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58



4



50

4

SPOTLIGHT: AWARDS, NECROLOGY AND FUNDRAISERS

North Florida GCSA awarded \$6,000 in scholarships and honored four superintendents who began their careers after spending 20 years in the military; Seven Rivers GCSA's Envirotron Classic has raised nearly half a million dollars for research; Suncoast GCSA's President Tom Crawford died from a heart attack; South Florida GCSA Turf Expo set an attendance record; Everglades' popular Poa Annuu weekend began as an informal golf challenge.

12

COVER STORY: QUAIL WEST G&CC

Every action at this multi-course community in Naples is designed to further a spectacular search for excellence.

24

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: GCSAA'S PDI

Ultimately, GCSAA members will be better equipped to perform their duties as managers, facility executives or industry professionals by having to attain the new membership standard.

30

HANDS ON: LONG-RANGE PLANNING

A long-range plan, or a set of standards, is a way for a club to meet the ongoing and future needs of the golf course to remain prosperous and competitive in the business world.

40

INDUSTRY NEWS: \$4.4 BILLION

The golf industry adds \$4.4 billion annually to Florida's economy, according to a pair of UF/IFAS agricultural economists. Also a pair of articles explores alternative sources of water.

56

STEWARDSHIP: STILL BEHIND THE EIGHT-BALL

Anti-golf statements at a recent county commission meeting indicate that the golf industry still is behind the eight-ball vis-a-vis regulation.

58

SUPERINTENDENT JOURNAL: ESSENTIAL STEP

The most important step in a renovation program is to get away and revitalize the juices, as Mark Jarrell demonstrates in a photo essay on Costa Rica.

60

AFTERWORDS: GROUCH FOR THE BIRDS

More photo contest winners; Jim Walker lists the reasons why some people might be tempted to consider him a grouch; Joel Jackson's column is strictly for the birds

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CALL FOR ARTICLES

Members are encouraged to submit items to the Florida Green. Contact Joel D. Jackson, Editor for more information. Phone or Fax: 407-248-1971. Email: flgm@aol.com. All slides and photographs should include identification of persons in the picture and the name of the photographer.

Hands on Topics: Share your best practices and tips for these upcoming topics. Photographs or slides are encouraged.

Fall 2002 – The Role and Responsibilities of the Equipment Manager

Winter 2003 – Insect Control Programs

Spotlight: People and events making new in Florida. From award winners to chapter tournaments and other accomplishments. Send in your story.

Superintendents Journal: Personal observations or experiences related to any phase of the turf management profession including balancing family life with work.

Professional Development: General management topics beyond turf. Examples: Education, training, facilities operations, personnel, computers, etc.

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

Opinion: Exactly what it means. Article voicing your 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 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 articles and ideas about environmental issues and initiatives at their courses.

ADVERTISER INDEX

Aadvanced Water Management	45	Nu-Gro Technologies	51
Aerification Plus	22	Nucrane Machinery	Back Cover
Almar Turf	14	Parkway Research	42
Aqua-Aid, Inc.	14	Pike Creek Turf Farms	50
Becker Underwood	55	Ragan Technical	16
Beeman's Nursery	37	Ringhaver Equipment Co.	31
Calcium Silicate Corp.	25	Sanford Golf	43
Ducor International	17	Seaisle One	41
ER Jahna Industries	8	Seven Rivers GCSA	7
Everglades GCSA	05	South Florida GCSA	9
Floratine Products Group	45	South Florida Grassing	6
Florida Turfgrass Association	50	Southern States	57
Golf Agronomics Supply	36	Spread-Rite	2
Golf Ventures	11	Syngenta	52
Great White Shark Enterprises	39	Tee-to-Green Turf Products	44
Green Technologies	27	The Haverland Companies	19
Green-Way	27	Textron Turf Care Products	11
Growth Products	61	The Lake Doctors	20
Harrell's	3	TifSport Growers Association	35
Hendrix and Dail	10	Tifton Physical Lab	29
Howard Fertilizer & Chemical Co.	1, 63	TMI Turf Merchants	Inside Back Cover
Innovative Turf Supplies	29	Tom Burrows Turfgrass Service	2
John Deere Landscapes	49	Toro Dealers of Florida	32
Kilpatrick Turf Equipment	11	Tresca Equipment Company	11
Kubota Tractor Corp.	21	Turf Technologies	18
Lake Fountains	57	United Horticultural Supply	15
Laserturf	20	Upstart	2
Lesco, Inc	53	Valent USA	23
North Georgia Turf	18	Vopak	47

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As I pen my last Presidents Message and reflect on this past year, I can say without a shadow of a doubt that I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to serve

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each and every one of you. The sense of pride I wrote of in my first message is as strong now as it was then. To have had the chance to lead this association will be something that I will appreciate for years to come. I believe the most endearing aspect of our profession is you, my fellow superintendents and assistants. When you have the opportunity as I did to work closely with your peers from around the state and to

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Geoff Coggan, CGCS, MG

have had the support of two very informed and loyal employees like Joel and Marie it's certainly all been worthwhile.

The one goal I did set for myself was to try to visit every chapter, and I am confident that by the time you read this, I will have visited you all at least once. I was not trying to set a precedent for my successors, far from it; I was just lucky enough to be in a position that allowed

me to do this. However in talking to Vice President David Court, CGCS, and Secretary/Treasurer Greg Pheneger they too would like to visit other chapters during their terms as their schedules allow.

My time in office was made easier and more enjoyable thanks to the support I received from our board members: Darren Davis for his guidance and for his tutelage on Roberts Rules of Order; Vice President David Court, CGCS, who will be a more-than-worthy successor. His commitment to this association is second to none and he will lead us well; Greg Pheneger,

who has been instrumental in developing a five-year financial projection plan for the association recently, and has demonstrated his mastery of the Power Point presentation software.

The committees, some of which have more active roles than others, have all played their parts and I have appreciated all the committee chairs' involvement and input. I would like to recognize the work of two committee chairs in particular: Craig Weyandt (Research Committee) and Joe Pantaleo (Membership). Thanks to their efforts we had a new research proposal funded and kicked off a new membership campaign that we hope will continue to increase - if not surpass - the positive gain in members made this past year.

Joel and Marie continue to work diligently on our behalf and have always been there whenever I have needed something; particular credit goes to Joel who has had the task of editing my messages from Old English to the more understandable version you get to read. A gentleman we all should be thanking - I not the least - is Tim Hiers, CGCS. Tim and his family just recently took time out of their family vacation to drive from Naples to Nebraska so that Tim could represent us at The Golf Summit and then on to their intended vacation in the Carolinas.

I have met some great people as I traveled around visiting your local chapters, the welcomes I received were very much appreciated and I hope that I have served you all well.

In closing I can only reiterate what I have said all along, that this is your association and your profession. You owe it to yourself and to your fellow professionals to get involved. Fill out those surveys. Attend those meetings. Make yourself aware of the issues, and be proactive. You bear a considerable amount of responsibility for the future of our industry from your application of pesticides to your conservative use of our state's water resources. Let us show that we are environmental stewards and, above all, let those in elected office know what a huge economic impact we make to our state's economy.

Thank you once again for this opportunity.

Geoff Coggan, CGCS, MG

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2002 Memorial scholarship winners from left: Dennis Swander, Blaine Ellerbe, and John Llanos attend golf operations programs at Lake City and Daytona Beach Community Colleges and work for local superintendents. Photo by Joel Jackson.



20-year military veterans and Alan MacCurrach Lifetime Achievement Award winners honored by North Florida Chapter from left: Art Cape, "Capt." Dick Johnson, "Crash" Hall and Robbie Robbins. Photo by Joel Jackson.

North Florida GCSA

Past and Present Honored at 10th Annual Richards Memorial

The North Florida Golf Course Superintendents Chapter held its Tenth Annual Mike Richards Memorial Scholarship Tournament April 1 at the prestigious Jacksonville Golf and Country Club. The host golf course superintendent was Greg Tharp and more 100 players participated in the event making it a great success.

Kim and Jim Shine initiated the Mike Richards scholarship tournament in 1992 to honor Richards' dedication to the profession. Over the past nine years, the NFGCSA has awarded \$48,000 in scholarships to deserving turf students in the North Florida area. A Mike Richards Foundation has been established that has funds totaling approximately \$31,000. The hope for this event is for the Foundation to become self-sustaining so as to be able to provide

financial help to students. The family of Alan MacCurrach has also been instrumental in promoting the scholarship fund in memory of Alan and his accomplishments in the golf field.

Three separate scholarships totaling \$6,000 were awarded at the tournament. In addition, \$2500 will be added to the Mike Richards Foundation.

Blaine Ellerbe, a student at Lake City Community College, was the recipient of the \$3,000 Mike Richards Scholarship. Ellerbe currently works with Tharp at Jacksonville Golf and Country Club.

John Llanos, a first-year student at Daytona Beach Community College was the recipient of the Alan MacCurrach scholarship. He received a check for \$1,500. Llanos currently is employed at Plantation Country Club,



Barbaron executives, from left Ron Kitchen, Sr., Terry Lagree, and Ron Kitchen, Jr. show off the 10-year collection of mementos highlighting their support of the Envirotron Classic. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Superintendent Kevin Cavanaugh.

Dennis Swander, a fourth-semester student at Lake City Community College, also was the recipient of a \$1500 Alan MacCurrach scholarship. Swander is currently employed at San Jose Country Club, Superintendent Clayton Estes, CGCS

After the tournament, the board of directors of the NFGCSA presented Lifetime Achievement Awards to four distinguished past members. The recipients were chosen by the Historical Committee, chaired by Tom Cowan. The award itself is named the Alan MacCurrach Lifetime Achievement Award in honor of a person who demonstrated the true meaning of lifetime achievement.

MacCurrach died in 1997 and was the epitome of professionalism and dedication to the "Keeping of the Greens."

The awards were presented to Robbie Robbins, Dick Johnson, Crash Hall and Art Cape. Each of these men served at least 20 years in the military and started their golf course careers after leaving the military. We extend our congratulations to these special men.

Glen Klauk, GCS
Pablo Creek Club

Seven Rivers GCSA

Envirotron Classic Fundraising Total Nears Half Million

With this year's record participation of 340 golfers in the 10th Annual Envirotron Classic on April 15 at the World Woods Golf Club near Brooksville, the Seven Rivers GCSA has raised more than \$400,000 for turf research projects and equipment at the University of Florida.

Barbaron, Inc, a golf course design and construction firm, once again led the donations as the Champion Sponsor with a check for \$13,500. In recognition for their long-term and generous support of the event, the Seven Rivers Chapter presented Barbaron officials with a large framed case containing mementos highlighting the ten years of the event.

A delegation of key members of the UF/IFAS administration and faculty led by IFAS Vice President Dr. Mike Martin was on hand to personally thank the Seven Rivers Chapter, sponsors and participants for their unflinching support for the IFAS mission in turf research.

Hats off to the following

Thank You!



The Everglades G.C.S.A. would like to thank the following sponsors for their support of

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Seven Rivers members for their time and effort: tournament chairman Glenn Oberlander, SRGCSA President Bob Marrino, Stuart Bozeman, Dan Green, Jeff Hayden, Perry Haley, David Hoggard, Mike Hummel, Mark Kann, Buddy Keene, Earl King, Sonny Kirkland, Chris Leahy, Reed Orr, Mike Swinson, Vance Trapnell, Derek Vaughn and Rick Watts.

Suncoast GCSA

President's Death Adds Sad Postscript to 2002 Scramble

The 2002 Suncoast Scramble had a tragic postscript as long-time Misty Creek CC superintendent and tournament host Tom Crawford died less than two months after the 2002 event held at his former club March 19. Crawford announced his resignation from Misty Creek at this year's event, and he was looking forward to some new career challenges to grow as a multi-course manager. Crawford was also the Suncoast Chapter President.



Tom Crawford (center) doing what he did best - serving his profession. Crawford presented \$2,500 checks John VanVranken (left) and Don Benham for the Florida Golf Economic Impact Study and FTGA Research Foundation at the 2002 Suncoast Scramble. Photo by Joel Jackson.

A trust fund has been set up for the education of his two children. The FGCSA and other local chapters have already donated or pledged to donate to this fund. Any other chapter, club or individual who would like to help the family and honor Crawford's service to our profession may send their contributions to Kasey and Kirby Crawford, c/o David W. Clark, Esq., 24 Thurston

Drive, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418.

Life must go on and the Suncoast Scramble's 20-year history and rich tradition of service to the local and state golf industry and programs will continue enriched by Tom Crawford's contributions.

South Florida GCSA

Turf Expo Sets Attendance Record, Raises \$22,500

Amid the rumors and state

budget cuts affecting IFAS, the South Florida GCSA's Turf Expo set an attendance record of more than 500 people on March 21, at the UF/IFAS Ft. Lauderdale Research and Education Center. Mounting pressure on the University of Florida to take a severe look at research center facilities, missions and productivity has put the Ft. Lauderdale REC in an unwanted spotlight and on a list of possible closings or at the least contractions.

This scenario did not deter the enthusiastic crowd of turf managers and technicians, who toured turf plots for research updates, watched



FGCSA President Geoff Coggan, CGCS, MG (left) accepts a \$22,500 check from South Florida GCSA President Jim Goins, CGCS. The funds are the proceeds from the annual Turf Expo held at the UF/IFAS Ft. Lauderdale REC and FGCSA's Otto Schmeisser Research Green. Photo by Joel Jackson.

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equipment demonstrations, visited the mini-trade show, and attended educational sessions including UF nematologist Dr. Billy Crow's presentation on life after Nematocur.

After all the bills were paid, Jim Goins, CGCS, president of the South Florida GCSA, presented FGCSA President Geoff Coggan, CGCS, MG a check for \$22,500 for turf research two months later at the 2002 Poa Annuia Classic in Naples.

Ridge GCSA

Ondo Wins Event, Research, Charities Major Beneficiaries

Chilly winds couldn't dampen the success of the 2002 Ridge Invitational held at the Grasslands C.C. in Lakeland on March 4. Host superintendent Roy Wilshire, CGCS and his staff had the course in great shape for the event, which once again raised much-needed turf research dollars. The Ridge Chapter also supports several Polk County charities and youth sports and guidance programs with proceeds from the event.



Joe Ondo, CGCS captured the top spot in the 2002 Ridge Invitational. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Central Florida's Joe Ondo, CGCS took medalist honors to extend his winning streak in the Ridge backyard. Ondo also won the FGCSA Championship in Haines City last fall. During the post-tournament chicken-

and-ribs barbecue dinner, FGCSA Director of Communications Joel Jackson, CGCS gave the attendees an update on government relations issues including the pending phase out of Nematocur.

Everglades GCSA

Informal Challenge Gave Birth to Major Social Event

Officially, the event known as the Poa Annuia Classic is 27 years old. In reality the event could claim to be 34 since Stan Clark suggested the Everglades GCSA challenge the South Florida GCSA to a friendly golf match back in 1970, and Dwight Wilson suggested a bucket of Poa Annuia be used the mock trophy.

In 1972 Doc Anderson threw a roast pig on the spit and served up some corn and ribs for the hungry golfers. In 1975 the Poa Annuia name stuck and since 1980 and the FGCSA formation it has become a statewide event for those willing to trek to the Naples Beach Club every spring.

The Poa has become as much a social event as it is education, business and golf with families tagging along with superintendents and enjoying the beach while dad/mom attend board meetings, seminars or compete in the Poa Annuia Classic and G.C. Horn Endowment tournaments. It has been fun watching the kids grow up over the years. Of course once they reach the upper teens, it's not cool to hang with the old folks, so it was great to see some new faces as others discover the ambience, fun and camaraderie of the event.

South Florida's Bob Harper from The Emerald Hills Club shot a 70 to take first place in the Poa Annuia. Joe Ondo, CGCS from the Winter Pines GC in Central Florida continued his streak of great golf, finishing one shot back in second place. The rest of the top five included Tyler Warner, Steve Bernard and Joe Pantaleo, all familiar names when it comes to shooting around par golf.

The host Everglades Chapter won the team trophy with the net scores of Mike Dillinger, David Dore-Smith, Scott Hamm and Greg Lauffer.



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SPOTLIGHT



FGCSA Education Chairman John Lammrish welcomes Dr. Max Utsler from the University of Kansas as the presenter for the half-day GCSAA seminar on Media Relations. Photo by Joel Jackson.



2002 Poa Annuu Classic's top golfers from left, Tyler Warner (third), Bob Harper (first), Joe Pantaleo (fifth), and Joe Ondo, CGCS (second). Not pictured - Steve Bernard (fourth). Harper becomes the first person to qualify for the Florida Team in the 2003 GCSAA Golf Championship to be held at Hilton Head, SC. Photo by Robert Toski.



Superintendent Craig Weyandt operates the camera while Dr. Max Utsler from the University of Kansas, center, puts superintendent Greg Maze through a mock TV interview during his *The Golf Course Superintendent and the Media* seminar at the Poa Annuu. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Friday morning at the Poa 45 superintendents attended a half-day GCSAA seminar titled "The Golf Course Superintendent and the Media" presented by Dr. Max Utsler, a communications professor from the University of Kansas. A veteran of print, radio and

television media, Dr. Utsler used a variety of real life examples and role-playing situations to show superintendents the role of the media, the importance of being public relations savvy and the mechanics of working with the media.