

# VOLUME XXVIII, PART V, SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2012 NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

# MEET YOUR NEW FGCSA OFFICERS



FGCSA Officers for 2013 (I-r): Secretary/Treasurer Bill Davidson, CGCS; Vice President Kevin Sunderman; President Nancy Miller, CGCS and Immediate Past President Mark Kann.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS** 

#### SEPTEMBER 13

SOUTH FLORIDA GCSA AND PALM BEACH GCSA JOINT MEETING

THE CLUB AT EMERALD HILLS, HOLLYWOOD

### SEPTEMBER 19

NORTH FLORIDA GCSA ASSISTANT TOURNAMENT, HALIFAX PLANTATION, ORMOND BEACH

### SEPTEMBER 22

TREASURE COAST GCSA FISHING TOURNAMENT, MARINER CAY MARINA, STUART

# SEPTEMBER 24-27

FTGA CONFERENCE & SHOW, THE HOTEL CARIBE, ORLANDO

#### SEPTEMBER 26

FGCSA GOLF BMP CERTIFICATION, FTGA CONFERENCE & SHOW, THE HOTEL CARIBE, ORLANDO

## OCTOBER 10

SEVEN RIVERS GCSA MONTHLY MEETING RAINBOW'S END, DUNNELLON

#### OCTOBER 5-6

NORTH FLORIDA GCSA FALL CLASSIC & CRASH CUP CHALLENGE, AMELIA ISLAND

### OCTOBER 8

WEST COAST GCSA BUD QUANDT TOURNAMENT, FEATHER SOUND CC

### OCTOBER 11 TURFGRASS FIELD DAY

UFL PSREU, CITRA

### OCTOBER 19

SOUTH FLORIDA GCSA MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN TOURNAMENT

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT BY NANCY MILLER, CGCS

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the first female President of the FGCSA. I know the year will race along as we maneuver the various hurdles set on the track. Can you tell I just finished watching a lot of Olympic coverage? How about the U.S. team? How about the U.S. women?) Thank you to Mark Kann for being an excellent president last year. He completed the goals he set forth and worked tirelessly on BMP certification and open communications.

We must continue our proactive stance in dealing with critical regulatory issues and we need your help. We all have many demands on our time: spouses, children, careers, budgets and hopefully some downtime. Please carve out some time to become involved with the association on some level. Participate in chapter meetings. Volunteer for your local board. Sell your course on Rounds 4 Research. Respond to Action Alerts. Take the G.C. BMP certification exam. Many efforts take very little time and can pay huge dividends. Remember, numbers count.

FGCSA is quickly out of the blocks with the BMP certification program up and running. In order to forestall additional fertilizer ordinances that may affect our industry, the FGCSA, GCSAA, USGA and UF have produced an excellent, voluntary certification exam and education program based on the BMP for Golf Courses manual. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has praised the program.

Our aim is to stay ahead of local regulations and build relationships with legislators and regulators. We ask you to attend one education day immediately followed by an exam. The next training class and exam will be given at the FTGA Conference and Show in Orlando. Future sessions at various sites throughout the state will take place during the coming year. CEU's have been approved for PDI, CGCS and Florida pesticide licenses. Read the article in the Fall Florida Green for a detailed description of the program.

FGCSA representatives continue to work with our allied associations on local fertilizer ordinances with Martin County the latest target. We are also working with our allied associations to oppose changes to pesticide use statutes that



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The Green Sheet is a bimonthly FGCSA Newsletter printed as follows: Jan/Feb, March/April, May/June, July/August, Sept./October, November/December. **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 October 15.



Nancy Miller, CGCS

would eliminate some critical use products from use on urban open spaces such as golf courses, sports fields, parks, etc.

To increase our visibility and support our all ies, FCGSA will have a booth at the Irrigation Association Show and Education Conference in November. Stop by and say hello!

GCSAA has assumed the reins and opened participation in the Rounds 4 Research fund raising venture developed by the Carolinas GCSA. Read the articles on the GCSAA website, in the Florida Green or speak with Ralph Dain, GCSAA's Field Representative for Florida on this innovative project. Courses donate rounds of golf to be auctioned on-line several times a year. 80% of the funds raised are returned to the designated chapter. The chapter can then elect to donate the proceeds to research, education and advocacy efforts. It's a win-win situation. Golfers get to play their dream course while donating to turfgrass science!

For a one-stop link to what's happening, our website contains links to the individual chapters as well as a comprehensive calendar of ev ents at www.floridagcsa.com. Remember, we're also on Facebook! Check us out!

I'm looking forward to a great year and I'm honored to work with the current board of directors and to represent you.



## Le From Jennifer's Desk:

Summertime is especially exciting as we renew memberships and welcome in a new Board of Directors. I get the opportunity to strengthen old relationships and develop new ones as the FGCSA. It is fitting to thank our out-going president, Mark Kann, for his hard work and dedication this year, especially his efforts related to the Golf BMP Program. Mark was a real pleasure to work with and his eagerness and willingness to get things done was contagious. Thank you Mark for your service.

As Nancy mentioned in her President's Message, the FGCSA has kicked off its Golf BMP Certification program. We held our first class in June and I have the pleasure of announcing the newly certified Golf BMP recipients. They are: Jeff Huelsman, David Aylor, Raymond Bartels, Mike Caudill, George Cook, Mike Giddens, Mike Hamilton, Patrick Hickey, Trent Inman, Mark Jacobs, Andrew Jordan, Dave Kiesow, Keith Lamb, Tim Larson, Cary Lewis, Andrew Stiliha, Kevin Sunderman, Kyle Sweet, Bob Wagner, Wilson Randolph, Jason Frank, Todd Miller, and Peter Webb. Congratulations!

We will be offering the next Golf BMP Certification test during the FTGA in Orlando on September 26th. The Golf BMP session is part of the FTGA education; however, there is an additional fee to take the exam. You must register and prepay for the exam on or before September 24th at www.floridagcsa.com/BMP. The exam fee is \$25 for FGCSA members (Class A, SM or C) and \$50 for all others. Be sure to check the calendar on the website for future BMP testing dates.

And as always, please call the FGCSA office at 800-732-6053 if you have any questions.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter!





FGCSA Directors for 2013 (I-r): Carlos Arraya, Treasure Coast; Bob Coffey, North Florida: Jim Shaffer, Seven Rivers; Jim Foster, CGCS, Calusa; Ricky Reeves, South Florida; Bill Tyde, Suncoast; Palm Beach, Brian Main. Not pictured: Ricky Craig, Central Florida; Scott Scamehorn, Ridge and Trent Inman, West Coast.

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT By Joel Jackson, CGCS

## FGCSA & Chapter News:

FGCSA Annual Meeting: Minutes of the FGCSA Summer and Annual meetings are contained elsewhere in this newsletter. But the big news is the election of new officers for the 2012-13 operating year. Congratulations to President Nancy Miller, CGCS; Vice President Kevin Sunderman, Secretary/Treasurer Bill Davidson, CGCS and Past President Mark Kann on their election and thanks for your service to the association.

Serving as FGCSA Directors in the coming year will be: Jim Foster, CGCS, Calusa; Rickey Craig, Central Florida; Bill Davidson, CGCS Director; Bob Coffey, North Florida; Mike Giddens, Ridge; Jim Shaffer, Seven Rivers; Ricky Reeves, South Florida; Bill Tyde, Suncoast; Carlos Arraya, Treasure Coast; Trent Inman, West Coast.

North Florida Fall Classic and Crash Hall Memorial: The North Florida GCSA is debuting a new statewide event to serve a two-fold purpose – Commemorate and honor longtime member Crash Hall who passed away this year and to host a fifth major golf event to help fill out the roster of the FGCSA Golf Team that competes annually in the GCSAA Golf Championships held each February in conjunction with the GCSAA-GIS Conference.

The GCSAA expanded chapter teams to a five-man roster beginning in 2013 and this new NFGCSA event will join the ranks of the Everglades Poa Annua Classic, the Central Florida Crowfoot Open, the FGCSA Golf Championship and the FTGA Golf Tournament in filling out the team roster.

The NFGSA has a great venue booked, the Amelia Island Resort and Omni Hotel on the Atlantic Ocean. Email blasts have been sent to all chapters and all individual FGCSA members with the registration information.

## **Government/Media Relations**

Associated Industries of Florida (AIF): The AIF in conjunction with Core Message, Inc. has put together a Rapid Response Team of persons from the business community (including Ag and Green Industry) in all the major media markets across Florida to be contacted to respond to negative media coverage of issues that

affect any particular commodity. It is another attempt to organize and unify our messaging to educate all parties to all sides of an issue and to bring common sense and science to the table, when those emotionally charged articles appear.

Pesticide Use Exemptions: Dr. Keith Tolson, Principal Geosyntec Toxicologist and UF/IFAS Adjunct Professor contacted me recently to inform me that DEP is considering changing existing pesticide use exemptions contained in Florida Statute 487. The change is to strictly define some pesticide uses as strictly "traditional agriculture" and remove labeled uses on "non-Ag" sites like lawns, sports fields, golf courses, parks, etc. Dr. Tolson is reaching out to all stakeholders to form a coalition to oppose this action and promote turf management as perhaps Urban Agriculture and remain under the current label restrictions, which are already approved by EPA. I have shared this information with all my current allied association contacts and put them in contact with Dr. Tolson also.

Environment Research Education Fund (EREF): The EREF, under the united banner green industry members of the FTGA, will be previewed at a coalition meeting in Orlando on August 23rd at Massey Services. This Research and Advocacy Fund was originally proposed by Tim Hiers as a fund raising tool to support turf research and issues advocacy. It is a voluntary program that will add 6/10 of one cent per ton on fertilizer purchases. Several companies and golf courses have already signed on to the program. The governance and administration details have been agreed upon and the program will debut in January 2013. A test period will go into effect this fall to check out the program's operation. It is an Opt-Out voluntary program and is a way to building funding for the green industry to keep funding research and for fighting back against attacks on our industry.

Florida Green Magazine: The Summer issue of the magazine should be in your hands by now. It's time to begin scheduling the Fall 2012 and 2013 Winter, Spring and Summer issue cover stories. I will be meeting with Vice President/Publications Chairman Kevin Sunderman soon to discuss a new cover rotation system that will provide coverage of all regions of the state annually instead of one geographic region per year as we have done in the past. We will also be discussing overall magazine operations, content and layout design.



Doug Ellis of Lebanon Chemicals presented the SFGCSA with a check for \$3,000 for Joe Pantaleo's dog Maise winning the Dog of the Year Calendar Contest in Las Vegas. With Pantaleo are his fiancée Chris Holter and his Admin Assistant Lissa Donald/Minus, both of whom helped with the contest planning and campaigning.

The Palm Beach GCSA Awarded \$9,000 in scolarships at their annual meeting held at Broken Sound. Scholarship recipients were: Tennison Hubbard Carley Klontz Jayne Branstrom Isabel Branstrom (not pictured) Marrissa Miller Moises Rodriguez III

**Bayley Wright** 

Pierce Wright (not pictured)





At the SFGCSA Annual meeting Marcus Prevatte, SFGCSA President presented Dr. John Cisar of the UF/IFAS Research Center in Ft. Lauderdale with a check for \$20,000 for the maintenance and research on the Otto Schmeisser Research Green.

# MINUTES OF SUMMER 2012 FGCSA BOARD MEETING

The Summer 2012 Board Meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Mark Kann at 10:01 am, August 3, 2012 at the University of Florida Plant Science Research and education Unit, Citra.

All officers were present. All Chapters were represented, with the exception of the Central Florida and the Ridge Chapters. The Chapter Representatives were: Calusa - Jim Foster, Seven Rivers -Jim Shaffer, South Florida - Ricky Reeves, Everglades -Bill Davidson, Suncoast -Bill Tyde, North Florida - Bob Coffey, Treasure Coast:- Carlos Arraya, Palm Beach - Brian Main, West Coast: -Trent Inman

Others attending the meeting were: Jennifer Bryan - Association Manager; Joel Jackson - FGCSA Executive Director; Ralph Dain - GCSAA, Josh Lewis and John Scheck - Morgan Stanley, Todd Lowe – USGA, and Dr. Bryan Unruh, Dr. Kevin Kenworthy and Dr. Jason Kruse – University of Florida

Minutes of the FGCSA Spring 2012 Board Meeting were approved.

Morgan Stanley Update – Josh and John presented to the Board an overview of the Morgan Stanley Account. Reports included data from the close of business on August 3rd. The account is a broad based allocation account; the emerging markets and overseas allocations portion of the portfolio is still down. We had a net annual return of 6.12%. Asset allocation is being adjusted as time progresses. Economy is growing at 1.8%. 80% of growth is coming out of emerging markets. Morgan Stanley made no recommendations at this time.

Research Proposals – Dr. Kenworthy presented his research proposal that was originally given to the board at the Spring 2012 Board Meeting; Multi-location evaluation trials to identify bermudagrass, seashore paspalum and zoysiagrass experimental lines suitable for use on Florida golf courses. This is a four year proposal. Dr. Kenworthy is requesting support in the amount of \$18,000 per year. His proposal would place trials in different areas of the state for turf grass breeding. The focus would be on golf courses.

Dr. Unruh and Dr. Kruse presented their research proposal that was originally presented at the Spring 2012 Board Meeting; Daily Integral Requirements for Warm Season Turfgrasses. This study will create a better understanding of the effects of the seasonal changes in available light – at the species/cultivar level – would help managers develop better management practices for stressed turf. Dr. Unruh requested a 3 year commitment of the FGCSA; ~\$10,000 the first year, ~\$7,800 the second year and ~\$8,000 the third and final year.

USGA Update – Todd Lowe reported the USGA again had a successful partnership with the FGCSA for the Poa Seminar. The USGA will be helping with the Crowfoot in December and will continue with ongoing education especially the Regional Golf meetings that include the Greens Committee Chairman, Club management, club pro, etc. Those meeting will be announced in the future

GCSAA – Ralph Dain – The Award for Environmental Leadership nominations are due October 19, Housing opens for the GIS on August 1, research proposals for chapter cooperative research grants are due on September 17th. Ralph also requested information form the chapters who host Assistant Superintendent activities/meetings. The GCSAA would like to track those meetings.

Financials – Kevin Sunderman presented the year end financials. Pointed out the bottom line on page six showed a net loss of \$1,560.00. This may increase depending on the recommendations of the accountant on whether or not to write off our bad debt (non-receivables). No questions on the floor. Bill Davidson motioned for acceptance of the financials. All in favor – financials approved.

Committee Reports: Executive Director Report - 1. Government Legislative/Regulatory Update: Hillsborough County: Holding additional hearings to consider strengthening fertilizer rules. Green Industries alerted and called to action to insist on science in making rules. NNC: GCSAA and Associated Industries of Florida have sent out another call for action by stakeholders to send letters, comments, emails, etc. to EPA to adopt Florida DEP's customized nutrient criteria. This alert and call to action sent to all FGCSA members to respond and be heard.

Paperwork reduction act: Related to the NPDES action by EPA, Ag and Green Industries renewed calls for action to all stakeholders to send their letters to Congressional Leaders, EPA and the White House to reject this unnecessary, but burdensome and time consuming paperwork nightmare.

Water Restrictions: No active additional water restrictions in any WMD, however, discussions involving water levels in springs and aquifers are occurring more often and may affect CUP/WUP permit renewals

2. Allied Association News: PIE Center update: The UF/IFAS Public Information and Education Center is now a fully funded line item approved by the legislature as part of IFAS. Includes 3 full time faculty and grad students to aid Ag & Green Industries in researching and crafting effective communications tools to help educate politicians. regulators and the general public about our industries and commodities, since people have become more and more separated from the land and don't realize the full positive impacts and needs of our commodities from abundant, safe food to quality of life issues like green space, sports, recreation, etc.

Florida Green – Joel presented a history of the covers of the Florida Green. He would like to meet with the Publications committee to discuss changes in the cover along with the future of the Florida Green. Specifically outsourcing, advertising sales, improvements, production costs, etc...

Membership Directory - Membership Directory advertising packets will begin to be mailed next week. The Membership Directory format and ad rates will change for this year. The size of the ads, as well as the size of the directory will increase. The Directory should be completed and ready for mailing in December.

Education – Jim Shaffer presented a spreadsheet of upcoming educational opportunities. Jennifer will post those on the website. Dates to note: The North Florida Fall Classic will be on October 5th and the UF Turfgrass Field Day will be on October 11th this year. Jim encouraged everyone to attend.

Golf – The FGCSA Golf Championship will be held on Friday August 24th at Southern Dunes. Please be sure to submit your chapter's teams to Jennifer. Remember, the championship will be open to Vendor's for the first time – so please encourage vendor participation.

Membership - Mark presented the membership chart. Be sure to send in your membership renewal lists to Jennifer. August 15th is the deadline to get names to the state. Be sure to send late renewals up through October 1st – these people will still be included in the FGCSA Membership Directory.

BMP - The first BMP Certification session was held on July 25th in Wimauma. 42 people attended. We received positive feedback from the test takers. We do need to tweak the presentation and the questions on the test. We will evaluate the comments and test content and make improvements as needed. The certification test will be available to take during the FTGA seminar. The test will cost an additional (in addition to the FTGA fees) \$25.00 for FGCSA members (Class A, SM and C) and an additional \$50 for non-FGCSA members. The Seven Rivers chapter has also shown an interest in hosting the certification in November or December. A formal BMP committee will be created.

### Research -

Rounds 4 Research – The board discussed at length the desire for the funds generated from the Rounds 4 Research program to go through the state association versus the local chapters. A large benefit of this is the ability for the state to fund more and commit to longer research and more expensive research projects. The external Directors will bring this recommendation back to their boards for support. Nancy Miller will provide a "letter listing the benefits of this relationship for the Externals to provide to their local chapters. The first auctions will occur in the Fall. These rounds need to be donated by the end of August.

Research Proposals – The proposed research projects from earlier in the board meeting were discussed for consideration. A motion was made by Bill Davidson to fund the Dr. Unruh study and commit to fund one year of the Dr. Kenworthy study. The motion was seconded, voted on and approved; \$26,000 for Dr. Unruh's study and \$18,000 for one year of Dr. Kenworthy's study. It was recommended that these research proposals be brought back to the local chapters and encourage donations to the state research fund to help with funding these projects.

Reception - Jennifer is working on a location for the Reception during the GIS in San Diego.

Awards – nominations for award recipients are due by the January meeting.

#### Old Business -

Farmlinks – Initially we were going to try to make an October trip, but there are too many conflicts. We are working on a possible March trip Logo - The new logo was discussed again for the purpose of new pocket badges/crests for the Board. Ralph will provide the Board a sample of what new badges would look like. The unrecognizability of the FGCSA logo is what is driving the focus to change our logo – at least on the lapel badges. Once samples are available we will discuss this matter further at the Fall Board Meeting.

The next board meeting will be held on October 4th at Amelia Island Plantation.

The next long range planning meeting will be held on December 6 – location to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned 2:44 pm.

## Summer 2012 Annual Board Meeting Minutes

The Summer 2012 Annual Board Meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Mark Kann at 2:45 pm, August 3, 2012 at the University of Florida Plant Science Research and education Unit, Citra.

All officers were present. All Chapters were represented, with the exception of the Central Florida and the Ridge Chapters. The Chapter Representatives were: Calusa - Jim Foster, Seven Rivers - Jim Shaffer, South Florida - Ricky Reeves, Everglades – Bill Davidson, Suncoast - Bill Tyde, North Florida - Bob Coffey, Treasure Coast - Carlos Arraya, Palm Beach - Brian Main, West Coast - Trent Inman.

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

Minutes of the FGCSA Annual Summer 2011 Board Meeting were approved.

Election of Officers - The Election of Officers was approved. The new officers are: Mark Kann, Immediate Past President; Nancy Miller, CGCS President; Kevin Sunderman, Vice President; Bill Davidson, CGCS, Secretary/Treasurer.

Financials –The new 2012/2013 budget was presented. A motion was made by Bill Tyde to approve the budget as drafted. The budget was approved.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm.

AUMING

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# MARK YARICK-CSS

Golf Ventures welcomes Mark Yarick to our Golf Ventures Team as our new Customer Service Specialist. Mark comes to Golf Ventures from Florida Gateway College (formerly Lake City) where Mark was Professor and Program Coordinator for the Turf Equipment Program. Mark will have the North Florida Territory down to Ocala.

