



What Have You Done for Me Lately?

BY DAVID COURT, CGCS

FGCSA Membership Chairman

What have you done for me lately? This is a question asked by many people in a variety of situations. Maybe it's Steve Spurrier or Jimmy Johnson saying it to their quarterbacks. Closer to home it could be a green chairman asking his golf course superintendent. It really hits hard when a superintendent asks this of his local chapter or

state association, "What am I getting from the FGCSA for my \$70?"

Publications

First in publications you get the best magazine in the country produced by superintendents for superintendents, *The Florida Green*. 3,000 copies of the magazine are circulated to members, green chairmen, club managers, golf course builders, architects, turf researchers and other VIPs in the golf industry.

The FGCSA newsletter, *The Green Sheet*, is produced bimonthly and is a fact-filled publication that keeps members up to date with a calendar of upcoming events, highlights of FGCSA board meetings, legislative issues, public and media relations and educational opportunities.

The *FGCSA Membership Directory* is published annually and is sent out to all members throughout the state. It even has a nice cross reference in the back to let you locate another member by course and chapter.

Staff

Our state association has two of the

best staff members that an association could have. Marie Roberts, our association manager, is always there to help out. If you are looking for information about a job change, she has that information for members only. She assists the board members and committee chairmen carry out their duties. A 15-year FGCSA employee, Marie keeps the association's books and financial records, works as advertising manager for the *Florida Green*, puts together the *Green Sheet* and publishes the Membership Directory.

Joel Jackson, our director of communications, stays busy as the editor of *The Florida Green* magazine and *Green Sheet* newsletter. He also represents the FGCSA members at meetings of allied associations, government relations and public relations.

Joel has been selected to the board of directors of the Agriculture Institute of Florida and the advisory board of the Florida Golf Course Owners Association

He is also a member of the media-based International Network of Golf. It's easy to spot Joel at a function. He's the guy with the camera and tape recorder.

Education

The FGCSA partners with local chapters to host several GCSAA Regional Seminars throughout the year. These seminars can be taken by superintendents, assistants or other key staff members. CEUs are always available toward certification at these seminars. This is a great way to keep up with your continuing education for your current and future positions.

The FGCSA hosts additional credit-earning GCSAA/Etonic Leadership seminars at the Poa Annuia Classic each May in Naples and at the annual Florida Turfgrass Association Conference and Show along with practical concurrent education sessions.

The FGCSA also partners with industry representatives to put on a series of pesticide safety seminars around the state to provide opportunities for superintendents and pest control technicians to earn CEUs toward renewal of restricted pesticide licenses.

Turf Research

The FGCSA is well known for fund raising and research support not only in Florida but also nationally. Much of the effort can be recognized by the work done on the Otto Schmeisser Research Green at the University of Florida's Ft. Lauderdale Research and Education Center.

The FGCSA has also supported the development of the G.C. Horn Turf Research Center and the Envirotron Turfgrass Research Laboratory located in Gainesville.

The FGCSA is a charter member of the GCSAA Platinum Tee Club (\$5,000/year) and pledged an additional \$25,000 to the GCSAA's "Investing in the Beauty of Golf" campaign which supports practical, on-course turf research projects.

An FGCSA member serves as co-chairman on the FTGA Awards committee to help select worthwhile turf-related projects for funding and the FGCSA and its local chapters annually donate funds from special events to the FTGA to be designated for golf turf research.