Brothers Herb and Joe Graffis have been awarded the 1972 Green Section Award of the United States Golf Assn. for their “distinguished service to golf through work with turfgrass.” They are the first dual recipients of the award since its inception in 1961, and the first recipients in the publishing field. Co-founders of GOLFDOM, Joe Graffis presently is associate publisher; Herb Graffis is senior editor.

The award was presented by Philip H. Strubing, USGA president, and Henry Russell, chairman of the USGA Green Section Committee, January 28 at the USGA’s Conference on Golf Course Management at the Biltmore Hotel, New York.

“In 1927, Herb and Joe founded GOLFDOM, which they edited and published,” the USGA said in an announcement. “Through their editorial policies they encouraged the trial of turf products in experimental plots throughout the country. They also campaigned for improved status and recognition of golf course superintendents, the use of proven turf chemicals, improved drainage, installation of fairway watering systems and automatic irrigation. They helped set guidelines for the use of pull carts, and later for automotive carts to avoid damage to turf.”

In addition to their work in publishing, the Graffises founded the National Golf Foundation and helped establish the Golf Course Superintendents Assn. Turfgrass Conference and Show. For many years Herb Graffis has been president of the National Golf Fund, the sponsor of National Golf Day.