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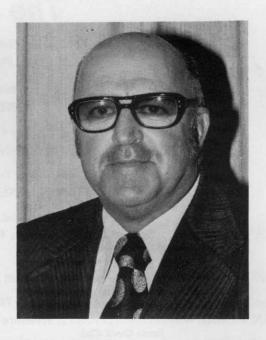
President's Message

After my recent comments on becoming active in the organizations which contribute heavily to the life blood of our profession, the following remark may sound contradictory.

"I think there are too many meetings."

"Let's back up and start in the beginning so we can analyze the situation and perhaps realize why those words are not inconsistent with my thoughts on effectual participation—rather they are germane to the fact.

Everyone must, yes must—not should, belong to a local superintendent's association. If you have chosen this profession as your career, then how can you honestly expect to take advantage of all the benefits without offering any contribution in return. "It's not what my country will do for me but rather it's what I can do for my country" may sound square, but it does hold true in all levels of existence. Certainly you don't just take from your family life without offering anything in return. Hopefully, while receiving, you contribute to your community, your church, your work, and anything else of importance and value to you. But how much can anyone give of themselves? And I am talking about a combination of money and time—both essential to the culmination of any cause.



In my opinion, a superintendent must also belong to the State association, the FT/GA, and the GCSAA—all absolutely vital segments in the wheel of successful maintenance of a golf course. That superintendent must make every effort to attend the GCSAA Turf Conference. This association is the outer rim which holds the industry wheel together. It cannot be a successful binder without your money and talent when requested.

That same superintendent must make an even greater effort to attend the FT/GA Turf conference. This assocation is one of the essential spokes in that success wheel due to the close affiliation with IFAS, our local potential supply of expertise, and the ability to gather and disseminate information of value for us. Again this assocation needs your money and your time and; your talent to enable it to hold up its portion of the wheel.

The FGCSA and the local chapters are the other essentail spokes with the individual superintendent being the hub. The rim is a needless hoop without spokes or a hub. The spokes are useless pegs without an attachment at both ends. And, although nothing can start to roll without the hub, it in itself is confined to rotating in its own tiny circle and would be ineffectual without the spokes and rim. It takes all to be a successful wheel.

Participating in and/or partaking of the GCSAA conference requires at least five days; the FT/GA conference, Golf Tournament, and FGCSA annual meeting four days. These events amount to what should be classified as required meeting time. There are now two other well established and managed golf tournaments — Poa Annua and Crowfoot. These must be supported as they contribute to our social well being and business survival. More required time of the superintendent — time important to both the event and the participant.

I personally think the local chapter meetings should be reduced to four per year—fewer and, hopefully, better. Many monthly meetings have and continue to amount to a social outing, lunch and golf, a very inexpensive and enjoyable day away from the job.

Try on this schedule for a year:
Four good, one day, educational programs
Four informal golf outings (seperate from above)
Two golf tournaments
FT/GA conference and tournaments
GCSAA conference

Six educational opportunities—seven golf opportunities

An individual would be REQUIRED to attend three of the educational sessions to qualify him for participation in the golf events. Too drastic, too demanding, too restrictive—I don't think so.

The greatest reward for man's toil is not what he gets out of it, but rather what be becomes from it.

Maybe, just maybe, we all can become slightly better superintendents and better contributors to our society.

Bill Wigner

The Florida Green

The Official Bulletin of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association Florida Green Phone: Days - (305) 793-0069 or 793-2497

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ABOUT OUR COVER Hole No. 9 of the Gold Course at Wyndemere Country Club, Naples, Florida. Mark Hampton is the golf course superintendent. See page 37.

David Bailey, C.G.C.S. Atlantis Country Club **Associate Editor**

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Watching Your Tees & Q's

by Steve Batten and Bud White United States Golf Association—Green Section Southeastern Region



MONTY MONCRIEF RETIRES

As of June 30, 1982, James B. (Monty) Moncrief, Director of the USGA Green Section, Southeastern Region, will officially retire, For more than 25 years, Monty through the Green Section, has served over 100 golf courses in Florida. Monty always said he was in the "information sharing business" as he talked about growing turfgrass with his colleagues.

During this time, he was responsible for bringing the first Tifdwarf bermudagrass plug to Dr. Glen Burton in 1961 for field evaluation. Since then, he has continued bringing plugs of natural mutations from golf courses to Tifton, Georgia, hoping to help further improve the section of fine bladed bermudagrasses.

Monty is a member of the American Society of Agronomy and is a certified profession agronomist. He has always supported superintendents association efforts, which is reflected by his membership in 13 of these organizations. Monty has consulted in 19 states and 6 countries outside the U.S. He has just received the A.W. Crain Diamond Award, the highest turfgrass award given in Texas. Other honors include the indoctrination into the Oklahoma Turfgrass Research Foundation Hall of Fame Award in 1977.



Mr. & Mrs. Monty Moncrief

When asked what he will do after retirement, Monty said he's going to join the big league and play all those golf courses he visited. That should keep him busy for the next 25 years. If you see Monty playing golf, be sure to remind him of a few simple rules he often spoke of. That is, play the course as you find it, and the ball where it lies.

Monty will remain very active in the Green Section and the turf industry after his retirement. He is part of the new USGA Turfgrass Research Foundation Committee which will fund hundreds of thousands of dollars for turf research over the next years. He will also frequent superintendent association meetings and accept speaking engagements.

Monty Moncrief may get a chance to catch his breath, but he will never retire...we won't let him! ■

Charles "Bud" White, Southeastern Senior Agronomist, will become the Southeastern Regional Director for the USGA following Monty's (semi-) retirement. The office will still be housed on the University of Georgia campus in Athens, Georgia. Since last fall's football season, Bud is the only Clemson grad allowed near the University of Georgia campus.

NEW USGA OFFICE IN FLORIDA

The Southeastern Region of the Green Section now has a new sub-regional office in Florida. This office will be headed by Steve Batten and located in Lake Worth. Steve joined the USGA on February 16, 1982—25 years to the day after Monty began his USGA career. Steve is originally from Okalhoma City, Oklahoma and has a BS and MS in agronomy from Oklahoma State University. During the past four years he has been the research associate for Dr. James Beard at Texas A&M University.

The new office in Florida is the product of over ten years of promotion by Monty Moncrief. Florida has over 30% of the total USGA Green Section Membership in the Southeastern Region alone, and boasts of more than 700 golf courses. The new sub-regional office is unique in being one of only two sub-regional offices in the United States. This means that Florida golf course superintendents can take advantage of having local USGA benefits.

Both Bud and Steve are looking forward to sharing their information and talents with the Florida golf course superintendents.