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SPOTLIGHT: HURRICANE DAMAGE

Hurricane damage put the damage on chapter events around the state and made fall preparations more difficult than usual. Lake City Community College alumni had their 14th Annual Endowment Tournament at The Preserve, a WCI community in Fort Myers

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COVER STORY: HOBE SOUND GOLF CLUB

When he first saw the property for the Hobe Sound Golf Club, architect Joe Lee called it one of the most unique pieces of ground he had ever worked on . Required to include only a limited residential component, Joe had the freedom to create one of his most natural layouts, according to author Ron Whitten.

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HANDS ON: SECOND ASSISTANTS

Many courses don't have second-assistant superintendents and, in many instances, may not even have one assistant. But every course has a number-one or number-two "go-to" guy or gal to whom the superintendent turns to run the show in his or her absence.

40

INDUSTRY NEWS: GCSAA CHAPTER DELEGATES MEET

Chaired by Vice President Sean A. Hoolehan, CGCS, the GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting provided delegates updates on GCSAA programs and policies, and solicited input on key issues relevant to the profession, industry and the game.

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SUPERINTENDENTS JOURNAL: NEW YEARS PAUSE

As he reflected on the monumental technological changes that have taken place in producing The Florida Green, Editor Joel Jackson took a moment to consider where we've been, where we are and where we are going as the magazine enters its 32nd year.

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WINTER 2006

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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...

Spring 2006 - **Tree Management**

Summer 2006 - **Managing Vertebrate Pests: Alligators to Moles**

Fall 2006 - **GPS: Bell, Whistle or Tool?**

Winter 2007 - **Organic-based Fertility Programs**

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.

Conventional Photos: 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: flgrn@aol.com.

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I'm not going to talk about the weather. I'm not going to talk about the weather. I'm not going to... Oh, I can't stand it. Did everyone see the hurricane forecast for 2006 (17 named storms, nine hurricanes of which five are predicted to be major)? Ok, it's not great, but it is better than last year. Updated predictions should be out in early '06 and I hope not only that the numbers go down, but also that Florida gets a break from any hurricanes.

Stormy Weather

I am just like the majority of superintendents in Florida in that, prior to the 2004 hurricane season, my

experience in these massive storms was very limited. Now most of us are seasoned veterans. We watch the weather, see the direction of the storm and then put our plans into action. In this issue you will find comments from superintendents on what they have learned and what they are doing differently now. I have adjusted the

plan here at The Moorings Club and will continue to do so. I don't think it will ever be complete, but it will be adjusted to reflect what I have learned, and from listening to the experiences of other superintendents and what we went through on our property.

As long as I am on unpleasant subjects, let's talk about arsenic and phosphorus issues.

The EPA is conducting its required review of MSMA and is in the re-registration process now. The concerns are that MSMA is breaking down into free arsenic. Make sure that you follow the label, especially when mixing small quantities and make sure applicators are wearing the correct protective equipment

called for on the label.

As far as phosphorus is concerned, there is an initiative called the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Basin Plan endorsed by the governor to help clean up the Everglades. The plan calls for the

There may be more stormy weather ahead and I'm not just talking hurricanes.

Building and maintaining working relationships with our allied associations, the

University of Florida as well as regulators and the media

will be important in the

coming days as we address

these issues. You have a stake

in the outcomes...

reduced use of phosphorus in fertilizers in agricultural and urban applications. So before you buy that stock blend of 15-5-15, make sure you need the phosphorus. Base your decisions on good soil test data and scale back wherever possible.

On a positive note, at our fall board meeting, the directors voted and approved several research projects. We have submitted many of these projects to the GCSAA Chapter Cooperative Grant Program for co-funding. We are also partnering with the Florida Turfgrass Association to help fund these worthy research projects which have value across several turf industries besides golf.

There may be more stormy weather ahead and I'm not just talking hurricanes. Building and maintaining working relationships with our allied associations, the University of Florida as well as regulators and the media will be important in the coming days as we address these issues. You have a stake in the outcomes, so stay informed and stay in touch with your local chapters.

Happy New Year to one and all.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Craig Weyandt



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CHAPTER ROUND UP

Hurricanes Affect Chapter Events

CALUSA

We had some spotty tree damage around the chapter necessitating normal post-storm course-clean-up routines. Our November meeting was at The Golf Club of Cape Coral. The speaker, Jim Nucheren from Lexington, spoke on the rules of golf.

CENTRAL FLORIDA

We dodged major damage this year but trees are still dying from 2004 damage and so Husqvarna put on a three-hour chain saw safety and tree-cutting demonstration at our October meeting at the Rio Pinar C.C. Host superintendent Scott Hullinger still has plenty of pine trees in his roughs that are declining thanks to all the twisting and bending from Hurricane Charley in 2004. Husqvarna managed to take a few down



Chain saw safety and how to drop and trim trees were topics at a three-hour training session at the CFGCSA October meeting at the Rio Pinar C.C. in Orlando. Photo by Joel Jackson.

for Scott to demonstrate proper tree-felling techniques. It was obvious from the calculated, common-sense approach these experts took, that most of us don't know jack about the proper way to cut down a tree or trim a limb. Book these guys. It's a great session. Contact Robert Herring, Manager, Golf Operations at 800-438-7543.

COASTAL PLAINS

Our chapter met at Shane Bass's St. James Bay Golf Club in November. We have had a bit of shuffling of members, losing some and picking up new ones. While hurricanes raged west and south of us, we are in a bit of a drought in the Tallahassee area, picking up only minimal amounts of rainfall. Jeff Heggen at Hilaman GC reports his irrigation lake fell below pumping level in November.

EVERGLADES

Recovery from Hurricane Wilma is the top priority for Naples golf courses. The timing could-

n't be worse as our winter visitors are flocking back and the season begins. For the most part the golfers have understood. In many cases they also were affected by the storm's damage to electric service and general destruction of the landscape.

On a happier note we did have our annual Pro/Superintendent tournament Oct. 11 at the Shadow Wood Preserve. Many thanks to superintendent Eric Ruha and his assistant Kirk Kirkland for hosting the event and having the course in immaculate condition. Winners were:

Pro/Superintendent Division – 1. Kelly Kilpatrick & Dan Heslip (64); 2. Jim Torba & Jose Hernandez (66); 3. Tim Hiers & Steve Waugh (66); and 4. Don Burnett & Scott Schroeder (67). Pro/Vendor Division – 1. Lance Allen & Nolan Henke (65) and 2. Greg Wright & Chris Jenson (67). Low Pros were Jose Hernandez and Steve Waugh with 70s. Hernandez won on a match of cards.

North Florida

Congratulations to Lon Chatfield, CGCS, St. Johns G&CC and Lynn Davis, CGCS, Palatka GC for recently achieving their certified golf course superintendent status. We did not have a meeting in November as this is the traditional overseeding month in the region, so our October golf outing at Ken Arsenault's new Panther Creek course was our last get-together until the Christmas party at Steve Blanchette's Hyde Park G.C. Glad this summer is over. Our Annual Mike Richards Memorial Scholarship event will be at Greg Tharp's Jacksonville G&CC April 10.

PALM BEACH

Thirty-five assistant superintendents attended the hurricane-delayed FGCSA Assistant Superintendents Seminar hosted by Ed Miller and the Quail Ridge C.C. on Sept. 29. Ed Suarez, president of Integrated Employers Resources and Charlie Hoare and Richard Farrell of GSI Executive Search led the attendees through workshops on Interactive Leadership and Management Skills and Resume Building and the Interviewing Process. At the end of the session, those who brought resumes along had them critiqued by the folks from GSI.

We were the host site once again for the annual USGA Green Section Regional Conference at the Palm Beach Gardens Marriott on Nov. 10. Ten presenters were scheduled to be on hand for the full day of education – a good way to pick up .6 education points for PDI and CGCS. Many thanks to Eric Knudson for hosting our



Bob Boyan, assistant superintendent at the Tusawilla CC (Central Florida Chapter) shot even-par 72 to win the Individual Trophy at the FGCSA Golf Championship. Photo by Joel Jackson.

SFGCSA 2005

Missing & Exploited Children's Tournament

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Christmas golf outing and party at the Mizner C.C.

RIDGE

We were scheduled to have our traditional December meeting at the Harrell's Fertilizer plant in Lakeland on Dec. 8 and then give golf a rest as we head for the local bowling lanes where shooting over 100 is a good thing. The following Saturday, Mark Hopkins hosted our famous (or is it infamous?) Christmas party and golf outing at the Bartow Municipal G.C. Following a nine-hole golf game, all members and spouses were welcomed to the ensuing party.

SEVEN RIVERS

FGCSA Director of Communications Joel Jackson

spoke at our Nov. 17 meeting at Mike Swinson's Hernando Oaks GC. The topic was Proactive Communications. Also included in the presentation was an update on other current issues facing our industry.

SOUTH FLORIDA

Lost in the massive regional destruction of the upper Gulf coast was the fact that our chapter also took two hurricane hits this season with Katrina and Wilma. All the usual tree- and power-loss-damage is widespread.

At courses where the loss of power severely affected the ability to irrigate, turf survival became touch and go. We did a lot of emergency watering with spray



The South Florida Team made it two in a row as they retained the FGCSA Team Championship Trophy. From left, Jason Bagwell, Seth Strickland, Kelly Cragin, Bob Harper and Joe Pantaleo. Photo by Joel Jackson.

rigs and any other creative way to haul water.

One positive highlight was our annual Missing & Exploited Children 2005

Benefit Tournament. We donated \$20,000 to this worthy cause. Thanks to everyone who helped, participated and sponsored this event.

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for their very generous donation of a Chipco Choice
application for the auction.*

*Thank you to all who participated in the tournament or donated to the raffle
to make this year's event a huge success!*

(Editor's Note: As one of the charter supporters and partners of the Florida chapter of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the SFGCSA's donations are approaching nearly a quarter million dollars after 21 years of giving to this worthy cause.)

Another highlight in this stressful year was that we brought the FGCSA Golf Championship Team Trophy back home from the tournament at Southern Dunes last fall. Jason Bagwell, Seth Strickland, Kelly Cragin, Bob Harper and Joe Pantaleo teamed up to make it a repeat victory.

SUNCOAST

Well Hurricane Wilma didn't hit us too

badly, but it nailed Pete Dye's home in West Palm Beach, causing him to cancel as our guest speaker for November at the Gasparilla Inn. Grateful thanks to our host Jeff Strother and especially Todd Lowe, USGA agronomist for stepping in on short notice as our speaker. Speaking of hurricanes, our chapter donated \$2,225 to the GCSAA Katrina Relief Fund.

Thanks to host Bill Tyde and the Mission Valley Club for hosting our annual Pro/Superintendent event in October. Winners were Shane Bebout and Jason Murray of the Foxfire GC and in the Supplier/Supplier Division, Lee Crosby of Harrell's and Kevin Wasilewski of Syngenta.



Bob Klitz, CGCS presents Nancy McBride, director of prevention education for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children with a check for \$20,000 from the SFGCSA. Photo by Bill McKee.

Robby Robertson was scheduled to host our Christmas Tournament Dec. 8 at his Bird Bay G.C. to end the year. Activities include some fun golf with nine holes of Cayman-ball golf,

dinner and then nine holes of glow-ball golf. The 2006 season began at the Bradenton CC as Renze Berg hosted our annual Vendor Appreciation Day on Jan. 23 and Joel Jackson, FGCSA



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director of communications was on hand to give us an update on industry issues.

In an online poll on our Web site, we asked, "What is your favorite part of attending a Suncoast GCSA Meeting?" The results are not surprising as networking with peers is perhaps one of the biggest benefits of attending monthly meetings: Socializing (networking) 43 percent; Education 20; CEU points 14; Golf 11; Lunch 11. Check it out at www.scgcsa.org.

TREASURE COAST

Slammed last year by Hurricanes Frances and Jean, Wilma also did a number on trees and power lines in our area this year. With many folks being out of power and phone service for more than a week. Our October joint meeting with the Palm Beach GCSA was cancelled and rescheduled for December at Rob Kloska's Jupiter Island Club. We managed to retain the cup in our annual Ryder Cup format golf challenge with a 4.5 to 3.5 victory, giving us bragging rights for another year. Also on the agenda for this meeting, FGCSA Director of Communications Joel Jackson made a presentation on the FGCSA's Golf BMP manual and the mandatory BMPs legislation that was passed in the last session of the state legislature. He also gave an update on current issues facing our industry.

WEST COAST

The 41st Bud Quandt Benevolent Tournament was another super success. Many thanks

to Christi Haley and host Bill Kistler and the staff at Tampa Palms for having the course in great shape. Namesake host Bud Quandt was on hand to welcome everyone at the registration table. The team of Neiswender, Ayer, Rogers and Saputa won the event.

Superintendent Rodney Schultz was the host at our November meeting at the Northdale Golf & Tennis Club. Guest speakers on safety and compliance were Joan M. Spencer from OSHA and Jeff Wharton from American Compliance Technologies.

December 16 will bring our annual Vendor Appreciation Day event at the University of South Florida ball fields in Tampa. This is a free event. Superintendents are encouraged to bring their assistants and others interested in the golf industry.

Current FWCGC-SA projects include finalizing the Chapter Membership Directory, a new Web site design, credit-card billing for meeting registrations and setting up a 501(c)3 account.

FLORIDA GCSA

The fall board meeting scheduled for Oct. 28 was cancelled due to Hurricane Wilma. The meeting was rescheduled for Nov. 11 so the board could meet in time to decide on 2006 turf research proposals and submit necessary letters of support for co-funding from GCSAA. Some directors were still cleaning up from Wilma and could not attend, but were able to submit their input on the list of



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proposals via email and fax. The Florida Turfgrass Association has pledged to help fund these projects as well.

The 2006 FGCSA Superintendent Survey has been distributed to all members for completion, return and tabulation of results. Those who participate in the survey will receive the results.

The FGCSA was prepared to donate to the GCSAA Katrina Relief Fund in addition to several chapters submitting their own individual donations. However, the association will reevaluate the decision in light of the severe damage caused by Hurricane Wilma in south Florida. The five chapters that were most affected have been asked to canvas their

chapters for those who may need assistance including crew members at courses in hardest-hit areas.

Old School Ties Bind LCCC Alums to Event

By Joel Jackson, CGCS

Hail to thee our alma mater... well thankfully the crowd of Lake City Alumni didn't break into song, but they did break into their wallets to sponsor and play in the 14th Annual Lake City Community College Alumni Endowment Tournament.

Each year since 1991, the graduates from the Lake City Golf & Landscape

Operations program have had a reunion in the form of a two-man scramble tournament to raise money for their school. We all know how much the Florida education budget has suffered and those cutbacks have reached into the collegiate ranks as well. For a program that literally has a worldwide reputation for excellent training of those who pursue a career in turf management, these alumni have stepped up to help with budget shortfalls.

This year WCI Communities, Inc. donated the use of its new Pelican Preserve course in Ft. Myers to host the event. In fact, many WCI superintendents, senior golf superintendents and regional agronomists came through the Lake City

program many moons ago. WCI courses around the southwest Florida area have been hosting this annual event for some time now, and by covering it, I have been able to play many a new course in the Ft. Myers - Naples area.

Pelican Preserve is the creation of Lewis "Chip" Powell, golf course architect and one-time superintendent himself. His credits include many courses across Florida and in central Florida, such outstanding tracks as the St. Cloud GC, Duran GC in Viera and the remodel of the Daytona Country Club. Powell also did the renovation of the famed Belleview Biltmore Hotel course in Clearwater and the remodeling job at the Sugar Mill CC in New

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