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It is with great pride and pleasure that I address the membership of the FGCSA as your vice president. As is the case with many of my predecessors, I am starting off on the wrong track by writing this days after the

deadline! Perhaps more than many others before me, I am distinctly aware of what goes into the making of each issue. I had the pleasure of serving as Dan Jones' assistant during part of his fine tenure as editor of the *Florida Green Magazine*. I have vowed to Joel that this will be my only tardy submission. I hope the next two years during which I will be

addressing you will enable me to hold true on that promise.

FTGA

What do those letters stand for to the majority of us? After the poor attendance by FGCSA members at this year's conference, some may say that it stands for the Forgotten Turfgrass Association.

We must not allow this to happen!

The FTGA must remain a viable entity in Florida. This organization has taken tremendous strides to improve the position of the turfgrass industry in the state. Ladies and gentleman, we are the most important component of the turfgrass industry.

This organization has repeatedly altered its schedule and programs to address the concerns of the golf course superintendent in Florida. It is time for the FGCSA membership to show its support to our sister organization. Three of the

four members of their Executive Committee are golf course superintendents. The president, David Barnes, represents a sod producer whose primary customers are golf course superintendents.

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The vendors upon whom many of us rely for the majority of the year deserve our attendance. This is their opportunity to visit with each of us on a one-to-one basis. Due to the sheer size of the GCSAA show, personal contact is often not feasible there.

The FTGA relies upon the support of these vendors in order for the Conference and Show to be a success. Without our members attendance and support, the vendors will not be there to support the show, which will have a negative impact on FTGA.

We must rally behind this organization. Lend your support, and attend next year's Conference and Show!

Ready or not, here they come!

The winter masses have undoubtedly descended upon us by now. I hope that all our members are prepared for another season. Summer projects are a forgotten dream. The days are shorter, and the nights are cooler. Let's all take time to privately rejoice in our accomplishments. No one knows better than ourselves the fruits of our toils, which will become our golfer's reward for the coming season.

Finally, let us not forget our support at home. The holiday season will be rapidly approaching. We all deserve some Holiday Cheer!

Turfgrass is as the FTGA does

PERHAM'S PAGE



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