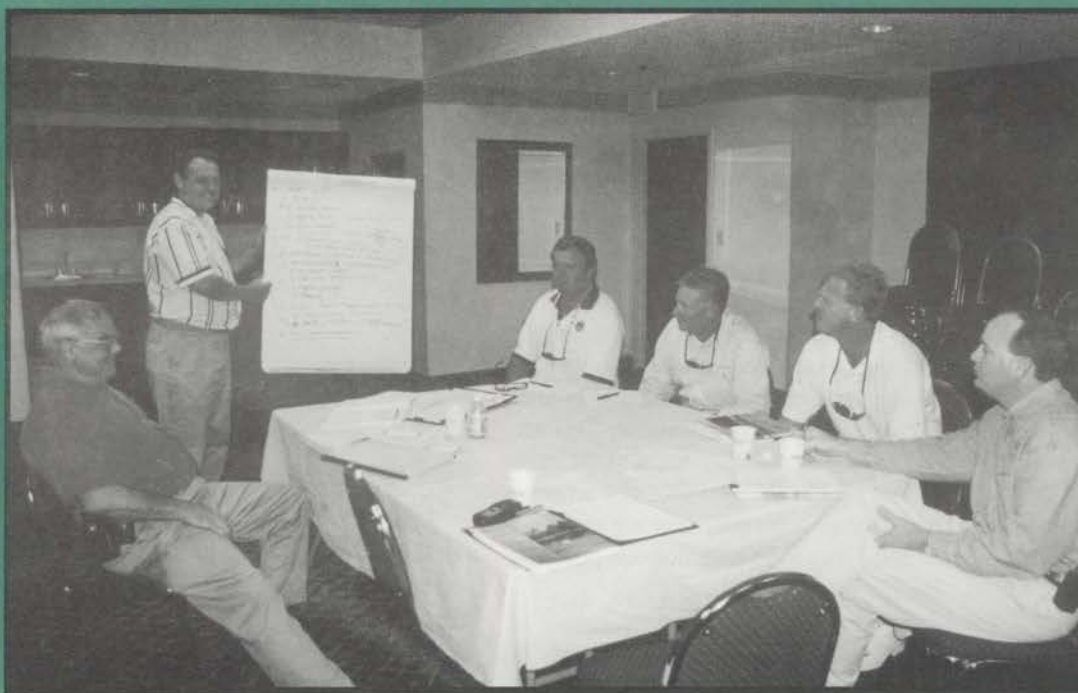


THE GREEN SHEET



VOLUME XVIII, PART 1, JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2002

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION



The FGCSA BMP Committee met in Orlando on December 3rd to discuss format and content issues. From left to right: Mike Thomas, Fla DEP; Geoff Coggan, CGCS, MG, President and Chairman; David Court, CGCS, FGCSA VP; Matt Taylor, Royal Poinciana CC; John Lammrish, LPGA International and Dr. Bryan Unruh, IFAS.

Photo by committee member Joel Jackson, CGCS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 4 SWFWMD, Rules Public Comments, 9:00a.m. Sarasota

Jan. 7 - North Carolina Turfgrass
- 10 Charlotte, N.C.

Jan. 10 Treasure Coast chapter meeting, Willoughby CC

Jan. 10 Calusa GCSA chapter meeting, Coral Oaks

Jan. 14 Central Florida GCSA 14th Annual Interlachen CC Turf Research Tournament

Jan. 14 West Coast chapter meeting, St. Petersburg CC

Jan. 15 SWFWMD Rules Public Comments 6:00 p.m., Bartow

FTGA Regional Pesticide Conferences:

Jan. 9 Tampa

Jan. 10 Mid-Florida (Orlando)

Jan. 17 Southeast (Ft. Lauderdale)

Jan. 22 Southeast (Lake Worth)

Jan. 23 Southwest (Fort Myers)

Jan. 30 North Florida (Jacksonville)

Jan. 31 Gulf Coast (Milton)

Jan. 15 SWFWMD Green Industry Committee, 12:30 p.m., Tampa

Jan. 16 Palm Beach GCSA annual A, B, and C meeting, Emerald Dunes GC

Jan. 17 Everglades seminar, Naples Beach Club

Jan. 24 SFGCSA chapter meeting, Crandon Park GC

Jan. 28 Suncoast chapter Supplier Appreciation Day, Bradenton

Feb. 4 GCSAA Conference & Show, Orlando Convention Center
- 10th

Feb. 7 Florida Reception, The Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando

Feb. 15 Jacksonville Agricultural Fairgrounds, CEU's
- 16

Feb. 25 Central Florida GCSA meeting, Deltona Hills

Feb. 26 Florida Weed Science Society, UF REC, Apopka
- 27

Feb. 27 West Coast chapter meeting, Largo GC

Mar. 21 SFGCSA Expo and UF Field Day, Fort Lauderdale

President's Message Geoff Coggan, CGCS, MG

As you are probably aware Cary Lewis, CGCS, after 27 years of maintaining golf courses has decided after much deliberation to explore other opportunities within the industry. Cary has accepted a position with Golf Ventures serving customers on Florida's West Coast, a position in which he will continue to support the industry he has been so much a part of.

Cary has resigned his position as Past President of this Association in accordance with our By-Laws, a choice he understands will protect the integrity of this Association but nevertheless is a bittersweet decision. Bittersweet because in one respect it marks the closing of one chapter in his career, that of chapter leader, Central Florida President, West Coast and FGCSA President, but in doing so opens up new challenges, new opportunities working with those he has served as a whole to now serving them individually.

The board and I will miss Cary and we wish him well in his new venture. The position of Past President has been offered and accepted by Darren Davis; Darren will serve out the remaining term and will assume the responsibilities of Awards Committee, and

Nominations Committee chair.

This Association has grown and continues to grow but until we have a FGCSA member in every golf facility in Florida we are not maximizing our true potential. The potential is there to lift our voices as one, united in the understanding that we are the protectors of our green and pleasant lands, and that we, through our Association involvement, seek out the very best in information and education to best serve that cause.

The Florida Green magazine is distributed to all golf facilities in and around the State. The Green Sheet also goes to most of the facilities within the State. These communication tools are only the start. Many of the local chapters have their own monthly newsletters, meetings and regional education. During this coming year we will be looking to increase our membership base though the work of our membership committee chaired by Joe Pantaleo. This Association looks to represent the best interests of all Florida golf facilities whether you or your superintendent are members or not. As I have said, our true potential has not been reached.

On a lighter note my travels throughout the state continue. I had the opportunity to visit with both the Palm Beach and Treas-



Geoff Coggan, CGCS, MG

sure Coast chapters at a joint meeting at the Jupiter Island Club. The education was most interesting. It centered on the apparent limitations of the human body when forced to do what we think we can do. Guinea Pigs included David Court, Kevin Downing, David Oliver and Mr. Hamstring himself, Andy Arena.

In December I was invited to attend the Ridge Chapter meeting at the Harrell's Fertilizer and distribution plant in Lakeland. After I was enlightened as to the true pronunciation of my name — Gee-off in accordance with the Ridge Concise book of English — I addressed the gathering. Much ado was being made of the apparent downturn in the Green Industry economy. While a number of those present felt that the events of 9/11 were a contributing factor, the vast majority pointed to a documentary video narrated by Steve Wilson (Director of Marketing for Harrell's) chronicling the events of August 14th, a day that will live in infamy. (A spoof you won't want to miss) I hope that the video will be made available to all chapters so that you can all decide for yourself whether these startling revelations are with or without merit.

....Continued on page 7

THE GREEN SHEET

Editor:

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

News Coordinator:

Mrs. Marie Roberts
1760 NW Pine Lake Drive
Stuart, FL 34994
(561) 692-9349
(561) 692-9654 (fax)
(800) 732-6053 (Florida Wats)
e-mail: fgcsa@tcol.net

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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. Photos are encouraged. Items must be for the good of the association.

Deadline next issue: February 15.

What's Up D.O.C.? by Joel Jackson

Don't forget to visit our FGCSA Website: www.floridagcsa.com - for the latest news and upcoming events or to contact the association. Submit your news of meetings and events to me so I can post them. New postings are Tuesdays and Saturdays.

1. Government Relations:

Ordinances (1): The Lake County Golf Course Ordinance was passed by the Board of County Commissioners. The ordinance was sought to provide documentation and accountability for golf course design, construction and maintenance with the primary aim of protecting water quality and guiding water conservation. A panel of golf course architects and superintendents provided input in the process. The result is a formalizing of things we already do, but never wrote down as a matter of policy. As I have said before, this is only the beginning. Look for more to crop up and be ready to sit on a local working group to adopt common sense rules.

Ordinances (2): Sarasota County just passed an ordinance limiting irrigated turfgrass installation on newly developed property (lots) to no more than 50% of the area. The ink had barely dried on the new rule when the city of Tampa announced a similar intent to limit irrigated turfgrass areas to 50%. This will be counties and municipality's quick fix to their water problems as they continue to ignore that landscape and turf watering is still only 1-3% of the water consumption. Maybe they figure they can permit twice as many developments by cutting the turf areas in half!

Nemacur registration - The latest from EPA and Bayer is still controversy or concern over the potential leaching and groundwater contamination by fenamiphos. EPA endorses plan for Bayer and State of Florida to conduct water quality/leaching study, but under a phase-out registration agreement as opposed to a time limited registration (3-5 years suggested by Bayer). Under phase out plan, Bayer would have to go through re-registration which could spell the demise of the product for purely financial reason. Not an uncommon occurrence in these situations. EPA will meet

with Bayer and Florida in January to discuss further.

FGCSA BMP Committee: Met in Orlando on December 3rd. Committee members to submit purpose/mission statement drafts for consideration. Committee members to rewrite their sections following outline suggested by Matt Taylor for his Fertilizer Section. Dr. Unruh said the current Golf Course BMP manual is open for revision as much of the data will be reformatted into a textbook, thus providing the soft cover manual more latitude for incorporating environmental BMP guidelines for each section. The committee at the suggestion of Mike Thomas of Fla DEP will also include a section on golf course siting design and construction BMPs. David Court, CGCS joined the committee and will coordinate that new section. Committee: Geoff Coggan, CGCS, MG Chairman; David Court, CGCS; Matt Taylor; John Lammrigh; Dr. Bryan Unruh, IFAS; Mike Thomas, DEP; John Foy and Todd Lowe, USGA Green Section.

2. Allied Associations:

The GCSAA has a new handout with tips on how a course can survive tough economic times. Call 1-800-472-7878 to find out how to get a copy. Hopefully, this downturn won't last long, but in the meantime there may be some logical steps your club can take to help ease the pain.

Golf Survey: Dr. Alan W. Hodges of IFAS reports good news and not so good news on the Florida Golf Economic Impact Study. The good news is that of the 120 surveys returned (out of 1300 mailed out) they are very completely and accurately filled out. The not so good news is that around 400 survey responses are needed to be statistically valid. I emailed all chapters and the Fla Golf Course owners association to redouble their efforts to get surveys in by the mid January deadline.

Green Industry BMPs: Third draft was reviewed by the steering committee. While this is primarily aimed at landscape pest control industry and as a guide for ordinance-happy governments, we are watching closely as water management districts among others are on the committee. By crafting our BMPs a step later we can stay

consistent and yet meet our needs and serve the environment.

Springs BMP group: I met in Tallahassee primarily with State DCA and DEP staff and reps from 1000 Friends of Florida. This group's purpose is to alert local and regional planners to land uses in a spring's watershed. Focus on agriculture, residential/commercial and golf inputs. My main message to them was that research continues to show that properly applied fertilizers and pesticides do not pose significant problems. Superintendents come in after the fact and take over whatever has been built. It should be the land owners and Planning and Zoning boards to determine the best land use if it is in a sensitive location and once recognizing the sensitivity do the best job possible in locating the land use to minimize any possible impact - i.e. locate development down gradient from a spring or as far away as possible. I also suggested that they include golf course architects in the draft review process and gave them several possible contacts.

3. Education:

I hope you're signed up for the GCSAA Conference and Show. Make an attempt to come even if it's just for the Trade Show, although seminars and general education sessions are invaluable for you, your job and the industry. Help celebrate 75 years of GCSAA. Attend the special events set up to recognize our association's history.

4. Florida Green: I hope you noticed some of the changes in design of the interior of The Florida Green fall issue. There will be more in the upcoming Winter Issue. Magazines traditionally make design and layout changes every five years or so to stay fresh. It probably means more to those closest to the production, but we hope you enjoy the make over too. We were long overdue.

5. Happy Holidays: With a greater awareness of the blessings we enjoy as Americans, I wish you and your families a very Happy Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year. Make a resolution for 2002 to get just a little more involved in your association and the issues facing our industry even if it is just to write letters to your county commissioners and state legislators. Every voice is heard.

FGCSA Fall 2001 Board Meeting

The Fall 2001 meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Geoff Coggan, CGCS, MG, at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, October 26th, 2001, at Bay Hill Club in Orlando.

Coastal Plains and Suncoast chapters were not represented. Other FGCSA members attending the meeting were Joel Jackson - Florida Green editor; Past President Dale Kuehner - Voting Delegate; Past President Joe Ondo - Golf Committee Chairman; Everglades President Matt Taylor; Craig Weyandt - Research Committee Chairman; and John Foy, USGA.

Geoff noted that he has attended the North Florida, Central Florida, Everglades and a joint Palm Beach/Treasure Coast chapter meeting during the first three months of his term. His goal is to visit each chapter once before his term ends in August.

Geoff announced that Immediate Past President Cary Lewis has accepted a position with Golf Ventures and is no longer employed as a golf course superintendent. Cary has expressed a willingness to finish out his term of office but will defer to the wishes of the board. Geoff noted that the Standard Operating Procedures Manual states that officers may serve for up to six months after cessation of employment. Since this would not be enough time for Cary to finish out his term, and since he is no longer seeking employment as a golf course superintendent, the board decided that he should be replaced now. A motion was made to ask Cary for his resignation as Immediate Past President since he is no longer a superintendent. The motion was approved. Geoff will contact Cary to let him know the board's decision and thank him for his years of service on the board. Darren Davis will finish out Cary's term.

Geoff asked Steve Ciardullo, SOP Chairman, to reword the paragraph regarding qualifications of board members to reflect that a superintendent who has lost his position may stay as an officer for six months only if he is still actively pursuing employment as a superintendent.

The minutes of the Summer Board Meeting were approved.

Economic Impact Study: Geoff has written a letter of support which will be used as the cover letter for the survey package when it is mailed in the next few weeks. He reported that Roy Bates has requested an additional donation from the FGCSA for the survey. After a discussion it was felt that no further donation will be given — writing this letter of support lending credibility to the survey along with our \$1,000 donation is sufficient.

Lake City Community College: Geoff read a letter from John Piersol requesting support for high school student recruitment to the equipment technicians program at Lake City. After a discussion, it was decided to suggest using some of the funds from the LCCC Annual Alumni Tournament to have a Mechanic Recruitment Video prepared. It was mentioned that the GCSAA has such a video partially developed and it may not be too costly to have LCCC join with EPIC in targeting the video to fit the needs of Lake City Community College.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: Greg Pheneger presented the FGCSA Financial Statements for the first quarter of this fiscal year. He noted that the amount we paid for insurance was lower this year; some chapters have not paid their registration fee for last month's golf tournament; and some chapters still owe a balance for dues.

He presented the finalized 990 and 990-T reports to be sent to the IRS for fiscal year ending June 30, 2001. He noted that since our advertising revenue this year was much less than the last two years, the Unrelated Business Tax is also lower — \$2,165 for 2001. The prepaid tax payments we have made during the year are sufficient to cover the tax for this year and 2002 plus we are eligible for a \$5,911 refund.

D.O.C. REPORT: Joel Jackson gave a report of his activities during the past 3 months. He urged all Externals to stay involved with their lo-

cal Water Management Districts and be aware of the situation with Nemacur. He will be ordering a copy of "The Skeptical Environmentalist" which may be used to refute bad publicity that may appear in your local newspaper or even in your own golf club. He discussed the slow process on the Best Management Procedures and hoped to get Dr. Unruh to a meeting in the next month.

FLORIDA GREEN: The Fall issue is a 56 page magazine which may be the new norm considering the drop in advertising revenue. Joel suggested we hold a Publications Meeting to decide if we should make some changes to our advertising/editorial ratio and to discuss whether the purpose of the magazine is to make money or be used as a public relations tool for our members and their clubs.

RESEARCH: Craig Weyandt discussed our participation in sending a research proposal to GCSAA for their Chapter Cooperative Program. Craig discussed suggestions from Dr. Unruh and presented various proposals from UF researchers. John Foy discussed what the USGA is currently funding and gave his input on those projects that would mostly likely be funded by the GCSAA.

After polling the chapter Externals for their input, Greg Pheneger made a motion to apply to the GCSAA for joint funding of Dr. Crow's proposal "*Influence of Plant-Parasitic Nematodes on Potential Nitrate Leaching on Golf Course Turf*". The motion was seconded by Mark Henderson and Buddy Keane and was approved.

Geoff Coggan will write the cover letter for the proposal and have the package delivered to the GCSAA by the November 2nd deadline. The GCSAA will select the projects that will be co-funded in January and results will be announced at the GCSAA Convention.

Craig then discussed the role of the technician at the Fort Lauderdale research center. David Court reminded the board that one reason for hiring the technician was to insure that the green is maintained at put-

ting green conditions. This would not be accomplished without our help. The ultradwarf plots are an important part of the technician's work area. Craig then noted that past Research Chairman, Steve Pearson, along with Steve Kuhn have been responsible for supervising the technician. Craig is unable to do this. It was suggested that Geoff Coggan write a letter to Steve P. and Steve K. thanking them for doing this for the past number of years and asking if they are willing to continue to oversee the work that is being done. We will address this further at the next FGCSA board meeting.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: Dale Walters discussed his involvement with Collier County in the area of reuse water and read articles on medical emergencies; lightning; and hard hats on golf courses.

EDUCATION: John Lamrsh discussed suggestions for the educational seminar at the Poa this year. The board was reminded that we do not want to have a commercial nature to any seminar that we present. The seminar will be a 4 hour program and will probably be held on Friday morning. John will have a topic ready for approval at the next board meeting. Eric Joy noted that the next GCSAA Regional Seminar will be co-sponsored by the West Coast chapter and already has 24 people signed up with more expected.

GOLF: Joe Ondo reported on the FGCSA Championship held on Saturday, September 29th at Southern Dunes GC. Seven chapters participated with the Palm Beach chapter retaining the team trophy. Joe Ondo was the individual winner and he will join with Bob Roessing, Chris Cartin, and Mark Hopkins on the Florida team at the GCSAA tournament. Steve Bernard is first alternate. Joe will also register other teams in the Tournament depending on how many Florida members are accepted into the draw.

Joe then discussed the Amateur Status of those whose entry fee the FGCSA pays. The compensation question has been brought up by the GCSAA. Their amateur status could be affected. John Foy noted that changes to these rules are being discussed by the USGA and we should

expect a change in the rules shortly.

MEMBERSHIP: Joe Pantaleo read the list of applicants for Lifetime Member Status. The following were approved by the board as Lifetime Members: Richard Johnson (North Florida); John Leach (Ridge); Dale Bishop (Everglades); Dick Blake, Stanley Carr, Joe Konwinski, Dan Jones, Carl McKinney (Palm Beach); Raleigh Arnett and Paul Turcotte (South Florida); Ron Mitch, Bud Quandt and Harvey Phillips (West Coast).

Applicant Edward Benoit was not approved and will remain as a Retired member of Palm Beach. Don Delaney was disapproved by the West Coast chapter because his application only listed 16 years as a superintendent. Eric Joy will take his application back to the West Coast board for a second look.

Joe then led a discussion on membership figures and suggested we try for a 4 - 7.5% increase in membership this year. Various tactics were discussed to meet this goal such as having local chapters contact non-member clubs; inviting non-member superintendents to chapter meetings; keeping track of former members who have dropped out of chapter; putting membership application and/or membership brochure in Florida Green or Green Sheet. On the state level, Geoff has volunteered to get the National Golf Foundation's list of Florida golf courses to use as a cross reference in a mass mailing membership campaign.

FTGA: David Court presented the minutes of the September FTGA meeting. GCSAA has agreed to help with the education at next year's FTGA Conference. Some last minute negotiations are underway to move the Conference out of Gainesville. David will try to attend their next board meeting to keep us up to date.

A motion was made by John Lamrsh to contribute \$500. for sponsorship of the FTGA Regional Turf Conferences. The motion was approved.

GCSAA: Dale Kuehner presented the list of candidates for GCSAA office. Dale and Kevin Downing will send question-

naires to each of the candidates to get their views on what should or could the GCSAA do about such things as: job security; compensation; and increasing membership figures. If any chapter has another concern to be addressed, please call Dale before the end of November to have your item included in the questionnaire. All chapters will be receiving their list of voting members from the GCSAA. Please follow up on this and do not toss it aside. Once again we hear the sentiment, "try not to have the staff run the association" which is an echo from the 80's.

RECEPTION: Sponsor forms have been sent to affiliate members and also to chapters to help fund the Orlando reception. Due to the economic situation, we are counting on our chapters to help make up the shortfall if our affiliates must cut back their support this year. We will have quality entertainment, lots of good food and, as usual, our open bar at the Rosen Centre Hotel.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE MANUAL: Steve Ciardullo is charged with the responsibility of updating the manual. One of the concerns is to make it clear that one does not have to be a current FGCSA board member in order to be a Committee Chairman. Each Committee Chairman is urged to call or e-mail Steve with any suggestions on the S.O.P. sheet regarding your committee responsibilities.

DUES INCREASE: Geoff Coggan began a brief introductory discussion on a possible dues increase in the near future. The last FGCSA dues increase was in 1992. Since then we have added a D.O.C. and a lobbyist to our payroll. Darren cautioned crying wolf while we still have large amounts in our reserve accounts. Once again the idea of adding vendors to our membership list was turned down. Geoff will continue to discuss the possibility of an increase as he speaks to chapters around the state.

Due to the late hour, the remaining items on the agenda were tabled until the Winter board meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

IFAS Budget Cuts - An Open Letter by Joel Jackson

Dear Senators, Representatives, University of Florida Administration and Citizens of Florida,

I admit it. I am a member of a special interest group who is upset about the extent of the state budget cuts and the amounts apportioned to the IFAS program at the University of Florida. My special interest group is that of native born Floridian.

Don't give me politics, platitudes or promises. I have watched the rampant growth of Florida bring prosperity and problems to our state. Short term gains reaped from the expanding tax base are soon overwhelmed by the stresses put on our environment and our economy.

The number one industry in Florida is tourism and as we have seen that industry can be very volatile and wreak havoc on our state's economy and operating budget as soon as tourists stay home. The number two industry in the state is agriculture and all its related commodities including horticulture, floriculture, turfgrass and golf.

While everyone rushes to find fixes and cures for the tourism industry, they do so by cutting funds that protect and serve agriculture, a more stable and reliable industry that helps keep the state on an even keel during rough times. Legislators have lost touch with the land that bore them and sustains them. Hotels, streets, stadiums and theme parks may gather all the glamour, but our estuaries, rivers, springs, farms, forests, and nurseries sustain us and give us our quality of life.

There are around 20 regional IFAS research and education centers across Florida. Each one contributes to the whole IFAS mission to the people of Florida. While many of the RECs have been adopted and supported by generations of farmers, growers and ranchers, the Ft. Lauderdale REC, which is 48 years old this year originated from the efforts of dairyman and veterinarian, Dr. Charles Foreman, but soon became a center for turfgrass research. There just haven't been any turfgrass dynasties to support Ft. Lauderdale.

Turfgrass research was added in 1961 and as the urbanization of South Florida took place over the next 40 years, this REC has become the most prolific and productive producer of research data on turfgrass which controls erosion, filters water and air and provides residential and sports turfgrass for the state. It was the Florida home of the jointly produced (Texas A&M) FloraTam St. Augustinegrass which revolutionized home lawns.

The environment is safer because of turfgrass research conducted at Ft. Lauderdale. The data enabling sod producers and turf managers to grow lawns, sports turf, and golf courses with minimal ecological impacts. And as Florida grew and gobbled up more rural chunks of land, the turfgrass industry became one of the largest commodities in agriculture to the tune of \$12.7 billion dollars according to a 1992 IFAS economic survey. That number is even larger today.

In the face of these facts, it is hard for members of my special interest group, native Floridians, to see agriculture in general and turfgrass in particular devalued to such an extent that officials deem it necessary to shut down particular facilities without due process. I'm sure each facility makes a contribution to the whole IFAS mission.

It would seem prudent and only fair that all of the IFAS operations be cut back proportionally to achieve the required budget cuts and not abruptly shut down RECs in any location. Additionally, no REC (like Bradenton) should be immune from cutbacks. Each program should have to economize to meet the shortage in funding.

The leaders of IFAS, who have to make the final decisions, should be given the authority and latitude to

administer these cutbacks so that the minimal amount of harm and disruption is inflicted on any REC. If the long range planning indicates rational reasons for relocating projects and personnel, then begin a phase out program so that every commodity can make the transition without being singled out for major setbacks in the continuity of research.

Too many people and organizations have invested time, money and trust in IFAS to be asked to start over again. And while the general public may not fully appreciate the impact that IFAS has on their daily lives, there are those supporters of IFAS who deserve the best possible decisions to be fair and equitable to one and all. Politics is for the short sighted and will leave a bitter taste in the mouths and memories of those who have supported IFAS the most.

Joel D. Jackson, CGCS

FTGA Turfgrass 2002 Regional Turf Conferences

The FTGA has announced the following dates for their Regional Conferences:

FTGA Pesticide Conferences:

- Jan. 9 St. Lawrence Parish, Tampa
- Jan. 10 Camp Down OUC, Windemere
- Jan. 17 Wyndham Bonaventure Resort
- Jan. 22 American Polish Club, Lake Worth
- Jan. 23 Edison CC, Fort Myers
- Jan. 30 Duval Co. Extension, Jacksonville
- Jan. 31 Santa Rosa Co Auditorium, Milton

These all-day conferences are designed to meet the educational needs of the entire turf industry. They offer CEU's in O&T, L&O and CORE categories. Registration fee is \$40.00.

Topics include nematode management, irrigation regulations, safety issues, Water Management District issues, weed management and environmental horticulture. Each seminar location will feature its own list of speakers.

For more information or to receive a brochure and registration form, please contact the FTGA office by phone at 800-882-6721 or e-mail to ftga@aol.com.

Continuation of Presidents Message...

Orangebrook C.C. and General Manager Bob Klitz CGCS, hosted the South Florida Chapter Christmas party on December 8th. It was a pleasure to accept their invitation and to visit with them. It was as Bob's assistant in 1988 that I had the chance to attend my first Superintendents Association meeting hosted by Joe Pantaleo at Key Biscayne. For that opportunity I will be forever grateful, thanks Bob.

Happy New Year to one and all!

Florida GCSA To Host GCSAA Convention

Once again, the Florida GCSA will host the GCSAA Convention from February 3rd to 10th. For the past several years, the GCSAA has chosen to come to Orlando on a TriAnnual basis due to the great facilities and the Florida weather.

This year's Convention features the Golf Championship to be played in St. Augustine Feb. 4 - 5th at six of our unique and challenging Florida golf courses -- Grand Haven GC; Golf Club at South Hampton; two of the courses at the Palm Coast Resort -- Cypress Knoll GC and Matanzas Woods GC, and two of the courses at World Golf Village -- the King & the Bear and The Slammer & The Squire. Good luck to all of our Florida golfers.

The first of the more than 120 seminars, sessions and forums start on Sunday, Feb. 3rd and continue all the way through to noon on the following Sunday. Many seminars are still available.

The Trade Show begins on Thursday and closes at 2 p.m. on Saturday afternoon. Closing activities and the 75th Anniversary Celebration will be held from 3:45 - 4:30 p.m. on Saturday. The GCSAA has planned a Family Event at SeaWorld from 6:30 - 10:30 p.m. Saturday night to end the week's social activities.

For more information, visit the GCSAA website at www.golfcourseshow.com or call the GCSAA office at 1-800-732-7878.



2002 Florida GCSA Reception -- Thursday, February 7th

The FGCSA will hold its annual GCSAA Reception on Thursday night, February 7th, at the Rosen Centre Hotel from 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. Reception will be limited to Florida superintendents and sponsors only. Invitations will be mailed to all FGCSA members in January. Reception Chairman Michael Perham promises that the Orlando reception will continue the tradition of being the best chapter reception at the GCSAA Convention. Mark your calendar now. You will not want to miss it!

There is still time for any affiliate to be involved as a sponsor and to share the opportunity to network with all the Florida representatives in Orlando. Number of reception tickets is based on sponsorship levels. We sincerely appreciate the support of all our sponsors. Those companies who have already committed to the reception are:

Level I. Platinum Sponsors

- * Chipco Products
- * Golf Ventures Industries
- * Harrell's Fertilizer/Polyon
- * The Jacobsen, Cushman & Ryan Distributors of Florida:
Golf Ventures, Kilpatrick Turf Equipment and Tresca Turf & Tractor
- * Toro/Wesco Turf/Hector Turf

Level II. Gold Sponsors

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- LESCO
- Syngenta

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- North Florida
- Palm Beach
- Seven Rivers
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- Treasure Coast
- West Coast

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