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4



4

SPOTLIGHT: AWARDS, CHAPTER ROUNDUP

Joel Jackson was completely surprised when he was announced as winner of the 2002 Wreath of Grass Award at the FTGA Conference and Show in Tampa. Kevin Downing was presented the Presidents Award for Lifetime Service by the Treasure Coast GCSA.

14

COVER STORY: SAN JOSE C.C.

Born in the Florida land boom of the roaring 20s, the San Jose Country Club was envisioned as a resort and a planned community on the eastern shore of the St. Johns River, just five miles south of the heart of downtown Jacksonville.

24

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: STOP HIDING

Superintendents need to be seen by their golfers as doing their jobs, an important job that requires many talents, all of which they are capable of and proficient in. They need to be perceived as efficient and effective in the performance of their duties. They need to stop hiding.

26

HANDS ON: FROST IN FLORIDA!

A footprint made on a putting green that's covered with frost can kill the grass, necessitating costly and unsightly repairs. Also a survey of latest information on insect control, an ingenious technique for creating a dry environment for pvc cement, and some "Junior Tips."

36

OFFICIAL BUSINESS: A LOADED GUN TO OUR HEAD

MSMA is the most effective broad-spectrum postemergence herbicide for use on grassy weeds in bermudagrass. It's also a heavy element and Class A human carcinogen.

48

RESEARCH: LOBATE LAC SCALE INVADES

A new threat to urban landscape plants as well as to native plants in natural areas is a scale insect known as lobate lac scale. It's now found throughout Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties.

50

JOURNAL/AFTERWORDS: NECROLOGY, JOE LEE, BAND

Jeff Hayden, a founding member and former president of the Seven Rivers GCSA, and Mike Cantwell, a key member of the Everglades and Calusa GCSAs, died this past fall. Mark Jarrell celebrates the contributions and persona of architect Joe Lee. Joel Jackson compares superintendents to the original "Band of Brothers" created by William Shakespeare in Henry V.

About the use of trade names: The use of trade names in this magazine is solely for the purpose of providing specific information and does not imply endorsement of the products named nor discrimination against similar unnamed products. It is the responsibility of the user to determine that product use is consistent with the directions on the label.

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CALL FOR ARTICLES

Hands on Topics: Share your best practices and tips for these upcoming topics. Photographs or slides are encouraged. Digital images that are 5 inches wide at 300 dpi or greater accepted.

2. Spring 2003 – Managing the Putting Surface: Programs and Equipment

New top dressers; brush inserts for verticut units; ultradwarf greens; Was rolling just a fad now over? Mowing heights and turf health. Share your programs and equipment arsenal. Deadline: Feb. 15.

3. Summer 2003 – Overseeding Trends & Poa Annuua Control

Do new grass varieties mean less overseeding? What types, blends, and rates do you use for greens, tees, fairways? Have water restrictions changed your plans? When do you seed? What is your program for controlling Poa annua and volunteer seed germination? Deadline: May 15.

Please submit articles via email if possible. Attached articles should be saved in Microsoft Word or, if you use another word processor save it as a Text file before attaching or you may just copy and paste it into the email text box. Try to limit articles to 1500 words or less. The Florida Green pays \$100 per page and \$50 for 1-3 pictures.

Digital photos must be a minimum of 5 inches wide at 300 dpi for publication-quality reproduction.

Do not write on the back of prints. Attach a Post-it note with ID information. All slides and photographs should include identification of persons in the picture and the name of the photographer.

Contact Joel D. Jackson, editor for more information. Mail: 6780 Tamarind Circle, Orlando, FL 32819. Phone or fax: 407-248-1971. E-mail: flgm@aol.com.

ADVERTISER INDEX

Aerification Plus	20	Pike Creek Turf Farms	12
Almar Turf	8	Poulenger USA, Inc.	37
Bayer Environmental Science	6	Ragan Technical	2
Calcium Silicate Corp.	19	Regal Chemical Co.	27
Coastal Equipment Systems	Inside Back Cover	Ringhaver Equipment Col	21
Country Club Services	11	Sanford Golf	42
ER Jahna Industries	18	Seaisle One	43
Floratine Products Group	54	South Florida GCSA	5
Golf Agronomics Supply	22	South Florida Grassing	38
Great White Shark Enterprises	55	Spread-Rite	2
Green Technologies	31	Stoller Chemical Co. of Florida	49
Green-Way	52	Syngenta	45
Harrell's	1	Tee-to-Green Turf Products	46
Hendrix and Dail	11	The Haverland Companies	30
Howard Fertilizer & Chemical Co.	23	The Lake Doctors	35
John Deere Company	39	TifSport Growers Association	25
Kubota Tractor Corp.	17	Tifton Physical Lab	31
Lake City CC Alumni	9	Tom Burrows Turfgrass Service	33
Lake Fountains	33	Toro Dealers of Florida	28
Laserturf	35	Turf Technologies	12
Lesco, Inc	3	United Horticultural Supply	10
North Georgia Turf	8	Univar	47
Nu-Gro Technologies	53	Upstart	2
Nucrane Machinery	Back Cover	West Coast GCSA	13
Parkway Research	40		

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I would like to start by thanking Dale Walters for his years of service to the board of directors. Dale has left his position as golf course superintendent and taken on his new position in sales with Lesco, Inc. While serving on the board of directors this year, Dale contributed two great ideas, which we will put into use.

His first idea of starting a benevolent fund will get kicked off at the Florida Reception at the GCSAA Conference and Show in Atlanta in

(attendees) and then have a drawing at the end of the reception for a 50/50 split. This will be a great way to jump-start this fund plus it will be good for the lucky person whose ticket gets drawn.

Dale's second idea is to have an FGCSA booth at select LPGA and PGA Tour events. This will be a good way to showcase our involvement in the world of golf. Items that we will consider for this exhibit include involvement with ACSP, irrigation efficiency and IPM programs. This will take some time to produce but hopefully we will have it together for select tournaments coming up in 2003. We will need volunteers to help man this booth so let us know if you would like to help participate and please give us your ideas.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to the families of Mike Cantwell and Jeff Hayden. Mike was the superintendent at Miramar Lakes Country Club in Ft. Meyers. He lost his life in November. A trust fund will be created to benefit Mike's children. Mike is the fourth golf course superintendent to tragically lose his life this year joining Al Cowing, Chip Fowkes and Tom Crawford. We need to get this benevolent fund underway to help these families in time of need.

Then the sad news that long-time superintendent and recent Golf Ventures sales representative Jeff Hayden also died in early December. The family requested that any remembrance of Jeff be made in the form of a donation to the UF/IFAS Environron. See the articles on Mike and Jeff in this issue. Coupled with the passing of 87-year-old, FTGA founder Joe Konwinski earlier this year, it has

been a tough year of loss for our industry.

If you attended the USGA Regional Seminars in November, you heard the bad news about MSMA from Leslie Smith with the DEP. Arsenic levels in soil and ground water at several of the older golf courses exceed levels allowed by EPA. This definitely puts the future use of the herbicide in serious jeopardy even though the product has been applied in accordance with the label. Plans are to meet with representatives from D.E.P. and DACS to see if more testing can take place and to work with the agencies to supply scientific evidence in deciding the fate of this herbicide.

Another dark cloud is making its presence known is Lobate Lac Scale. This insect pest has been a problem in several counties in Florida including Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and Martin and, if left untreated, can kill such species as ficus, coco plum, wax myrtle, green and silver buttonwood. So far it has been seen on a total of 50 plant species. See the article by Dr. Howard from IFAS in this issue.

Time for the good news!

Joel Jackson, our director of communications, will receive one of GCSAA's highest honors, the Distinguished Service Award. The presentation will be at the Opening Session of the 2003 Conference and Show in Atlanta, Georgia. If you are attending the conference, please make the Opening Session part of you plans. Joel, the drinks are on you at the reception.

I would like to welcome Steve Wright back to Florida. He will be taking over the position of director of golf course maintenance at the Boca West Country Club. Some of

you may remember Steve from the Central Florida Chapter where he was the superintendent at Alaqua Country Club. Steve has also been involved as president of the Carolinas GCSA this past year and I know he will bring a lot of great enthusiasm back to Florida. Steve is replacing a legend in South Florida in Billy Wright (no relation). Billy will be starting a golf course construction/renovation business and will be leaving Boca West after some 25 years. Best of luck to both Billy and Steve.

Finally, I would again like to thank Shelly Foy for the work that she did organizing the ACSP workshops that were held in December. Last report is that around 150 people attended. That's a good start. Let's keep it up. I know that this is a great program and one that golf course superintendents must embrace if we are to truly be stewards of the environment.

May 2003 be your best year ever.

Another dark cloud is making its presence known is Lobate Lac Scale. This insect pest has been a problem in several counties in Florida including Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and Martin and, if left untreated, can kill such species as ficus, coco plum, wax myrtle, green and silver buttonwood. So far it has been seen on a total of 50 plant species.

Good News/ Bad News

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



David Court, CGCS

February. We will be collecting donations at the door from contributors

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You Got Me!
FTGA Wreath of Grass Award a Total Surprise

When Tom Alex took the podium in Tampa to introduce the 2002 FTGA Wreath of Grass winner, I thought, "That's right they always present it at the annual luncheon. Wonder who it is this year?"

It only took a couple of sentences into his speech and I knew I was the one. There aren't too many folks who graduated from the U. of South Florida with a major in geology and made their way into the golf business via the U.S. Coast Guard and Orange County School System.

Tom roasted me well that day and the assembly was witness to an emotional acceptance speech.

The Florida turf business is amazing and usually underrated. The challenges are outweighed by the rewards. For my part it has fed, clothed, housed and educated me and my family, and given me opportunities to meet some of the most interesting people in the world. I am grateful that my peers have seen fit to pronounce my efforts in the industry worthy of this recognition. Thank you very much!

Joel Jackson

Kevin Downing: President's Award for Lifetime Service

I've known Kevin Downing for the better part of 16 years, first as a student, and then as a fellow superintendent. I never would have thought that I would one day be presenting him an award of any kind. Not that he is undeserving; I just never saw myself one day being president of a chapter and presenting an award to someone I always looked up to. I'm not going to say I want to aspire to be like him, because Kevin spends way too much time on association-related issues. He lives for this industry and the game of golf equally. If I spent a fraction of the time he spends, I'd be divorced.

Kevin's career began after he received his degree in golf course operations from Lake City Community College in 1975. His first job was superintendent at Oxbow Golf Club in



Treasure Coast GCSA President John Morsut, left, presents President's Award for Lifetime Service to Kevin Downing, CGCS.

Port Labelle from 1975-1978. From there he went on to Atlantis Golf Club in Lake Worth as superintendent from 1978-1982. It is here that he became a certified superintendent in 1980. In 1982 he accepted the superintendent's position at Mariner Sands Country Club in Stuart from 1982-1988. Finally, his last move was to the

Willoughby Golf Club in Stuart where he has been since 1988 as the golf and landscape manager. Kevin was responsible for overseeing the design and construction of the course initially and recently just finished a successful rebuild of the course from tee to green.

Besides being a superintendent, Kevin has a very creative side. He likes to be involved in golf course and landscape design. He has been involved in various projects with Architects Rees Jones, Gary Player, John Sanford and Arthur Hills.

Aside from his managerial responsibilities, his professional involvement includes being active on the Treasure Coast chapter board of directors where he has responsible for securing education for our monthly meetings for the past four years. He was president of the Florida GCSA in 1983 and continued serving as Research Committee chairman for nearly a decade. He also serves as the alternate voting delegate for the FGCSA at the GCSAA Annual Meeting. He also serves as a director in the Florida State Golf Association. He has served on numerous committees and resource groups for the GCSAA. Everyone knows him in Lawrence, Kan. I'm just surprised that he has never run for office at the national level.

His commitment to the game of golf is a very personal one. I should know. Whenever I am checking on things at my golf course during the evening, there's Kevin at the range working on his swing, analyzing every detail about it. He would ask me to stay and tell him where he is in his back swing. Yeah, me; a superintendent with a handicap of 28 helping a guy with a 7. Sorry Kevin, but that is a bit desperate.

I am glad to have been able to know and now work with Kevin. In him the industry truly has someone it can count on. The Treasure Coast chapter is lucky to have him as a member. I wish him all the best in the future and hopes he continues his commitment to the industry for all of our sakes.

John A. Morsut

Editor's Note: Over the years I have come to admire and respect the passion Kevin has for our profession and his willingness to explore all the possibilities that lie before us. He is never short on ideas and enthusiasm for the industry he loves. Congratulations Kevin. This is a well deserved honor for a lifetime of service.

Kevin's Professional Affiliations

- USGA Green Section Committee
- US Golf Association
- Golf Course Superintendents Association of America
- National Golf Foundation
- Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association
- Florida Turfgrass Association
- Florida Native Plant Society

Achievements

- Certified Golf Course Superintendent 1980
- President, Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association 1982-83
- Consultant, National Golf Foundation 1986-87
- Vice-Chairman, Palm Beach County Amateur Golf Association 1988-93
- Recipient, Native Plant Society Award Martin County Chapter 1989
- FGCSA Distinguished Service Award 1990
- Speaker, PGA seminars on Golf Course Design and Construction 1989-94
- USGA Green Section Advisory Committee 1989-97
- Director, Florida State Golf Association 1996-Present
- Advisory Board, South Fork High School Golf Maintenance Training Program 1990-Present
- FGCSA President's Award for Lifetime Service 2002
- Continuous meritorious service on FGCSA, FTGA and GCSAA committees and resource groups throughout his career.
- Played or visited 70 of the 100 top-ranked golf courses.

Chapter Round Up
Calusa

We regret to report that Mike Cantwell, GCS at Miromar Lakes passed away unexpectedly on Nov. 11 (see related article). On Nov. 19, the Calusa Chapter was the host for a three-chapter meeting as members of the Everglades and Suncoast Chapters joined them at Edison Community College in Ft. Myers to hear Hannes Combest of the GCSAA review the upcoming changes and requirements resulting from the Professional Development Initiative.

Central Florida

Congratulations to Joel Jackson, CGCS on receiving the FTGA

The S.F.G.C.S.A. would like to thank the following *Eagle Sponsors* for their generous support of the *2003 Missing & Exploited Children's Benefit Tournament.*



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Wreath of Grass Award at the Conference and Show in Tampa last September. On Dec. 9, the Annual Past Presidents Outing was scheduled to be hosted by John Kopack, GCS at the Legacy Club at Alaqua Lakes.

Following a round of golf the past presidents and the current board members will sign Christmas cards to the chapter members and have dinner together.

Wayne Hosid, Fla. Dept. of Agriculture, will make a presentation on pesticide labeling at the Dec. 16 meeting at the new Mystic Dunes G.C., Jason Moore is the GCS host.; Kicking off the 2003 season Jan. 13, the chapter will hold its annual superintendent/club official scramble tournament to raise FTGA research funds at Stuart Leventhal's Interlachen CC. Guest speaker John Foy will give an update on ultradwarf grasses. Chris Cartin, former superintendent recently promoted to general manager, will host the chapter's annual superintendent/vendor tournament at the Deltona Hills G&CC Feb. 24.

Everglades

The chapter hosted an environmental education fundraiser for the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed at Bonita Bay East on Oct.



EGCSA President Jim Leiseberg (right) presents a \$9,000 check to CREW Executive Director Ellen Lindblat at the Environmental Education Fundraiser held at Bonita Bay East. Photo by Joel Jackson.

5. At the end of the day EGCSA President Jim Leiseberg handed CREW Executive Director Ellen Lindblat a check for \$9,000. Pelican Sound's River Club hosted an ACSP Workshop on Dec. 2 to kick off a series of four workshops designed to get courses on the path to certification. The EGCSA and TESTA 2002 panel discussion was at Jason DiMartino's Audubon CC on Dec. 12. A panel of four superintendents and four equipment managers fielded questions from superintendents, equipment managers, mechanics, and

vendors in the audience.

Although the LCCC Endowment Fund Tournament isn't an official chapter function, it is organized and run primarily by EGCSA members and takes place in southwest Florida. Roy Bates announced that this year's event at Jason Brod's Raptor Bay G.C. raised \$15,000 for Lake City Community College. The committee consisted of David Fry, Glenn Zakany, Scott Hamm, John Johnson, Brod, Bates, Mike Smith and Odell Spainhour. Bates added that the success of the event, besides the obvious fantastic support by sponsors, was the hard work and effort by David Fry and WCI Communities, Inc.

North Florida

The September meeting of the NFGCSA was held at Lake City Community College. The chapter chartered a bus and visited the Golf Course Operations program at Lake City Community College. After a tour by John Piersol of the facilities for golf course management, turf equipment technicians, irrigation certification and forestry management, the group teed it up at the Lake City Country Club. The take-home message: Chapters can help

Lake City continue to train excellent future superintendents by participating in career days at their local high schools. Congratulations to Chris Neff for having the Timaquana Country Club in great shape for the 2002 U.S. Senior Amateur Championships. The USGA gave Chris a big "thumbs up" on the excellent conditions. This year's Christmas tournament will be at the Ponte Vedra Club and hosted by Jay Reister.

Palm Beach

The Chapter won the Cavanaugh Cup five-and-two at the annual joint meeting with the TCGC-SA. Mike Perham, CGCS will host the Chapter's Holiday Golf Outing at Jonathans Landing. In November, eight members of the chapter participated in a day-long spokesperson training program with communications consultant Dr. Tom Morgan. The program focused not only on how to deal with crisis communications, but how to work with the media to get out positive stories about golf. Eric Jorgenson hosted the Southeast Region ACSP Workshop at the Mizner GC on Dec. 3. The chapter's annual chartered bus trip to a Miami Dolphins football game was Dec. 15

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Ridge

Our new secretary/treasurer Clay Marshall, GCS of the River Greens GC in Avon Park hosted our October meeting to get some members in the South Ridge more involved. At the November meeting at Cleveland

GC thanks to Ridge President Mark Hopkins. In January Jeff Brown will spruce up the Lake Region Y&CC for our Superintendent/Vendor golf tournament. We will not have a February meeting due to the GCSAA conference in Atlanta. Our big fundraiser, the

will miss his friendship and support. World Woods GC will be the cover story for the FTGA Turf Digest's Jan/Feb 2003 issue. World Woods also recently hosted the finals of the Champions Tour Qualifying School, which kept IGM superintendents Mike Swinson, CGCS, David Younger (Pine Barrens) and Ryan Willis (Rolling Oaks) busy with tournament prep and overseeding grow-in. SugarMill Woods hosted the final 2002 ACSP workshop on Dec. 6. Buddy Keene of the Gainesville G&CC will host the December chapter meeting on Dec. 10.

Bob Harper led the SFGC-SA team of Jim Torba, Seth Strickland, Joe Pantaleo and Kelly Cragin to a convincing victory in the FGCSA Golf Championship at the Southern Dunes GC in Haines City. For the past 17 years the SFGCSA has been a steadfast supporter of the work done by the Florida branch of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to the tune of \$150 in contributions. This year Florida Executive Director Nancy McBride announced the total has now reached \$177,000 thanks to the overwhelming success of the 18th Annual M&E Tournament at Dale Kuehner's Colony West C.C. The M&E committee



FTGA president and director of golf maintenance Bobby Ellis of ChampionsGate (red shirt) recently hosted a tour of his golf courses for the Hawaiian Ag Leadership Tour, which visited agriculture operations on the mainland. In Washington while visiting the USDA Office, one worker asked the group, "Hawaii has a governor, right?" Hmmm. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Heights GC in Lakeland hosted by Bob Solns, a technician from the Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa did a skin cancer ID and prevention program. We held our traditional December meeting at the Harrell's Office in Lakeland with Jack Harrell, Sr. as our guest speaker. Then we enjoyed an afternoon of bowling for a change of pace. Our chapter Christmas outing will be at the Bartow

Ridge Invitational, will be March 3 at the Grasslands CC in Lakeland and we expect Roy Wilshire, CGCS will have the greens fast as usual.

Seven Rivers

We regret to report the death of our friend and founder Jeff Hayden (see related article). Jeff passed away at his home on Friday, Dec. 6. We

South Florida



The series of four ACSP workshops held around the state finished up at Sugar Mill Woods, GC in Homosassa Springs. Audubon International staff ecologist JoEllen Zeh and USGA's John Foy and/or Todd Lowe anchored each session. Speakers at Sugar Mill Woods included (from left): Buddy Keene, CGCS, Gainesville G&CC; Garth Boline, Chi-Chi Rodriguez G.C.; Jan Weinbrecht, UF/IFAS; JoEllen Zeh, A.I.; and John Foy, USGA. Photo by Joel Jackson.

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