

# President's Message

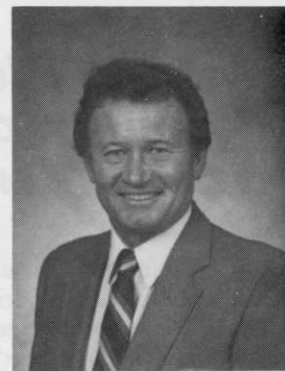
As stated in our by-laws, the purpose of the FGCSA is — *To Promote Turf Management as it pertains to the Golf Course Superintendent and to unify the Golf Course Superintendents of the State of Florida.*

During the past 7 years, the time and effort by FGCSA members to fulfill the organization's purpose has accomplished recognition by our own members, The Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America, The Florida Turf-Grass Association, The United States Golf Association, The University of Florida, The PGA, The LPGA, and our peers throughout the nation, as well as the golfing public.

Our thanks to all of those who have put forth their time and talent to accomplish the purpose of this organization.

We must continue to promote and protect ourselves, (No one else will do it for us). Your support and contribution (time and talent) are continually needed to further our progress.

Let's look at some of the accomplishments of the past 7 years.



*Jim Burrows*

**EQUAL REPRESENTATION** - Each Chapter Vice President is a director of the FGCSA. Four formal meetings are held annually, which are open to all members.

**GCSAA AND FTGA** - Both of these organizations now have our members on the following committees: Education, Public Relations, Research, Certification, Conference, By-Laws, and the FTGA Research Foundation.

**USGA** - A closer working relationship with the USGA now exists. A full-time agronomist is now employed by Florida. The annual Florida USGA Turf Conference has greatly improved and is one of our finest one day educational workshops available.

**IFAS** - We are recognized by IFAS as a fund producer, when we ask for research in a given area, or just ask for help from the University of Florida scientists, in most cases we get it.

We have FGCSA members on the Florida Agriculture Council and IFAS Advisory Committee. In the near future, we hope to have a member on the Pesticide Accessment Committee.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS** - We are now active in statewide affairs relating to golf courses. We have a member on the FTGA Legislative and South Florida Water Management District Committees.

We successfully participate in negotiations with the SFWMD concerning golf course water needs during periods of drought and restrictions.

**THE FLORIDA GREEN** - Our FGCSA quarterly magazine is proclaimed to be one of the finest golf course educational publications. It has won every National Award available.

**THE GREEN SHEET** - The recently established bi-monthly newsletter was created to produce communications between our 9 chapters.

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY** - An annual directory will be available in your hands in January of each year. It contains the current roster of all chapters plus other valuable information.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY** - Angie Hiers was recently hired, part-time, to assist the Board of Directors with FGCSA secretarial work.

THE FGCSA Address is: 3715 Golf Road, Boynton Beach, Florida 33436 Phone (305) 732-6987

**PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE** was established to upgrade the Golf Course Superintendent's image and to concentrate on improving public awareness of Golf Course Management.

This committee attended 12 PGA/LPGA tournaments last year to provide information concerning course conditions, highlighting course maintenance procedures, along with information on the Golf Course Superintendent.

So the committee has prepared a slide presentation that depicts the role of the modern Golf Course superintendent. This is available to all members.

**MEMBERSHIP SERVICES** - FGCSA Blue Blazers, Crests and Golf Shirts are available to all members.

**OUR EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE** has put on two successful management seminars, sponsored by the GCSAA for Certification Credits. These seminars are open to all members.

**A JOB REFERRAL SERVICE** was recently established to benefit Golf Course Superintendents looking for positions and clubs looking for superintendents.

**MEMBERSHIP RECRUITING** - There are currently 425 superintendent members. Our Membership Committee is currently working on getting some of those 350 superintendents who are not members.

**GOLF** - We are represented at the GCSAA Annual Tournament by the FGCSA Golf Team. Members have qualified for the team by winning one of the FGCSA sponsored golf tournaments.

Our Golf Committee is currently working on a program to get every FGCSA member to establish a USGA Handicap.

**FUND RAISING** - The Florida Golf Day, (A product of our Public Relations Committee) is a day proclaimed by Governor Graham to establish fund-raising activities for turf research and to stimulate interest in golf. Last year \$16,000.00 was collected.

Other FGCSA sponsored golf tournaments are: The Poa-Annua Classic, hosted by the Everglades Chapter and The Crowfoot Open, hosted by the Central Florida Chapter, The FTGA Scholarship and Research Tournament is also used as a FGCSA qualifying tournament. ■