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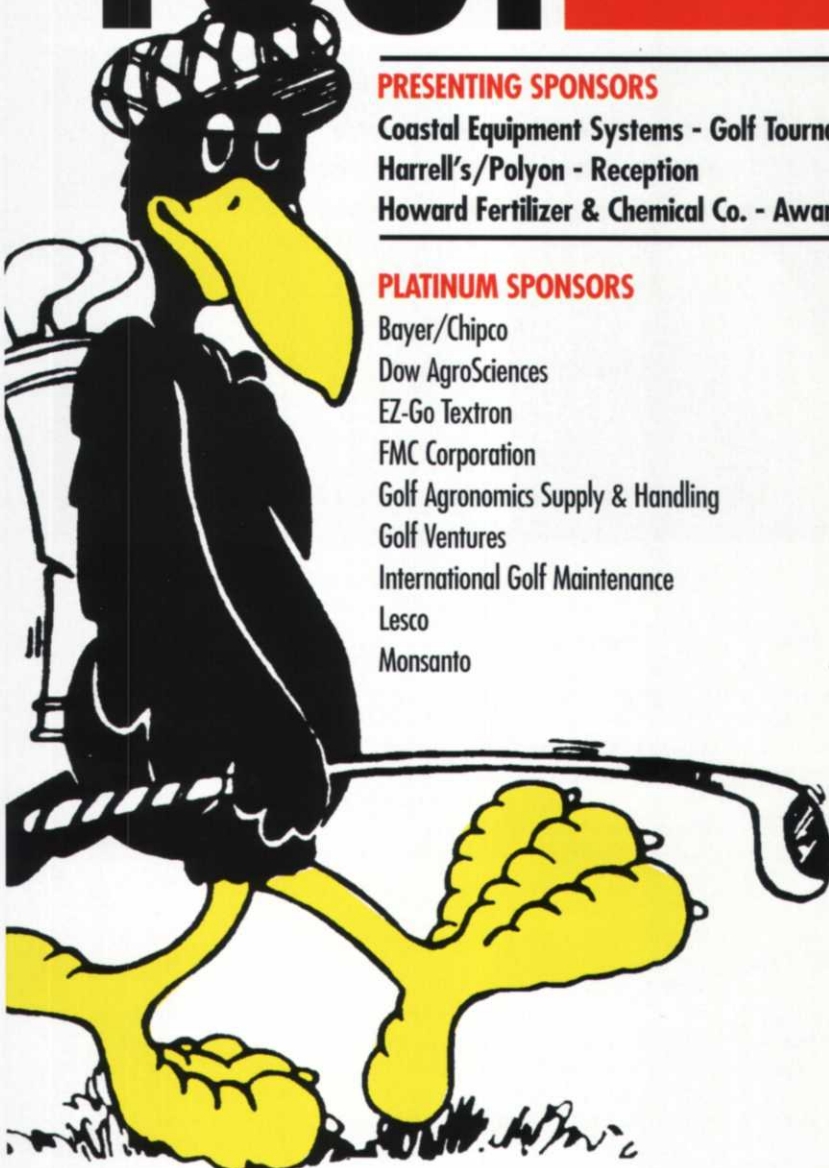
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From Mimeograph to Computer, the Florida Green Has Served Florida's Superintendents For

30 Years!

This issue marks the 30th anniversary of the Florida Green by way of the first superintendent's magazine, *The South Florida Green*. That first issue was published by the South Florida GCSA in October 1973 and was only 8 pages long. Seven years later as the Florida Golf Course Superintendents statewide association took shape, the South Florida Chapter graciously agreed to let its magazine become the *Florida Green* and the official voice of the association. The introductory editorial in 1973 by Tom Mascaro talked about the vision and value of the magazine to the association and the industry. His words ring as true today as they did three decades ago:

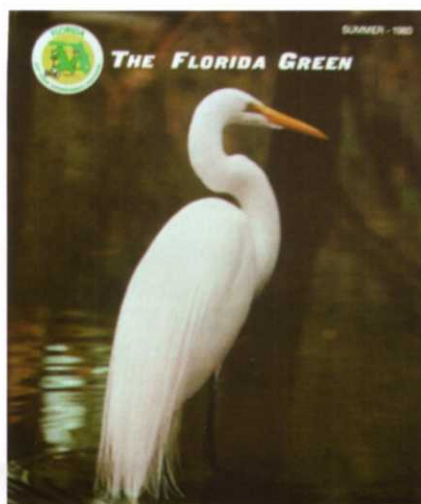
It is indeed an honor to be invited to write an introductory article

who have more than a passing interest in what's going on at their clubs. "South Florida Green" will most certainly afford them an insight into the "behind the scenes" activities.

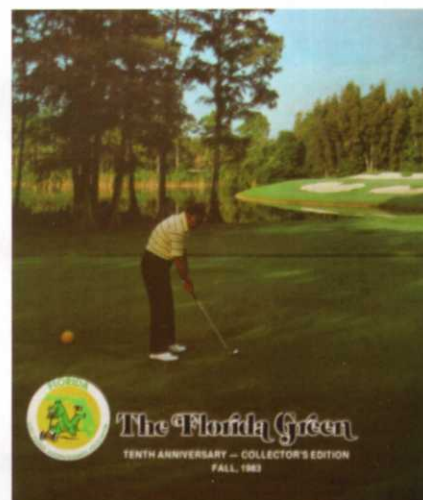
This publication can become a vital link between the University of Florida Turfgrass Research Staff and the South Florida Golf Course Superintendents. Space in "South Florida Green" is being provided so that Turfgrass Research information can be reported as projects progress. All golfers in South Florida will ultimately benefit from this coordination of vital information. It becomes apparent, therefore, that "South Florida Green" can serve many people as a means of improving communications between those



1973



1980



1983

for the South Florida Superintendent's Association new publication "South Florida Green."

A newsletter such as this will perform an invaluable service, not only for Association members, but to many others as well. It is obvious that this publication will be an excellent vehicle to keep all of the members informed on the latest techniques in Turfgrass culture and management. In addition to the very real benefits to the membership, it will also be of immeasurable value to the many suppliers of equipment, chemicals, seed, fertilizer, etc. "South Florida Greens" is a means of presenting their products to the membership.

This publication can do much to improve communications between the Golf Course Superintendent, the Golf Professional, and the Manager, since these three positions represent the administrative body of most clubs.

For members of the Greens Committees and their Chairmen, "South Florida Green" will give them an insight and most certainly a better understanding of the many ramifications and problems of the care, maintenance, and management of their golf course and grounds.

I would even venture to say that there are many serious golfers

people interested in improving the game of golf.

To top it off, this publication, as it grows and matures, will undoubtedly be referred to time and time again. "South Florida Green" can become part of everyone's library. In addition, the exchange of this publication with other Association newsletters will give it national, and indeed international, stature.

I am proud to be counted among everyone who wishes "South Florida Green" success. It gives one a nice feeling to be associated with those who devote their lives to the betterment of the royal and ancient game."

Tom Mascaro

Florida Green Trivia

Staff Notables

Editors: Mike Barger, 1973-76; Dan Jones (Editor/Publisher 1976-1990); Tim Hiers, Editor 1984-85; Joel Jackson (Editor/Assistant Editor, 1990-present); Tom Benefield, Editor 1992-94. Associate Editor David Bailey, 1980-83. Advertising Manager Marie Roberts, 1990 - present. Business Managers: Paul Crawford (1995-99); Mike Perham (1999-present).

Photographers: Harry McCartha (1977-81); Daniel Zelazek, 1983-present). Regular Reporters/Columnists: Mike Bailey long time Palm Beach Reporter. Mark Jarrell and his Mark My Words column. Darren Davis for his Super Tips, and our newest regular Jim Walker, our own Andy Rooney.

Size

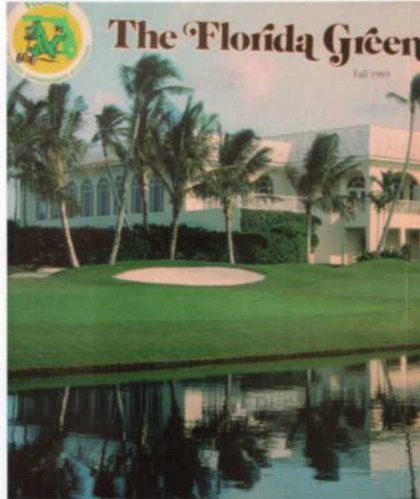
Smallest 8 pages. Largest 112 pages, Summer 1997. Average sizes - lots of 64-, 72-, 80- and 96-page publications. It all depends on the advertising. Ad to editorial ratio goal is 50%.

Awards

The Florida Green had an unprecedented run of 11 Best Overall Awards in its category in the annual GCSAA Publications Contest until the competition finally caught up three years ago. But we don't do this for awards, we do it to promote and educate people about the profession and industry. In that regard you are the final judge.

Production

Dan and Irene Jones used to cut and paste articles into layout design in their living room and take to the printer to be photographed, color-separated plates made, and then printed. Joel Jackson used to type articles on his Commodore 64 computer and fax articles and mail prints and slides to Larry Kieffer at Janlark Communications, which took over production responsibilities from Dan and Irene in 1989. Janlark did additional editing and the layout and then faxed the rough drafts back for proofreading. The printer was still doing color separations and making plates.



1993

Today Jackson, Janlark and Rinaldi Printing Co. of Tampa are 100 percent digital. Daniel Zelazek's large-format images are scanned on a very high tech machine to produce those fabulous cover shots. Jackson scans prints into digital images or takes digital photos. Janlark manages five publications and has graphic designers help to lay out the magazine after the editing process. Paul Wright of Brandon has been the art director assigned to the Florida Green for the past two years. Articles and photos are now transferred by e-mail attachment or by FTP transfer to a Web site.

The process of getting a proof from Rinaldi to Marie and Joel to Janlark, which returns corrections to Rinaldi, once took a minimum of four days, usually five and often six. Now it can be done in less than an hour. A digital proof hard copy is prepared and is routed to Marie and Joel for final approval and returned to Janlark to make any final corrections. Corrections in the old days meant making four new negatives for each page and then burning a new plate. Now a corrected page is submitted to the digital file on the computer.

Distribution

Two copies are sent to each golf course in Florida with a known address. One addressed to the clubhouse and one to golf course maintenance. We want every course operator and superintendent to be aware of the issues and developments affecting the Florida golf industry. Additionally, one is sent to each FGCSA member at his Member Directory address. Copies also go to the golf media, golf course architects and builders, turf schools, other superintendent associations and prominent turf researchers and other golf notables around the country.

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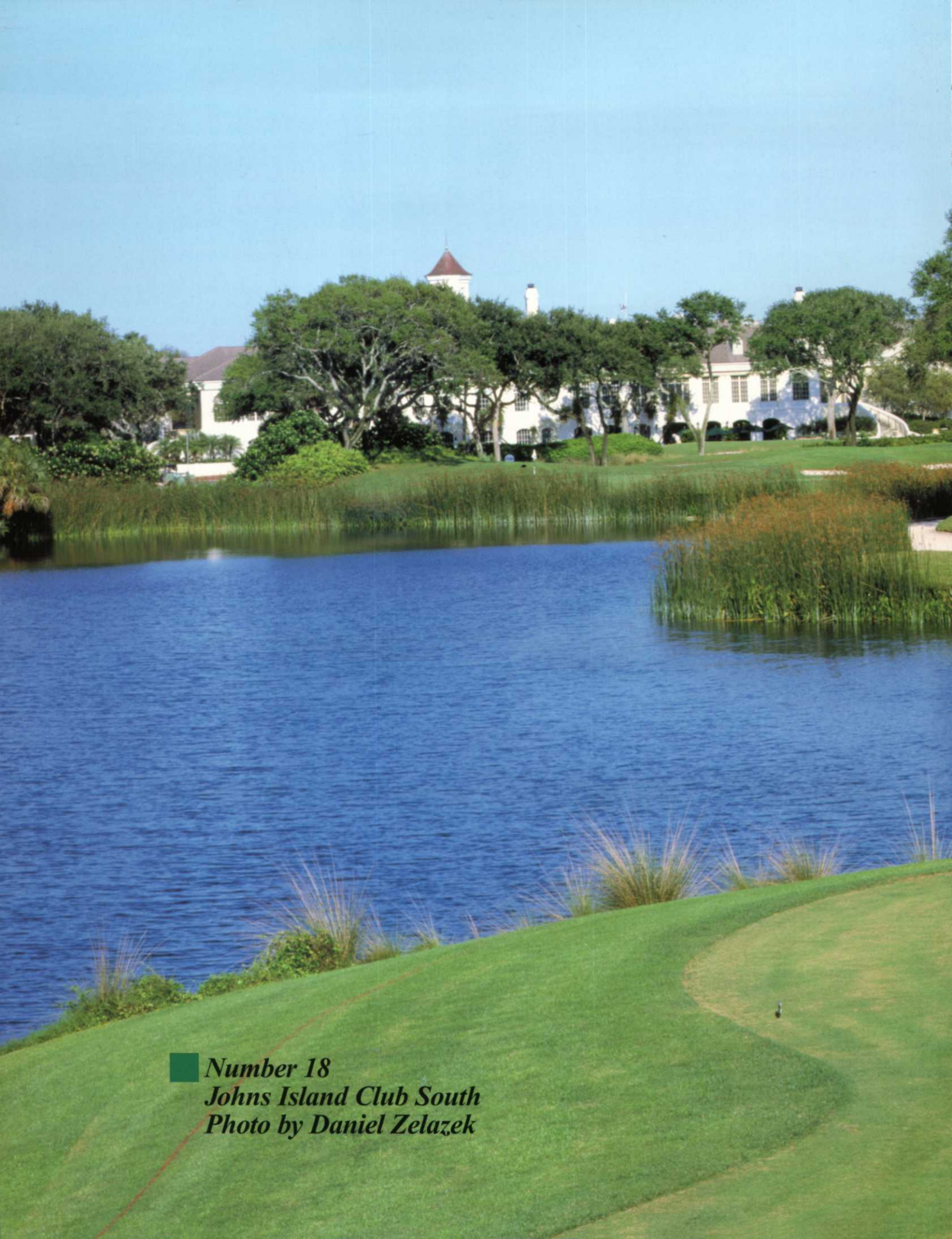
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Number 18
Johns Island Club South
Photo by Daniel Zelazek



JOHNS ISLAND CLUB

Three Courses and Two Different Environments

By Joel Jackson

The Johns Island Club isn't on Johns Island at all. It is located in the middle of Orchid Island halfway between Sebastian Inlet on the north and Ft. Pierce Inlet to the south. Orchid Island is one of several barrier islands situated along the Atlantic coast of Florida. Johns Island is a smaller island in the Indian River Lagoon just west of this private community. Vero Beach is the nearest major city.

The 36-hole club opened the South Course in 1969 and followed soon after with the North Course in 1971. These courses were designed

by Pete Dye with the collaboration of Jack Nicklaus. It was one of the Golden Bear's first forays into course design. The property was originally a live-oak-hammock, riverine habitat along the Indian River and west of Highway A1A and the beach dunes. The indigenous oak trees have played a major role in the growth, development and management of the property.

Twenty years later as the residential community built out and club membership grew, a third course was built on the mainland. The West Course, designed by Tom Fazio in 1988, sprang up amid the sand pine, palmetto and scrub oak lands west of U.S. Highway 1 near Wabasso. Although the

property is 150 acres, only 80 acres hold maintained turf, the rest is native vegetation with special attention given to preserving scrub jay habitat.

Leading the golf and grounds department at Johns Island is ten-year veteran, Golf Course Manager Greg Pheneger. Pheneger just assumed the presidency of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association in July. A graduate of Ohio State University's turf program, he spent his first ten years in the business at the PGA National Golf Club in Palm Beach Gardens rising to director of golf course maintenance before coming to Johns Island in 1993.

Pheneger says his experience at PGA



Number 10 West. The rolling terrain and entirely different native plant palette of scrub oaks, pines and palmettos on the West Course offer members a completely different look from the more residential oceanside courses. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.



Number 6 South. Many holes on the North and South courses are surrounded and framed by native oak trees. Shade management is a top priority. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

National preparing for the 1983 Ryder Cup, eight PGA of America Championships, and the PGA Tour Championship in 1987 were great training for man-

aging multiple courses to the high standards expected at Johns Island.

But seniority has its privileges, so we

begin our tour of the Johns Island Club courses with the eldest of the three courses, the South Course, and superintendent Chuck Calhoun who has been here from day one more than 26 years ago. Says Calhoun, "I've been here when this place was just dirt, and I've been part of six or seven renovations since then; the most recent being the complete rebuild in 2000 and the change from Tifdwarf to TifEagle on the greens."

I asked Calhoun, who has worked on all three of the Johns Island courses, why so many renovations? He relied, "Primarily for playability, drainage and shade. The water table was only 18 inches below the surface originally, but we still drained pretty well. As the homesites were developed, the runoff from the streets and lots drained onto the golf course.

"Tim Hiers was here at that time and we installed 35 wet wells or sumps around the golf course. Each one had an electric pump and moved the water to our lakes. I thought it was pretty innovative at the time. But the system didn't have enough capacity to be effective after really big storms and the continued development, so some of the early renovations were done to raise the fairways and improve the drainage system."

Later enhancements tied both courses to a drainage network of lakes and subsurface drains to what Calhoun calls the Hurricane Lake which has a pump with a 23,000 gpm capacity to move water.

That brings us to playability and shade issues. The playability of any golf course is, of

course, a function of the design. On a barrier island, space is at a premium, so routing a course through all the existing oak trees was no easy task for Dye back in 1969. But trees continue to grow and 15 to 20 years later, shot angles were gone and encroaching tree roots and canopies were wreaking havoc on the turfgrass especially on closely mowed greens.

Phenegar says, "Vero Beach has a very strict tree ordinance that governs the cutting down and trimming of all trees and especially those of specimen characteristics. Once our shade and playability problems got so severe that we couldn't maintain a healthy playing surface, we petitioned to have 200 trees removed during a renovation to relocate some greens into sunnier locations and alter routings to open up the playing of the holes. Some of these were only three feet off the collar of a green, and we were root pruning the trees every six months to no avail.

"Naturally, there was some initial concern over the removal request, but once the person in charge of administering the tree policy for the city came out and rode the courses and saw what we were trying to accomplish, there was no problem. They understood that their policy was based on a residential model and they could appreciate the agronomic differences and needs to maintain a viable golf course."

"We still have certain holes where shade continues to challenge our ability to grow turf, so it is an ongoing process. We hired Arbor Com to come in and study a couple of our worst holes and by plotting the shade patterns throughout the year, they found another 30 trees that needed to come down to give us a fighting chance to grow good turf on the greens. We aren't on some crusade to just cut down trees. We approach shade management in several alternative ways."

"We have two arborist crews that work year-round to thin out the canopies to get as much sunlight through as possible while keeping the trees healthy. We have installed a fan on No. 6 green to help dry it out and prevent disease and will likely add another and look at doing the same on other shady greens. In out-of-play areas where dense shade prevents the establishment and maintenance of healthy turf, we are planting shade-tolerant ferns and other native plants that can succeed in lower-light environments."

While shade is the number one agronomic challenge on the South Course, Tim Nolan, another 26-year veteran of Johns Island, is busy growing-in his new TifEagle greens on the North Course. Nolan cites shade and its impact on overseeding transition in the spring as his most pressing challenges to growing turf.

Like his counterpart Calhoun, he aerifies his course three or four times per year and maintains a regular verticutting program on the greens. With the installation of more native plant beds in the shady and non-play areas, comes more hand labor to grub out the never-ending oak seedlings that pop up and keep intrusive weeds at bay.

Nolan lists hawks, rabbits, bobcats, parrots and otters among the wildlife inventory on the North Course which is addition to the red cockaded



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Johns Island Club



North & South Courses on Orchid Island

Location: Vero Beach

Ownership: Member owned

Playing policy: Private

Number of holes: 36. South Course - 6,592 yards, Par 71, Course Rating 71.9/Slope 136. North Course - 6,941 yards, Par 71, Course Rating 73.8/Slope 136.

Designed by: Both courses originally designed by Peter Dye with the collaboration of Jack Nicklaus. South Course opened in 1969 and the North Course in 1971. Design renovation in 1998-99 on the North Course and in 2000 on the South Course by Craig Shriner. Construction by Barbaron, Inc.

Management: President Brian R. Kroh; Club President Peter P. Graham; Green Chairman Heather Colhoun; Head Golf Professional David Marad. Golf Course Manager Gregory A. Pheneger.

Major renovations/Ongoing projects: 1998-2002 renovation of North Course tees, fairways, roughs and irrigation system; 2003 greens rebuilt and planted to TifEagle. South Course - Complete rebuild of course and regrassing of greens to TifEagle in 2000.

Total acreage under maintenance both courses: 190 acres (South 105 acres, North 80 acres)

Greens: TifEagle. Avg. Size 5,500 - 5,800 sq.ft. Total 4.6 acres. HOC = South: .09-.105; North: .110 depending on season and weather. No overseeding. Green speed goals: 10-11.

Tees: Tifway 419 Bermudagrass, Combined 6 acres.

HOC: .425 South, .400-.500 North. Overseeding: Ryegrass @ 20 lbs/1,000 sq. ft.

Fairways: Tifway 419 Bermudagrass, Combined 56 acres (Roughs 110 acres). HOC: Fairways South .600, North .475-.500. Overseeding - Ryegrass: Fairways -

South @ 350 lbs/A. North @ 375 lbs/A. Roughs-Both @ 250 lbs/A.

Native areas: South 32 acres of deciduous oak hammock. North 7 acres planted in native grasses, ground cover, shrubs and flowers.

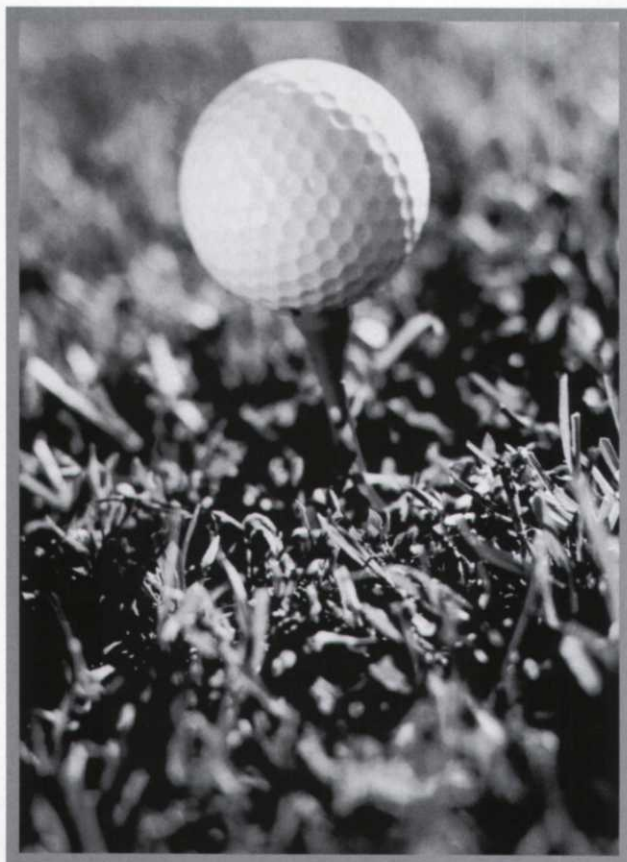
Waterways/Lakes: South 9 lakes (7 acres fresh water, 35 acres brackish). North 5 lakes. Contracted aquatic maintenance.

Irrigation: Flowtronex VFD 2400 gpm pump station. Source: Deep well on mainland and stormwater retention. Rain Bird Cirrus control system. Rain Bird heads triangular spacing. Fertigation system. Currently no watering restrictions in the South Florida WMD.

Total staff including superintendent: South 18 and North 20 full time. 40 hours per week. 6 hours overtime.

Leadership: Administrative Assistant Barbara Tierney. Head Mechanic Gary Petzold; South Course - Chuck Calhoun, Superintendent; David Harrer, Assistant; Ted Cushman, Chemical Technician and Mike Roske, Irrigation Technician. North Course - Tim Nolan, Superintendent; David Beachem, Chemical Technician and Tony Jarrell, Irrigation Technician.

Communications: Entire crew meeting every Monday and weekly management staff meetings every Friday. Monthly safety meetings.



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Johns Island Club

Johns Island Club - West Course on the mainland

Location: Wabasso

Ownership: Member owned.

Playing policy: Private

Designed by: Tom Fazio. Construction by Central Florida Turf

Management: President Brian R. Kroh; Club President Peter P. Graham; Green Chairman Heather Colhoun; Head Golf Professional David Marad. Golf Course Manager Gregory A. Pheneger.

Major renovations/Ongoing projects: Greens reconstructed in 1999 and converted to TifEagle. Irrigation system replaced and upgraded from Rain Bird Maxi to Cirrus. Heads were converted from hydraulic to electric.

Total acreage under maintenance: 80 acres of turf, 70 acres of native area.

Greens: TifEagle Avg. Size 5,000 sq.ft. Total 2.5 acres. HOC .085" - .110" depending on weather conditions. No overseeding. Green speed goals: 10 for daily play, 11 for special events.

Tees: Tifway 419 and Zoysia, 2.5 acres. HOC .275" - .400". Par 3 tees are overseeded with ryegrass @ 500 lbs/A.

Fairways: Tifway 419, 34 acres. HOC .375" - .550". No overseeding.

Roughs: Tifway 419, 40 acres. HOC: 1.0" - 1.75".



No overseeding

Bunkers: 60 native sand. Maintained with 2 John Deere and 1 Smithco rakes. Hand rake small bunkers.

Native areas: 70 acres. Sand pine, palmetto and scrub oak habitat.

Waterways/Lakes: 4 lakes total 9 acres. Maintenance by outside contractor 2X per month.

Irrigation: Flowtronex VFD pump station. Source: Deep well. Rain Bird Cirrus control system. Rain Bird 700 series heads on 70 ft. triangular spacing. 3 fertigation tanks with 2 pumps. Currently no watering restrictions in the South Florida WMD. Water

management/conservation: Greens are watered once per week automatically and supplemented by hand watering.

Total staff including superintendent: 26 full time. 40 hours per week. 6 hours overtime.

Leadership: Superintendent John Curran; Assistant Superintendent Lucas Harvey; Second Assistant Barry Balavender; Head mechanic Anthony Seals; Assistant Mechanic Rusty Meyer; Chemical Technicians Tom Caldwell and David Ramsey; Irrigation Technician Jose DeLapaz.

Communications: Weekly crew and club staff meetings.

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Number 18 West. The 150-acre West Course has 80 acres of turf and 70 acres of native areas. Managing proper nutrition and moisture levels in the sandy soil and keeping invasive plants out of the native areas are the biggest challenges. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

Greg Pheneger, Golf Course Manager



Originally from: Granville, Ohio

Family: Wife Gail; Sons Alec (11) and James (8)

Education: AAS Ohio State University

Employment history: 1980-1993 PGA National Golf Club as assistant superintendent, Champions Course 1981-86; superintendent 1986; director of GC maintenance 1988-93. 1993-present, Johns Island Club

Professional affiliations and awards: Member GCSAA, FGCSA (current president), FTGA, Treasure Coast GCSA - all offices and chapter delegate 2001, 1999 and 1998

How did you get into the business: My father is a retired club professional and I became involved in the golf course industry at an early age.

Mentors: My parents - Their love and devotion to family life has been a steady influence on my life. Paul Lombard - My football coach who taught me

that I could be a leader. Luke Majorki (PGA National) - He had a very strong work ethic, but family came first.

Accomplishments: Being involved in the preparations for major golf championships - 1983 Ryder Cup; 1985-93 PGA Seniors Championships and 1987 PGA Championship.

Philosophy of work/Advice: We are in a service industry and our job is to serve our customers. Our customers may be multimillionaires or someone like me. No matter who it is, their opinion counts and should never be ignored.

Memorable moments: This may sound corny, but it was definitely the birth of my two sons. I do not cry often, and probably never did before their births. However, I cried tears of joy on these two occasions
Hobbies/Interests: Golf and snow skiing. I coach soccer for the local youth league.