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Gary Myers, CGCS President

night, the satellite was in the SBM mode and sprinklers came on in the middle of the party. I was called at home but, at that point it was too late. The entire event had to be comped by the hotel. The president of the hotel was attending the party and I was told that he made the statement, "If Gary wasn't doing such a great job on the golf course, he would be fired right now."

I trusted the central computer, the satellite controller and my irrigation technician that night and assumed that everything would be okay and almost lost my job. From that point forward, anytime a function was held anywhere I was responsible for, the irrigation system was gated off and the technician was there on stand-by to ensure no sprinklers came on.

We totally trust our staffs, but do we assume everything is being done each and every day as it should be? I have had several conversations on this subject with one of my superintendents and it is a complicated subject. As I said earlier, the trust questions are not always answered with a simple yes or no.

Congratulations to Shane Bass for receiving the FGCSA Distinguished Service Award and to Dr. John Cisar for receiving the Marie Roberts Award. Both are very deserving and true leaders in our profession.

I want to thank everyone for their well wishes concerning my prostate cancer surgery. The surgery went well and I am recovering nicely. The total recovery process can take as long as a year and I feel I am ahead of schedule and it will just be a matter of a few months.

Final Words of Wisdom

I recently commented on the big role Mother Nature plays in our business. "Trust" is a word that also plays a huge role in our profession. If you have ever participated in an employee survey, there are always several questions around trust. Do you trust your leader? Do you trust your employer? Does your leader trust you? I maintain these can be difficult to answer as they are not simple yes-or-no questions. You may trust your leader as a person but, do you trust him or her as a representative of your employer. Your leader may trust you as a person too, but does that person assume that you are following directions 100 percent of the time?

The reality is that trust can affect our ability to perform our duties as much as Mother Nature does. You must trust many people along the way but, there is a fine line between trust and assume.

You have a disease on your greens. You must trust your assessment on the identity and course of treatment. You must trust the salesman that recommends the product to use. You must trust your assistant to carry out your directions on the course of action to take. You must trust the applicator to mix the proper chemical at the proper rate. You must trust the applicator to apply the product correctly. You must trust someone to water in the product if the label calls for it. You must trust that the irrigation system will operate correctly. You must trust that the product applied will control the disease.

In this scenario alone, you put your trust in as many as six or seven people and the products and equipment used. Do you also assume that everyone and everything does what they are supposed to do?

I have used many personal examples in these messages, and I have a one more for you. I was the golf course superintendent at the Desert Inn Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. Frequently, in nice weather, the hotel hosted parties on the lawn in front of the pro shop, which I was responsible for.

I always eliminated the start time in the central computer and told my irrigation technician to shut off the clock. One

The Florida Green

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CONTENTS

- 2 SPOTLIGHT**
- 12 COVER STORY**
- 20 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**
- 24 HANDS ON**
- 32 INDUSTRY NEWS**
- 36 STEWARDSHIP**
- 38 AFTERWORDS**
- President's Message 1
- Calendar 4
- Superintendent Facts 13
- Course Facts..... 15
- Green Side Up 40
- Advertiser Index 40

ON THE COVER: Holes #4 and #3, YMCA Par 3, Lakeland, FL. Photo by Joel Jackson



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A Time for Giving and Receiving

Spring came with a vengeance this year. In fact, most say we went from winter right into summer. While the rainfall and lakes might be drying up, the generosity from — and accolades to — our industry peers was bountiful. Please acknowledge the good work being done by our chapters and the recognition to those who have given their time and energy to the betterment of our industry.

Awards

At the March South Florida Turf Expo in Ft. Lauderdale, the SFGCSA celebrated a couple of historic retirements as Marie Roberts made her official retirement from all chapter administration duties. The former FGCSA association manager retired from her state duties in 2007 but had continued to help the Palm Beach and South Florida chapters.



Marcus Prevatte, SFGCSA President, with Marie Roberts upon her retirement and award presentation at the 2011 SFGCSA Turf Expo after 37 years serving the chapter.

to keep busy doing some consulting work. Good luck Doc, and thanks.

Spring is always a busy time for FGCSA chapters and the North Florida GCSA celebrates with its Memorial Tournament in honor of Mike Richards and Alan MacCurrach, a couple of gentlemen in the industry who helped the chapter grow and thrive. This year the association upheld the tradition of rewarding outstanding chapter service by naming Lon Chatfield its 2011 Keeper of the Green Award winner. Lon has served on the chapter's board and committees and has been a respected mentor for young superintendents.



Dr. Phil Busey (right) also announced his retirement at the Turf Expo. SFGCSA President Marcus Prevatte presented him with a plaque commemorating his contributions to our industry during his 35 years with UF.

Meanwhile, also at the Turf Expo, University of Florida professor Dr. Phil Busey announced his retirement from UF/IFAS after 35 years of service. Dr. Busey's teaching, research and extension duties made him a familiar speaker at FGCSA events over the years. He was active in reaching out to regulators and legislators in South Florida on turf issues. Many may not know but he was also very involved with helping to plan the Turf Tour programs for the GCSAA when the GIS came to Florida. Dr. Busey says he plans



Lon Chatfield and his wife Neva celebrate Lon being named Keeper of the Green by the NFGCSA at the 2011 Memorial Tournament in St. Augustine. Photo by Joel Jackson.

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To Scott Bell and The Red Stick Golf Club
for hosting the 2011 Blue Pearl Tournament

Treasure Coast Chapter
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Donations

The FGCSA chapters give away more than plaques and awards at these annual events. At their Memorial Tournament, the NFGCSA donated \$1,500 to the First Tee of St. Johns County and made its annual turf student scholarship fund donation to Florida Gateway College (formerly Lake City Community College) in the amount of \$2,000.

At the 18th annual Suncoast Scramble also in March, at the Laurel Oak CC. in Sarasota, the chapter continued its unbroken record of annual donations to the FGCSA Turf Research account with \$2,500. I have been honored to receive those donations on behalf of the FGCSA since 1998, my first year on the job.

The annual Jeff Hayden Memorial Envirotron Classic is hosted by the Seven Rivers GCSA and the World Woods Golf Club. This year's event was a 36-hole sellout. The annual Golf Ventures and Champions Sponsor's donation of \$25,000 has helped to accumulate more than \$750,000 for turf research



(l-r): Glenn Oberlander, Tournament Chairman and Dan Adams, Seven Rivers President, receive the \$25,000 Envirotron Classic Champions Sponsor check from Walt McMahon and Debbie Nipper, Golf Ventures and Buddy Reid, Division Manager for Helena Chemical. Photo by Joel Jackson.

since the tournament began in 1993.

Many chapters events also raise money for local charities and perhaps none better than the Treasure Coast Blue Pearl event, which celebrated its 18th year at the Red Stick Golf Club in early May. With its tournament logo symbolizing our planet, The association has funded various regional environmental projects and facilities, charities and benevolent causes and turf research over the years. This year the TCGCSA gave \$10,000 to the Vero Beach Environmental Learning Center. At Red Stick



Tom Lawrence (left) of the First Tee of St. Johns County thanks Vice President Mike Stevens for the \$1,500 donation from the North Florida GCSA at the April Memorial Tournament. Photo by Joel Jackson.

FGCSA Executive Director Joel Jackson accepts a \$2,500 research check from Suncoast President Jeff Strother at the 2011 Suncoast Scramble in Sarasota. Photo by Lee Crosby.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST

- Aug 5** FGCSA Annual Meeting, Disney's Osprey Ridge GC
- Aug 5** Crowfoot Open Seminar, Grand Cypress Villas Business Center
- Aug 5** Crowfoot Open Reception, Grand Cypress Villas Business Center
- Aug 6** Crowfoot Open Tournament and Awards Luncheon, Grand Cypress
- Aug 10** Seven Rivers Dan Adams Memorial Bowling Outing
- Aug 18** Calusa GCSA & Everglades GCSA Joint Meeting, Copperleaf GC

SEPTEMBER

- Sept 13-16** Florida Turfgrass Association Conference and Show, PGA National Resort
- Sept 21** Seven Rivers GCSA meeting, Black Diamond GC
- Sept 22** Palm Beach GCSA & South Florida GCSA Joint Meeting, Wycliff G&CC

OCTOBER

- Oct 6** Seven Rivers GCSA Pro/Superintendent Meeting, Stone Creek G.C.

WELCOME TO "The Memorial"

HONORING MIKE RICHARDS AND
ALAN MACCURRECH, SR.



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SPOTLIGHT

the players got to play on the bentgrass greens for the last time. Superintendent Scott Bell announced the club had decided to convert them to Champion ultradwarf this summer.

Trophies

Following an interesting and entertaining presentation on the global golf business by architects Ron Garl and Ricky Nix, everyone enjoyed the Ritz-Carlton Members Course in Bradenton as the Suncoast GCSA cruised to victory once again over the visiting Calusa members. More golf trophies were earned this spring at the Everglades Poa Classic. Check out the Poa Highlights article.

Blue Pearl: The Treasure Coast GCSA continued their funding of the regions environmental activities with a \$10,000 donation to Holly Hill (center) of the Vero Beach Environmental Learning Center. Present were (l-r) Bobby Wallace, Tim Cann, Shane Wright, Christian Millican, Holly Hill, Chris Gast, Carlos Arraya and Roy MacDonald. Photo by Joel Jackson.



John Piersol from Florida Gateway College's Golf Operations Program accepts a \$2,000 NFGCSA donation from Mike Stevens for the General Scholarship Fund. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Jeff Strother signifies that the Suncoast GCSA is still #1 after the April Ryder Cup match with the Calusa chapter at the Ritz Carlton Members Golf Club in Bradenton. Photo by Joel Jackson.



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Thanks to James Rawlings and his staff for the great tournament conditions



EVERGLADES GCSA ROLLS OUT GREEN CARPET FOR **2011 Poa Annuua Classic**

Many of us made the annual May pilgrimage to the Naples Beach Hotel for a weekend of meetings, education and of course golf. The FGCSA kicked off the weekend with its annual spring Board meeting on Thursday, May 12. That evening the FGCSA Board hosted the annual Past Presidents Dinner where annual service awards were announced and presented .

Dr. John Cisar received the 2011 Marie Roberts Award for his outstanding contributions to our members through his turf research projects and turf management presentations over the years. He and Marie Roberts have co-captained the annual SFGCSA Turf Expo for well over a decade. FGCSA President Gary Myers also announced that Past President Shane Bass, CGCS was named Distinguished Service Award winner for 2011. Shane recently moved to a new position at the Glen Arven GC in Thomasville, GA and was unable to attend. We hope to see Shane at our annual meeting in August.

Friday morning was spent in class with a topnotch panel of speakers on current golf management issues and the afternoon was spent on the Naples Beach Club course, playing in the GC Horn Endowment Tournament. Saturday morning the serious golfers headed for Naples National GC to vie for the Poa Classic individual and team championships, while the rest of us played in the annual Scramble Tournament on the Beach Club course. The Palm Beach



Dr. John Cisar receives his 2011 Marie Roberts Award from FGCSA President Gary Myers at the FGCSA Past Presidents dinner in Naples. Photo by Joel Jackson.



North Florida GCSA President Bob Coffey presented FGCSA President Gary Myers, CGCS a research fund check for \$5,000 at the FGCSA spring board meeting . Photo by Joel Jackson



Speakers for the FGCSA/USGA Poa Seminar: Tom Zaras, Florida State Golf Assn.; Kyle Sweet, Sanctuary GC; John Foy, USGA Florida Region; Brian Whitlark USGA SW Region; Steve Smyers, golf course architect and Todd Lowe, USGA Florida. Photo by Joel Jackson.

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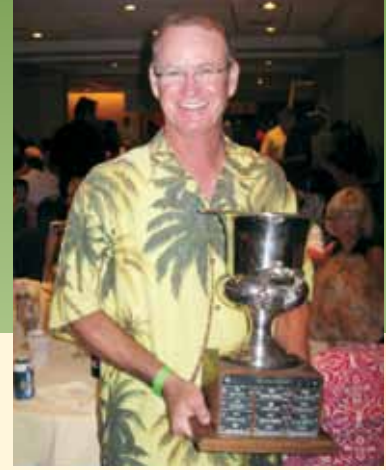




During the Poa Education Session, John Foy, USGA Florida Section director (left) and golf architect Steve Smyers (right) of the USGA Green Committee, presented GCSAA President Bob Randquist, CGCS with a plaque commemorating his distinguished service to the USGA Green Section Committee. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Steve Wright, CGCS from the Boca West CC shows off his Poa Annua Classic trophy he earned by shooting a 74 at Naples National GC. Wright also earned the first spot on the FGCSA Golf Team for the 2012 GCSAA Championship.



Representing the Palm Beach GCSA team, Mark Henderson from the Gulfstream GC accepted the Poa Classic Chapter Team trophy. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Chapter swept the Classic event with Steve Wright winning low medalist honors and a spot on the 2012 FGCSA Golf Team. The Palm Beach team of Steve Wright, Steve Bernard, Mark Henderson and Matt Tacilauskas took home the Chapter Team Championship Trophy.

This year's Saturday night "Luau on the Lawn" was held indoors in the Everglades Room due to forecast storms. It proved to be a good call by the hotel as a storm did blow through that evening. Thanks to the host Everglades GCSA and its sponsors for another grand event.

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