

THE GREEN SHEET



VOLUME XXVI, PART VI, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2008

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION



2008 FGCSA Golf Champs. The Palm Beach Chapter won both Individual and Team trophies. From left: Front row - Steve Bernard and Mark Henderson. Standing Mike Spiwak, Deron Zendt, Mark Heater and Kevin Downing.

Upcoming Events

Nov. 1st - GCSAA Regional Seminar

Nov. 3rd - West Coast GCSA Chapter Meeting, Southern Hills

Nov. 7th - 16th Annual Lake City Community College Endowment Golf Tournament, Colony Golf & Bay Club in Bonita Springs

Nov. 12th - Calusa GCSA Chapter Meeting, Plantation CC

Nov. 12th - TCGCSA hosts GCSAA Regional Seminar, Developing Best Management Practices for Golf Course

Water Conservation: Approaches and Resources.

Nov. 13th - Seven Rivers Annual Fishing Trip, Apollo fishing charter

Nov 16th - Suncoast GCSA Tampa Bay Bucs Trip

Nov. 19th - CFGCSA hosts 2 - 1/2 day GCSAA Regional Seminars, Managing Localized Dry Spots and Managing Turf Root Zones in the South.

Nov. 20th - Everglades GCSA Event, Gateway G & CC

Dec. 11th - Calusa Christmas Charity Tournament, Magnolia Landing

Dec. 12th -13th - Suncoast GCSA Get Away Meeting, Gasparilla Inn & Cottages

Dec. 17th - Everglades GCSA Christmas Tournament

Jan. 16th - FGCSA Winter Board Meeting, Disney's Osprey Ridge GC

Feb 2-5 - GCSAA Education Conference & The Golf Industry Show, New Orleans
Feb 5th - FGCSA Reception, New Orleans Riverview Room.

President's Message By Shane Bass, CGCS

I'm not sure you will get this newsletter before November 4th but I wanted to discuss the importance of voting and taking responsibility for who is in office and how that affects our industry and how we do our jobs.

Did you vote? Republican, Democrat, Independent or No Party Affiliation, McCain or Obama? Did you exercise your right as American citizens and vote for who you believed will be best to run our country? It is something we are all responsible for doing as Americans and we cannot sit back and pass blame if we didn't get out and vote.

Sorry to get on a soap box but the other day I received an email containing an article from Charley Reese, a former columnist for the Orlando Sentinel, and it just really put things into a perspective that I really hadn't thought about before. The article put the blame on the 545 people who run this country (president, congress and cabinet) for letting it get as bad as it has.

But ultimately the responsibility is on us. We are the ones who elected the 545 people who govern our nation, they are

supposed to do our will. Would we let one of our employees at one of our golf courses get a way with behavior like this? No, because if we did we would not have jobs ourselves. So as he wrote in the article it is time for a change. It is our time to get out and make that change if those who have been in office for along time do not make that change we need to change them and the only way that that is going to happen is if we get out and vote.

Did you educate yourself and do a little research find out about the candidates federal, state and local? It's hard I know with all the media propaganda and our natural misgivings about politicians. Sometimes it is hard to know who to trust. Hopefully each of us made a responsible decision on who we want to run this country and then voted. If you did not vote you do not get to complain.

I hope you made the time to vote on November 4th or you voted early or by absentee ballot if that was more convenient. I hope you exercised your duty as a American Citizen and voted in good faith for those candidates who you believe will help change our nation and bring it back from the troubles it is in right now. And just as important is electing your local candidates who end up passing local ordinances which affect our gol



Shane Bass

courses. Let's be more vigilant going forward and hold all our elected officials to higher standards so we don't go down this road again.

With all that said I hope everyone exercised one of our greatest freedoms and the economy turns around soon and we all have a great golfing season here in Florida.

THE GREEN SHEET



Editor:

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

News Coordinator:

Jennifer Innes
1296 NE Oceanview Cir.
Jensen Beach, FL 34957
(772)334-7515
(772) 334-6015
e-mail: fgesa@comcast.net

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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 December 15.

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. Look for Green Sheet links, The Florida Green and more in the near future!!

www.floridagcsa.com

Executive Director Report By Joel Jackson, GCCS

1. Government Relations Report: Water Restrictions and Conservation –

In the last issue I reported that the SFWMD was going to meet with us on the Water Allocation method and restrictions. We did meet at the FTGA Conference in West Palm. In good faith they did present some modifications to the ET and Rainfall factors used in determining how much water can be allocated per month and those adjustments did provide for increases in those drier winter months, but if shifted the amounts so drastically that it left a potential shortfall in the later spring early summer. We asked them to go back to the drawing board and see if we can't provide a little more cushion all year long without making any season too vulnerable. Dr. Dukes from IFAS was on hand to help with the technical aspects of modifying the method without having to go to formal rule making. We will meet again soon to view the changes.

A reminder that clubhouse grounds and landscape, roadways and common areas will remain under the 2-day per week watering restrictions even though Phase 2 has been lifted for the golf course proper. SFWMD will be taking up the year-round 2-day per week lawn/landscape irrigation proposal at their next board meeting.

I strongly suggest that you try cutting back run times a minute or two on your normal irrigation cycles per station and using an average gallons per minute per head calculate how much water you saved and multiply that times the number of times you do that and keep a running journal so you can total up at the end of the month. When you submit your quarterly reports to your district include a note saying that you purposely cut back run times to conserve water and total up the amount. You can say computer ET called for 15 minutes but you cut back 1-2 minutes per station and saved X amount of water. We say we are efficient water managers. Let's prove it.

You are the best judge of your turf needs, but rather than just be passive, be proactive and take an extra step that proves we are serious about water conservation. Actions speak louder than words and water conservation and cutback are in our future, so let's get ahead of the curve now.

Methyl Bromide: Each chapter received emails containing sample letters to the EPA Docket and to regulators and politicians addressing golf's concerns over the phase out of MeBr and the new soil fumigant rules for all soil fumigant products. Comments were to be made by the October 30th deadline. The rules are so restrictive and difficult to implement they effectively make using soil fumigants unaffordable and very cumbersome. The safety track record for using these products is excellent and these additional measures seem to have no basis in real identifiable or historical risk.

Best Management Practices Manual (GIBMP) is undergoing its first revision meeting since its publication in 2002. This BMP manual was intended for the lawn care industry was the pre-cursor of the Golf BMP manual as Florida GCSA members attended the meetings which began in 2000. It was obvious from the round table cooperation of government, industry, research and environmental groups that BMP manuals would be valuable education and outreach tools for industry and the general public. Five years have passed and it's time to reassess the information contained in the BMPs and update as mandated in the original charter to make it a living document. The same will occur for the Golf BMP manual around 2012.

Be aware: All counties citing the Golf BMP manual as the guide for fertilizer application means that is the law in that county. I heard at a recent Orange County fertilizer meeting that the Code Enforcement Dept in Jacksonville/Duval

will be enforcing the new fertilizer ordinance up there and they will visit golf courses to insure they are complying with the fertilizer/nutrient management section, so be sure to check that section of the checklist in the BMP manual and make sure you are documenting your compliance with the BMPs. It's a good idea for everyone to go through that checklist and tick off those items that have been done, you are doing, or are planning to do. The BMPs will become increasingly more important as a buffer from local regulations only if we show the willingness to use them since they are mostly voluntary except the fertilizer chapter where they are cited in ordinances as mentioned.

2. Allied Associations: I will be attending a Green Industry Coalition meeting at the FNGLA offices here in Orlando on December 16th with the purpose of unifying our messages on the issues so we are sending out consistent messages to the public and media.

Ag Institute: At the Annual meeting in Orlando on October 8th, the board determined that it could not afford to continue the Ag Awareness PR Campaign utilizing the Consensus Communications PR firm.

It's just a matter of having the funds to do so. The Board will enter into discussions with the Ag Communications Dept. of the UF to see how we might use their programs, students and contacts to deliver the messages at a lower cost. There is some benefit in considering this alternative since the students often have an awareness of the industry and the issues.

Mr. Tim Center of the Florida Century Commission made a presentation on Sustainable Florida which besides the obvious environmental protections also

respects the economic side of Ag/Green Industries and it's importance to Florida's long term economic well being.

At this meeting I had the opportunity to speak with Congressman Adam Putnam from the Polk County area about the Methyl Bromide and Soil Fumigant Issue. I had also sent him one of those comment letters.

3. Upcoming Events:

November 7th: Lake City CC Endowment Tournament, Colony Golf and Bay Club, Bonita Springs.

3. GCSAA News: The GCSAA has announced that it has appointed Ralph Dain as the new Field Representative to cover the Florida Region. Ralph is a former president of the Treasure Coast GCSA and FGCSA Board Member. Following his years as a golf course superintendent he also worked for John Deere Golf in the SE Florida area. Ralph began his service and training on October 20th.

4. Executive Director's Fall Planner

Attend local chapter meetings by invitation - TBA

Nov 5th Golf & Environment Presentation at the Arlington GC, Leesburg

Nov 7th LCCC Endowment Tournament, Bonita Springs

Nov 10th Florida Golf Central Magazine article due

Nov 20th Golfdom Article deadline

Nov 24th UF/IFAS Research Meeting, Plant City

Dec 10th Florida Golf Central Magazine article due

Dec 15th January/February Green Sheet issue due

Dec 20th Golfdom Magazine article due



Darren Davis (right) becomes the FTGA Past President as he passes the gavel to incoming FTGA President Todd Himmelberger at the Annual Meeting held in Palm Beach Gardens at the PGA National Resort.



Golf Course Architect Jan Beljan was presented the FTGA's 2008 Wreath of Grass Award. Jan is a past president of the FTGA and served on the Golf BMP Manual Task Group among her other contributions to Florida's golf and turf industry

Minutes of FGCSA Fall Board Meeting

The Fall 2008 Board Meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Shane Bass at 1:00 p.m. on Friday October 3rd at Disney's Osprey Ridge Golf Course.

All officers were present. All Chapters, with the exception of Ridge and North Florida, were represented. The Chapter Representatives were: Calusa, Nancy Miller; Everglades, Wayne Kappuff;; Central Florida, Mike Stem; South Florida, Marcus Prevatte; Suncoast, Mark Todd; Treasure Coast, Roy MacDonald; Seven Rivers, Mark Kann; Palm Beach, Steve Pearson; West Coast, Kevin Sunderman

Others attending the meeting were: Mike Goldie, Lobbyist; Jennifer Innes, Association Manager; Joel Jackson, FGCSA Executive Director; Joe Ondo, FGCSA Golf Committee Chair

Minutes of the FGCSA Summer 2008 Board Meeting were approved as written. Minutes of the FGCSA Annual Minutes were approved as written.

Government Relations – Mike Goldie updated the Board on the incoming Senate; there will be some new Democrats and Republicans in the Senate but the structure will remain intact. Although the Fertilizer Bill did not pass this past session, there will be some changes in the Legislature that could enable it to be re-presented in the next session. Need to continue working to get local governments to accept BMP's rather than different local restrictions. We need to continue to work with city and county government and allied groups (DEP) to alleviate non-source pollution. The state will have a budget shortfall this year and some of the DEP authority will be taken away. There will be additional taxes to balance the books as well as bond sell-out and state fees increasing. The FGCSA is planning a joint meeting with members of the FTGA

in Tallahassee to tour the legislature in the Spring.

Morgan Stanley account – Matt Taylor presented to the Board the Morgan Stanley financial statements. There were no surprises- the August statement (the latest available statement) did not reflect the current uncertainty in the market.

Treasurer's Report – Gary Myers presented to the Board the Publications and Operations budget reports for the first quarter. The budget is currently meeting its expected figures.

Executive Director Report - Water restrictions and allocations - South Florida WMD's rescinded the order on Phase 2 water restrictions. Clubhouse grounds and common landscape grounds are still subject to day of the week limitations. The district has let go many of the extra staff they hired for the drought management period, so for any questions permit holders are asked to contact local compliance managers. We are working hard to get the WMD's to modify their allocation methods to make more water available during drier winter-golf season. They are very leery of giving golf a perceived break due to the public belief golf is a big water user. But they are working behind the scenes with us to develop changes to the Blaney-Criddle model. Methyl-bromide – Joel has created a letter and forwarded it to the External VP's and Chapter presidents. He has also posted the letters the EPA Docket link on the FGCSA website – please use and forward to your local senators, congressmen and EPA Docket, and get members to send comments. October 30th is the deadline to make comments. Tim Hiers, as head of the Methyl Bromide task Group for GCSAA, will be asking for support to hire a consultant to help put pressure on EPA over REDs and CUE issues. The importance of uniting a fighting EPA on this is that if we do not raise the warning flags to Congress and

others over Methyl Bromide, we stand to get on a slippery slope of more and more regulation and removal of product use in the future. Media/Public Relations - Joel will investigate the possibility that the GCSAA might pay for (through their grant proposal for Education and Outreach) the \$110 dollar (\$440/year) for our ad in the Golf is our Game. In addition, the FGCSA website has been updated and Jennifer and Joel will be working to make the site more user friendly and investigating ways to incorporate the website into a potential revenue source working together with the magazine. The timing of the cover course selection for the Florida Green will be moved up so we can avoid hurricane season which can wreak havoc on our schedules.

Education Committee – Mark Kann handed out a schedule of all of the upcoming education opportunities. He also agreed to e-mail this schedule to the External VPs to distribute to the local chapters. There are many education opportunities available; FTGA conferences, GCSAA webcast, chapter sponsored events, etc. If your chapter sponsors an event, please let Mark Kann and the FGCSA office know so that it can be included on the calendar.

Research - Steve Pearson will create a packet showing all the current research proposals the FGCSA has funded and has committed to fund. A letter will accompany these packets requesting Chapters create a line item in their budgets making a commitment of research dollars to the FGCSA. Matt Taylor presented to the Board an opportunity to co-fund, along with the FTGA, the current Economic Impact Study. Wayne Kappuff motioned for the board to commit to co-funding the Economic Impact Study with a maximum commitment of \$24,000. The motion was approved. Matt Taylor will seek Industry partner support to help spread out the cost.

Awards – Nancy Miller presented a letter to the External VPs requesting awards

nominations. Award nominees are needed for the President's Award, Distinguished Service Award and the Marie Roberts Award. Please bring your nominees to the Winter Board Meeting.

Golf – The FGCSA Championship was a huge success. 49 Superintendents representing 7 chapters competed. Individual Gross Flight winner was Deron Zendt. Individual Net Flight winner was Dave Tandy. The Palm Beach team, consisting of Deron Zendt, Mark Henderson, Mark Heater and Steve Bernard, came in first. The following members will be notified that they have qualified to represent the FGCSA at the GCSAA Tournament in February: Deron Zendt, Steve Bernard, Seth Strickland, and Blair Kirby. Bob Harper will be the team alternate.

LRP – The Long Range Planning Committee met in September during the FTGA Conference & Show. One of the items discussed was to change the way dues are collected. Shane Bass presented a proposal in which all dues for members

Class A, SM, C, retired and lifetime would go through the FGCSA office. The FGCSA would then in turn pay the local chapters their portion of the dues. This would help to insure a consistent method of gathering member information and keeping track of membership statistics. This is merely in the presentation stage. Jennifer will create some bullet point for the Externals to bring to their Chapters and gain a feel for the type of support this procedural change will generate and how it might help chapters during the busy renewal season.

Membership - Wayne Kappauf presented the current membership data. Our numbers are currently only 9% down from last year's yearend total and only 3% down from this time last year. Class A's are down 3% and Class SM's are down 7%. Overall the numbers are consistent with the same time last year considering that club budgets are undergoing recent changes and cuts.

Fundraising – Tim Hiers is still finalizing his list of volunteer golf courses that will participate in the pilot program. Howard

and Harrell's fertilizer have agreed to be part of the 6 month trial. After the pilot period is over, all member courses and fertilizer companies will be invited to participate to help generate consistent funding for turf research. The idea – everyone gives a little based on how much fertilizer they purchase.

FTGA – The FTGA Regional Conferences will continue again next year. Keep a look out for a January 09 save the date card.

GCSAA – The GIS Conference and Show will take place in New Orleans Feb 2-7th. Hotel room reservations can currently be made via the GCSAA website. The FGCSA Reception will take place on Feb. 5th at the Riverview Room in The Shops in Jackson Brewery.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm. The Winter Board Meeting will be held in Orlando, January 16th at Disney's Osprey Ridge Golf Course.

UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Chemical Spill Response Training - One Day Program

Sponsored by UAP Professional Products
Contact Chris Pappas at (863) 287-5957
Plant City, FL November 4, 2008
Bradenton, FL November 5, 2008
Ft. Pierce, FL November 6, 2008
Sebring, FL November 12, 2008
Ocala, FL November 13, 2008
Sanford, FL November 14, 2008
Jacksonville, FL December 1, 2008
Bartow, FL December 2, 2008
Ft. Myers, FL December 3, 2008
Naples, FL December 4, 2008
Boynton Beach, FL December 5, 2008
0.70 education points

Developing Best Management Practices for Golf Course Water Conservation

Instructors: Dr. Robert Carrow and Dr. Clint Walt
Register at www.gcsaa.org
Port St. Lucie FL
November 12, 2008
0.70 education points

Localized Dry Spots on the Golf Course

Instructor: Dr. Keith Karnok
Register at www.gcsaa.org
Orlando FL
November 19, 2008 8am-12pm
0.35 education points

Managing Turfgrass Root Systems in the South

Instructor: Dr. Keith Karnok
Register at www.gcsaa.org
Orlando FL
November 19, 2008 1pm-5pm
0.35 education points

GCSAA Education Conference

Register at www.gcsaa.org
New Orleans, LA
February 4-7, 2009
Various education points available

Suncoast Grounds Management Seminar, Twin Lakes Park, Sarasota County

Register at www.scgcsa.org
November 6, 2008
0.60 education points

Please go to the GCSAA website at www.gcsaa.org for more information about on-line courses and webinars that are available to help you earn education points.

PALM BEACH WINS THE FGCSA GOLF TOURNAMENT AT SOUTHERN DUNES

49 superintendents representing 7 chapters teed it up on Saturday, September 27th at the Southern Dunes GC for the 12th Annual FGCSA Golf Championship. Southern Dunes has hosted the event since it began in 1996. Low score this year was a 70 and high score was a 116, proving that some folks play for fun and camaraderie. Prizes were awarded for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd individual Low Gross and Low Net. The winners were:

Individual Gross Flight

1st Deron Zendt (70)
2nd Jim Torba (71)
3rd Raphael Villegas

Individual Net Flight:

1st Dave Tandy
2nd Bob Boyan
(74) 3rd Glen Klauk

Team Gross

1st Palm Beach #1 (308) – Deron Zendt, Mark Henderson, Mark Heater, and Steve Bernard

Team Net

1st Central Florida (294) - Bob Boyan, Raphael Villegas, Joe Ondo and Jerry Yeoman

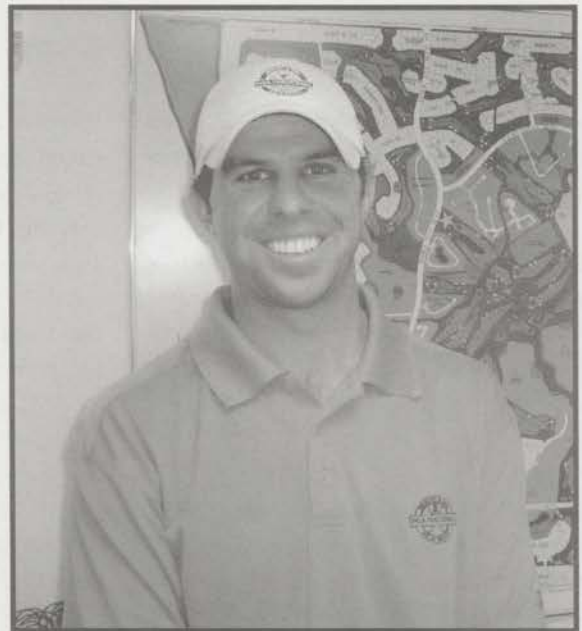
2008 GCSAA Golf Championships

The following members have qualified for the #1 FGCSA Golf Team at the 2009 GCSAA National Championship at Kiva Dunes Golf Club, Gulf Shores, Alabama, February 1-February 3.

Deron Zendt, FGCSA Championship
Steve Bernard, Crowfoot Open Champion
Seth Strickland, Poa Annu Classic Champion
Blair Kirby, FTGA Champion
Bob Harper, Alternate



Deron Zendt from the Banyan G.C. shot a score of 70 to win the Individual Trophy at the FGCSA Championships held at the Southern Dunes GC in Haines City on Sept 27th.



Congratulations to Blair Kirby one of the host superintendents at PGA National who won the FTGA Golf Tournament in September and a spot on the FGCA Team for the GCSAA Championship

GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry Show

February 2nd – 5th, New Orleans
FGCSA Reception Thursday, February 5th
Riverview Room, Jackson Brewery

Room Reservations are currently available on line at <http://www.gcsaa.org/conference/travel.asp>

There are a variety of hotels close to both the Convention Center and the Riverview Room located in the historic Jackson Brewery – the location of the FGCSA Reception on Thursday, Feb 5th. A map of the area is also available through the GCSAA website.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Innes at fgcsa@comcast.net or (772)334-7515.

August 1st – Housing Opened

October 1st – Conference and Show
Registration Opens to MEMBERS Only

October 1st – Tournament Registration
Opens

October 30th – Conference and Show
Registration Opens for non-members

February 1st-3 – National Championship & Golf Classic, Gulf Shores, AL

Jupiter: 888-222-7072
Lakeland: 800-330-8874

THANKS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

Golf Ventures would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your business in 2008! We know this has been a challenging year for the golf industry and we thank you for allowing us to partner with you and provide ultimate customer service through our Turf and Ornamental, Equipment, Parts and Service Divisions. We will continue to bring you quality products and competitive pricing for all your golf course needs.

Thanks again for the opportunity to deliver superior service and solutions to your course!



**HEY SUPT'S-MAKE SURE YOUR TECHNICIANS
ARE AWARE OF THIS SPECIAL EVENT**

Golf Ventures, Jacobsen and Kilpatrick are again hosting a 2 day technician's event to bring the Jacobsen Factory to Florida. This exclusive Jacobsen factory event is December 9th-10th at the Daytona International Speedway.

Two days of training on engine, electrical and hydraulic troubleshooting, preventive maintenance and more. This technical training event will help you improve the performance of your machines, your staff and your bottom line. For more details, call Debbie Nipper at 863-904-2178.

FGCSA
Jennifer Innes
1296 NE Oceanview Circle
Jensen Beach, Florida 34957

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Turfgrass Information Center
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