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About the use of trade names: The use of trade names in this magazine is solely for the purpose of providing specific information and does not imply endorsement of the products named nor discrimination against similar unnamed products. It is the responsibility of the user to determine that product use is consistent with the directions on the label.

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A Job Well Done

President's Message



Greg Plotner, CGCS
President
FGCSA

It will be interesting to see if the GCSAA International Conference and Show can possibly get any better than this year's spectacular event in Orlando. From the educational sessions to the trade show to the many fine receptions, this year's show will not be forgotten anytime soon.

And how about Florida and its many fine superintendents being recognized for outstanding achievements at almost every affair during the conference and show? From our winning golf team (Florida #1) of Kevin Downing, Mark Hopkins, Buck Buckner and Jim Osborne to our National Environmental Steward Award Winner, Darren Davis, to Joel Jackson, our Editor-in-Chief of the top award-winning magazine, *The Florida Green*, Florida was a shining star among its peers.

The FGCSA, with the assistance of our industry's many valuable affiliates, also took top honors for its "gala" reception held on Friday night. Paul Crawford, you really outdid yourself on this one. How can you ever top it? Thanks goes to you from the FGCSA and the reception's sponsors for all of your hard work and a job well done!

Congratulations also go out to Gary Grigg, CGCS, now past president of the GCSAA, for his commitment and dedication to our profession through the years. Gary's presidential term of this past year will undoubtedly not be

forgotten, for he worked hard with his staff to help transform the GCSAA into a much more member-friendly organization.

The room on Friday night, in which the President's Reception was held in Gary's honor, was filled with many people who have had the opportunity to work with this great man, myself being one of them. For you see, my coming to Florida 10 years ago to be the golf course superintendent at Tampa Palms Golf and Country Club was because of Gary's recommendation. Many thanks to you, Gary, not only from me, but from everyone in the FGCSA.

Also, there were many other superintendents who are members of the FGCSA who received awards or were honored in Orlando that I have not mentioned. To all of you, congratulations on a job well done. All of our members should be proud of the accomplishments that were achieved by these FGCSA superintendents.

On another note, as expected, all bylaw changes for the GCSAA were approved as written. These changes carry some impacts with them that will affect the FGCSA and all of the local chapters. The Executive Board of the FGCSA is working on these bylaw changes and also on the affiliation agreements at this time. Hopefully all of the chapters will be able to review these changes and agreements before the Poa meeting in May. If anyone has any comments or concerns, please feel free to give me a call.

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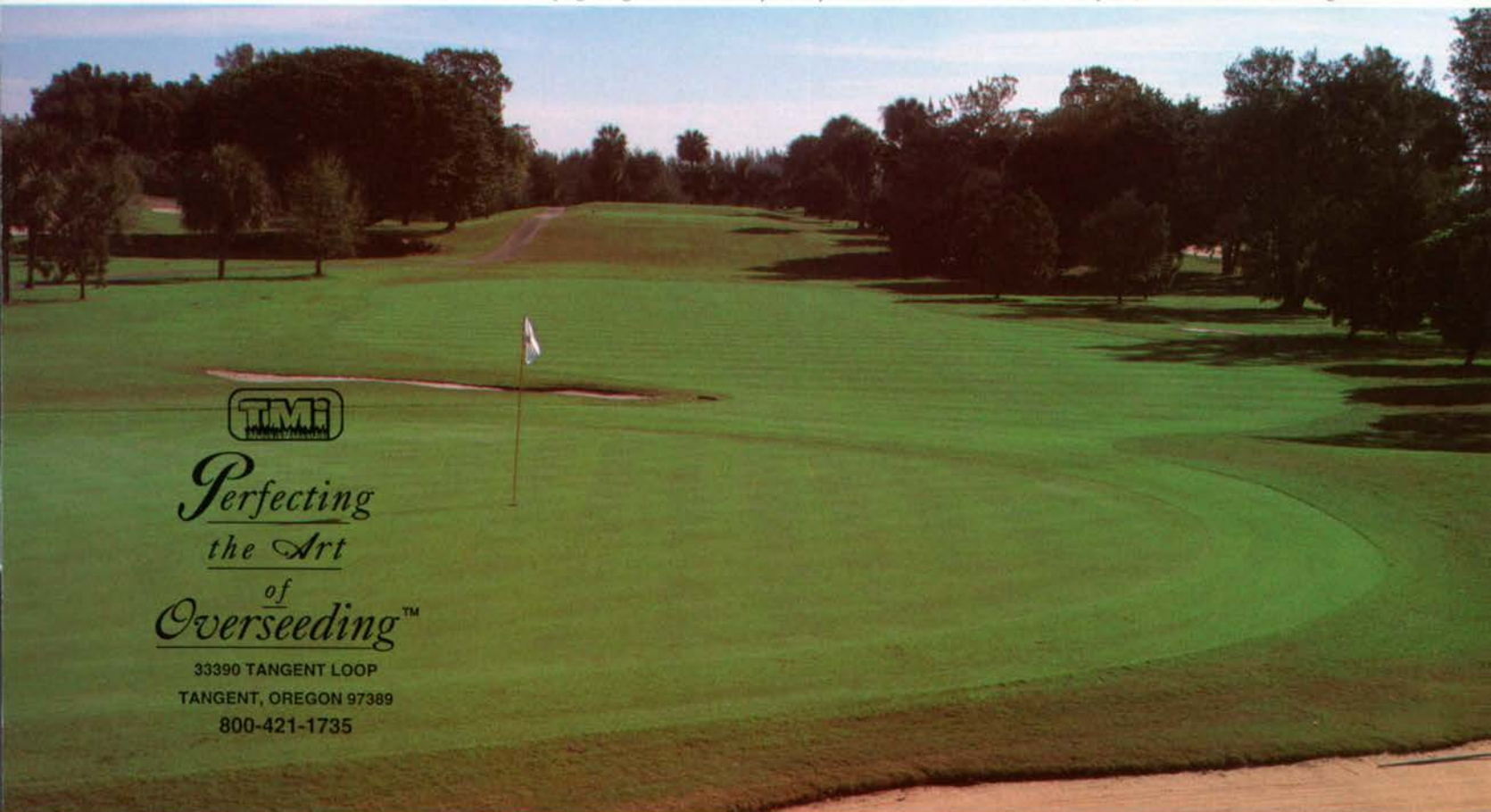


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At this year's annual meeting, we supported all the proposed bylaw changes. These all passed with overwhelming support from the GCSAA membership. This was a

difficult year for choosing which candidates to support. The people running for national office were exceptionally well qualified. We supported the following candidates: George Renault III, CGCS for Secretary/Treasurer; Ken Mangum, CGCS and R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS for Director. All three candidates were elected and Michael Wallace, CGCS was appointed to the Board.

I have been asked many times how the delegate process works. When someone originally joins the GCSAA, they fill out a form stating how they wish to vote. You can vote as an individual, by proxy, or chapter delegate. If you choose to vote as an individual, you must attend the GCSAA annual meeting at the Annual Conference & Show to cast your vote. If you choose to vote by chapter delegate, your vote is cast by the certified Voting Delegate representing the chapter you assigned your vote to. This remains the case until you change your voting status. We encourage all new members to assign their votes to the FGCSA and not their local chapter if they want to vote by delegate. This allows the FGCSA Voting delegate to cast one large ballot as opposed to casting ten smaller ones for each chapter.

One of the major reasons for the formation of the State Association (State Chapter) was to give the superintendents a strong voice in GCSAA matters. Because of our 12-month season, it is difficult for a Florida Superintendent to run for the GCSAA Board of Directors. By uniting our voting power, we can champion issues and candidates we feel will be in the best interest of all GCSAA members including Florida. The following is a brief synopsis of how the voting delegate process works.

At the FGCSA Summer Board Meeting or

soon after, the FGCSA Board of Directors approves the selection of the Voting Delegate and Alternate Voting Delegate, who will represent the state. This is usually a presidential appointment and is someone who has an interest in the process.

Every September, the GCSAA holds the annual Chapter Relations meeting at headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas. In the past, each chapter could send a representative, usually the External Vice President. In the future it will be only the Affiliated Chapters that will be able to send a representative. This meeting is the first opportunity for chapter delegates to see and meet the candidates nominated for the GCSAA Board and discuss possible bylaw proposals. After returning from Kansas, the local chapter delegates meet with their respective chapter members and boards to discuss any issues raised and to review the slate of candidates.

At the next FGCSA board meeting after

It's Your Vote

Kuehner's Corner



Dale Kuehner, CGCS
Vice President

Articles of Incorporation and By Law Changes

	Yes	No
Ballot Issue #1 - Modification of articles of incorporation allowing chapter delegates and proxy voting for modification in annual dues for Class AA, A, B and C members	6632	9
Ballot Issue #2 - Beginning July 1, 1997, that each new Class A and B member residing in the U.S., except Alaska, must also be a member of an affiliated chapter.	6093	548
Ballot Issue #3 - Removing voting rights from Class C members and adding section to the bylaws delineating the rights of membership.	5437	1204
Ballot Issue #4 - That all chapters must have an Affiliation Agreement with GCSAA and establishing disciplinary action for violation of the agreement and Code of Ethics	6156	485
Ballot Issue #5 - Allowing the Stadnards/Bylaws Committee to reject proposed amendments and providing a means for an individual to submit a proposed amendment to membership vote.	6423	218
Ballot Issue #6 - Allowing chapter delegates and proxy holders to vote on modifications of annual dues, allowing the Board of Directors to remove or discipline a board member, allowing for the board to hold special meetings by phone, allowing a Director to waive the right to meeting notice, indemnifying Directors for simple negligence in accordance with state laws and providing for the dissolution of the Association and distribution of the assets in accordance with state and federal laws.	6609	12
A ballot for reduction of Class C dues to \$105, one-half of class A and B dues was also approved.	5571	279

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Kansas, the various external vice presidents report each chapters's position on the issues and the candidates. If there is no clear choice or preference of whom to vote for, a caucus is planned for the national conference after further conversations and meetings with the candidates. This past year we were fortunate to have GCSAA President Gary Grigg attend all FGCSA board meetings to keep us informed of the latest details and concerns relating to Chapter Affiliation.

Each candidate for office is invited to the FGCSA reception held during Conference & Show week prior to the Annual Meeting. This gives the voting delegate and any other interested members the opportunity to discuss any important issues with the candidates. After meeting with the candidates, the final caucus is held to decide how the Voting Delegate will cast the FGCSA votes. If any individual member or chapter disagrees with the FGCSA voting preferences, they can instruct the voting delegate to cast their vote(s) differently from the rest of the state. After all, it is your vote!

Vote Count for Officers and Directors

President	✓	Bruce Williams, CGCS	By Acclamation
Vice President	✓	Paul McGinnis, CGCS	By Acclamation
Secretary/ Treasurer		Dave Fearis, CGCS	2201
	✓	George Renault, CGCS	3742
		Paul Dermott, CGCS	711
	✓	Ken Mangum, CGCS	3507
Directors		Sam Snyder, CGCS	1502
		Robert Tillema, CGCS	825
	✓	Michael Wallace, CGCS	2310
	✓	Scott Woodhead, CGCS	3037

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