

THE GREEN SHEET



VOLUME XI, PART 4, JULY/AUGUST 1995

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION



Mickey Lovett, Chuck Buffington, David Warman, John Demaree, and John King from CIBA present a \$25,225 check to Scott Bell at the FGCSA Spring Board Meeting in Naples. See story on page 3.

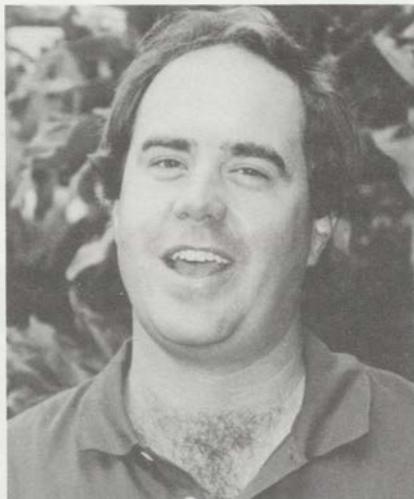
UPCOMING EVENTS

July 6	Everglades GCSA annual meeting, Quail West	July 26	Suncoast chapter meeting, Laurel Oak CC	Aug. 10	Treasure Coast GCSA meeting, Willoughby GC
July 11	GCSAA Regional Seminar co-sponsored by West Coast GCSA, Turfgrass Stress Management (pg. 3)	July 26	Treasure Coast annual meeting, Harbour Ridge	Aug. 15	Suncoast chapter meeting, University Park CC
July 17	SFGCSA Annual Meeting TPC at Eagle Trace	Aug. 4	FGCSA Lightning Safety Seminar, Bay Hill Club, 12:30 p.m. (See page 3)	Aug. 21	West Coast GCSA Pro/Supt. at Lansbrook GC
July 17	West Coast GCSA meeting Countryside CC	Aug. 7	Crowfoot Open, Bay Hill Club, 9:00 a.m.	Sept. 19	Suncoast GCSA Pro/Supt at Plantation G&CC
July 19	PBGCSA Annual Meeting The Hamlet CC	Aug. 8	NFGCSA chapter meeting, GC of Amelia Island	Sept. 24-27	FTGA 43rd Annual Conference & Show, Tampa
July 21-23	North Florida Transition Tournament, Palm Coast	Aug. 8	Everglades chapter meeting Heron Glenn CC	Oct. 5	GCSAA Regional Seminar co-sponsored by FGCSA, Integrated Pest Management, Naples

President's Message by Scott Bell

I recently had a conversation with a friend of mine about the changes in golf course technology in the past 10 to 15 years. I commented that with the help of my computer-controlled irrigation system, I felt that I looked great throughout April, May and June despite drought conditions and most days above 90 degrees. My friend commented back that with the higher technology comes higher expectations. My friend's father was once a golf course superintendent and he said that his father still reads the trade magazines and that he can not believe some of the technology now available.

During the summer I mow my fairways with a Parkmaster with 11 bladed reels. Six years ago it was an acceptable cut for fairways all year round. Since the advent of the lightweight mowers, I would not think of mowing fairways with the Parkmaster during the winter. Our expectations have been heightened. New equipment, new seed, new chemicals have brought better conditions but has it reduced our workload? I wonder about this. To be sure, innovations in irrigation have made most of our lives easier,



Scott Bell

particularly at night. I think that other innovations have complicated our lives. If this were not true then we would probably see more superintendents at superintendent meetings!

We now need more people to mow fairways with the lightweights and we probably have a higher rate of hydraulic leaks. The good news is that the quality is better. While we have to sacrifice here at Bent Pine by pushing the staff harder or having management staff help out with the mowing, etc., we have pro-

duced a better product. This becomes dangerous when the membership expects a better product but they can not get it because of weather, budget shortfalls, or mistakes. The other danger occurs when the club next door gets this technology and you don't. This can be turned into a positive if you are trying to purchase some of that new technology yourself. You must tell your golfers that Club X has the new Mow-a-matic and that's why they look better. After you spend the money on the Mow-a-matic, you must then duplicate the conditions at Club X. If this does not happen, you have some explaining to do.

There have been quite a lot of job changing and people moving around. People have been let go for some bad reasons. Some have been weather related problems, others may have been too high expectations. Golf is probably more popular than ever. We have done a great job of conditioning golf courses to resemble the souped up courses on tour each week. We have ABC, NBC, CBS, ESPN, USA and now the Golf Channel to tell us how our courses should look. We have to constantly strive to improve. What was once great for the Member-Guest is now expected every day. What was OK for this year's Member-Guest may be the conditioning expected every day in five years.

My brother called last night from Colorado. He is an avid golfer but does appreciate the superintendent's role. Colorado recently had a very wet and cold spring. Worse than most years and most year's springs in Colorado are not very good. My brother's town got 9" of rain in May (yearly average is 15 to 20" and most of that is snow), the city course flooded and water stood on top of the bentonite clay fairways for days turning the Kentucky Bluegrass orange. My brother asked if the grass was dead and what would they do to make the grass green again. I jokingly replied that they would aerify, fertilize and fire the superintendent. My naive brother replied, "Why? It is not his fault it rained."

I love my brother's logical thinking. Unfortunately many golfers aren't that logical or they have short memories. Keep promoting yourself and the industry!

THE GREEN SHEET

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

Deadline next issue, August 15.

Ciba Program Generates \$25,225 for FGCSA Research Fund

Ciba Turf and Ornamental Products representatives presented a check from the 1994 On-The-Green Program to the FGCSA at their recent board meeting in Naples. The 1994 check of \$25,225 exceeded by 20% the 1993 check of \$20,925. Florida Sod Growers Association has made similar donations from this Ciba program to the Florida Turfgrass Research Foundation. The total donations for 1994 including golf and sod is \$41,300. The three year total generated by this program is \$76,750.

304 FGCSA superintendents enrolled in the 1994 Ciba On-The-Green Program. This was almost double the enrollment in 1993. Of these, 118 courses qualified for the donation by making a \$2,000 minimum purchase of Ciba products between October 1, 1994 and September 30, 1995. The FGCSA thanks Ciba and all the Florida superintendents who took the time to enroll in this program.

The listing of contributing superintendents and courses is available in the FGCSA office. If you have not enrolled in the program and feel that your course is qualified, please call the FGCSA.



ATTENTION ALL PROSPECTIVE GREEN SHEET ADVERTISERS

The annual sponsorship of the Green Sheet is up for renewal at the FGCSA Board Meeting in August. All companies interested in sponsoring a complete year (six issues) of the Green Sheet should contact Marie Roberts at 1-800-732-6053 before July 25th to make arrangements to submit your bid. Sorry, only full year bids will be accepted.

1995 Crowfoot Open

The 1995 Crowfoot Open will be played on Monday, August 7th at the Bay Hill Club in Orlando. The weekend gets off to an early start with the FGCSA sponsored Lightning Safety seminar scheduled for 12:30 p.m. on Friday. The FGCSA will hold its summer board meeting at 1:00 p.m. followed by the Annual Board Meeting at 4:00 p.m. All FGCSA members are invited to attend.

On Sunday, practice rounds are available at a reduced rate and the annual banquet begins with cocktails at 6:00 p.m. The FGCSA Distinguished Service Award and the Presidents Awards for Lifetime Service will be presented after the 7:00 p.m. dinner. Monday's Crowfoot Open starts off with complimentary breakfast at the Clubhouse in preparation for the 8:00 a.m. shotgun start. Deadline for entry forms is July 20th and can be obtained from your External VicePresident or the FGCSA office.



1995 Poa Results

The 1995 Poa Classic was won by Jim Osburn of Cape Coral CC who becomes the first superintendent to qualify for the FGCSA team in the GCSAA Golf Championship. Jim shot a fine 68, four strokes ahead of Willoughby GC's Kevin Downing who had to settle for second place. Jim's fine score was the catalyst for the Everglades chapter to regain the trophy in the chapter team category.

Mike Swinson, superintendent at Cypress Run G&CC in the Seven Rivers chapter, took low net honors with a 62 while the low vendor was Dickie Harrell with a gross 73.

The weekend was a complete success from the well attended and informative educational seminar on Emergency Response presented by the FGCSA on Friday afternoon all the way through to the G. C. Horn Tournament on Sunday. Once again, the Naples Beach Hotel and the Everglades chapter hosted a great weekend for all of us!

Two Upcoming Seminars offer GCSAA CEU's

Florida superintendents will have two opportunities within the next two months to gain CEU's for GCSAA Certification with local seminars offered on Tuesday, July 11th in St. Petersburg and on Friday, August 4th in Orlando.

The West Coast GCSA is co-sponsoring a GCSAA Regional Seminar at the Stouffer Vinoy Resort on July 11. The topic for this .7 CEU all day seminar will be Turfgrass Stress Management. Participants will examine ways to prevent and minimize turfgrass stress by learning to assess the effectiveness of their cultural systems; understanding the relationship between turf environmental stress and its response to pests and pesticide; and will learn to appreciate the importance of a strategy that reflects the interrelationships between cultural management, the environment, and course use. Dr. Joseph DiPaola's Turfgrass Stress Management seminar is one of the required courses for the IPM specialization of GCSAA's Environmental Management Program.

On Friday, August 4th, the FGCSA will sponsor a Lightning Safety seminar at the Bay Hill Club in Orlando. Participants will learn the basic elements of lightning safety — to detect, to alert, to shelter and to educate. Superintendents will learn to protect their golfers by designing a shelter for the course, study the safety codes and standards and receive a demonstration of the types of equipment available to protect the trees on the course as well as the golfers and crew. The .5 CEU seminar will be held from 12:30 to 6:00 p.m. with a \$35.00 registration fee. You do not have to play in the Crowfoot Tournament to register for the seminar.

We are looking for good participation from superintendents in the central and northern part of the state. Mark your calendar now. Registration forms and directions are available by calling the FGCSA office at 1-800-732-6053.

The Spring 1995 meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Scott Bell at 7:30 a.m. at the Naples Beach Club. Dale Kuehner, Secretary/Treasurer was unable to attend. All chapters except North Florida were represented.

Other FGCSA members attending the meeting were Kevin Downing - Research Committee Chairman, Joel Jackson - Florida Green editor, and Garth Boline - West Coast chapter Vice President, and Gary Grigg - GCSAA President. Pat Jones, GCSAA Public Relations was also in attendance.

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Since Dale Kuehner was unable to attend, Scott Bell presented the minutes from the Winter 1995 board meeting for approval. Minutes were approved.

Paul Crawford made a motion to table any budget discussions until the Summer Board Meeting at which time Dale will present the final 1995-96 budget for approval. Motion was approved.

Paul Crawford presented the 1995-96 Florida Green budget. The budget was approved. \$5,000 will be transferred from the Florida Green account to the FGCSA Operating Account to cover expenses. A discussion was held on the line item in the FGCSA Operating Budget that called for a \$5,000 donation to the FGCSA Research Fund. After a discussion, it was decided that the Research Fund is solvent and that the \$5,000 should remain in the Operating Fund.

A discussion was held regarding the IRS crackdown on Not for Profit Corporations. The GCSAA feels that even though a chapter donates their advertising profits to research, they may still be liable for taxes in the future. It was noted that the Florida Green pays no office expenses or overhead which would directly affect the "on paper" profit. Paul Crawford made a motion to transfer \$10,000 from the Florida Green Fund and place it in a C.D. for tax/accounting purposes.

Directors and Officers Insurance. As

requested at the FGCSA winter board meeting, we have solicited a bid for this type of insurance that would cover all FGCSA board members. The GCSAA will require this type of insurance for all affiliated chapters in the near future. The FGCSA has received a bid from one of the companies that is currently negotiating with the GCSAA. Since it was unclear how long it would take for the GCSAA to be able to present a package to its chapters, it was decided that the FGCSA should purchase a one year policy not to exceed \$1,500. It was also suggested that Marie Roberts check to make sure the policy would cover all local chapter officers, not just the FGCSA board members. The policy would be paid for through the Florida Green account. The motion was approved.

Kevin Downing noted that besides the monetary contributions that have been made to the Research Fund, there have been several donations of equipment and services from various suppliers and golf courses. He would like to see some type of recognition be given to all..

At this point, Scott Bell introduced Mickey Lovett, Chuck Buffington, John Demaree, David Warman and John King from CIBA who presented a demonstration check for \$25,225 to the FGCSA for their share of the 1994 CIBA end user, On-the-Green Program. This amount is greater than the 1993 program donation and Mickey expects the program to continue to grow. The total funds generated by the CIBA program for 1994 were \$41,300. When the actual check is received, it will be placed in the FGCSA Research Fund.

OLD BUSINESS: Scott noted thank you letters from the Musser Foundation and the Lake City Community College for our \$1,000 donations. Kevin Downing reported that LCCC is again re-evaluating their program to generate quality graduates.

AWARDS: The FGCSA Executive Council has received this year's nominations for Distinguished Service Award which will be presented at the Crowfoot

dinner in August. Three Presidents Awards for Lifetime Service will also be awarded: Paul Frank, Everglades chapter; Billy Wright, Palm Beach chapter; and Mike Barger, South Florida chapter.

FLORIDA GREEN: Joel Jackson presented a plan for a Florida Green photo contest. The board approved his plan after doubling the prize money involved. Joel also presented the cover and topic suggestions for future issues of the magazine. He reminded all External Vice Presidents to send in their golf course nominations for future covers as listed on the outline.

EDUCATION: It was announced that pre-registration for the Poa seminar was very strong at close to 70 members. The topic is Emergency Response and should be a very impressive seminar. A discussion was held on the upcoming Crowfoot seminar. This seminar has been poorly attended in the past so this year it will be held on Friday before the tournament to try to encourage attendance by local superintendents in the Orlando area. The original thought was to have lightning as the topic but Scott Bell reported that the speaker would probably be too expensive in light of the lower attendance expected. He suggested delaying this topic to the Poa next year.

It was announced that the FGCSA would again co-sponsor a Regional GCSAA Seminar. This year it will be held in Naples sometime in the fall. The West Coast GCSA is also co-sponsoring a GCSAA Regional Seminar on Turfgrass Stress Management. It will be held on July 11 at the Stouffer Vinoy Resort.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE: Pat Jones of the GCSAA reported that they would be developing a Guide for Crisis/Media Response that would include tips, key contacts, group affiliations, and "canned answers" that could be used by superintendents in an emergency. The flip chart concept as envisioned by Mike Bailey will be considered unless the cost is prohibitive. The guide will be piloted jointly by the FGCSA and the GCSAA with an option

for other chapters to participate. GCSAA will provide a "generic package" and then the local chapter will have a specific package to insert that would include local contacts and other pertinent information. Pat will get a bid from the GCSAA printer and get back to the committee for help with the cost and with a distribution plan.

Training for Emergency Response was discussed. There are two avenues that will be used; the overall training for a large group such as will be done at today's seminar and individualized training for key people. Florida will be used as the pilot for this program.

Pat then discussed other GCSAA Public Relations Programs. The GCSAA will fund the Audubon School Program beginning July 1, 1996. Treasure Coast and Everglades GCSA already have these programs in place. They stress proactive community involvement and fits in as a tool for superintendent to use to advance their image.

Par-for-the-Course will continue as negotiations are progressing with ESPN for better time slots next year. Gary Grigg noted that they have received good sponsor support and are pleased with this program. The GCSAA is working on 5 minute videos on turf maintenance problems to be available soon. The Golf Channel was discussed. Other help that is available from the GCSAA includes literature on Reducing risk of pesticide usage and environmental principles. Pat distributed the GCSAA Chapter Business Plan and suggested that chapters call the GCSAA for further information on any public relations matter.

FTGA: Alan Puckett reported on the two turf positions that have recently been filled at the University of Florida. He also announced the addition of Stacey Funk as office manager for the FTGA. Mitchell Lambert will continue to handle public relations for the FTGA and, if it is decided to hire an Executive Director in the future, the position will be for fund raising only and be on commission basis. He discussed the decision by the

FTGA Board to sell the present office building due to its extensive upkeep and to rent office space in the Orlando area as a way of reducing overhead. He stated that the FTGA Board has voted to reserve \$30,000 for co-sponsorship of the DNA project with the FGCSA.

RESEARCH: DNA PROJECT

INTRODUCTION: Kevin Downing began the discussion of the DNA project by stating that he has spent many hours talking with researchers and superintendents on the different and sometimes confusing analysis of turfgrass from several different perspectives. Techniques are not that difficult but the interpretation of the data is almost more important than the technique. He feels that we should approve the University of Florida proposal with Dr. David Huff acting in some sort of an advisory capacity. Since Dr. Guy was included in the second proposal, Dr. Huff's role was diminished. University protocol notwithstanding, Kevin feels that Dr. Huff is extremely knowledgeable and that he should be involved. Kevin also suggested a system of checks and balance to see that work is progressing and to be sure that we have an out if it is not going as we expect. He suggested that Kevin, Phil Busey and David Barnes should be equally involved in the management of the grant funds.

UTILIZATION OF THE DNA RESEARCH: This research would be an important tool for the Certification Program. The previous Department of Agriculture Certification Inspection was discussed. The current Certification program is operated by the FTGA, not the state DOA. The state could do the policing but we must set the criteria and techniques for identification. The new certification process will provide assurance that the grass has gone through a procedure to at least address the problems. It will set procedures for sod growers and producers. Will the Certification add to the cost? Yes. Other states are looking at the Florida program. It is not a "Right Now" project. Offshoots can come from this. Tech-

niques and comparison of methods were discussed: RAPD and DAF. The University of Tennessee owns the DAF program. Mike Mongoven noted that the general perception that DNA will solve problems right away is incorrect. He questioned the two methods. Kevin stated that all the university people he has spoken with agree that the DNA approach gives the best Certification program. The utilization of DNA will help validate the ability to have an effective certification program. Chromosome count and morphological studies are not enough. The Georgia Certification program does not use DNA. Everybody wants grass identification. The DNA research is a two year project. However, Kevin urged the board members to be aware that after the research has been completed, it will take another 2 to 4 years to evaluate the research and implement using the information in the best possible way.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DNA RESEARCH: Kevin reported on the two grass samples from Willoughby GC in 1989 that were sent to the U of F to be analyzed. The results were very close morphologically, but not physically close (golfers notice the difference!) Kevin distributed the U of F report.

Kevin suggested a field review with John Foy, Nigel Harrison and Phil Busey should take place before the research begins. The % of fairway vs. greens was discussed. Need to be concerned with the split. Putting surfaces are most important. These details need to be worked out. Both 419 and Tifdwarf will be covered by the program. Once we are about 6 or 7 months into the program, we will contact the Florida growers to discuss the early progress of the research.

At the end of the discussion, a motion was made to approve the DNA proposal for the two year program at a 50/50 split with the FTGA. The total cost is approximately \$66,000 with \$59,000 for first year and \$14,000 for the second. All equipment brought for the program would be transferred to the DNA lab at a later date. Kevin Downing, Phil Busey

and David Barnes would monitor the program. The motion was approved.

FOLLOW UP: Florida now has Floratex. Flora dwarf will be next spring. Dollars are accumulated by the Certification program. Royalties may make the program self-supporting in the future. Kevin mentioned that we should establish a joint effort to see where these dollars should go. David Barnes suggested that the FTGA and FGCSA should combine to form a joint Research Committee to handle any substantial royalties.

Other Research Projects. Kevin Downing reported that the Research Committee is eager to begin a putting speed study and Dr. Monica Elliott is currently working on a budget for this project. Kevin also noted that the research facility is in need of more equipment and he will continue to be sure that their needs are met. He again noted that several suppliers and superintendents have donated equipment and services to the facility so that the financial burden on the FGCSA has been reduced.

MEMBERSHIP: The board was asked to vote on the status of four At Large Membership Applications. It was decided to approve the applications from Ron Tyler, Mike Echols and Jeff Ball, all of whom work in the Tallahassee and Panhandle area. The board decided to reject the application from James DeReuil who works in Georgia. The original intent states that the At Large applicant must be a Florida superintendent. His application and check will be returned with a note explaining the qualifications for membership.

A discussion was held as to the qualifications to be a Class A member. The FGCSA By Laws follow the GCSAA guidelines which state that a Class A member shall have at least three (3) years experience as a golf course superintendent and be employed in such capacity. Traditionally, the FGCSA does not have a Class C member; therefore Class B members include assistant superintendents and all superintendents who do not qualify for Class A status.

At this time there was another discussion about a dues increase for 1996. Greg Plotner noted that it would be advantageous to keep dues down so that more superintendents will be able to join the association. He noted that budgetary items can be met if all local chapters continue to hold fund raisers and shuttle some of these funds into the FGCSA operating budget. It was decided that as long as we have the cooperation of the local chapters, we will not need to have an FGCSA dues increase in 1996. Dues will remain at \$60.00 per member.

CERTIFICATION: Jim Miller addressed the issue of certified golf course superintendents who are currently working as sales representatives. Gary Grigg noted that the GCSAA is working on this issue. Ethics questions were also discussed.

CROWFOOT: Joe Ondo reported that this year's Crowfoot Tournament will be played on Monday, August 7th at the Bay Hill Club with an 8:00 a.m. shotgun start. The Crowfoot dinner will be held on Sunday night at a cost of \$40.00 for extra tickets. Golf entry forms were distributed to all External Vice Presidents. Extra copies can be obtained from the FGCSA office.

GOLF: Joe Ondo had no report except to state that this year's GCSAA Golf Tournament was very well done and they are looking for an even bigger and better event in Florida next year.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: Mike Mongoven reported that Steve Dwinell has begun preparations to write his Best Management Practices for Maintenance Facilities. It was noted that one of the Florida regulatory agencies has already written a pamphlet on this subject and Gary Grigg noted that the GCSAA is also involved in similar projects.

Mike discussed water issues and pesticide sensitivity problems. He also suggested that Mike Goldie be invited to all FGCSA Board Meetings to give

an update to the board. He distributed a listing from the DEP about their Workshops that have been planned for the week of May 22nd. External Vice Presidents were urged to get someone to attend. Other topics covered by Mike and Gary were water management representatives and worker protection regulations that include sod and nursery areas.

GCSAA: Central Florida members have been selected to serve on the GCSAA Show Committee for 1996. Paul Crawford expects this year's reception to be the biggest!

SURVEY: The 1995 survey was discussed. It was decided that we should continue to do this survey only every two years.

MISCELLANEOUS: Scott Bell reported that he has been approached several times by the promoters of the Golf Course News Exposition with an offer of a meeting room at the Orlando Convention Center during the time of their Exposition. Scott noted that we normally hold our Fall board meeting during the FTGA Convention which is usually held in September and comes too quickly after the Crowfoot meeting. After some discussion, it was decided to turn them down on their offer. An appropriate time and place for the Fall meeting will be set by the new FGCSA President after the Annual Meeting.

Scott also mentioned that Tim Hiers has requested that the FGCSA support Michael Coffman in his effort to begin an environmental newsletter. After some discussion, it was decided that this was not the function of the FGCSA and the request was denied.

Scott noted the formation of a Greens Industry Coalition that is composed of delegates from many associations in the turfgrass field, as well as regulators and university personnel. The FGCSA is a member of the Coalition which meets twice a year. Scott asked that a line item be placed in this year's budget to cover the cost of providing lunch for the Coalition during one of the 1996 meetings. The motion was approved.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

FGCSA Congratulates Newly Certified Florida Superintendents

Winfield Yount, superintendent at Suntree Country Club, has the distinction of having spent his entire ten year plus career in turfgrass management at one club! How many other Florida superintendents can say that?

Winfield started at Suntree CC working in maintenance of the common grounds. Then in 1985, when Steve Wright needed an Assistant, Winfield got the job. He continued working for Steve until 1989 when Steve took a position at Alaquia. Winfield was promoted to Superintendent and continues to enjoy working for this equity club.

He urges all superintendents to get involved with the GCSAA certification program. He contends that there are many good points to the program but he feels the most important is that it promotes credibility with the people you work for, especially equity clubs.

Prentis Knotts has worked for the Club Corporation of America for the past 17 years. CCA is an international company that has been managing golf courses since 1957 and employs 40,000 people today. Prentis has been superintendent at clubs in Texas and Arizona before moving to Florida in 1991 to become superintendent at Eagle Creek in Naples.

Texas-bred Prentis actually has a degree in education and music from the Sam Houston State University. But after "starving as a teacher for a few years", he turned to golf course management and his first love, golf. He had been involved in grounds management so the turn to golf course management was a natural.

Prentis has been active in various superintendents associations. He served two terms as President of the Arizona GCSA while serving as superintendent at

Redmont Ranch and is now the immediate Past President of the Everglades GCSA. Prentis has recently moved to the West Coast chapter to become superintendent at Tampa Palms G&CC.



ATTENTION All FGCSA Members

All chapter secretaries are currently involved in collecting annual dues. Please help them do their jobs by sending in your dues check today. If you would like to have your fax number included in the 1996 FGCSA Membership Directory, please call the FGCSA office.

The FGCSA office is also accepting advertisements for the 1996 FGCSA Membership Directory. All suppliers are urged to call the office if you have not placed your ad.

North Florida GCSA Hosts Informative Chapter Meeting

The May meeting of the North Florida GCSA featured a presentation by FTGA Vice President, Gerry Millholen. Also providing input were former FTGA presidents Nick Dennis and Wayne Sloan along with IFAS representative Harold Jones.

While most of the audience was familiar with the FTGA's turfshow and conference, Millholen provided a brief historical overview and an update of recent FTGA accomplishments. Since 1983, the FTGA has donated 1.2 million dollars in research funds to the U of F, and this figure does not include the impressive Envirotron which opened in 1993. The FTGA funded 1994 turfgrass survey provides tangible proof of the tremendous impact turfgrass has on Florida's economy. The FTGA is also spearheading the turf certification program to help ensure the genetic purity of the state's turfgrass.

Millholen noted that the industry is getting more demanding, sighting the need for the FTGA and FGCSA to have a lobbyist in Tallahassee since 1992. He also stressed the importance of coordinating the efforts of affiliated associations such as the PGA and the Club Managers Association.

The North Florida chapter would like to thank all those hard working people of the FTGA. The chapter will continue to support their efforts and hopefully spread the word on the benefits of an FTGA membership.



Harold Jones, Gerry Millholen, Nick Dennis, and Wayne Sloan update North Florida members on FTGA activities.



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FGCSA and Florida Turfgrass Association co-fund University of Florida DNA Research Project

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