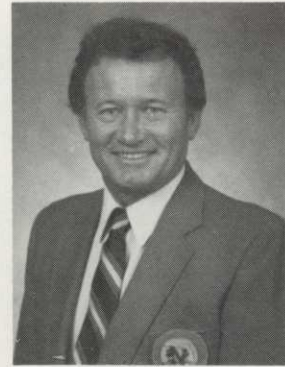


President's Message



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".

Equal Representation: Each local FGCSA chapter has a representative from their chapter who serves on the FGCSA Board of Directors. Each local has a say as to *how* the FGCSA is run.

GCSAA, FTGA, and USGA - These organizations perform research and product evaluation with monies provided for by the FGCSA. The U of F staff of agronomists, pathologists, nematologists, etc. are forever ready to assist us in problem areas or come to speak at our local educational meetings.

Drs. Augustine and Peacock serve the FGCSA as advisory members.

Dr. E. V. Burt, retired U of F agronomist, is now performing special requested assignments for the FGCSA. Current projects include assistance on the "Right to Know" Law and he is available to perform small workshops for employee on-the-job training.

Environmental Affairs - FGCSA members are active members of the Florida Agricultural Council, IFAS Advisory Committee, FTGA Legislative Committee, and Water Management District Committees. You, as an FGCSA member, are well represented and are kept constantly informed of "What's Happening"!

Florida Green - Our quarterly, national award-winning turf publication is sent to over 2500 superintendents, professionals, club presidents and managers throughout Florida. In addition to providing educational material, it is an outstanding public relations tool for you, the golf course superintendent.

Green Sheet - Our bimonthly communications letter provides FGCSA members with current, up-to-date news items about "What's Happening" in our nine local chapters plus regional and national news items.

Membership Directory - This annual publication is sent to all FGCSA members at the beginning of each year. It contains an up-to-date roster of all FGCSA members plus membership applications to the GCSAA, FTGA and FGCSA. Also, it includes our By-laws, association history, committee roster and Code of Ethics.

Our Executive Secretary - Marie Roberts assists all officers, directors, past presidents and committee chairmen in performing committee affairs more effectively.

The FGCSA Public Relations Committee this year will be assisted by FGCSA Past President, Paul Turcotte. He will concentrate public relations to several areas: 1) state-wide television promotion of golf maintenance and superintendents, 2) superintendent promotion at all major golf tournaments, 3) promote the use of our slide presentation depicting today's golf course superintendent, and 4) produce a packaged public relations program for use by all FGCSA chapters.

Fund Raising for Research and Product Evaluation. In 1985, the combined efforts of all FGCSA chapters produced over \$23,000. Funds went to Bermudagrass decline, nematode and mole cricket research. In 1986, we have set our goal to double this amount.

Education - Available for you in 1986, the FGCSA Education Committee will produce a full day management seminar at the FTGA regional Turf Conference and two 1/2 day management seminars at the Poa Classic and Crowfoot Open. All seminars offer GCSAA CEU credits. Also, the Education Committee will offer suggestions for local chapter education.

An Employment Referral Service format to benefit Golf Course Superintendents and Assistants looking for positions and clubs looking for Superintendents and Assistants was recently approved by our FGCSA Board of Directors and is now available. For more information, contact our FGCSA secretary, Marie Roberts.

Golf - Our Golf Committee continues to encourage all FGCSA members to establish a USGA handicap.

Ethics - Our existing Code of Ethics will soon be re-evaluated and perhaps be made more clearly defined.

Membership Services - Now available through the FGCSA office are 1) Membership Certificate and Membership Card, 2) FGCSA shirt, 3) FGCSA desk folder, 4) FGCSA portfolio, 5) FGCSA blue blazer, 6) FGCSA crest, 7) FGCSA golf shoe bag, and 8) certificate plaque. A Benevolent Fund for FGCSA membership is in the making.

A Membership Drive is on to get some of the 400 non-members in the state of Florida. Our current membership is now at 340 Superintendents and 110 Assistant Superintendents.

FGCSA Distinguished Service Award - A prestigious form of recognition of a deserving FGCSA Superintendent has been established. The yearly award will be presented to a member who has performed outstanding achievements as a golf course superintendent and has given his time unselfishly in promoting golf course management and unification of the Florida Golf Course Superintendent.

FGCSA Certification Committee is available to assist any member to gain GCSAA certification.

FGCSA Emissary is Past President Paul Turcotte. Paul will try to visit local meetings of all nine chapters to answer any questions pertaining to any of the functions of the FGCSA.

FGCSA Auditor is the firm of Ingram, Leslie and Wagner, C.P.A.

Membership Dues were increased in 1986 from \$10 to \$40/year. Many of the items discussed above are a direct result of this increase.

If you are not now a member of your local chapter, join now! Become an FGCSA member so that you may take advantage of all that is offered.

Jim Burrows