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FGCSA: from 0 to 600 in 20

The Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association was founded at the Palm Beach CC in April, 1970, as a confederation of regional associations.

Its original purpose was to open lines of communication, to provide a broader base for educational seminars and to establish stronger voting power in national affairs. Directors were the presidents of the regional associations.

Stan Clarke was the first president, annual dues were \$5, and the first statewide meeting was in January, 1971, at the Florida Agricultural Station in Fort Lauderdale.

Succeeding presidents were Paul Turcotte of the South Florida Association and C.R. Pearson of Bradenton.

Following a five-year dormancy, the FGCSA was revived in 1978 as a federation, with local chapters retaining complete autonomy in their internal affairs. The chapters are represented equally on the board of directors, which elects the three statewide officers: president, vice president and secretary/treasurer.

Public relations, government relations and research funding were added to the association's original goals.

Today, more than 600 superintendents and their assistants are affiliated with the FGCSA through 10 regional chapters, representing more than 400 golf courses from the Keys to the state capital in Tallahassee.

Monthly chapter meetings of the autonomous regional associations are the principal membership activities.

Functions of the state association are carried out by 20 different committees, whose meeting schedules vary according to their assignments. Their work is coordinated by a part-time executive secretary with a computer, answering machine and fax machine.

The FGCSA officers and directors meet quarterly — at the GCSAA convention in February, the Florida Turfgrass Association conference and show in October, and at two popular tournaments for superintendents, the Poa Annu Classic at Naples in May,

FGCSA COMMITTEES	
Bylaws	Long Range Planning
Certification	Membership
Crowfoot Open	Nominations
Education	Poa Annu Classic
Ethics	Publications
FTGA	Public Relations
Fund Raising	Research
GCSAA	Employment Survey
Golf	Voting Delegate
Government Relations	Conference

and the Crowfoot Open at Orlando in August. At the latter two events, the FGCSA education committee sponsors seminars which carry CEU credit for certification.

The FGCSA also helps sponsor the annual day-long USGA Green Section Conference (which may be expanded to two sessions in different parts of the state), an annual bentgrass seminar in South Florida and two seminars for golf course mechanics at Lake City Community College's School of Golf Course Operations.



FGCSA publications include a quarterly magazine, a bi-monthly newsletter and an annual membership directory. All are financially self-sufficient.

The FGCSA's latest project is a 20,000-square-foot research green — half of it built to USGA specifications and the other half built with the more typical so-called "Florida modification" (no choker layer of coarse sand) — at the University of Florida's Research and Education Center at Fort Lauderdale.

In addition to building the green at its own expense —

which topped \$10,000 despite donated materials and labor — the FGCSA has contracted with a technician to maintain the green to playing standards.

Most fundraising for research is conducted at the chapter level, but the state organization does coordinate "Florida Golf Week," which attempts to focus statewide attention on local

FGCSA PRESIDENTS	
Stan Clarke	1971
Paul Turcotte	1972
C.R. Pearson	1973
Tim Hiers	1978-80
Bill Wagner	1980-82
Devin Downing	1982-83
Don Delaney	1983-84
Tom Burrows	1984-86
Reed LeFebvre	1986-87
Dick Blake	1987-88
Cecil Johnston	1988-89
Joel Jackson	1989-90

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EVERGLADES GCSA

A&B Members 85
 Certified 7

Mark Atwood, CGCS
 President
 Bears Paw CC
 Naples

NORTH FLORIDA GCSA

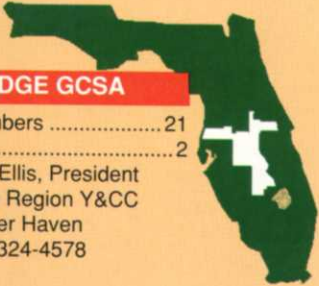
A&B Members 43
 Certified 7

Mark Waldron, President
 Turkey Creek CC
 Alachua
 904-462-4656



PALM BEACH GCSA

A&B Members 101
Certified 5
Peter Brooks, President
The Everglades Club
Palm Beach
407-655-7052



RIDGE GCSA

A&B Members 21
Certified 2
Bob Ellis, President
Lake Region Y&CC
Winter Haven
813-324-4578



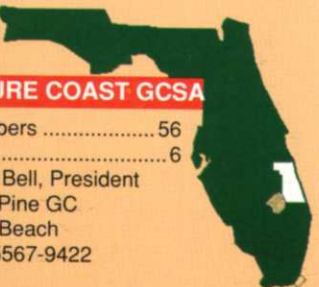
SOUTH FLORIDA GCSA

A&B Members 58
Certified 4
Joe Pantaleo, President
TPC at Eagle Trace
Miami
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SUN COAST GCSA

A&B Members 45
Certified 2
Talbot Denny, President
El Conquistador CC
Bradenton
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**FTGA RESEARCH FOUNDATION
1989 CONTRIBUTIONS**

Central Florida	\$2,000
Everglades	4,500
North Florida	2,000
Palm Beach	3,000
South Florida	3,200
Suncoast	3,000
Treasure Coast	1,000
West Coast	5,000
Florida Golf Week	<u>2,300</u>
Total*	\$26,000

* Does not include more than \$30,000 contributed towards construction and maintenance of the research green at the University of Florida's Research and Education Center.

fundraising efforts for turf research.

Public relations efforts are funneled through a variety of media.

A unique feature of the association's public relations program is its designated feature writer, who writes columns and stories for outside publications and assists reporters from the news media with technical information.

The association's award winning quarterly magazine, which began life

 <p>WEST COAST GCSA A&B Members 85 Certified 6 Marshall Edgren, CGCS President Mangrove Bay GC St. Petersburg 813-893-7907</p>	 <p>TALLAHASSEE GCSA A&B Members TBD Certified TBD Robert Giehls Organizing Superintendent Killearn CC Tallahassee 904-893-2412</p>
--	---

as the newsletter of the South Florida GCSA, is distributed to three persons at every golf course in the state: the superintendent (regardless of FGCSA affiliation), the golf professional and the greens chairman or general manager. The magazine's purpose is to speak for the golf course to the golf industry.

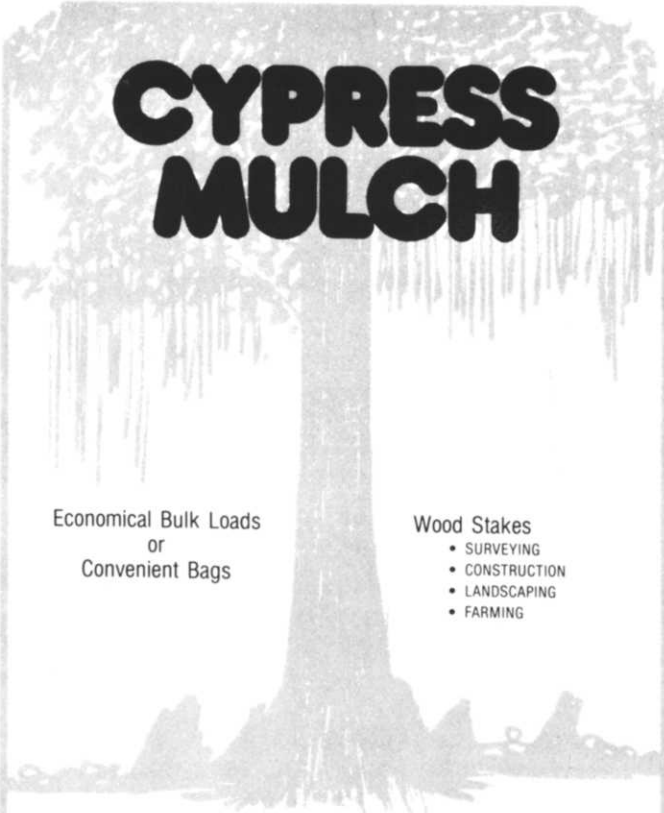
The bimonthly *Green Sheet*, on the other hand, is a newsletter aimed strictly at members and is the primary means of communicating official business.

The annual *Membership Directory* contains the rosters of all chapters, plus association history, code of ethics, by-

laws, committee assignments, member services and winners of the FGCSA's two awards.

The association sponsors two awards: the Distinguished Service Award and the President's Award. Both recognize outstanding contribution to the profession of golf course management, but the President's Award is intended to honor "pioneers who were instrumental in state and local affairs but who may no longer be actively involved in the FGCSA."

The FGCSA has a booth which it takes to trade shows such as the Florida Turfgrass Association conference and golf shows for the general public. 🏌️



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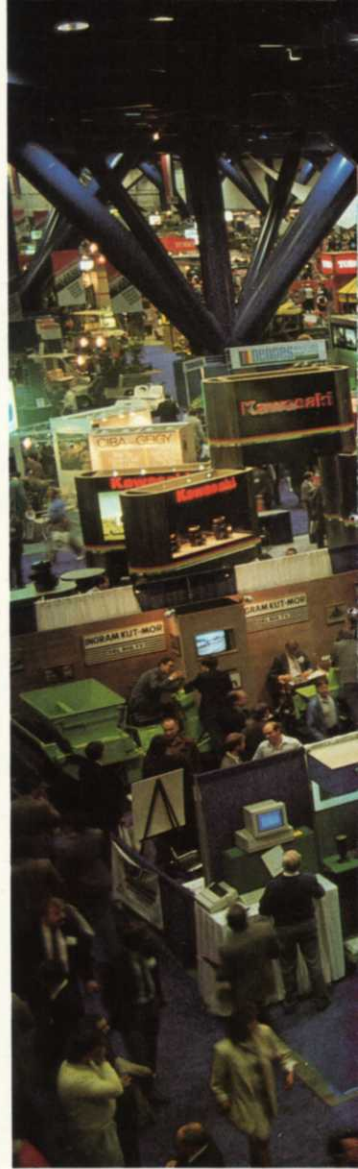
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The trade show, which occupies less than half the schedule of the International Golf Course Conference and Show, is one of the 150 largest shows in the United States. Until Orlando's Orange County Convention Center was expanded last year, no building in Florida was large enough to hold it.

It's the Greatest Show in Turf



If the rest of the golf world is in for a treat when it takes a close look at the situation in Florida, the same thing can be said for Floridians getting their first look at the International Golf Course Conference and Show sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

As many as 20,000 golf course superintendents, owners, operators, architects, builders, agronomists and mechanics from all over the world will pass through the doors of the Orange County Convention/Civic Center during the eight days of the 61st annual conference, which runs Feb. 19-26.

Although the trade show, which is so large that fewer than 20 facilities in the United States can handle it, is the most visible part of the convention, it is not the focal point. The show doesn't even open until the sixth day.

In fact, they don't even get around to holding the opening ceremonies for the conference until late on the fourth day, by which time 40 one-and-two-day seminars will have been completed.

Among the most popular seminars is the one-day session on study guidelines for the certification examination.

The seminar is recommended for those who are beginning their program of study for the CGCS designation, not

those slated to take the six-hour examination two days later. The seminars are available by advance registration and many are sold out months in advance. Although it is now too late to take advantage of the GCSAA's offer of free registration to all first-year GCSAA members, general registration will be available at the door starting Feb. 22. Basic admission is \$165 for members and \$215 for non-members. For information about last-minute seminar openings or other registration details, call the GCSAA at 800-GSA-SUPT.

Spouses may register for \$60, which includes admission to the Spouse Center Friday-Monday (Feb. 23-26), admission to the trade show Sunday and Monday, continental breakfast Friday, arts and crafts exhibit and major speaker on Sunday and entertainment by Claude the Gator on Monday. Optional escorted tours are available to all major tourist attractions and shopping areas.

Children age 3 and older may be registered for the Spouse Program for an additional \$60.

Students may obtain complete conference registration for \$50 (\$45 if a student-member of the GCSAA), as may golf course mechanics.

Mechanics will probably want to take advantage of a new half-day pro-

MAJOR CONFERENCE COMPONENTS

- Golf Championship
- 40 Continuing Education Seminars
- 6 GCSAA Education Sessions
- Trade Show
- 2 Symposia
- 3 Major Speakers
- Golf Course Builders of America
- American Society of Golf Course Architects
- USGA Green Section
- Golf Course Mechanics
- GCSAA Annual Meeting
- Old Tom Morris Banquet



GCSAA FILE PHOTO

gram devoted to their craft on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 25 (See agenda, Page 52).

Florida GCSA members who are registered for the convention also may issue a limited number of free passes to the trade show valid only on Feb. 26, known as Grounds Industry Day, to their own crew members.

Grounds Industry Day was inaugurated by the GCSAA last year to accommodate trade show exhibitors

who wished to expose their products to turf maintenance professionals who would not benefit from the golf-oriented education programs of the conference.

Golf course superintendents are not eligible for Grounds Industry Day passes.

Although the annual conference is sponsored by the GCSAA, three other major organizations in the golf course

- Florida superintendent runs for GCSAA Director 42
- FGCSA fields formidable team in national championship 44
- Florida greens chairman recalls a young Sherwood Moore 46
- Agendas for Architects, Builders, Mechanics, Green Section 52

industry conduct half-day open sessions. The Golf Course Builders of America meet Feb. 24; the American Society of Golf Course Architects meets Feb. 25; and the USGA Green Section's program is on Feb. 26. (See agendas, Page 52).

Environmental issues probably will be the primary topic of the conference, with a full day devoted to the subject during Friday's concurrent educational sessions. Among the topics to be covered are water quality and conservation, integrated pest management, hazard communication, underground petroleum tanks and the storage, disposal and recycling of chemicals.

As many as 2,000 foreigners may attend

The "International" in the conference title is no pretension.

Fully 10 percent of last year's attendees came from more than 30 foreign countries and, according to GCSAA Executive Director John Schilling, there is no reason to expect this year to be any different.

That means as many as 2,000 foreign visitors can be expected.

To take advantage of this unique international gathering, the GCSAA has scheduled an International Golf/Turfgrass Roundtable for Feb. 24.

The Roundtable is in addition to the traditional international reception, scheduled this year for Feb. 22 at 2 p.m.

CELEBRITY SPEAKERS

Dr. Ken Blanchard, author of *The One-Minute Manager* and noted motivational speaker and business consultant. Keynote address, Feb. 22.

James B. Irwin, Apollo 15 astronaut and eighth man to set foot on the surface of the moon. Prayer breakfast, Feb. 25.

Dr. Gayle Carson, motivational speaker. "Making Time Work for You," Feb. 25.

Joe Griffith, humorist and motivational speaker. "Grass Won't Grow if You Won't.," Feb. 25.

Tony Orlando, singer and actor. Featured entertainer at the closing banquet and show, Feb. 26.

Faculty for the environmental session includes Dr. Richard Cooper, University of Massachusetts; Dr. Richard Hull, University of Rhode Island; Dr. Stuart Cohen, Biospherics, Inc.; Dr. Bruce Branham, Michigan State University; Fred Haskett, Haskett/Mc-

Causland & Associates; Judy Heckman, EPA Office of Pesticide Programs; Jeffrey Holmes, Grand Traverse Resort; Mary Knaggs, Westchester CC; Bryan Corsini, American Association of Nurserymen; Vonnie Estes, Agri-Diagnostics; Dr. Charles Peacock, North Carolina State University; Dr. John Cisar, University of Florida; Al Kline, CGCS, University of New Mexico; Les Kennedy, Jr., CGCS, Oak Lane CC, Woodbridge, Conn.; Ross O'Fee, The Springs Club, Rancho Mirage, Calif.; Dr. Clark Throssell, Purdue University; Rod McWhirter, Rain Bird Sales, Inc.; Dr. Bruce Augustin, Lesco, Inc.; Ed Davis, R&D Sod Farms, Inc.; and Dr. K.A. Langeland, University of Florida.

Those not interested in environmental

issues have their choice of four other half-day sessions, each with similarly star-studded faculties.

Also new this year will be a government relations forum moderated by Robert Ochs, GCSAA legal and legislative counsel. The forum will be held in conjunction with the GCSAA's government relations committee meeting. Its purpose is to give superintendents the tools they need to inform government

(Continues on Page 52)

SPECIAL INTEREST FORUMS

Certification Open Forum

The GCSAA confers the designation, "Certified Golf Course Superintendent," or CGCS, to superintendents who complete a rigorous program of study, peer review and a written examination. The Certification Committee will answer questions about the program at an open forum Feb. 25.

Government Relations Forum

The GCSAA Government Relations Committee will conduct an open forum in conjunction with its meeting Feb. 25. Purpose is to equip superintendents to inform regulators about the unique nature of the profession.

Computer Users Group Meeting

Informal exchange of ideas on latest developments in hardware, software, and techniques.

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