



President's Message

This issue contains interesting articles on both the Poa Annua Classic which is sponsored by our Everglades chapter and the Crowfoot Open which is sponsored by our Central Florida chapter. You should be receiving this issue during or just after the Florida Turfgrass Association Conference and Show. These events along with the GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Show are the four times during the year when Florida golf course superintendents are able to get out together to attend seminars, discuss common and unusual problems, and share fellowship with their peers. These events also give spouses the opportunity to meet and discuss some of the eccentricities of being married to a golf course superintendent. Nearly everyone who attends these events returns home feeling better about their profession and with a new idea or two about how they can improve their golf course.

Unfortunately, many of the golf course superintendents who are not able to attend these events are the ones who could benefit most by being there. There are many excuses given for non-participation.

- Many superintendents or their employers feel they are too busy to attend.
- Some clubs are not willing to pay their superintendent's expenses to attend these events.
- Some courses are in remote areas that make it difficult for superintendents to participate in their monthly local chapter meetings.
- Some clubs are not willing to pay membership dues to the FGCSA, FTGA, and GCSAA.

I have had the opportunity to attend all of these events for the past few years and I would like to assure those superintendents who have not been able to attend and the managers, greens committee chairmen, or owners who have not encouraged their superintendent to attend that they are missing an excellent opportunity to improve themselves or their superintendents and ultimately their golf courses.

It is too late to attend any of these events this year but there is plenty of time to plan for the future. As budgets are being formed for the 1989 fiscal year be sure to include membership dues to the FGCSA, FTGA, and GCSAA; and plan to include expenses to our state events and the national. Keep in mind that if you become a new member of the GCSAA this year you can attend the conference for free.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cecil C. Johnston". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cecil C. Johnston