



# THE GREEN SHEET

VOLUME XXVII, PART VI, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2011

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

## FGCSA Golf Champs: Team Winners & Deron Zendt



*On Left*, The CFGCSA Team won the Team Trophy at the FGCSA Golf Championship at Southern Dunes G.C. (l-r): Alan Lichter, Rob Torri, Joe Ondo, Jay Buccellato and Bob Boyan. *On Right*: Deron Zendt from the Banyan G.C. won the Individual Trophy and the final spot on the 2012 FGCSA Golf Team.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### NOVEMBER 10TH

SEVEN RIVERS GCSA CHAPTER MEETING  
JULIETTE FALLS

#### NOVEMBER 11TH

NORTH FLORIDA GCSA ANNUAL EDUCATION  
CONFERENCE  
THE CHAMPIONS COURSE AT JULINGTON  
CREEK

#### NOVEMBER 14TH

EVERGLADES GCSA EDUCATION AND GOLF  
OLD COLLIER GOLF CLUB

#### NOVEMBER 16TH

WEST COAST GCSA MONTHLY MEETING  
SEVEN SPRINGS CC

#### DECEMBER 14TH

EVERGLADES GCSA CHRISTMAS GOLF  
TOURNAMENT AND DINNER  
QUAIL CREEK COUNTRY CLUB

#### DECEMBER 6TH

CALUSA GCSA CHRISTMAS CHARITY  
TOURNAMENT – STONEYBROOK

#### DECEMBER 13TH

WEST COAST GCSA VENDOR DAY  
TPC TAMPA BAY

#### DECEMBER 12TH

NORTH FLORIDA GCSA ANNUAL  
CHRISTMAS TOURNAMENT  
DEERWOOD COUNTRY CLUB

#### DECEMBER 14TH

TREASURE COAST GCSA ANNUAL  
CHRISTMAS OUTING  
GRAND HARBOR

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY MARK KANN

For those of us in the northern portion of Florida, it sure was nice to feel some cooler weather recently. The changing temperatures always seems to remind me that it is almost time for Halloween, overseeding and the "snow birds" to return. This year, it is also a reminder that the GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting is approaching.

The GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting is scheduled for the end of October. Representatives from affiliated chapters will have a chance to discuss numerous issues concerning the GCSAA and its efforts to promote the continued success of local chapters. The delegates will also have the opportunity to meet the candidates running for officer and director positions on the GCSAA Board of Directors. We have been extremely fortunate over the last several years to have a Florida representative on the GCSAA Board of Directors. Bob Randquist, current President of the GCSAA, has done a fantastic job dealing with a large number of issues as the GCSAA has gone through a renovation of sorts in terms of personnel. The change to the Field Staff Model seems to be well received, especially in Florida. Bob will continue his service as Immediate Past President over the following year.

Among the candidates running for the GCSAA Board of Directors this upcoming year is Florida's own Darren Davis. Darren's credentials speak for themselves. He has been an outstanding member of the golf course industry for a long time. His contributions to the Everglades GCSA, Florida GCSA, and Florida Turfgrass Association have been numerous and I am sure he will continue that work ethic with him at the



Mark Kann

national level as well. I would like to wish Darren good luck on his candidacy and know that his addition to the GCSAA Board of Directors would be a great benefit to the GCSAA and Florida GCSA.

Last month, all members were sent a Members' Needs Survey. I hope most of you took the opportunity to fill it out and have a voice in the direction of the FGCSA. At the October FGCSA Board of Directors Meeting, we will be conducting a Long Range Planning Meeting. The first step at this meeting will be to look at the results of the survey. We will take the results quite seriously as we move forward and try to maintain an association that will endure a long time. As I have mentioned previously, we are facing a lot of tough decisions, but we do not want to sacrifice the needs and wants of the association's membership.



# THE GREEN SHEET



### Editor:

Joel Jackson, CGCS  
(407) 248-1971 (fax/phone)  
E-mail: FLGrn@aol.com

### News Coordinator:

Jennifer Bryan  
PO Box 65  
Jensen Beach, FL 34958  
(772) 334-7515  
(772) 334-6015  
E-mail: fgcsa@comcast.net

### Financial Support:

This issue of the Green Sheet  
is being sponsored by:

Golf Ventures  
5101 Gateway Blvd., Suite 18  
Lakeland, FL 33811-2704  
800-330-8874  
800-481-8911  
888-222-7072

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 January 15.

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



## FGCSA Golf Championship Team

Congratulations to Deron Zendt, Mark Henderson, Bob Harper and Steve Wright who will be representing the FGCSA at the GCSAA Golf Championship which will be conducted on February 25-26 at PGA West's Nicklaus Tournament Course, the same course that serves as the biennial host of the PGA Tour's final round of Q-School. The National Championship is limited to 100 GCSAA members with a 5.0 handicap index or lower. It is a two-day, 36-hole, stroke-play event. The winner, along with champions from the last five years, will receive an invitation to participate in the renowned Trans-Mississippi Golf Championship, where the likes of PGA Tour professionals such as Jack Nicklaus, Ben Crenshaw, Dean Beman and Bob Tway, among others, have carried home the championship trophy.



## Newly Certified Golf Course Superintendents

Congratulations to Golf Course Superintendents Bill Davidson, CGCS and Nicholas Von Hofen, CGCS - both members of the Everglades GCSA for recently achieving their certification. Great job!

*Calendar of Events continued from page 1*

### FEBRUARY 27 – MARCH 2ND

GCSAA CONFERENCE AND GOLF INDUSTRY SHOW  
LAS VEGAS

### MARCH 1ST

FGCSA ANNUAL RECEPTION  
THE JET NIGHTCLUB, THE MIRAGE



## FGCSA Member's Needs Survey

If you have not done so already, please take a moment to fill out our Member's Needs Survey. Your feedback is important! It is a quick - 29 question - survey to help guide the FGCSA and its future. You can find the survey on the FGCSA website; [www.floridagcsa.com](http://www.floridagcsa.com) . Click on the "Members Only" section and follow the link. If you have not already set up a password in our Members Only Section, you may logon using your first initial as your username and your last name as your password (all lowercase). If you have trouble accessing your information, please contact Jennifer at the FGCSA office either by phone - 800-732-6053 or e-mail [fgcsa@comcast.net](mailto:fgcsa@comcast.net).

Also, please check out The Florida Golf Course Superintendents page on Facebook and stay connected!



*The Suncoast GCSA took home the match play trophy at the first ever West Coast - Suncoast Joint Meeting hosted by West Coast at Isla del Sol Y&CC.*

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Joel Jackson, CGCS

1. Government Legislative/Regulatory Update  
Legislative Report: Mark Kann, Ralph Dain and I, accompanied by Erin Boyd Wilder of Sod Solutions met with Mr. Pete Mitchell, Chief of Staff for Senator Bill Nelson for nearly an hour advocating on the issues of NPDES, H2-B Visa Workers and Federal Disaster Relief for Golf Courses on September 9th. I feel we made a positive impression and certainly made Mr. Mitchell aware of how environmentally proactive golf course superintendents are.

NNC: EPA has granted Florida some leeway in lowering impairment values for Class III waters, mainly canal systems which are not "natural" bodies of water. FDEP is also applying to EPA to designate tidal waters also a unique class with variable values due to changing salinity concentrations.

At the recent FDEP Nutrient Criteria Workshop (October 4th in Naples) Maps and tables of Total N, Total P, Chlorophyll A and Dissolved Oxygen for estuaries from Tampa Bay all the way to Biscayne Bay, Florida Bay and the Keys was presented. Methodology and values were discussed. Seagrass beds are being used as a signal species indicator as to the overall health of each system. They showed annual variations due to events like the strong El Nino in 1997, and the impacts of the 2004 Hurricane season.

The word fertilizer was not mentioned by FDEP or any stakeholders. Nutrients (leaf litter mentioned often) some references or questions about septic tanks, treatment plants, but no direct fertilizer causes were really discussed in depth, Color, Turbidity. Anthropogenic (man made - dredge and fill, seawalls, canals, flood control, etc) factors were also discussed. In some cases areas cannot be restored to pre-existing conditions because of physical alterations.

FDEP and the Estuary Consultant constantly reminded the activists that they often reduced concerns down to a "nutrient" cause and effect when actual Total N and Total P numbers reflected natural uncontrollable events which were documented. (Treatment plant failures, above normal rainfall periods, droughts, etc. They kept hammering home the point that ecosystems are complex and are restorative by nature when we can identify a specific cause and effect and eliminate the cause if it is in fact practical, feasible or realistically possible. Don't blame "fertilizers, i.e. nutrients" automatically and enact expensive corrective programs, when the extent of any numerical impairment might just be a cycle that passes naturally.

NPDES: Congress continues to pressure EPA to back off

extra redundant regulations on pesticide applications on or near U.S. Waters since pesticide use is already regulated under FIFRA.

H2-B Workers: Congress has also had some affect the Dept. of Labor's move to make the Visa Worker program so expensive and cumbersome. A joint letter from 42 legislators was sent to the Secretary of Labor calling for canceling the new proposed rules. The deadline appears to have been delayed as several groups have also banded together to bring two lawsuits against the DOL's new rules, which essentially would shut down the program. The GCSAA is considering supporting the litigation, but will not sign on as a litigant in the suit.

Water Restrictions: Latest bulletin from the SFWMD is that Phase 1 restrictions may stay in place until the fall "dry" season begins, which could be tough for some courses. While aquifer and reservoir levels have improved they are not in a comfort zone for the lifting of the restrictions.

2. Allied Association News: We are in the beginning stages of discussions with our Florida Allied Golf Associations to participate in the 2012 Florida Golf Day in Tallahassee on February 14th. This group will also help us in getting in to see particular legislators for any issue we feel needs discussion with a particular House or Senate committee chairman. I have information from the Georgia GCSA about what they did for their part of the Georgia Golf Day last year to give us some ideas and a starting point.



GCSAA Field Representative Ralph Dain, Erin Boyd Wilder of Sod Solutions and FGCSA President Mark Kann along with FGCSA Executive Director held an hour-long meeting with U.S. Senator Bill Nelson's Chief of Staff, Peter Mitchell in Tallahassee in late September on Golf, Turf and Labor issues.



## F.G.C.S.A. INDUSTRY PARTNERS

### Platinum Plus

*Golf Ventures*

*The Toro Company, Wesco Turf, Hector Turf*

### Platinum

*Bayer Environmental Science*

*John Deere Golf, Beard Equipment, ShowTurf*

*Harrell's LLC*

*Howard Fertilizer & Chemical Co. Inc.*

### Gold

*BRANDT*

*Celebration® Bermudagrass*

*Tampa Bay Turf Management, Inc.*

### Silver

*Winfield Solutions Professional Products Group*

### Bronze

*FIS Outdoor*

*Independent Turf Partners*

*Southeastern Turfgrass Supply*

*Thank you very much for your Support!*

*Partnership Opportunities are available all year.*

*Contact the FGCSA office: 800-732-6053 or [fgcsa@comcast.net](mailto:fgcsa@comcast.net)  
for details on the program.*

*\*Remember to send in your Industry Partnership renewal Forms  
before the next Green Sheet to ensure that your company is listed!*

## Minutes Fall 2011 Board Meeting

The Fall 2011 Board Meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Mark Kann at 1:51pm, October 14, 2011 at the University of Florida Plant research and Education Unit.

All officers except Gary Myers, CGCS, past President were present. All Chapters were represented, with the exception of the Ridge chapter. The Chapter Representatives were: Calusa, James Foster, CGCS; Central Florida, Rickey Craig; South Florida Ricky Reeves; Everglades, Bill Davidson, CGCS; Treasure Coast, Carlos Arraya; Seven Rivers, Jim Shaffer; West Coast, Trent Inman; North Florida, Brad Smith; Suncoast, Darden Nicks; Palm Beach, Brian Main.

Others attending the meeting were: Jennifer Bryan - Association Manager; Joel Jackson - FGCSA Executive Director; Ralph Dain - GCSAA, and Todd Lowe - USGA.

Minutes of the FGCSA Summer 2011 Board Meeting were approved.

**USGA Update** – Todd Lowe reported the USGA continues to enjoy its relationship with the FGCSA; providing education for both the Poa Annua and Crowfoot. The USGA would like to do more and wants to remind the local chapters that both John Foy and Todd are available for chapter education. The USGA is bringing back the Course Official Meeting; comprised of the superintendent, GM, golf pro and Greens Committee. These discussions have proven to be very successful. Todd also reports that the TAS fees will be going up \$100 in each category.

**GCSAA** – Ralph Dain reported that the GCSAA has announced the hiring of Richard Konz as COO. The GCSAA is also in the initial phases of hiring Regional Staff positions for the Southwest, Northeast and Northwest.

**Financial Reports** – The Secretary/Treasurer submitted his financial report to the Board.

Continued on page 7...



For his service to the FTGA, Darren Davis, CGCS (right) was presented the FTGA's highest honor, the 2011 Wreath of Grass Award, by FTGA President Mac Carraway at the 2011 FTGA Conference and Show.

Distinguished Professor Emeritus Dr. George Snyder was also presented a Wreath of Grass award by the FTGA for his years and volumes of research benefitting the Turfgrass Industry in Florida



The FGCSA Board of Directors showing their support of the University of Florida Plant Research and Education Unit during a tour at the Fall 2011 Board Meeting. Back row (l-r); Ricky Reeves, Jennifer Bryan, Jim Shaffer, Todd Lowe, Jim Foster, Ralph Dain. Front row (l-r); Mark Kann, Joel Jackson, Brian Main, Nancy Miller, Bill Davidson, Kevin Sunderman, Trent Inman, Rickey Craig, Brad Smith and Carlos Arraya

The Industry partners will be broken down into the appropriate line items for the next financial report. Kevin Sunderman also reported to the Board that the Executive Committee approved a change to the Morgan Stanley account which creates more allocation possibilities. This change went into effect last month. The financials were approved.

#### **Executive Director's Report -**

##### **1. Government Legislative/Regulatory Update**

**Legislative Report:** Mark Kann, Ralph Dain and Joel Jackson accompanied by Erin Boyd Wilder of Sod Solutions met with Mr. Pete Mitchell, Chief of Staff for Senator Bill Nelson for nearly an hour advocating on the issues of NPDES, H2-B Visa Workers and Federal Disaster Relief for Golf Courses on September 9th. A positive impression was certainly made and Mr. Mitchell is aware of how environmentally proactive golf course superintendents are.

**NNC:** EPA has granted Florida some leeway in lowering impairment values for Class III waters, mainly canal systems which are not "natural" bodies of water. FDEP is also applying to EPA to designate tidal waters also a unique class with variable values due to changing salinity concentrations.

At the recent FDEP Nutrient Criteria Workshop (October 4th in Naples) Maps and tables of Total N, Total P, Chlorophyll A and Dissolved Oxygen for estuaries from Tampa Bay all the way to Biscayne Bay, Florida Bay and the Keys was presented. Methodology and values were discussed. Seagrass beds were used as a signal species indicator as to the overall health of each system. They showed annual variations due to events like the strong El Nino in 1997, and the impacts of the 2004 Hurricane season.

The word fertilizer was not mentioned by FDEP or any stakeholders. Nutrients (leaf litter mentioned often) some references or questions about septic tanks, treatment plants, but no direct fertilizer causes were really discussed in depth, Color, Turbidity. Anthropogenic (manmade - dredge and fill, seawalls, canals, flood control, etc) factors were also discussed. In some cases areas cannot be restored to pre-1950 conditions because of physical alterations.

FDEP and the Tampa Bay Estuary man (Tony ?) constantly reminded the activists that they often reduced concerns down to a "nutrient" cause and effect when actual Total

N and Total P numbers reflected natural uncontrollable events which were documented. (Treatment plant failures, above normal rainfall periods, droughts, etc. They kept hammering home the point that ecosystems are complex and are restorative by nature when we can identify a specific cause and effect and eliminate the cause if it is in fact practical, feasible or realistically possible. Don't blame "fertilizers, i.e. nutrients" and enact expensive corrective programs, when the extent of any numerical impairment might just be a cycle that passes naturally.

**NPDES:** Congress continues to pressure EPA to back off extra redundant regulations on pesticide applications on or near U.S. Waters since pesticide use is already regulated under FIFRA.

**H2-B Workers:** Congress has also had some affect the Dept. of Labor's move to make the Visa Worker program so expensive and cumbersome. A joint letter from 42 legislators was sent to the Secretary of Labor calling for canceling the new proposed rules. The deadline appears to have been delayed as several groups have also banded together to bring two lawsuits against the DOL's new rules, which essentially would shut down the program. The GCSAA is considering supporting the litigation, but will not sign on as a litigant in the suit.

**Water Restrictions:** Latest bulletin from the SFWMD is that Phase 1 restrictions may stay in place until the fall "dry" season begins, which could be tough for some courses. While aquifer and reservoir levels have improved they are not in a comfort zone for the lifting of the restrictions.

**2. Allied Association News:** We are in the beginning stages of discussions with our Florida Allied Golf Associations to participate in the 2012 Florida Golf Day in Tallahassee on February 14th. This group will also help us in getting in to see particular legislators for any issue we feel needs discussion with a particular House or Senate committee chairman. Joel has contacted Tenia Workman of the Georgia GCSA which had a successful Georgia Golf Day experience and she will be sending information about their display.

**Awards** – Jim Foster presented to the Board a new award nomination form. Jennifer will post it on the website along with instructions. Award nominations must

must be turned in by January 6<sup>th</sup> in order to be considered.

**Education** – Jim Shaffer presented to the Board an education chart. Jennifer will add those items to the website.

**Golf** – The FGCSA Golf Championship was successful. The Central Florida Chapter one the Chapter event and Deron Zendt on the Individual Championship and will represent the FGCSA at the GCSAA Golf Championship along with Mark Henderson, Steve Wright and Bob Harper. The future of the FGCSA Golf Championship will be discussed at the next Board Meeting; specifically changing the field to include vendors, location, etc..

**Membership** – Trent Inman reported to the Board the current membership numbers. We have nearly reached our budget projection. Please continue to remind chapters to submit late renewals to the FGCSA office so we can keep accurate records.

**Publications** – The Fall issue of the Florida Green is in production and will go to printer next week. We continue to look for more advertisers and Industry Partners. The FGCSA Membership Directory will go out in January. The ad deadline has been extended to October 28<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business** – A motion stating that beginning July 1, 2012 all chapters begin using QuickBooks as their accounting software was moved and approved. Jennifer will investigate bundled licensing and report what is available for the chapters at the next board meeting. The SOP will also address these changes and those changes will also be addressed at the next board meeting.

**Farmlinks** – Jennifer will contact Farmlinks to find out available times for our Board to attend and will report back to the board.

The Winter Board meeting will be held on January 20, 2012 at 9am at Hawk's Nest. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Lakeland: 800-330-8874

Jupiter: 888-222-7072

# Golf Ventures



"Celebrating 25 Years in the Turf Industry"

It's hard to believe it is November already and we are getting ready for the holidays. Golf Ventures would like to take this opportunity to Thank You for your support and business in 2011! As we all continue to work together with the challenges the golf industry and our economy are facing, please know we will continue to bring you quality products and competitive pricing for all your golf course needs.

Thank You again for the opportunity to provide superior service and solutions to your course. **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**



Golf Ventures and Jacobsen are again hosting 3 technician training events by bringing the Jacobsen Factory to Florida. Dates are December 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Check our website for more information, [www.golfventuresonline.com](http://www.golfventuresonline.com).

FIRST CLASS  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #137  
Stuart, FL

Cookingham, Peter  
Turfgrass Information Center  
MSU: W-212 Library  
East Lansing, Michigan 48824



FGCSA  
Jennifer Bryan  
PO Box 65  
Jensen Beach, Florida 34958