



// ON THE ROAD AGAIN

The fraternal order of greenkeepers

➔ My most recent journeys have been to state and local chapter events. They were reminders of the positive benefits of the camaraderie of people with similar interests, common goals, and challenges.

One of these events was the Florida GCSA Golf Championship. All eleven local chapters had a team competing for the Chapter Team Trophy and state bragging rights. The Palm Beach Chapter swept the event with Low Individual and Team victories. It was a bittersweet victory. While they were victorious on the course, back home they have been inundated with torrential rains from April to August, with reports of double-digit daily rains and 20- to 30-inch monthly totals. Renovation and re-grassing project costs escalated, as continuous washout repairs were required and opening dates were postponed.

The other journey was to the annual Palm Beach and South Florida Chapters

joint meeting. The South Florida GCSA was formed in 1939. As golf expanded northward the Palm Beach GCSA split away in 1978, and in the early 1980s they began these joint meetings to share their common history.

I had lunch at the joint meeting with Kevin Downing, the third president of the Florida GCSA. Now a supplier, Downing and I reminisced about common experiences we've had and people we've known over the years. These lifelong friendships provide continuity and fond memories. These relationships combine the old adage "It's who you know" with "what you know" which can lead to personal and professional growth opportunities. I know that my volunteer participation and involvement led me to a rich and satisfying career in this industry.

Do yourself and your career a big favor — go to meetings and get involved!

Joel Jackson, CGCS-Ret., is a contributing editor for *Golfdom*.



Starter

GO FIGURE



The number of readers who said if they could have any superintendent job in the world, would choose Bushwood CC.

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// ACQUISITION

EAGLE ONE GOLF FOLDS WESTERN GOLF UNDER WING

Eagle One Golf recently announced the acquisition of Western Golf. Western Golf is a leading manufacturer and distributor of golf course equipment and golf course accessories. Products made by Western Golf are sold to thousands of golf courses throughout North America as well as 38 countries worldwide.

"The addition of Western Golf to our portfolio of companies will help broaden our product offerings to better serve our customers," said Paul Cherrie, president and CEO of Eagle One Golf.

Western Golf is a third generation business headed by Bob Wagner. Wagner will continue to play a key role in the company going forward.

// THAT-A-BOY!

FISHER HONORED BY CAROLINAS

Georg Fisher, who spent more than 20 years as a sales manager and manager of customer relations for Smith Turf and Irrigation, will be honored with the Carolinas GCSA Distinguished Service Award. He will be presented the award this month at the Carolinas annual Conference and Trade Show.

"Superintendents, architects, owners, developers, builders, PGA pros, turfgrass industry leaders, educators, fellow distributor personnel and countless others call on George and rely on his guidance and more importantly, his friendship," said Steve Smith, president of STI.