

I was voted on and became a member of the Pro Duffers Golf Club Southwest Chapter in 1990. Foster Kidd was beginning his second term as Chapter President.

## **North Texas Junior Golf & Education Foundation**

### **Founding member on the Board of Directors**

His acceptance speech illustrated his vision for the Dallas Chapter as well as the National. He spoke of developing a golf program for the community. Golf would be the vehicle for mentoring and community service. That is what hooked me on Pro Duffers and Foster Kidd. He wanted to setup a foundation. The inaugural foundation meeting was his first mention of raise money to assist the communities' children. Foster, voluntold me to be the Secretary for the North Texas Junior Golf & Education Foundation, a position I held for twelve years. As the organizations processes and procedure were being finalized we had sixty or more kids we were working with every weekend with the help of Grover Keeton golf course. The search for money was continuous with very little success. We were rejected at every turn. The corners that seemed a possibility became blocked. Our hopes were uplifted when a friend of Fosters gave us property within the southern sector of town. His many evening calls signified his upbeat temperament with the transfer of ownership. The dream of a golf and training center on the property was uplifting. However, a lot more ups, down and rejections were in our path. The light that shined the brightest came from a letter then call to Tim Finchem. Mr. Finchem invited the North Texas Junior Golf & Education Foundation to become the first members of The First Tee in Texas. Another letter came with an invitation to the inaugural First Tee meeting in St Augustin, Florida. Excited, Foster Kidd, Truman Thomas, Joe Johnson, Howard Aldridge and I attended. Of the hundreds from all over the country we seemed to be the hit of the party. They all had money but no property. We had property but no money. Joining the First Tee was an opportunity not a difficult decision.

It was not long before a shipment load of golf ball, shoes and clubs to outfit out kids. The looks on the kids' faces was worth its weight in gold. It's was a summer Christmas. Foster would tell me in conversation that I would be best to lead the national organization. Truman would be best at leading the North Texas Junior Golf Association (First Tee). At the National Tournament he made all the pertinent introductions. He introduced me to Joe D. Saunders and his wife. Joe D. immediately took me on as his Assistant to the Tournament Director. My work with the Chapter, Foundation and the National was only beginning. Foster passed away at Sleepy Hollow Golf Course after a round in 2001. I was not there only told; there he lay under a tree on the 18<sup>th</sup>. A sad day for all of us: There was no question the North Texas Junior Golf and Education Foundation would be renamed The Foster Kidd Foundation. The Foster Kidd Foundation became the First Tee of Greater Dallas and touches thousands of kids yearly. It was his dream and legacy. My continuous effort in all these years is to keep his name alive.

**I was voted by the membership as the Chapter Secretary in 1992.** A position I held until 1994. I introduced email as a form of communication. No one was having it. It was a very difficult sale. I continued to utilize land mail for meeting notification and other communication but directed the membership, those who had computers in their homes to check their mail.

With Foster Kidd's recommendation I became the Assistant to the National Tournament Director. I wrote software to calculate handicaps and scoring during the National Events. My responsibility was to collect all the score cards, input all the information and identify the winners for each flight. I created to calculated Rabbit and Squirrel, Skins and the National Chapter Winner. Most of the time I would come sliding into the National Banquet hand held high full of results as Joe D. Saunders, the national tournament director was warming up the membership. Never did get a chance to play well or eat during the national. Hard work! I was the fly on the wall at the founder's national council meetings. The young guy, sometimes they ask for my opinion or allowed me to ask a question. I was proud to be in the presence of these men. Our founders:

**I was voted by the membership as the Chapter Vice President in 1996.** At the 1996 Chapter election Dan Evan was voted as the Chapter President. He was then elected as the National President at the National Tournament. Dan did not want to hold two president position and I assumed the remainder of his term as Chapter President. At the same time of the National Tournament **I was voted by the national membership as the National Secretary. I held the National Secretary position for two terms. In 1998 with Larry Brown as the National President.**

**I fulfilled the remained of Dan Evans term as Chapter President and was voted in as the Chapter President at the 1998 Chapter election.**

## **Accomplishments while in office:**

### **As the Chapter President:**

1. **A continued effort to get the membership on board with supporting our two-star junior golfers, Cory Woodard and Daniel Mask. Foster and Dan Evans threw me under the bus in guidance on occasion, but I learned quickly. Dan Evans would give me that Police officer look. I imagined him slamming me against the wall, hands behind my back. If you change one more thing he would say. Foster would smile.**
2. **I set up a standardized process and procedure for our Chapter Tournaments.**
  - a. **I introduced a separate checking account for tournaments. In this account would be \$1000.00.**
  - b. **The members would pay a set amount to play in our monthly tournaments.**
  - c. **The Account would pay the golf fees and prize fund.**
  - d. **The key was setting up the tournament schedule before the season began with low end cost and high-end cost courses throughout. Some courses the account made money; the other courses were a minimal deficit. The result was a balance year end account.**
  - e. **As stated, the account would start the beginning of the year with \$1000.00. At the end of the golf season the account would have \$1000.00 plus at times or slightly minus \$1000.00 at times. Having more players was a factor as with having fewer players. The system worked.**
3. **I introduced and designed the Dallas Chapter website.**
4. **Undated the Constitution and By Laws.**

## **As the National President**

- 1. First National speech was on National Recognition.**
  - a. Created the founding ground work for the National Foundation**
  - b. The first National Foundation Officer and President.**
- 2. Created and instituted the National hosting schedule.**
  - a. Set the parameters for the host chapter**
  - b. Created and standardized the national event itinerary for both National Events.**
  - c. Supervised and prompted the dialog then the vote to allow the Spring Fling to become a National Event.**
    - 1. The Spring Fling was not a nationally accredited event. We could have dialog in a meeting but the business of the national could not be entertained. There was no voting.**
    - 2. The opportunity for the Pro Duffers National Council and the membership to gather in one place with our expanding geography prompted including the Spring Fling as a National Meeting. Without our only two opportunities to carry on the business of the organization was being missed.**
  - d. Created and standardized the event schedule for both National Events.**
  - e. Created and instituted the formula for the hosting schedule.**
  - f. Setup the hosting and tournament banking accounts.**
- 3. Reformed the National Election to a delegate system.**
  - a. Assisted Roy Baptist of the Washington Chapter with dialog and council for the 1 and 10 delegate system votes and the limit of five votes.**
  - b. Wrote the process and procedure for National Elections.**
  - c. Served on the Election Committee six years. Larry Green Chairman.**
  - d. Instrumental in creating the election path for six of our National Presidents and one future National President.**
- 4. Created the National Website.**
  - a. National Webmaster**
- 5. Instituted email and web development as the standard for National Communication.**
- 6. Assisted with dialog and council with National Tournament Director John Payne in the development of both National Tournament procedures and processes.**
  - a. Wrote the first program for national handicapping.**
  - b. Setup the procedure and standards for the administration of handicaps between chapters.**
  - c. Assisted and insisted with the help of Roy Baptiste in the organizational process of developing the Senior and Super Senior flights.**
  - d. Instituted and prompted the vote for national handicaps.**
  - e. Introduced, wrote a program for on-line registration.**
  - f. Introduced the third party tournevents software as the registration portal for the national events.**

- 7. Undated with several additions and deletion the Pro Duffers Constitution and Bylaws.**
- 8. The first National President elected two consecutive terms of office.**
- 9. My final proclamation as National President was to assign the Low Gross winner award in the name of Joe D Saunders.**
- 10. Continued to work as the National Web developer.**
- 11. Selected by my Chapter and a vote of confidence by the National Council as National Emeritus.**