CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF

The Florida Green



The first Florida Green, Summer 1980. Great White Egret, Key Biscayne GC. Photo by Harry McCartha. Cover photos in the late 1980's and early 1990's also included people and places like GIS host cities. After that, the covers focused solely on golf course landscapes.

The first South Florida Green, October 1973. 5th hole, Lost Tree Village. No photo credit.

With this issue we mark the 40th anniversary of our Florida golf course superintendent magazine; a classy, quarterly, glossy, four-color publication representing the news and views of our profession.

To help put the history of the magazine and FGCSA in perspective, here is a timeline of the founding and evolution of all the chapters: 1939 South Florida, 1949 West Coast, 1968 Everglades, 1974 North Florida* (Originally began in the 1960's as several groups (under various Georgia/Florida combo-named associations), 1974 Central Florida, 1976 Suncoast, 1978 Palm Beach, 1980 Treasure Coast, 1990 Ridge, 1991 Seven Rivers and 1999 Calusa.

Originally called *The South Florida Green Bulletin*, the magazine was published by the South Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association beginning in 1973. As noted above, the South Florida GCSA was organized in 1939 and is the granddaddy of all of our Florida chapters. Mike Barger was the first editor and was assisted by Tom Mascaro as the associate editor. Lou Oxnevad was the chapter president at the time.

Barger and Mascaro managed the publication until 1976 when Dan Jones was appointed editor. Mascaro continued as the associate editor until Dr. Max Brown took over that role.

And somewhere along the way Dan's wife, Irene Jones, began helping out when it came to gathering and writing stories and helping assemble the magazine.

These were the days of cut-and-paste layout pages to be photographed and transferred to metal plates so the rolling presses could print the pages. Virtually every flat surface in the Jones home became a workspace during deadline time. The April 1980 issue was the last issue of the South Florida Green. During these late 1970s, photographers Harry McCartha, writer/photographer/superintendent David Bailey and his brother Mike Bailey became regular contributors to the magazine helping Dan and Irene fill the pages of the Florida Green.

Around this time after several years of discussion and planning the statewide Florida GCSA was formed and officially founded in 1980. The South Florida GCSA decided to donate its publication to the state to become the official voice of the united associations. The 1980 Summer Issue was the first official *Florida Green Magazine* with the same people on board still producing the publication.

In 1981 Daniel Zelazek, a good friend of the Bailey brothers, joined the staff as the magazine's cover photographer. Zelazek was an industrial photographer with the Pratt & Whitney Company down in West Palm Beach. We enjoyed his impressive cover story photos until his retirement at the end of 2010. With the 10th Anniversary issue in the spring of 1983, the magazine began a two-page foldout cover format, which lasted 15 years until the Fall Issue in 2008.

Zelazek was a master of his craft and he used a custom-made camera that used film sheets instead of film rolls or memory cards. No digital for Daniel. He toted his tripod-mounted camera around the state and took many a cover shot from the bucket of a front-end loader or standing on a pallet raised by a forklift.



First Foldout Cover 1983. 16th Hole, Banyan CC. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

About this time, Jones introduced the concept of chapter reporters and in 1985 I became the reporter for the Central Florida Chapter. Four years later Dan and Irene Jones were ready to retire from the magazine after thirteen years of story gathering, editing and cutting and pasting each issue's layout. It was time to pass the baton.

In late 1989, Dan hired Larry Kieffer as the Publication Manager and Executive Editor, a post he manned until his recent retirement. I still forward my editorial copy to him for his watchful eye to keep the publication in top professional form. In 1991, the magazine became a bi-monthly publication instead of a quarterly magazine. That format lasted two years and we returned to publishing four times per year for budget purposes. During that period, Brian Everhart and Phillip Petus joined Kiefffer's publication team as staff photographer and writer for those two years, while Daniel was on hiatus and I was in the midst of my job change.

Along the way, when I returned to Disney to help grow-in the Osprey Ridge Course, Tom Benefield stepped in as editor for a year or two and I remained on board as the assistant editor, still doing most of the article writing. Paul Crawford also joined the team as the advertising manager and played a big role in getting sponsors and advertisers for the magazine.

There were two other regular contributors to the magazine Mark Jarrell, CGCS, Palm Beach National GC (1994-2004) He also began writing a regular column for *Golfweek Magazine*, which highlighted the superintendent's role in course conditioning and attempted to educate golfers and club members about our side of the business.

Another regular columnist from 2001 to 2008 was superintendent Jim Walker with the Miami Dade Parks and Recreation Dept. Jim wrote his "As It Lies" column with a wry humor toward our daily routines and challenges.

In the background, keeping the business side of the magazine running, was Marie Roberts, the association manager for over 20 years until her retirement in 2007. Since then, Jennifer Bryan became our go-to person and as been acting as Advertising Manager along with all her other duties as the current association manager.

Over the years the magazine won a slew of awards from the annual GCSAA Publications Contest and the Florida Green remains among the top superintendent publications in the country.

To those pioneers who began the magazine, to all those who wrote articles, columns, president's messages, took pictures, sponsored, advertised, edited and produced 40 years worth of issues we sincerely thank you for beginning a lasting legacy which is the Florida Green.



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Thank you very much for your Support!

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SUMMER 2013

In the Spring Spotlight

It's been a wet and wild spring season, and now that the busy golf season is over, FGCSA chapters began holding their traditional fund-raising events in our own version of March Madness. Congratulations to winners of the various tournaments, service awards and donors who contribute to our turf research and advocacy efforts.

This season also begins year two of the Rounds4Research project. Please get involved and donate a round of golf for the good of our industry. Special thanks to our sponsors who make it all possible and to the hard-working volunteers who organize these events. Roughly in chronological order, relive our spring events in the following photos.



Another new venture by the Central Florida Chapter is the Assistant Superintendent Academy, an assistant-only education seminar in April. Here GCSAA Director Darren Davis (right) and GCSAA Regional Representative Ralph Dain give a presentation on GCSAA Resources to help assistants in their careers. Photo by Joel Jackson.



The Central Florida GCSA premiered its new Vendor Expo in March at the Reunion Resort. During the education session, Dr. Brian Unruh discussed the fertilizer BMP research and possible changes to state fertilizer guidelines and interesting results from low-light-level implications to turf management. Photo by Joel Jackson.



At the NFGCSA Memorial Tournament, the annual Keeper of the Green Award recognizing the service of an individual to the golf and turf industries in North Florida was presented to Buddy Tresca, longtime owner and operator of Jacobsen Turf Equipment franchises in Florida. Pictured here with the award are Tresca (left) and Tom Brennan, owner of Brennan Golf Sales and former Tresca employee.. Photo by Joel Jackson.



The Annual South Florida Turf Expo at the UF/IFAS station in Ft, Lauderdale drew a near-record crowd of over 400 people from all aspects of the turf industry. Featured sessions included research plot tours and updates, supplier products expo and demos, technician training sessions and classroom seminars. Photo by Joel Jackson.



During the North Florida Memorial celebration, Chapter President Mike Stevens (right), presented a \$5,000 check for the FGCSA Turf Research Fund to FGCSA Communications Director Joel Jackson. Photo by Ralph Dain.



From left: Tournament Chairman Glen Oberlander receives the Golf Ventures Champion Sponsorship check from Walt McMahon, Debbie Nipper and Cary Lewis at the 2013 Jeff Hayden Memorial Envirotron Classic hosted by the Seven Rivers GCSA at the World Woods Golf Course in April.



The Calusa GCSA team was victorious in the 2013 edition of the Calusa-Suncoast joint meeting golf match. Joint chapter meetings are one way for chapters to enhance superintendent participation. Photo by Seth Jones.



During the 2013 Blue Pearl Event at the Red Stick GC this past May, the Treasure Coast GCSA once again stepped up to demonstrate its local proactive environmental stewardship efforts by donating \$10,500 to the Environmental Learning Center in Vero Beach. Photo by Joel Jackson.

2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST	X
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August 5 Golf BMP Certification Session, St. Augustine
August 14 Everglades and Calusa Joint Meeting,

Wildcat Run GC

August 23 FGCSA Annual Board Meeting, Southern

Dunes GC

August 23 FGCSA Golf Championship Southern Dunes, GC

SEPTEMBER

September 9-12 FTGA Conference & Show, Caribe Royale

Hotel, Orlando

September 10 Golf BMP Certification Session, Orlando

OCTOBER

October 9 UF/IFAS Field Day, Citra,

October 18-19 North Florida GCSA FALL CLASSIC,

Amelia Island Plantation

October 25 South Florida GCSA Missing & Exploited

Children's Tournament, Ft. Lauderdale CC

SAVE THE DATE: February 6, 2014 - FGCSA Annual GCSAA GIS Reception at the B.B. King's House of Blues at Pointe Orlando across the street from the Orange County Convention Center.

SPOTLIGHT

From left: Shannon Wheeler, superintendent of the Fountains CC in Lake Worth, made the winning bid of \$6,500 to acquire the Bayer Power Pak of turf care products. Also pictured are Matthew Boyd from the Treasure Coast Chapter and auctioneer Brian MacCurrach from Bayer Environmental Sciences. The proceeds go to the Treasure Coast GCSA.

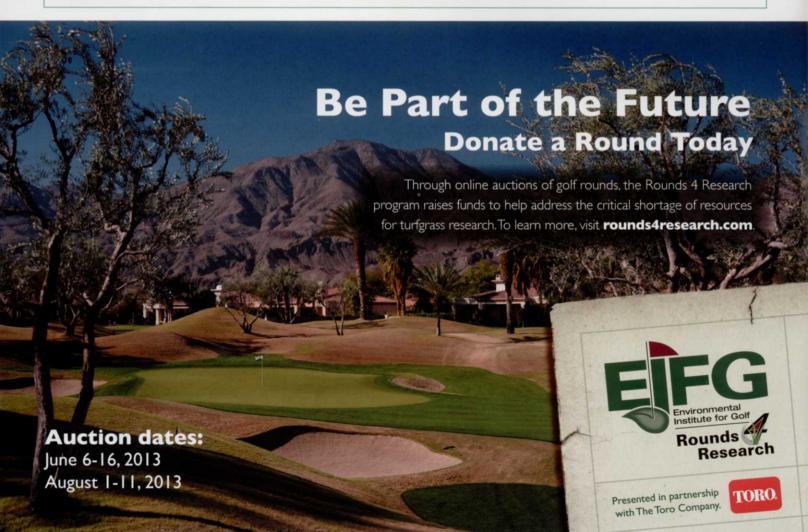




Mark Black, CGCS, right, received the 2013 USGA Ike Grainger Award from Todd Lowe of the Florida Section USGA in recognition of 25 years of service on the Green Section Committee. The award was presented in April at the 2013 USGA Green Committee University at the Audubon CC in Bonita Springs. Photo by Bob Toski



From left: In May at the Annual FGCSA Past Presidents
Reception held at the Naples Country Club, Past President
Mark Kann was presented with the 2013 Distinguished Service
Award for his past volunteer board service and his leadership of
the Golf Course BMP Certification Program. The 2013 Marie
Roberts Award for golf industry service by a non-superintendent
was presented to Dale Mitchell and Richard Colyer of the Golf
Agronomics Supply and Handling Company for their continuous
support of the FGCSA's Turf Research Programs for over twenty
years. Photo by Joel Jackson





The traditional Poa Luau on the Lawn concludes the 2013 Everglades Poa Annua Classic. At the Luau it was announced that Seth Strickland from the Miami Shores GC shot a 69 to capture the Poa Annua Trophy and win a spot on the FGCSA Golf Team competing in the GCSAA Championship in Orlando in February 2014. For many more photos of the Poa Weekend see the Everglades chapter link on www.floridagcsa. com. Photo by Joel Jackson.



From left: The team of Matt Tacilauscus, Mark Reid, Ashley Byham and Blair Kirby won the 33rd Annual Palm Beach Future of Golf Tournament at the Falls CC in Lake Worth on June 1. Perennial host, superintendent Steve Pearson, CGCS says that the total monies raised for junior golf, local charities and turf research comes to approximately \$825,000. Photo by Joel Jackson





Meanwhile, Brian MacCurrach, right, with Bayer Environmental conducted his second 2013 Bayer Power Pak Auction of the year at the Future of Golf event, and Randy Gaudet from the Polo Club of Boca Raton won the bidding at \$6,100 which goes back to the PBGCSA and adds to the funds raised by the event. Photo by Joel Jackson

From left: Three of the four finalists at the 2013 Jack Harrell, Sr. Memorial – Ridge Invitational Tournament.: Adam Ellison, Gary Newcomb and Mike Giddens had a shot at a \$50,000 hole-in-one shot. The fourth, Tim Keany, left right after he took his shot and missed. The Grasslands CC in Lakeland hosted the event this year. Photo by Joel Jackson.