

THE GREEN SHEET



VOLUME XIX, PART 1, JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2003

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION



Everglades GCSA President Jim Leiseberg, CGCS, takes great pride in presenting CREW Executive Director Ellen Lindblat with a check for \$9,000 from the Environmental Education fundraiser held at Bonita Bay East.

CREW is the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed and is an example of government, business and the public working together to conserve resources.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FTGA Regional Turf Conferences:
See page 6 for registration info.
Pre-Register on-line at www.ftga.org

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| Jan. 14 Southeast Florida (Lake Worth) | Jan. 13 CFGCSA sponsored Annual FTGA Research Fundraiser, Interlachen CC. John Foy, USGA, guest speaker | Jan. 27 Suncoast chapter Vendor Appreciation Day, Bradenton |
| Jan. 15 Dade/Broward (Pro Player Stadium) | Jan. 14 Calusa chapter meeting, Coral Oaks CC. Todd Lowe, USGA, guest speaker | Jan. 30 SFGCSA chapter meeting, Crandon Park GC |
| Jan. 16 Southwest Florida (TECO Arena -- Ft Myers) | Jan. 15 PBGCSA annual A, B, & C night meeting and golf, Emerald Dunes GC | Feb. 7 GCSAA Golf Championship, - 11 Hilton Head, South Carolina |
| Jan. 21 Tampa (St. Lawrence Parrish/Higgins Hall) | Jan. 16 West Coast chapter meeting, Coral Oaks, Tarpon Springs | Feb. 10 GCSAA Conference & Show, - 15th Atlanta |
| Jan. 23 Mid-Florida (Orlando) | Jan. 17 Mike Cantwell Fundraiser & Golf Tournament, Grandezza GC and Miromar G&BC | Feb. 13 Florida Reception, Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel |
| Jan. 29 North Florida (Duval Extension Office) | | Feb. 27 CFGCSA Supt/Vendor Tournament, Deltona Hills CC |
| Jan. 31 Gulf Coast (Milton, Santa Rosa Extension Office) | | Mar. 20 SFGCSA Expo and UF Field Day, Fort Lauderdale REC |
| Jan. 11 Calusa GCSA members only holiday cruise, J. C. Cruises, Fort Myers | | |

JAN 13 2002

President's Message David Court, CGCS

Here we go with another New Year of twelve months facing us and all I can think of is where did 2002 go? The time does seem to fly by. Before I report on what is ahead for 2003 I would like to mention another loss to our industry.

Jeff Hayden (age 52) passed away this past December 2002. Jeff was very active with the F.T.G.A. as well as local superintendent chapters in Florida (West Coast, North Florida and Seven Rivers) as a Superintendent during his career. He was also in sales with Lesco for a short time and most recently was a Territory Manager with Golf Ventures. Jeff was very instrumental in getting the Envirotron built for turf grass research at the University of Florida. His dedication to the industry will be surely missed.

In the year 2002 we lost a total of five "young" turf industry people. Along with Jeff were Mike Cantwell, Chip Fowkes, Tom Crawford and Al Cowing. **Note:* Please see related article on page 6 of this newsletter.

At our fall FGCSA board meeting the idea of starting a benevolent fund came up and

I hope that we will get this started at the FGCSA reception with your donations in a 50/50 drawing. This should be a good way to raise funds for families of FGCSA members in time of need.

With the resignation of Dale Walters from the FGCSA Board, I have appointed Joe Panteleo from Indian Creek Country Club to fill this vacancy. Joe has served as External Vice President for SFGCSA for the past two years and has been Membership Chairman during the same time period.

By now most everyone has read the GCSAA is looking into the idea of relocating its headquarters to a new location. Several cities including Orlando and Jacksonville were mentioned as possible sites. If this were to happen it would put most of the major players of golf in our state including the PGA, LPGA, NGF and the World Golf Village. The chapter delegates gave approval for the GCSAA to pursue this idea and take the next step to see if this idea is achievable.

Also at the GCSAA delegates meeting, a discussion took place about a need to increase dues on a national level. When you attend your chapter meetings your delegate will be able to fill you in more on these subjects.



David Court, CGCS

Other issues that we will involve the board with will be to have more interactions with state legislature in Tallahassee and to investigate what will happen with MSMA herbicide use on golf courses. With the assistance of our state lobbyist, Mike Goldie, we hope to send some members of the board to meet with some key state representatives and discuss issues pertinent to our industry. This would give us a chance to meet our government face to face and discuss issues such as water and environmental issues and give them a chance to know more about our industry.

This issue of MSMA (arsenic) has become a problem with detectable levels in soil and ground water above threshold levels allowed by EPA. Samples were taken on some older golf courses that have used arsenic products such as; MSMA, DSMA and AMA as well as combination products with arsenic in them. This has definitely sent up a red flag and may jeopardize the use of this product in the near future.

In closing I hope to get around to some of the chapter meetings throughout the state and catch up on what the local chapters are doing for fund raising, education, etc. Hopefully I can make some new acquaintances and take some ideas back to our state board. OK... the real reason is I need something new to write about.

THE GREEN SHEET

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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. Photos are encouraged. Items must be for the good of the association.

Deadline next issue: February 15.

What's Up D.O.C.?

by Joel Jackson

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Hayden family as we mourn the unexpected death of Jeff Hayden on Friday, December 6, 2002. Jeff, a long time golf course superintendent and founder of the Seven Rivers Chapter, was with Golf Ventures. Jeff has played an instrumental role over the years with the relationship of the Florida Turfgrass Association and the University of Florida. His experience, energy and insight will be missed by all of us in the turf industry.

1. Government Regulations: Water - Golf Courses in the Water Use Caution Areas in the SWFWMD: are coming under additional scrutiny during the re-permitting process. The rules language indicates that future permits may be reduced by taking away water allocations computed for roughs. You can still water roughs, but you'll have to use the water allocated for greens, tees and fairways to do it with. If you are in these areas, you might want to alert your owners and call SWFWMD or better yet, unite and then call SWFWMD. Remind them that golf only uses 2.6% of the water consumed daily.

Arsenic - Be aware that the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DOACS) are addressing studies coming out of South Florida that indicate higher than allowable levels of arsenic in soil and water samples. The primary concern is contamination of ground water and potential for human health effects. The problem surfaced during routine environmental audits of golf or former golf property put on sale for residential development. No one is willing to sign off on the property and state agencies are looking into how to resolve the problem and to determine how widespread the problem might be.

On December 18th, David Court, President and Greg Pheneger, Vice President of the FGCSA, Todd Lowe of the USGA, and myself will meet in Gainesville with Dennis Howard and Steve Dwinell of DOACS and Dr. George Snyder of UF/IFAS to make

sure we are all on the same page with regard to the extent of the problem statewide and potential solutions. We want to prevent this issue from becoming a public relations nightmare. If you are currently using MSMA, you may wish to rethink your weed control programs and consider how you can manage without that product in the future. The state is considering additional studies to find out if this only a South Florida issue or if there should be concern statewide.

While the use of MSMA is of primary concern as a source of arsenic, be aware that arsenic is a naturally occurring element. It can also be found in fertilizers, mulch, native soil (on-site, hauled-in and dredged) and other chemicals used on golf courses. That is part of the problem in getting a grip on the arsenic issue.

Non-Point Source Pollution (TMDLs): According to Mike Thomas of the DEP, golf courses are put into the non-point source pollution category. As such, Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) regulations are coming which will define how much potential "pollution" can be generated by a golf course. For arguments sake it is assumed that everyone pollutes the environment, it's a natural by-product of every living (laundry water, auto emissions, fertilizers, pesticides, etc). For those operations that are participating in documented IPM and BMP programs (ACSP for example), the regulatory path will be easier than those who still have their heads stuck in the sand. There are many advantages to belonging to the ACSP and this is only one, and it could be a big one real soon. Get in the program now and build a history of environmental awareness.

2. Public Relations: The results of the EGCSA "CREW" fundraiser in October were mentioned in two articles in the Naples area newspaper. The next meeting of the EGCSA Communications committee will be December 10th to formulate "how-to" strategies for getting positive news about golf out to the public including your own members, the media, politicians, and regulators.

3. Media Relations: I had a chance to meet Ed Travis, editor of Florida Golf News, and

Steve Elling, golf writer for the Orlando Sentinel at the media day held for the opening of the new Harmony Golf Preserve south of Orlando near St. Cloud. Johnny Miller, designer of the course was on hand for a clinic and some on-course interaction with the players. It wasn't the proper time and place to grill "Johnny" on his obsession with "grain" but I did ask him about his interaction if any with superintendents at televised tournaments. He said he generally spoke with each superintendent to find out what the preparations had been, rather than depending solely on the tour staff input. He also says he tries to make it a point to mention the superintendent during the broadcast.

4. Education: The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Workshops (Dec 2 - 6) are history and approximately 150 people attended. It's a start. Most were people registered in the program but who have not started working on Certification. There were 9-10 courses looking to join the program. In all cases attendees were walked through how to fill out the Site Assessment sections and the Environmental Planning sections. The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program the most proactive, voluntary, recognized and effective way to demonstrate your golf course's commitment to being environmentally friendly. See TMDL discussion above.

FTGA Regional Conferences - Don't forget the FTGA Regional Conferences are coming your way in January and February. *Note:* See the schedule on page 6 of this newsletter.

GCSAA Conference and Show - This year the C&S will be held in Atlanta, Feb 10 - 15th. With PDI cranking up July 1st 2003, the proposed dues increase and the proposal to relocate the GCSAA headquarters to one of eight possible sites (three in Florida) it should be an interesting week to say the least. Hope you can make it. Marie Roberts and I will be attending Chapter Managers and Newsletter Editors Sessions. I will also be attending the Government Relations session on the American with Disabilities to see what Uncle Sam has come up with for golf courses to do to accommodate golfers with disabilities.

.....Continued on page 6

FGCSA Fall 2002 Board Meeting

The Fall 2002 meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors was called to order by President David Court, CGCS, at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, October 25th at Bay Hill Club in Orlando.

All officers except Past President Geoff Coggan were present. All chapters except Seven Rivers were represented. Other FGCSA members attending the meeting were Joel Jackson - Florida Green editor; Craig Weyandt - Research Chairman; Joe Ondo - Golf Chairman; Jeff Heggen - Coastal Plains President; and Bobby Ellis - FTGA President. Guest: Michael Goldie, Lobbyist.

David Court began the meeting with a plea to all External Vice Presidents to solicit their members to attend one of the upcoming Audubon Workshops. The USGA has gone to a lot of trouble and expense to offer these Workshops to our members and we owe it to them to try to gather a lot of support for the program.

David also discussed the Spokesperson Training sessions that are in the works for both Palm Beach and the Treasure Coast board of directors. David is looking for another chapter to step up and get their board to set a date for one of these Spokesperson Training Sessions. The FGCSA is hoping to get enough participation to schedule three of these sessions each year.

The minutes of the Summer 2002 Board Meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS: A report was read from Tim Hiers on the two day Environmental Summit held in Nebraska last month. Tim will continue to work with the GCSAA to form some type of action plan.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Dale Walters reviewed all the Financial Statements for the first quarter of 2002. The statements were approved. Dale then presented a check for \$5,000 from the Everglades chapter to support the FGCSA Research

Dale then reviewed the IRS tax return for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002. We have a balance due of \$2,526 to cover the shortfall in our Estimated Tax Payments for the Unrelated Business Income Tax. We also have a \$538.00 balance due to the state of Florida for 2002. We will begin again to make Estimated Tax Payments to the IRS for 2003 to a maximum of \$4,800 per year which is the figure our accountant expects us to owe if all income and expenses for publications are about the same next year.

Mike Goldie then gave a report on what's happening in the upcoming Florida elections. He urged

superintendent to support Bronson in his race to remain Commissioner of Agriculture. He noted that the Commission of Agriculture position is one of only four Cabinet positions. Dale Walters then announced that the Florida GCSA was presenting a \$500 to the Bronson campaign and that the Everglades GCSA was contributing \$250. Bobby Ellis announced that the FTGA was also contributing \$500.

Mike then discussed the other Senate and House of Representative elections noting which candidates he feels will be best for golf and turf. He noted that Ken Pruitt should be able to give us some support with the IFAS budget this year. He also noted that there is a possibility that turf may become a stand alone entity instead of being grouped with the agricultural interests.

D.O.C. REPORT: Joel reported that he has nominated the Florida GCSA for the GCSAA Excellence in Government Relations award. In support of the nomination, he stressed the importance of the FGCSA's roll in the Nemacur review process.

FLORIDA GREEN: Joel announced that Janlark Communications has suggested that we purchase a digital camera and stated that he is willing to give us a \$15.00 rebate for each photo up to \$2,000 over the next year to help recoup the cost of the camera. A motion was made and seconded that the FGCSA purchase a digital camera for the Florida Green.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES: Joel reported on the BMP meeting held last month and announced that they are looking at Spring of 2003 as the date for the first draft. Target publication date is 2004.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: Dale Walters gave a report on the recent Pesticide Review Council meeting. Craig Weyandt suggest that we organize some type of tour of golf courses to show the advanced technology that is already being used on the courses which illustrate the superintendents roll as Stewards of the Environment. Joel discussed the issues relating to arsenic and methyl bromide.

EDUCATION: Brett Harris reported that Tommy Witt is confirmed as the speaker for the Friday morning seminar at this year's Poa. It will be co-sponsored by the GCSAA Leadership Series. The topic of the seminar has not been pinpointed but will be announced at our next board meeting in January. Brett announced that two GCSAA Regional Seminars were held in Florida in October. He urged all chapters to please contact John Lammrish before you confirm a date with the GCSAA.

GOLF: Joe Ondo reported that seven chapters were represented in this year's FGCSA Team Championship. South Florida walked away with the trophy this year with Bob Harper leading the way with a round of 70. Bob has now won 2 of the 3 qualifying tournaments for the Florida team for the 2003 GCSAA Championship. Others on the Florida team will be Mark Henderson, Steve Bernard and Tyler Warner.

Joe reported that the 2003 Crowfoot Open will be played at Grand Cypress during the last weekend in July.

RESEARCH: Craig Weyandt reported that he has not been in contact with Steve Pearson or Steve Kuhn regarding Gary Pederson's annual review. After a discussion, a motion was made and seconded that Gary Pederson receive a 5% hourly increase effective immediately. The motion was approved.

Craig then reviewed the list of research proposals that the FTGA was unable to fund this year due to insufficient funds in their research accounts. Bobby Ellis then gave a report of the FTGA funds that they administer and noted that some of these accounts have strings attached as to what type of research is funded such as for graduate student support rather than straight research. He also noted that UF funding through the FTGA pays 15% overhead whereas projects through other sources must pay 25%.

After a discussion of the proposed projects, it was decided to concentrate on the following research studies:

1. Evaluation of Alternative Methods for Nematode Management on Turf. Submitted by Dr. William T. Crow. Total \$31,243 — 2 year study.
2. Pasteuria for Biological Control of Sting Nematode in Turfgrass. Submitted by Dr. Robin Giblin-Davis. Total \$26,032 - 2 year study.
3. Ecology, pathogenicity and management of Bipolaris and Curvularis fungal species in ultradwarf bermudagrasses in Florida. Submitted by Drs. Datnoff, Stiles & Cisar. Total of \$30,000 - 3 year study.

The FGCSA has been assured of partial funding on some of these proposals. Bayer has committed \$15,000 to Dr. Crow's study. Kevin Downing has stated that the Florida State Golf Association has about \$22,000 in an endowment fund that they would like to distribute to worthy research this year. Kevin felt that

would be willing to contribute \$6,500 per year to the Pasteria study and \$10,000 to the first year of the Bipolaris study. Bobby Ellis stated that the Florida Turfgrass Association would pick up the second year of the Bipolaris study.

After considering these funding commitments it was noted that if one or all of these projects are approved by the GCSAA, the FGCSA would still have to be willing to fund 50% of the approved proposals even if these other commitments fell through.

After more review, a motion was made to "submit all three proposals to the GCSAA for consideration in the Chapter Cooperative Research Program." The motion was approved. The three proposals and their cover letter of support will be sent to the GCSAA by the November 1st deadline. All External Vice Presidents were urged to write a letter of support for each of these proposals and send the letters to the GCSAA before November 15th. Letters of support are critical to receiving funding and the November 15th is an absolute deadline.

David Court then asked all External Vice Presidents to suggest that their chapter consider making a donation to the FGCSA research fund in light of these three proposals which we would like to fund. *Note:* See photo below illustrating how Everglades responded to this request.



Dale Walters CGCS (left) representing the Everglades chapter at the FGCSA Fall Board meeting, presented a \$5,000 donation to President David Court, CGCS, to be used for the turf research account.

FTGA: Bobby Ellis, FTGA President, reported on the results of the FTGA board meeting held earlier:

1. The research plots at Fort Lauderdale are scheduled to be moved to Immokalee by 2005.
2. He announced that the DEP is funding \$750,000 per year for study on research to be done on water, fertilizer and grasses in Immokalee, Gainesville and Milton.
3. He discussed the plans for the new Pine Acres plots (20 miles south of Gainesville in Micanopy.)
4. Announced plans by the University of Florida researchers to become more active in promoting research and donations to increase funding.
5. Conference & Show - Attendance was at 580 this year in Tampa. They have received lots of positive feedback on the smaller trade show and the fact that all events were under one roof.

Plans are to have the same type of event at the Hyatt next year scheduled for September 7th - 11th. The Hyatt offered a good financial incentive to the FTGA to return the show there based on the large number of sleeping rooms reserved this year. Room rates will remain about the same as this year.

6. Turf Conferences. The 2003 Turf Conferences are planned for January at seven different locations throughout the state. The fee is a reasonable \$45.00 with hopes of large attendance by spray techs, assistants and other interested parties. *Note:* See page 6 of this newsletter for specific dates and sites.

GCSAA: Dale Kuehner will be the Voting Delegate again this year with Kevin Downing serving as Alternate Delegate. All chapters have signed up to vote as one group. Dale will attend the January Board Meeting with his views on the best candidates. Therefore, it is imperative that all chapters send a representative to this January board meeting.

The Florida reception at the GCSAA Conference in Atlanta will be on Thursday evening, February 13th at the Atlanta Marriott Marquee, one of the headquarters hotels.

SURVEY: Mark Henderson has begun preparations for the 2003 FGCSA Survey. The survey questionnaire will be mailed to all Class A and B members by the end of November with the hope of getting good response by the end of January. This has always been a very useful tool for all superintendents at budget time. Mark will make a few changes to clarify some questions on maintenance budgets and is open to any suggestions from board members for additions or changes to the current survey. He asked all Externals to look over the past questionnaire and contact him with suggestions.

NEW BUSINESS: Dale Walters suggested the FGCSA start a Benevolent Fund for members. He suggested a 50/50 raffle to be held at the annual reception with proceeds to be put into the Fund. Guidelines will have to be made to decide on eligibility of receiving the funds.

Dale also asked that public relations tents be considered for PGA events in Florida. Since John Lammish who had volunteered to look into this project was not present, the discussion was tabled until the next board meeting.

Once again, David urged all Externals to promote the Audubon Workshops coming up in early December. All attendees will come away from the Workshop with the Environmental Plan and Site Assessment segments for certification completed.

Suggested date for the Winter Board Meeting was Friday, January 24th or 31st in the Orlando area. *Note:* The Winter Board meeting has been set for January 31st at Grand Cypress.

Since there was no further business, the board meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

IN MEMORY OF ASSOCIATES WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY DURING 2002 GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Who are these seven men? Some may be strangers to you and me. But others we knew well and called them friend. We will miss their kinship, and in the days ahead we will have occasion to speak well of them and remember how they touched our lives. In so doing, let us remember they have left behind wives, children and grandchildren. Remember to keep them in our family circle and make sure we don't forget their needs as we cherish the memories of our lost friends.

Tom Crawford, Past President of the Suncoast chapter, died May 5th of a heart attack. He was 38. Tom received his degree from LCCC in early 1980's and then served as superintendent at Plantation G&CC in Venice. He transferred to PGA National in Palm Beach in 1991 and then returned to the Suncoast area to become head superintendent at Misty Creek in 1994. He serviced on the Florida GCSA Board of Directors from 1996 to 1999 and became President of the Suncoast chapter in 2001.

Chuck Almony, Jr., 49, died August 24th in St. Augustine, Florida. Chuck graduated from LCCC in 1980 after serving in the U.S. Coast Guard. He began his career co-designing and constructing with his father Charles Almony, Sr. Oak Hills CC in Spring Hill. He served as superintendent at Oak Hills for 15 years. He left Oak Hills to serve as pro-supt at Pine Ridge CC in Beverly Hills. Chuck ended his career at World Golf Hall of Fame in St. Augustine.

Albert "Bill" Cowing, 44, passed away March 2, 2002. Bill has been a member of the West Coast GCSA since 1990 when he began his long career with WCI Communities working with Sun City Center. He started with WCI as golf course superintendent and, for almost the last five years, has held the position as Vice President of Amenities for the West Central Region. He recently was also named Project Manager of Walden Lake Homebuilding. Judging by the many nice comments from his co-workers, Bill was obviously a very energetic and well liked individual.

Mike Cantwell, 47, passed away on November 11, 2002. Mike began his career

on golf courses right out of high school in South Dakota. He moved to Florida at the urging of his friend and mentor, Wayne Lippold, to work at Bonita Spring G&CC. Later he became Assistant Superintendent at The Forest G&CC. Mike helped develop the Gateway G&CC in Fort Myers from 1988 to August 2000. At the time of his death, Mike was assisting Art Hills in developing Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club. Members of the Everglades and Calusa chapters with the assistance of Wiley McCall have organized a Fundraiser & Golf Tournament to be played on Friday, January 17th at the Grandezza GC in Estero and the Miromar Golf & Beach Club.

Jeff Hayden, 52, died Dec. 6th at his home in Homosassa. Jeff was affiliated with the golf and turfgrass industry since 1958 when he started work at a family managed golf facility in Michigan. His career in Florida began in the 70's. Rather than list Jeff's golf course work, it is more fitting to give tribute to the type of person he was.

Perhaps Jeff's greatest achievements in the industry came with his many, many hours of volunteer time spent with local FGCSA chapter work and the Florida Turfgrass Association. Jeff was a member of the FTGA since 1974 and served as Director from 1986-1992. He was a member of North Florida GCSA from 1974 and served as Vice President in 1980 becoming President in 1982. He then moved to the West Coast chapter and repeated the practice there, serving as Director from 1984-87 and VP in 1986. His third chapter affiliation came about when he was a founding member of Seven Rivers chapter from 1991 to 2002 where he was a Director from 1991-1998.

Fleming "Chip" Fowkes, 47, was killed in a motorcycle accident on June 28, 2002. Chip has a degree in Business from the University of Florida and then followed that up by attending LCCC. He spent 5 years at PGA National working for Luke Majorki. In 1990 he became head superintendent at Emerald Dunes GC and moved to Frenchmens Creek in 1995. In 2000 he accepted the position as Director of Golf at the Fountains GC. Chip was an active member of the Palm Beach GCSA serving

on the board for several years and as President in 1998-1999. He served as a director on the FGCSA board and was also a member of the FTGA and GCSAA. Chip's friends in Palm Beach are planning a memorial tournament in his honor at Bocaire CC in the spring.

Joe Konwinski, one of the Florida Turfgrass Association's founding fathers and its first president in 1952, passed away August 17. He was 87. Joe began his turf career shortly after leaving the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1946. He was the superintendent of the Lake Worth Municipal GC from 1946 to 1958. Joe serving on the Lake Worth Chamber of Commerce for 20 years as well as volunteering with the Rotary Club and the American-Polish Club. He also taught a turfgrass management course at Palm Beach Community College for more than 20 years.

FTGA Turfgrass 2003 Regional Turf Conferences

The Florida Turfgrass Association has announced the following dates for their 2003 Regional Conferences:

- Jan. 14 Southeast Florida (Lake Worth)
- Jan. 15 Dade/Broward (Pro Player)
- Jan. 16 Southwest FL (TECO Arena)
- Jan. 21 Tampa (St. Lawrence Parrish)
- Jan. 23 Mid-Florida (Orlando)
- Jan. 29 North Florida (Duval Extension)
- Jan. 31 Gulf Coast (Milton Extension)

These all-day conferences are designed to meet the educational needs of the entire turf industry. Each conference will have leading university and industry speakers covering all of the important and up-to-the-minute information that you need to stay at the top of your game in the turfgrass and landscape business today. As always, CEU's in O&T, L&O and CORE will be awarded to attendees. Save \$5.00 off of the on-site registration by Pre-registering. Secure pre-registration can be done on-line at www.ftga.org for \$40.00 per person. For more information or to receive a brochure and registration form, please contact the FTGA office by phone at 800-882-6721 or e-mail to ftga@aol.com.

Continuation of D.O.C. Column....

5. Publications - We have submitted the Summer 2002 issue of the Florida Green for consideration in the GCSAA Publications Contest and have also entered it in the Most Improved category to showcase the re-design of the interior of the magazine. The economic slow-down has been a concern as business must make hard decisions about spending advertising dollars. While the total number of pages has gone down from an average of 72-80 pages to 64 pages over the past 2 years, the primary loss of ad pages have come mainly from the rash of mergers by chemical companies, and we lost many 2-page ad spreads. Almost all of our long time advertisers have remained loyal as they see the advantage of reaching all Florida superintendents with the Florida Green.

Florida Superintendents to be Honored at GCSAA Convention

Florida superintendents planning to attend the 74th Annual GCSAA Conference and Show need to make their travel plans now to arrive in Atlanta in time to attend the Opening Session on Wednesday night, February 12th. The Florida GCSA is proud to have two of our own members receiving prestigious and well deserved recognition during the Opening Session.

Joel D. Jackson, Florida Green Editor and Director of Communications for the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association, will be receiving the GCSAA Distinguished Service Award. The GCSAA presents this award to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the golf course superintendent's profession. The contribution must be significant in both substance and duration. The GCSAA DSA was first presented in 1932 and has been presented annually since 1975. Number of recipients each year has ranged from one to four. As most of you know, this has been an active year for Joel as he recently received the Florida Turfgrass Foundation's Wreath of Grass Award during the FTGA Conference and Show in September.

Darren J. Davis, director of golf course operations at Olde Florida GC in Naples and Past President of the Florida GCSA, will be presented with the 2002 Leo Feser Award. Davis will be recognized for his two-part article, "An Olde Florida Course Made New," published in the January and February 2002 issues of Golf Course Management. Darren is the only two-time winner of the Leo Feser Award. He previously received the award in 1997 for his article, "Sow the Seeds of Knowledge," published in the December 1996 issue of Golf Course Management.

We hope all FGCSA members who are in Atlanta will take a front row seat at the Opening Session to show our support for these two great Florida superintendents!



2003 Florida GCSA Reception -- Thursday, February 13th

The FGCSA will hold its annual GCSAA Reception on Thursday night, February 13th, at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel, 7:00 p.m.- 9:30 p.m. Reception will be limited to Florida superintendents and sponsors only. Invitations will be mailed to all FGCSA members in January. Reception Chairman Michael Perham promises that the Atlanta reception will continue the tradition of being the best chapter reception at the GCSAA Convention. Mark your calendar now. You will not want to miss it!

There is still time for **any affiliate** to be involved as a sponsor and to share the opportunity to network with all the Florida superintendents in Atlanta. Number of reception tickets is based on sponsorship levels. We sincerely appreciate the support of all our sponsors. Those companies who have already committed to the reception are:

Level I. Platinum Sponsors

- * Bayer Environmental Sciences
- * Dow AgroSciences
- * Golf Ventures Industries
- * Harrell's Fertilizer/Polyon
- * Kilpatrick Turf/Boynton Pump
- * Syngenta

*Florida Toro Distributors - Hector, Wesco Turf, Wesco Turf Supply

Level II. Gold Sponsors

- Eagle One Products
- Greg Norman Golf Course Design/Greg Norman Turf Co.
- Laserturf
- Lesco/Southern
- Quality Grassing & Services
- TMI Turf Merchants, Inc.
- Tresca Equipment Co.

Level IV. Bronze Sponsors

- Pike Creek Turf
- E. R. Jahna Industries
- Almar Turf Products
- Aerification Plus
- Tom Burrows Turfgrass
- Florida Potting Soils Inc.
- Florida Superior Sand
- Country Club Services
- Detailed Sports Turf
- The Andersons Inc.
- Upstart Products
- South Florida Grassing
- Lakemasters Aquatic
- Hamilton Grading & Grassing
- Hamilton Turf Farms, Inc.
- Tee-to-Green Turf Products
- Hunter Golf

Level III. Silver Sponsors

- Valent U.S.A.
- BASF
- Precision Small Engine
- Hendrix & Dail, Inc.
- Total Golf Construction
- Sullivan Electric & Pump
- Golf Agronomics
- Top Pro Specialties
- Turf Seed
- FMC Corp.

Special thanks to all those FGCSA chapters who have generously contributed to the reception.

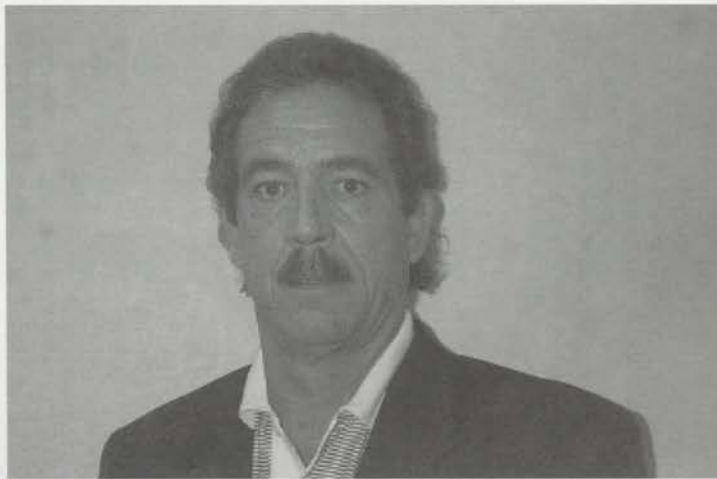


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IN MEMORY OF JEFF HAYDEN

July 31, 1950 - December 6, 2002

An employee, co-worker, mentor and most importantly a great friend who will never be forgotten.

We want to extend our deepest sympathy to Sandra Hayden and family on the death of Jeff Hayden. For those of you who did not know Jeff, he started with Golf Ventures in November 1995 as Territory Manger for T&O and Equipment sales in Northwest Florida. Jeff was instrumental in creating relationships with key personnel from University of Florida. His 35+ years of golf industry experience will be sorely missed. He was a leader and motivator within Golf ventures to the extent that he was a large part of the core foundation of Golf Ventures that we continue to successfully build upon.

Florida Superintendents To Be Honored at GCSAA Convention

FGCSA
Marie Roberts
1760 NW Pine Lake Drive
Stuart, FL 34994

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