Thanks for a lifetime of service

Fernandina Municipal Golf Course was the site of the January meeting of the North Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association to honor Ed Mattson. Mattson, 87, received the NFGCS lifetime achievement award for excellence in golf course operations.

He started working as a caddie at age 9 and then began to work in a pro shop. In 1927 he turned pro and he joined the PGA of America in 1929. He received his Class A card in 1933.

Mattson is responsible for the construction of 33 golf courses, including Fernandina Municipal. He moved to Fernandina Beach in 1957 to oversee the construction of the course. In addition to duties as the superintendent of grounds, he took on responsibilities of teaching pro and general manager. He is one of the original members of the Golf Course Superintendent’s Association of America.

On hand to observe the presentation was his wife Mary, the Florida state amateur champion in 1933, 1935 and 1936. She is presently teaching golf in Folkston, Ga.

Ed Mattson, seated, was given a lifetime achievement award by the North Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association in January. He is flanked by his wife, Mary, and Jim Ellis, left, and Lewis Chaff, right.