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Two pests have long been the leading insect problems for superintendents in the South — mole crickets and fire ants. Now, one family of insecticides brings you the ultimate solutions for these problems with low-dose fipronil formulations — Chipco<sup>®</sup> Choice<sup>™</sup>, Chipco TopChoice<sup>™</sup>, and Chipco FireStar<sup>™</sup>.

**chipco<sup>®</sup>  
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Launched in 1996 as a slit-applied product, Chipco Choice quickly became the product of choice for mole crickets — providing control for six months or more with just one slit application. Now, the new label adds new sites, pests and the flexibility of broadcast application. When broadcast-applied for fire ants, a single application of Chipco Choice provides up to 52 weeks of control *and* bonus control of mole crickets (4 months), fleas & ticks (1 month), and nuisance ants (3 months). The broadcast application requires a spreader capable of applying 12.5 lbs. product/acre.

**chipco<sup>®</sup>  
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New Chipco TopChoice provides one-step fire ant control for up to a full year. Formulated specifically for broadcast application with a standard spreader (87 lbs. product/ acre), TopChoice is designed to be very different from other fire ant treatments: No multi-step processes. No time-consuming mound treatments. Just one easy, broadcast application is all it takes to get up to 95 percent control in 4-6 weeks, and eliminate the threat of fire ants for up to a year. Plus, an application of Chipco TopChoice for fire ants will also control mole crickets, fleas, ticks, and nuisance ants.

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New Chipco FireStar delivers fipronil in a unique, easy-to-use granular bait that's highly attractive to fire ants. The result is effective control with just 0.00015% active ingredient, the lowest concentration in any fire ant treatment. FireStar makes an excellent partner for Chipco Choice or TopChoice — use it to treat landscape beds, embankments and sand trap perimeters, the bases of trees, and other hard-to-reach places fire ants favor.

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**38th Bud Quandt  
 Research Benefit  
 Event Draws 140**

The 38th Annual Bud Quandt Research and Benefit Tournament was held at the Pasadena Y&CC in St. Petersburg Oct. 22. The turnout was excellent with 140 players participating in a four-person scramble.

The day started with a huge buffet breakfast followed by guest speakers Tim Williams of Gatorland in Kissimmee; Joel Jackson, FGCSA director of communications and John Foy, director of the USGA's Green Section Florida Region.

Golf was up next followed by a bountiful buffet dinner. After dinner, chapter recognition awards, sponsor gifts, and tournament prizes were presented. The evening was capped by an exciting raffle drawing.

Everyone had a great time and the proceeds will be donated to environmental turf research, All Children's Hospital, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and student scholarships. A special thank-you to all of our loyal sponsors

and the players who helped make this fund raising event such an outstanding success.

*Whit Derrick, GCS  
 Feather Sound GC  
 Tournament Director*

**GCSAA Recognizes  
 Florida  
 Superintendents**

Certification: John W. Sibley, Jr. golf course superintendent at Tequesta Country Club has been designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent by the GCSAA. The on-site inspection of Sibley's golf course operation was conducted by two certified golf course superintendents: Steve Ehrbar, CGCS, Lost Tree Club; and Dan Jones, CGCS, of West Palm Beach, Fla.

Environmental Management Program: Gary Puckett, golf operations manager for Brevard County in Satellite Beach, earned specializations in Integrated Pest Management, and Storage, Disposal and Recycling. Michael J. Swinson, CGCS at the

**SCRAMBLE TOURNAMENT  
 TEAM WINNERS**

**GROSS DIVISION**

- 1st Place (55): Hruby, Powell, Lyerly, DeSears
- 2nd Place (58): Martin, Knotts, Klinger, Wheaton
- 3rd Place (58): Johnson, Reash, Foss, Whiteleather
- 4th Place (60): Danworth, Ginter, Fletcher, Hoffman
- 5th Place (60): Weeks, Morgan, LaGree, Fruthchey

- Luper, MacEwen
- 3rd Place (53.7): Ayer, Rogers, Huellman, Bryant
- 4th Place (54.1): Andretta, Ley, Lampe, Gonsoles
- 5th Place (54.4): Brawley, Hazzard, Baldwin, Corwin

**SKILL CONTESTS**

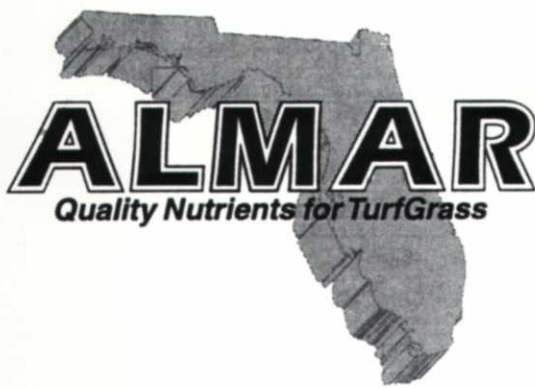
- Closest to the Pin: No. 2 Kevin Vereb, No. 8 Scott Corwin, No. 11 Rick Fletcher, No. 16 Derek Vaughan
- Longest Drive #12: Steve Johnson
- Straightest Drive #13: Mr. Newcamp
- Putting Contest: Bill Blaie and Bill Moore

**NET DIVISION**

- 1st Place (49.2): Cook, Cook, Harding, Futch
- 2nd Place (52.9): Delaney, Lewis,

World Woods GC in Brooksville, Fla earned specialization in Golf Course Development.  
 Tournaments: Scott Welder, golf course superintendent at Disney

World's Magnolia and Palm courses was profiled on the GCSAA website as host of the PGA Tour's National Car Rental Classic tournament in October.



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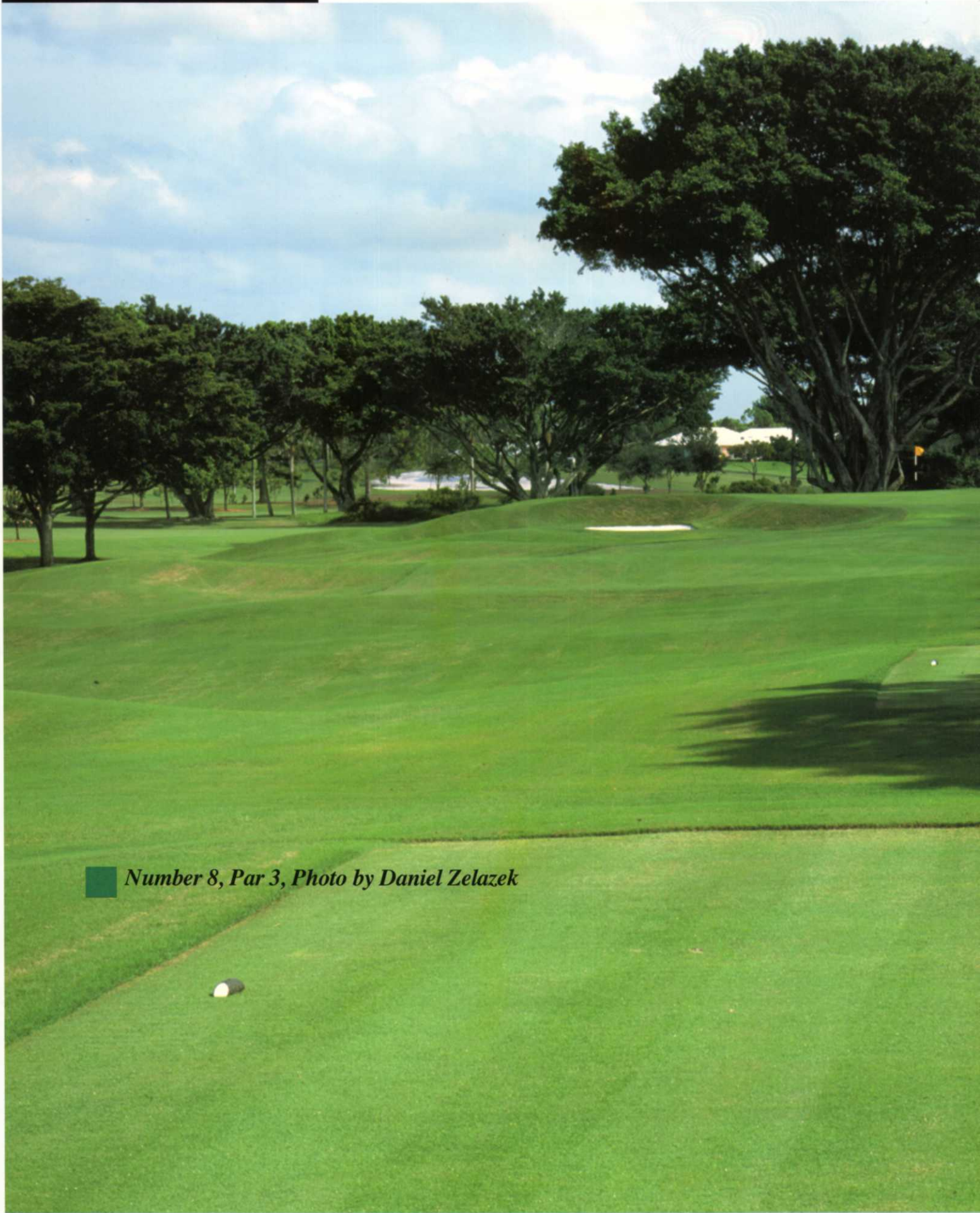
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■ *Number 8, Par 3, Photo by Daniel Zelazek*





THE COUNTRY CLUB OF FLORIDA IS...

# The Village Green

*By Joel Jackson, CGCS*

When most of us think of Palm Beach County, we think of the highly urbanized coastal strip of beachfront hotels, private mansions, high-rise condos and inland waterways. If you go five miles west of U.S. Highway 1 on Golf Road in Boynton Beach, you find the suburbs, which soon give way to the Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge in another mile or so. In fact almost 90 percent of Palm Beach County is either agricultural land or wildlife management areas.

In that suburban transitional area between city and wilderness, the Country Club of Florida literally serves as the village green for Florida's incorporated Village of Golf. The 166-acre golf course is surrounded by the homes of the residents whose homes are on a continuous

perimeter road that encircle the course within the gated community. The Country Club of Florida, like so many Palm Beach County golf courses, provides vital green belt areas for the highly urbanized southeast Florida cities.

The Village of Golf and its Country Club of Florida have tried to maximize the environmentally friendliness of the golf course by active participation in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program. CCF was designated a fully Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Feb. 1, 1999. It has truly been a cooperative effort among residents, members, consultants and staff. The best part is that the continual "naturalizing" of the course has only served to enhance the golf experience.



## JEFFREY KLONTZ



Jeff Klontz (left) inspects work progress on the waterfall project with Lloyd McCumby.

**Originally from:** Akron, Ohio

**Family:** Married to Denise Klontz, daughters Brittany 13, Karlea 11; and son Jeffrey II, 6.

**Education:** Ohio State Agriculture Technical Institute

**Employment history:** 18 years at CCF. Followed Marsh Benson who went on to Augusta National.

**Professional affiliations:** GCSAA, FTGA, past president of the Palm Beach GCSA including 7-8 years of board service.

**Mentors and Influential People:** John Rainieri,

owner of the Paradise Lake GC in Ohio, was instrumental in getting me started in the business. I worked as a caddy initially, but after critical review of my golf swing, John suggested I give up the dream of being golf pro and take up greenkeeping. John helped me see the possibilities in the business and steered me to study at OSU-ATI. I have had four holes-in-one in my golfing career, two here at CCF in 2000.

Marsh Benson at Augusta National was very influential and helped me tremendously. His dedication for quality workmanship and his drive to achieve short and long term goals was inspirational. His message was to never give up on the ideas that you have and keep pursuing them with determination. Be open minded to new and productive ideas that improve golf course operations and productivity.

I have many other friends I enjoy and I know I'll leave some out by mentioning a few, but I have to pay tribute to the fearsome foursome of Mark Henderson, Pete Brooks and Karl Schmidt. We try to play golf weekly and have an annual dinner with our spouses. I miss the company of Glen Klauk, who was my next-door neighbor at Delray Dunes and respect his talent and the excellent job he is doing at Pablo Creek in Jacksonville.

His successor is a member of the new breed of superintendents, Terry Kennelly, and he has become a good neighbor who calls often and shares his experiences. I enjoy the brotherhood of many other superintendents and we must be open minded to each other's abilities and appreciate everyone's dedication and hard work.

I would also like to include all the green chairmen I have had the privilege to work with at CCF. I am presently working with my sixth chairman and their ideas and goals are the building blocks of our programs. We have to understand that they are club members and our employers and their

agendas are assets to the club. And green chairmen in return need to understand and appreciate our concerns and support us in difficult times.

**Goals:** Personal - First and foremost to be actively involved as a father to raise, love and care for my children as they prepare for the world as it is today. To help them understand the values of good people and the dos and don'ts in society and to appreciate those who help you in life. Professional - Continually enhance the overall conditions here at the club through advancements in grass types, new products, technology and good sound planning to implement improvements for the best playing conditions for the members. Continue the Audubon program with the club and stress the importance of Audubon International how we can easily and positively enhance the environment with the support of the golf course. I want to continue my turfgrass education and would like to pursue GCSAA certification as soon as I get the course recertified in the ACSP program by the end of the year.

**Advice:** For young superintendents and newcomers to Florida, one of the hardest lessons to learn is to know intimately the turf you have inherited at your new course. You may have come from a course with new high tech turf, but you may now be dealing with some of the older grasses that don't respond well to some of the aggressive programs for the newer grass varieties you may have worked with. Make friends with an experienced veteran in the area before you stress out your course and yourself.

**Memorable moments:** Before Mark O'Meara won a major tournament he played at the CCF. He took the time to do a photograph with my family on the fifth hole near our maintenance shop. He was very professional and cordial and I'd like to say his visit was a good-luck omen. That year I worked at the Masters tournament and I admit I was almost as happy as Mark was when he rolled in that 20-footer on the 18th hole to win the event.

In February, the GCSAA will present the Country Club of Florida with a 2001 Chapter Environmental Stewardship Award in the private club division at the International Golf Course Conference and Show in Orlando.

Golf course superintendent Jeff Klontz put it this way, "As our environmental awareness grew by participating in the ACSP program, we learned that any time we made a change or improvement to the golf course layout and design to help drainage, playability, and golf conditions, we could just as easily enhance the course by adding native plant materials to help frame holes, fill out-of-play areas to reduce turf area, protect lake banks and provide food and cover for wildlife. Our projects are now planned with an eye to helping the golf game and the environment at the same time."

CCF is planning a renovation of the clubhouse and practice areas in the near future. To provide fill for the project, the Island Corridor Wildlife area will be expanded to create more wetland area. It is a win-win situation for the members and for area wildlife.

For Klontz, who admittedly didn't know

a grackle from a kestrel 10 years ago, the focus on the ACSP program has been a tremendous learning experience. Today his knowledge of birds is very good and his CCF wildlife photo album is proof of his education and expertise. But Klontz is a busy golf course superintendent whose primary job is to provide good golf conditions. Fortunately, CCF club members shared the ACSP vision and helped to get much of the work done on the course. This kind of teamwork and cooperation is a perfect example of the partnership required at a club to make programs successful and self-sustaining.

Perhaps one of the most critical lessons Klontz learned was to re-think his maintenance practices and take the time to see how he could accomplish the desired playing conditions and at the same time reduce inputs to the environment: in other words, walk the talk on Integrated Pest Management.

With the installation of 45 purple martin houses on the course, Klontz began to learn the feeding, nest-building, egg-hatching and fledging habits of the birds. He found that his on-course programs could have huge impacts on the birds by

adjusting the timing of his procedures. If pesticide and aquatic herbicides were applied during nest-building periods, some of the materials could be incorporated into the nests and bird houses, which could have possible negative effects on the young birds. By altering schedules and products, Klontz is able to maximize fledgling survival rates.

In general Klontz has been reducing traditional synthetic chemical applications and using more aggressive cultural practices, like more frequent aerifications, to reduce environmental impacts. He is experimenting with more biological control products to replace older products. Klontz takes the broad view of maintenance, and even simple things like improvements to the irrigation system help by making it easier to grow healthier turf which requires less chemical dependency. Another area being looked at is the turf varieties used on the golf course.

Currently CCF has very successful Tidwarf greens that are overseeded with G-2 bentgrass in the fall. The club is looking at the possibility

*continued on page 19*





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## THE ROAD TO ACSP CERTIFICATION

## THE PATH, PROJECTS AND PEOPLE

**1990 - 1996 Small steps:** Joined the ACSP program. We watched, asked questions, listened and learned.

Reviewed proper use of all chemicals.

Stocked golf course ponds with largemouth bass and bream.

USGA and Audubon International efforts to enhance golf course wildlife.

Purple martin houses installed - Bill Lugar.

City approves reuse water for course irrigation.

Club signs contract for IQ water.

**1997 Getting serious:** Established Audubon Committee - Dr. Robert Raborn, chairman.

Members - Buzz Jaskella, Charles Hedlund,

William Fay, William Lugar, Barbara Borden,

Eugene Koch, Kate Shortz and Anne La Salle.

ACSP resource inventory completed.

1/29/97 - over 100 members attend ACSP program meeting hosted by Shelly and John Foy.

Environmental planning projects discussed in Greens and Grounds Committees.

Pesticide applications reduced. More biological products used as replacements.

Cultural practices on the course increased - aeration, etc.

4/97 - Certified in Environmental Planning.

8/97 - Klontz consults with Kilpatrick Irrigation on pump station and pipe plans.

8/97 - Klontz participates in Kidstown Audubon program.

9/97 - Certified in Wildlife and Habitat Management.

Buzz Jaskella designed our first ACSP planting south of the 8th tee.

Dead pines left as snags for cavity nesting birds.

Osprey nest installed on the 11th hole.

34 nesting boxes for woodpeckers, yellow crested flycatchers, Carolina wrens, screech owls and blue birds installed.

Shoreline vegetation planted on the 2nd, 5th, and 11th pond banks - Lorna Tippit.

Aeration devices installed in lakes to improve water quality.

CCF's first Urban Water Bird Survey. 53 varieties of birds

visited the course. - Chuck Hedlund.

Summer project - 9th tee, wetland and Oak Grove Wildlife Corridor completed. A joint project of Beautification and Audubon committees.

10/97 - New pump station and irrigation upgrade completed.

12/10/97 - Annual Wildlife Corridor Walk with 50 members.

12/30/97 - Certified in Outreach and Education.

**1998 We're On a Roll:** Only three more programs to complete for certification.

CCF prepares to receive IQ Water.

3/16/98 - Certified in Water Conservation.

5/98 - CCF is finally supplied with IQ Water for irrigation.

8/1/98 - Permitting approved for 14th tee project and lake bank enhancement (a joint Audubon and Beautification committee project).

South Florida WMD requires more littoral zone aquatic plants for 14th hole project. Due to fall tropical storms,

original plants were submerged. Many plants have

improved with falling water levels and plant mass

should increase.

11/98 - Certified in Integrated Pest Management.

24 purple martin houses installed for CCF homeowners. 10 more installed on the golf course. 70 young purple

martins fledged - Ann LaSalle, Kate Shortz, Gladys Walsh and Dr. Raborn.

Many homeowners installing bird feeders.

ACSP committee educates homeowners about the ACSP Back Yard Program.

**1999 The Home Stretch:**

1/3/99 - Certified in Water Quality Management.

1/27/99 - Cleaned all 45 purple martin houses - Gladys Walsh.

2/1/99 - Received full ACSP certification and registered as 24th in Florida and 159th in the world.

6/1/99 - Counted all purple martins: 200 hatchlings.

Installed new purple martin house at pump house. Donated by Elliott Spafford.

Fall - Revised Audubon Island project and developed new ideas for wildlife enhancement. Ideas from

Wakodahatchee Wetland on Jog Road. Buzz Jaskella

helped design new ideas for visual plan for committee

members to study.

**2001 And Beyond:** New Audubon Committee Chairman Chuck Hedlund

Protect and enhance the quality of the environment.

Educate more homeowners about the ACSP Back Yard

Program.

Develop Oak Grove Wildlife Corridor with orchids - Dr.

Valenti, Orchid Master. In memory of Ms. Betty O'Neil.

Support the Village with wildlife enhancement programs

and butterfly garden.

Proceed with expansion of the Island Corridor according to

fall 1999 revised plan.

Continue our leadership and stewardship of the land.

Stimulate Florida mallard duck population.

Save the pine trees with Emerald Tree soil injection

treatment - President Neil Howell.



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*continued from page 16*

ty of introducing TifEagle sometime in the future. Most clubs looking at changing green's grasses are well served by growing test plots on practice greens for at least a year to make sure the grass does well in that club's location. This method has saved clubs a lot of money and heartache.

In 2001 Klontz replanted the back nine tee tops in Sea Isle 1 paspalum. So far he likes the density of the grass and its recuperative powers to heal divots more quickly than Tifway 419. Because of CCF's location and Sea Isle's cold tolerance, Klontz hopes to avoid overseeding the back nine tees. Once again turf variety selection helps to reduce environmental inputs.

On the horizon is a possible regrassing project for the fairways. The current composition is a mixture of Tifway 419 and other bermuda off-types. That project is too far away for a specific grass type to be selected yet, but no doubt CCF will consider which turf will best meet the expectations of the golfers and minimize environmental impacts.

Another key environmental input is the reclaimed water used to irrigate the golf course. Klontz has some concerns over the long term effect of reclaimed water on the course soil chemistry which could affect water percolation and nutrient uptake.

While upgrading the pump station and irrigation control system to help deliver water more efficiently, Klontz is experimenting with an ESP electrolysis system that reportedly alters the electric charge of the water molecules, enabling water to be more efficient in the soil. The system, originally developed for sanitation use in the meat-packing industry, has been used sparingly in golf course irrigation applications.

Says Klontz, "We have had the unit installed for six months and subsequent soil reports indicate at least a 90-degree turn in sodium and bicarbonate values. I am taking the long-range view on this tool. I will need to see an overall reduction in water, fertilizer and chemical usage to be totally convinced. But because it is a simple, natural process that can potentially have a huge impact on our budget and the environment; I'm willing to give it a try."

*Continued on page 22.*

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## COUNTRY CLUB OF FLORIDA



Country Club of Florida maintenance staff. Photo by Joel Jackson.

**Location:** Village of Golf

**Ownership:** Member owned

**Playing policy:** Private

**18 Holes:** Gold Tees 6,746 yards, Par: 72,  
**Course/Slope Ratings:** Gold 72.6/134, Blue  
71.0/131, White 67.8/122, Silver 64.8/112

**Designed by:** Robert Bruce Harris. Opened in  
1957. Redesigned by Arthur Hills in 1986 with ren-  
ovation by Wadsworth Construction, Inc. Audubon,  
tee and range improvements by Steve Hamilton,  
Hamilton Grading and Sod Farm.

**Management:** Club President William Marx;  
Green Chairman William Rodawig; Audubon  
Chairman Chuck Hedlund; Club Manager Scott  
Bragg; Golf Professional John Fleming; Golf  
Course Superintendent Jeff Klontz.

**Major Renovations/Ongoing Projects:** Complete  
course renovation in 1986 moving 250,000 cubic  
yards of soil to create contours and mounding.  
Greens rebuilt to USGA specs with 2-inch choker  
layer. The course was replanted with Tifway 419  
fairways, Tifgreen 328 tees and Tifdwarf greens. In  
2001 we replanted the back nine tees with Sea Isle 1  
paspalum and plan to do the front nine next year.  
We are also in the process of updating our irrigation  
control system with Rainbird Cirrus.

**Total acreage under maintenance:** 166 acres.

**Greens:** Average size: 5700 sq.ft. Total 3.5 acres.

**Turf type:** Tifdwarf base with G2 bentgrass main-  
tained all year. Height of cut: .110-.156 inch. Green  
speed goal is 10.0 on the stimpmeter.

**Overseeding:** G2 bentgrass @ 4-6 lbs/1,000 sq.ft.

**Tees:** 3 acres. Front 9 in Tifway 419 Bermuda.  
HOC: .250-.500 inch. Overseeding: Mix of 12 lbs.  
rye and 7 lbs. Poa annua. Back 9 in Sea Isle 1  
Paspalum. No overseeding. HOC: Same.

**Fairways:** 40 acres of Tifway 419 Bermuda with  
off types. HOC: .350 - .500". Overseeding: None.

**Roughs:** 35 acres of Tifway 419 & Ormond  
Bermuda. HOC: .625 - 1.0". Overseeding: None.

**Bunkers:** 58 bunkers raked with GA 26 sand, all hand  
raked. Fairway bunkers raked with Smithco with  
tournament rake and brush.

**Waterways/Lakes:** 11 shallow lakes covering 10  
acres. Installed bottom lake diffusers and aeration  
fountains to help dissolved oxygen content.  
Irrigation: Water source - effluent stored in a 1-acre  
lake. Equipment: Flowtronex pump station 1600  
gpm from two 75 hp pumps and a small PM pump.  
Control system: Rainbird Maxi V converting to  
Cirrus system. Rainbird 16 & 24 station clocks  
**Heads:** Toro 690s and 780s. Plan to convert large  
690 heads on tees to smaller specialized tee sprin-  
klers. Fertiligation/injection: Inject gypsum, 0-0-22  
KMS, liquid fertilizers and Maxi-Green to help bal-  
ance soils and nutrition.

**Total staff including superintendent:** 16 full time  
and 1 part time. Average weekly budgeted hours.  
Straight time 40 hours. Overtime 4 hours year  
round.

**Leadership:** assistant superintendent, Leonardo  
Flores; head mechanic, Lloyd McCumby; reel tech-  
nician, Antonio Flores; pest control technician,  
Euclid Reid; irrigation technician, Ernesto Juarez.

**Special circumstances:** Hurricane Irene bombarded  
the course with 25 inches in two days. We sustained  
damage to the pump house, greens submerged for  
five days and some fairways under water for eight  
days, which pointed out shortcomings in our 40-  
year-old drainage infrastructure for the course.  
Working with the City Village of Golf we agreed on  
future modifications which are 75% complete and  
working well.

**Communications:** Contribute articles to the club  
newsletter on course conditions and projects. Our  
new Club Manager Scott Bragg wanted us to build a

better team network, so this year we have been  
meeting monthly and we have improved our inter-  
nal communications tremendously. I would recom-  
mend this for every club. This group consists of  
the golf pro, comptroller and course superintendent.  
The membership recognizes this as an asset  
for improving club functions.

**Cultural/Fertility programs:** Deep tine aeri-  
fication 2 times per year on greens, tees and fairways.  
Top dressing of greens bi-weekly in season and  
following summer aerifications. Basic fertility pro-  
gram includes annually 8 lbs of N/M on fairways  
and roughs with slow release Nutralene or  
MESOP and 12 lbs of K/M. The Bentgrass greens  
are given more light but frequent applications of  
potassium nitrate, MKP and Coron @ .1lb of N  
per application so we don't over stimulate the put-  
ting surface.

**IPM Program:** We have a large purple martin  
population on the course and they were a large  
part of our interest in the Audubon program plus  
the fact that it works. We diligently monitor the  
nesting and hatching of fledglings and time our  
pesticide applications to avoid unnecessary expo-  
sure to these birds which are sensitive to pesti-  
cides. However, proper nest box location and  
maintenance are also critical as well in having a  
healthy and thriving purple martin population. We  
have established a wildlife corridor and wetland  
which we only rogue-out once a year. We plant a  
variety of native shrubs in the natural area and  
around the course that provide food and cover.

**Equipment Inventory:** Greens - 18-inch  
Jacobsen walk mowers 7x/week; Tees - 26-inch  
Jacobsen walk mowers 4x/week; Fairways - John  
Deere 363s5 and Toro 5200s 3-4x/week; Roughs -  
Toro hydraulic 7-gang pull-behind unit; John  
Deere trim mower and tee and green complexes.