CFGCSA held its Vendor Day at the Reunion Resort. Vendors set up booths in the conference center ballroom and superintendents, suppliers and guests were able to visit and network during two tradeshow-like sessions. Dr. Bryan Unruh, UF/IFAS, Ralph Dain, GCSAA, Kevin Sunderman, Florida GCSA, and Mike Gay, CFGCSA president and Rickey Craig, CFGCSA vice president gave presentations during the educational session. Following the education, the group reconvened to the trade show for more networking to wrap up the day.

GCSAA

At the GCSAA Annual Meeting during the February Golf Industry Show in San Diego, two Florida superintendents were recognized. Bob Randquist, CGCS, Boca Rio CC officially stepped down from the GCSAA Board of Directors and received his Past President's White Blazer. Meanwhile Darren Davis, Olde Florida GC was elected to a

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Roz and Stuart Leventhal, CGCS at the 25th Annual Central Florida Turf Research Tournament at Interlachen CC. Leventhal has hosted this event since its inception and was presented the FTGA's Wreath of Grass Award for his lifetime service to the turfgrass industry. Photo by Joel Jackson.

challenges facing Florida's golf industry and the need for funding research, education and advocacy to counter the emotionalism surrounding much of the local ordinances and battles against turfgrass in general. Snyder unveiled the new voluntary opt-out program of a .06 percent check-off donation to the new EREF (Environmental Research and Education Fund) program.

Next, Todd Himmelberger from the Syn-genta Company recognized host superintendent Stuart Leventhal, CGCS by presenting him with the 2012 FTGA Wreath of Grass Award for his lifetime service to the



From left: FGCSA Vice President Kevin Sunderman congratulates Darren Davis on his election to a two-year term on the GCSAA Board of Directors at the GIS in San Diego. Coming off the board is Bob Randquist, CGCS who received his GCSAA Past President's white blazer during the Annual Meeting. Photo by Joel Jackson.

full two-year term as a director on the board. Darren had served a one-year appointed term in 2012.

Steven H. Huffstutler, GCSAA certified golf course superintendent at Glen Eagle Golf & Country Club in Naples, has completed the renewal process for maintaining his status as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent with the GCSAA.

Huffstutler has been at Glen Eagle Golf & Country Club since 2003. A 16-year GCSAA member, he initially achieved his certification in 2009. Approximately 1,600 golf course superintendents worldwide currently hold CGCS status.



FGCSA President Nancy Miller, CGCS with Jeff Wright of Statewide Turf Equipment who donated back \$420 of his 50-50 FGCSA Benevolent Fund Raffle winnings at the FGCSA reception in San Diego. Photo by Joel Jackson.

FGCSA

FGCSA President Nancy Miller, CGCS covered the 2013 Florida Golf Day event in Tallahassee in her President's Message of this issue. Mark Kann also had scheduled individual meetings with select legislators or their aides. Meanwhile at our display booth in the rotunda, we met a few legislators who were passing by enroute to committee meetings, and we had a chance to give them a look at our BMP manual and a two-page list of economic and environmental bullet points. Many thanks to Erin Wilder and her Sod Solutions folks

for setting up a display of golf turf sod samples to give folks an up close look at "golf grasses."

Thanks to the support of our Industry Partners and Reception Sponsors we were able to host around 200 people at the FGCSA Reception during the Golf Industry Show in San Diego. Once again Jennifer found a great venue at the Palomar Hotel rooftop lounge. Jeff Wright with Statewide Turf

FGCSA President Nancy Miller, CGCS representing the FGCSA at the Golf Industry Roundtable Meeting in Tallahassee. Photo by Joel Jackson.



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SPOTLIGHT

Left: Allison Barrick thanked Suncoast VP Nick Kearns for the Suncoast Chapter's \$2,500 donation to the Ronald McDonald House Charities. Right: Nicole Double of the All Faiths Food Bank told the audience at the Suncoast Scramble that the food and money they raised at the Suncoast Vendor Day in January provided 5,300 meals for people in need. Photos by Lee Crosby.



From left: A golf industry panel composed of Todd Lowe, USGA, Jim Demick, FSGA, Ralph Dain, GCSAA, Kevin Sunderman, FGCSA and Rich Smith, North Florida PGA Section held a Q&A session after their industry update presentations at the Suncoast Scramble in Sarasota. Photo by Joel Jackson.

In the next issue we'll report on the USGA Green Committee University series that began in mid March, but it and other March events are too late for this issue's deadline. We'll be highlighting other chapter events and news, as this is the beginning of a busy season for many traditional chapter events.

Help us put your chapter in the spotlight by sending a brief report and photos from your event. Please make sure those photos are at a high resolution so we can enlarge them to use in the magazine. So set those cameras and phones on the "High" setting when you take send them along to us. Thanks! ■

Be Part of the Future Donate a Round Today

Through online auctions of golf rounds, the Rounds 4 Research program raises funds to help address the critical shortage of resources for turfgrass research. To learn more, visit rounds4research.com.

Auction dates:
June 6-16, 2013
August 1-11, 2013



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