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I want you to feel free to call me if there is something going on you don't like or understand.

It seems like only a few years ago that I began attending state board meetings and listening to what was going on in our state and the GCSAA. I had

volunteered to be the external vice president for the Central Florida Chapter. I remember attending FGCSA meetings when Bill Wagner was president, so it has been over 15 years ago.

As your president this year, I am looking forward to working with Mike Perham, Darren

Davis, Dale Kuehner, Association Manager Marie Roberts, *Florida Green* editor, Joel Jackson and all the board members to keep the association growing and informed of all industry-related news and activities. We will try to provide education and seminars that will benefit superintendents, assistant superintendents, and their employees.

I would like to see more superintendents become involved in local and state association activities. I would like to see more superintendents write more articles for the *Florida Green* to tell your story to everyone who reads

the magazine. I enjoy reading the magazine and everything it has to offer and I hope you do too.

I would like to congratulate Gary Grigg on winning the 1997 FGCSA Distinguished Service Award. Having served in all offices of the GCSAA, Gary additionally gave his time to keep the FGCSA informed of all GCSAA-related activities. He also has done a great job of improving the image of superintendents nationally and here in Florida.

I want to thank each chapter in our state for the great job they do in fund raising each year. I encourage them to keep up the good work. We will all benefit from the money spent for future research. Hopefully, by the time you read this, the University of Florida will have named the new Turf Coordinator so more research can be done in the turf program to benefit all of us.

I have met many superintendents in my 18-plus years at Winter Pines and I hope that you will call me if there is something you would like to see done. Also, I want you to feel free to call me if there is something going on you don't like or understand.

Here's looking forward to another successful and productive year.

Looking forward, getting involved

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Joe Ondo, CGCS
President
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It is incumbent upon all of us to offer our suggestions on what can be done to improve upon the Conference and Show schedule to attract FGCSA members. We are well represented within FTGA

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.

It is incumbent upon all of us to offer our suggestions on what can be done to improve upon the Conference and Show schedule to attract FGCSA members. We are well represented within FTGA

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!

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**PERHAM'S
PAGE**



Michael Perham, CGCS
Vice President
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1997-98 FGCSA Board of Directors from left: Cary Lewis, CGCS, West Coast; Geoff Coggan, CGCS, Central Florida; Craig Weyandt, Treasure Coast; David Court, CGCS, Palm Beach; Jim Goins, South Florida; Paul Illgen, Seven Rivers; and Gary Grigg, CGCS, Everglades. Not pictured: Todd Carlton, Coastal Plains; Steve LaFrance, North Florida; Roy Wilshire, CGCS, Ridge; and Tom Crawford, Suncoast. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Crowfoot renamed in honor of Kamphaus

FGCSA leaders take office at annual event

BY JOE ONDO, CGCS

AND JOEL JACKSON, CGCS

The 21st Crowfoot Open weekend began Saturday, August 2, 1997 with the Summer FGCSA Board of Directors meeting and FGCSA Annual Meeting for election of officers.

The new officers for 1997-98 are Joe Ondo, CGCS, president; Mike Perham, CGCS, vice president; and Darren Davis, secretary/treasurer. Other highlights of the meeting included:

- Adoption of the 1997-98 operating budget
- A report from Roy Bates, president of the FTGA on the final stages of the IFAS Turf Coordinator selection
- Roy also gave an update on the movement to found a Florida Golf Alliance of all major golf entities in the state. The FTGA and FGCSA remain key players in this endeavor.
- Golf Agronomics donated \$6,000 from proceeds of their rebate program. This makes six straight years of participation by GASH. Their donations have exceeded \$30,000.
- Review of the 1997 Florida Legislative session by consultant, Mike Goldie.



FGCSA President Joe Ondo, CGCS, left; Mike Perham, CGCS, center, vice president; Darren Davis, secretary/treasurer.

The Fall FGCSA Board Meeting is scheduled to be a two-day affair, Nov. 7-8, at the Grenelefe Resort in Haines City. The meeting will feature Joe O'Brien of the GCSAA as facilitator of a one-day planning and organizational assessment session on Saturday following the regular board meeting on Friday. All chapters should send their representatives to this informative working session.

Sunday, Aug. 3 was spent in practice rounds and theme park visitation as superintendents' families took advantage of the Crowfoot Open's proximity to Disney World, Sea World and Universal

Studios. Later that evening, the traditional banquet got a new look as a casual pool party held at the host Grand Cypress Villas. After a sumptuous buffet dinner, the crowd was entertained by a Polynesian revue complete with hula dancers who selected willing subjects from the audience.

Host Tom Alex announced that the Crowfoot Open will be known as the Larry Kamphaus-Crowfoot Open in honor of Walt Disney World superintendent Larry Kamphaus who served as chairman of the event for the past 17 years.