



G. C. S. A. A. Scholarship Award being presented by Norm Kramer to Bill Meyer, son of Tony Meyer, superintendent of Woodridge Country Club.

HISTORY AND PURPOSE OF THE GCSAA SCHOLARSHIP AND RESEARCH FUND

With the phenomenal increase in golf courses in the last fifteen years, the rapidly advancing technology in turf grass maintenance and the vacancies created by the loss of golf course superintendents by retirement or death, the need for many more additional golf course superintendents is obvious.

As early as 1958, this pressing need in golf's future has become so apparent that the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America met this challenge and responsibility by establishing its Scholarship and Research Fund.

To date, over \$86,000.00 has been distributed by this Fund to students and Universities through 166 individual scholarships and 29 research grants.

It is especially interesting and significant to note that, of the \$86,000.00 distributed during the 10 year history of the Fund, more than \$56,000.00 has come from National Golf Day. Last year, for example, the allocation from the proceeds of Golf Day to the Golf Course Superintendents of America Scholarship and Research Fund totaled \$12,600.00. Thus, the individual golfer through his participation in National Golf Day, is sharing an interest in the turf he will be playing on in the future. The balance of the monies distributed by the Scholarship and Research Fund has been contributed by individuals and manufacturers of turf maintenance equipment and supplies.

GCSAA Scholarships have been awarded to both undergraduate and graduate students at 24 of the nation's 50 land grant colleges plus two colleges in

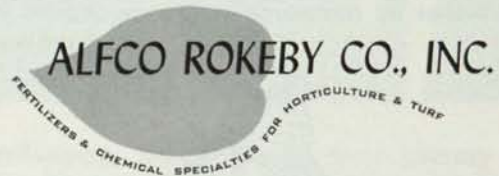
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Canada. The recipients of the scholarships have to meet four basic requirements as outlined by the Board of Directors of the Scholarship and Research Fund, Inc. They are:

1. Scholarship ability
2. Personal character
3. A professed interest in golf turf management as a career
4. A need for financial assistance

As in any scholarship program, no return can be guaranteed. However, approximately 25% of the students who have received GCSAA Scholarships over the past ten years are presently active golf course superintendents and members of the GCSAA. There are no records to show how many other former recipients are also active superintendents although not members of the national Association. The majority of the remainder are working in related fields in turf management with commercial firms, or in teaching or research at the national agronomy centers.

While the Fund has grown steadily since its inception in the amount of monies distributed each year and in the interest generated in young people in adopting golf turf management as a career, much remains to be done to satisfy the very definite need for more and more qualified superintendents each year. For this reason, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America will increase its efforts to help Golf Day event, in encouraging manufacturers and promote wider participation in the annual National commercial suppliers in the industry to greater and wider contributions, and will continue to seek out new sources of funds for this very worthwhile investment in the future of golf.