GREEN SHEET

VOLUME XV, PART 3, MAY/JUNE 1999

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION



Thank you Marcus and Good Luck!

Kevin Downing (right) presents Marcus Prevatte with a plaque and a check with the thanks of the FGCSA for his ten years of service as the turf technician in charge of maintaining the FGCSA's Otto Schmeisser Research Green complex at the UF/IFAS Fort Lauderdale Research Center. Prevatte is now the Assistant Superintendent at the Indian Creek CC in Miami.

Photo by Joel Jackson.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 7 Audubon International GC May 18 Suncoast annual meeting June 10 TCGCSA chapter meeting. and election of officers, Program, Pelican Marsh, Fairwinds GC, Ft. Pierce Sara Bay GC, Sarasota Naples June 14 West Coast chapter meeting, SFGCSA chapter meeting, May 20 Cheval CC Pesticide Applicator CEU May 11 Day, Seminole County, Raintree GC "Finding & Keeping Workers in the Green Industry," Orlando, Contact Dr. Cathy Neal Sanford. Call Dr Cathy June 15 West Coast chapter meeting, Neal at 407-665-5551 May 20 Feathersound CC FGCSA seminar, Naples May 14 Beach Hotel, noon - 5:00 June 5 PBGCSA Future of Golf June 23 IFAS Summer Field Day, Tournament, The Falls CC Milton, West Florida REC Poa Annua Golf Tourna-May 15 ment, Naples Beach Hotel June 8 Sports Turf Seminar and Field July 16 North Florida Transition Day, Orlando. Contact Dr. - 18 Tournament, Jekyll Island Cathy Neal at 407-665-5551 May 16 G. C. Horne Tournament, Larry Kamphaus Crowfoot July 31 Naples Beach Hotel June 8 SFGCSA chapter meeting, - Aug 2 Open, Grand Cypress The Club at Inverrary Aquatic Weed Control, May 17 FTGA Conference and Show, Plant Culture Short Aug.9 -- 20 Everglades chapter meeting, Course, Up to 18 CEU's, June 9 University of Florida, - 13 koyal Poinciana Gainesville campus FLREC, Fort Lauderdale

President's Message by Michael Perham, CGCS

Whether or Not the Weather

In what may be a first for the Green Sheet, here is a True False Quiz on how you can determine it's spring time in Florida.

- 1. You don't need a rain gauge, we have resorted to counting the drops on the pavement it's raining so little?
- 2. The morning low temperatures are higher in North Florida than they are in South Florida?
- 3. You have just endured two weeks of near record heat, and now you are experiencing near record cold temperatures?
- 4. Your overseeding that the last two weeks was transitioning with a vengence is

now hunkering down for one last stand?

5. Unfortunately for the second spring in a row, the state most people associate with abundant rainfall is experiencing the worst wildfires in its history?

The shocking realization is that the answer to all these questions is <u>True</u>

We are experiencing the after effects of El Nino, commonly referred to as La Nina. Yes, many of these climatic conditions were predicted by the forecasters. Who really believes them anyway?

Like it or not, it's Spring. Thoughts will soon be turning to aerification and summer projects. Some among us are already involved in majour course construction. Let's all take time to get away, enjoy your family and friends and recharge the batteries a little before the dog days of summer get here.



Michael Perham, CGCS

FGCSA Board Meeting

The FGCSA Spring Board Meeting will be held at 8:00 a.m. on Friday morning, May 14th at the Naples Beach Hotel.

The meeting will be over by noon so that board members may attend the 12:30 p.m. seminar. All those FGCSA members attending the Poa weekend are cordially invited to come to this board meeting.

Reminder: All chapters are encouraged to nominate one of your longtime members for a President's Award for Lifetime Service. This is your chapter's opportunity to honor someone who was instrumental in your local chapter but may no longer be involved with the FGCSA. Qualifications include 20 years of service to the turfgrass industry, 10 of which were as a superintendent. Award winners will be presented with an FGCSA plaque at one of your chapter meetings; have their name listed in the FGCSA Membership Directory; and an article on their accomplishments will be published in the Florida Green.

This is also your chapter's opportunity to nominate someone for the FGCSA Distinguished Service Award. Nominations for both awards must be received in writing by the FGCSA before the end of the Spring Board Meeting.

GREEN SHEET

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Deadline next issue: June 15.

What's Up D.O.C.? by Joel Jackson

1. Government Relations

A. I attended an FQPA "Experts" Workshop in Tampa on March 3rd. Several points follow:

(1) EPA hasn't given definite parameters to many of the issues so stakeholders are having a hard time providing relevant feedback and information to help make the implementation process accurate.

(2) The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture needs to be more actively involved in the process. The USDA has risk, exposure and residue data that it could/should share with EPA to make the process more scientific. WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMAN!

(3) Each Chapter should meet and list and prioritize the organophosphate and carbamate products most important to turf management operations. Let legislators and chemical manufacturers know your needs and what's most important. Compromises will have to be made. Products and uses will be lost. Put in your two cents while

(4) While there will probably not be any wholesale banning of chemicals after the August 3, 1999 deadline for tolerance reassessment of over 3,000 products, EPA and various manufacturers will cut deals and make compromises which will have the net result of reducing the products over the next 3-10 years. New and alternative product research and approval is at a standstill while these reassessments are going on.

2. Allied Associations

A. FTGA: (1) The new turf research fund raising program proposed by Don Benham, Director of Public Relations was previewed at the March FTGA Board Meeting in Gainesville. The concept involves bringing the Boards of Directors of private clubs together for presentations by Don and IFAS Administrators and Faculty about the need for turf research. The clubs will be presented with a proposal to put a Turf Research donation option as a dues check off on each club members dues renewal. The donation amount will be \$5.00. The object is to get grass roots golfers involved. This is only stage one of the process to provide means for golfers to participate in turf research and reduce the need for the superintendent to keep going to his/her club and asking for money.

(2) The FTGA is the licensee which owns the rights to FloraDwarf. The Board of Directors will allocate \$10,000 from the \$15,000 in royalties already earned from FloraDwarf sales to provide marketing information to compete with the marketing campaigns of Champion and TifEagle. The corporations behind these grasses have been aggressively touting the

benefits of their grasses and FloraDwarf which is a comparable ultradwarf had not been a player in the business. The FTGA wants potential buyers and course designers and builders to know that it is out there and is an economical and viable choice of the alternatives currently available.

(3) FTGA Conference and Show: The superintendent education portion of the program has been completed and includes two GCSAA/Etonic seminars for CEU or PDU credit - one by GCSAA Sec/Treas Tommy Witt, CGCS on Communicating with your Employer and the other by Ms. Lisa Micunek on Enhancing the Professional Image of the Golf Course Superintendent. Concurrent sessions - a presentation by Brad Kocher from Pinehurst on the preparations for the 1999 U.S. Open; two panel discussions - one on continuing evolution of management techniques and information on the new ultradwarf greens and the other on labor issues facing Florida Golf Courses. There will of course be other sessions of general interest including one by Dr. Joe Vargas on "Chemical Phobia."

B. IFAS: (1) The U. of Fla. just had one of its best attended Overseeding Field Days on March 18th with approximately 150 in attendance. The summer Field Days will be held in Milton, FL at the West Florida Research and Education Center on June 23 - 24. IFAS plans to rotate the Field Days to make the presentations and research updates more accessible to all members of the turfgrass industry.

(2) Florida First: This is a statewide conference (April 20-21) which is an important part of the UF/IFAS strategic planning process to enhance the UF/IFAS mandate for serving Florida's food, agricultural,

natural and human resources. This meeting will set a broad course and direction for UF/IFAS. Stakeholders will identify and determine UF/IFAS research and extension imperatives for the future.

Florida First will identify UF/IFAS oppor-

Domestic and International Business Natural Resources **Human and Community Resources**

Agricultural Input Industries

Consumers

Food Processing and Distribution

Florida First will help boost Florida commodities: Animals; Field Crops; Fruit Crops; Vegetable Crops; Environmental Horticulture; Turfgrass; Forestry; Aquaculture, Fisheries and Wildlife

I have been invited by Dr. Mike Martin, Vice President of UF/IFAS along with six other members of the FTGA and FGCSA to attend as turfgrass stakeholders and to participate in setting the course of IFAS.

C. Florida Golf Course Owners Association: The FGCOA held a Town Hall meeting at the Grand Cypress Resort on March 16th. The topic was the Future of Golf. A member of Congressman Bill McCollum's office was in attendance along with owners and media representatives. Several points from the meeting:

(1) Growth of the Game - If current course building and golfer participation trend continues for next 10 years, courses will only be operating at 77% desired ca-

(2) Marketing More Golf Participation -First and easiest target is current golfers, then attracting beginners and juniors. Identify barriers to playing(Affordability, Access, Time, Learning mechanics and traditions and etiquette, User friendly courses).

(3) Innovations - Build 3-4 hole practice or pitch and putt courses on range. Install forward tees to create a par 3 course on a regular layout. (More maintenance for superintendent and staff.)

(4) Owners - Work together for marketing. Lobbying. Support Florida Golf Impact Survey.

(5) Superintendents - Suggest owners join Florida Chapter of FGCOA. Also urge owners to participate in the Survey to get

best, most accurate numbers possible for leverage when taking issues to state and local governing bodies.

3. Media Relations

A. Agriculture Institute of Florida: The Ag Institute of Florida is an organization made up of communications professionals representing various agricultural commodities. I was invited to attend their 1999 Strategic Planning Retreat in Tampa on March 5th. At the conclusion of the two day session. I was nominated and elected to serve on their Board of Directors. In addition to providing a voice at the table for turfgrass issues, I hope to make additional industry contacts and learn more communications techniques that will be of service to the FTGA and FGCSA specifically. Additional information on the Ag Institute was sent to your Chapter External Vice President with my monthly report.

B. Editorial Board: I have been contacted by the American Crop Protection Association and RISE (Responsible Industry for a Safe Environment) to participate as a representative of non-Ag users of pesticides at an Editorial Board at the Tampa Tribune newspaper on April 21st on the impacts of the FQPA implementation. I will be joined by a strawberry farmer from Dover, FL. RISE and the ACPA is setting up these editorial boards around the country to provide media with the users side of the FQPA issue. I have received information to use in the meeting and we will have a conference call before the editorial board to discuss how to present the information.

C. Radio Talk Show: I met a Mr. Tom Shea at the Florida Golf Course Owners Town Hall meeting. Mr. Shea is a PGA Professional from Odessa, FL and has a talk show. He invited me to be on his show in the near future to discuss FQPA and environmental issues on golf courses.

4. Chapter Relations

D.O.C. Presentations: I made a D.O.C. presentation at the Suncoast Scramble on March 23rd and another one at the West Coast Chapter monthly meeting on March 24th. At the Suncoast meeting, President Troy Smith presented me with a check for \$2,500 to be placed in the FGCSA Research Account.

8th Annual Ridge Invitational



Bigger and better each year! The 8th Annual Ridge Invitational on March 1st kicked off the 1999 fundraising and educational seminar season for the FGCSA. The hard working and always fun loving Ridge Runners who made it possible this year were: (1-r) Mark Hopkins; Bob Wagner; Steve Ciardullo; Jeff Brown; Roy Wilshire (host superintendent); Tom Barnett and Ray Cuzzone.

This year was the largest field for the Ridge Invitational with close to 120 players teeing it up at the Grasslands G&CC. Thanks to the support of the 35 sponsors and all of the players, the event raised a record \$10,500 to be donated to various state associations.

New Turf Technician Hired for FGCSA Research Green

After ten years of service to the FGCSA at the Fort Lauderdale REC, Marcus Prevatte has resigned his position to become Assistant Superintendent to Joe Pantaleo at Indian Creek.

The FGCSA Research Committee, with the help of SFGCSA members Bob Klitz and Bill McKee, has hired Gary Pederson as the new turf technician. Gary has been in the turf maintenance business for many years and received an A.S. degree in Golf Course Operations from Lake City CC. His most recent golf course experience was as assistant superintendent for the past six years at Barefoot Bay GC in Sebastian. Prior to

that he worked at Indian Hills CC in Fort Pierce; CC of Plantation; Ft. Lauderdale CC and other clubs in the South Florida area for nearly ten years.

Gary's duties will include hand mowing of the green, application of pesticides and fertilizers and all other regular maintenance procedures as well as upkeep of all turf equipment. In addition, he will work with university researchers in setting up research projects, ordering supplies and keeping inventory for monitoring the research plots.

Gary will work for the FGCSA Research Committee under the on-site direction of Dr. John Cisar, University of Florida Turf Coordinator.

Big \$\$\$ Raised at 13th SFGCSA Exposition

Once again the South Florida chapter has defied the odds and has run a successful fundraiser that does not include golf! According to Jim Walker, SFGCSA President, the SFGCSA will donate approximately \$23,000 to the FGCSA /Otto Schmeisser Research Green through the proceeds of the March 11th event.

The Expo format is based on equipment and booth demonstrations scheduled between a morning and an afternoon educational program. Obviously the success of the event depends on the cooperation of the major turfgrass equipment companies in the South Florida area. This years equipment demonstrators were Diamond Turf, Hector Turf, Kilpatrick Turf, Florida Coast Equipment, NuCrane Machinery and Ty-Crop Turf. Without their willingness to go out of their way to bring their staff and equipment to the Ft. Lauderdale site, there would be no event. Credit also goes to the 30 vendors who manned the booths for attendees.

This year was even more financially successful due to Ray Carruthers and his staff at Emerald Island Turf who prepared and served the delicious barbeque lunch at no cost to the SFGCSA.

The SFGCSA Board of Directors would like to thank Dr. John Cisar, new on site Expo Co-ordinator, who came through by finding excellent speakers in Dr. Will Hudson of the University of Georgia and the ultradwarf breeders who formed the morning round table discussion. And, of course, to Marcus Prevatte who did most of the on-site preparation. We are especially grateful that Marcus gave his time to ensure that things went smoothly at the FLREC even though he has already begun his new position as Assistant Superintendent at Indian Creek GC. Thanks also to his new boss, Joe Pantaleo, who realized the importance of this fundraiser and worked with Marcus to schedule his new duties around the Expo. It is this spirit of co-operation that is needed to continue this fundraiser into the new millenium as the Board begins plans for the Y2K Expo.



This bunch of Suncoasters scrambled and came up with the 17th Annual Suncoast Scramble event -- a combination of business meeting, entertainment by the McCurdy Comedy Club, lunch and golf. The event pairs a superintendent with his club pro, his green chairman or manager and a vendor. This years committee included Bob Gwodz, Troy Smith, Rhett Baugh, Mack Baugh, Tom Crawford, John VanVranken, Andy Burmester, Stan Bokoski and Tom Hilferty. The Committee presented a check for \$2,500 to the FGCSA Research Fund.



The 7th Annual Mike Richards Memorial Scholarship Tournament was held at the Jacksonville G&CC. Featured speaker was pro golfer and commentator, Steve Melnyk. Three Lake City students were the recipients of the scholarships: Mike Richards (\$3,000) won by Wayne Durkee; and two Alan MacCurrach scholarships (\$1,500 each) - presented to David Younger and Kyle Tapp.

The people who put in the time and effort to make it happen were (l-r) Paul Hammrick; Steve Richards; Tom Brennan; Clayton Estes; Kelli Bohn; Greg Tharp; Kim Shine and Jim Shine. Photo by Joel Jackson



The Seven Rivers chapter holds an informal meeting each year at the UF/IFAS Overseed Field Day. They were part of a crowd of 150 attendees for the hands-on educational tour of the turf plots in Gainesville this past March.

Photo by Buddy Keene.

Ken Gorzycki, Ballen Isles, Is First CGCS for 1999

Ken Gorzycki, superintendent at BallenIsles CC in Palm Beach Gardens, is the first Florida superintendent to become certified by the GCSAA in 1999.

In 1977, Ken received his degree in Agronomy with a Turfgrass Management Option from Texas A&M University, studying under Dr. James Beard. This native-born Texan spent his teen age years working on a golf course and continued part time while earning his degree. That experience was enough to earn him a position as superintendent at Pinewood GC in Beaumont, Texas upon graduation from Texas A&M. After 5 years, he moved to Atoscocita CC in the Houston area where he assisted in building an additional nine holes at that club. In 1987, he got the urge to build again, so accepted a postion at Fair Oaks Ranch where he grew in another 9 holes to bring that facility to a total of 27 holes. In 1993, Ken left Texas to become head superintendent at BallenIsles CC, a 54 hole facility. Since being at BallenIsles, he has reconstructed one of the courses, is now working on the second course and will soon begin reconstruction on the third course.

Ken was Past President of both the Central Texas GCSA and the Lone Star GCSA. He is married to Kathy, and has a 16 year-old daughter, Casey, at Jupiter High School.

1999 Envirotron Classic

Over 300 golfers including new UF IFAS Vice President Dr. Mike Martin teed it up on April 19th to participate in the largest chapter fundraiser for turfgrass research. Organized and hosted by the Seven Rivers Chapter and the World Woods Golf Club, this event is in its seventh year and has raised \$222,500. Barbaron, Inc. was once again the presenting sponsor with their donation of \$12,500.

At the conclusion of the tournament during the steak and shrimp dinner, Tournament Chairman Glen Oberlander presented a check for \$72,000 from the Envirotron Research Fund to Dr. Grady Miller for a three year study on light/shade effects on turfgrass with an emphasis on putting surfaces. Oberlander also presented Dr. Jerry Sartain with a check for \$26,000 to fund the remaining phases of his fertility studies.

Monies for research are generated through sponsor donation, tournament registration fees, raffle ticket sales and a silent auction of specialty items like a Steve Spurrier autographed football, a Ken Venturi autographed David Pursell print, custom made alligator leather boots, and a variety of golf getaway packages.

Golf Results: Four Man Scramble Event. Winners received framed pictures of golf holes from the respective courses.

Pine Barrens GC:

Low Gross: (58)

Cooke, Wykoff, Bucci, Pozzi

1st Net: (56.25)

Armitage, Kirkland, Focht, Vereb

2nd Net: (60.5)

Hruby, Sartain, Neville, Mann

3rd Net: (61.25):

Delaney, Oberlander, Hoggard,

Wilshire 4th Net: (61.75)

Milholen, Burdette, Lammrish, Harris

Rolling Oaks GC:

Low Gross: (58)

Reash, Adams, Adams, Honeywell

1st Net: (58)

Hilferty, Baugh, Van Vranken, Bebout

2nd Net: (60.25)

Benefield, Mesh, Jacoby, Elliot

3rd Net: (60.25)

Giehls, Kopack, Marshall, Price

4th Net: (60.5)

Hartong, Shea, Bozeman, Cristillo

Once again, congratulations to the Seven Rivers Chapter for hosting this spectacular event.

1999 Poa Weekend Set for May 14 - 16

The Everglades chapter will host the 1999 Poa Annua Golf Classic on May 14th -16th at the Naples Beach Hotel.

The Everglades chapter was two years old when it invited the SFGCSA over to Marco Island for a casual get-together in 1970. Things went pretty well and the following year Dwight Wilson suggested that a pail of Poa Annua be given as a prize to the winners of the golf match. Sinc then Poa has been associated with the annual meeting. Sometime around 1972 Doc Anderson offered to supply a meal at the meeting. He left nothing out. Roast pig, sweet corn, ribs, and almost anything a person wanted was served up barbeque style. In 1975, the get-together was officially dubbed the Poa Annua Golf Classic. As it continued to grow, other chapters of the FGCSA were invited and the location of the event was changed to other courses such as Lehigh, Mirror Lakes and Oxbow. It was while the tournament was at Mirror Lakes that the Board of Directos of the FGCSA decided to have one of its biannual meetings at the Poa Annua. After 1980 a permanent home was found for the Poa at the Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club. As the golf tournament continues to grow, so does its importance. The Poa Annua Golf Classic has matured into one of the most enjoyable events of the year.

This year's event begins with the FGCSA Board Meeting at 8:00 a.m. on Friday morning followed by the FGCSA sponsored seminar, "Effective Mole Cricket Management and The Value of Soil Testing" from 12:30 to 5:00 p.m. Speakers are Dr. Rick Brandenburg, North Carolina State University and Dr. George Snyder, University of Florida. This program has been submitted to GCSAA for .35 PDU's.

The Poa Annua Luau will be held from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m on the Watkins Lawn.

Shotgun start for the Poa Annua Golf Classic is 8:30 a.m Saturday morning at the Beach Club. The G. C. Horne Tournament will be held on Sunday at the Beach Club.



"Experience the Connection"

presented by the
Florida Turfgrass Association
In conjunction with the University of Florida

The FTGA is gearing up for a great week in Gainesville where they will host the 47th Annual Conference and Show. This year's venue will be different than others presented in past years. Challenged to meet the needs of the Florida Turf Professional, quality education, stimulating activities and a 'better than ever' tradeshow has been scheduled for August 9-12, 1999 when attendees will 'Experience the Connection' of the Turf Industry and the University of Florida.

Highlights featured this year include:

- * Technical training by FTGA supporting Vendors
- * Industry Concurrent Sessions, GCSAA Seminars
- * Outdoor Equipment Demonstrations
- * University of Florida Tour
- * Sod Growers Field Day and Cook-out
- * Awards Dinner in the exclusive 'Touchdown Terrace'
- * and . . . special keynote message by University of Florida President Dr. Lombardi

Watch for more details and mark your calendars for August 9-12, 1999. Don't Miss It!!

Limited Booth Space

PBGCSA Future of Golf

This year's Future of Golf Tournament will be played on Saturday, June 5th at The Falls CC which has graciously extended the use of the club for the main purpose of raising money for turfgrass research.

Karl Schmidt repeats as Tournament Chairman by replacing Tom Vlach who has accepted a position at Greystone GC in Birmingham, Alabama. Karl is working hard on collecting door prizes so that all players can go home with a prize. Steve Pearson, superintendent at The Falls CC, has gathered an impressive list of vendors to help sponsor the event. If you would like to be part of this great tournament, call the FGCSA office for an entry or sponsor form.

Yellowjacket Nest Removal

If you have a LARGE nest of yellowjackets on your golf course (or elsewhere) that you would like to have removed, please contact Dr. Jim Castner. He will be making several trips to the central and south Florida areas this Spring and Summer and has had extensive experience in the removal of giant pest yellowjacket nests. The nests must not have been treated with any insecticides or chemicals (gas, kerosene, etc.) prior to removal though. If you are interested in getting rid of your yellowjacket nests and removing a threat to your club members, you may contact Dr. Castner at the address below:

Dr. Jim CastnerPhone: (352)-371-6439 e-mail: <u>JLCASTNER@AOL.COM</u>



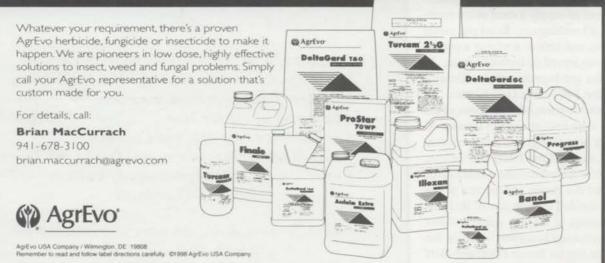
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Local chapters' fundraising season continues with Poa Annua, Envirotron, and Future of Golf Tournaments

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