

VOLUME X, PART 5, SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1994

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 17 Lake City Community College Alumni Golf Tournament, Deer Creek GC, Deerfield Beach
- FTGA Conference and Show, Broward County Sept. 18 Convention Center, Marina Marriott, Ft. Lauderdale. -21 Show hours are 1:30 - 6:00 p.m. on Monday and noon - 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday. Concurrent sessions will be held on Monday morning with Workshops and Research Reports on Tuesday morning.
- Sept. 18 FTGA Research Golf Tournament, Jacaranda CC FGCSA Championship Tournament, Deer Creek (both tournaments followed by Toro Corn Boil at the IFAS University of Florida Research Center)
- Sept. 27 Suncoast Chapter Pro/Superintendent Tournament, Plantation G&CC, Venice
- Septe. 27 Central Florida Chapter meeting, Windermere CC
- Sept. 30 Adam Walsh Golf Tournament, Inverrary CC
- Oct. 12 Central Florida Chapter meeting, Marriott World Center, Orlando
- Joint chapter meeting with PBGCSA and SFGCSA, Oct. 18 Deer Creek CC, Deerfield Beach
- Treasure Coast Chapter Pro/Supt, Tournament at Oct. 20 Monarch CC, Stuart
- Oct. 25 Suncoast Chapter meeting, Sunrise GC, Sarasota
- Oct. 31 West Coast Chapter Bud Quandt Turfgrass Research Tournament, Pasadena Yacht & Country Club
- GCSAA Regional Seminar, "Personal Stress Nov. 10 Management," Omni Hotel, Orlando
- 66th Annual GCSAA Conference and Show, Feb. 20 Moscone Center, San Francisco - 27
- 3rd Annual Envirotron Tournament, World Woods Apr. 24



Ray Hansen (left) receives the 1994 FGCSA Distinguished Service Award from Paul Crawford at the Crowfoot banquet in Orlando.

Ray Hansen came to Florida in 1985 and lost no time in getting involved with his local FGCSA chapter. He was the driving force in organizing the First Annual South Florida Expo in Fort Lauderdale in 1988. This event has become the major fund raiser in the South Florida area. His next achievement was to head the committee to get permission to build a research green at the University of Florida Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center. Ray stayed with the project until its completion and is active on the FGCSA Research Committee in seeing that appropriate projects are conducted on the green.

Ray became a member of the FGCSA Board of Directors in 1987 and served as President of the FGCSA in 1991. He remains active on the board and is currently serving as our Voting Delegate. Ray is the golf course superintendent at Delaire CC in Delray Beach.

For other stories on the Crowfoot weekend, see page 3.

## President's Message by Scott Bell

My name is Scott Bell and on July 30, 1994 I was elected President of the FGCSA for the 1994-94 year. I have been the golf course manager at Bent Pine Golf Club in Vero Beach since 1986. Prior to 1986 I had the privilege to work for the PGA TOUR through the Tournament Players Club network. I am a 1981 graduate of Colorado State University. My degree was in Landscape Horticulture with a turf management concentration. My first job out of school was with Club Corporation of America as an assistant at the Pinery CC outside of Denver.

While serving on the Treasure Coast Chapter Board, I began to attend Florida Board meetings in 1988. I've served through all of The point is that this war that these anti-golf lobbies are waging is going to be long and drawn out.

the offices of the Treasure Coast Chapter prior to serving on the state board.

When I started attending Florida Board meetings in 1988, we were primarily concerned with improving the image and the vocation of the golf course manager/superintendent. We dreamed of a lobbyist and the research green was still a twinkle in Ray Hansen's eye. We are now over the halfway mark for 1994 and we are not only fighting to improve the image of the superintendent, we are also trying to help the image of the golf business in general.

Unfortunately much of the media seems to dwell on the perceived negatives rather than on all of the positive things that we do. Just this morning I read an article through the Associated Press in our local Vero Beach Press Journal about how the National Audubon Society disagrees with the USGA/N.Y. Audubon Society Cooperative Sanctuary Program. The article tried to make the N. Y. Audubon Society look money hungry and greedy, while at the same time the article inferred that the golf course managers were duped into thinking that the program was with the National Society. The article gave us no credit for trying to become even better environmental stewards

The point is that this war that these anti-golf lobbies are waging is going to be long and drawn out. We need an endless supply of proactive people, not just the same managers who write letters or call both state and national legislators, and media sources.

Please get involved. A letter or two a year, a couple of phone calls to Washington or Tallahassee is a great contribution. I've seen firsthand what a group working together can do over the past six years and with new blood coming in, we can continue to move forward. Feel free to call me anytime with comments or suggestions. I would love to hear from you.

# GREEN SHEET

#### Editor:

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The Green Sheet is a bimonthly FGCSA newsletter printed as follows: Jan./Feb., March/April, May/June, July/Aug., Sept./Oct., Nov./Dec.

#### **Financial Support:**

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Golf Ventures 2101 East Edgewood Dr. Lakeland, FL 33803 (800) 330-8874 Now in Tampa and Fort Myers.

All material submitted for printing will be edited at the discretion of the editor. Material must be typed or clearly printed. All photos must be black and white. Items must be for the good of the association.

Deadline next issue, October 15.

#### **CROWFOOT OPEN REPORT**

The Crowfoot Open returned to Grand Cypress Golf Club in "Grand" fashion this year. The 18th Crowfoot kicked off on Sunday morning with the extremely informative FGCSA sponsored Employee Relations Seminar given by Seay Management. The seminar received high marks from all 25 attendees and those in attendance picked up many hints on how to deal with the numerous employee problems that golf course superintendents must deal with on a daily basis. The seminar covered everything from the interview process, fair employment regulations, wage and hour violations, dealing with problem employees, and sexual harassment situations.

Sunday night's banquet featured the FGCSA presenting its annual Distinguished Service Award to Ray Hansen (see picture on page 1) and several Presidents Awards for Lifetime Service. Presidents Awards went to Paul Nevers of the Everglades chapter; Lonny Stubbs and Joe Snook of the Treasure Coast chapter; and Bill McKee from South Florida. Two other awards will be presented at local chapter meetings — Royce Stewart from Suncoast chapter and Lou Oxneved from the Palm Beach chapter.

Sponsors are always a big part of any tournament and the Crowfoot is no exception. This Crowfoot included a first-time-ever auction that saw an Arnold Palmer autographed putter go for a cool \$1,500 thanks to the generosity of Steve Burrell from Southern Golf Products.

The usual good natured bantering that is so familiar to FGCSA members was present during the ceremonies and Tom Alex, host superintendent,



Scott Bell (left) newly elected President of the FGCSA and his Crowfoot Open partner GCSAA President Joe Baidy



Larry Kamphaus, left, presents the winners trophy to Cary Stoffel

was once again the butt of cruel jokes, but the condition of his golf course for the championship was not a joke. The North and South courses were immaculate. As usual the Grand Cypress layout put a premium on shot placement and rewarded the few who were able to overcome the heat and pace of play.

Newcomer Cary Stoffel of Baytree National in Melbourne won low gross in the superintendent division with a 72. Mark Wheaton, Growers Fertilizer, shot a 70 to capture the commercial crown. The Central Florida team of Stoffel, Scott Welder, Pat Tomlinson, and Mark Heater won the superintendent team championship.

Larry and Vilma Kamphaus headed a focused Crowfoot Committee in getting the job done again this year. A record number of sponsorships were sold and the whole affair was first class. Congratulations and thanks are due to the entire committee, Tom Alex and the Grand Cypress staff.

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The Summer 1994 meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Paul Crawford at 1:00 p.m. at Grand Cypress Resort.

All officers were in attendance. Big Bend and North Florida chapters were not represented.

GOLF AGRONOMICS: Paul Crawford introduced Dale Mitchell and Richard Colyer of Golf Agronomics who presented the FGCSA Research Committee with a check for \$4,563.40 which represents the proceeds from their rebate program for the past year. Golf Agronomics was one of the first companies to initiate a successful rebate program four years ago and the amount of funds raised has increased every year.

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Minutes of the Poa board meeting were approved. Financial Statements for the past fiscal year were accepted. Greg Plotner then went over each line item in the proposed budget for the next fiscal year.

Alan Puckett made a motion to raise the amount that is paid to Mark Jarrell for writing his Golfweek articles to \$200.00 an article. The motion was approved.

Line items for donations were also discussed. Paul Crawford suggested that the FGCSA should respond to written requests for funds rather than verbal suggestions at board meetings. He also stated that if these written requests give a synopses of where the money goes, that the board would be more inclined to grant a donation.

Donations to the FTGA were discussed. As usual we will be presenting the FGCSA donation at the FTGA Awards Luncheon and will be announcing the total funds that have been raised by superintendent chapters. Bob Yount has mentioned that while superintendents

make up only about 30% of the FTGA membership, they raise 70% of the funds! We want to keep this percentage up. An informal poll of each chapter was taken but most chapters have not finalized their budget figures. This is an important item that all External Vice Presidents must be aware of and be prepared to give an answer by the end of August.

The final figure for the proposed FGCSA 1994-95 budget shows expenses at \$267,000 with income projected at \$283,200. The budget was approved. Paul Crawford thanked Greg Plotner for his patience in explaining the budget in such detail.

AWARDS: Joel Jackson requested that each chapter who has nominated someone for a Presidents Award should submit a written bio to him for the Florida Green.

PUBLICATIONS: Scott Bell reported on the Publications Committee meeting that was held immediately prior to this board meeting. Joel Jackson replaces Tom Benefield as editor with the upcoming Fall issue. The Summer issue will be mailed within the next two weeks. Larry Kieffer gave the Committee a report on how to make the magazine more efficient. Paul Crawford then presented a plaque to Tom Benefield for the



Paul Crawford, left, presents a plaque to Tom Benefield CGCS for his service as editor of the Florida Green.

great job he has done as editor of the Florida Green for the past two years.

Green Sheet: Golf Ventures has been awarded a yearly contract to advertise in the Green Sheet for the next six issues. Greg Plotner will serve as editor.

Membership Directory: All chapter secretaries were urged to get their membership lists in as soon as possible.

EDUCATION: Dale Kuehner reported that all the credit for the educational programs must go to David Court. The Poa seminar set a record for attendance this year.

Dale Kuehner and Chip Fowkes suggested that quality education should continue to be a priority for the FGCSA and should be considered a member benefit rather than an expense item.

The GCSAA Regional Seminar will be held in November in Orlando and we will be looking for another strong showing even though there are other events going on in Orlando at that time.

GOLF: Joe reported that the GCSAA has sent out a list of courses in the San Francisco that will offer daily play for superintendents. He also noted that the GCSAA is considering an offer from the USGA to run the tournament in the future. Joe also reported on the FTGA Golf Tournament. Besides the scramble, there will again be a superintendent team championship played at Deer Creek. Each chapter is reminded to call the FTGA if you have not registered a team for this gross event. Paul Crawford also reminded all Externals that there will be a fishing tournament on Sunday.

FTGA: Tom Benefield reported on the IFAS Field Day in Gainesville. He stated that the turf field plots looked good and that instructors and students all seemed to be busy with on-going projects. One of the highlights was the Hawaiian grass that Dr. Dudeck and the University will be releasing this fall. A discussion was held on royalties and

new grasses. Paul Crawford noted that the envirotron looked in good shape and that irrigation is in the final stages.

Chuck Rogers reported that the Conference and Show reservations are ahead of last year in exhibits and they are hoping for a big turnout. Each External was charged with giving out details for the Conference at their next local chapter meeting.

FUND RAISING: Mark Jarrell gave an update on the CIBA program for next year. Last year's program resulted in over \$20,000 donated to our research account (which we will turn over to the FTGA once the board decides what projects to fund). The 1994 program goal is set at \$60,000. If all chapters do their part, the goal will be met. Next came the question of where will the funds go? Mickey Lovett of CIBA suggests that the funds should go through the FGCSA to the FTGA Research Foundation Account. The FGCSA can then stipulate where the money should go, keeping in close contact with Bob Yount who may have some suggestions on worthy projects. This will be a joint FGCSA/FTGA effort. Paul Crawford has received a letter from Mickey clarifying this partnership.

Mark then discussed the other rebate programs that were not as successful as the CIBA program. Rhone Poulenc sent a check for \$2,240 for the 224 profiles that were filled out by superintendents. The money was put into the FGCSA Research Account. There may still be some funds forthcoming from Miles. A letter was written to Miles distributors but to date no answers have been received.

RESEARCH: Kevin Downing gave an update on the research green activities. We will not be planting zoysiagrass around the plots because the price was too high. A weather forecaster is needed at the sight. If one is not donated, Kevin will contact Monica to see that this is taken care of. A new dedication plaque has been ordered and should be in place in time for the FTGA show.

A lengthy discussion was held on the grass certification program and Dr. Busey's request for a research grant to do DNA studies. This was a subject that everyone was concerned about and, in the interest of time, it was decided to have a special meeting on this subject before the next board meeting at the FTGA.

## GOVERNMENT RELATIONS:

Mark Jarrell gave a report from Mike Goldie suggesting that each chapter contact your local politicians who are running for election this fall and ask them to speak at your next meeting.

Greg Plotner spoke on the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program. Florida is the leading state in this program and Greg read a letter from the USGA requesting that the FGCSA formally adopt/endorse the program.

GCSAA: Greg Plotner distributed a memo from GCSAA which states that, since we are the hosts for the 1996 Convention, we will be expected to man a booth in San Francisco. The booth will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday through Monday when it will close at 1 p.m. Therefore we will be calling on help from every FGCSA member who is planning on going to San Francisco! The Central Florida chapter will be responsible for literature and pamphlets to be distributed at the booth.

Paul Crawford has agreed to be responsible for this year's FGCSA Reception in San Francisco. If anyone knows a company who would like to join in by sponsoring a part of the reception, please call Paul or Marie. (See page 6)

Mike Bailey discussed the Florida room block which will be at the Hyatt Hotel in San Francisco. The cost is \$138.00/ night and reservations must be made through the FGCSA office. (See pg. 6)

There will again be a meeting in Kansas for all chapters during the last week of September which our Voting Delegate will attend. Gary Grigg is in charge of this "Chapter Relations" meeting.

SURVEY: Dale Kuehner will be the chairman for this year's survey. A discussion was held on the scope of the survey. Some questions that might be included will be in regard to SARA III compliance to see how many golf courses have been fined by government agencies, or what can be done to help courses comply with the laws. Any ideas for questions on the survey should be sent to Dale before the end of September.

NEW BUSINESS: Paul Crawford reported on a meeting called by Miles to discuss their product, "Nemacur". The meeting was held in Kansas and attendees included Paul, Joe O'Brien, Steve Mona, Dave Ferris, and Bob Yount along with the Miles executives. Suggestions were made and will be presented to state agencies later this month.

An Emergency Pesticide Committee was proposed by Mike Bailey who suggested that the FGCSA establish some guidelines for members to use when there has been a pesticide emergency at their course. Mike and John Gallagher were appointed as co-chairman of this new committee to come up with guidelines on how to handle Emergency Pesticide Situations. They will check with the chemical companies and other associations who may already have booklets available for our use.

Paul Crawford reported on a meeting attended by Paul and Marie in Gainesville earlier this month. Fifteen allied associations got together and formed a Greens Industry Summit for purposes of sharing ideas of mutual concerns on an informal basis. It was a very beneficial meeting attended by Dr. Nell, Bob Yount, and various representatives from all phases of the industry. Issues discussed included legislative matters, certification, water concerns, safe pesticide use, and other pertinent common concerns. Minutes of the meeting are available.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

## CHAPTER OFFICERS 1994-1995

#### **CENTRAL FLORIDA**

President Don McCommon
Vice President Kevin Rotti
Ext Vice President Joe Ondo
Sec/Treasurer Brian Jenkins

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Ext Vice President Bill Lanthier
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#### **WEST COAST**

President Kirk Sowers
Vice President Garth Boline
Ext Vice President Chip Lewison
Sec/Treasurer Pete Bass



Newly elected SFGCSA Board of Directors are (left to right): Bob Klitz CGCS, Mark Richard CGCS, Ron Wright, Kelly Cragin, Dale Kuehner CGCS, Al Ross CGCS, and Rick Iles. Board Member Tony Ursoleo is not pictured.

## SAN FRANCISCO BEAT 66th Annual GCSAA Conference & Show

The Florida GCSA has arranged for a room block at the Grand Hyatt San Francisco for any FGCSA member or affiliated supplier. This hotel is located in Union Square, six blocks from the Moscone Center, approximately a 15-minute walk. Rate is \$138/night which is about average for the better quality hotels listed on the GCSAA hotel list. S imply call the FGCSA office at 1-800-732-6053 before November 1st to make your reservation at the Grand Hyatt. If you have filled in your Early Bird registration and not gotten your first choice, you may still get into the Hyatt room block. Just call the FGCSA office before November 1st.

The FGCSA will again be holding its annual Reception during the GCSAA Conference. Paul Crawford promises another spectacular evening! All Florida suppliers are urged to participate by helping to co-sponsor this event. We have had wonderful response for this event and don't want to leave anyone out. Call the FGCSA office for more information.

## JOBS AVAILABLE

Superintendent. Panama Country Club. Contact Doug Quilling at 904-265-2911 or send resumes to 100 Country Club Drive, Lynn Haven, FL 32444.

Assistant Superintendent. Bonita Bay Club. Contact Mark Black at 813-495-0073 or send resumes to 25551 Country Club Drive, Bonita Springs, FL 33923

Assistant Superintendent. Stonebridge GC. Contact Bob Jacks at 407-483-8444.

Assistant Superintendent. Rosemont GC. Mail resumes to Joe Little, 4224 Clubhouse Rd., Orlando, FL 32808.

## 1994-1995 FGCSA OFFICERS

The following were elected to serve as FGCSA officers for the 1994-1995 fiscal year at the Annual Board Meeting in Orlando.

Scott Bell President
Greg Plotner Vice President
Dale Kuehner Sec/Treasurer
Paul Crawford Past President

The next meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors will be held in Fort Lauderdale on Monday, September 19th at 2:00 p.m. The meeting will be at the Broward County Convention Center and is open to all those attending the FTGA Conference and Show.

## NEWLY CERTIFIED SUPERINTENDENTS

The FGCSA congratulates the following superintendents who have become Certified during the past few months. The first superintendent to be recognized is **R. Jeff Brewster** who is currently serving as superintendent at the Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Jeff formerly served as Assistant Superintendent at Boca Del Mar GC in Boca Raton and still considers himself to be a Florida superintendent!

#### Steve Ehrbar CGCS, Old Marsh

Steve received his A.S. degree in Applied Science from Ohio State in 1983. After working in the Ohio area for two years, Steve moved to Florida in 1985. After a short stint at Frenchmen's Creek, Steve became interested in the construction and grow-in phase of the business. He spent 2 1/2 years working for Pete Dye during the construction of Old Marsh and then spent another 2 years at Cypress Links in Jupiter for their grow-in. Steve stated that he gained a lot of valuable experience from seeing a golf course from the ground up.

After leaving Cypress Links, Steve accepted the position of head superintendent at Lost Tree Club for 3 1/2 years. In 1993, he returned to Old Marsh where he is currently serving as superintendent.

Steve satisfied one of his major career goals by becoming certified. The Palm Beach chapter member is married, has a six year old daughter and a 20 month old son.

### Jim Witt CGCS, Avila Golf Club

Jim graduated from Lake City CC in 1981. Before attending Lake City, Jim spent 3 years working on an Air Force-run golf course in Hawaii which gave him an interest in golf course management.

After graduation, he served two years as Assistant Superintendent at Carrollwood Village. Later he accepted a position with U. S. Homes that enabled him to be involved in the construction and grow in of Foxfire and Countryside Golf Courses in Naples. Like Steve, he stated that he gained tremendous experience during those five years. Jim was a member of the Everglades chapter and served briefly on their Board of Directors.

In 1990, Jim accepted the position of golf course superintendent at Avila GC. He has recently become a member of the Board of Directors of the West Coast GCSA. Jim feels that certification is the way of the future and that it is an excellent way to show golf course owners that you have a professional commitment to the industry.

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## RAY HANSEN RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

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