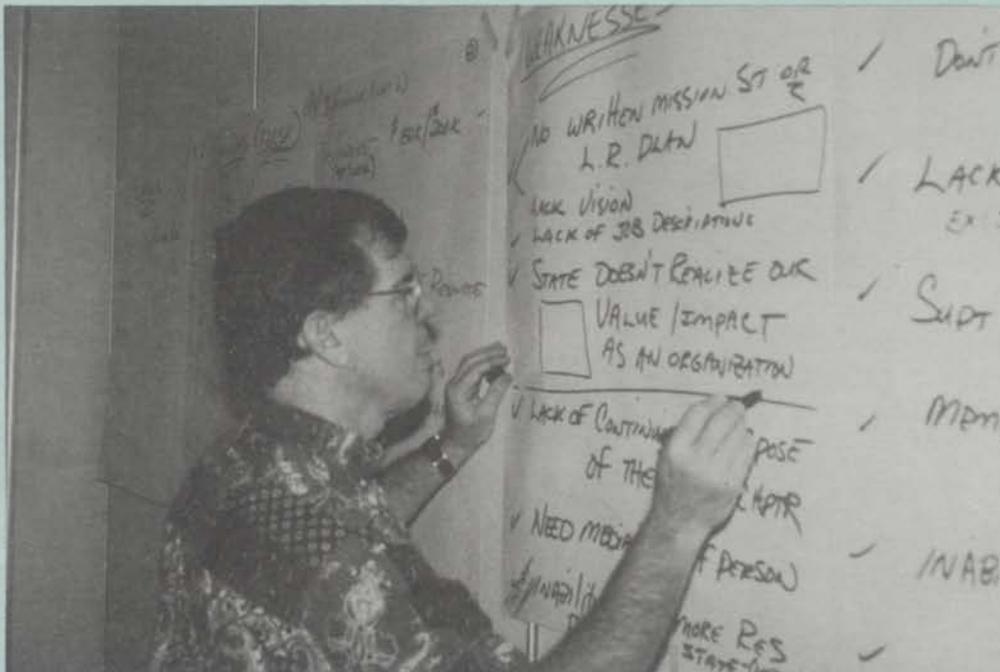


# THE GREEN SHEET



VOLUME XIV, PART 1, JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1998

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION



GCSAA's Joe O'Brien reviews the list of strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities of the FGCSA as provided by our Board of Directors during the November 8th Chapter Planning Session at Grenelefe Resort.

See story on page six.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

FTGA pesticide seminars:

- Jan. 13 Lake Worth
- Jan. 14 Fort Myers
- Jan. 15 Tampa
- Jan. 23 Sanford
- Feb. 17 Jacksonville
  
- Jan. 12 CFGCSA 10th Annual Tournament, Interlachen CC
- Jan. 12 Seven Rivers chapter meeting, Golden Hills GC, Ocala
- Jan. 14 Palm Beach GCSA chapter meeting, Emerald Dunes
- Jan. 20 Everglades chapter meeting/IFAS seminar
- Jan. 22 West Coast chapter meeting, Feather Sound CC, Clearwater

- Jan. 23 Jacksonville Horticultural Trade Show, Fairgrounds
- Jan. 24 FGCSA Winter Board Meeting, Grand Cypress
- Jan. 29 Palm Beach Community College, Assistants Day
- Feb. 2 - 8 GCSAA Annual Convention Anaheim, California
- Feb. 5 FGCSA Reception, Anaheim Marriott Hotel, 8:00 p.m.
- Feb. 7 - 15 Senior PGA Tour Event, TPC at Tampa Bay
- Feb. 19 Seven Rivers GCSA meeting High Point GC, Spring Hill

- Feb. 24 West Coast chapter meeting, Largo Municipal GC
- Mar. 2 Ridge Invitational Tournament, Grasslands
- Mar. 12 SFGCSA Exposition, IFAS Fort Lauderdale REC
- Apr. 20 Envirotron Classic, World Woods GC
- Apr. 20 USGA Green Section Conference, Orlando
- Apr. 23 USGA Conference, Palm Beach Marriott
- May 9 Treasure Coast Blue Pearl Tournament, Loblolly Pines

## President's Message by Joseph Ondo, CGCS

I find it hard to believe that we still have superintendents who are not members of GCSAA, FGCSA, and FTGA in this state.

Anyone whose profession involves growing turfgrass in Florida should be a member. The list of services these organizations provide can be found by calling their headquarters and have them sent to you or ask a member to borrow their directory and the list is in there. Education and Research top the list but all services provided are important. I remember when I first joined the FGCSA, Dan Jones told me that dues for all three organizations would cost less than a dollar a day in a year's time. Nowadays it averages out to a little more than a dollar a day but there are a lot

more services to be offered. When I first started at Winter Pines, I paid my own dues until I showed the club the benefits of being a member and what I could learn. My club has paid all my dues since 1980.

Talking to a PGA professional recently, I found out their local and national dues are a little more than ours and they have a number of mandatory meetings and seminars to attend to keep their Class A status. All we do is offer the meetings and education and it is up to you to attend those you choose as time allows.

All I can do is ask those that read this who are not members to join for a year to see the benefits. If, after a year, you don't agree, then call me or one of the other officers of these organizations and tell us why not. Then we will see what we can do to make it better. 



*Joe Ondo, CGCS*

### Volunteers Needed

The TPC of Tampa Bay will host the GTE Classic Senior PGA Tour golf tournament during the week of February 7-15, 1998.

You are invited to join the maintenance department volunteer staff and help tune the golf course for the top professionals. Volunteers will receive two complimentary passes to the tournament, a complimentary round of golf at TPC of Tampa Bay and a TPC of Tampa Bay golf shirt.

Volunteers are needed daily. Take part in the entire week of events or volunteer according to your schedule. Call Scott MacEwen, Golf Course Superintendent, at 813-949-0092 to register as a volunteer.

## THE GREEN SHEET

### Editor:

Joel Jackson, CGCS  
Walt Disney World  
(407) 824-2687 (work)  
(407) 248-1971 (fax/phone)

### News Coordinator:

Mrs. Marie Roberts  
1760 N.W. Pine Lake Drive  
Stuart, FL 34994  
(561) 692-9349  
(561) 692-9654 (Fax)  
(800) 732-6053 (Florida Wats)  
e-mail: fgcsa@tcol.net

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All material submitted for printing will be edited at the discretion of the editor. Material must be typed or clearly printed. All photos must be black and white. Items must be for the good of the association.

**Deadline next issue: February 15.**

## Everglades Chapter Sponsors Dwarf Bermuda Grass Seminar on January 20th

The Everglades GCSA is offering the 1998 Southwest Florida Turfgrass Management Seminar in conjunction with the University of Florida IFAS area Horticulture Extension Agents on Tuesday, January 20th.

The all day event will begin with an 8:15 a.m. registration at the Sheraton Harbor Place in Fort Myers. The morning program will be moderated by Brad Walters of Golf Ventures. Speakers include Dr. Howard Frank speaking on Biological Control of Mole Crickets; Dr. Robin Giblin-Davis giving a report on turf nematology research; Dr. Jerry Sartain will have two spots on the program — the Environmental Impact of Golf Green Grow-In as well as a report on the use of new fertilizer materials on turfgrass; Ernesto Lasso De la Vega, a research biologist, will report on Integrated Weed Management in Ponds; and Dennis Howard, FDACS, has an informative session on new recommendations for fill, wash pads and storage facility.

The afternoon session will be devoted to presentations on Dwarf Bermuda by local Everglades GCSA superintendents. Moderator Mike Mongoven will speak on performance of dwarf Bermuda Grass Cultivars and will be followed by Darren Davis giving an update on ultra dwarf Bermuda Grass Putting Green. Matt Taylor will speak on the performance of Champion Dwarf Bermuda Grass and Rick Tatum will follow with Floradwarf Dwarf Bermuda Grass. All three superintendents will then get together to form a panel discussion on the overall performance of this type of grass.

If you have any questions on Dwarf Bermuda Grass, you should plan to attend this seminar which is open to all interested parties. CEU's have been applied for and registration fee is \$40.00. Registration forms are available from any Everglades GCSA board member.

### Ridge Chapter Plans for 1998 Invitational

Roy Wilshire, Ridge GCSA Chapter President, announced plans for the Seventh Annual Ridge Invitational Tournament to be held on Monday, March 2, 1998 at Grasslands CC in Lakeland.

As in the past, this tournament features a Chapter Challenge to all other FGCSA chapters to put their best golfers against those from the Ridge! In addition to the obvious pleasure of playing against these guys, you will be raising money for turfgrass research. Sponsor forms and entry forms are available from any Ridge board member or by calling Roy at 941-688-3863.

## Central Florida Chapter Sponsors Tenth Annual Interlachen Research Tournament

The Central Florida chapter in conjunction with the Florida Turfgrass Association will sponsor the 10th Annual Turf Research Tournament at Interlachen CC on Monday, January 12th, 1998. All proceeds will be used for scientific equipment, turfgrass research and staffing expenses at the University of Florida Envirotron. It is also an excellent opportunity for club officials to learn more about the turfgrass industry in a relaxed, informal environment and enjoy a round of golf.

Registration begins at 9:45 a.m. with a presentation on Environmental Trends in Golf Course Management to be given by Tim Hiers, CGCS, at 10:00 a.m. Tim is the superintendent at Collier's Reserve and has received many environmental awards including the 1995 Presidents Environmental Leadership Award from the GCSAA.

After lunch, the golf tournament begins at 12:30 with a two man team scramble consisting of a golf course superintendent and an official from his/her club, using full handicaps.

All superintendents and guests are invited to attend this full day of education and golf by contacting the FTGA at 1-800-882-6721 to receive a registration form.

The Fall 1997 meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Joe Ondo, CGCS, at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, November 7, 1997 at Grenelefe Resort.

All officers were in attendance. Joe Ondo announced that all chapters were represented for the first time in many meetings and thanked each chapter for getting a representative involved. Other FGCSA members attending the meeting were Troy Smith, - Suncoast president, Bill Lanthier - Treasure Coast president, Steve Pearson - Fund Raising Chairman, Joel Jackson - Florida Green editor, and Joe O'Brien, GCSAA Chief Operating Officer.

Minutes of Summer 1997 board meeting were approved.

**STUDENT MEMBERSHIP** - Darren Davis distributed information on student memberships. He has received correspondence from several students requesting that we establish a new classification to allow students to become FGCSA members. If approved, students could become members at a reduced rate to cover postage for the magazine and other mailings made during the year. Students would not be allowed to vote or to hold an office and must have their application signed by an FGCSA superintendent or a college administrator. After a discussion, Jim Goins made a motion to allow student memberships to the FGCSA. The motion was approved. Paul Ilgen will be advised to write up a By Law change to add this category to our membership categories and the Board will vote on the By Law change at the next meeting. It was suggested that a separate section be put into the Directory for students and that all students who

have paid their current year dues by September 1<sup>st</sup> will be included in the Directory. A student application will be drawn up and included in the agenda package for the next board meeting.

**SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT** - Darren Davis went over the Financial Statements for the first quarter of 1997 for the Operating Account, the Florida Green and the Research Fund. After a discussion and explanation of some of the entries the statements were approved.

Darren Davis announced that all Chapter End of the Year Financial Statements will now need two signatures before being accepted by the FGCSA and that, in the future, it may be required that these statements be audited or at least prepared by an outside agency. A suggestion was made that it may be easier to have a six month statement prepared by the chapter secretary to be sure that the chapter is prepared for the end of the year requirement.

Darren read over the chapter membership chart showing that we have about the same number of members this year as in 1996. Voting affidavits are due in to the GCSAA office by December 30<sup>th</sup>. All chapters should have signed and sent their Voting Delegate information to the GCSAA by now.

**PUBLICATIONS:** Mike Perham reviewed the minutes of the Publications Committee Meeting held in September. The format and style of the Florida Green was discussed.

Steve Pearson reported that the FTGA is requesting a copy of our mailing list to use for the Turf Digest. It was also announced that the Florida State Golf Association is requesting a copy of our mailing list for their work with amateur golf. It was suggested that a reciprocal arrangement be made with these two agencies. The policy

of the FGCSA has been that we do not sell or give out our mailing list to anyone who might use it to solicit products or services. Our mailing list includes home addresses for many superintendents as well as golf course addresses. Joe O'Brien noted that the GCSAA subscribes to a service that provides addresses for new golf courses which might be helpful to us in expanding our list of non member golf courses to receive the Florida Green.

Marie Roberts announced that the 1998 FGCSA Membership Directory has been printed and will be distributed to all members and advertisers during the first two weeks of November. Advertising revenue should exceed the \$21,000 budgeted figure. Expense figures have not been received as yet.

**WEB PAGE** - Dale Kuehner distributed a proposal to establish a web page for the FGCSA. The pros and cons on the value of a web page were discussed. It would be most important that our web page not simply duplicate information that is already available on the GCSAA Web Page. Dale noted that timeliness is the most important purpose of a web page and that if the chapters were not willing to update information on the web pages on a continuing basis than the cost would not be warranted. It was also noted that all information included on a web page is open to the public. It was suggested that all Externals go back to their chapter members for feedback. The question would be "What value would you get as a member if the FGCSA maintained a Web Site." It is a costly project and needs to be researched in full. If Board approves the expense, the FGCSA Web Page would be linked to the GCSAA Web Page. Some of the other chapters who have a web page are Georgia, Texas and Indiana. Discussion of an FGCSA Web Page would be continued at the Winter 1998 board meeting.

**EDUCATION:** Geoff Coggan discussed GCSAA Regional Seminars. The seminars held in Palm Beach and Tampa were very successful with good attendance. Pre-registration for the next

seminar to be held in Orlando stands at 32 which is another good number. However, the seminar to be held in December in Jacksonville has only 7 people pre-registered. It may be that it is too early to get alarmed but it was suggested that this needs to be followed up on by the North Florida chapter. If a chapter co-sponsors a seminar, they are responsible for the guarantee and also earn the rebate. Joe O'Brien noted that there has been mention of dropping the rebate program.

Geoff then reviewed his plans for having an Etonic Leadership Series seminar for the Poa. These seminars have been approved by the GCSAA and are partially underwritten by Etonic. Geoff has applied to the GCSAA and received approval to sponsor a Financial Management Seminar on Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Naples Beach Club. By going with this program, the FGCSA will be able to sponsor an excellent speaker at a reasonable cost to the association. He suggested that we charge the usual nominal amount for this half day seminar.

Geoff presented figures for a computer seminar for the Crowfoot weekend which will be held at Bay Hill Club during the first weekend in August. MacAcademy can present an all day seminar using a projection system and screen that would include a half day on Windows 95 and another half day on Internet. The board was not sure that an all day seminar is warranted and suggested cutting it to a half day. This should reduce the cost and may increase attendance. Discussion was held as to having the seminar on Saturday or Sunday. Joe O'Brien suggested that Geoff apply for Etonic sponsorship for this particular seminar even though we are already sponsoring one in May.

This would help make this a more reasonable fee since the MacAcademy presentation will be at least \$2,000. The board reminded Geoff that we have a large line item in the budget and that good education is important to the members. Tested versus untested seminars were also discussed.

Geoff also announced that he is getting together a program for pesticide seminars to be offered in various places around the state in the spring. He is working with Dow and Toro to present four hour seminars so that lunch does not need to be provided or included in the price. The board suggested that these seminars should have a small registration fee attached to them.

**MEMBERSHIP** - Marie Roberts distributed the Membership Intent Form that should be used by your chapter Membership Chairman as soon as you receive an application from a Class A or B member who is not currently a member of the GCSAA. The chapter secretary sends the form to the GCSAA and then the applicant has 30 days to apply for GCSAA membership.

**GOLF:** Joe Ondo reported on the results of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual FGCSA Golf Tournament. Seven chapter teams competed with the Palm Beach chapter winning by one stroke over the South Florida chapter. Joe Pantaleo won the opportunity to join the FGCSA team in Anaheim in February. Joe announced that there was a slight profit this year which might be used to purchase a trophy.

**FTGA:** Steve Pearson reported that the University of Florida Turf Coordinator position has not been filled and they have had to re-advertise the position.

Steve then discussed the low attendance at the FTGA Show in Tampa this year. It is feared that the 1998 superintendent turn out will be

even lower because of the GCSAA show that will be held in Orlando just five months after the FTGA Show. Joe O'Brien suggested that we table the discussion on FTGA-FGCSA relationship until tomorrow's Planning Session when it can be discussed in full.

Next Steve discussed the research proposals that have been submitted to the FTGA Committee which is co-chaired by Kevin Downing. Kevin has suggested that the FGCSA fund a three year study by Dr. Frank on biological mole cricket evaluation. The total 3 year commitment would be \$12,000 payable on an annual basis.

Other proposals submitted to the FTGA include a 3 years study on Soil and Turfgrass Tissue Analysis; a proposal for Dr. Dunn's nematode study; continued support of the grad student working on the Envirotron (with joint funding by the Seven Rivers GCSA); and an evaluation of athletic field surface hardness by Dr. Grady Miller. Kevin's memo suggested that the FGCSA donate \$20,000 to the FTGA General Research and Awards Account to help fund those projects that receive final approval. Final determination of which programs will receive grant money will be decided by the FTGA Board. External Vice Presidents are urged to go back to their chapters for feedback and report findings directly to Kevin or the FTGA.

Steve then acknowledged a \$750 research donation from the South Florida PGA and reported that Valent will be continuing their rebate program into this year.

**VIDEO TAPE:** Some copies of the public relations tape were damaged. Anyone who received a damaged tape is urged to call the FGCSA office to receive a duplicate copy. A discussion was held regarding distribution of the extra copies of the tape. Darren is expecting to receive a list of appropriate legislators from Mike Goldie and received suggestions that TV or radio environmental reporters would be another good target area as well as golf course general managers.

(Conclusion of FGCSA Fall 1997 Board Meeting Minutes) ...

**GCSAA:** Dale Kuehner gave a report on the Chapter Relations meeting held in September. He also reminded all chapters to send in their Voting Delegate forms to GCSAA as soon as possible. He spent a few minutes reviewing the list of candidates and announced that if anyone has any strong feelings either for or against a candidate, they should contact Dale. As in past years, the FGCSA will hold a brief caucus immediately before the Annual Meeting in Ahaheim.

Joe Ondo reported that he has written a letter of support for Robert Mitchell, nominee for GCSAA DSA.

Marie Roberts distributed packages for chapters to send to GCSAA to complete their Yearly Affiliation Requirements with the GCSAA. Most of the work has been done and the chapter secretary or president should be able to finish with this in less than an hour. If any chapter has any problems filling out the remaining forms, please call the FGCSA.

It was decided that the Board Meeting would not adjourn until the conclusion of the Chapter Planning Session tomorrow afternoon. The next FGCSA board meeting will be held sometime late in January, probably in the middle of the state.

**NOTE:** FGCSA Winter Board Meeting date is January 24th at Grand Cypress

## FGCSA Evaluates Current Status and Plans for Future

On Saturday, November 8th, the board of directors of the FGCSA met at Grenelefe Resort to participate in a strategic planning session to examine the present operation of the FGCSA and to chart a plan for the future. Joe O'Brien, Chief Operating Officer of the GCSAA was the session facilitator.

O'Brien asked the group to list the strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities of the FGCSA. As a result, the key issues for the FGCSA were listed as follows:

1. Improve relationship between FGCSA and FTGA.
2. Enhance involvement and promotion of FGCSA and local chapters to the golfers, employers and the industry.
3. Find new sources of income for FGCSA and local chapters (decrease vendor support.) Try not to go to the well so often.
4. Improve the way information is shared among chapters.
5. Enhance the relationship between FGCSA and local chapters in specific areas:
  - Conduct announced/planned committee meetings.
  - Create long range plan for fundraising and spending.
  - Local chapter representation at meetings and on various committees

- Public financial statements
  - Committee meeting minutes published/shared with Externals
6. Improve education/general participation, involvement and benefit awareness by superintendents.
  7. Ease transition of state/chapter officers.
  8. Document the FGCSA or chapters appropriately with the following:
    - Standard Operating Proc.
    - Committee job descriptions
    - Staff job descriptions
    - Standardize accounts
    - Audit chapter statements
  9. Hire a staff person to manage the magazine/newsletter/public relations on a business-like, more profitable basis.

The discussion ended with the subject of hiring another staff person to aid the FGCSA in meeting the goals and objectives identified as a result of this whole planning process.

Joel Jackson announced that he was taking early retirement from the Walt Disney Company at the end of this year and he would be interested in being considered for this proposed staff position.

This matter will be discussed again for action at the Winter board meeting in January.

## South Florida GCSA Hosts 11th Annual Exposition

The South Florida GCSA will host the Eleventh Annual Exposition on March 12th at the Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center. This major fundraiser is the primary vehicle to support the turfgrass maintenance facility at the Center.

The chapter has made some subtle changes in the format to keep everyone interested and improve the quality of the day's events. Time will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The day will begin with the field tours of the turf plots including updates on research being conducted. Limited equipment demonstrations will follow at 10:00 a.m. and the booth area will be open from 11:00 to 1:00.

The afternoon program offers CEU's to all attendees as Dr. Monica Elliott speaks on Microbial and Biological Nutrients and Dr. Robin Giblin-Davis gives an update on nematode control. The major equipment companies will also make formal presentations in the afternoon to update everyone on the latest advances being made in the industry.

This has always been a well attended day filled with education and camaraderie and the chapter urges all superintendents and affiliates in the area to put this date on their calendar of important events.



*Left to right, Bob Klitz, Nancy McBride - Exec. Dir. of the Center, Bill McKee, David Lottes, Bryan Singleton and Bill Entwistle, Jr.*

## South Florida GCSA Raises \$12,000 for National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

The South Florida GCSA sponsored the 13th Annual Benefit Tournament for Missing and Exploited Children on October 10th at Colony West GC in Tamarac. Dale Kuehner, CGCS, and his staff had the course in excellent condition and went above and beyond the call of duty to insure the success of the event. \$12,000 was raised.

The Committee would like to thank all our volunteers, participants, and especially our birdie and eagle sponsors for their ongoing support. Special recognition goes to Billy Entwistle, Jr. who will not let this event die. Year after year, Bill pushes the other committee members to volunteer, organize, and dedicate their time. Without Bill, there would be no annual event.

## Don't Miss the Anaheim Reception

The 1998 FGCSA Annual GCSAA Reception will be held on Thursday evening, February 5th, at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel from 8:00 to 11:00 p.m.

As in past years, the sponsorship response to this event has been tremendous and Reception Chairman Paul Crawford promises another spectacular evening for all Florida superintendents who attend. Put it on your GCSAA calendar today!



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Florida Reception to be held February 5th

FGCSA Secretary  
Mrs. Marie Roberts  
1760 N.W. Pine Lake Drive  
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