



# Florida Golf News

WINTER, 1970

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## LEON SIKES, SR. WINS 1969 FAIRWAY AWARD

### Scholarship Change

FSGA has shifted its scholarship fund program from the University of Florida to Lake City Junior College. Lake City offers a two-year course of study under the title "School of Golf Course Operations". Students spend one summer in selected field locations training under leading golf course superintendents and specialists in other phases of the turf industry. Instructors are national leaders in the golf and turf industries.

Individual scholarships from FSGA amount to \$300 per student per year. Currently, there are three boys in the FSGA program at Lake City J.C., David Ratliff, James Shine and Robert Strait. Students receive the Associate of Science degree in Golf Course Operations. The students were selected by a faculty committee and representatives of FSGA. Selections were based on need of financial assistance and academic achievement.



Leon Sikes, Sr.

Leon Sikes, Sr. of Palm Beach and Lakeland has won the 1969 Florida State Golf Association Fairway Hall of Fame Award. The annual award is given to men who in the opinion of officials of FSGA have made valuable contributions to Florida golf over the years.

Mr. Sikes is not only an accomplished player of the game but has also been extremely active in organizing senior golf associations and various Florida tournaments. He is a past president and organizer of the Florida Seniors and American Seniors Associations. He is a charter member and executive committee member of the World Seniors, a member of the board of governors of the Southern Seniors and a past director of the Western Seniors. In addition, he is Chairman of the Father & Son Tournament held annually at Atlantis Country Club near Palm Beach. In fact, he has been solely responsible for the conduct of that tournament, one of the top father and son events in the country, since 1959. Mr. Sikes and son, Leon, Jr., won the Father & Son in 1967.

Mr. Sikes will be honored with a two day FSGA tournament and dinner at Avon Park Country Club in Avon Park on February 14 & 15. The tournament will be open to all current FSGA members and the first 160 entries will be accepted. There will be net and gross prizes for 36 holes of play with a Senior Division. In addition, everyone will be given an opportunity to beat the Hall of Fame Award Winner, Sikes. Each contestant will receive his full handicap and match his net score against Sikes' net score for the first day. All players bettering "Pappy" Sikes mark will receive a prize. See entry blank on page 3. For accommodations call: Southern Aire Motel - 453-3165 (813); Reeds Motel - 453-3194 (813); Avon Motel - 453-4951 (813).

*Best Wishes For The New Year*

*From*

*The FSGA Headquarters Staff*

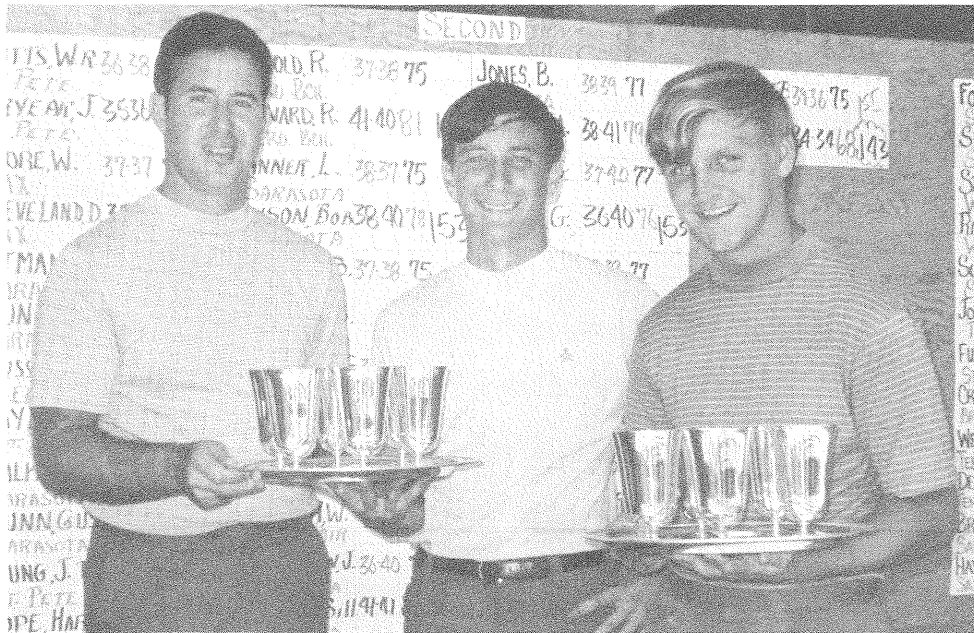
BILL and EDNA CAREY

CHIP ANDERSON

MARY JANE PALMER

**Please Note** - The office of the Florida State Golf Association is now located at 1734 Main Street, P. O. Drawer 1298, Sarasota, Florida 33578

## KOCH-PEARCE WIN FSGA FOURBALL



Florida State Golf Association President Bill Wodtke of Vero Beach, left, presents silver prizes to State Fourball Champions Gary Koch, center, and Eddie Pearce.

Florida Golf's dynamic duo of Eddie Pearce and Gary Koch scorched the new Sunset Country Club layout for rounds of 63-64, 127 and the Florida State Golf Association Fourball Championship. The fantastic 15 under par, 36 hole best ball score was a new record for the association event. The team combined the long driving of Pearce and "no nerves" putting of Koch into an endless stream of birdies and no bogies. They were six shots in front of runners-up Hank McWhorter and Jack Smith of Clearwater.

Last year's winner Mickey VanGerbig of Palm Beach took new partner Mike Killian of St. Pete and won third place with 65-69 134. Jimmy Smith and Jim Grode of Clearwater were fourth.

Koch and Pearce have both been FSGA Junior Champions, a title Koch now holds along with the Florida Open Crown. Both are members of the King High School golf team in Tampa.

Through the efforts of FSGA Executive Director Bill Carey, approval has been secured for Gary Koch and Eddie Pearce to appear in a Kiwanis Club charity golf match with Arnold Palmer and Gary Player. The match will be played Monday, March 9 over the Longboat Key Golf Course in Sarasota. Tickets for the charity event may be purchased at Longboat Key.

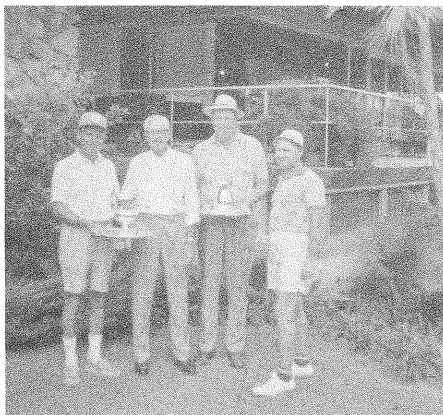
## AERTGEERTS TAKES SENIORS; NEW DIVISION FORMED

Jerry Aertgeerts, of Ormond Beach, was the overall winner of the second annual FSGA Seniors Division medal play championship played at Bay Hill, near Orlando, in September. He won the title on rounds of 71-74, 145 over the tough 6,030 yard senior layout at Bay Hill.

In the 55-59 age group, Hank Davis, of Clearwater, took low gross honors on rounds of 75-75, 150 and Rodney Howard of Vero Beach was the low net winner. The 60-64 division was topped by Ed Stephens of Gainesville with a 36 hole score of 160. Baseball great Al Lopez of

Tampa took the low net merchandise prize. 1969 Fairway Award winner Leon Sikes, Sr., of Palm Beach, fired rounds of 78-76 for a 154 total and first place in the 65-69 age group. Dennis D'Arcy of Bradenton had the low net score. Miami's Ed Randall took the 70 and older age group with excellent rounds of 79-80 for 159. Bay Hill's own Adrian McManus won low net. Silver and merchandise prizes were awarded in each flight. The field of 76 players doubled the turnout for the inaugural event also played at Bay Hill in 1968.

New Chairman of the Seniors Division of Florida State Golf Association, Bill Watts of St. Petersburg, reports that his committee is planning several events for 1970. They would like to hold a match play event in the Palm Beach area in June, a state stroke play tournament in September and have a Seniors Division of the Association's annual Member-Invitational to be played this year in Sebring and Avon Park, April 2-5. Exact dates and sites for other Senior events will be announced later. Watts and his committee are at work on an emblem for the Seniors Division and will set up a state wide board with representatives from each designated, geographical area.



Seniors Champion, Jerry Aertgeerts, with fellow competitors (l to r.) Adrian McManus, H. O. Davis and Billy Watts.

## 1970 Events

PLEASE SAVE

1970 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULES AS REPORTED TO THE FSGA

- Feb. 6-8 Gasparilla, Palma Ceia, Tampa.
- Feb. 14-15 FSGA Fairway Award Tournament, Avon Park C.C., Avon Park.
- Mar. (1st week) Florida Seniors Championship, Palma Ceia, Tampa.
- Mar. 5-7 Citrus Open, Rio Pinar, Orlando.
- Mar. 13-15 Silver Lake Invitational, Silver Lake, Leesburg.
- Apr. 2-5 FSGA Member Invitational, Harder Hall & Avon Park C.C., Sebring and Avon Park.
- Apr. 18-19 FSGA King Neptune Classic, Rolling Green, Sarasota.
- May 7-9 DeSoto Handicap, Bradenton.
- May 25 U.S.G.A. Open Qualifying, DeSoto Lakes, Sarasota.
- June 25-28 FSGA State Amateur, Tomoka Oaks, Ormond Beach.
- July 8-10 FSGA State Junior, Bobby Jones, Sarasota.
- Oct. 24-25 FSGA State 4 Ball, Cape Coral Country Club, Cape Coral (Ft. Myers).
- Nov. 20-22 FSGA Life at 40, Site to be named.

# GANNAWAY NAMED LIFE AT 40 WINNER

Bill Gannaway of Clearwater was declared the winner of FSGA's Life Begins at Forty Championship at Longboat Key Country Club in Sarasota when a day-long deluge washed out the final round of the fifty-four hole tournament. Gannaway had fired rounds of 76-75, 151 and held a one stroke lead over Luther Essex after thirty-six holes. Play was halted after two hours of steady rain had made some of the greens unplay-

able.

In the 40-49 age bracket, first flight, Norman Morton of Bradenton was third with 154 and Dr. Bob Beeler of Sarasota was one stroke back in fourth place. Harry Smith, Tampa, won the second flight with 167 and a "matched cards" victory over Leonard Corley and Dick Hunter. Leonard Mohr was fourth with 169. Third flight winner was Jack Roberts of Ft. Myers with 177.

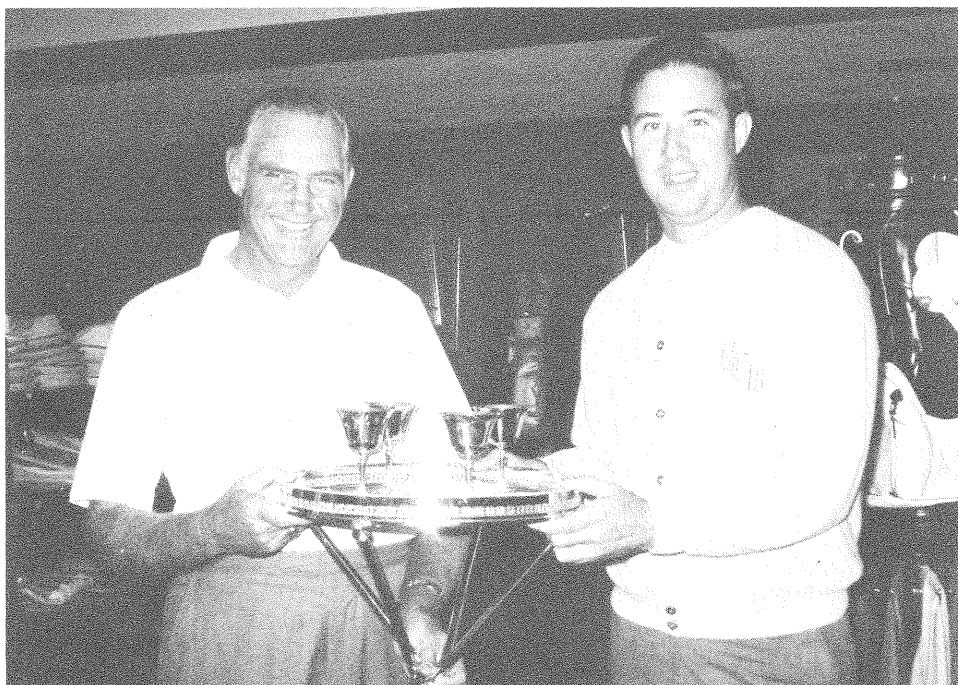
Don Lucas defeated L. L. Reid by matching cards for second place after they had tied with 179. Dr. Ken Kiehl scored 180 for fourth place.

Elmer Hightower won the 50-59 age group on rounds of 79-77, 156. Nate Schine was second at 157 and Glen Spoor got the nod over Hal Cromer for third after each had scored 158. In the second flight Gib Cooper of Englewood took first place with 174, while D. A. Daugherty was second at 176. Jim Duncan finished third at 177 and Martin Harkavy was fourth at 178.

Dr. Joe Hundly, Orlando, shot rounds of 77-76, 153 for first place in the 60 & Over age group. Dr. John Mercer was second at 157 and Robert Montague was third with 166. G. A. Crocker finished fourth at 169. The top spot in the second flight went to John Merriman with 176. John Barnes took second with 177 and Alex Walesky was third with 178. Big George Zaharias took the fourth spot with 180.

The first day's low team honors went to John Mercer, Nate Schine, Gib Cooper and Art Colling for their 145 total of the foursome's two best balls on each hole. The team of Joe Hundley, Ed Touchton, Bill Carey and Charles Garrison finished second, a result of matching cards.

A total of 124 amateurs entered the tenth annual Florida State Golf Association event.



Bill Gannaway, I, of Clearwater, receives the championship award for his performance in the FSGA Life Begins at 40 event.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Request for Individual Membership  
FLORIDA STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION

I am a member in good standing of FSGA member club

(Name of Club)

and desire individual membership in FSGA and Handicap Card in payment of which I enclose \$10.

This Membership Expires April 1, 1971

Please indicate below whether this is a renewal or new application

NEW       RENEWAL

..... Total of ten lowest differentials

PLEASE PRINT PLAINLY

Name .....

Street .....

City ..... Zip Code .....

Date of Birth .....

PLEASE MAIL TO W. P. CAREY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
P. O. DRAWER 1298, SARASOTA, FLORIDA 33578

## ENTRY BLANK

Entry for 1970 Fairway Award Tournament

ENTRY FOR 1970 FAIRWAY AWARD TOURNAMENT  
AVON PARK COUNTRY CLUB — AVON PARK, FLA.

BEAT "PAPPY" SIKES ★ NET & GROSS PRIZES

★ SENIORS DIVISION ★

No. ....  
(Do not use)

PLEASE FILL IN COMPLETELY

Name ..... Zip .....

Address ..... City .....

Home Club ..... Handicap .....

Member FSGA ..... Date of Birth .....

Send check for \$20 entry fee and \$10 membership fee  
(if not already an FSGA member) to:

**FLORIDA STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION**  
Postal Drawer 1298, Sarasota, Florida 33578  
Phone 958-6673

Limit 160 or entries close 5:00 P.M., Feb. 11  
No refunds or cancellations after that date  
STARTING TIMES WILL BE MAILED TO YOU.

BULK RATE  
U. S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 39  
Sarasota, Fla.

"This Association has been formed and exists for the purpose of promoting and conserving throughout the State of Florida the best interests and the true spirit of the game of Golf as embodied in its ancient and honorable traditions."

Published by FSGA — 1734 Main Street — Phone 958-6673  
 Sarasota, Florida 33578

## FLORIDA GOLF NEWS

# ROUNDUP OF 1969 FSGA ACTIVITY

1969 was a busy, exciting and productive year for Florida State Golf Association. Memberships swelled to approximately 1,000 and many new clubs have joined to raise that total to 186. Association President, Bill Wodtke of Vero Beach, has stated that he is pleased with the progress made in new tournament and membership development. Said Wodtke, "We look forward in 1970 to increased participation by District Directors in the recruitment of new members and the handling of area one and two day events. Our Seniors Section, under past president Watts, is progressing well and should bring more new members into FSGA."

St. Petersburg's Brad Baldwin won the first annual King Neptune Classic at Rolling Green Golf Club in Sarasota. Young Brad birdied the first hole of a sudden death playoff with Bob McKee after the two had tied with 36 hole scores of 145. The Classic is co-sponsored by the Florida State Golf Association and Sarasota's King Neptune Pageant Association. 64 players participated in the inaugural event.

Norton Harris, veteran senior golfer from Key West, broke out of the pack to win the Member Invitational at St. Lucie with a 72 hole score of 288. His final round of 72 left two youngsters behind on a windy day at the Sinners. Roger Kennedy took the second spot with 292 and Kelly Childs was third with 294. The Pompano Beach Country Club foursome of Roger Woonton, Glen Spoor, Hoagy Carmichael and Roger Kennedy won the team title with a combined score of 622. They edged West Palm Beach Country Club by two strokes.



State Amateur winners with President Wodtke. From left, Wodtke, Roger Kennedy, Champion Bob Rankin, and John Darr.

The big story at the 1969 State Amateur was the weather and the remarkably steady play of Clearwater's Bob Rankin. Burly Bob outplayed a field of 158 of the state's best amateurs over a very wet Longboat Key Golf Course in Sarasota. His steady 71-73-72-72, even par 288, took the title as the early leaders faltered over a course playing much longer than normal. John Darr finished second and Jack Veghte was third.

Go-Go Gary Koch, young supergolfer from Tampa, came to the FSGA Junior Championship at Rolling Green in Sarasota fresh from his fantastic win of the Florida Open. His ball control game and hot putter flashed a 54 hole total of 204 at a field of top notch teenagers. In winning the State Junior, Koch set a new record for the tournament on rounds of 68-69-67. Jay Rickles of Miami finished second and Mike San Filippo of Coral Gables was third. Jim Peeples, Tampa, won the 12-14



Member Invitational winner Norton Harris, center, Roger Kennedy, l, and Kelly Childs, r, at Pt. St. Lucie.

age group with a score of 230.

Complete results of FSGA Seniors, Fourball and Life at 40 tournaments appear elsewhere in the newsletter. There is also a tentative schedule of all 1970 events reported to FSGA at presstime. You may have your club or association tournament events listed in the FSGA newsletters by reporting dates and sites to the FSGA office. Again, our new address is FSGA, 1734 Main Street, P. O. Drawer 1298, Sarasota, Fla. 33578. All of the members of FSGA Headquarters staff wish you and yours a prosperous New Year. We have enjoyed working with you and look forward to seeing you at the 1970 tournaments.

## CLUB DUES

It's that time of year again. Member club dues in FSGA are payable as of January 1. They will be good until January 1, 1971.