business at your club. It is not sufficient to just run your department. If you understand how everything is connected and the revenues and expenses are in focus, you can make yourself more valuable and even a candidate for general manager if that is in your career path.

Ask questions. Admit mistakes. Always seek ways to improve and don’t be shy about writing reports and memos that highlight your learning experiences from peer visits, at monthly chapter meetings and GCSAA conference and show experiences.

“It shows you are on the ball working to improve yourself and the conditions at your club.”

From the man who walked the walk before he talked about it.

Larry Kieffer

Darren J. Davis Wins Second Leo Feser Award

Darren J. Davis, director of golf course operations at Olde Florida Golf Club, Naples, was presented with the 2002 Leo Feser Award Feb. 12 at the opening session of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America’s 74th International Golf Course Conference and Show in Atlanta. It was marked the second time Davis has won this award.

The Feser Award honors the best superintendent-authored article published in the association’s monthly magazine, Golf Course Management. The winner receives an all-expenses-paid trip to the conference and show and will have his name engraved on a plaque for display at GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence, Kan.

Davis was recognized for his two-part article, “An Olde Florida Course Made New,” published in the January and February 2002 issues of GCM. The article discussed the increasing problem of off-type bermudagrass. Because playability was being compromised by the progression of the “off-types,” Davis and his staff engineered an aggressive re-grassing project that has been well-received.

Davis is the only two-time winner of the Leo Feser Award. He previously received the award in 1997 for his article “Sowing the Seeds of Knowledge,” published in the December 1996 issue of GCM.

“Darren Davis’ article, ‘An Olde Florida Course Made New,’ is an excellent story that celebrates the revitalization of the Olde Florida Golf Club,” said Ricky D. Heine, CGCS, chairman of the GCSAA publications committee. “Darren is certainly a worthy recipient of GCSAA’s Leo Feser Award.”

Darren Davis, right, from the Olde Florida G.C. in Naples makes history as GCSAA President Mike Wallace presents him with his second GCSAA Leo Feser Award. Photo by Bruce Mathews.
The award honors the late Leo Feser, a pioneer golf course superintendent and a charter member of GCSAA. Feser is credited with keeping the association’s official publication alive during the Great Depression. For three years, he wrote, edited, assembled and published each issue of the magazine from his home in Wayzata, Minn. Davis is also a regular contributor to The Florida Green. His regular Hands-On feature called “Super Tips” conveys cost-effective and innovative ideas he has discovered on his visits to golf courses across the country and around the world.

Davis’s articles may be accessed at http://www.gcsaa.org/gcm/2002/jan02/01olde.html
http://www.gcsaa.org/gcm/2002/feb02/02olde.html

CFGCSA Gives Presidents Award To Leventhal

The Central Florida GCSA rewarded Stuart Leventhal, CGCS at the Interlachen Country Club for his 20-plus years of participation and support in the central Florida golf industry by selecting him to receive a 2002 FGCSA President’s Award for Lifetime Service.

Leventhal, originally from Natick, Mass., moved to Florida at age 5. His father was the general manager at the Wedgefield C.C. when Leventhal was in college and he worked part time on the course while pursuing a degree in criminal justice at the University of Central Florida in the late 1970s. Little did he realize that

Stewart Leventhal, CGCS