



Norman W. Kramer, GCSA Director

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME AS A GCSA DIRECTOR?

By Norman Kramer

The first important thing is to have a complete understanding with your family of the work and time that will be involved. They must realize that there will be countless hours spent away from home on GCSAA business and numerous hours at home spent in reading mail and answering correspondence. In order to do a really good job for the National, I believe a man's family must be behind him 100% since their life will be affected too.

Secondly, after the family understand and is willing and eager to cooperate, you must come to the same understanding with the people you work for; whether it be a private or public course — they must know and understand that there will be days when you will not be at the club and just exactly who will be in charge in your absence.

Time is, of course, a most valued thing in our lives — and this is the most needed in order to be an officer of the GCSAA. There are two meetings a year, one in the spring and one in the fall. The spring meeting is usually in May and the fall meeting in late October or November. The minimum time required for these meetings is four days each. In the case of the officers it is usually five or six depending on how much business must be done before the regular meetings begin. In my case, I have averaged five days each meeting due to the fact that as Co-Chairman of the Educational Committee and Public Relations Committee, we must meet a day in advance of the regular scheduled meeting to finalize all our committee business so that we are able to go into the Board meeting fully prepared. The time mentioned above excludes traveling time and each meeting is held in a different city with an eye toward future conference sites.

The annual conference and show held in January (or February) of each year means about 10 days of steady work for the GCSAA officers. The better part of two weeks is spent before, during and after the conference in meetings starting out with the Pre-conference meetings which begins on Friday morning before the conference and will run through Sunday night. The opening of the conference and show on Monday does not mean the end of the work — all officers and directors have various meetings and duties throughout the entire week to keep things running as smoothly as possible.

Immediately following the closing of the conference at Friday noon, the GCSAA Board goes back into session with the newly elected officers and directors. This meeting may run through to late Sunday afternoon with letup only for dinner and sleep.

While there is much work and time involved with the GCSAA we must not forget our local chapters — the backbone of our National. I average three meetings a month to local chapters in my area. And, of course, there are local and general turf conferences to attend. These are held at various times of the year depending on the areas. I have attended at least five of these each year, either as a speaker or guest, since my election in 1966. I also feel it very important to speak to local garden clubs, Rotary Clubs, Lions Clubs and any other local organizations I can fit into my schedule.

While serving as Director of the GCSAA is time consuming and involves much extra work we must remember the people before us who have given so much of their time and efforts in order to help our organization and profession move ahead. Serving on the Board of Directors of the GCSAA, as your representative, is a great honor. While it is not rewarding dollarwise of course, the satisfaction of being able to serve your fellow-superintendent and help your profession to move upward and onward toward better things gives an inner satisfaction combined with a great pride in the people who make up the GCSAA and pride in our chosen profession. I am humble, and at the same time, very proud to be a Director of the GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.

PRESS RELEASE

October 28, 1968

The first Certified Golf Superintendents were designated by the Rocky Mountain Golf Course Superintendents Association at their October meeting. Stan Metsker of Boulder Country Club and Ken Voorhies of Columbine Country Club were presented their certificates by Howard Gaskill, chairman of the certification committee.

Both of the men being honored are past presidents of the Association and have been in golf course work for over ten years. They also had to meet the educational and association requirements of the certification program.

The purpose of this program is to recognize those persons who are truly professional golf course superintendents. Such a man must have the specialized knowledge, the competence to practice, and the attitude of a professional man.