

THE GREEN SHEET



VOLUME XIII, PART 1, JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1997

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan. 6 West Coast chapter meeting, The Eagles CC, Odessa
- Jan. 7-10 North Carolina Turfgrass Conference and Show, Charlotte, NC
- Jan. 13 Central Florida chapter 9th Annual Research Golf Tournament, Interlachen CC
- Jan. 14 South Florida chapter meeting, Doral Silver, Miami
- Jan. 15 Palm Beach chapter meeting, Emerald Dunes GC, Palm Beach
- Jan. 21 Assistant Superintendent Seminar, Indian River Community College
- Jan. 21 FTGA Research Foundation Regional Conference, Polish American Club of Lake Worth
- Jan. 22 FTGA Regional Conference, Knights of Columbus Hall, Fort Myers
- Jan. 23 FTGA Regional Conference, Postal Workers Hall, Tampa Bay
- Jan. 23 Treasure Coast chapter meeting, Windsor GC, Vero Beach
- Jan. 24 FTGA Regional Conference, Seminole Community College, Sanford
- Jan. 24 FGCSA Winter Board Meeting, Orlando
- Jan. 24-25 Jacksonville Horticultural Trade Show, Agricultural Fairgrounds
- Jan. 24-27 PGA Merchandise Show, Orange County Convention Center
- Jan. 30 Assistants Day at Palm Beach Community College
- Feb. 6-7 Weed Management Workshop, Clarion Hotel, Orlando
- Feb. 4-12 GCSAA Conference and Show, Las Vegas Convention Center
- Feb. 9 FGCSA Reception, Ballys Hotel, Las Vegas
- Feb. 24 Central Florida chapter meeting, Vendor/Superintendent Tournament Alaqua GC, Longwood
- Feb. 25 West Coast chapter meeting, Largo Municipal GC
- March 3 Sixth Annual Ridge GCSA Invitational, The Grasslands CC
- Mar 7-8 Spring Horticulture Show, Florida State Fairgrounds, Tampa
- Mar. 13 University of Florida Field Day/SFGCSA Expo, Ft. Lauderdale
- Mar. 27 University of Florida Overseed Mini Field Day, Gainesville
- Apr. 14 USGA Conference, Orlando Airport Marriott
- Apr. 17 USGA, Palm Beach Gardens

GCSAA



Las Vegas

GCSAA's 68th International
Golf Course
Conference and Show
February 6-12, 1997
Las Vegas Convention Center
Trade Show: February 10-12

President's Message by Dale Kuehner, CGCS

Now that the holidays are behind us we have the GCSAA Conference & Show to look forward to in February. There seems to be a disturbing trend taking place at the annual show every year. Bylaw changes.

First, I want to say that I strongly support GCSAA affiliation and the bylaw changes that have taken place in the past couple of years. But after two years of trying to get our chapters affiliated and having changed our bylaws and our local chapter's bylaws, we are looking at possibly more bylaw changes.

I am having reservations concerning the new C/C-V membership class that is being proposed. The new classification would allow assistants with three or more years of experience to voluntarily become voting members, and raise their dues back to Class A, B levels. This would also mean that they must conform to the same dual membership requirements that Class A and B members have. This would probably also mean that

local chapters will have to amend their bylaws saying that this voluntary class of assistants must be members of both the chapter and GCSAA after July 1997.

I do not know about the rest of the country, but I do not want to have to change our bylaws again. Even if the local chapters do not have to change their bylaws, it is definitely going to complicate things for them.

Last year GCSAA members voted overwhelmingly to remove voting rights and lower dues for Class C members. This also had the effect of exempting them from GCSAA dual membership requirements. The result of this has been an explosion in the growth of Class C members in GCSAA in the past year. Some chapters were not happy with this bylaw change and strongly opposed it at last year's conference. They stated that it was a slap in the face of the career assistants in their chapters. While it may be true that some assistants were not happy about the change, the numbers show that most assistants like it. The chapters that opposed the change the most were also the chapters that have always required Class A, B and C members to also be GCSAA members.



Dale Kuehner, CGCS

As an outsider to these chapters it is hard not to say that politics has not entered into their strong opposition of this bylaw. I imagine that taking the vote away from Class C members hurt these chapters' delegates voting strength more than other chapters. Maybe this is the real reason behind the push to add this new classification. I think the argument that this is a slap in the face to assistants is unfounded. Assistants still have a voice in local chapter politics. While assistants have lost the right to vote in GCSAA, they still vote in most, if not all, local chapters. Since better than 90% of all votes cast at the conference are done by chapter delegates, assistants can influence their local chapter voting delegates on how to vote for issues that concern them.

This topic, along with the rest of the GCSAA bylaw amendments (see page 7 of this Green Sheet) and candidates, will be on the agenda for our January FGCSA board meeting. I welcome any comments or opinions on this or any other issue you would like to discuss.

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: February 15.



In Memory

John P. Hayden, Certified Golf Course Superintendent and 1991 recipient of the FGCSA President's Award for Lifetime Service died Saturday, December 14, 1996, following a lengthy illness.

John attended Michigan State University and South Bend College of Commerce. He began his turfgrass career in Michigan where he leased and ran a nine-hole facility. The whole Hayden family was involved in the business, with John sending his young son, Jeff, out to mow fairways at a tender age. John later moved to Florida to take positions at Coral Springs, Inverrary and then on to Augusta National. He returned to Florida to become superintendent at Jacksonville Beach GC and spent five years at San Jose CC in Jacksonville.

In addition to his work on the golf courses, John made the time to serve his fellow superintendent in various organizations. John was a long standing member and past president of the North Florida GCSA chapter and was a member of both the FTGA and GCSAA Board of Directors.

The family has asked that in lieu of flowers, donations should be made to the FGCSA Research Fund. The officers and directors of the FGCSA would like to join with all Florida superintendents in sending condolences to the Hayden family on their loss.

FTGA Seminars

The FTGA has finalized plans for their FTGA Research Foundation Regional Conferences. The all day Conferences will be held the week of January 21st with plenty of Florida pesticide core CEU's and good education for all who attend. Each Conference will have different speakers but the same topics will be covered at each site.

Speakers include Dr. Rick Brandenburg, Professor of Entomology, North Carolina State University; Dr. Don Short, University of Florida; Burt McKee, V.P. Environmental & Regulatory Services, United Horticultural Supply; Gene Joiner, Palm Beach County Extension Agent or Celeste White, Orange County Extension Agent; Geri Cashion, FMC Corporation; Bill Sisley, Manager, Technical Services/Equipment, LESCO; and Erica Santella, Regional Technical Manager, Tru Green Chem Lawn.

Topics include Weed ID and Control; Insects/Diseases in Ornamentals and Palms; Equipment Safety; Effective Insect Management in Turfgrass; and An Overview of Operation Clean Sweep.

SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, Jan. 21
American Polish Club, Lake Worth

Wednesday, Jan. 22
Knights of Columbus Hall, Fort Myers

Thursday, Jan. 23
Postal Workers Union Hall, Tampa

Friday, Jan. 24
Seminole Community College, Sanford

The Conferences are approved for three (3) L & O and two (2) Core CEU's towards the renewal of Pest Control Operators, Restricted Use Pesticide Applicator licenses, and Commercial Lawn & Ornamental licenses. In addition .5 CEU's have been approved by the GCSAA for credits toward certification renewal requirements only.

Pre-Registration is \$20.00 before January 8th. The seminars begin with registration at 7:30 a.m. and will adjourn at 2:00 p.m. For registration information, please call the FTGA at 1-800-882-6721.

The Fall 1996 meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Dale Kuehner, CGCS, at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, November 15th, at Bonnet Creek in Orlando.

All officers were in attendance. All chapters except Coastal Plains chapter were represented.

Other FGCSA members attending the meeting were Garth Boline - West Coast GCSA President; Kevin Rotti - Central Florida GCSA President; Past Presidents Scott Bell, Kevin Downing and Mark Jarrell; Committee Chairman Steve Pearson and consultant Mike Goldie

Minutes of the Summer 1996 FGCSA Board Meeting were approved.

Michael Perham presented the FGCSA Financial Statements for the first quarter. He noted that he will be sending a memo to all chapters requesting their intended schedule of donations for this fiscal year to cover the \$25,000 figure that is included in the budget.

GCSAA AFFILIATION/CHAPTER INCORPORATION: All chapters received their Florida Incorporation papers and signed checks that need to be forwarded to the Florida Department of State. Each chapter will then receive notice from the Department of State that they are approved as a Non Profit Corporation. The fees for this Incorporation have been paid by the FGCSA.

Next, all chapters received a copy of the amended affiliation agreement between the local chapters and the FGCSA. Dale Kuehner asked that they be signed by chapter president and secretary and returned to the FGCSA office before the Winter board meeting. All chapters are expected to sign these agreements to keep the Florida superintendents united under one umbrella. The agreement will serve to formalize our status for any further IRS audits.

Dale spoke briefly about the GCSAA Affiliation Agreements. The FGCSA has fulfilled all the requirements and has

received a Certificate from the GCSAA noting that we are an Affiliated Chapter of the GCSAA. He urged all chapters to sign the Affiliation Agreement with the GCSAA and again asked if any chapters were not sure they were going to affiliate. Only Seven Rivers chapter replied that they are still undecided.

In a related discussion, Dale reported that under Anti Trust Laws chapters are not allowed to refuse membership to any superintendent working in their chapter's area. If you interfere with a superintendent seeking employment you leave the chapter open for a law suit.

PUBLICATIONS: Marie Roberts reported that the 1997 FGCSA Membership Directory should be mailed to all members next week. The Directory will again show a good profit.

Since neither Joel Jackson or Paul Crawford were at the meeting, Dale reported that we have not heard from the IRS regarding our UBIT appeal. It could take as long as six months for the IRS to make a ruling. Dale also reported that Paul Crawford opposes any increase in Florida Green ad rates at this time until the audit appeal is resolved. Scott Bell announced that he is doing an article on management companies for the next issue of the Florida Green and invited input from any board member.

EDUCATION: A discussion was held on the large number of GCSAA Regional Seminars that are being held in Florida this year. It was reported that the seminar held in Clearwater did meet its guarantee and that the December 5th seminar in Orlando looks like it will also have enough attendance. Concern was noted about the December 12th seminar in Jacksonville because very few superintendents can justify two seminars in one week. It was felt that chapters need to coordinate their dates and topics so that they can be spread out more evenly throughout the year. It was suggested that the FGCSA Education Chairman should be contacted as soon as a chapter decides to sponsor a seminar in the future. The Education Chairman will then

keep a list of dates and topics. Roy Bates noted that the FGCSA is considering sponsoring a GCSAA Regional Seminar on one of the days before or during their Show this year. Kevin Downing reported that the GCSAA is evaluating the quality of all its regional seminars and offers assistance in promoting the seminars once they have been booked by the chapters.

MEMBERSHIP: Discussion was held regarding those chapters who have gone down in membership numbers this year. Darren Davis reported that even though Everglades is lower than last year their paid membership stands at about the same as in past years. Last year their board decided to prepay for members but it turned out that many of those superintendents failed to actually join their chapter. That policy has been removed, resulting in lower numbers.

All chapters were reminded to keep submitting names of those superintendents who join throughout the year, preferably on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. The GCSAA Dual Membership requirement was discussed. Some chapters are considering making another Classification that would be for those superintendents who choose not to join the GCSAA but want to join the local chapter. They can not be classified as Class A or B but may still join the chapter if another classification is established. Dale Kuehner urged all chapters to go on a membership drive before the July deadline so that all members who join before July are Grandfathered in and may be classified as Class A or B without joining the GCSAA. Of course Dale did urge all chapters to encourage their members to become GCSAA members.

GOLF: Joe Ondo reported that Chris Cartin, assistant superintendent at Alaqua GC, won the qualifying event held in October and becomes the fourth member of the FGCSA team that will be entered in the GCSAA Tournament. Joining Chris in defending our title will be Mark Hopkins, Mark Henderson and Vic Conigliaro. The qualifier at Southern Dunes had 30 players and was a

break even event. Joe is planning to have next year's qualifier return to Southern Dunes and will push for more players. This will enable the FTGA to continue their Scramble Format while we use the Southern Dunes tournament as the third qualifier for the state team (behind the Poa and the Crowfoot).

Joe noted that the Central Florida chapter netted \$4,000 profit from the Crowfoot despite the low turnout this year and said that Grand Cypress will host next year's event during the first weekend in August.

FTGA: Roy Bates discussed the progress being made between the FTGA and the University of Florida in finding a Turf Coordinator. The November 1st deadline has been extended. He also noted that the FTGA will keep us informed on the February turf review of the university system that is being performed by a committee composed of industry people. He also reported that Dale Kuehner, Mark Jarrell and the FTGA have been invited to an industry meeting in Tallahassee this week. The PGA officials who are planning the meeting were surprised that the FTGA has actual numbers available from the survey showing the impact that golf has on the Florida economy.

The 1997 FTGA Conference and Show will be held September 5th through the 8th with tentative plans for a GCSAA Regional Seminar on Thursday, September 4th, golf on Friday, and the Show and remainder of the educational programs on Saturday and Sunday. He also noted that IFAS updates and slide shows will be available on video and will be shown continuously on the showroom floor. Kevin Downing discussed an open forum format for new research.

Roy also reported that the FTGA has decided to make another year commitment to MacVicar to continue their services regarding water management issues. He also announced the schedule for their regional conferences that will be held in January and asked for support from the FGCSA. A \$300 sponsorship was approved by the board.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: Mike Goldie gave a report on the upcoming "Florida Golf!" meeting that is being sponsored by the Florida Sports Foundation who stated that "Golf has a \$5 billion economic impact on the state" in their cover letter. Mike speculated that they picked this figure out of the air since they did not seem to be aware of the FTGA survey. Mike and Dale have spoken with Richard Bowers, VP of Government Relations for the PGA Tour who will be attending the meeting. Mike stated that the meeting might be a bust since it is doubtful that many legislators will attend since the political situation in Tallahassee is unsteady due to the shift in power as a result of the past election. But he did suggest that the meeting may unite the various groups attending and may lead to some dedicated funds.

Mike noted that the 1997 session will probably be very quiet and that it is best to not move quickly.

FUND RAISING: Mark Jarrell reported that he will be turning this committee over to Steve Pearson. We probably will not get much more money out of those avenues we have used in the past. He feels we should strive for getting a line item for turfgrass research from the state and will try to get some discussion on this during the Tallahassee meeting. He suggested that the Ciba program and the Valent program will not be as profitable this year. Mike Goldie discussed the state program for tourism and the possibility of including golf in this program. He also spoke on the question of special license plate revenue but did not feel that this was a good option.

RESEARCH: Kevin Downing reported that we have received the \$10,000 check from the GCSAA and it has been deposited in the FGCSA Research Account. There is an additional \$10,000 available to chapters this year but Kevin feels this will go to new projects.

A research meeting will be held on December 12th in Orlando that will include the FTGA, the FGCSA and IFAS per-

sonnel. Requests for research proposals will go out in January and the review meeting will be held sometime in March.

Kevin reported that Dr. David Huff provided accountability to the DNA project by verifying that the procedures were followed correctly. Dr. Busey has written his report showing results of the study. Kevin stated that Dr. Nell has reported that Dr. Busey has been reassigned to Weed Identification. Kevin will follow up on this.

Kevin discussed fairway cultivar evaluations being performed by Monica and new grass discussions. He also reported on the possibility of interacting with Gainesville on the new green despite University politics. Further evaluation is needed and will be discussed at the meeting next month. Funding for the Milton facility was also discussed.

Kevin distributed a letter from Dr. Pat Cobb re product evaluation. The letter will be copied and sent to all Presidents and External Vice Presidents with their copy of these minutes.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Darren Davis presented a letter received from Pat Jones, former GCSAA employee, offering his firm's services in developing a public relations plan for the southern chapters of the GCSAA. After some discussion, it was decided not to follow through on this.

Darren then discussed the progress of the video and distributed an outline of the text featuring a balance between golf and the environment. Kevin Downing and Darren debated the message for the video and the proposed target audience. Finally, Geoff Coggin made a motion that we accept the outline as presented and move forward with the video. The motion carried.

GCSAA: Dale Kuehner, Voting Delegate, announced that all chapters had sent in their voting forms for this year's election. Since we will have another board meeting before the GCSAA election, it was decided to forgo any

further discussion on the candidates and proposed By law amendments until our January board meeting.

The FGCSA reception during the GCSAA Convention will be held on Sunday night, February 9th at Ballys Hotel. Paul Crawford promises a spectacular view of the Vegas Strip and needs two volunteers to help work the doors during the reception.

Dale described a new program by the GCSAA to offer product software and provide computer training for eight affiliated chapters. This pilot program would allow easier exchange of information, e-mail, etc. The chapters selected would need to pay for air travel to GCSAA headquarters and have particular hardware requirements. Dale reported that the FGCSA computers do not meet these requirements since they are the original computers purchased eight years ago. Dale proposed that if we get accepted into the program we should spend about \$2,000 for a new computer. He suggested that the funds should come from the Florida Green budget in the next fiscal year.

SURVEY: Paul Illgen distributed copies of the proposed survey questions for this year. He urged all Externals to look them over and call him with any changes before the end of next week. The survey will go to the printers by December 1st. This year we will include a cover letter urging more superintendents to complete the questionnaire. We will also include an article about the survey in the next Green Sheet.

NEW BUSINESS: Dale Kuehner read a request from Bob Sanderson asking that some recognition be given to the artist who designed the original FGCSA logo. After some discussion, the board decided to turn down the request.

Dale announced that the Winter board meeting will be held in mid-January. After a poll of Externals, it was decided that a Friday afternoon would be best.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

LCCC Student Wins Scotts Scholarship

The Scotts Company Scholars Program has announced their 1996 winners who will receive \$2,500 awards and trips to the GCSAA Conference in Las Vegas.

Donna Catrambone, student in the Golf Course Operation Program at Lake City Community College, is one of the two winners of this prestigious award. John Piersol, GLF Chairman at LCCC, stated that Donna is an outstanding student and is a worthy recipient of the award.

The Scotts Co. established this scholarship program in 1993 in partnership with The GCSAA Foundation to offer educational and employment opportunities to students interested in careers in the green industry.



North Florida GCSA Awards Scholarship

The North Florida GCSA is happy to announce this year's recipient of the Mike Richards Memorial Scholarship. This is an annual award of \$3,000 commemorating a man who was a great representative of our industry.

David Robinson, a second year student at Lake City Community College has been selected. David and his wife, Kim, have a six month old daughter, Kelsey. David's wife is working full time to help support the family's finances and David is working part time while carrying a full load of classes.

David currently holds a 4.0 grade point average, and hopes to graduate at the top of his class. He plans to continue his education beyond LCCC if possible and obtain a bachelor's degree. David is now serving as vice president of the student chapter of the FTGA. He has worked at the Longboat Key Club and River Wilderness CC. David's ultimate goal is to become a contributing member of the green industry and achieve excellence as a golf course superintendent.

1997 FGCSA Survey

The 1997 FGCSA Wage and Maintenance Survey questionnaire has been sent to all Class A and B FGCSA superintendents.

This survey has become a very important tool for all Florida superintendents especially when it comes to justifying budgetary needs to your Greens Committee. However, **it is only effective if all superintendents take the time to fill it out** and send it back to the office for tabulation. Please use 1997 budget numbers. Completing the survey is definitely worth your time!

Last year we had a 45% return of completed questionnaires. Some chapters did very well in responding and were rewarded by having useful information. However, there were some chapters with so few responses that the information was practically useless. Please don't let this happen to your chapter.

Once you have completed the survey, all you need to do is refold it, staple and drop it in the mail. It is already stamped and addressed to the FGCSA office.



Valent Research Donation

Valent U.S.A. has come forth with funds earmarked for the FGCSA Research Account in the amount of \$10,125 generated through the Right Course Program. These funds have been accumulated by 1996 purchases of ORTHENE® Turf, Tree and Ornamental Spray and PINPOINT® 15 G Insecticide made by Florida superintendents. Note that any purchases of generic Acephate did not contribute to the fund.

Valent also made a \$10,125 donation to the FTGA Research Foundation through additional funds generated by the 1996 program for a grand total of \$20,250. Valent's Right Course program for research dollars will continue into 1997.

Formal presentation will be made at the Jan. 24th meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors in Orlando.

FGCSA Reception

The 1997 Florida GCSA reception at the 68th International GCSAA Convention will be held on Sunday night, February 9th, at Bally's Hotel on the fabulous Las Vegas strip. The reception will begin at 8:00 p.m. so as not to conflict with the Environmental Session which will be held earlier that night. All Florida superintendents are invited to attend.

This is the last opportunity for any Florida turfgrass supplier to be a sponsor for this popular event. If you are a supplier who is not on the following list, please call the FGCSA office so that your company's name can be included in the invitations and on the signage at the reception in Las Vegas.

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GCSAA



Las Vegas

Proposed GCSAA ByLaw Amendments

Four proposed GCSAA bylaw amendments will be voted on at the 1997 annual meeting in Las Vegas. Three of these proposed amendments concern membership classification and the fourth makes a technical change in the wording of the dual membership requirement.

1. To be a Class AA Life member, an individual must be retired as a golf course superintendent and either be a former board member or a voting member for 25 years. Dues will be waived for this Classification.

2. Dual Membership. Class A or B superintendent applicants for membership must be members of an affiliated chapter. add: the member will be required to maintain an affiliated chapter membership thereafter.

3. Class C members. This proposed amendment will split the Class C category to create a new classification for assistant golf course superintendents with more than three years experience. This new assistant classification would be voluntary and give assistants in this category the right to vote. They would be required to pay the same membership dues as Class A and B members and would be bound by the dual membership requirement to belong to both GCSA and their local affiliate chapter.

4. Retired members: This amendment would add a second option to the retired membership classification, allowing members who have completed a minimum of 20 years of service in any membership classification to retire in that classification and maintain all its privileges.

The FGCSA will be discussing all of these amendments as well as candidates' qualifications at their January 24th Board Meeting. Any concerned FGCSA superintendent should contact your local External VP to offer your opinions about these amendments before January 24th. Once a decision on all of these amendments has been made at the FGCSA meeting, the votes of the Florida members will be carried to Las Vegas by Dale Kuehner, FGCSA Voting Delegate.

Trade Show Hours:

Monday, Feb. 10, noon - 6 p.m.
 Tuesday, Feb. 11, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Wednesday, Feb. 12, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Distributor Preview:
 Monday, Feb. 10, 9 a.m. - noon



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