

THE GREEN SHEET



VOLUME XI, PART 5, SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1995

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 9 GCSAA Chapter Relations Meeting, Lawrence
- Sept. 12 PBGCSA golf outing, The Little Club
- Sept. 12 Suncoast chapter meeting, Tara GC
- Sept. 19 Everglades meeting, Wildcat Run CC, Naples
- Sept. 23 Lake City Community College Alumni Golf Tournament, TPC of Tampa Bay
- Sept. 24 FTGA Research Golf Tournament, Sun City Center - Cypress Green and South Course. FGCSA Chapter Championship Tournament, River Hills CC, Valrico. Both tournaments followed by Toro Corn Boil at Simmons Ranch.
- Sept. 24 - 27 FTGA 43rd Annual Conference & Show, Tampa Convention Center
- Oct. 5 GCSAA Regional Seminar co-sponsored by FGCSA, Integrated Pest Management, Naples
- Oct. 10 North Florida chapter meeting, Ponte Vedra Inn
- Oct. 13 SFGCSA's Adam Walsh Golf Tournament, Inverrary, Fort Lauderdale
- Oct. 16 Suncoast chapter meeting, Pasadena Y&CC
- Oct. 20 Everglades Pro/Super Golf Tournament, The Forest CC, Fort Myers
- Nov. 2 GCSAA seminar, Preventative Maintenance of Turf Equipment, Riverwood GC, Port Charlotte
- Nov. 7 SFGCSA chapter meeting, Key Biscayne
- Nov. 8 PBGCSA chapter meeting, The Falls CC
- Nov. 9 2nd Annual Golf Course Expo, Orlando
- Nov. 14 North Florida chapter meeting, Windsor Parke



Tom Benefield, CGCS, addresses the crowd at the Crowfoot Open banquet after being announced as winner of the FGCSA 1995 Distinguished Service Award

Tom Benefield, CGCS, is a true Gator Fan! He received his degree in Golf Course Operations from Lake City CC. After serving at two golf courses in Texas, he returned to Florida as superintendent at Sun Air CC in Dundee, then on to Beacons Woods in Spring Hill and finally to BallenIsles CC in Palm Beach.

Tom served on the Board of the FGCSA from 1988-1993 and was President of the FGCSA in 1991. He served as editor of the Green Sheet from 1992 to 1994 and also took over the editorship of the Florida Green from Joel Jackson during that same time frame. Tom has been -- and continues to be -- a leader in keeping a watchful eye on the Florida Water Management Districts as they formulate regulations on reclaimed water usage. He has been instrumental in seeing that the WMDs are aware of the true value of golf courses as users of this recycled water. Even though Tom is no longer employed as a golf course superintendent, he continues to give his time unselfishly to serving the industry.

President's Message by Greg Plotner

As the new President of the FGCSA, I would like to thank all of you, especially Scott Bell and Dale Kuehner, CGCS, for making this past year such a successful one and with some hard work and a little luck, this coming year could be even better.

In review of this past year, our Research Committee, headed by Kevin Downing, CGCS, delivered to the Board of the FGCSA a proposal to fund the DNA study in a co-operative effort with the Florida Turfgrass Association. It was accepted and funded at the Poa Board Meeting in Naples last May. This year a ball roll study on our research green in Fort Lauderdale is receiving a lot of attention. This type of study has been done in the past, but not on Bermuda grass.

Mark Jarrell, head of the Fund Raising Committee, is continuing to find vendors who wish to start up a rebate program. New programs this year will include Valent USA.

The CIBA program increased dramatically from last year and has every indication of increasing again this year. Golf Agronomics continues to increase their donation every year as well. These types of programs are the lifeline of the FGCSA. Anyone interested in starting up such a program should contact Mark.

Our Education Committee, headed up by David Court, CGCS, brought to the membership this past year some quality seminars. Attendance at some of the seminars was somewhat disappointing so efforts will be made this year to increase participation from our members. Please call Chip

Fowkes if you have any ideas or concerns.

Mike Mongoven, CGCS, who heads up the Government Relations Committee, has assisted the DEP for the State of Florida in bringing a manual to all of our members on Best Management Practices for Golf Course Operations. It should be of assistance to anyone having questions about being in compliance with state regulatory agencies. The committee also urges all chapters to invite Mike Goldie, our lobbyist in Tallahassee, to speak at a monthly meeting.

These are but a few of the many people who have taken the time to help make the FGCSA what it is — an association that is working hard for its members. I urge all of you to get involved and help support our great association. If there is anything I can ever do for you, please feel free to give me a call. I look forward to serving as President of the FGCSA this year.



THE GREEN SHEET

Editor:

Greg Plotner, CGCS
The Medalist Golf Club
Hobe Sound, FL 33475
(407) 546-0647
(407) 546-1795 (fax)

News Coordinator:

Mrs. Marie Roberts
1760 N.W. Pine Lake Drive
Stuart, FL 34994
(407) 692-9349
(407) 692-9654 (Fax)
(800) 732-6053 (Florida Wats)

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All material submitted for printing will be edited at the discretion of the editor. Material must be typed or clearly printed. All photos must be black and white. Items must be for the good of the association.

Deadline next issue, October 15.

New FGCSA officers for the 1995-1996 year are:

President: Greg Plotner, CGCS,
The Medalist Golf Club,
Hobe Sound.

Vice Pres.: Dale Kuehner, CGCS,
Colony West GC, Tamarac

Sec/Treas: Joe Ondo, CGCS
Winter Pines GC, Orlando

Past President: Scott Bell
Bent Pines GC, Vero Beach

19th Annual Crowfoot Open Recap

The 19th Annual Crowfoot Open was held this year at Arnold Palmer's Bay Hill Club. The weekend started on Friday with a seminar by Mr. Richard Kithil on Lightning Protection on your course. Some helpful ideas on how to protect your golfing members on the course and also protection of your computers, pumps, phones, controllers and all aspects of your maintenance program was appreciated by all who attended. Clean-up from Hurricane Erin forced many superintendents to miss this outstanding presentation. Local chapter officers are urged to contact David Court, FGCSA Education Chairman, if they would like to hold this seminar in their area.

On Saturday, the FGCSA Board Meeting was held with GCSAA President Gary Grigg informing the board of the proposed changes that GCSAA wants to implement for their affiliated chapters. Kevin Downing and his Research Committee should be applauded for all the hard work being done in getting the DNA project started as well as all the current research work that is being done on the FGCSA green that will benefit all superintendents and other people in our industry for years to come.

On Sunday evening, Dan Riley (with a little help from Larry Kamphaus) entertained all superintendents, wives, sponsors and guests. Congratulations to all the FGCSA Presidents Awards winners Paul Frank of Everglades chapter, Billy Wright from Palm Beach chapter and Mike Barger of the South Florida chapter. Special congratulations is due to Tom Benefield who received this year's Distinguished Service Award.

Now to the important information — tournament results! On Monday morning, an 8:00 a.m. shotgun start was held and Superintendent Dwight Kummer and his staff had Bay Hill



prepared in excellent condition for the 140 superintendents, suppliers, sponsors and guests. Bay Hill showed why it is one of the toughest courses in Florida as only seven players managed to break 80. Mark Hopkins managed his way around to a fine 71 to win Low Gross honors and a spot on the Florida GCSA team. Finishing second was Steve Sorrel with a 74 and Buck Buckner finished third with a 76. Low Net honors went to Tom Trammel in a match of cards with Jay Gratton as both had 68. Fred Kleinfelder was third in the supplier and guest division; John Meade fired a 76 to win Low Gross honors and Gary Wilhelm won the division with a match of cards with Mike Miles for second. In the Net division, Bill Lloyd finished first with a 68 followed by Rod Turner second and Gerry Millholen third.

For the Crowfoot team trophy, the Ridge chapter had one bounce off the rocks less than the Central Florida chapter. Members of the winning team were Mark Hopkins, Buck Buckner, Alan Puckett and Steve Ciardullo.

A special thanks to all Diamond and Gold sponsors plus the Par 3 and putting contest sponsors for their support of this event. Also thanks go to Larry and Vilma Kamphaus and the Crowfoot committee for another successful tournament.

FGCSA Distributing New Best Management Practices Manual to All Members

The Department of Environmental Protection for the State of Florida has printed and endorsed a manual on Best Management Practices for Golf Course Maintenance Operations. The FGCSA is distributing this manual to all FGCSA members free of charge.

The manual discussed such concerns as liabilities due to pesticide contamination, how to be in compliance with state regulations, and how to avoid problems within your maintenance operations. All superintendents and assistants should be able to put this manual to good use.

Any questions concerning this manual should be directed to Mike Mongoven, CGCS, Chairman of the FGCSA's Government Relations Committee. Mike's telephone number is 941-278-7261.

43rd Annual Florida Turfgrass Conference

The FTGA has announced plans for their 43rd Annual Conference and Show to be held at the Tampa Convention Center on September 24-27th. As usual, the Show begins with the golf tournaments which will be held on Sunday afternoon. The Research Golf Tournament will begin at 1:00 p.m. at Sun City and the FGCSA championship will begin at noon at River Hills.

Monday morning is reserved for the Concurrent Educational Sessions in the Convention Center with the Showroom floor opening from 1:30 - 6:00 p.m. Tuesday the show is open only from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. so come early! Workshops are held all day Tuesday and finish up on Wednesday morning.

All FGCSA members are urged to attend your state turfgrass show!

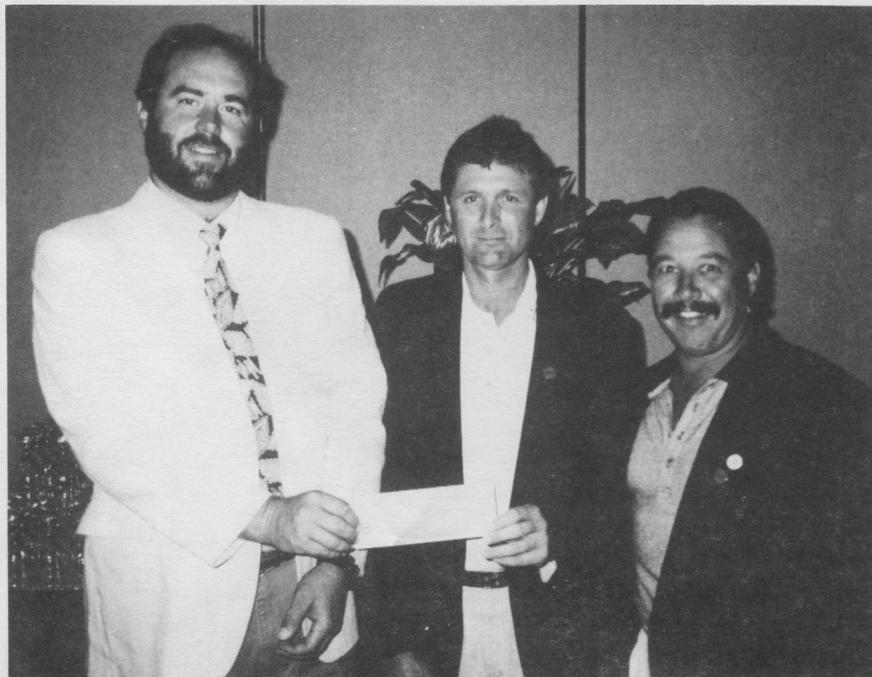
The Summer 1995 meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Scott Bell at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 5th, at the Bay Hill Club in Orlando.

All officers were in attendance. All chapters except Seven Rivers chapter were represented.

Other FGCSA members attending the meeting were Kevin Downing - Research Committee Chairman, Joel Jackson - Florida Green editor, Dale Walters - Everglades chapter President, Gary Grigg - GCSAA President. Guests were Mike Goldie, FGCSA lobbyist; John Foy, USGA; Steve Dwinell and Burt McKee.

Scott Bell introduced Dale Mitchell and Richard Colyer from Golf Agronomics who presented a check to the FGCSA Research Fund for \$5,300. This is the 5th year that Golf Agronomics has donated the proceeds from their rebate program to the FGCSA. Revenue to date generated by the ever-increasing program is now in excess of \$17,000. Scott thanked GASH for their support of the FGCSA and our research programs.

Steve Dwinell from the engineering firm of Levine Fricke then gave a presentation on Best Management Practices for Golf Course Maintenance Programs. The DEP has printed and endorsed a manual on this subject which will soon be distributed to all FGCSA members. The manual discusses liabilities concerning pesticide contamination, water runoff questions and gives examples of what you can do to avoid problems in these areas and be in compliance with state regulations. Levine Fricke is interested in setting up a program for on site guidance and Steve was looking for interest by the FGCSA. Gary Grigg mentioned that the GCSAA had established a national program a few years ago but that interest was not great. Scott Bell asked all External Vice Presidents to go back to their chapter members to see if there would be support of this type of program.



Scott Bell (left) accepts \$5,300 donation from Richard Colyer and Dale Mitchell of Golf Agronomics for turfgrass research.

Lobbyist Mike Goldie then gave an update on legislative happenings. There was only one water bill passed this year which included cost of reuse water. Mike expects other similar bills to be re-introduced next session. He also noted that Workmens Compensation would be an issue. He noted that the FTGA survey has opened the eyes of some legislators regarding the worth of the golf industry in Florida. Mike is available to speak at any chapter meeting. Scott urged all External Vice Presidents to call Mike to schedule a speaking engagement. It would be helpful if the local chapters would also invite their local Florida Senate or House representatives to the same chapter meeting.

Secretary Report: Minutes of the last Board Meeting held at the Poa in May were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Dale Kuehner presented the end of the year Financial Statements for board approval. He then went over the proposed budgets for the next fiscal year for the operating budget,

the research account, and the Florida Green. Since the Research Account is in good condition, it was decided not to make a donation from the Operating Account. Kevin Downing will review Marcus Prevatte's salary. Paul Crawford suggested that the operating budget should be self supporting without depending on the profits from the Florida Green to make up any shortfalls. Some line items in the budget that were discussed included the FGCSA reception which will be held in Orlando this year. It is budgeted as a break even project because it is assumed that some of the smaller vendors will want to be included as sponsors this year. We will be inviting our Florida legislators to this year's reception. Another line item that prompted discussion was the award category. Dale Kuehner made a motion that we no longer keep the identity of the Distinguished Service Award winner a secret. The motion was approved. The FGCSA will pick up expenses for dinner and a one night stay at the Crowfoot for the winner. After going over a few other categories, the budget was approved.

Dale Kuehner reported that a Directors and Officers insurance policy has been purchased. This policy covers all board members of all local chapters as well as the FGCSA board.

FLORIDA GREEN: Joel Jackson discussed covers and topics for the next year. He discussed some options that the Florida Green could use in the upcoming GCSAA Conference—an issue devoted to the Conference, extra copies of the Winter issue, reprints of the Audubon series. It was decided that we would print extra copies of the Winter issue and hand them out from the host booth. The board approved an expense for a computer memory upgrade. The cover for the Fall issue will be the Medalist Golf Club rather than Tampa Palms.

GREEN SHEET: Golf Ventures has agreed to sponsor the Green Sheet for the next fiscal year. Greg Plotner will continue to be the editor.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY: The Medalist Golf Club will be on the cover of the FGCSA 1996 Membership Directory. All chapter secretaries were urged to get their membership lists in.

EDUCATION: The Lightning Safety seminar held Friday was an excellent presentation. Unfortunately, many of those pre-registered could not attend due to clean-up from the hurricane so that actual attendance was only 14 superintendents. The Education Committee will have to decide what day, if any, to hold the Crowfoot seminar in the future.

Garth Boline spoke on the success of the GCSAA Regional Seminar that was co-sponsored by the West Coast chapter last month. They had 39 attendees and a very interesting program at the Stouffer Vinoy Resort.

The FGCSA will co-sponsor a GCSAA Regional Seminar on October 5th at the Naples Beach Hotel. The topic will be Integrated Pest Management. A discussion was held regarding sponsoring two

Regional Seminars each year to help CGCS earn their CEU's. It was noted that the GCSAA Conference will be held in Orlando for three of the next six years so it may not be necessary to add a second Regional Seminar at this time.

CROWFOOT: Joe Ondo reported that they have a full field of 144 players for the 8:00 a.m. shotgun.

GOLF: Joe Ondo reported that Jim Osburn, winner of the Poa tournament, will be part of the FGCSA team at the GCSAA Championship. The winner of the Crowfoot will also be on the team. Joe suggested that we consider adding another tournament to our qualifying system since the FTGA has gone to allowing only one team per chapter in their tournament. Most local chapter fundraisers use the scramble format so they could not be used for our qualifying system. Joe will work on this. Entry fee for the GCSAA Championship will be \$280 per player. Joe hopes to have three Florida teams entered but Gary Grigg noted that there will be some restrictions about who can play in the tournament since there is such a demand for spots. The GCSAA has expanded the field to 600 players and will give priority to those who have played the tournament in the past. Entries must be in by October 1st.

FTGA: Alan Puckett gave a quick update on FTGA activities. The house is still up for sale and progress is being made on the annual audit. The Conference returns to Tampa this year and they are looking for a large turnout. All FGCSA superintendents were urged to support the show.

FUNDRAISING: It was reported that Valent is organizing a rebate program to help with turfgrass research.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: Mike Mongoven urged all External Vice Presidents to invite Mike Goldie to speak at a chapter meeting this year.

CERTIFICATION: GCSAA Presi-

dent Gary Grigg reported that the certification process has had a change. In the past, superintendents desiring to become certified could choose their own attestors. Now the GCSAA is gathering a list of Certified Attestors for each state or local chapter desiring to submit a name. Bill Lanthier volunteered to be the Official Attestor for the FGCSA. A poll of the Externals showed that West Coast has nominated Cary Lewis, South Florida - Al Ross, and Treasure Coast - Tim Cann.

GCSAA: Gary Grigg discussed the important September 9th and 10th Chapter Relations meeting that will be held in Lawrence. All chapters are urged to send a representative to this meeting. Whatever comes out of the meeting that might require By Law changes will be voted on at the next GCSAA board meeting. One of the points that will generate lots of interest is the proposed changes to affiliate chapter agreements. Gary noted that there are 114 chapters who are officially affiliated with the GCSAA and have signed an agreement to abide by certain standards. In the past the GCSAA has not enforced this agreement but, after discussing this at the May 21-22 Chapter Relations Committee meeting, they will be coming out with a new Affiliate Agreement which will be enforced and the GCSAA has recommended that all chapters reaffiliate under the new agreement.

Gary summarized the privileges of affiliated status and discussed affiliated standards. Paul Crawford, a member of the 1995 Chapter Relations Committee, then gave a slide presentation explaining the proposed changes to the affiliate agreement. Several of the changes prompted further discussion. The most important change for Florida will be the umbrella status of the FGCSA. Florida is one of only four states that currently uses the umbrella system. Florida has the option of retaining the umbrella status with all the chapters being affiliated under the FGCSA or the local chapter may elect to affiliate as an independent chapter. The FGCSA currently meets most of the standards being proposed

such as being incorporated, tax exempt, filing annual reports with the GCSAA and IRS, officers and directors being Class A members of the GCSAA, representation at the annual chapter relations meeting, and insurance requirements. Most (or all) of the local chapters do not meet these standards to be able to sign an affiliate agreement. The FGCSA would have a few items to clear up before meeting the proposed standards such as consistency of membership and the FGCSA ByLaws would have to be reviewed to see if we are consistent with GCSAA ByLaws.

The GCSAA is proposing certain percentage membership requirements that the FGCSA and the local chapters do not currently meet. Gary suggested that these numbers will be discussed at the September meeting as well as the proposed time schedule for meeting these requirements. The Board was especially concerned about requiring that

Assistant Superintendents must meet the same high percentage rates.

Some of the other points discussed were ethics violations and revocation of affiliate status should a chapter violate any of the standards in the future.

Greg Plotner asked that all chapters send a representative to this meeting. He asked that the representative call him at his club at 407-546-0647 to set up a time for a Conference Call that would include every one who is planning to attend. If this can not be arranged, Dale Kuehner asked that everyone fax their chapter's opinions to him at 305-720-9156.

GCSAA RECEPTION: Paul Crawford reported that he is planning another big reception for the Florida superintendents. The GCSAA time schedule has changed for the Conference so we may have to change our reception away from the Friday night

time slot. Paul will keep everyone informed.

VOTING DELEGATE: Dale Kuehner will continue to be the FGCSA Voting Delegate this year. A motion was made to nominate Kevin Downing as Alternate Voting Delegate. The motion was approved. Dale has recently received the list of Florida members eligible to vote this year. The total includes 391 voting with the FGCSA, 29 listed as voting with another chapter, and 126 listed as independents. Dale will contact all of these 29 and 126 to solidify the Florida votes.

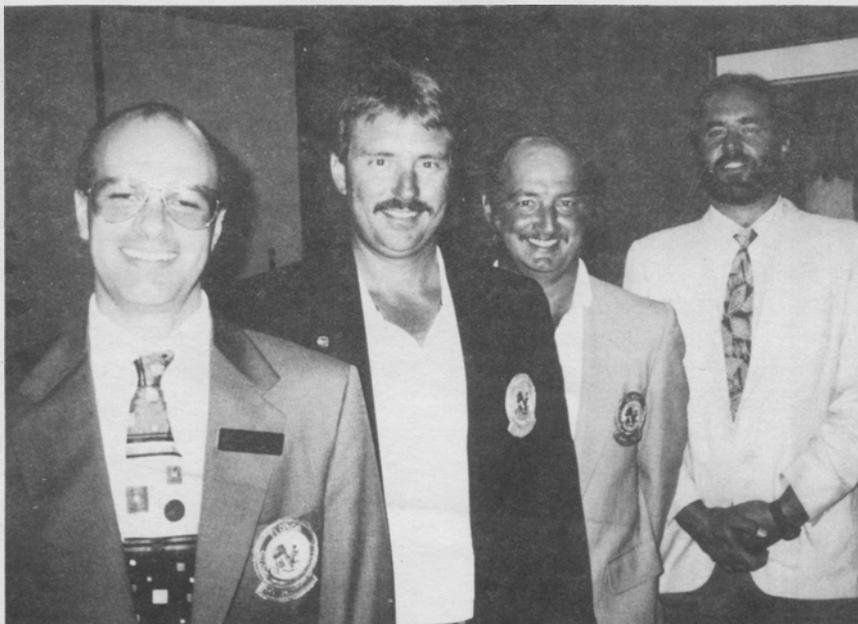
RESEARCH: Kevin Downing gave a brief report on the progress of the DNA project which is just in the very early stages. He has recently submitted a proposal to the GCSAA to generate funding for this project from the GCSAA Chapter Cooperative Research Program. Kevin then discussed the proposed putting speed analysis study that has been suggested for the Fort Lauderdale research green. He will gather further financial figures for the next FGCSA board meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS: Scott Bell suggested that the FGCSA decide on another color for the state blazer since it is so difficult to decide on a color that will continue to be available in the future. The USGA uses dark blue and the GCSAA has dark green.

Scott recognized the three new FGCSA board members — Bill Plante representing North Florida, Tom Crawford from Suncoast, and Mark Richard representing South Florida.

Scott reported that incoming president, Greg Plotner, will set the date for the next board meeting. It will probably be held in Orlando in late October or early November.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m. with the Annual Meeting to follow.



The Annual Meeting of the FGCSA was held at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 5th immediately following the regular summer meeting. Newly elected FGCSA Officers are (left to right): Dale Kuehner, CGCS, Colony West GC, Vice President; Greg Plotner, CGCS, Medalist Golf Club, President; Joe Ondo, CGCS, Winter Pines GC, Secretary/Treasurer; and Past President Scott Bell, Bent Pine GC.

CHAPTER OFFICERS 1995-1996

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President Kevin Rotti
 Vice President Geoff Coggan
 Ext Vice President Joe Ondo
 Sec/Treasurer Brian Jenkins

EVERGLADES

President Dale Walters
 Vice President Terry Wood
 Ext Vice President Mike Mongoven
 Sec/Treasurer Mike Mongoven

NORTH FLORIDA

President Kim Shine
 Vice President Bill Plante
 Ext Vice President Bill Plante
 Sec/Treasurer David Amirault

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President Robin Goodell
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 Secretary Joe Hubbard
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President Alan Puckett
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 Sec/Treasurer Stuart Bozeman

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 Vice President Mark Richard
 Ext Vice President Mark Richard
 Sec/Treasurer Kelly Cragin

SUNCOAST

President Troy Futch
 Vice President Troy Smith
 Ext Vice President Tom Crawford
 Sec/Treasurer Tom Hilferty

TREASURE COAST

President Dick Gray
 Vice President Bill Lanthier
 Ext Vice President Bill Lanthier
 Sec/Treasurer Craig Weyandt

WEST COAST

President Kirk Sowers
 Vice President Garth Boline
 Ext Vice President Garth Boline
 Sec/Treasurer Steve Cellucci

1996 GCSAA Conference

The Florida GCSA will be the host chapter for the 1996 GCSAA Conference and Show which will be held in Orlando from February 5th through 11th, 1996. This year, the GCSAA has set the dates to run from Monday to Sunday so that all superintendents can be back to their golf courses on Monday. This may necessitate a change of nights for our Florida GCSA Reception which has been held on Friday for the past few years. Look for details in the next Green Sheet. And yes, we will get a bigger room this year! Any supplier who is interested in helping to sponsor this spectacular event is urged to call the FGCSA office.

This year the FGCSA has reserved a room block at the Red Roof Inn in Orlando. The per night cost is \$49.00 and the hotel is within walking distance of the Orange County Convention Center. We have chosen a more reasonably priced hotel this year in an effort to allow more Florida superintendents to attend the convention activities. We are especially interested in attracting the many superintendents whose clubs do not reimburse them for travel. See your External Vice President for specially marked housing forms.

Joe Ondo, FGCSA Golf Chairman, reminds all golfers that spots are limited for the GCSAA Tournament so you must get your reservation in right away. Special consideration will be given to those who have played in the tournament in the past.

The Central Florida chapter is compiling a list of golf courses in the Orlando area that will allow GCSAA members to play their club while they are attending the Conference. If your club is willing to participate, please call Kevin Rotti, Central Florida chapter president.

The FGCSA will be manning the host booth at the Convention Center from Thursday through Sunday. We will be calling on all chapter officers to donate some time at the booth.



Winners of the 14th Annual Future of Golf Tournament sponsored by the Palm Beach GCSA held at Emerald Dunes GC include (left to right) Robert Ainsworth, Karl Schmidt, Roy Kimberly and Glen Klauk who combined for an amazing round of 17 under Par! This has been a very successful tournament for the Palm Beach chapter, raising over \$10,000 during each of the past three years.

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Tom Benefield, CGCS, wins Distinguished Service Award

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