

Be proud of what you do... and help all of us do it better



As I contemplated what I would say to you in this inaugural message, two thoughts dominated my feelings: One is pride in our profession and the other is service to our association.

I am very proud to be a superintendent. We are the key people in the golf industry. The diversity of talent displayed by superintendents across the nation and around the world is a credit to our profession. I am constantly inspired by — and grateful for — the leadership, ingenuity, dedication, perseverance, organization, and fellowship demonstrated by superintendents.

I now find myself the presiding officer of one of the finest associations in our industry. I am pleased to be able to serve the FGCSA to repay in some small measure for the benefits that I have received from the efforts of those who have so unselfishly helped to develop the FGCSA and promote our profession.

I want to congratulate all the superintendents who are serving the various chapters and the state association. Thank you for giving your time to help all of us.

The changing world about us, and the pursuit of excellence in our profession, will provide us with many challenges in the days and years ahead. We

have been addressing the areas of education, government relations, and research most vigorously. These issues and the improvement of our own internal communications will dominate our energies in the near future.

Let me close with this very personal thought about participation in associations. I was never much of a joiner, and like many of us, I was petrified at the thought of speaking before large groups. But as I began to enjoy the fruits of the labors of others who served my chapter, I felt obliged to become involved, to help out!

I finally volunteered to serve as a director of the Central Florida chapter. As I sowed the seeds of time and effort, I reaped a harvest of self-confidence, knowledge, and friendship.

I don't know who has benefitted the most, but it has been a personally and professionally rewarding experience that I urge all of you to try.

Joel D. Jackson, CGCS