

## 5th Annual Florida Green Photo Contest

A record 22 photos were submitted for this year's competition with at least five in each category. Wildlife drew the most with seven entries. A panel of three Central Florida superintendents helped judge and select the following winners for 1999. Enjoy the artistry and imagination of some of your peers.

**Wildlife**  
Includes mammals, birds, reptals, amphibians



**First Place**, left. A rarely seen limpkin by Gary Grigg, CGCS, MG, Royal Poinciana Golf Club.



**Second Place**, above. Osprey by Tina Presenti, Imperial Golf Club





First Place,  
above. Imperial  
Golf Club by  
Tina Presenti.

### Formal Landscape

Formal planting including annuals, shrubs, trees, entrance and tee signs



Second Place,  
above.  
Bougainvillea on  
No. 7 by Rick  
Cernesa, Links at  
Fisher Island.





First Place  
left  
Olde Florida Golf Club  
by Jim Whalen.

First Place, left.  
Olde Florida Golf Club by Jim Whalen.

### Native Landscape

Native plantings, including aquatic vegetation, grasses, shrubs, trees and wildflowers



Second Place,  
above. Tough Tree by Gary Grigg, CGCS, MG, Royal Poinciana Golf Club.

**First Place, left.**  
Winter Sunrise by  
Darren Davis, Olde  
Florida Golf Club.



### Scenic Hole Layout

Sunrises, sunsets, frosts, storms and any other golf-hole view

**Second Place,**  
above. Storm  
Warning by  
Trevor  
Brinkmeyer, Olde  
Florida Golf Club







**Editor's  
Choice**

Best overall  
photograph

The Frog and The Snake by Mike Hamilton, Foxfire Country Club.

## Call for Articles

This is a call for articles for the 2000 issues of the Florida Green.

Contact Joel D. Jackson, Editor for more information. Phone: 407-248-1971. Fax: 407-248-1971. E-mail; FLGrn@aol.com. All slides and photographs should include identification of persons in the picture and the name of the photographer.

**HANDS ON TOPICS** for 2000: Share your best practices and tips for these upcoming topics. Slides or photographs are encouraged.

- Winter 2000 Issue - Microbes: The Millennium Bugs?
- Spring 2000 Issue - Pre- and Post-emergence Weed Control Programs
- Summer 2000 Issue - Insect Control Since FQPA

- Fall 2000 Issue - Maintenance of Native Areas

**SPOTLIGHT:** People and events making news in Florida. From award winners to chapter tournaments and other accomplishments. Send in your story.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S JOURNAL:** Personal observations or experiences related to any phase of the turf management profession.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** General management topics beyond turf. Examples: Education, facilities, personnel, computers, training, etc.

**INDUSTRY NEWS:** News items of interest to Florida superintendents from allied associations in the turf/ horticulture industry.

**OPINION:** Exactly what it means! Articles voicing a personal point of view on any topic concerning Florida superintendents.

**RESEARCH:** A section reserved primarily for university and technical authors to report on research results within the turf industry. Also reports of practical on-course testing.

**RUB OF THE GREEN:** Articles and anecdotes with a humorous twist.

**STEWARDSHIP:** Superintendents are invited to submit ideas and articles about environmental issues and initiatives at their courses.

**Wanted:** Slides and photographs to help tell the stories!

**W**here were you? Where are you? Appropriate questions to ask, having just returned from another lightly attended FTGA Conference and Show. We had a great event in Gainesville, with the only negatives being the poor attendance and the hot weather.

The first question is for every superintendent and turfgrass professional in the state. You should have been there, but I recognize that there are legitimate reasons for non-attendance. First and foremost, I think there are too many opportunities available in this state for

continuing your professional education and sharing fellowship with your peers, and you must make hard choices regarding the numbers and types of events you attend. I refuse to believe that apathy is a serious factor among the dedicated professionals I've come to know in the golf industry, but

I do believe that job, family, and societal stress combine to create a reaction that is often interpreted as apathy.

The second question is for those who never seem to find time to attend anything. Some join the various associations (we call them checkbook members) and are rarely seen at meetings, while others have never joined anything. Only about half the superintendents in the state belong to one of the Florida GCSA's chapters. Apathy may be a factor among this group, but I truly believe other financial and psychological factors play a bigger role. Clearly, I am not qualified to comment or analyze further, but somehow we've got to reach out to this large group and gain their participation, as they are the ones needing education the most and most likely to cause regulatory problems for our industry.

Though much deep thinking and gnashing of teeth has gone into the problem of what seems to be endemic poor attendance at local, regional, state, and national meetings and events, those of us in leadership roles cannot draw definitive conclusions. We do our best to

create a schedule and venue that appeals to us as professionals, and assume that it will also appeal to other golf and turf professionals. We try to meet the needs of our exhibitors — those who are actually financing the association's activities — though their number-one priority has always been seeing potential customers. We listen to suggestions and criticisms, making appropriate adjustments that make sense.

As the president of the Florida Turfgrass Association, and a past president of the Florida GCSA, I'd like to give you the main reasons why I think the FTGA's annual conference and show is the one event you shouldn't miss.

**1) The solvency of the FTGA depends upon the success of the annual Conference and Show.** As a superintendent, you might not really care, as we have a strong state association and solid local chapters. This is misguided thinking. One of the most important functions of the FTGA is to unite the various turfgrass industries to have greater influence on our Legislature and regulatory matters. Simply put, our strength is in numbers, and though we have not yet gotten large numbers of members from the other turf-related fields, we are working hard to increase their participation. Superintendents "going it alone" may sound appealing, but it is ultimately counterproductive.

**2) Florida has a unique environment, and most research needs to be done within the state to have relevance to our situation.** Florida's turfgrass problems will be solved by Floridians. Past problems with the University of Florida are just that — past! Much progress has been made in the last few years and UF is poised to become the strongest turfgrass program in the country. Led by new IFAS VP Mike Martin, the UF administration now clearly understands the importance of golf and turfgrass to the people of this state, and is dedicated to supporting our efforts. There are highly qualified UF researchers ready, willing, and able to tackle our problems. The ball is now in our court! Over a half million dollars worth of projects were submitted for our consideration this year, and we were able to fund only a quarter of them. Research will not

## Where WERE You?

### Mark My Words



Mark Jarrell, CGCSA  
President, FTGA



get done — not here or in any state — unless we pay for it.

3) Every strong university turfgrass program in the country is closely aligned with its state's turfgrass association. We are working to build such bonds. We have a definite disadvantage in Florida within our own ranks due to the small number of UF grads in the turfgrass business, eliminating automatic support and loyalty to the university. Many of Florida's wealthiest golfing businessmen, on the other hand, are UF grads, and aligning ourselves with the University of Florida, and working hand-in-hand with UF officials in our new fund-raising campaign spearheaded by Don Benham, has great potential in finally raising the big dollars we've always dreamed of.

4) Growing grass is at the core of our complicated and complex business. Superintendents have more in common with sod producers, sports field managers, parks and recreation people, and landscape maintenance people than we do with our golfing members. We have many common interests and goals, and need to work together through an "umbrella" organization like the FTGA.

Please think about these points when next year's conference and show rolls around.

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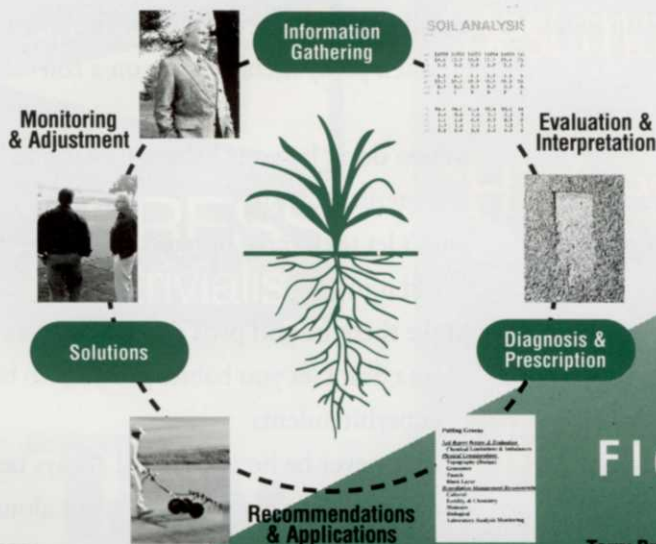
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**M**ama don't let your babies  
grow up to be  
superintendents

Don't let them rake bunkers and drive them  
old mowers

Make them be golf pros or GM's and such  
Mama don't let your babies grow up to be  
superintendents

They'll never be home. They'll always be out  
on the course even if it's at  
night alone

Superintendents ain't easy  
to love and they're even  
harder to hold  
And they'd rather grow  
grass than chase silver or  
gold

They like old Jake hats and  
faded boots, and each dawn starts a new  
day

If you don't understand him and he don't  
die young, he'll probably get fired anyway

Mama don't let your babies grow up to be  
superintendents

Don't let them set cups and flymow all  
those bunkers

Make them be salesmen or tech reps or such  
Mama don't let you babies grow up to be  
superintendents

They'll never be home. They'll always be out  
on the course even if it's at night alone

Superintendents like two-toned striped  
fairways and mild sunny days

Nice clean shops and crew members and  
irrigation running at night

Them that don't know him won't like him,  
and them that do sometimes won't know  
how to take him.

He ain't wrong he's just different, but his  
pride won't let him say some things  
Even when he knows you're wrong and he's  
right

Mama don't let your babies grow up to be  
superintendents

Don't let them repair heads and drive them  
old Cushmans

Make them be doctors and lawyers and such  
Mama don't let your babies grow up to be  
superintendents

They'll never be home. They'll always be out  
on the course even if it's at night alone

Superintendents get wrinkled and  
sunburned and gray haired

From worry over things they can't always  
control

Doing their best to work miracles to keep  
the grass green and golfers happy

But they seldom get credit for the effort  
when picky members are on a roll

Mama don't let your babies grow up to be  
superintendents

Don't let them rake bunkers and drive them  
old mowers

Make them be golf pros and GM's and such  
Mama don't let you babies grow up to be  
superintendents

They'll never be home. They'll always be out  
on the course even if it's at night alone

## Wisdom from Willie Nelson

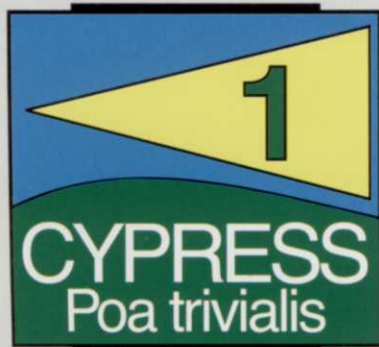
### Green Side Up



Joel Jackson, CGCS  
Editor



It's hard to  
beat the  
performance  
of Stardust  
and Cypress  
Poa trivialis!



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**"Best average weekly ground cover"**

estimates of all Poa trivs in test--University of Fla, Gainesville 1997-98 putting green trials highest seed count of all Poa trivs - University of Florida. - 1997-98.

Stardust

**"Highest density"**

1995-96 overseeded greens University of Arizona

**"Highest percent ground cover"**

University of Florida. 1995

**"Highest mean ball speed scores"**

1994-95 overseeded Bermuda greens--University of Arizona.

**"Best monthly/seasonal turf color"**

of all Poa trivs overseeded on tifway Bermuda--University of Fla. 1994-95.

**"Highest seasonal average"**

of all Poa trivs"--putting greens evaluation--1997-98 Mississippi State University.

Cypress

**"Highest mean for turf color"**

1996-97 putting green overseeding trial, Clemson University.

**"Highest quality rating"**

of all entries in the 1996 Bermuda Triangle Research Center, Palm Springs, California.