Browsing through past issues of the Florida Green, Green Sheet and other turf publications, I have found one common goal. Everyone is trying to accomplish better communications. Open lines of communication are established with the FTGA, GCSAA, USGA and other golf and turf associations so we can keep our members better informed on up-to-date news that affects our jobs and workplace.

Educational information from local meetings, regional seminars, pesticide safety workshops, Hands On articles is another way the FGCSA is communicating now.

Our director of communications, Joel Jackson, has been attending meetings of the FQPA Action Committee and Pesticide Review Council and sharing that information with you through our publications and reports to each chapter's external vice president. He has already put together a contact list of all state and federal legislators for each chapter to use for making contact on government relations issues. In the coming months, he will also be working on compiling a list of media contacts statewide to be able to send and receive information about our profession or any other issues concerning our industry.

I urge any superintendent or local chapter officer to be sure and contact Marie or Joel with any information they might think we may need to know about. It doesn’t have to be bad news or just government-related stuff. We’d also like to share names and contact numbers of good speakers you had for a chapter meeting; recognize local award winners; tell people about some community project your chapter or course may be involved in and job changes and openings. There’s lots to talk about!

We communicate on a daily basis with our bosses and employees so this is an area we should all do pretty well. I know we can’t always read every magazine, newsletter and all the literature and comes across our desks everyday, but you should try to at least look at your state and local publications. They are always trying to give you the latest of what’s going on internally and externally that affects you as a member of the FGCSA.

Communications is a two way street. The more informed we are the better we will be able to communicate effectively with everyone. You can communicate with us at:

Marie Roberts, Association Manager
• Phone: 800-732-6053
• Fax: (561) 692-9654
• Email: fgcsa@tcol.net

Joel Jackson, CGCS, Director of Communications
• Fax/Phone: (407) 248-1971
• Email: FLGrn@aol.com