

THE GREEN SHEET



VOLUME XXI, PART I, JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2005

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION



Left to Right: Florida's USGA Regional Agronomists John Foy and Todd Lowe along with Boca Rio Superintendent Bob Randquist, CGCS, served as moderators for the well attended 2004 USGA Conference in Palm Beach Gardens.

Upcoming Events

Jan. 5 Calusa GCSA chapter meeting, Coral Oaks GC, Cape Coral

Jan. 13 Ridge GCSA Supt/Vendor Lone Palm GC

Jan. 17 Central Florida Research Tournament, Interlachen

Jan. 17 West Coast chapter meeting, Hunters Green G&CC

Jan. 20 PBGCSA Supt/Assistants Meeting, CC of Boca Raton

Feb. 7 GCSAA Golf Championship - Championsgate; Reunion; Orange County National; and Southern Dunes GC

Feb. 8 - 12 Golf Industry Show (GCSAA and NCGOA), Orlando

Feb. 10 Florida Reception, Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando

Feb. 18 Central Florida GCSA Vendor/Superintendent Tournament, The Club at Cypress Head

Feb. 22 Seven Rivers chapter meeting, The Dunes @ Seville GC

Feb. 23 West Coast chapter meeting, Largo GC

Mar. 10 Seven Rivers chapter meeting, Chandler Hills GC, Vendor Day

Mar 19 Everglades GCSAA, Naples Princess cruise

Mar. 24 SFGCSA Exposition, Fort Lauderdale REC

FTGA Regional Turf Conferences:

Jan. 11 Mid-Florida - Windermere - Camp Down/OUC

Jan. 12 Tampa Bay - Tampa - Higgins Hall at St. Lawrence Parrish

Jan. 18 Southeast - Lake Worth - Polish American Club

Jan. 19 Dade/Broward - Weston - Weston Regional Park

Jan. 20 Southwest - Estero - Germain Arena

Jan. 26 North Florida - Jacksonville - Duval County Extension

Feb. 1 Gulf Coast - Milton - University of Florida, Milton Campus

On-site registration fee is \$45.00. Call FTGA at 800-882-6721 or go online at www.ftga.org to pre-register at \$40.00.

President's Message Joe Pantaleo

Hopefully everyone has had an enjoyable holiday season and all is going well at the start of a "new year". We all know that the storm season of 2004 has impacted us in many ways and are not sad to see it go. The beginning of 2005 is upon us and should prove to be an exciting year.

There are so many opportunities for you to receive quality education throughout our state. Joel Jackson, our Director of Communications, has been working on a master calendar of education and events for 2005. Hopefully your chapter leaders have helped contribute important event dates. A quick glance at the schedule indicates we are chock full of options to attend seminars and related functions. Right out of the gate in January is the very popular FTGA Regional Turf Conferences held throughout the state.

Of course, it is not too late to take advantage of the Golf Industry Show opportunity in Orlando February 7-12. There are too many seminars, forums and other activities to mention. Try to take advantage of this opportunity right in our own back yard. We have heard that projected Florida attendance is down a bit and hope that it is just delayed

somewhat considering the events we have been through last fall. Remember, you can receive 1.5 GCSAA educational points just for attending. Let's all try to get to Orlando. I look forward to seeing everyone at our Florida reception on Thursday, February 10th at the Rosen Centre Hotel. Paul Crawford, Marie Roberts and others have worked hard to make this a special event for everyone.

Our Education Chairman, Andy Maguire, has been coordinating another Assistant Superintendent seminar, which was so well received last year in Naples. Look for this seminar to be offered in the Palm Coast area soon after the Golf Industry Show and another shortly thereafter in the Palm Beaches.

Darren Davis reported to us recently about a couple of GCSAA task group projects. There has been a lot of talk about a potential move of the headquarters location to Florida or to regions other than Lawrence, Kansas. After much research and deliberation, it appears the location will remain in Lawrence. There is a possibility, though, of future satellite offices in Florida, California or other regions in the US. We should learn more at the Golf Industry Show or in the near future. Darren also reported the progress on the potential name change for our National Association. While many ideas have been floated around, including "Golf Course Man-



Joe Pantaleo

agers Association" and the like, they seem to be losing momentum throughout the feedback we are receiving. More on this issue is also soon to be released.

We are again planning to send a contingent to Capitol Hill soon. With the leadership of our Lobbyist, Mike Goldie, we have met and visited with the most important legislators that can have an impact on our industry. With many important issues that can be discussed, such as our Matching Research Grant Program, water issues, the IFAS program, the fate of Methyl Bromide and other turf care products, this is a very important opportunity to have our voices heard. While we can't send everyone to Tallahassee, we sure would appreciate your input on any potential issues you would like to be delivered. Let any one of your local chapter leaders know soon, as this trip will probably be planned in late January or early February. This is your chance to help get your message to our state's decision makers.

At our fall Board meeting, Dr. Nell, from the University of Florida, gave a progress report on the Pine Acres research facility being built near Gainesville. This state-of-the-art center will have nearly three times the amount of current acreage allowed for turf research. Thanks to the many vendors who have stepped up by donating equipment and

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THE GREEN SHEET

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Deadline next issue: February 15.

What's Up D.O.C.?

by Joel Jackson

Happy New Year! Time to get reorganized and make those plans and resolutions for the new year. A chance to wipe the slate clean and make a fresh start and get rid of some bad habits and practices. The rest of your life starts today. Make it a goal to be happy and healthy in your work and personal life. You only go around once in life, but if you do it right, once is enough.

1. Government Relations: The project to create an online vulnerable soils map with golf course locations superimposed over the various soil types is on hold until the status of an EPA grant to help fund the project is known. I may have more to report after the next Pesticide Review Council meeting in January. Meanwhile, May 31st of this new year is the beginning of Phase 2 of the Nematicur phase-out. After that date, the old standby nematocide can no longer be used on vulnerable soils. If you don't know the official designation of the soil under your property, you might want to find out. Otherwise, I hope you have been experimenting with alternatives for possible use.

FGCSA BMP Committee: At the USGA Regional Seminar in Palm Beach Gardens the Golf BMP committee reviewed and approved a list of technical advisors and environmental group reviewers made up of people who have worked on similar BMP projects. Mike Thomas, our DEP liaison, told the group how the Indian River Citrus Co-cooperative's BMP plan is up for adoption by rule, which is the ultimate goal of such projects. By implementing and adhering to BMP guidelines, courses would be deemed to be in compliance with rules and regulations.

2. Allied Associations: GCSAA: The new Golf Industry Show rolls out next month in Orlando. I hope most of you can make it and bring your owner and/or general manager, green chairman or club president along. There will be seven solution centers on the tradeshow floor that will go into thorough detail on key issues facing golf courses. This is a great chance for club officials to get some hands-on experience and information from the experts that will back up what you have been telling them all along. The solution centers include: Agronomic, Building of the

Green, Clubhouse, Driving Range, Electric Vehicle Testing Center, Equipment & Maintenance, and Water.

Also, if you haven't made your voting preference known to GCSAA please contact them or Marie Roberts or Dale Kuehner to assign your vote either to the FGCSA or your local chapter. Our own Bob Randquist is running for Director this year and we'd like for him to get as many votes as possible. Bob has the full backing of his club, Boca Rio, in this endeavor, and it will be a great stride forward for Florida, the #1 golf state, to have a voice on the GCSAA Board.

FTGA: I don't have all the particulars, but according to one board member, the FTGA is closing the downtown Orlando office. Alternative sites are being studied and discussed. Please note the following new contact numbers and information:

Phone: 800-882-6721 or 866-258-8786. Fax: 352-536-1792. Email: info@ftga.org.

Staff: Susan Feeney, Controller/Office Manager, sfeeney@ftga.org. Ty Fitzgerald, Marketing and Events Coordinator, tfitzgerald@ftga.org.

3. Education: The new year also kicks off the annual round of seven FTGA Regional Seminars around the state that are especially useful for you and/or your assistants, technicians and crew leaders. Check with the FTGA office or website (800-882-6721 or www.ftga.org) for dates, times and locations. Should be receiving a brochure with locations also. See page 6 in this newsletter.

4. Media/Public Relations: I keep telling people that proactive communications is an on-going process that needs to be just as much a part of what your chapter does has fundraising for turf research and charitable giving. The key is to let your local media know that you are doing it. This past year has seen the Golf News in Jacksonville and Platinum Coast Golf in Naples run a series of articles on golf course maintenance issues. A year ago a small weekly shopper newspaper, The River News ran these articles. I wrote these 250-word blurbs on everything from aerification to overseeding. Darren Davis is adapting these articles for the local scene in Naples and Craig Weyandt also did a few for

a golf newsletter in Vero Beach a year ago. In an age where it's always, "What have you done for me lately?" It pays off to keep telling them. You make think you're repeating yourself, but remember those short attention spans golfers have.

5. Chapter Relations/Fundraising Events: The West Coast GCSA's annual Bud Quandt Tournament this year at Tampa Palms G&CC raised \$6,000 for turf research, All Children's Hospital and the Moffit Cancer Center.

The Calusa Chapter's Christmas Charity Tournament at Kelly Greens GC raised \$1,100 for The Abused Counseling and Treatment Center for Women and Children, Ft. Myers.

The Everglades GCSA's annual Christmas Tournament is going on as I write. The proceeds will go to Children's Home Society.

6. FGCSA Publications: Remember share your chapter news with us. Send in a write-up and photos. Get published in the Florida Green. We pay for articles and photos.

Don't forget the Florida Green Photo Contest is in full swing. The new 2005 contest year began with the Fall 2004 issue. The contest runs until August with entries post marked before August 1st. Photos, slides and digital photos accepted. Digital photos must be high enough resolution (300 dpi or higher) for publication quality and saved in jpeg or TIF format. See the latest issue of the Florida Green for contest rules.

7. DOC/Editor Upcoming Events, Travel, Deadlines and Tasks

Jan	Pesticide Review Council meeting, Tallahassee
1/6-1/7	Florida Fertilizer & Agrichemical Assn. Winter Meeting, Sarasota
1/13	Attend Ridge GCSA meeting, Lakeland - Proactive Communications program
1/28	FGCSA Winter Board Meeting, Johns Island Club, Vero Beach
(TBA)	Cover Story Interview Visit, Marsh Creek CC, St. Augustine
2/7-2/12	GCSAA Golf Industry Show
2/28	Deadline for editorial content for Spring 2005 Florida Green
2/28	DOC monthly chapter Update and reports

The Fall 2004 meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Joe Pantaleo at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, October 29th at Bradenton CC.

All officers except Greg Pheneger were present. Ridge chapter was not represented. Others attending the meeting were Joel Jackson - Florida Green editor; Mike Goldie - lobbyist; Tim Hiers - Old Collier GC; Darren Davis, Olde Florida GC; Dr. T. Nell, University of Florida; Tom Wells, FTGA President and Marie Roberts.

Joe Pantaleo thanked Bradenton CC for hosting the board meeting and presented the first guest speaker, Tim Hiers. Tim explained a new concept for funding turfgrass research. The proposal would establish a surcharge of \$1.50 per ton of fertilizer with the entire proceeds to be donated to research. He answered various questions regarding who would hold the money, who would collect the funds, etc. Tim asked for an approval of the concepts with the assurance that the details would be worked out before the program would be started. After Tim departed, a vote was taken to approve or disapprove the concept of the program. The concept was approved unanimously.

- Since Darren Davis had to leave early, he gave his report on the recent GCSA Delegates Meeting. Due to the hurricane cleanup, only 4 Florida chapters were able to attend. Changes to the Chapter Affiliation Agreement are being made to the new agreement that would be in effect through 2006. Some changes would include an obligation by the chapters to fill out a Chapter Assessment Form every 3 years. He also reminded the board that all members of the GCSAA are automatically enrolled in a Life Insurance Group policy. Members should contact GCSAA to assign a beneficiary.

Darren then spoke on the name change and possible relocation being discussed by the GCSAA. The Task Force has decided that a relocation is not a good idea at this time and prefer to consider opening small Regional Offices around the country. Darren also discussed the Golf Course Owners and the Club Managers Association joining with the GCSAA is our Annual Show. The 2005 show is being called the Golf Industry Show. Discussion was held as to whether a club would

be willing to send both their CMA and GCS to the meetings.

Darren discussed the upcoming GCSAA election. Tim O'Neill would be the incoming President, Sean Hoolehan the VP and the Secretary/Treasurer would either be David Downing or Ricky Heine. Board Members to be voted on include Bob Randquist, Mark Kuhns and Jim Phistler. The FGCSA will be backing Bob Randquist.

Mike Goldie then gave a short presentation on the progress of the matching fund Challenge Grant program. He spoke on the state's hurricane relief program and advised that costs would be spread to users for the next several years. He also noted that past changes in insurance coverage might be an issue this year especially concerning the deductible for % of home value and multiple hurricane deduction. He also spoke briefly on the upcoming election.

Dr. Nell thanked the FGCSA for support of IFAS and reminded all Externals that the staff of IFAS are available as speakers at chapter meetings. He discussed the 3 candidates for the IFAS VP slot. Dr. Nell then discussed the progress being made at Pine Acres and thanked Quality Grassing for their donation to the construction project. The \$600,000 station, situated 20 miles south of Gainesville, will include 1200 acres of which 30 are allowed for turf. This compares to the current 12 acres allowed for turf. A Basic Maintenance Fund is being planned for future expansion.

A correction in the minutes of the Summer 2004 Board Meeting was made by Matt Taylor who noted that Tom Wells is the new FTGA President. The corrected minutes of the Summer Meeting were then approved.

Joe Pantaleo then noted that his 4 goals for the upcoming year are pretty much the same as the goals in our Florida Chapter Assessment Tool completed by the Executive Council last meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORTS The First Quarter financial statements were explained by Matt Taylor and approved. The Reserve Account has now increased to \$152,000.

D.O.C. REPORT: Joel discussed the

progress of the methyl bromide situation and reported that the Bob Randquist brochures are in the final stages of printing. The FGCSA will pay for the printing and Bob is busy making the required phone calls to chapter delegates around the country. Joel also reminded Externals that he is available to make presentations at local chapter events. He has sent out a plan for a Master Calendar of Events/Education for all chapters to fill out and return to him.

PUBLICATIONS: Craig Weyandt and Joel Jackson discussed the Publications Meeting held on August 26th. The Committee has recommended a slight increase in fees for advertisements in the Florida Green and the Membership Directory for 2006. A discussion was held regarding eliminating the "signature" fold out cover and replacement with a single photo of a golf course on the cover. It is hoped that this move would decrease printing costs and add another page for advertisement income. After a discussion, it was decided that more information was needed to answer questions on cost effectiveness. No motion was made.

Marie Roberts reported that due to the pressures of the hurricane season, the Membership Directory will be later than usual this year. Many advertisers and chapter officers have been unable to get their material in to the FGCSA office as scheduled so the Directory will not be ready for distribution until sometime in December. The good part is that due to the extra time involved, we have secured a few more advertisers for the Directory. The November/December issue of the Green Sheet will also be a little later than normal.

AWARDS: Chairman Greg Kriesch announced that both John Stach and Kyle Sweet have agreed to be on the Awards Committee. Chapters are asked to submit their nominations for the 2005 FGCSA Distinguished Service Award before the Winter meeting (sometime in late January). This new deadline will allow the officers to select the candidate immediately after the Winter meeting so that the presentation can be made at the Presidents Dinner during the Poa Weekend in May.

Chapters are also encouraged to nominate one of their chapter members for a Lifetime

Achievement Award. These awards are to acknowledge one of your long-time superintendent members (20 years in the turfgrass industry) who has contributed his time generously to the betterment of your chapter. FGCSA will have a plaque made for your chapter to present and the nominee will receive a write up in the Florida Green.

BYLAWS: A ByLaw Amendment to change the Class B membership to "Superintendent Member" was presented to the board. The motion was approved.

BEST MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES: Joel reported that the next meeting will be November 17th with Mike Thomas.

EDUCATION: Andy Maguire announced that he is working on another Assistant Superintendent seminar to be held at a golf club in the Palm Coast area and a third seminar in the Palm Beach area.

The Poa seminar will be a GCSAA SLS co-sponsored program to be held on Friday morning, May 13, 2005 at the Naples Beach Hotel. After a discussion, the board voted to ask Patt Schwab to present the seminar. As suggested, we will set the seminar fee at \$50.00 and have it included in the Poa package sent by the Everglades chapter.

MEMBERSHIP: Chairman Jim Walker noted that all FGCSA dues expired on June 30th. However, four months later there are 170 still listed as unpaid! All of these unpaid members have been removed from the FGCSA mailing list. Jim's question - why can't chapters get the dues dollars in sooner? Jim suggested that chapters send their invoices out in April or May and then re-bill 6 weeks or two months later. He also suggested that External VP's get a copy of all those who have not paid their dues by August 1st so they can make follow up calls.

Two applications for Lifetime Membership were presented for vote. Both Jim Svebak and Royce Stewart were approved.

FINANCE: Since neither Greg Pheneger nor David Court was able to attend the board meeting, Joe Pantaleo gave the report on our Reserve Account and suggested that a representative from Morgan Stanley should attend one of our four quarterly board meet-

ings to give a brief report on the funds.

GOLF: This year's FGCSA Tournament was a smaller event due to the hurricanes. The event had to be postponed once and only 5 chapters were represented at the Tournament. Joe wished to thank Scott Scamehorn for taking the time to get Southern Dunes ready for the Tournament. South Florida won the Championship with Bob Harper taking individual honors. He joins Seth Strickland, Mark Henderson and Joe Ondo for the Florida Team at the GCSAA Championships. Hopefully we will have enough golfers to enter another one or two teams in the Championships.

Joe also reported that he is interested in holding a second state-wide golf event that could possibly be a fundraiser and might even include a seminar.

RESEARCH: Craig Weyandt announced that the FGCSA would not be submitting a proposal to GCSAA for co-funding this year. The Research Committee is composed of Craig, John Foy, Kevin Downing, Mike Bellino, and Steve Pearson.

Craig and Kevin are still interested in organizing a "Super Research Committee" that would be a joint effort by FGCSA and FTGA to raise funds that would be eligible for the discount given to FTGA on research projects. Craig mentioned the need for "hands-on research" for subjects such as NemaCur/methyl bromide and other chemicals/products

FTGA: Tom Wells explained the staff turnover and problems within the FTGA office for the past year and seems confident that the new staff will be successful in restoring the FTGA. Unfortunately, the 2004 FTGA Conference and Show had to be cancelled due to the hurricanes. A letter has been sent to those who pre-registered asking them to turn their deposits into donations to the FTGA. The 2005 Show will be in Bonita Springs. Tom also reported that the 2005 Turf Conferences have been set for January and February. See page 6 for details.

GCSAA RECEPTION: The 2005 Florida reception will be held on Thursday, February 10th at the Rosen Centre Hotel, conveniently located right next door to the Convention Center. The sponsor levels have been raised

to accommodate the crowd that is always present when the convention is in Florida. Hopefully the Benevolent Fund will benefit from the larger crowds as we expect to have a drawing again this year.

SURVEY: Chairman Peter Powell noted that only 29% of our members responded to the last Survey. In an effort to get more people to fill out the survey, he suggested decreasing the number of questions on the survey. He also suggested having the External Vice Presidents push the survey to chapter members at both the board level and the local chapter meetings held in January and February. Responses are due back in the FGCSA office by March 1st. It was suggested that we might be able to get GCSAA to award a Service Point to those superintendents who take the time to respond to the survey. Pete will check with GCSAA. In any event, the survey will be shortened and sent to all FGCSA Superintendents in December.

HURRICANE RELIEF: Joe Pantaleo reported that a group of superintendents from South Carolina were interested in helping out hurricane victims directly. The GCSAA does have a hurricane relief fund and FGCSA members were encouraged to offer help clearing trees, etc. to smaller clubs in your chapter area.

NEW BUSINESS: John Piersol, Lake City Community College, has asked that we pose the following question to the FGCSA Board. "Do you have a problem with getting/keeping equipment technicians? After a discussion, the general consensus was that this was not a big problem.

STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING: The issue of whether or not to hold a GCSAA Strategic Planning Meeting was tabled to a future board meeting. Timing, scheduling and costs involved should be researched before a viable discussion can be undertaken.

WINTER BOARD MEETING: The Winter Board Meeting was tentatively set for Friday, January 28th, location to be announced. Joe Pantaleo will work on this project and is looking for feedback from any clubs interested in hosting the next meeting.

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

FTGA 2005 Regional Turf Conferences

- Jan. 11 Mid-Florida - Windermere - Camp Down/OUC
- Jan. 12 Tampa Bay - Tampa - Higgins Hall at St. Lawrence Parrish
- Jan. 18 Southeast - Lake Worth - Polish American Club
- Jan. 19 Dade/Broward - Weston - Weston Regional Park
- Jan. 20 Southwest - Estero - Germain Arena
- Jan. 26 North Florida - Jacksonville - Duval County Extension
- Feb. 1 Gulf Coast - Milton - University of Florida, Milton Campus

The 2005 FTGA Turf Conferences include presentations by familiar University of Florida professors such as Dr. Barry Brecke, Dr. Tim Broschat, Dr. Eileen Buss, Dr. Bill Crow, Dr. Monica Elliott, Dr. Phil Harmon, Dr. Kevin Kenworthy, Dr. Catharine Mannion, Dr. Jerry Sartain, Dr. Daniel Stephenson, and Dr. J. Bryan Unruh.

- Other speakers from the Water Management Districts include Bill Adams, Bruce Adams, Peg McPherson, Jay Lawrence, and Alison Ramey. Also in the programs are Extension Agents from Manatee County, Santa Rosa County, Seminole County, and Duval County as well as speakers from the industry. Topics will include environmental compliance, pesticide labeling, turf breeding, IPM Management and more.

See the individual brochures for the list of speakers and topics at each location. Brochures include complete directions for each site. Scheduled speakers and topics are subject to change without notice. Call the FTGA office at 800-882-6721 if you have not received the correct brochure for the Conference in your area.

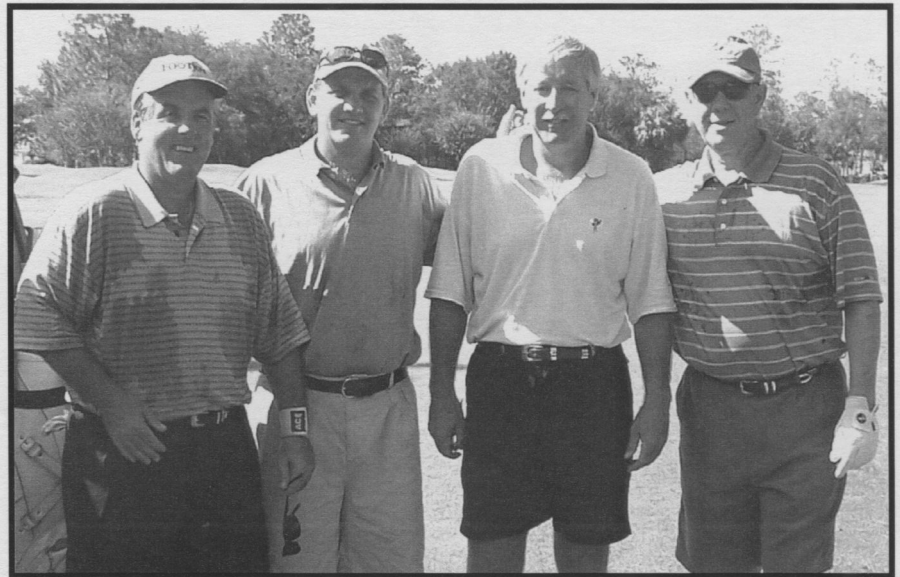
Pre-Registration is \$40.00 Mail your registration form to FTGA, 3008 E Robinson St., Orlando 32803 or register online at www.ftga.org. You may also fax your registration to 352-536-1792.

On-site registration will be \$45.00. PDU's and CEU's will be offered in both core as well as turf and ornamental categories.

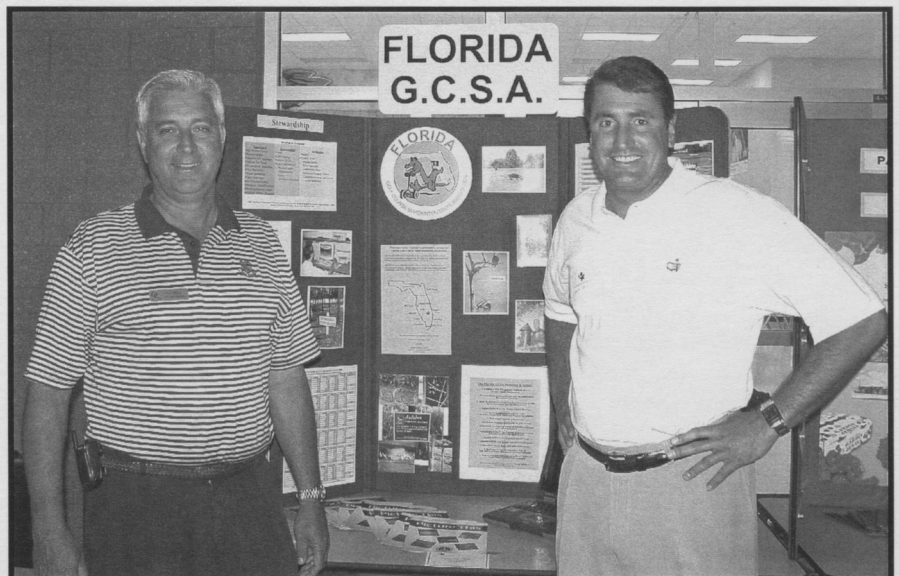
2005 FGCSA Budget and Compensation Survey

The 2005 FGCSA Budget and Compensation Survey questionnaire was sent to all 780 Class A and Superintendent Members of the FGCSA during the first week in December.

Special Thanks to the first **170 Superintendents** who completed and mailed the survey back to the FGCSA office within the first two weeks! Now it is time for the other 610 members to look through the stack of paperwork that has accumulated on your desk since the first of December to find the questionnaire, fill it out as best you can, and return it to the office. If you can not find your questionnaire, just call the FGCSA office to have another copy sent to you. Since the survey is grouped by chapters, participation by all chapter members is important to the viability and usefulness of this important tool.



Winner of the Bud Quandt Tournament Low Gross Division was the team of (from left) Vita Saputo, Andy Neiswender, Chuck Rogers and Mike Ayers. This West Coast GCSA event was held at Tampa Bay GC and raised \$6,000 for turf research and local charities.



Everglades GCSA superintendents Tim Hiers (left) and Darren Davis pitched in to help out at the FGCSA display for the Collier County Career Fair for students.

Continuation of President's Message...

supplies to help get this exciting project completed. Planning for proper staffing maintenance programs is currently underway, and we hope to hear more encouraging news soon on this potential huge asset to our turf future. Dr. Nell also reminded us not to overlook using IFAS professors as guest speakers at local, regional and state seminars. I know from personal experience that these IFAS staff members have provided many valuable and up-to-date educational experiences over the years.

I know that Marie Roberts has fretted over the delays in getting your membership directories out to you. Coordinating a post-hurricane effort has been very slow to come together with so many affected chapters and advertisers. One silver lining of this delinquency, though, is that we were able to acquire more advertiser revenue for the directory. Hopefully, our upcoming publications should arrive in a more timely manner as we all get back up to full speed.

Our next Board meeting will be held in Vero Beach at the John's Island Club on January 28th. We look forward to continuing to move these meetings around the state and thank Greg Pheneger for helping to make all of the arrangements. As always, members are invited to attend any of our Board meetings. They are full of valuable information to all involved. Prior to this meeting in January, your chapter should have nominated a candidate for the Distinguished Service Award (DSA). Getting your choice in before the Board meeting allows your officers to select the candidate and make the presentation at the Poa Annuu weekend in May. Also, remember to nominate your deserving long time chapter members (20 years in the turfgrass industry) for the President's Award before the May Board Meeting. We'll see to it they get the recognition they deserve for all their contributions.

2005 looks to be an exciting year with so much already scheduled for the early months. Let's have a productive season and help to make the turfgrass industry even stronger.

I hope to see all of you in Orlando at the Florida Reception on Thursday, February 10th!



2005 Florida GCSA Reception -- Thursday, February 10th

The FGCSA will hold its annual GCSAA Reception on Thursday night, February 10th, at the Rosen Centre Hotel, next to the Convention Center in Orlando from 7:00 p.m.- 9:30 p.m. Invitations will be mailed to all FGCSA members in January. Reception Chairman Paul Crawford promises that the Orlando reception will continue the tradition of being the best state reception at the GCSAA Convention. Mark your calendar now!

Even if you are not going to the Show, there is still time for **any affiliate** to be listed as a sponsor at the reception. 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 Science
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- *Syngenta
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- Florida Potting Soils
- Hamilton Grading & Grassing
- Parkway Research
- Pickseed West, Inc.
- Precision Laboratories
- Sullivan Electric & Pump
- Tom Burrows Turfgrass
- Total Golf Construction
- Turf Seed
- Upstart Products
- Valent U.S.A.

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



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Florida Superintendents Host GCSAA Convention in Orlando in February

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