

The Florida Green

WINTER 2009

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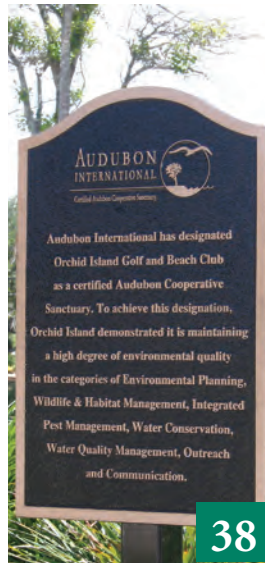
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ON THE COVER: Number 6, The Loxahatchee Club, Jupiter. Photo by Daniel Zelazek



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FOREWORDS

Hope for the Best - Plan for the Worst

Writing an article to be printed in the future is tough; you never know what tomorrow might bring. This past year has been full of ups and downs with our industry, the economy, jobs, health, weather, gas, and fertilizer costs.

It has almost been as wild as some of the rides at a fair but hopefully we have all weathered it with a positive attitude and can start out this New Year with higher expectations than the last. The elections are over thank goodness and gas prices are down, so hopefully this will at least level things out for a while. I still think it is going to take a few years for the housing and stock markets to resume some normalcy but I do believe (hope) it will be sooner than later.

But for now we all must deal with the realities of the nation's economic slowdown. At my course I was told to lay off five employees including my assistant. It was a hard thing to have to do. Every course is dealing with cutbacks in different ways based on their situations. On top of that, my wife's sister was diagnosed with breast cancer. We will be making changes in our lives to support her. The point is bad things happen to good people and we must be prepared to meet those challenges when they come.

With things being as uncertain as they are, I think it is important that you take a look at your personal plans just as we look at issues at work, so no matter what challenges come your way, you have a plan of action. Having a plan will help you face things calmly rather than reacting to situations that may arise. You can make better choices, and ultimately achieve your goals or at least some stability for yourself and your family.

I was reading some of the other past President's Messages and one that I thought might need revisiting now is Cary Lewis' Winter 2001. In his message he talked about the BMPs and how they were just beginning to actively work on them and how this tool will not only serve as a great resource for our members, but also better position our industry with our regulatory agencies,

local and state governments and special interest groups.

The Georgia GCSA stepped up and showed that they supported their Water Conservation BMPs by getting some thing like 97 percent of their courses to comply with the plan. It saved them from a greens-and-tees-only watering restriction and allowed them to use 65 percent of their permits. I think it's time for us to do the same and endorse and support our Golf BMPs.

I have not seen any emails come across my in-box that say "City Council doing away with Fertilizer Ordinance." So I challenge all of you who have not sat down and reviewed the checklist in the back of the BMPs to do so. You do not have to spend a lot of time on it and all of your answers do not have to be "yes" but at least you will know where your course stands. Why not make it one of your goals for the New Year?

At this time you probably don't have to turn the checklist in to anybody, so it would be wise to have an idea of what you might need to do to comply with the BMPs. You will probably be surprised at how much you are already doing. If you have any questions do not hesitate to ask Joel or myself.

I hope most of you will still be able to go to the GCSAA Show and Golf Championship in February. I look forward to seeing you at our reception.

Remember: Make a plan to cover contingencies in these uncertain times. It can always be changed as needed.

Most of all I hope everyone has a good new year.



Shane Bass, CGCS
President

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On Sept. 27th, the Palm Beach Chapter won the Team Trophy at Southern Dunes G.C. in Haines City. From left: Front row - Steve Bernard and Mark Henderson. Standing Mike Spiwak, Deron Zendt, Mark Heater and Kevin Downing. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Golf Tournaments Wrap Up the Year

Two major golf victories of note led the fourth quarter of 2008 when the Palm Beach GCSA won the individual and team events at the Florida GCSA Golf Championship held at the Southern Dunes GC in Haines City in September. Deron Zendt from the Banyan CC in West Palm Beach shot 70 to win the individual title and lead fellow teammates Mark Heater, Mark Henderson and Steve Bernard in the chapter team event. Zendt is now eligible to play on the FGCSA team in the GCSAA Golf Championships at Gulf Shores, Ala. in February.

Joining Zendt on the 2009 FGCSA team will be

Blair Kirby from the PGA National Resort in Palm

Beach Gardens. Kirby won the FTGA Golf Tournament on his own golf course last September which was hosting the FTGA Turf Conference and Show. The remaining members of the No.1 Florida team are Seth

Strickland and Steve Bernard by virtue of their respective victories at the Poa Annua Classic and Crowfoot Open.

The Everglades GCSA sent two teams to participate in the 2008 CREW Tournament held Oct. 18 at the Bonita Bay East GC. The EGCSA has been involved with the CREW (Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed Land & Trust) since 2002 and has helped to support and contribute to golf tournaments which have raised around \$35,000 for environmental education. The Wild Turkey team of Terry Wood, Joel Jackson, Matt Neider and Corey McDonough took second place and won a private, guided moonlight tour of the nature preserve for friends and family.

The South Florida GCSA continued its winning streak with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children by holding their annual M&E Tournament at the Carolina Club in Margate. Host superintendent and SFGCSA President Ted Hile reported that this year's



Representing the Everglades GCSA, the Wild Turkey team of Terry Wood, Joel Jackson, Matt Neider and Corey McDonough came in 2nd in the annual CREW Tournament held on October 18th at the Bonita Bay East Golf Club. Photo by Matt Taylor.

The South Florida Golf Course
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SPOTLIGHT



Deron Zendt from the Banyan G.C. shot a score of 70 to win the FGCSA Championship and a spot on the FGCSA's #1 Team to compete in the GCSAA Championship in February 2009. Photo by Joel Jackson.

event raised \$24,000 for the charity at the October outing.

Over in the Tampa Bay area, Bill Kistler hosted the West Coast GCSA's 45th Annual Bud Quandt Tournament at the Tampa Bay

Palms G&CC. During the breakfast meeting, FGCSA Executive Director Joel Jackson presented information on legislative and regulatory issues.

Jackson also visited the neighboring Gulf-



Blair Kirby, one of the host superintendents at the PGA National Resort, won the FTGA Golf Tournament in September and also a spot on the FGCA Team for the GCSAA Championships to be held in Gulfshores, AL. Photo by Joel Jackson.



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SPOTLIGHT



*The Everglades GCSA has been involved with the CREW Land and Water Trust since 2002 to help raise funds for environmental education.
Photo by Joel Jackson.*

**Preserving Land Today
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coast GCSA chapter for its November meeting at Bob Holmes' Santa Rosa Golf & Beach Club, and updated members on the issues since many Florida superintendents in the Panhandle

belong to the GCGCSA and statewide issues affect them as well, and we need their support too.

In December, Metro-West GC superintendent Jim Kernohan will be

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hosting the annual Central Florida GCSA/TESTA meeting and golf outing which brings superintendents and equipment technicians together for a day of golf and good eats.

Several chapters will also be holding their annual Christmas tournaments and parties to raise and donate funds and toys to families in need. We will report on the success of those events in the next issue. Meanwhile, Happy New Year to one and all.

LCCC Event Returns

After a one-year hiatus, the 16th Annual Lake City Community

College Endowment Golf Tournament resumed at the Colony Golf & Bay Club in Bonita Springs on Nov. 7. All proceeds from the event help support the golf and landscape programs at Lake City. These programs began in 1967 and continue to thrive due to strong industry support.

John Piersol and the Tournament Committee of John Johnson, Glenn Zakany, Scott Hamm, Odell Spainhour and Steve Rauh thanked the sponsors and participants for the support of the event which helps maintain the school's status as one of best programs of its kind in the country.

After all strokes were counted and handicaps subtracted, Tim Denton

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2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FTGA Regional Seminars

- Jan 6 Tampa – St. Lawrence Parrish, 5325 N. Himes Ave
- Jan 7 Orlando – Rosen Plaza Hotel, 9700 International Dr.
- Jan 8 Ft. Myers – Three Oaks Banquet & Conference Ctr, 20991 Three Oaks Pkwy
- Jan 13 Vero Beach – Richardson Center, Indian River State College, 6155 College Lane
- Jan 14 Lake Worth – Polish American Club, 4725 Lake Worth Road
- Jan 15 Plantation – Central Park, 9151 NW 2nd Street
- Jan 20 Ocala – Marion County Extension Service, 2232 NE Jacksonville Road
- Jan 21 Jacksonville – Duval County Extension Service, 1010 N. McDuff Ave
- Jan 27 Milton – Santa Rosa County Auditorium, 4530 Jimmy's Way

Registration opens at 7:30 a.m. at all locations. Get more detailed information at www.ftga.org

FGCSA Chapter Events

JANUARY

- Jan 8 West Coast Meeting, Palma Ceia G. & CC
- Jan 9 Suncoast Vendor Appreciation Day, Bradenton CC
- Jan 12 – Central Florida/FTGA Research Tournament, Interlachen CC, Winter Park
- Jan 13 – North Florida Chapter Meeting, LPGA International, Daytona Beach
- Jan 14 – Seven Rivers Meeting, Continental CC
- Jan 14 – South Florida, Crandon Park GC
- Jan 29 – Palm Beach Evening Meeting, CC of Boca Raton

FEBRUARY

- Feb 2 -7 – GCSAA Golf Industry Show, New Orleans
- Feb 5 – FGCSA Reception, Riverview Room, Shops at Jackson Brewery
- Feb 23 – West Coast Benevolent Tournament, East Lake Woodlands GC
- Feb 25 – Seven Rivers Meeting, Airco GC

MARCH

- Mar 2 or 9 (TBA) – Ridge Invitational
- Mar 9 – North Florida Research Tournament, Pablo Creek GC
- Mar 16 – Central Florida - Supt/Vendor Tournament, Eagle Creek GC
- Mar 16 – Suncoast Scramble
- Mar 25 – Seven Rivers Vendor Appreciation Day – Chiefland GC

MAR TBA

- Everglades – Naples Princess Sunset Cruise
- West Coast Meeting, Largo Municipal GC
- South Florida Turf Expo
- FGCSA Spring Regulator Tour

APRIL

- April 14 – North Florida, Memorial Tournament, Jacksonville G & CC
- April 16 – Everglades Spring Symposium
- April 20 – Seven Rivers Jeff Hayden Envirotron Classic
- April (TBA) – West Coast meeting, Wentworth GC



The 2008 LCCC Tournament Committee: From left, front row: Steve Rauh, John Piersol and John Johnson; back row: Glenn Zakany and Scott Hamm, CGCS.



Winners of the LCCC Two-man Scramble Tournament, from left: Mike Dillinger (B Flight) and Tim Denton and Chad Montgomery (A Flight). Not pictured: Mike's partner Matt Neider.

and Chad Montgomery won the A Flight and Mike Dillinger and Matt Neider won the B Flight.

But the Lake City Endowment Fund was the real winner along with all the alumni, guest and sponsors who enjoyed the Thursday

night reception and Friday golf tournament on the beautiful Colony Golf & Bay Club in Bonita Springs. Kudos to Scott Hamm, CGCS and his staff for having the golf course in immaculate condition.