

THE GREEN SHEET



VOLUME XX, PART VI, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2004

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION



The South Florida GCSA makes it a clean sweep at the 2004 FGCSA Golf Championship taking Team and Individual Honors. (From left): Howard Hulsebosch, Kelly Cragin, Bob Harper (low gross winner), Joe Pantaleo and Jim Torba. See page 7 for more details.

Upcoming Events

- | | | | | | |
|------------|---|---------|---|--|--|
| Nov. 4 | Calusa GCSA Chapter Meeting, Lochmoor CC | Nov. 16 | Seven Rivers GCSA Fishing Trip, Crystal River | Dec. 10 | Treasure Coast chapter Christmas Party, Gator Trace |
| Nov. 4 - 5 | Lake City Endowment Tournament, Hammock Bay | Nov. 16 | Sports Turf Managers Assn., Florida Chapter #1 Meeting, Sable Pines Park, City of Coconut Creek | Dec. 10 | Palm Beach GCSA Christmas Party, Delray Beach Marriott |
| Nov. 5 | Everglades GCSA CREW Land & Water Trust Golf Tournament, Bonita Bay East. | Nov. 18 | USGA Regional Conference, Marriott, Palm Beach Gardens See article on page 7 | Dec. 13 | South Florida GCSA Golf Outing, TPC at Eagle Trace |
| Nov. 8 | Everglades Meeting, The Old Collier GC, Naples | Nov. 23 | West Coast GCSA chapter meeting, Clearwater Exec. GC | Dec. 15 | Everglades Christmas Tournament, Quail West |
| Nov. 9 | Coastal Plains GCSA chapter meeting, St. James Bay | Dec. 2 | Calusa GCSA Second Annual Charity Tournament, Kelly Greens GC, Fort Myers | Dec. 16 | North Florida Holiday Golf |
| Nov. 10 | Suncoast GCSA Grounds Management Seminar, Selby Gardens. See page 6. | Dec. 4 | South Florida GCSA Christmas Party, Club at Emerald Hills | FTGA Regional Turf Conferences: | |
| Nov. 11 | North Florida GCSA chapter meeting, Deerwood CC | Dec. 4 | Suncoast GCSA Christmas Dinner Cruise, Sarasota | Tuesday, Jan. 11: | Orlando |
| Nov. 12 | Treasure Coast GCSA golf outing, Hammock Creek | | | Wednesday, Jan. 12: | Tampa |
| | | | | Tuesday, Jan. 18: | Lake Worth |
| | | | | Wednesday, Jan. 19: | Miami |
| | | | | Thursday, Jan. 20: | Fort Myers |
| | | | | Wednesday, Jan. 26: | Jacksonville |
| | | | | Tuesday, Feb. 1: | Milton |

President's Message Joe Pantaleo

Since the August writing of the President's message, incredibly, three more hurricanes have passed through our state. These storms have impacted nearly every portion of Florida, while repeatedly slamming the central portion of the state three times. I have personally talked with many of the affected superintendents and suppliers. The common thread among them all is a dazed and helpless feeling; especially those who experienced multiple hits by the storms. However, most have a good attitude and say, "We will rebuild and recover from all of this."

We know the long-term effects of this unbelievably active hurricane season are yet to be clearly seen. We do know that the combined monetary damage is in the \$30 billion range, which obviously will require quite a long time from which to recover. Charley, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne are gone now, but they have left behind many scars and challenges for our industry. As strong as golf is here in Florida, a \$4.4 billion impact annually, you would expect us to bounce back. It may take a while for some, but I am confident we will rebound in a big way.

It has been a tough start as President of this wonderful organization. With nearly the whole state impacted by these hurricanes in

some way, almost everyone's focus has been getting their own ship righted. Obviously, over the past couple of months priorities have changed and shifted dramatically and time for volunteer activity has slowed. What is that old saying, "The best laid plans of mice and men...?" We still have a very strong association made up of great people! While our work toward our goals for the year has slowed to a crawl, be assured we are still looking to the future with positive thoughts and plans for both the short and long terms.

It is hard to believe but just around the corner is the Golf Industry Show to be held in Orlando in February. This is always an exciting event, especially when we are the host chapter. The 2005 show, as you know, now includes the Golf Course Owners Association. This should be a good addition since it includes a very important segment of our industry that has so much to do with our own success as professionals. It appears that the rotation of future shows will likely be locked into Orlando, San Diego and New Orleans and maybe Anaheim if San Diego can't expand to meet the demand. So it will be an East, Central and West rotation.

While some of us may still be varying stages of hurricane damage recovery, hopefully most will be able to make the shorter trip to Orlando to attend this great conference and show. This will be a great opportunity for



Joe Pantaleo

many of us to get together for the first time as a group for a while. To make that gathering extra special, we have appointed Paul Crawford to serve once again as Chairman of the FGCSA Reception, which will be held at the Omni Hotel on Thursday, February 10th. You won't want to miss this event.

Since the 2004 FTGA Conference and Show was cancelled, we can use the GCSAA Show to help us catch up on our educational opportunities and credits. It goes without saying that the selection of seminars at the Golf Industry Show will be vast and second to none in one location, so plan to attend.

Other exciting news about the Golf Industry Show is the candidacy of Bob Randquist, CGCS from the Boca Rio C.C. as a GCSAA Director. Bob was unable to attend the recent Chapter Delegates Meeting held in Kansas City to campaign because of his own storm cleanup and arrival of Hurricane Jeanne. Darren Davis was there to help meet and greet delegates on Bob's behalf and to help monitor several speaker phone sessions that Bob held with groups of delegates. Darren reports the delegates really appreciated Bob's participation under very trying circumstances.

We are helping Bob by producing a campaign brochure and we will assist in any other way possible to work for his election

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Deadline next issue: December 15.

.... Continuation of President's Message

to the GCSAA Board of Directors. Good luck to Bob! We will be reviewing voter registration and procedures in one of our upcoming publications.

Other new and exciting news from GCSAA is that the Club Managers Association will be joining the Golf Industry Show beginning in 2007. We have pointed toward partnering with other Allied Associations as a source of bolstering our own position on many issues. We cannot be more excited about the ramifications of aligning ourselves further with more golf decision makers.

Our next FGCSA Board meeting will be held at the Bradenton Country Club on Friday, October 29th. It will be the first time your leaders have gotten together since our flurry of hurricanes. I am sure that we will share many experiences and will decide on how we can best structure both short and long term recuperation and strengthening of your organization.

Even though these storms may have slowed some of our momentum there is plenty of exciting news coming up that we can't wait to share with you in the very near future.

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

Hopefully your lives are returning to a more "normal" status as time passes and your recovery from the hurricane damage progresses. Many courses have or continue to feel the pinch from lost revenue as some courses are still feeling the effects from flooded low lying areas and damage to buildings. They may be little comfort in knowing that you are not alone in being behind in your fall preparations or reduced resources and damaged courses, but you will persevere and return to better days.

Just a reminder that the GCSAA does have a disaster relief fund for GCSAA members who might need assistance to recover from personal loss and repair costs. Contact GCSAA's Chapter Relations department at 800-472-7878 if you need some assistance in recovering from the storms.

1. Government Relations: The November Pesticide Review Council meeting has been cancelled and moved to January as various Ag Dept. officials are dealing with widespread recovery needs of the state's various Ag commodities. One topic that was on the agenda: Florida's Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) has approached the U.S. EPA for a grant to construct a vulnerable soils map with a golf course locations overlay, so that courses will be able to access it online to determine if they are located in an area of special for certain products. The first that comes to mind is the use of Namacur after May 31, 2005, which is prohibited in areas with vulnerable soils.

Some concern has been voiced that by having the vulnerable soils map on a public access site that some radical environmental groups will target Ag and Green Industry (including golf) operations, since they use pesticides and fertilizers in areas determined to be potentially "vulnerable." This issue is still under discussion and I'm sure will be addressed at the next Pesticide Review Council meeting. The grant proposal that FDACS is presenting is called the Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program (PESP).

In conversation with an industry representative, there is a strong feeling that many of the companies will be active in using this site to help golf courses identify their soil type at their locations and advise them on the use of their products. This potential service is only in the preliminary stages of discussion as the companies seek to obtain more information on the PESP program.

FGCSA BMP Committee: The FGCSA BMP Committee will meet on November 17th to review the progress of the draft of the BMP manual. Upon agreement of the draft content the committee will seek input and cooperation from reasonable environmental groups to help lend credibility and support for the BMP manual. This BMP approach has been well received by government and environmental groups as a practical and reasonable way to help sustain environmental integrity and provide sound operating guidelines for businesses. The forest, cattle, and Indian River citrus, and lawn care associations are a few who have

led the way and had success with the BMP approach.

2. Allied Associations: GCSAA: Only four FGCSA chapter delegates were able to go to Kansas City for the annual delegates meeting, given the recovery efforts from the storms. Space does not permit a detailed discussion of the outcomes, but you can log onto the GCSAA website or consult GCM or Newline for information on the issues discussed. Some of the topics were: The Affiliation Agreement, Dual Membership, Relocation, Name change, Golf Course Owners and Club Managers coming to the annual GCSAA conference and of course meeting the candidates running for board offices.

On that note, our own Bob Randquist could not attend due to hurricane recovery efforts and the impending arrival of the next hurricane, but he did participate via speaker phone for over 2 hours answering questions on his positions on the issues from groups of voting delegates. Darren Davis attended those call session as Bob's proxy and said the delegates gave very positive feedback for Bob's efforts to participate.

3. Education: There will be two major education opportunities in November for those needing to make up some PDI or Certification points missed at the storm-cancelled FTGA Conference in Tampa. They are: Nov.10 Suncoast Grounds Maintenance Seminar; and Nov 18 USGA Green Section Regional Seminar. (See pages 6 and 7)

4. Media/Public Relations: Respecting the tremendous amount of recovery work going on, I have provided limited information to the golf media seeking stories on the hurricane damage and long term effects, and have not made calls myself, rather waiting for information to voluntarily filter in from those willing to share their stories. I know of golf damage related articles appearing in the Orlando Sentinel and Palm Beach Post.

5. Chapter Relations/Fundraising Events: There will be a couple of events of note coming up. Nov 4th-5th: The Lake City Alumni Endowment Tournament, Hammock Bay GC, Naples. Nov 5 EGCSA's CREW (Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed) Fundraising Tournament.

A Hurricane Season to Remember...or Forget?

Only a very few, if any, golf courses in Florida were spared some sort of effect from the 2004 Hurricane Season. A zone comprised of the middle third of the state's peninsula was criss crossed by three hurricanes and our panhandle peers took Ivan on the chin. If it wasn't wind damage it was heavy rainfall and flooding. Practically everyone got a taste of the storms to some degree.

We haven't been able to get a firm handle on the extent of the cultural or financial impact yet, but suffice it to say that debris clean up costs and subsequent revenue losses will be hitting everyone's pocketbook pretty hard. From emails and conversations I've had reports of \$25,000 to close to \$1 million in clean up and repair costs depending on the location of the course.

Some clubhouses and maintenance buildings took hard hits in SW and SE Florida where Charley, Frances and Jeanne made landfall. The long hours of overtime to clean up and catch up have been mind numbing. Cultural practices are behind five to six weeks and the changing weather means overseeding preparations must be fast tracked to get our courses ready for the busy Winter season.

Florida golf courses will bounce back and be ready, but some of the scars will be visible for a long time as signature landmark trees are gone forever. Hopefully, we have learned things we can do better next time to protect our assets, but we know deep down you can't prevent Mother Nature from having her way. The best we can do is to strengthen some weakness in our preparations and have more resources prepared to get us through those first days after the storm.

Here's hoping we all just experienced a once in a lifetime hurricane season.



Hole #11:

Superintendent Kyle Sweet poses on the 11th "Eagle Buffer Hole" at The Sanctuary GC on Sanibel Island before Hurricane Charlie.



Hole #11 After Charlie:

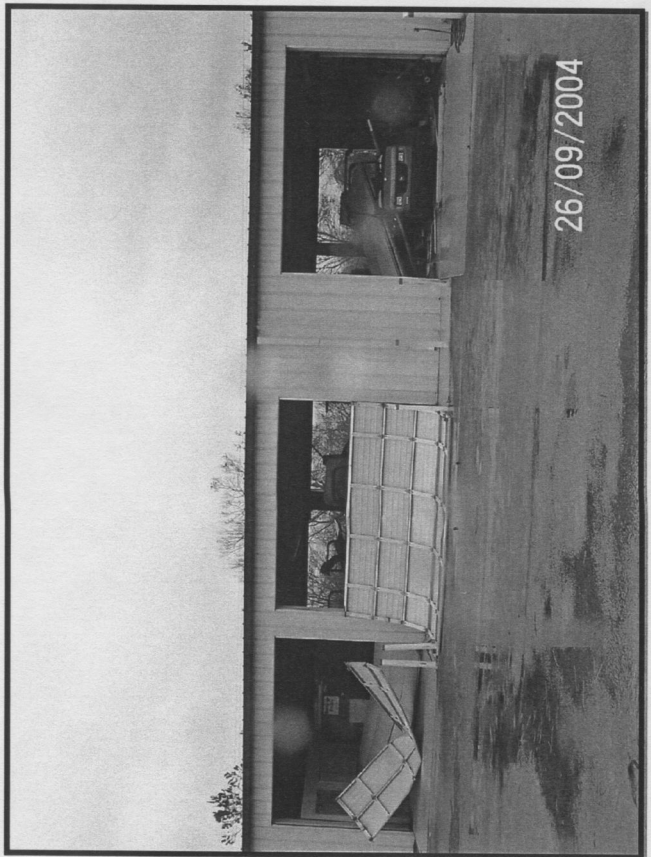
This photo shows the massive destruction and defoliation of the trees on the island.



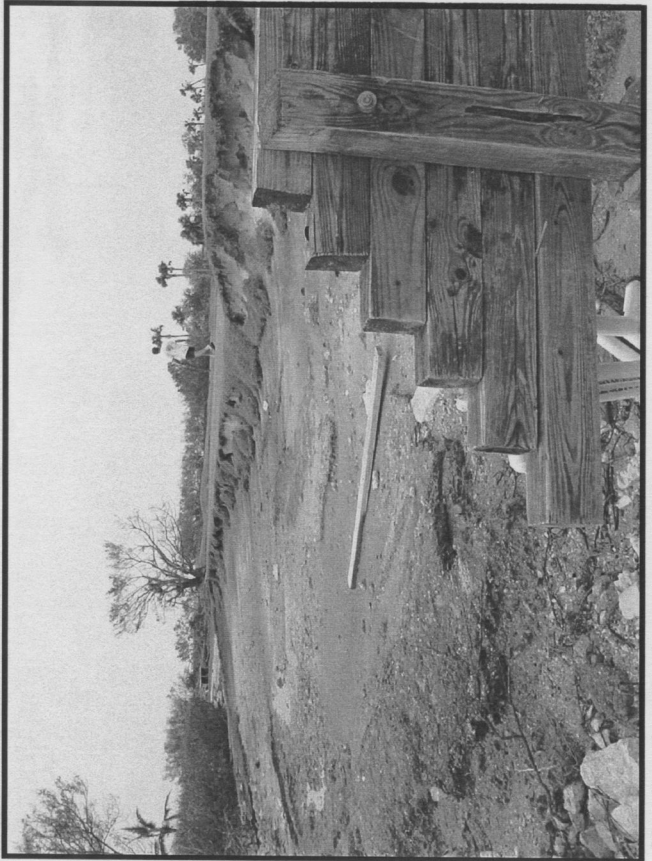
Sounds of chain saws, chippers and tub grinders filled the air after the hurricanes. John VanVranken lends a hand clearing debris at Alden Pines GC on Pine Island.



Literally thousands of fallen trees littered close to 300 or more golf courses in the wake of three hurricanes passing through the heart of Florida this summer.



Coastal golf courses took the worst hits from the hurricanes



Vero Beach took a battering with Frances and Jeanne making landfill at Stuart. Tidal surge and wind driven waves eroded this tee complex at The Moorings.

Suncoast GCSA Grounds Seminar Set for Nov. 10

The Seventh Annual Suncoast Grounds Management Seminar will be held at Selby Gardens in Sarasota from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 10th.

Morning speakers include Rick Schoellhorn, "Easy Color in the Landscape - It Doesn't Have to be Painful" and Dr. Bert McCarty speaking on "New Management Tools for Turfgrass Managers."

The afternoon speakers are Phil Harmon, "Turf Fungicides"; Ken Langeland, "Aquatic Plant Management", Peggy Dessaint "Pesticide Storage Facilities." The full day program concludes with a question and answer period.

The Seminar is jointly sponsored by Suncoast GCSA and the UF/IFAS Cooperative Extension Service for Sarasota County in Conjunction with Selby Botanical Gardens.

Advance registration is \$65.00 by Nov. 3rd or a \$70.00 at door registration. Checks may be made payable to Extension Horticulture Advisory Committee and mailed to Sarasota County Extension Service, Attn: Golf, 6700 Clark Rd., Sarasota FL 34241.

South Florida GCSA Hosts the 20th Annual Missing & Exploited Children's Tournament

On Friday, October 8, 2004, the SFGCSA Missing & Exploited Children's Benefit Tournament Committee hosted the 20th annual tournament at Colony West CC in Tamarac Florida. Host Superintendent Dale Kuehner CGCS and his staff had the course in great shape, and the day was a welcome relief from the previous long five weeks of hurricane clean-up.

A full field of 152 players enjoyed a sunny, breezy day, while listening to a tub grinder quietly working away in a cypress grove north of the Clubhouse. The day served as a reminder of how we continue to be challenged by nature's desire to test our grass growing skills, as we continue to bond together as a group, facing nature's wrath, declining budgets, and no tolerance or understanding from our owners and members for unacceptable course conditions.

Nancy McBride, Executive Director of the Florida Branch of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, provided the group with an update of successes and challenges their organization has faced over the past year. Eternal Tournament Chairman Billy Entwistle Jr. reflected on the long history of this Tournament, and mentioned the original 1984 Tournament Founders including Bill Entwistle Sr, and David Lottes, and how their vision guided this event to its most successful year to date, with over \$22,000 raised for the Center. The celebration of the 20th anniversary continued, with supporting vendors making very generous donations this year to surpass Entwistle Jr.'s goal of \$20,000 by several thousand dollars. Year to date contributions from the past twenty tournaments are now in excess of \$206,000.

The 2004/2005 SFGCSA Board Members will be reviewing the performance of this year's Tournament Committee, and SFGCSA President Kelly Cragin will be meeting with both groups to determine the Benefit Tournament goals for 2005.

Thank you to all our players, sponsors, volunteers, and the Staff at Colony West for another outstanding event.



On behalf of the SFGCSA, Bryan Singleton presents Nancy McBride, Executive Director of the Florida Branch of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children with a check for \$20,000 celebrating the 20th anniversary of this worthy event.

South Florida Chapter Wins 2004 FGCSA Championship

The 2004 FGCSA Golf Championship Tournament was rescheduled from September 27th to October 16th due to impending Hurricane Jeanne and recovery efforts from previous storms. Due to the rescheduling several chapters were unable to field a team to participate because of subsequent conflicts with the new date. However, five chapters did send teams and several FGCSA members participated as individuals.

Those who were able to attend found that host superintendent, Scott Scamehorn had the course in excellent shape and while evidence of the results of passage of three hurricanes could be seen in some places they were few and far between and the turf overall and putting surfaces in particular were in excellent playing condition with putts rolling fast and far as usual.

The clubhouse had sustained some damage as well, but the grille was open and we had food and drink and a beautiful day to pursue par and enjoy some down time together. Congratulations to the winners:

Low Gross Individual: Bob Harper. This is Bob's second FGCSA Championship victory.

Team Champions: South Florida GCSA - Bob Harper, Joe Pantaleo, Jim Torba, Kelly Cragin and Howard Hulsebosch. Once again, South Florida presents the strongest team in the field with all players shooting scores in the 70's.

By virtue of his victory Bob Harper joins Poa Annu Classic Champion Seth Strickland and Crowfoot Open Champion Mark Henderson on the FGCSA Golf Team #1 to compete in the GCSAA Golf Championship in Orlando in February 2005. Rounding out the four-man team is Joe Ondo, who had the low average of the qualifying events. Dennis Neiswender, Palma Ceia CC, West Coast GCSA, is the 1st Alternate if for any reason one of these gentlemen cannot participate.

2004 Hurricane Season a Hot Topic at USGA Conference

The 2004 USGA Regional Conference will be held at the Palm Beach Gardens Marriott (right off I-95) on Thursday, November 18th with registration beginning at 7:00 a.m.

Speakers and their topics for the all day event include:

Roger Harvey, USGA Southeastern Regional Affairs. "Welcoming Remarks

Steve Kammerer, Syngenta. "Is it really a Disease Problem?"

Robert Brame, USGA, Kentucky. "The Economy and Golf Course Maintenance"

Kraig Marquis, Audubon International. "The Venetian GC: Case Study in Sustainability"

Larry Gilhuly, USGA, Gig Harbor, Washington. "Down by the Seashore (Paspallum,)"

Tom Trammel, Hawks Nest GC, Vero Beach. "Hurricane Survival 101: What I've Learned"

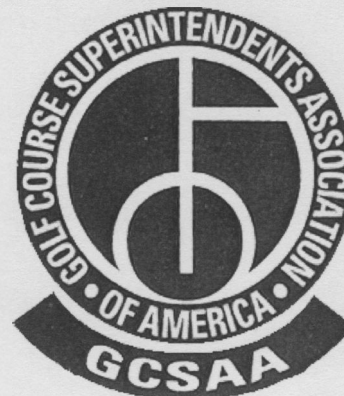
John Foy, USGA. "Agronomic and Economic Consequences of 2004 Hurricane

Season" Gerald Chiddick, Zurich North America. "Insurance for Golf Courses: Panel Discussion"

Dr. Edwin Duke, Floria A&M. "Trees: Before, during and after hurricanes."

Jan Beljan, Fazio GC Design. "Hurricane Impacts on Course Design Features."

Moderators Todd Lowe, USGA, and Bob Randquist, Boca Rio GC, will get the program started at 8:00 a.m. and finished at 4:00 p.m. With this year's focus on hurricanes, a big crowd is expected so get your reservation in as soon as possible. Cost is \$55.00 for each representative of USGA Member Clubs and Courses or \$65.00 for guests. Please call Shelly Foy at 772-546-2620 or fax your registration form to 772-546-4653. Checks should be sent to USGA Green Section, P O Box 1087, Hobe Sound, FL 33475. You may also e-mail your registration to sfoy@usga.org. Take a well deserved break from your hurricane clean up to join your fellow superintendents at this Conference.



2005 Florida Reception to be Held February 10th

The FGCSA will host its always popular reception on Thursday evening, February 10th, 2005, from 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando. This hotel is the GCSAA Headquarters hotel conveniently located next to the Convention Center

All Florida Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents are invited to attend. Look for your invitation in January. Mark your calendar now and make your travel plans accordingly. You will not want to miss this opportunity to mingle with your peers.

Sponsors will be solicited and we expect a good response from our loyal affiliates who enjoy the opportunity to network with all the Florida representatives who attend the Conference. Needless to say we are expecting a record breaking crowd!

If you are an affiliate member of one of our local chapters who has never attended the reception, please call the FGCSA office today at 1-800-732-6053 to receive your sponsor solicitation package. There is still time for all affiliate members to become a part of the Orlando reception

As in the past few years, we will have a short Pre-Reception Welcome for all sponsors and FGCSA board members. This special time presents an opportunity for our sponsors to unwind after the hectic first day of the Show. We sincerely appreciate the support of all our sponsors and look forward to another great night!



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MIKE SWINSON JOINS GOLF VENTURES AS TERRITORY MANAGER FOR T & O SALES

Golf Ventures is pleased to announce the addition of Mike Swinson as Territory Manager for T & O Sales in Alachua, Northern Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Marion, Putnam, Sumter and Volusia counties. Mike has over 24 years experience in the golf industry. Mike is a founding father of the Seven Rivers GCSEA, a past president serving 12 years on the board as well as director of the Jeff Hayden Envirotron Golf Classic since its inception. Please join us in welcoming Mike to the Golf Ventures Team!

GOLF VENTURES OPENS ADDITIONAL LOCATION IN OCALA

Golf Ventures has added a new location in Ocala to better service our customers in the north Florida market. This Ocala location has over 14,000 square feet of office and warehouse space where we will inventory Jacobsen Equipment, Golf Ventures Specialty Products, Standard and Par Aide accessories. Golf Ventures corporate office and warehouse are located in Lakeland, Florida along with strategic locations in Ft. Myers and Jupiter.

Florida Superintendents Continue to Struggle through Hurricane Season

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