

FSGA GOLF NEWS

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SUMMER 1974

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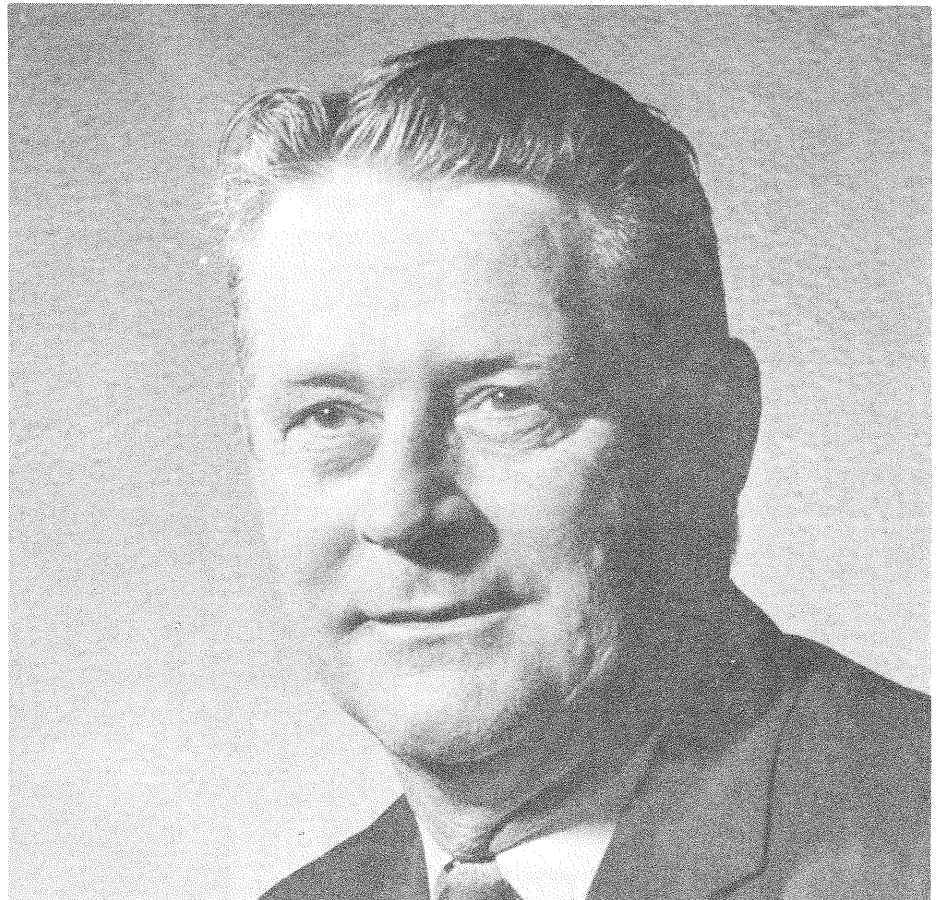
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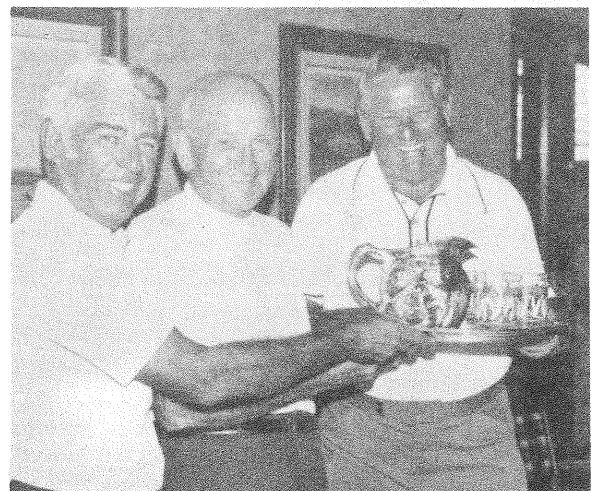
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M. T. McINNIS, one of Florida's most dedicated amateur golfers, is the new President of Florida State Golf Association. Mac is Manatee County's Clerk of Circuit Court.



ROLAND ARNOLD, center, outgoing FSGA President, is flanked by the new Veep and head man, Bob McCullers and Mac McInnis. The pitcher and equipment award went to Arnold from the Board of Directors.



PHIL THOMAS, left, was the Member Invitational winner at Disney World. The former FSGA Junior Champion from Miami scored 222, six over par, for the 54 hole test over DW's Palm and Magnolia tracks. He collected part of his loot from *Prexie McInnis*.

1931-32 Winner Spectator In 1974

Jack Toomer who first won the State Amateur Championship 43 years ago, was a welcome visitor at the 57th renewal of the event at Grenelefe Golf Club.

Toomer, now a Kissimmee businessman, was a two-time winner of the championship. He had back to back victories in 1931 and 1932 when he was playing out of Jacksonville.



JACK TOOMER

Jack still plays. He owns a driving range, in addition to other ventures, and opines that the limber-backs on review at Grenelefe moved the ball off the tee a lot longer than in the old days.

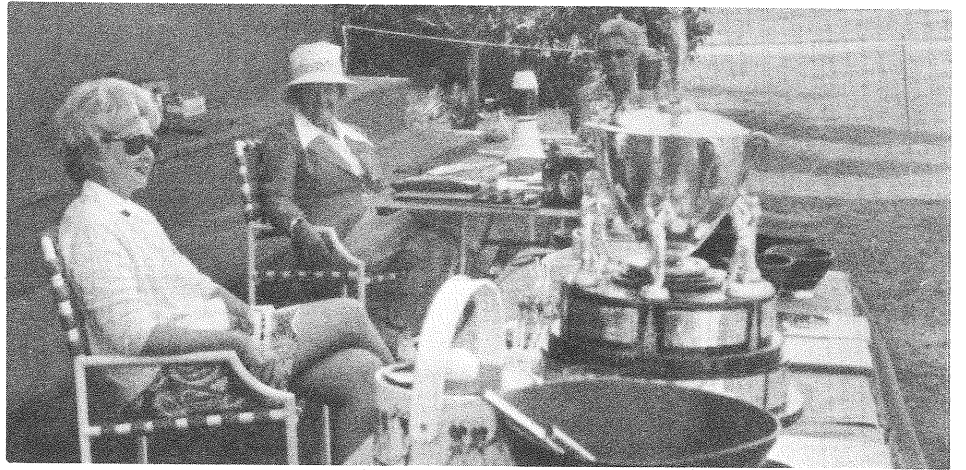
Jack had some interesting things to say about another Jacksonville golfer of yesteryear.

"A. C. Ulmer, you know, didn't learn to play this game until he was 38 years old," Toomer reflected. "He was always 'Mr. Ulmer' to all of us and he played the game better than anyone in the state."

Toomer's observation was accurate. The late Al Ulmer was a good one. He was a five-time champion with victories coming in 1914, 1917, 1921, 1922, and 1928.



LAKE REGION COUNTRY CLUB copped the four man team championship during the Disney member event. Team total for 144 holes was 631 shot by Ted Huff, left, Rod Sweet and Dexter Daniels, Jr. Dexter, Sr., was the fourth member of the team but left before the awards were made.



VELMA DANIELS guarded the team trophy her husband and mates were to win. Aiding in the guard duty at the scoreboard were *Edna Carey* and *Virginia McInnis*.



DAILY STAFFING of the State Amateur at Grenelefe was provided by this stalwart golf-writer threesome. Myron Hart, left, *Tampa Tribune*; Jim Warters, *Orlando Sentinel* and Betty Ann Rhodes, *St. Petersburg Times*. Central Florida and Gulf Coast coverage of the 57th annual event was outstanding.



BILL CAREY

inside florida golf

HAIL TO THE NEW CHIEF

M. T. McInnis of Bradenton takes over as President of Florida State Golf Association, June 28, the evening before FSGA's popular John's Island Invitational tees off at Vero Beach.

The Association's new Board of Directors will meet prior to the two day event at the Pete Dye-Jack Nicklaus designed course, to review proposed Constitution and By-Law changes and Mac McInnis will be in charge.

A long time member of FSGA, veteran low handicapper and Manatee County's Clerk of Circuit Court, McInnis promises to be an active leader. His past performances for and contributions to Florida Golf have been notable and the more than 2,000 members of FSGA look for more of the same during Mac's administration.

McInnis was one of the founders of Bradenton's great DeSoto National Handicap Tournament which annually draws record fields of amateurs. He succeeds Roland Arnold of Vero Beach in the top FSGA job moving up from vice president of the Association.

One critical item in the FSGA new By-Law proposal will be to create a new membership category for the college "pro" golfer. There's some feeling among the play-once-a-week members that university and junior college golf team members, who pursue the sport on a sponsored and full-time basis during the season, should be barred from certain FSGA competitions.

It promises to be a lively issue.

ROLAND ARNOLD HAD HIS SAY

During the annual meeting in April at Disney World when Mac McInnis was elected, outgoing President Roland Arnold of Vero Beach, Florida's most genial Ford dealer, had some remarks for the membership which we'll pass on to you:

"This is Florida State Golf Association's 61st year and I'm pleased to report that activities of the Association continue to hold the interest of our membership. This is our fourth event of the year and the third full field of contestants. I'm sure the West Palm Beach event in March also would have drawn a full field if it hadn't been scheduled at the height of the gas shortage. We'll end up with 14 events this year and if the gas holds I'm sure they'll all be well attended.

"For the past two years we have been discussing the prospect of a home golf course for FSGA. We've made some progress in that area, and as Mr. Carey will report later, we almost got the project off the ground last November. But some affluent parties bought the ground out from under us so we'll be starting over.

"We've tried to set aside some funds for the planning and front end work and expenses for such a project. We've been successful in accumulating funds and have more money in the bank than at anytime in FSGA history. But that has posed some problems for our non-profit status which we'll hear about. In short, it has been a full, swift year and I've had a good ride and thoroughly enjoyed the associations I've made personally.

"I've spent a lot of years in Florida golf and the FSGA and have been happy to serve this term as president. With your cooperation we've made some significant contributions to our Florida game in providing activity through FSGA.

"I'm very grateful for your help and assistance during my term and when I step down as president I want you to join me in continued interest and participation in the affairs of this fine organization."

Roland made a fine, active President and before the annual meeting was over new vice president Bob McCullers and President Mac, on behalf of the Board of Directors presented our outgoing head man some essential drinking equipment.

The sides of a very fancy silver pitcher were sculptured in a likeness of the Arnold countenance.

Roland, we all hope your pitcher runneth over for many, many years.

GOOD NEW FACES

Although not a new face, Bob McCullers is one the Association wants to keep around. The Leesburg Ford dealer moved up from his director's post to vice president this year and promises to give FSGA more muscle in Central Florida.

New board members for two year terms are: Walter Aller, Gainesville; C. J. Gunti, Jacksonville; Key Scales, Jr., Weirsdale; Joe Eubanks, Daytona Beach; Jack Shubert, Altamonte Springs; Jay Boyd, Leesburg; Bob White, Tampa; Austin Jones, Jr., Orlando; Curtis Timm, Sarasota; and Percy Hopkins, Jr., West Palm Beach.

Former President Jack Ledoux, Winter Park and W. G. Birdsong, Titusville, were elected to one-year terms as Directors at Large. Birdsong just completed a two-year term on the board from District 9.

Holdover directors with one more year to serve are: Ed Greene, Panama City; Chip Anderson, Destin; Bill Stark, Tallahassee; Al Tidrow, St. Petersburg; Nate Schine, Tampa; Dexter Daniels, Jr., Winter Haven; Harvey Poe, Eau Gallie; Bill Wodtke, Vero Beach; Duncan Cash, Palm Beach and Norton Harris, Key West.

An old and not necessarily good face, Bill Carey, continues as Executive Director.

PATE AND PENSACOLA

Jerry Pate's victory at Grenelefe marked the first time a Pensacola has won the state title. We hope it will not be the last. The University of Alabama star made a lot of friends at the Amateur. Many fellow contestants thought he was a super player.

Dr. Bob Beeler, a fine veteran amateur from Sarasota, played with Jerry for the first two days. His observation: "Thoroughly enjoyable. That young fellow is the finest striker of a golf ball I have ever played with, anywhere."

That's a heap of praise from a real student of the game who has played with lots of good ones.

Jerry's win should make a few points for FSGA in Northwest Florida. Director Ed Greene of Panama City has been busy rating courses in the Pensacola area and trying to stimulate more interest in the Association. Now with our champion there and Chip Anderson's move to Sandestin we have the best nucleus ever for an active NW Florida branch operation.

BIG LEAGUE COVERAGE

FSGA sends along its gratitude to the Central Florida press for the major league coverage of the 57th Annual State Amateur Championship at Grenelefe Golf Club, Haines City last week.

The Big Three, Bill Kirby and Myron Hart, Tampa Tribune; Jim Wartens, Orlando Sentinel and Betty Ann Rhodes, St. Petersburg Times, staffed the event daily. Golf writers from the Lakeland Ledger, Winter Haven News Chief and Haines City Herald performed nobly and the Tampa and Orlando TV guys piled on a lot of film for the event.

The Jerry Pate-Andy Bean head-to-head drama was a cliff-hanger with the swinging Alabama team star from Pensacola nipping Gator Bean by one shot, 279 to 280 in the 72 hole thriller.

TOURNAMENTS REPORTED TO FSGA	
July 8-9	- FSGA State Jr. Boys Championship, Capri Isles, Venice
July 13-14	- FSGA Senior Four Ball Silver Lake C.C., Leesburg
Aug. 3-4	- FSGA Placid Lakes Invitational Placid Lakes C.C., Lake Placid
Aug. 25	- FSGA Scholarship One Day Event Lone Palm C.C., Lakeland
Aug. 23-24	- Cruetzfeld Jr. Tournament Sebring G.C., Sebring
Aug. 29-30	- Florida Jr. Invitational, Mission Inn C.C., Howey-in-the-Hills
Sept. 7	- Silver Lakes Invitational Silver Lakes C.C., Leesburg
Sept. 28-29	- FSGA State Four Ball Championship, Port Malabar C.C., Palm Bay
Oct. 12-13	- FSGA Seniors Championship Vero Beach C.C., Vero Beach
Oct. 11-13	- Mount Dora Invitational Mount Dora C.C., Mount Dora
Nov. 8-10	- FSGA Life at Forty Tournament, Lehigh Acres C.C., Lehigh Acres
Dec. 6-8	- FSGA Coast Federal Golf Classic Bent Tree Village, Sarasota

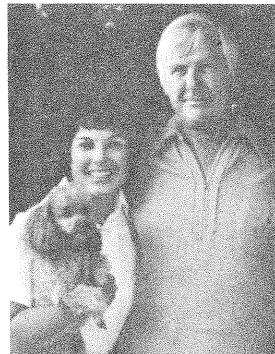
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GRENELEFE WAS GREAT

"Grenelefe, Arrowhead Lakes, or by any other name, it's a great golf course."

Such were the remarks about the site of the 57th State Amateur Golf Championship. Grenelefe, the prize of former FSGA President George Phelps of Haines City, formerly was known as Arrowhead Lakes.

It is a super track. Perhaps the best in Florida. Its condition for the Amateur was far superior to the two Disney World courses over which FSGAers struggled during the Member Invitational in April.



CASSIE, George and Tiger Phelps, Grenelefe hosts.

Contestants at Grenelefe found it tough but eminently fair, even through the final two rounds when it was strung out to its full, demanding length of 7,100 yards.

The fairness of the golf course, its superb condition and ideal weather prompted a seasoned observer the day before the tournament to forecast a winning score of four under or better. He was scoffed at.

The legion of followers who knew how the big track played from the back tees said, "Man, you're crazy. Even par or two over will get the job done."

Not so. Four under par was good for second place. Five under won. As it was at Silver Springs Shores last year, on a monster of a course, and as

it has been since the State Amateur has been played, the ultimate winner is a fella who has come to play. Jerry Pate was that fella this year.

Our thanks from the Association go out to George Phelps, his course superintendent and capable ground crew, to the clubhouse, golf shop and cart force who worked in tough conditions with new construction going on around them, to bring off a very successful tournament.

We look forward to getting back when the Grenelefe plant is finished with all the trimmings. Just don't do anything to change the golf course.



BILL DOTSON, center, had the beard for it when he won FSGA's King Neptune Tournament in Sarasota in March. The big Auburndale swinger was one under par for the 36 holes, scoring 141 at Rolling Green Golf Club. Here he is suitably rewarded by Kytte and Jane Folds, the current King Neptune and Queen Athena of the Sarasota Pageant. A set of new Action Golf irons and the Neptune trophy were Dotson's rewards.