

THE GREEN SHEET



VOLUME XXV, PART IV, JULY/AUGUST 2009

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

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((l-r) Tournament Chairman Glenn Oberlander, Walt McMahon, Cary Lewis and Debbie Nipper from Golf Ventures and Seven Rivers GCSA President Jim Shaffer.

Upcoming Events

July TBD – Central Florida Annual Meeting, Dubsdread Golf Club

July 7th – Everglades GCSA Annual Meeting, Vanderbilt Country Club

July 9th – Suncoast GCSA, Ray's Game Bus trip

July 14th – Florida West Coast GCSA Board Meeting, Tampa Palms

July 16th – Seven Rivers GCSA Meeting, El Diablo

July 16th – Calusa GCSA Meeting, Deep Creek

July 21st – North Florida GCSA Annual Meeting, King and Bear

Aug. 6th – Palm Beach GCSA Pro/Superintendent Tournament, Addison Reserve

Aug. 7th – FGCSA Annual Board Meeting and Election of Officers, Disney's Osprey Ridge Golf Club

Aug. 7th-8th – Larry Kamphaus Crowfoot Open, Villas of Grand Cypress Golf Club

Aug. 10th – Florida West Coast GCSA Pro/Superintendent Tournament, Cypress Run

Aug. 11th – Florida West Coast GCSA Board Meeting, Cypress Run

Aug. 13th – Calusa GCSA Annual Yellowball Tournament, Riverhall

Aug. 20th – Seven Rivers GCSA Meeting, Golden Hills

Sept. 9th – South Florida and Palm Beach GCSA Joint Meeting, Boca West Country Club

Sept. 16th- 18th – 57th Annual FTGA Conference and Show

President's Message By Shane Bass, CGCS

Well I cannot believe it has been a whole year already. It certainly has been one of the more challenging years financially for the Florida golf industry than most of us have seen in a while. And while most courses have made some kind of budgets cuts somewhere in our operations we continue to somehow get the job done.

And so it is with our supplier and vendor partners. They feel the pinch too. So, I would like to send a big thank you out to all of them who have continued to sponsor our events and advertise in our newsletters, magazines and the directory. They have continued to step up and help out as much as they possibly can through these tough times.

I would also like to send thanks out to all of our renewing members who continue to support the FGCSA and their local chapters with their memberships. I would like to see more of the assistants around the state join and begin to participate in their local associations and consider writing articles for the Florida Green.

And for those who receive the Florida Green but are not members – we made the decision a long time ago that it was important that you know what's going on in our industry and even if you weren't a dues paying member at the time, we wanted to keep you informed. I'd like for you to really think about joining your local chapter this year, which will include your state dues as well. By the way folks, those annual dues only come to about 25 to 40 cents a day depending on your chapter. We need your help and support to keep working on those water and fertilizer issues, public education and outreach and support your own professional education and turf research so we can all continue to do our jobs better and be successful.

All you current and renewing members invite the guy or gal down the street to come to a meeting and to join the association. With that said let's make sure we get our information and our own dues into your chapter or the state as soon as possible so that we can start the new year off right. I have a feeling that the economy is starting to turn around and by this Christmas we should be headed back in the right direction.



Shane Bass

I appreciate how much everyone involved in their chapters and the state association has helped out this year. And special thanks to Association Manager Jennifer Innes and Executive Director Joel Jackson who work to keep the internal and external business of the FGCSA on track all year.

I hope to see many of you at the Crowfoot Open on Friday, August 7th for the seminar and reception and the golf tournament on the 8th at the Grand Cypress Resort in Orlando.

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 August 15th.

The Green Sheet is a bimonthly FGCSA Newsletter printed as follows: Jan/Feb, March/April, May/June, July/August, Sept./October, November/December.

Check out the new FGCSA website!
We are currently in the process of making the website more user-friendly. Please check the site regularly for information on association news, upcoming meetings, education opportunities and association events. If your Chapter is hosting an event, please be sure to let us know so we can include it on the calendar along with a link .

www.floridagcsa.com

REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Executive Director Report By Joel Jackson, GCCS

1. Government Relations: Two Bills Pending Governor's Signature - Senate Bills 494 and 2080 deal with fertilizer ordinances, water conservation and landscaping issues. In a quick summary the bills bring more science into the process and require any ordinance passed since January 1, 2009 to prove to a panel from DACS, DEP and IFAS that the restrictions have scientific validity. There are sections also dealing with landscape irrigation and plant selection preventing dictating what plant material must be used, etc.

For those ordinances already in place any changes trying to get tougher will also have to pass through the special committee for scientific proof of need.

More fertilizer ordinances – Counties and communities across Florida continue to pursue local regulations on the use of fertilizers on lawns. Some are asking questions and getting information, others continue to reinvent the wheel and write “feel good” restrictions that have no basis in science or fact. It seems only the turfgrass industry and the IFAS have the facts and sometimes the locals don't want to hear it. All the more reason those Senate bills are crucial to bringing some order to the process.

Watering Restrictions: For now, knock on wood, it looks like Mother Nature has stepped in and pushed that topic to the back burner. However some long term conservation measures are showing some management districts looking to curb non-“daylight savings time” months to only watering home lawns once per week in the cool season. Dr. Duke's research up in Citra at the UF/IFAS Plant Science Center shows that once a week might get a little dicey for most turfgrass especially since the grass responds to the actual conditions and not the calendar and warm dry fall and spring could be disastrous for some.

2. Allied Associations & Industry News: Dr. Michael Dukes as also been appointed

to be the IFAS BMP Research Coordinator. The focus on BMP education and research bodes well for the turf industry which finds itself under attack so often by people who do not understand plant systems and yet they seek to write laws which end up being counter productive to the very environment they claim to protect. In recent months Drs. Terrill Nell and George Hocmuth have been testifying at these local commission meetings explaining the misguided folly of banning proper fertilizer use during the rainy (growing) season. So, coordination of water, fertilizer and other best management practices is a big step in the right direction.

GCSAA and the Golf Industry Show: It's a little early, but since there is a major change in the GIS schedule thinking about and planning your trip options might be worth while. This year Monday, Feb. 8th, Tuesday, Feb 9th and Friday, Feb 12th will be devoted to education and seminar sessions. Wednesday, Feb. 10th & Thursday, Feb 11th will be devoted to the Trade Show and associated on the floor presentations.

3. FGCSA News: This year the Everglades and West Coast Chapters are participating in a pilot program to have the FGCSA invoice and collect dues for the Class A, SM and C members since those are the only dues paying categories in the State Association. The local chapters will continue to bill and collect from it's affiliate or commercial members. This system has the following benefits:

- Eases the seasonal work load on the chapter volunteer officers and administrative assistants who often have other primary jobs. This is Jennifer's primary job and she has the time to process the dues renewals in a less deadline compressed situation.
- Provides immediate cash flow for both parties. Jennifer cuts a chapter dues share check every other Friday. Normally the state had to wait for dues revenue until the chapter submitted the final list and all dues, which could be well into the next budget year in some cases.
- Spreads out the inputting or confirmation of member contact info for the directories instead of having massive lists arrive all at one time to be edited at the last minute for the new membership directory.

4. Education & Events: The Central Florida GCSA has announced the agenda for the 2009 Larry Kamphaus Crowfoot Open. With Tom Alex announcing his retirement as Crowfoot Chairman after 10 years, the chapter investigated other possible venues for the event, but this year, Grand Cypress came up with the best deal in town.

Details on page 6.



Mark Henderson from the Gulfstream Club won a spot on the 2010 FGCSA Golf Team by winning the Poa Annu Classic in Naples this past May.

Minutes of the FGCSA Spring Board Meeting

The Spring 2009 Board Meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Shane Bass at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 7, 2009 at the Naples Beach Hotel.

All officers were present. All Chapters were represented. The Chapter Representatives were; Calusa: Jim Foster; Everglades: Wayne Kappuaff; Central Florida: Gary Myers; South Florida: Kelly Cragin; Suncoast: Bob Wagner; Ridge: Ward Pepperman; Seven Rivers: Mark Kann; Treasure Coast: Roy MacDonald; North Florida: Rip Phillips; West Coast: Bill Kistler; Palm Beach: Steve Pearson

Others attending the meeting were: Todd Draffen, President Everglades GCSA; John Foy, USGA; Todd Lowe, USGA; Jennifer Innes, Association Manager; Joel Jackson, FGCSA Executive Director; Ralph Dain, GCSAA

Minutes of the FGCSA Winter 2009 Board Meeting were approved.

GCSAA Update – Ralph Dain reminded the Board that Nancy Miller and Greg Pheneger, who are serving on the GCSAA Government Relations Committee, will be traveling to Washington D.C. to meet with representatives to discuss issues important to the industry for National Golf Day 2009. Additionally, Ralph has now met with all the chapter boards and will be providing strategic planning sessions for those boards that are interested. Currently he has a session planned with the Calusa and Treasure Coast Chapters. Ralph also reminded the chapters to remind their members of the dual enrollment requirement for the FGCSA and GCSAA. He e-mailed an Excel spreadsheet containing names of members who are members of the local chapters, but not the state and vice

versa. It is important that the chapters look over these lists for errors and also to contact those members to remind them of the dual enrollment requirement. A second list containing a breakdown of non-member facilities was also sent to the Chapters. This list may serve as a helpful tool in recruiting new members.

USGA – Todd Lowe reminded the Board that the USGA Live Meetings will begin again next week. If you tried to participate the last time and had trouble, please try again. The USGA has been working hard to correct many of the technical glitches that plagued the first live meeting. The USGA also offered to partner with the FGCSA and the local Chapters to provide superintendent education. Shelly Foy was responsible for arranging the speaker line-up for the current FGCSA Poa Seminar.

Financial Statement – Gary Myers presented the current financial statements. Wayne Kappauf motioned for the financials to be approved. The Financials were approved. The First Draft of the 2009/2010 Operating and Publications Budget were introduced. The Executive Board will work on filling in some of the specific line items and a draft will be mailed to the board 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting for changes and tentative approval. Several line items will be broken down further between the Operating and Publications budget to help offset the Unrelated Business Income Tax. Gary also presented to the Board the Morgan Stanley Account statement and in lieu of the current economic conditions, the account still shows only modest decline.

LRP - Matt Taylor reminded External V.P's to communicate to their chapter Secretary/Treasurers that a \$10.00 dues increase to \$90.00 is in effect for the upcoming renewal/membership period. Two chapters are currently moving their

dues renewals and memberships through the FGCSA office for their Class A, SM and C members. We will report over the next few board meetings how that change has worked. Matt also encouraged the Board to keep in mind a continual percentage increase of dues to help offset increased costs. The LRP Committee will further discuss this and report back to the Board.

Executive Director Report – Government Relations/Fertilizer Ordinances – A Florida Model Fertilizer Ordinance and a Florida Friendly Landscape have been passed by lawmakers. They await the governor's signature and include more science based language to deal with real-world regulatory efforts. Drs. Hocmuth and Nell continue to make presentations to lawmakers on the "Unintended Consequences of Blackout Periods".

Water restrictions – 6 golf courses are currently on phase 1 or 2 water restrictions. Bruce Adams, our water consultant, sent an e-mail in late November or early December stating that the South Florida WMD was reconsidering the 2-day limit to make it 3 days per week. He also said that the St. Johns River WMD was being challenged and discussing the 1-day per week in the winter.

Methyl Bromide – The GCSAA will fund Tim Hiers and Wayne Ausk to go out and meet with the golf industry associations about the pending Methyl Bromide phase out and label change. GCSAA will pick up the bulk of this cost however it was proposed to the Board that the FGCSA budget \$1500.00 toward the cost. Gary Myers motioned for the money to be included in the Budget and it was approved.

Media/Public Relations – We will continue to work on our website to make information more user friendly by continually adding updates and

information. We will also post pdf files of the 2009 Winter and Spring issues of the Florida Green under the Florida Green Link of the Information Tab on the home Page.

Publications – Florida Green - We have felt some effects from the economic woes with the loss or downsizing of some ads. The Spring issue, however, did manage to make 40 pages. We will need cover story course nominations from the following chapters preferably before, but no later than July 15, 2009: Winter- Seven Rivers; Spring – West Coast; Summer – Calusa; Fall – Suncoast. Joel presented to the Board a handout showing current and past Hands On Topics. Any help you can give in getting articles on those topics is appreciated. Upcoming Hands On Topics are as follows: Summer 2010 – Current Cultural Practices and Fall 2010 – To Overseed or Not to Overseed? Michigan State University will now include archive copies of the Florida Green on their Turfgrass Information File. The FGCSA will consider making an annual contribution to the TGIF for their services. This donation will be discussed more at a later date.

Membership Directory – Membership Directory advertising solicitation letters and insertion orders have been mailed out for the upcoming 2010 Membership Directory. A reminder to Chapters that a final list of member names along with club, class, address, etc. needs to be e-mailed to the FGCSA office no later than August 15th in order for the member names to be included in the Directory.

Education Committee – Mark Kann will mail out a current list of upcoming educational opportunities to the Board and chapters. The UF/IFAS Field day is May 20th in Citra. Education will also be available on the afternoon of August 7th during the Crowfoot weekend.

Research – Steve Pearson presented the Research Account Update. Jennifer will make a correction to the report changing the amount committed to the Economic Impact Study from \$3500 to \$2500. We are also due a refund from the Dr. Kenworthy Study. This should be in the amount of \$3,065.93 that will be reimbursed by the FTGA to the FGCSA. Jennifer will follow up with Heather on the status of that refund. Steve also presented to the Board a request from The Conservancy of SW Florida to help fund their ecological study. The USGA is currently looking into the study so any commitment from the FGCSA will be tabled until more information is available.

Fundraising – support is being sought for Golf Preserves Carbon Sequestering program, however, the FGCSA will wait until more information about the plan is available and also wait until a position is declared by the GCSAA and the USGA.

Membership - Wayne Kappauf presented the current membership data. A reminder was made to all Chapters to prepare for membership renewals and new members. A chart reflecting membership numbers from the previous year was also presented for comparison. There has not yet been a significant change, but upcoming dues renewals may see the largest effect from the economic woes – we will have to wait and see. Chapters were also reminded to communicate to their members that this is a great time for members to assign voting status to the FGCSA or local Chapter. Members also need to be reminded of the shared membership requirement. Please review Ralph's spreadsheets and make personal phone calls to reach out to members.

Government Relations – Joel presented to the board a written update from Mike Goldie. The 2009 Legislative Session has been controlled by questions dealing with revenue shortfalls and how to solve those shortfalls to produce a balanced

budget for the next fiscal year. Our issues –fertilizers and local control of its use has been resolved in two bills passed by the Legislature, SB 494 and SB2080. SB 494 deals directly with the issue of the adoption of the model ordinance for Florida Friendly Fertilizer Use on urban landscapes. The bill encourages local government to adopt and enforce the model ordinance and requires, as a minimum, that local governments located within a watershed that is listed as impaired to adopt the model ordinance. In order for a local Government to adopt a more stringent standard they must show they have a program to address nonpoint sources of pollution that is science-based and is economically and technically feasible. The bill grandfathers in local ordinances adopted before Jan. 1, 2009. SB 2080 includes many provisions relative to the water management districts and various restoration plans being conducted by the districts. The bill removes xeriscape language and is replaced by Florida Friendly Landscaping. The bill prevents local government from enacting any ordinance or enforcing any ordinance that would prohibit any property owner from implementing Florida Friendly Landscape on his land. The bill further prohibits any deed restriction or covenant from prohibiting a landowner from implementing Florida Friendly Landscaping.

FTGA– The FTGA Conference and Show planning is in full swing. It will be held September 16-19 at the PGA National Resort and Spa with *Going and Growing Green "The Next Step"* as the theme. The sponsorship levels will change a bit this year and sponsors will be sponsoring the entire event; not just portions.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm. The Summer/Annual Board Meeting will be held in the Tournament Room located at Disney's Osprey Ridge Golf Course on August 7th at 9:00am with lunch served at noon.



Schedule of Events at the Villas of Grand Cypress Golf Club

Friday, August 7 – Educational Seminar

- 1:00 pm - 1:45 pm John Foy, Director, Florida Region United States Golf Association, Green Section
Dollars and Sense: Making it in a Tough Economy
- 1:45 pm - 2:30 pm Katherine Pordeli, St. Johns River Water Management District
Water Restrictions and Resource Management
- 2:30 pm - 3:15 pm Billy Crow, Associate Professor of Nematology, University of Florida
Nematode Management on Golf Course Turf
- 3:15 pm - 3:30 pm Break
- 3:30 pm – 4:15 pm Laurie Trenholm, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Turf Specialist Environmental Horticulture Department, University of Florida
Best Management Practices
- 4:15 pm – 5:00 pm Pete Kalogridis, Conservation Agronomist Environmental Impact Manager, Isleworth Country Club
Integrating Environmental Management Programs with Golf Course Maintenance Standards
- 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm Vendor appreciation reception at Executive Meeting Center Presentation of Larry Kamphaus Award (dress casual)

Saturday, August 8

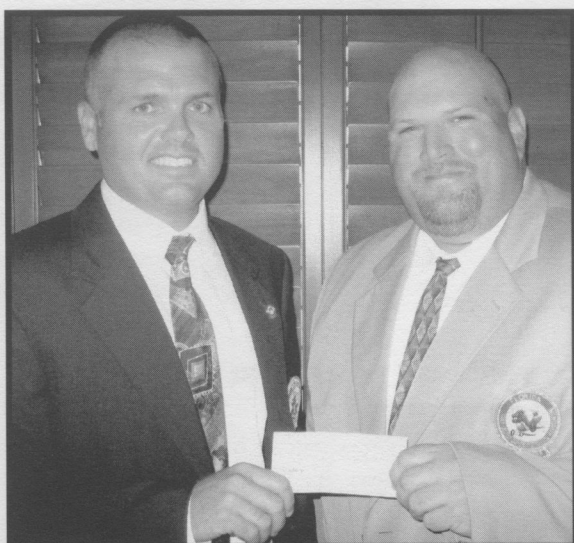
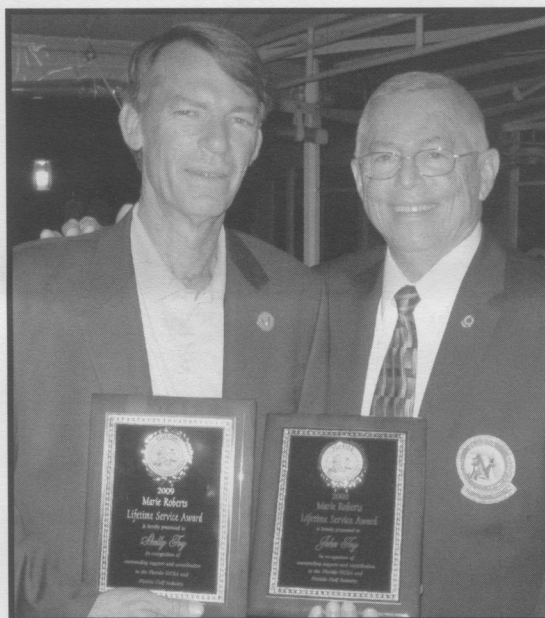
- 7:00 am Registration, breakfast and pairings North/South driving range
- 8:00 am Shotgun on New Course (limited to 144 players)
- 1:00 pm Luncheon at Executive Meeting Center with award presentation

For Crowfoot registration information log onto www.floridagcsa.com.
Click on the News tab and scroll down to Upcoming Chapter Events to download the forms.
Or call or email Lisa McDowell at 407-239-1948 or l.mcdowell@grandcypress.com.



Left: 2009 FGCSA Distinguished Service Award Winner Craig Weyandt was unable to attend the formal presentation ceremony in Naples this year. The FGCSA recognized Weyandt for his years of board committee service, two terms as president and his environmental stewardship leadership.

Right: John Foy accepts the 2009 Marie Roberts Awards for he and his wife Shelly. The FGCSA recognized them for their continuous service to the members of the association through their participation on committees, education, the ACSP and magazine articles. Shelly was representing the USGA at the National Minority Golf Championships in St. Lucie, FL and was not able to attend.



(l-r) FGCSA President Shane Bass, CGCS accepts a \$5,000 check from Mark Kann of the Seven Rivers GCSA. The research funds were part of the proceeds from the 2009 Jeff Hayden Memorial Environtron Classic held at World Woods in April. And a special thank you to all of our contributors to the FGCSA Research Fund:

Shane Bass, CGCS
 Ron Wright, CGCS
 Golf Agronomics
 Everglades GCSA
 Joel Jackson, CGCS
 GCSAA
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