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SPOTLIGHT: LCCC BENEFIT TOURNAMENT

Gary Dorsch, a regional field manager for the Toro Company hit the 6-iron shot of his life on the Nov. 2 during the annual Lake City Endowment Tournament. The ball went into the cup and earned Dorsch a set of keys to a brand new BMW Z4 convertible.

20

COVER STORY: SKYVIEW GOLF COURSE

The Seven Rivers Chapter nominated the Skyview Course for the Winter 2007 cover story, but to tell the full story is to recognize that Skyview is just the newest of three courses built at the Villages of Citrus Hills.

46

OFFICIAL BUSINESS: THE FERTILIZER RULE

Industry leaders met at the Bob Crawford Agriculture Center in Bartow Dec. 5 to hear the discussion on the latest version of the newly proposed Fertilizer Rule that will govern labels and tags on fertilizer products sold and used in Florida.

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RESEARCH: DIVERSITY IN THE WORKFORCE

Over a three-week period in June Lake City CC Professor Bruce Witt visited 21 facilities and interviewed 49 executives, managers and supervisors. The workforces at those facilities included people from 25 different countries, 10 of them non-Hispanic.

58

AFTERWORDS: GIVING BACK

Jim Colo of the Old Marsh Club is coordinating a group of superintendents in Palm Beach County who are volunteering at The Children's Golf Foundation, the only chapter of The First Tee program designed for mentally and physically challenged children.

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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.

Spring 2007 - Nematode Management without Nematicur

Summer 2007 - Managing and Scheduling Overtime

Fall 2007 - Cultural Programs During Golf Season

Winter 2008 - Seashore Paspalum Update.

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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Those people who know me well, know that I am a runner. I ran in high school and some during college but once the career kicked in with family to boot, there didn't seem to be much time for running. There always seemed to be more important things than putting on running shoes and logging the miles.

One night about three years ago I got out of bed (if you're over 40 you know why) and let the dog out. Right after the dog went out I found myself sitting on the bathroom floor kind of tingling. I thought to myself, "That was weird!" and shook it off and went back to bed. I did not figure it out till later that day that I had actually passed out and then awakened on the floor.

So I scheduled a doctor's appointment to figure out what was wrong and, after an extremely thorough exam, he said that my blood pressure was kind of high and thought I should be on medication. This was his only explanation for me passing out besides standing up too quick, which did not make sense because I

had let the dog out first.

I did not like the idea of taking pills and asked if there was any other way to bring my blood pressure down.

The doctor said, "Yes, you can try changing your diet and exercising more and that may have an effect on your blood pressure."

The doctor gave me four weeks to see if I could get my blood pressure down. So I changed my diet and started running again.

I joined a local running group three days a week for runs before work. My blood pressure is down and the diet, well it's better but not perfect. The running group trains for marathons and of course talked me into running one.

Last year I did my first marathon (Marathon of the Palm Beaches) for my 40th birthday. Some birthday present! I hit the legendary "wall" at mile 23 and cramped up like I never have before. After lying down three times trying to work out the cramps and looking a lot like a fish out of water, flopping around on hot pavement, I was finally able to finish with a time of 4 hours and 20 minutes.

I did not like the idea of taking pills and asked if there was any other way to bring my blood pressure down.

Not being satisfied with my time, I signed up to do another marathon this year and selected the Jacksonville Marathon. Part of my training was to run 22 miles on the Saturday morning three weeks before the marathon in Jacksonville. So the group suggested instead of running 22 miles on Saturday, wait until the next day and run 26.2 miles in Cocoa Beach in the Space Coast Marathon. What's another 4 miles, right? It will be a training run, they said. Then you can run the Palm Beach half marathon the next week as part of your tapering off to the big event.

Oh, it was real easy signing up for these marathons on the Internet. Just point and click and the dollars are taken from your bank account and name added to the list of other people running to get a tee shirt that you will never wear. So I signed up for two marathons and a half-marathon this year and they are all within three weeks of one another. Not the brightest thing I have ever done. To date I have completed the Space Coast marathon (Better time thankfully at 3:49:08) and the Palm Beach half-marathon and now just one more to go.

My IT band (ilial-tibial muscle from hip to knee) is killing me, three toenails are black and I am quickly finding out that the body does not recover as quickly at forty-something as well as it did when I was in my twenties.

Here's the point: Running marathons can sometimes be like managing golf courses. Signing up for marathons is easy just like saying we are environmental stewards. Actually completing the marathon in reality is far more difficult. Just like taking the time to use small hand equipment to spot spray lake banks or using walking spreaders to keep fertilizer out of the ponds and maybe taking some turf areas out of play and converting them to native areas requiring fewer inputs.

I'm not saying that at the end of the day your work should be as exhausting as running a marathon, but when you go that extra mile to do the right things for the right reasons, it can be just as rewarding.

The Marathon Man



Craig Weyandt
FGCSA President

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CHAPTER ROUND UP

Preparation Begins for The Season

CALUSA

Jeff Cathey hosted our November meeting at the Colonial CC. Our speaker was Dr. Terence Fullerton from DowAgro Sciences. His topic was Soil and Plant Analysis in Fertility Management. In December we will hold our annual Christmas-Charity Tournament at Glen McCandless's Kelly Greens G&CC for the benefit of The Abused Counseling Treatment Center of Lee County. Last year we were able to donate \$1,750 to them. To kick off the new year, James Foster will our January meeting at the Coral Oaks Golf Club. USGA Agronomist Todd Lowe will be our speaker

CENTRAL FLORIDA

Hal Richburg, CGCS hosted our October meeting at the Victoria Hills Golf Club and Jeff Wharton gave a presentation on OSHA Safety Compliance. In December Jim Kernohan was slated to host our annual joint CFGC-SA and TESTA meeting and golf outing at the MetroWest Golf Club. Meanwhile Interlachen Country Club Superintendent Stuart Leventhal, CGCS has been preparing for our annual January FTGA turf research fundraiser. This event invites superintendents and club officials to hear a guest speaker on current issues and then square off in a two-man scramble event.

COASTAL PLAINS

External Vice President Shane Bass, CGCS an-



Drs. James A. Murphy, Rutgers and Roch E. Gausson, Nebraska presented the Everglades GCSAA Regional Seminar on identifying and managing traffic stresses on turfgrass. Photo by Joel Jackson

nounced the chapter's 2007 meeting schedule: January – Capital City Country Club, April – Hilaman GC, July – Seminole GC, November – St. James Bay GC.

EVERGLADES

We recently renewed our GCSAA Platinum Tee Club membership with a \$5,000 donation to the Environmental Institute for Golf.

We also hosted a GC-SAA Regional Seminar in September, which was well attended. The topic, Turfgrass Traffic Stress: Physiology and Management was presented by Dr. James A. Murphy, Rutgers and Dr. Roch E. Gausson, Nebraska. The professors had some interest-

ing takes on the interaction of the various types of stresses from foot traffic, the obvious golf carts and our own equipment. They mentioned a traffic research project done on poa annua, which might be something to consider doing at the new University of Florida Plant Science Center near Gainesville.

Turf research project – evaluated HOC, frequency of mowing (single vs. double) and rolling (every other day) or not. The goal was to determine best ball roll without lowering height of cut to maintain or improve overall plant health.

Superintendent David Fenton of Quail Creek Country Club will host our annual

Christmas Charity Tournament, a two-man scramble, for our continued support to the Children's Home Society.

NORTH FLORIDA

Congratulations to Jay McCord on becoming the new FTGA president. For those in the North Florida area needing pesticide license CEU's, Eddie Lambert of the St. Augustine Technical Institute will be holding a Core, Turf & Ornamental and Limited Lawn Care & Commercial Landscape course Feb.15 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 904-829-1041 to reserve a spot.

Congratulations also to Brad Tucker on his new superintendent position at Plantation Bay.

Mark your calendars for a couple of our big events: The Annual Research Tournament at Pablo Creek will be held March 12 and the Annual Memorial Scholarship Tournament at the Jacksonville Golf & Country Club will be held April 9.

PALM BEACH

Bob Randquist, CGCS hosted our annual joint meeting with the Treasure Coast GCSA. Steve Mona, CEO of the GCSAA was the guest speaker. We won bragging rights and the coveted Cavanaugh/Wagner Cup for the first time in three years. It was a good day all round.

Wrapping up 2006 we will have our Dec. 4 Christmas Golf Outing at the Mizner Country Club – thanks to Erik Knudson for hosting the event. Our annual Christmas party will once again be held at the Delray Beach Marriott.

To kick off 2007 the Country Club of Boca Raton will host our Jan. 24 meeting



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Valent

Many thanks to Dale Kuehner,
CGCS and the Colony West C. C.
for hosting this event





From left: GCSAA Director Bob Randquist, Boca Rio G. C.; Steve Mona, CEO, GCSAA and Palm Beach GCSA President Steve Pearson, CGCS at the Palm Beach – Treasure Coast Joint Meeting. Photo by Joel Jackson.

where all Class A, SM and Class C members are invited and urged to attend.

RIDGE

Our next meeting will be on Dec. 7 at the Harrells fertilizer plant, the meeting will start at 10 a.m. with lunch and bowling to follow. Our member-vendor meeting will be at Lone Palm on Jan. 29, with a GCSAA-approved educational discussion on reptile identification. Registration will be 9:30-10, with lunch and golf to follow.

The Ridge invitational will be in early March and the venue is the Grasslands C.C.

A special thanks needs to go to Ward Pepperman and the staff at Southern Dunes for hosting our October meeting and to Syngenta for providing an outstanding educational session. Steve Kamerer spoke on effective nozzle use for various applications.

SEVEN RIVERS

Congratulations to Superintendent Jim Murphy and the Masters and Memorial Courses at Eagle Ridge G. C. for becoming certified as Audubon International Silver Signature Sanctuaries.

We held our 4th Annual Fishing Trip in November.



PBGCSA Winners of the Cavanaugh-Wagner Cup. (From left) Kneeling: Mark Henderson and Steve Bernard. Standing: Steve Wright, Frank McKee, David Court, Steve Pearson and Brian Bowles. Photo by Joel Jackson.



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SPOTLIGHT

The weather was outstanding and we caught our normal abundance of fish. Many thanks go out to Jim Shaffer and Rory Harding for helping to make the trip a success. As usual no one left hungry or thirsty and everyone had a great time. Fisherman Pete caught the biggest fish and Wilson Randolph came in second place.

The December meeting was held at Brooksville Country Club once again with Barry Greenwalt as host superintendent. They had their grand opening in November for the newly renovated nine at the course. As I mentioned before, we play there every year, but each time something is different.

We would like to thank Mike Sbarro for stepping up to serve as membership director for the chapter. Mike is filling the vacancy left from John Cunningham's departure. Mike is currently working on finishing up the membership directory, so that we may send it out before the beginning of the year.

Mark Kann, president

SOUTH FLORIDA

Our golf team rocks! Congrats to Seth Strickland, Bob Harper, Jason Bagwell and Stephen Fox along with Joe Pantaleo for winning their second consecutive FGCSA Golf Team title and to Harper for winning the low gross competition to earn a spot on the FGCSA National Golf Team in Palm Springs next February.

We'd like to welcome our newest members: Matt Brecht, Ph.D with Syngenta; Pat Kearney with DuCor/Disbrow; Riaan Potgieter,

Weston Hills C.C. and Anthony Ursoleo, Plantation Preserve.

Thanks to Jim Goins for hosting our November meeting at the Hollybrook G&TC. Dr. Dale Sansan, director of research & development for PBI Gordon, talked about "The effects of water quality on insecticide and herbicide efficiency." Our annual Christmas party will be at the Fort Lauderdale Sheraton.

Happy New Year everyone.

SUNCOAST

This year wrapped up in a flurry of meetings and outings including the 7th Annual Grounds Management Seminar at the Selby Botanical Gardens. We partner with the UF/IFAS Sarasota County Extension Service to provide quality education. This year's topics included Easy Color in the Landscape by Rick Schoellhorn, New Management Tools for Turfgrass Managers by Bert McCarty, Turf Fungicides by Phil Harmon, Aquatic Plant Management by Ken Langeland and Pesticide Storage Facilities by Peggy Dessaint.

On the social side we had a football trip to the Tampa Bay Buccaneer - Washington Redskins game and a Christmas Dinner Cruise followed by our annual Christmas Part at the Bird Bay Golf Club on Dec. 7.

TREASURE COAST

The joint meeting with Palm Beach was a great event and very informative with the comments by Steve Mona from GCSAA despite the fact we have to let the PBGCSA hold "our" Cavanaugh/Wagner cup for

a year. Our next meeting is scheduled for Gary Chaney's The Majors Golf Club Jan. 16 where we will have two speakers: Jim Mendenhall on Reptile Identification and Safety and Bert Ruege, Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services on Fertigation Inspections and Obtaining Fertilizer and Seed Purity Tests.

WEST COAST

Thanks to Bill Kistler at Tampa Palms for hosting our 43rd Annual Bud Quandt Research Tournament. We had 104 golfers and raised \$6,146. Next on the agenda was our Vendor Day Dec. 19 at the University of South Florida. On Jan.16 it will be back to Tampa Palms for a GCSAA Regional Seminar



Tournament namesake Bud Quandt, a veteran West Coast superintendent helps Chapter Administrator Christi Haley at the registration table for his research tournament at Tampa Palms. Photo by Joel Jackson.

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Team Aeri-fine

From left: Keith Nicoletta, Gary Newcombe, Tim O'Neil and John Reiley (standing) shot a score of 57 to win the 43rd Annual Bud Quandt Tournament.

Photo by Joel Jackson.



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