

THE GREEN SHEET



VOLUME XI, PART ~~5~~, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1995 [Part 6]

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 2 GCSAA seminar, Preventative Maintenance of Turf Equipment, Riverwood GC, Port Charlotte
- Nov. 7 SFGCSA chapter meeting, Key Biscayne GC
- Nov. 8 PBGCSA chapter meeting, The Falls CC
- Nov. 8 West Coast GCSA chapter meeting, Summerfield
- Nov. 9 Everglades chapter meeting, Pelicans Nest GC
- Nov. 9 Second Annual Golf Course Expo, Orlando
- Nov. 12 Carolinas Conference & Show, Myrtle Beach
- Nov. 14 North Florida chapter meeting, Windsor Parke
- Nov. 14 Treasure Coast chapter meeting, Jupiter Island
- Dec. 5 West Coast GCSA meeting, Univ. South Florida
- Dec. 8 North Florida GCSA Christmas Party
- Dec. 9 Suncoast GCSA Christmas Party, Gasparilla Inn
- Dec. 9 PBGCSA Christmas Party, Palm Beach National
- Dec. 12 Georgia Turfgrass Conference and Show, Georgia Int'l Convention Center, Atlanta
- 14
- Jan. 10 North Carolina Turfgrass Conference & Show
- Jan. 26 Jacksonville Horticultural Trade Show, Jacksonville Agricultural Fairgrounds
- 27
- Feb. 5 GCSAA Conference and Show, Orlando
- Mar. 11 U of F 1996 Turf Field Days, Gainesville campus
- Apr. 15 USGA Regional Conference, Orlando
- Apr. 18 USGA Regional Conference, Palm Beach Gardens



Mark Jarrell, CGCS, 1995 FTGA Wreath of Grass Recipient

As Mark Jarrell walked to the podium to accept the 1995 FTGA Wreath of Grass Award from his friend, Kevin Downing, the entire audience stood up to give him a well deserved standing ovation. It was very obvious that Mark's selection for this prestigious award was very much appreciated and approved by his peers!

Not since Bill Wagner, back in 1980, has a superintendent been successful in serving on both the FTGA and FGCSA Board of Directors while holding down a full time superintendents position. Only a person who is totally devoted to his profession could pull off such a challenge.

Mark Jarrell served as President of the PBGCSA in 1984, received the FGCSA Distinguished Service Award in 1988, served as FGCSA president in 1992 and even took the time to write a monthly column on golf course maintenance in Golfweek magazine for many years. He has been equally as active in the affairs of the Florida Turfgrass Association where he has been a member of the Board of Directors for the past ten years. Mark is grateful for the cooperation of Robert Rich, owner of Palm Beach National GC, who has graciously supported all of his association activities.

The award was presented at the FTGA luncheon during the FTGA Conference and Show in Tampa. See related story page 3.

President's Message by Greg Plotner, CGCS

As I sit here and look out the window and see more raindrops falling, I wonder just what Mother Nature might throw at us next. This past summer will undoubtedly be called by some as the worst season for growing grass that they have experienced. I for one have never seen anything like it and all I can say is that it has to get better, because it certainly can't get any worse!

With November just around the corner and the summer season now behind us, snowbirds will soon be flocking back to Florida for their "pleasant" winter stay. Days filled with sunshine and golf will be the norm. But once they reach their course, less than perfect conditions will probably be found and the talk will begin. No one will realize or even care about what we have experienced this past season; it is their time to be in Florida and all they will want is a well conditioned golf course to play.

Some will ask about how tough of a job it can be to grow grass and keep it green.

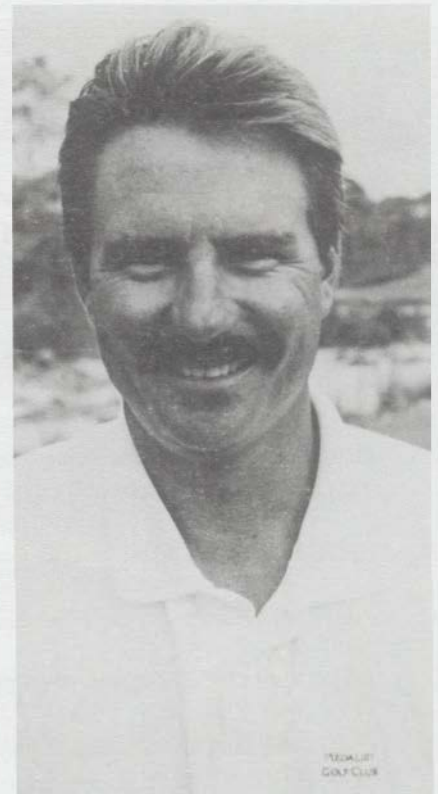
Others will ask why the greens are thin and not as fast as usual. And others will ask why the club hasn't hired another superintendent who could do a better job.

For those superintendents who have been affected by severe weather problems this past season, it is time to inform your members about what to expect when they play the course. Tell them the answers to the three most asked questions:

- What has happened?
- Why has it happened?
- When will things get better?

Taking time to educate your members now about the harsh weather conditions of this past season is important. Unfortunately some of us will lose our jobs because of Mother Nature, but those of us who have taken time to educate our members will probably be around next year to talk about the "Rains of 95".

On another note, the Annual Florida Turfgrass Association Conference and Show held recently at the new Convention Center in Tampa was poorly attended in my opinion and I believe that it is time to consider some scheduling changes.



Greg A. Plotner, CGCS

The FTGA works hard all year ensuring that those of us who attend the Conference and Show on an annual basis will find quality educational sessions, informative general sessions and a show floor filled with many people who help support our great turfgrass industry. The FTGA's hard work should be rewarded by a well attended conference and the bulk of that attendance should come from the FGCSA.

I am asking those of you that do not attend the show on a regular basis to call me and let me know why you do not attend. In the near future, a joint meeting between the Boards of the FGCSA and the FTGA will take place. One topic of discussion will be the Conference and Show and possible changes that could be made to improve attendance. Your opinions are important, so please call me.

Until next time — may the "Weather Gods" be kind to you!

THE GREEN SHEET

Editor:

Greg A. 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: December 15.

Florida Turfgrass Conference Report

Once again, the Florida Turfgrass Association presented another successful Conference and Show in Tampa, September 24 - 27th. Exhibitors occupied 375 booths offering a wide selection of displays featuring new products and the latest industry techniques and strategies. The only thing missing was a large number of superintendents who were unable to attend!

Even though attendance was estimated at 2,000 there could have been many more superintendents attending the show. The FGCSA continues to encourage all local chapters to stress the importance of the FTGA Conference and Show to their members. Superintendents and their support staff should attend so that they can develop leads, interact with vendors and keep up to date on current trends. Yes, the GCSAA Show will be in our state in 1996 but we still need to support the local vendors who support us. We hope to see better attendance on the FTGA Showroom floor next year. The FTGA Show Committee has met to discuss ways of making it easier for superintendents to attend next year such as changing the actual show dates to a weekend or another time of year.

The FTGA awards luncheon was held on Monday immediately preceding the opening of the show. Mark Jarrell was awarded the FTGA Wreath of Grass Award, Gerry Millholen was elected the new president of the FTGA, and several scholarships were presented. Seven Rivers chapter presented the \$35,000 proceeds of their 3rd Annual Envirotron Tournament to the FTGA to be used for equipment and support of the University of Florida's Envirotron. The FGCSA continued to lead the list of contributors by combining donations from Everglades, North Florida, Palm Beach, Ridge, Suncoast and Treasure Coast chapters with the FGCSA donation to make a total commitment of \$27,500.

Those who were able to stay for the Presidents Reception were rewarded with an excellent performance by Rod McEuen, formerly of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band. The small but definitely enthusiastic crowd was treated to a personal concert that was thoroughly enjoyable and definitely a night to remember. If you missed it — and you probably did — you missed a great performance!

This year the fishing tournament garnered even more support from non-golfing superintendents. Thanks to Mike Griffith and Dick Naccarato's efforts, there were 28 boats cruising the Tampa waters and generally having a great day.

Oh yes, there was also a great golf tournament followed by the always enjoyable Toro Corn Boil at the Simmons Ranch. Actually two golf tournaments were held -- the annual Research Golf Tournament at Sun City Center and the FGCSA chapter event. The Sun City Scramble was won by the Ridge GCSA. Their winning team was made up of Ray Cuzzone, Dobie McManus, Ron Barts and Alan Puckett. Congratulations to the Ridge! Larry Livingston at Rivers Hills GC hosted the Superintendents Championship which was won by Vic Conigliaro of Lakeside CC with a 71 who now becomes the final member of the Florida team that will be entered in the GCSAA Chapter Championship in February. Steve Sorrell was one stroke behind for second place with a 72 and led his West Coast GCSA team to this year's Low Gross Championship. In addition to Steve, the team was composed of Whit Derrick, Jim Torba and Duane Van Etten. Seven Rivers team took second place with Vic Conigliaro setting the pace for fellow team members Dennis Kustes, Robert Antal, and Stuart Bozeman. Low Net honors went to Joe Panaleo of the South Florida chapter with Dennis Kustes finishing in 2nd place. Congratulations to all golfers and especially to those who worked to organize the events.

Jobs Available

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Superintendent. Sunnybreeze GC. Send resume to Bill Baker, 8135 S.W. Sunnybreeze Rd., Arcadia, FL 33821.

Superintendent. ISS. Contact Ralph White at 904-365-1379.

Project Construction Superintendent. BallenIsles CC. Call Ken Gorzycki at 407-625-5736.

Assistant Superintendent. Hollybrook G&T. Contact Jim Goins, SFGCSA, at 305-433-1725.

Assistant Superintendent. Boca West. Contact Paul Housewright, Superintendent, at 407-488-6900

Assistant Superintendent and a Foreman. Crystal Lake GC. Contact Mike Bindl at 305-782-8983.

Spray Tech. Woodfield CC. Contact Michael Hummel at 407-997-1631.

Spray Tech. Polo Club of Boca. Contact GC Maintenance at 407-995-1340.

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The Fall 1995 meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Greg Plotner, CGCS, at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 21st at the Bay Hill Club in Orlando.

All officers were in attendance. Only Treasure Coast and West Coast chapters were not represented. Other FGCSA members attending the meeting were Joel Jackson-Florida Green editor, Darren Davis - Everglades; Kevin Rotti and Geoff Coggan - Central Florida chapter; and Roy Wilshire - Ridge.

Minutes of the Summer 1995 FGCSA Board Meeting were approved.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: Secretary/Treasurer Joe Ondo went over the financial statements for the first quarter of the fiscal year. During the review of the Florida Green account, a motion was made by Mike Mongoven to increase the Florida Green editor fee to \$1,000 per issue. The motion was approved. After a discussion on some line items the financial statements were approved.

IRS Audit: Greg Plotner reported that the IRS had selected the FGCSA for an audit of the 1993-1994 fiscal year on October 11th. Greg Plotner and Kevin Downing met with the IRS agent to describe the history and philosophy of the FGCSA and explained why the association meets the tax-exempt criterion. As expected, the auditor was looking for any unrelated business income (UBIT) that they might be able to tax. After a three day audit wherein no discrepancies or major problems were found, the agent determined that all of our print advertising should be taxable — this includes the Florida Green, the Green Sheet and the Membership Directory. He did not feel any penalties or interest would be due, but decided that we also owed this UBIT for the 1992-1993 fiscal year. Total taxes for these two years would be a considerable amount. The tax return for our next fiscal year, 1994-1995, is due to be filed on November 15th. A committee was established to confer with a tax accountant to see if this situation can be improved. Paul

Crawford was elected Chairman. Dale Kuehner and Bob Klitz will also serve on the committee.

Two other items were mentioned in the audit. The agent suggested that even though it is not illegal for us to use the services of a lobbyist, each chapter must state on their dues notice that a small percentage of the dues are used to support a lobbyist. Also it was noted that each chapter would have to redo their 1994-95 financial statement to more accurately reflect where their income comes from. Marie Roberts will contact each chapter secretary this week to see that each chapter complies immediately.

BY LAWS: Garth Boline has already submitted the FGCSA ByLaws to the GCSAA to see if they conflict with the GCSAA. We have received a fax back saying that there are no conflicts but that a few new ByLaws should be added to reflect the new membership changes that are being made by the GCSAA. All External Vice Presidents were asked to send their chapter By Laws to Don Brethauer of the GCSAA for review.

PUBLICATIONS: Joel Jackson reminded all Externals to let him know what golf courses have been selected to be on the covers of the Florida Green this coming year. He also reminded all Externals to get their Winter 96 Heads Up articles in to him within the next month. Marie Roberts reported that the membership directory is at the printers and that advertising has increased again this year. The Directory will be mailed to all members by November 1st.

EDUCATION: Joe Ondo reported that the seminar held at the Crowfoot had poor attendance mostly due to Hurricane Erin but he also admitted that pre-registration was extremely light anyway. He suggested that we discontinue the seminar at least for one year. Mike Mongoven reported that the poor attendance at the GCSAA Regional Seminar in Naples last month could be attributed to terrible weather conditions and tough times for superintendents to be away from their clubs. Darren Davis reported

that it was a good topic with a good speaker. Announcement was made that Tim Hiers has scheduled a GCSAA Regional Seminar at Colliers Reserve in June. It was unclear who would be co-sponsoring this seminar — Everglades chapter or the FGCSA. Chip Fowkes will have to look into this before scheduling the FGCSA Regional Seminar in Palm Beach this year. Mention was made of the letter received from Peaks and Prairies GCSA requesting our help in convincing the GCSAA not to discontinue giving rebates to chapters who have more than 40 people in attendance at a regional seminar. Since the FGCSA does not intend to make a profit off seminars, it would be hard for the FGCSA to approve their request.

MEMBERSHIP: Tom Crawford is the new Membership Chairman. Membership stands at 802 with a budgeted figure of 850. External Vice Presidents were urged to be sure that their chapter secretaries send in names of any new members as the months go on. It was noted that the Panhandle area of the state has shown interest in trying to revive a chapter in northwest Florida. Two of our former SFGCSA superintendents, Ron Wright and Mark Richard, have moved into that area and along with Jeff Ball and the active superintendents in the Tallahassee area, there should be enough interest to get something going. Geoff Coggan suggested that if we are going to be recruiting members in the area, we should contact the Alabama and possibly the Georgia association to keep all avenues of communication open.

CROWFOOT: Joe Ondo reported that the Crowfoot will be held during the first week in August at one of the Disney courses. He again stated that he thought we should discontinue the seminar.

GCSAA GOLF TEAM: Joe reported that no one has been notified that they have gotten in to the GCSAA tournament. October 1st was the deadline. Our first team should consist of Mark Hopkins, Jim Osburn, Kevin Downing and Vic Conigliaro with Buck Buckner as alternate if one of them can not get in.

He suggested that we should be able to have at least eight people entered into the tournament so possibly we will be able to field two teams. He also mentioned that if the FTGA tournament is going to continue to be a qualifying event for the GCSAA team, something has to be done with the format to increase participation.

FTGA: Alan Puckett reported that the FTGA has sold their office/house and paid off all debts with the proceeds. Additional proceeds will be used to payback any FTGA funds that have suffered setbacks in the past. The staff will be renting office space in Maitland for about \$700 month less than prior housing expenses. He noted that Tim Hiers has made a proposal on behalf of Michael Coffman to receive FTGA funds. No commitment was made. He reported that the FTGA show sold 375 booths, the same as last year. The FTGA Show Committee is looking for ways to increase superintendent participation at the show. The committee is considering running the show over the weekend and asking that the Lake City Alumni Tournament be held at a different time to try to increase participation at the Show. Greg Plotner reported that at his "sold out" seminar there were only 4 attendees and he hopes something can be done at future shows. There is additional concern because the GCSAA Show will be in Orlando in February and the Golf Course Expo will be in November.

Everyone was in agreement that a Summit between the FTGA and the FGCSA Board of Directors would be a positive step to help both associations plan for the future.

GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS: Chairman Mike Mongoven mentioned the November 1st meeting of the Lower East Coast Water Advisory Committee and the November 27th Florida Ag Council citrus meeting. Mike will also write a memo to all Externals reminding them to invite Mike Goldie to speak at a chapter meeting this year.

GCSAA CHAPTER RELATIONS MEETING: Dale Kuehner gave a

report on the GCSAA Chapter Relations meeting held in Kansas on September 9th and 10th. Florida had ten representatives attend this very informative and well run meeting that helped decide on some important issues regarding chapter affiliation with the GCSAA. Several of the decisions made at the meeting will result in By Law amendments being presented to the membership for vote in Orlando in February. Paul Crawford, who was a member of the GCSAA committee working on the agreement, gave a report on the updates that will be made to the new affiliation agreement and noted that the members actually voted for a more strict interpretation than had originally been proposed.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding how many chapters want to continue to be an affiliated chapter of the GCSAA and which chapters are leaning toward dropping their affiliation but staying under the umbrella of the FGCSA. No chapter has made a definite decision and Paul Crawford asked each chapter to delay their decision until after the next FGCSA Board Meeting so that we will have time to answer some of the questions that were brought up at this meeting. There is at least a one year time line for chapters to make their decision though some preparation work needs to be done. Because the FGCSA is probably the only state that has an "umbrella chapter", there are some situations that need to be resolved with GCSAA before the chapters can make their decision. A straw poll of the chapters showed that about half are deciding the drop their affiliation and the other half want to continue to affiliate. The major change for those chapter's choosing to affiliate will be that they will no longer be under the umbrella of the FGCSA and will have to incorporate, file for tax exempt status and file yearly tax returns with the IRS. Their members can still belong to the FGCSA and the chapter can remain as a chapter of the FGCSA.

Dale Kuehner stated that whether or not a chapter decides to affiliate, it is still possible for the FGCSA to combine all the Florida votes under one voting del-

egate. Dale is sending a list of all those members who are designated as voting as an individual or with another chapter to all External Vice Presidents. The VP should call those in your area who are on the list and ask them to let your chapter cast their vote by signing an affidavit.

Paul Crawford reported that plans are underway for the FGCSA reception to be held Friday night, February 9th, at the Omni Hotel from 8:00 to 11:00 p.m. The reception begins immediately after the GCSAA Presidents Reception. Paul has five double diamond sponsors committed and many more local sponsors have expressed an interest in the reception. Lake City Community College is also tentatively planning to hold their reception earlier that evening.

The FGCSA Room Block is available until December 1st. You must use a special form for the Room Block. The Housing Department shows the Red Roof Inn as sold out but our rooms are held until December 1st. Call the FGCSA

RESEARCH: Greg Plotner announced that the GCSAA plan for matching funds for the DNA project will be voted on October 26th and is expected to be approved. He noted that Kevin Downing and Dr. Elliott will present final plans for approval of a putting speed study at the next board meeting. Joel noted that an article on the DNA project is included in the Fall issue of the Florida Green.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE: Greg will be in contact with Mike Bailey to find out the progress of the GCSAA's involvement in this project.

ETHICS: The question of a superintendent's hiring away of crew members was discussed. Since the board had only one side of the story Greg Plotner will look into the situation.

After a discussion, it was decided to hold the next FGCSA board meeting before the National probably on the 2nd or 3rd Saturday in January.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

1995 BUD QUANDT RESEARCH TOURNAMENT REPORT

by Dale Reash, CGCS

It seemed like a miracle! The persistent summer rains subsided, the skys cleared, both temperature and humidity dropped, and a brisk northerly breeze kicked up to help make the 32nd Annual "Bud Quandt" Research Tournament a successful and relaxing day for the full field of players at the Pasadena Yacht & CC. Host superintendent Scott Mason added to the enjoyment of the day by having the golf course in absolute exceptional condition. Congratulations go to Scott and his staff for their hard work in preparation despite the less than desirable weather we've all shared this season.

Dale Reash started off the program with a warm welcome and thank yous to the sponsors and staff at Pasadena Y&CC. After introducing C. "Bud" Quandt, Dale gave a brief history of how the 32 year old tournament began as a scholarship tournament. As the industry needs and philosophies changed, the benefactors of the tournament evolved into turfgrass research. He then pointed out that we are again at an evolutionary crossroads with our industry philosophies. With the presence of public environmental issues around us, he encouraged everyone to adopt the "environmental" buzzword in reference to our work and turfgrass research. In addition, he reinforced the thoughts of developing stronger relations within our local communities and charities. It was then announced that some of the proceeds from the tournament would be given to the following charities:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| The Hospice of the Florida Suncoast | \$1,000 |
| All Children's Hospital | \$1,000 |
| Hurricane Relief | \$1,000 |
| Toys for Tots | \$ 500 |

This announcement brought a great ovation indicating the support and approval of the group.

Dr. Bert McCarty was then introduced. Dr. McCarty gave a very informative presentation on the status and progress at the Envirotron. Some of the topics covered included fate of nitrogen leaching, pre-emergent herbicide studies, Floratex low maintenance bermudagrass, equipment that has been purchased, two new small greenhouses, and an in-house student that is helping perform the research. Dr. McCarty concluded in saying that the next published report should show significant data on work performed to date. At the conclusion of his presentation, Dale Reash presented Dr. McCarty with a check for \$5,000 to be used for equipment purchases and work at the Envirotron.

The next speaker was Richie Garcia, an American League umpire. Richie livened up the crowd by sharing some interesting stories and anecdotes he experienced over his years of umpiring.

After golf, the winners were announced and raffle prizes were drawn. Congratulations to the gross winning team of Duane Van Etten, Greg Gagliardi, Mark Wheaton, and Stu Hazard. The next winning team consisted of Gerald Marquardt, Gordie Gundle, Bennie Crawford and John Templeton.

Special acknowledgement goes to the following sponsors whose donations made this such a successful tournament.

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LAKE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE GLO ALUMNI GOLF TOURNAMENT

On behalf of the Lake City Community College and the GLO Alumni Committee, we want to thank all of the sponsors who participated in this years LCCC GLO Alumni Golf Tournament held on Saturday, September 23rd, at the TPC of Tampa Bay.

Over the last five years, corporate sponsorship has enabled the GLO Alumni Committee to raise in excess of \$20,000 for the LCCC Endowment Fund. This fund raises money to support all of the programs, advancements in technology, and provides scholarships for worthy students at Lake City Community College.

Congratulations to the low gross winners Glenn Zakany, Roy Bates, Richard Colyer, and Gary Newcomb. Low net winners were Ted Owen, John Fake, Billy Greg and Bill Lloyd.



Lake City Alumni and friends line up for the start of the 1996 LCCC GLO Alumni Golf Tournament

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FLORIDA HOSTS 1996 GCSAA CONFERENCE

As everyone knows, Florida will be hosting the 1996 GCSAA Conference in Orlando during the first week of February. The FGCSA will be manning the host booth every day that the show is open and is looking for volunteers to help with the staffing of the booth.

We will also be hosting our annual reception which will be held on Friday night, February 9th, at the new Omni Rosen Hotel. We are expecting a very large turnout and have been able to secure the large ballroom for this exciting event. All FGCSA members and their guests are invited. Sponsors have been solicited and we have received a wonderful response from our loyal affiliates. If there are any affiliates who have not been contacted, please call the FGCSA office immediately so that we may put you on the list. Paul Crawford, Event Chairman, promises another stupendous evening and we know that it will again be the highlight of the Convention for all those who attend.

The FGCSA has reserved a room block for the GCSAA Conference in Orlando at the Red Roof Inn which is an affordable motel within walking distance of the Convention Center. If you are interested in one of the rooms, contact the FGCSA office at 1-800-732-6053 to receive a copy of the special form you must use to make your reservation. You can not go directly through GCSAA Housing as the hotel is listed as Sold Out. This block of rooms will be held only until December 1, 1995 so don't delay.



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Mark Jarrell, CGCS, Accepts FTGA Wreath of Grass Award

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