John T. Lesley Award

• First presented to John T. Lesley in 1981
• As a special tribute to Mr. Lesley – the award was named in his honor
• It is presented in recognition of an individual for outstanding leadership and service on behalf of the Florida fresh citrus industry
Born in 1951 Ocoee FL

Parents and Grandparents started fresh packing operation the years of his birth

Began working in the packinghouse while in junior high

Learned every skill and position in the packinghouse
Married High School Sweetheart in 1972

Graduated Florida Southern College - 1974
Received

Citrus Industry Magazine Scholarship in 1972

Florida Citrus Mutual Scholarship in 1973
Returned to the family business after graduation – managing the packinghouse

Worked along side his brother David – who managed the grove operations

The business grew and prospered until the devastating freezes of the 1980’s
In the years following the closure of the family packinghouse, he worked as:

Packinghouse manager for B.G. Harmon

Asst Plant Manager of B&W Canning Co

Gen Mgr Lake Packing Partnership
Associated with Numerous Brands
It was his broad background that brought him to the Attention of Haines City Citrus Growers Association. He was hired as its Executive Director in 1995.

He has served in this capacity for 20 years. His stable leadership has helped guide numerous industry organizations.
• President of Florida Citrus Packers – 2001/2
• Board of Florida Citrus Mutual – 2000 to present and treasurer for 12 years
• Served Citrus Admin Committee for many years
• Board of Coop Producers
Longtime Member of Board of Florida’s Natural Growers
And currently President and Chairman of the Board
Recognized Repeatedly for his leadership
And community contributions

Proud Moments

Businesses Are Presented Awards Chosen by Their Peers

By GREG PARLIER | LEDGER MEDIA GROUP

HAINES CITY

Three Northeast Polk County businesses were honored Thursday at the Lake Eva Banquet Hall by the Haines City-Northeast Polk County Chamber of Commerce.

The Haines City Citrus Growers Association got top honors as the chamber’s large business of the year, while Heart of Florida Chiropractic won small business honors and Wayne T. Fellows, Inc., received the Spirit of the Community award during the 18th annual business and industry awards luncheon. They were nominated by their peers.

“So many great people in our organization have made it what it is today,” said Dennis Broadway, the Citrus Growers Association’s executive vice president and general. “We are very proud of Haines City.”

The Citrus Growers Association, founded in 1909 by six local citrus growers, employs 250 people during the peak season, which runs from September to June.

Today, the association is a full-service cooperative in downtown Haines City that offers grove care, harvesting, fruit packing and marketing for its 170 members.

Heart of Florida Chiropractic took the small business of the year award.

It embodies quite a different sized business, with
His Leadership and Contributions are well known

What about the person?
Strong Supporter of the Community

- Heart of Florida Hospital Advisory Board
- Haines City Chamber of Commerce
- Heart of Florida Education Foundation
- Florida Southern College Citrus and Horticulture Department Advisory Board
  - Twice the recipient of the Alumni Service Award
- Supporter of the Miss Florida Citrus contest
Proud Moments as his sons Both Achieved Eagle Scout
Fred Astaire he ain’t
But he can hold his own
With his wife Rita
Family Comes First
Supporting and Encouraging the next generation
Working Closely with his Management Team
Always ready to recognize employees for A Job Well Done
Runs the Packinghouse Singlehandedly Every Tuesday
It took almost 20 years, but
He finally got
HCCGA to spring for a company vehicle
Works hard, plays harder
Longtime supporter of the Florida Citrus Archives
The Face of Fresh Florida Citrus
Dennis P. Broadaway
The 2015 Recipient
Of The
John T. Lesley
Award of Excellence