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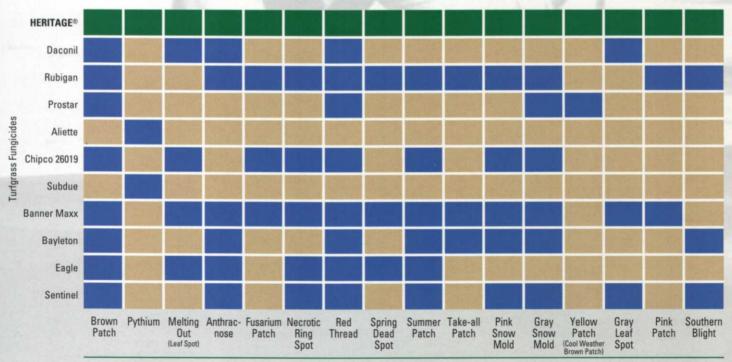


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Turfgrass Diseases



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Back row from left: Bob Klitz, Bill McKee, David Lottes and Bryan Singleton look on as SFGCSA President Bill Entwistle (right) presents Nancy McBride, Executive Director of the Center for Missing and Exploited Children a check for \$12,000 raised at this year's event.

SFGCSA raises \$12,000 for missing kids

The South Florida GCSA held its 13th Annual Benefit Tournament for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at the Colony West CC in November.

Dale Kuehner, CGCS and the staff at Colony West went above and beyond the call of duty to assure the success of the event. The course conditions were excellent for the players and they responded as \$12,000 was raised for this worthy cause.

Thanks to the following six individuals for volunteering their days off to assist in coordinating the tournament: Lisa Miller, Richard Levy, Angela McCommon, Bob Wilcox, Susan Denny and Tom McCulley.

We would also like to thank Rayside Truck & Trailer for providing 400 hot dogs for the tournament.

The committee would

like to thank all our volunteers, participants, Birdie and Eagle Sponsors for their continuing support.

Special recognition goes to Bill Entwistle, Jr., who will not let this event die. Year after year, Bill pushes the other committee members to volunteer, organize and dedicate their time.

Without Bill, there would be no annual event. Bob Klitz, CGCS Orangebrook GC

Noted labor consultant Collins dies

1997 has turned out to be a year of infamy as we lost of another key member of our turf management fraternity this past fall. Although he wasn't a superintendent, inventor or a turf researcher, Whit Collins was a familiar figure at many of our local and regional seminars.

He taught us the do's and don'ts of the of being a legally compliant employer with his trademark, dead pan, dry sense



Whit Collins

of humor that had the audiences laughing and learning the convoluted world of OSHA, ERA, and ADA. We have lost a good friend to our business.

Superintendent Ron Andrews of Grand Harbour G.C. writes, "From a personal point of view, I have always been able to get Whit on the phone in a very timely manner. He spoke often, not only to superintendent groups but also to other employers. The West Coast Employers Association has been very helpful to my clubs over the years and offers a newsletter and personal phone consulta-

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National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

Colony West CC – October 1997

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tions as part of their basic membership package, but they also are known for their supervisor training sessions and seminars. All in all, I have found them to be a very worthwhile service."

Andrews continues, "I will miss talking to and listening to Whit but it is nice to know that the work he helped to start will continue.

"I think we would be providing a service to Florida superintendents to acknowledge Whit's contributions to our education and our clubs, and to let them know that the WCEA will continue."

Whit was the president and founder of the WCEA, which serves over 600 member companies in employer and labor relations.

He moved to Florida with 15 years of experience as director of employee relations with the Purolator Corporation and six years as human resource manager with Black and Decker Corporation.

He also taught high school for two years in North Carolina as well as serving as guidance counselor.

Whit received his B.A. degrees in economics and business administration from Methodist College in Fayetteville, N.C. and his graduate degree in counseling from North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

Whit is survived by his wife, Jerri and daughters, Candice and Whitney.

Alan Weitzel: South Florida's Mister Golf!

BY JIM WALKER

Manager, Superintendent Palmetto Golf Course

There are some people I have met who were born with silver spoons in their mouths. However, Alan Weitzel, who is this year's recipient of the Presidents Award, was born with a cup cutter in one hand and a trap rake in the other.

The eldest of five children, he was born in Caledonia, N.Y. to Robert and Josephine Weitzel, who still own and operate Caledonia Country Club just outside Rochester. Growing up as part of the maintenance crew and having started playing golf at eight years of age, Alan has had a life-long love affair with the game.

During high school at Caledonia Mumford Central, Alan played football, basketball and golf. He attended Cornell University and graduated with a B.S. in business administration and a minor in turfgrass science.

While at Cornell, he met Jacquie, his wife of 24 years, who was attending Ithaca College. Alan and Jacquie have two sons. Matthew (20) who is a junior at Miami of Ohio, majoring in biochemistry and preparing for medical school, and Todd (16), who is a junior at Miami Palmetto Senior High School. Matthew has the distinction of being the first



Alan Weitzel, tournament director of the Palmetto Jr. Open he founded 20 years ago, presents young Victor Billskoog with a trophy at this year's event.

person from South Florida to receive a Legacy Scholarship from the GCSAA. Like Alan, Matthew and Todd are avid golfers who grew up in junior golf programs, most of which Alan founded and ran.

Alan moved to Miami in 1972. His first job was as a front desk clerk at the Doral Hotel. About a year later, he became the assistant personal director.

In February 1974, Alan began his career with Dade County, when he was hired as the general manager of Crooked Creek Golf Course, In 1977, Alan was appointed the division head of all five county courses. They include Key Biscayne, site of the Royal Caribbean Classic Senior Tour event and Palmetto Golf Course, an 18-hole Dick Wilsondesigned championship facility.

Departmental reorganization in 1982 left Alan with two courses to run, Palmetto and Briar Bay, a nine-hole precision layout designed by Bruce Devlin and Robert Von Hagge. Additionally, Alan assumed responsibility for an entire district of parks covering 36 square miles in South Dade County.

In 1983, Alan formed Southern Golf Appraisals, a company with an eye on the quickly growing consulting market. With partner Dave Lottes, their first client was former Miami Dolphin quarterback Earl Morral, who owned Arrowhead Country Club. They are currently the management team for Eco Golf Course, Holly-



Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Jack Nicklaus.

They put their names on trophies.

They put their names on the courses they design.

They put our name on the specs.





wood Beach Golf Course, and Orange Brook Golf Course.

Alan began his involvement with the South Florida Superintendents Association in 1975. During his 10 years on the South Florida board of directors, Alan served in every capacity. During his presidency, the Palm Beach Chapter was formed, as was the state association. He sat on the first state board and was involved with the formation of the Otto Schmeisser Research Green at the IFAS Station in Ft. Lauderdale. He was also involved with the South Florida Green Magazine, started by Mike Barger and later edited by Dan Jones, becoming the statewide Florida Green magazine we know today.

During Alan's involve-

ment with the South Florida Chapter, his path crossed many other superintendents. Among them are Paul Turcotte, Dick Blake, Fred Klauk, Dick Lemmel, Dan Jones, Brad Kocher, Neil Kalin, Dave Lottes, and Bill McKee.

When asked about his time with Alan on the South Florida board, Bill McKee said, "Alan has been a key figure in the success of the South Florida Chapter. No one has given as much time and effort. Besides his hard work, Alan always had a good sense of humor and made being on the board with him a lot of fun. One of the things I remember most is how he could speak endlessly on state and national news and issues. No one has ever done more to make the South Florida

Chapter the successful association it is today."

Alan's long and dedicated involvement with the South Florida and State Associations was obviously more than enough to have him receive the Presidents Award this year, but his participation and promotion of junior golf is just as impressive.

He founded the Palmetto Jr. Golf Association in 1977, which is one of the largest, most successful and longestrunning groups in South Florida. Still going strong 20 years later, this group is still touched by Alan's hand, providing camps, clinics, and tournaments to South Florida children. In 1979, the inaugural Palmetto Junior Open was held at Palmetto and Briar Bay for children 3-and-under to 17 years of age. This annual event is still continuing with Alan as Tournament Director.

In 1981 he helped form the Doral Ryder Pitch, Putt and Drive competition. In 1997 when the Ryder Corporation withdrew its sponsorship of the program and it looked as if the event's 16th year would be its last, Alan, with the help of John Kiskinis, recruited Supreme International, parent company of Munsingwear, to put up the \$50,000.00 required to keep the tournament alive.

Alan created the Dade County Youth Fair Tournaments in 1992, which also continue today. Also in 1992, Alan breathed life into yet another junior program. Seeing a need for underprivileged, inner-city

George Elliott of Addison Reserve Uses Georgia Grass on His Greens

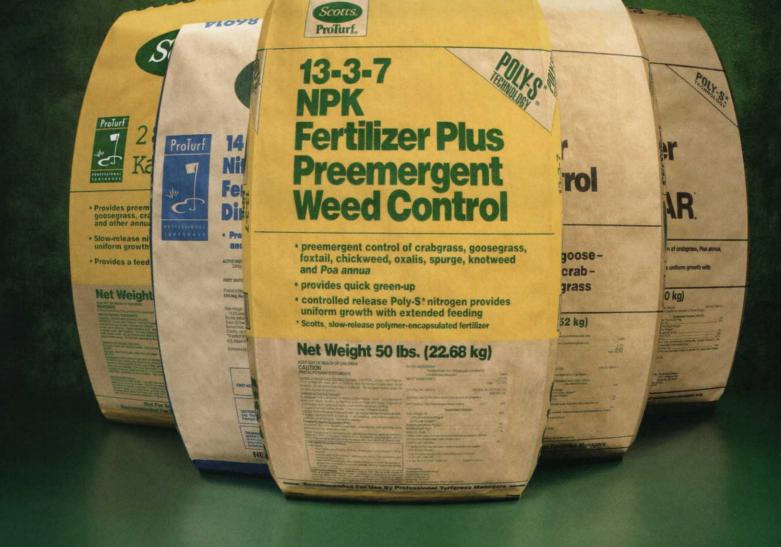
Here's Why!

"I first visited Millhaven Plantation when I had to renovate the greens at Mayacoo Lakes Country Club back in 1993. I was very impressed with the quality of their Tifdwarf and had them send me down a batch of sample sprigs. The samples looked good, so I ordered 3,000 bushels of sprigs to renovate 18 greens. We hydro-sprigged those greens and were playing on them in less than 7 weeks. Here at Addison Reserve we already have 18 greens in place, and we're putting in another 9 – all certified Tifdwarf from Millhaven. We also used Millhaven's Tifway on most of our fairways. I think the entire course looks and plays great."



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