

It is with great pride that I assume the duties of president of the Florida Golf Course Superintendent Association. The executive committee; board of directors and FGCSA staff all look forward to working with you over the next year. Committee chairmen have been selected for the new year. Thank you to all of the board members who have accepted their respective positions.

The Awards Committee once again will be chaired by Clayton Estes. The Awards Committee develops, defines and upholds

the standards by which the various awards of the FGCSA are determined. The committee has been asked to modify and streamline the selection process of all award candidates to ensure that all worthy candidates are considered equally. The manner in which the Distinguished Service Award is distributed will be examined to make sure that

we do the best job of honoring the recipient. The DSA is our most treasured award and we want to make certain that we give the honoree proper attention.

Mike McCulloch will chair the Bylaws Committee. Members of this Committee are charged with ensuring that the business practices of the FGCSA follow the Bylaws of the GCSAA. All proposed bylaws must be submitted to the Executive Board 90 days prior to the next meeting and then to membership 30 days before the meeting.

The Education Chairman is Buddy Keene. This Committee is responsible for all educational programs. The initiative of the Education Committee is to ensure that educational offerings are spread throughout the calendar year. This will increase attendance at all education sites and increase revenues for all chapters. There is a calendar of events on our Web site (www.floridagcsa.com). If you are planning an educational seminar please contact Buddy, so he can review the events around the state to avoid any conflicts or

duplications.

Craig Weyandt is wearing at least three hats for us this year. In addition to his secretary/treasurer duties, he will become the finance chairman and still retain his Research Committee duties at this time. The Research Committee is charged with coordinating all research activities in Florida with the FTGA, GCSAA, USGA and other allied associations. The finance chairman typically is also the secretary/treasurer and is charged with watching our backs and to ascertain avenues for our financial stability. This year the Committee will also be reviewing the feasibility of changing our investment portfolio. At the present time, our money is earning less than 1% in CDs and money market funds. We will be looking into increasing our returns, while still remaining fiscally responsible in our investing.

Chris Ansley from the West Coast Chapter will be the FTGA Liaison. The FTGA liaison's job is to monitor all FTGA meetings through attendance or by the minutes provided by the FTGA. The FTGA is our closest ally in the state and we all hold the FTGA in the highest regard. Chris will be our voice and ears with the FTGA.

Our Fund-Raising Committee chairmanship will be handled by Jeff Brown. Jeff and his committee will work to develop and implement programs that will successfully raise money for use by the FGCSA. Their initiative for this year is to implement a system to solicit and raise donations from the local chapters. The FGCSA fund-raising activities have been non-existent in the past. Funds are required to offset recent additional financial obligations that the state board has undertaken as part of the state budget, which includes full responsibility for our Tallahassee lobbyist's expenses, certain cam-

paign donations and media/public relations expenditures.

Dale Kuehner will again be our GCSAA liaison and voting delegate. His duties include attending the annual chapter delegates meeting and casting your votes at the GCSAA Annual Meeting in February. Dale has done a tremendous job of researching the candidates and issues in the past and we can look forward to more of the same.

Once again, Joe Ondo has agreed to chair the Golf Committee. Joe keeps track of all of the winners of the Poa, Crowfoot, and FGCSA Championship and the competitors with the lowest average and whips them into shape for the FGCSA Team at the GCSAA Championship.

Ralph Dain is the chair of the Government Relations Committee. Members of this committee must work very closely with

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the director of communications in order to monitor government and similar agencies as their policies affect the FGCSA. The Government Relations Committee has also been charged with increasing FGCSA-member-courses' participation in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program. Florida has more golf courses than any other state and the program received the most publicity from Tim Hiers and his involvement early on in the cooperative effort to promote golf's environmental awareness. Our state goals are to attain 50 percent participation in five years as established by Audubon International.

The Membership Committee is being chaired by Matt Taylor. Matt's committee responsibility is to promote the benefits of FGCSA membership and in-turn will increase membership in the local chapters. This year the Membership Committee will be investigating the status of membership for assistant superintendents. The committee will investigate the value and costs of an assistant being a member, and methods on how to attract more assistant members.

Joe Pantaleo will chair the Publications Committee and his job is to ensure the quality of each and every one of our publications. This committee works very closely with Joel Jackson, Marie Roberts and Mike Perham to publish the best and most informative publication in the nation.

Steve Bernard will be in charge of the Standard Operating Procedure Committee. The purpose of this committee is to maintain continuity from administration to administration so that important procedures are not overlooked. This year the Committee will add the annual five-year financial projection into the SOP.

I recently attended the Pesticide Review Committee meeting in West Palm Beach with our Government Relations Committee chairman, Ralph Dain. The meeting opened up my eyes even more widely than before concerning the necessity of passing along the correct information to the researchers. One researcher was computing the amount of arsenic that golf courses apply each year. She took the average acreage per course and assumed that we spray every square foot of turf. *We are aware that we do not spray every foot; however, others are not. We must do a better job of getting the facts out.*

Please contact me with any comments or suggestions that you might have with regard to communicating the correct practices of golf course superintendents.

Going Around the Horn...



Greg A. Pheneger
President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE