



OFFICE OF DIRECTOR



NELSON J. CARON

THE FORD PLANTATION GOLF CLUB

RICHMOND HILLS, GA

GCSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

PERSONAL DATA

Name: Caron Nelson J GCSAA Membership No.: 179798
 Home 414 E 44th St Home Phone: _____

 City: Savannah State/Zip: GA 31405-2325
 Club/Course: The Ford Plantation Golf Club Business Phone: 912.547.4072
 Title: Director of Grounds

Responsibilities:

Responsible for 1,800 acres of the Ford Plantation, the 130 acre golf course, 12 acre short game and practice facility, 75 acres of fresh water lakes, 225 acre brackish water lake, 37 acres of wetlands, a croquet court, 100,000 native grass plants, Live Oak tree management and inventory program, club lawns, pool grounds, marina grounds and boat slip, member sanitation services, member lawn maintenance services, horse/walking trails, 60 acres of horse paddocks and POA asset management (12.1 miles of roadsides, drainage infrastructure, etc.). The Golf Course has 24-26 employees including a Head Golf Course Superintendent, First and Second Assistants, Equipment Manager, Administrative Assistant, Irrigation Technician, three Interns and maintenance and care of a \$2M maintenance fleet. The Grounds Department has 16 employees including a Head Grounds Superintendent, First Assistant, Equipment Manager, Lawn Manager, Spray Technician and Irrigation Technician.

ResponsibleTo: General Manager ResponsibleToOther: _____
 No. of Holes: 18 TypeOfCourse: Private TypeOfCourseOther: _____

EDUCATIONAL DATA

Name:	Location:	Years Attended:	Major:	Degree Earned:
North Carolina State University	Raleigh, NC	1998 - 2000	Agronomy, concentration Turfgrass Management	BS
Appalachian State University	Boone, NC	1996 - 1997	Transferred to NC State	Transfer to NC State

EMPLOYMENT DATA

Employer:	Title of Position:	Years of Employment:
The Ford Plantation Club	Director Of Golf and Grounds Maintenance	2008 - Pres
The Honors Course	Assistant Superintendent	2004 - 2008
Kingsmill Resort, River Course	Assistant Superintendent	2000 - 2004
The Broadmoor Resort, East Course	Intern	1999 - 1999
Hope Valley Country Club	Groundsman	1994 - 2000

CIVIC PARTICIPATION

Consulting/Volunteering- Richmond Hill High School Athletic Football Stadium Turf Management.

GCSAA ACTIVITIES

Committee	Position	Years
2017 Chapter Delegates Meeting		2017 - 2017

LOCAL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Chapter Name	Leadership Position/Committee	Years Served
GGCSA	Research and Scholarship/Rounds4Research Chair	2011 - 2013
GGCSA	Government Relations Chair	2014 - 2017
GGCSA	Southern Assistants Educator	2014 - 2017

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Only Class A superintendents whose classification truly reflects their current employment are eligible for office in GCSAA.

500-Word Statement

I am truly humbled to have been nominated for this position for Director on the GCSAA Board. I would like to thank the nominating committee for their support and the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association (GGCSA) for advocating for me as a candidate. As a long-time board member of the GGCSA I truly understand the time, devotion and responsibility involved in serving our professional association and look forward to giving back to an organization that has done so much for me. I am energized and excited to have the opportunity on a national level to build on our past successes.

Throughout my career, I have had the great fortune of working in several different states including Colorado, North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee and now Georgia. I have also been truly fortunate to have some great mentors along the way. Through these experiences I have had the opportunity to learn from several different state associations and their superintendent leaders. My interactions with these, mentors, peers and facilities have helped me understand the idiosyncrasies of the entire golf market and how we as superintendents fit in it.

I love my job and like you, I love what I do for a living. Over the years as my golf course management career has progressed, my professional role away from the club has also grown. Outside of the office I have had the opportunity to become an educator on many different platforms. In these roles, our profession has taken me all over the United States to speak on various topics relating to golf courses and club management. Over the years, I might have met you at a seminar during the Golf Industry Show where so many of my great friendships have been born. In my home state of Georgia, I have been an environmental advocate for golf courses, golf course superintendents and golf course owners. I regularly speak at The Georgia Environmental Conference, the Southeast's most comprehensive environmental educational event, about cutting-edge technologies for golf course maintenance and Best Management Practices. Crossing boundaries and stepping outside of "my comfort zone" by engaging other entities (sometimes adversaries) can be difficult. However, keeping our profession relevant, respected and responsive is important work and it's important to me. I have thrived in that role and look forward to bringing this same zeal to the National Board.

I have been fortunate to be part of the GGCSA Board that has identified, addressed and conquered many challenges. No man is an island, and I am truly blessed to have been able to work with many of my peers for the betterment of our industry. These experiences, the continuing education GCSAA provides and the numerous professional friendships that I have developed have well prepared me for the challenges that lie ahead for the association. I welcome the opportunity to work alongside my fellow GCSAA Board members, and the membership at large, in helping to build a brighter future for superintendents everywhere. I am truly humbled to have been considered and request your support and endorsement in serving on the GCSAA Board. Thank you in advance for your consideration and support.

DATE SUBMITTED: 8/4/2017 1:01:10 PM

SIGNATURE: _____

CHAPTER EXPERIENCE VERIFICATION - Signature _____ Title: _____