



Letter from the President...

I can't believe it is December already. Where has this year gone? Hopefully by now all that have overseeded have full coverage and lots of golfers at your course. Budgets are in place, or soon to be, we look forward to 2009.

With the holiday season upon us, and another year winding down, this is a time when many look back at the year and reflect on what took place. Not only in our jobs, but our personal lives as well. It truly was a year that held many changes for most of us: the economy, a new President of our country, water and fertilizer restrictions effecting our industry. The list is many. What strikes me, is the resilience of not only our industry, but the resilience and professionalism of our fellow superintendents and our vendors, who have worked very hard with us. We seem to overcome any obstacle placed in our path. Many have had reductions in our budgets during 2008, but always seem to find a way to manage this and still produce a product

that keeps the golfers coming back. It makes me proud to be a part of this, but most of all; it makes me proud that I have been given the opportunity to get to know all of you.

Our next meeting will be December 16, Vendor day at TPC of Tampa Bay. The cost to superintendents is \$65.00. Free for FWCGCSA vendor members.

As the board schedules our future meetings we are finding that as with everything, the cost is going up. With that, we need to charge our members in accordance. For 2009 the cost for meetings will be between \$50 - \$60.

I look forward to seeing all of you on December 16th and on January 8. Have a wonderful and safe Holiday season. May 2009 be a healthy and prosperous year for all.

Bill Kistler, President

Logo Change

In 2006 the GCSAA adopted a new organizational brand program. The intent of this program was to develop a uniform brand for the association through consistent use of a logo, font, color, etc. The foundation of this new branding program was to position the GCSAA brand attributes of environmental stewardship, responsiveness, advocacy, education, and professional development. The idea is for the GCSAA to communicate to the public that its members are professionals in their field with a great deal of knowledge and responsibility for what they do. In just a short time the GCSAA feels that it has made a lot of progress through both print and television advertisements as well as the branding and promotion of the Golf Industry Show. Recent surveys have shown that golfers have a much higher awareness and perception of their golf course superintendent than just a few years ago. The GCSAA is committed to continuing this program in order to add recognition and credibility to its members.

FWCGCSA now has the opportunity to benefit even more from the efforts

of the GCSAA. As an affiliated chapter, we can adopt the GCSAA logo with the additional script of Florida West Coast Chapter. This will add instant credibility to our chapter due to the fact that few outside our organization know of our existence but many more will recognize the GCSAA brand. This is especially important as we continue to face more regulations and restrictions of water, fertilizer and chemicals. As our local board and members increase their participation involving these issues it is important that they are not only seen as area representatives but part of a much larger group of professionals in this field. Adopting the national logo for our local chapter use potentially strengthens our voice by providing our members a greater level of recognition by those outside of our industry.



The 45th Bud Quandt Rolls on at Tampa Palms

By Steve Hritsko, Affiliate Representative

On October 6th the 45th playing of the Bud Quandt was held at Tampa Palms Golf & Country Club. The primary purpose of this annual event is to raise funds for turf grass research. Over the past 44 years the Bud Quandt Tournament has raised over \$100,000 with another \$5,000 net proceeds this year. The day began with 96 players and sponsors arriving to a full breakfast served on the patio overlooking the challenging 18th hole. A short business meeting was held concluding with a state update from the Executive Director of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Joel Jackson. The Four man scramble format shotgun started at 10:00 on the challenging tournament conditioned Tampa Palms layout. Each year this course seems to get better and better. Combine it with tight tree-lined fairways and smooth fast greens; you have one of the best test of golf in our chapter. The day concluded in the Palms Banquet Room with awards and of course the raffle featuring the top prize of a 42" Plasma TV.



Congratulations to host Superintendent Bill Kistler, Assistant Superintendent Coby Shepherd, and the maintenance staff for the outstanding playing conditions. As we all know having a group of your peers come play your course is stressful. Combine it with being the President of the chapter it becomes that much more of a stress fest. Bill is going to be President of the state chapter next year which may send him right to Dr. Phil.. Great job Bill! Special Thanks goes out to our Title Sponsor for the second year Wesco Turf. Your commitment to our chapter and this event is most appreciated. Finally to all our sponsors, guests, and of course our own membership thanks for making this year's Bud a tremendous success. Almost forgot the tournament's namesake Bud Quandt. Bud, we are all pitching in and buying you a new putter for next year...



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FWCGCSA & the SRGCSA Reunite at Southern Hills

By Steve Hritsko, Affiliate Representative

On Monday, November 3rd the Florida West Coast Superintendents Association and Seven Rivers Golf Course Superintendents Association reunited for the November chapter meeting at the prestigious Southern Hills Plantation in Brooksville, FL. It was good to see so many old familiar faces that at one time or another sat on boards of both these chapters. Seven Rivers was actually spun out of the West Coast Chapter in the early eighties to accommodate the growing number of courses being built in the northern west central region and nature coast area of the state. Since then they have been instrumental on several turf fundraising events most notably the Envirotron Golf Classic held at World Woods Golf Club benefiting the Envirotron Turf Research Facility at the University of Florida in Gainesville. This outstanding day began with some good natured fellowship between the chapters followed by our business

meeting. The featured speaker was Lee Bloomcamp from Syngenta. She gave a rousing talk on better managing our trees and ornamental plantings around the course. Lunch was served and at 12:30 the star of day, Pete Dye's Southern Hills golf course took center stage. Built in 2004-05 this track is readily becoming a must play in Florida. The rugged hilly terrain is reminiscent of courses in North Carolina. Throw in Pete Dye's signature mounds and pot bunkers and it's easy to see why the PGA Tour recently played the second stage of Q-school here and again next year. The day finished back at one of the prettiest clubhouses we visit set high on a hill overlooking the course. It is said that on a clear day you can see the Gulf of Mexico which is just a mere ten miles away from the back patio of the plantation style structure.

Special thanks goes out to our host Superintendent Chuck Cakmacki, his Assistant Jim Hall, and the rest of the

maintenance staff for the outstanding set up and shape of the course. It was a pleasure to play such a distinct design from a Golf Architectural legend combined with great playing conditions. Chuck was the grow-in superintendent of this Hampton Golf manage facility and had to work through several issues associated with a hilly design built on a clay ridge. As he told me "It has been a long road but I finally feel the turf conditions are where we want them to be." We would agree, the place is definitely dialed in. Finally, Chuck has offered to host this event again next year and possibly make it an annual event between the chapters. This will be discussed between the boards and we will keep you posted. Thanks again Chuck and the rest of the professionals at Southern Hills.





New Fundraising Idea!

As you know, the Benevolent Tournament raises funds for both members in need and local charities. This year, we thought we would try a new strategy for raising additional funds, appealing to members and golfers of each superintendent's club.

Every year, the Association requests donations for raffle prizes donations, and many of you provide golf foursomes. If your club would be willing to donate a foursome or complete golf package, please let us know as soon as possible. We will put together a flyer prior to the event which can then be posted in pro shops or other areas of the clubhouse, providing for a much wider audience than just the FWCGCSA Members. Many of the golfers at your club would probably be very excited for a chance to win golf at another local club where they wouldn't normally have the opportunity to play.

In order for this to be successful, please let us know the following as soon as possible:

1. Will your club donate a foursome of golf or complete golf package?
2. Will your club/pro shop be willing post flyers and assist in raffle ticket sales?

We will take care of putting packages together to assist with the sales. Please call us, e-mail us, or bring the foursome/packages to the upcoming meeting in January. The more participation we have, the more successful we will all be in raising funds!



Mark Your Calendar

- December 16:** Vendor Appreciation Day at TPC
- January 6:** FTGA Regional Seminar at St. Lawrence Parish
- January 8:** Monthly Meeting at Palma Ceia
- February 23:** Benevolent Tournament at East Lake Woodlands — See enclosed registration form!
- March TBA:** Monthly Meeting at Largo
- April TBA:** Monthly Meeting at Wentworth
- May TBA:** Monthly Meeting at Belleair
- June TBA:** Chapter Championship at Old Memorial



Tampa January 6

St. Lawrence Parish
5225 North Himes Avenue
Tampa, FL 33614
(813) 875-4040

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 29

AGENDA

Registration Opens	7:30 AM
Pesticide Storage Update	Lee Bloomcamp, Syngenta
Challenges In The Landscape	Ward Gunter, Scotts Company
Break	
Choose Your Fertilizer & Pesticide Combination Products Wisely	Dr. Jason Dettman-Kruse, University of Florida
Lunch	
Nematodes: Today & Tomorrow	Dr. Billy Crow, University of Florida
Using Analytical Tools For Pest, Disease & Fertility	Todd Lowe, USGA

Topics and speakers are subject to change.



Need to Contact the FWCGCSA?

**Call us at (813) 907-8845
Fax us at (813) 973-3068
or e-mail us at
FWCGCSA@earthlink.net
www.fwcgcsa.com**



**FLORIDA WEST COAST GOLF COURSE
SUPERINTENDANTS ASSOCIATION**

WWW.FWCGCSA.COM

1936 Bruce B. Downs Blvd., #305
Wesley Chapel, FL 33544

Phone: 813.907.8845
Fax: 813.973.3068

Contact Us at
fwcgcsa.earthlink.net

January Meeting

January 8th at Palma Ceia

The January 8th FWCGCSA meeting will be held at Palma Ceia. The featured speaker will be newly appointed Florida field representative for the GCSAA, Ralph Dain. Ralph will be introducing and describing what this new position entails as well as demonstrating some of the useful features of the GCSAA website. The Florida field representative is sure to be a great tool for the benefit of both local chapters and individual members alike.

9:00—10:00 am: Registration
10:00 – 11:00 am: Meeting
11:00 – 12:00: Lunch
12:00 Noon: Golf

Please RSVP to 813-907-8845 or send an e-mail to
fwcgcsa@earthlink.net

