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SPOTLIGHT: SOUTH FLORIDA EXPO ANOTHER HIT

What do you get when you mix a beautiful day, 500 people, the best turfgrass researchers, 46 vendors, a magnificent barbecue lunch, and excellent educational sessions? The 17th Annual SFGCSA Turf Exposition, of course.

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Over the years, FGCSA's local chapters have made connections with NBC Sports and helped to provide spotters and scorers to assist in the televising of the four men's Tour events in Florida.

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The Florida Green

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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.

Fall 2004 - Traffic Control Programs and Strategies

Winter 2005 - New Weed-Control Weapons.

Spring 2005 - Successful In-House Projects.

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.

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A Privilege to Serve

This past year has flown by and has arrived much quicker than I expected. I am sitting at my desk writing my last President's Message for the *Florida Green*. The prospect of writing these articles four times over a period of a year loomed as the most daunting task that I could foresee in becoming president of the Association. I always find myself struggling to write an article that someone (other than my Mom), would find interesting and useful. So away we go!

The board has had a very busy year and has worked diligently to do the right thing for the association. The directors stepped up to the plate and embraced the initiatives that were set forth one year ago. The committees were actual committees with members who jointly worked

together towards their goals. A so-called committee in the past often consisted of one person who communicated only with the board. Hopefully, this trend will be continued and we will expand the input that the board receives on all issues.

Thank you to each and everyone on the board and the committee members. We would not have been able to accomplish our goals that we completed without your diligent efforts.

Joe Pantaleo and Craig (Bulldog) Weyandt were always at the ready for suggestions. They each did their homework on issues and were always very prepared to take on any task that was presented to them. Thank you for all of your help and support.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greg Pheneger

Unfortunately, David Court will be leaving the board. Those of you that do not know David cannot begin to fathom the steady influence that he has had on the board. David always had a very controlled, well-thought-out voice of wisdom. The voice of wisdom is not a new phenomenon for him. I first met him many years ago well before the lines on my face appeared and my hair started turning gray and after my first conversation, I knew this was someone that I was going to respect. Now, at least I have had the privilege of working with him and on behalf of the entire board, thank you for allowing us to gain by your being involved.

Joel and Marie, (sounds like the title of a love song from John Mellencamp), are the lifeboat of this organization. They both have been there to correct my mistakes and make me look good. I thank you both for your guidance, patience and especially their understanding during the past year. Each and every member needs to thank Marie and Joel daily for their contributions.

During the course of the past year, for those of you who read these articles, I have mentioned the idea of learning from the past to improve the future. When I look back to see who shaped my involvement in superintendent matters, first in the Treasure Coast Chapter and then the state, I look to two past presidents having the greatest influence.

First was Mark Jarrell who took the time to make me feel a part of the gang on a softball team years and years and years ago. I was new to Florida and knew only one person on the team of estab-

lished superintendents. Mark took the time to introduce himself and actually showed some interest in me.


As the years went on, I asked Mark questions concerning the association and I gained a whole new respect for his passion and listened to him talk about the need for involvement from others, I decided to get involved on the local level with no immediate intentions of becoming this involved, but I am thankful and have gained from my involvement. Mark writes a column for each and every *Florida Green* called "Mark My Words". His articles are a must read in every issue and his continued involvement is a great asset to the Board.

The board has had a very busy year and has worked diligently to do the right thing for the association. The directors stepped up to the plate and embraced the initiatives that were set forth one year ago. The committees were actual committees with members who jointly worked together towards their goals. A so-called committee in the past often consisted of one person who communicated only with the board. Hopefully, this trend will be continued and we will expand the input that the board receives on all issues.

The second past president was Paul Crawford. "Crawdaddy" prodded and poked at me to get more involved years ago but with the tournament schedule at my previous job, it was nearly impossible. Now I realize that I had the time if I just had the wisdom and maturity to manage my time better. They both had different methods but they both left a lasting impression on me and I thank them for all of the guidance that they provided over the years.

At the 2004 Past President's Dinner, I had the privilege of presenting the Distinguished Service Award to Darren Davis. Darren has become a very good friend and it was a wonderful experience to present such a prestigious award, but to also give it to someone that I respect so much was the icing on the cake. Darren served on the board for many years and also spent two years as immediate past president. He continues to serve the FGCSA on the national level through his involvement as a committee member. Congratulations Darren, on a well-deserved honor.

I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to represent the FGCSA at several functions over the past year. My club has benefited from my involvement through contacts that I have made during the past year. It was an extreme honor and privilege to serve as President and I thank you for allowing me to do so.



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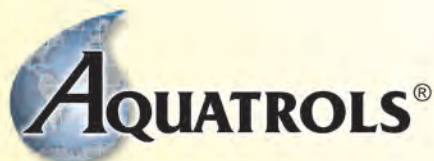


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**Chapter Round Up
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Calusa

We are proud to announce that our new Web site, www.calusagc-sa.com, is in the final stages of con-



On behalf of the Palm Beach GCSA, Chapter President Peter Powell (left) presented Greg Pheneger with a donation of \$5,000 to be used by the FGCSA for Government Relations and other operating expenses of the FGCSA. Photo by Joel Jackson.

struction and will be fully operational very soon. We will also be publishing our first chapter membership directory.



Congratulations to chapter president Greg Kriesch and his Heritage Palms G.C. for being the summer cover story in the *Florida Green*.

Central Florida

We had a mid-term change of officers as President Brian Lentz moved to Bradenton to take the

chapter members will be anxious to test out Buck Buckner's Mini Verde greens at the new Eagle Creek golf course. This is the first use of Mini Verde in Florida that we know of. We will host another GCSAA Regional Sept. 30 with Michigan State's turf pathologist, Dr. Joe Vargas.

Congratulations to the team



On behalf of the Jeff Hayden Envirotron Classic, Seven Rivers GCSA's Glenn Oberlander and Buddy Keene (left and right) accept the Golf Ventures, Helena and Jacobsen Championship Donor's check of \$25,000 from David Cheeseman, Don Delaney and Walt McMahon. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Lakewood Ranch G&CC job. Vice President Scott Jamros, CGCS, Hawks Landing GC has become president. We wish Brian and his family all the best and thanks for the years of service to the chapter.

There was a big turnout for the GCSAA Regional Seminar on Bermudagrass Management with Drs. John Cisar and Dave Kopec at the Crown Plaza Resort in Orlando. In June

of Chris Barfield, Joel Brownsberger, Tommy Land and Glenn Thompson for capturing the first Chapter Challenge Cup in a three-way match among the Central Florida, Ridge and West Coast chapters. Thanks to Diamond Players Club for hosting this inaugural event and Superintendent Kevin Baldwin for organizing it.

Everglades

Congratulations to Darren

Davis on being named 2004 FGCSA Distinguished Service Award winner at the Past Presidents Dinner on May 13 and also to Kenyon Kyle of the Shadow Wood C.C. in Bonita Springs on becoming a Certified Golf Course Superintendent. We aren't slowing down just because the Poa Annua Classic is over. In June we are hosting a



Paul Crawford (left) outbid all comers to win the Bayer Power Pak auctioned off by Brian MacCarrach at the Blue Pearl at Loblolly Pines. The proceeds are donated back to the chapter. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Vendor Appreciation Day to thank all those affiliate members for their generous sponsorship of our chapter events and education seminars. We will be holding a superintendent/affiliate team event at the Imperial Golf Club with no charge to the affiliate members.

By all accounts the 2004

continued on page 6 ...

Teams playing in the National Minority Golf Championships are introduced as they march into the Opening Session at the PGA Club in St. Lucie. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Thank you to our 2004 POA Sponsors for presenting

The 29th Annual Poa Annua Classic

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Poa Classic



FUNDamentally Speaking Dr. Patt Schwab, president of **FUNDamentally Speaking**, believes in taking humor seriously as her seminars are packed with humor, insight and practical tips for working with people. Her topic, *Dealing with Jerks*, resonated with the superintendent audience at the seminar in Naples. Photo by Joel Jackson.



One of the attractions of playing in the Poa Classic is not all the birdies are on the greens. The Rose-ringed Parakeet is a common sight on the Naples Beach Club G.C. Photo by Joel Jackson.



The 2004 G.C. Horn Endowment Tournament was held at the beautiful and challenging Estuary G.C. at Grey Oaks in Naples. Photos by Joel Jackson.



Marie and Her Boys Ten presidents gather around Association Manager Marie Roberts. She made us all look good when we had the gavel. From left: Paul Crawford ('93), David Court ('02), Don Delaney ('83), Joel Jackson ('89), Marie Roberts (since '84), Darren Davis ('99), Dale Kuehner ('96), Tim Hiers ('78 – the first), Greg Pheneger ('03), Scott Bell ('94) and Kevin Downing ('82). Photo by Casey Harris



Seth Strickland defended his 2003 Poa Annuu Classic title by duplicating his score of 69 from last year. Strickland lost no time in celebrating and chilling out beachside with friend Resa Teproff. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Distinguished Service At the Past Presidents Dinner in conjunction with the Poa Annuu in Naples, FGCSA President Greg Pheneger had the honor of presenting the 2004 FGCSA Distinguished Service Award to Darren Davis for his continuous service to the Everglades and Florida GCSA chapters and the GCSAA. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Poa players gather on the putting green to meet and greet before the shotgun start. The tournament was sold out early this year. Photo by Joel Jackson.

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Poa Annuu Classic weekend was a smashing success. The Florida GCSA held its spring board meeting on Thursday afternoon. The Friday morning seminar, "Dealing with Jerks," had one of the largest attendances ever. Presenter Dr. Patt Schwab believes in putting the "Fun" before the "damental" in the learning process. After the seminar, the companion but separate, G.C. Horn Tournament moved down the street to The Estuary Club at Grey Oaks and gave players a look at a



Treasure Coast's Ralph Dain, External Vice President (left) presented Greg Pheneger with a research donation check of \$5,000. Photo by Joel Jackson.

beautiful and challenging course. The Low Gross winners in the three-man scramble team event were Mark Brazinski, Jason DeMartino and Kevin Wasilewski.

The 34th annual Poa tournament was an early sellout leaving some procrastinators miffed at missing the cutoff. Sorry folks — first come, first served. The golf tournament results were announced during the luau and South Florida GCSA member Seth Strickland took home his second consecutive Poa Annuu Classic title by repeating his 69 from last year. The rest of the field could only muster a 74 in response as Joe Pantaleo, Jim Torba, Roy MacDonald and Mark Henderson chased Strickland in vain. The host Everglades Chapter had a large pool of net golfers (sandbaggers) to draw from and easily won the Chapter Team Event with Jay Smith, Gary Higgins, Scott Hamm and Terry Wood shooting the low-net rounds.

If there was one dark cloud over the event it was a brief rain shower that visited the luau Saturday night just as the buffet lines opened. Fifteen to twenty minutes later, everyone re-grouped and the food was served. You can tell the attendees are getting older, most of the dancers enjoying the band were younger children of superintendents and vendors. This event remains the biggest event for superintendents and their families held in the state, thanks to the great location at the Naples Beach Club Hotel.



From left: John Katterheinrich, Hal Hicks, Chris Miller and Chris Deariso took first place in the Blue Pearl Tournament. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Chris Ansley, left, external vice president of the West Coast GCSA presented a check for \$7,000 to Greg Pheneger for the FGCSA Research Account. The annual Bud Quandt Fundraising Tournament generated the turf research funding. Photo by Joel Jackson.

North Florida

Congratulations to Andy MacGuire, chapter president for obtaining his CGCS certification. Our Research Tournament hosted by Glen Klauk at the Pablo Creek Club raised \$2,000. We will sponsor a North Florida team to play in the FGCSA

Golf Championship at Southern Dunes in September. The five low gross superintendent scores from our April, May, June and July meetings will make up the team. Rip Phillips hosted our May meeting at the Windsor Parke G.C. The education session was about the proper interpretation of soil reports presented by Bill Bowen of Floratine.

Palm Beach

At the FGCSA spring board meeting in Naples, President Peter Powell made a \$5,000 donation to the FGCSA operating account to

Seven Rivers

The 12th Annual Jeff Hayden Envirotron Classic was another great day for golf and turf research. Tournament Chairman Glenn Oberlander and his teammates John Cunningham, David Hoggard and Cary Lewis shot a 56 to take low gross honors on the Pine Barrens G.C. Meanwhile, the Suncoast Chapter team of Chip Copeman, Robbie Robertson, John Roxburgh and Bill Tyde also shot a 56 on Rolling Oaks to take first place gross.

Championship Sponsors



From left: The team of Mark Brazinski, Kevin Wasilewski and Jason DeMartino and won the 2004 G.C. Horn Endowment Tournament played at the Estuary Golf Club. Photo by Joel Jackson.



The Central Florida team of, from left, Chris Barfield, Joel Brownsberger, Tommy Land and Glenn Thompson captured the first Chapter Challenge Cup against teams from the Ridge and West Coast Chapters.

help offset Government Relations and Public Relations expenses as the state association represents superintendents on economic and environmental issues. Steve Pearson, CGCS hosted the 24th Annual Future of Golf Tournament at The Falls C.C. in Lake Worth June 5. The team of Mark Henderson, Jeff Klontz, Karl Schmidt and Peter Brooks shot a 58 to win the event. On June 19, we will hold our Third Annual Fishing Tournament.

Golf Ventures, Helena Turf Products and Jacobsen presented a check for \$25,000 to help the cause of turf research. We are extremely grateful to the 46 sponsors who helped support this event, which netted \$40,000 after expenses.

South Florida

Thanks to all the sponsors and attendees of the 2004 SFGCSA

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12th Annual Seven Rivers Jeff Hayden Envirotron Classic

Thank you to all our sponsors that made the 2004 event possible

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Palm Beach GCSA

On behalf of the Jeff Hayden Envirotron Classic, Seven Rivers GCSA's Glenn Oberlander and Buddy Keene (left and right) accept the Golf Ventures, Helena and Jacobsen Championship Donors' check of \$25,000 from David Cheeseman, Don Delaney and Walt McMahon. Photo by Joel Jackson

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2004 SFGCSA Turf Expo

Trials, Demos, Seminar Set Stage for Lunch

By Jim Walker

What do you get when you mix a beautiful day, 500 people, the best turfgrass researchers, 46 vendors, a magnificent barbecue lunch, and excellent educational sessions? The 17th Annual SFGCSA Turf Exposition, of course.

The Ft. Lauderdale research center was hopping early with turfgrass managers from golf courses, parks and athletic fields from all over South Florida. Susi and I arrived at 7:00 a.m. to help Marie Roberts with registration.

Field Trials

About 8:25 a.m. Dr. John Cisar came to the front area donning his "pith helmet" and I knew it was time for the field trials to begin. Doc had good news regarding "disease-like" symptoms for the folks managing ultradwarf grasses.

I walked across a bermudagrass test plot with thin spots and spurge, and knew entomologist-nematologist Dr. Robin Giblin-Davis could not be far away. He had more good news for even better control of nematodes in the future. Out with Nematicur and in with parasites!

Next was an interesting trial by Dr. Lawrence Datnoff on fun-

gicide management of bermudagrass greens overseeded with *Poa trivialis*.

We also heard from Dr. Bill Howard about an aphid that is damaging seashore paspalum. Those dirty pests have learned quickly how to damage our hope for a new golf course turf. Because they have been identified early and are easily controlled with sod webworm insecticides, these aphids should only be a minor nuisance.

Other field trials included Dr. Phil Busey with an herbicide update on St. Augustine and bermudagrasses; Dr. George Snyder discussing sodium management; Dr. Bill Kern giving us great tips on capturing all the nuisance critters we find on our golf courses and parks; Dr. Kim Moore showing us beautiful flowering plants in her trial garden; Dr. Ted Carter informing us on evaluating new bio-control agents; Dara Park reporting on the environmental implications of fertilizing St. Augustinegrass; and Dr. Billy Crow discussing which alternative nematicides work on bermudagrass. There were more doctors than you see on General Hospital, and every one was as informative as could be.

Demos and Exhibits

At 10 a.m. the air was



Onlookers check out the newest aerifier from Toro during the equipment demonstrations at the South Florida Expo. Photo by Dara Park

thick with muffled sounds of gas and diesel engines and, at the turn of a key, the equipment demonstrations featuring shiny new machines were under way. There were all types, shapes, sizes and applications. I'm with Tim the Tool Man – More Power (vaaaarrrroom)! At the same time the doors opened for 40 booth displays under the big top tent. Every facet of the turfgrass industry was on display: fertilizers, chemicals, irrigation supplies, and rental equipment.

Lunch

At high noon everyone including Gary Cooper died and went to heaven thanks to Environmental Turf. For the seventh consecutive year, they served up barbecued ribs, green beans, yellow rice and killer cookies. What a treat. There were two lines, no waiting, and Dr. Cisar resplendent in a green apron helping to spoon out the beans. After a little snooze, it was time to trundle off to the auditorium for the seashore paspalum seminar, while mechanics and spray and irrigation technicians had their own concurrent sessions.

Paspalum Seminar

John Foy filled in for Todd Lowe, who had a family emergency, and began a discussion of this new hope for the future of golf course turfgrass. He was joined by Dr. Phil Busey, who served as moderator of the panel consisting of Tim Hiers, CGCS from the Old Collier Club; Mark Henderson, CGCS from Gulfstream Country Club; and Jim Torba from the

Miami Beach Golf Club, all of whom are managing paspalum on their courses. Although Foy is not as keen on paspalum as others, there appear to be some big plusses for this grass. It seems to require less fertilizer, provide an excellent playing surface, can be irrigated with reclaimed or brackish water and its divot recovery seems to be quicker than bermudagrass.

Thanks to All

After the educational sessions ended, refreshments were served at the gazebo and folks picked up their continuing education forms.

The South Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association would like to thank the following people for a wonderful and very successful day: Dr. John Cisar and all the staff at the UF/IFAS Research Center; FGCSA Association Manager Marie Roberts; John Foy from the USGA Green Section; Bob Harper and Kelly Cragin from the South Florida GCSA board of directors; major sponsors Hector Turf, Kilpatrick Turf, Environmental Turf, Disbrow Enterprises and Nucrane Machinery. Special thanks also go to our 40 booth suppliers and, most of all, to everyone who attended the event. Without all of you there wouldn't be an Expo.

We are glad you came, hope it was informative and enlightening and most importantly, we hope to see you again next year with a friend under each arm.



Field trial plot tours at the South Florida Expo covered everything from biocontrols to weeds. Photo by Dara Park