A salute to the ISTC!

This month members of the International Shade Tree Conference are meeting at the Shamrock Hilton Hotel in Houston, Texas, for their 40th Annual Convention, August 16-21.

In an age when the relentless tide of urbanization sweeps farther and farther into the countryside, the public has cause to be most grateful to this dedicated group. And vegetation maintenance professionals also should doff their hats in salute to this group’s fortieth anniversary, which marks four decades of notable progress in tree science.

Purposes of the ISTC are “to improve the practice of tree preservation; to stimulate a greater interest in the planting and preservation of ornamental trees; and to initiate and foster scientific investigation into the various problems encountered in the practice of tree preservation.” These quotes are directly from the group’s constitution.

Certainly these are commendable reasons for forming an organization. Under Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Lewis C. Chadwick, the Conference has grown in membership and in importance, and has served the nation, and its trees, hard and well.

The constitution goes on to state that the group will also promote an annual convention where ideas may be exchanged and where delegates may profit from each other’s experience. And the constitution states further that the annual convention will provide manufacturers of materials or equipment a place to introduce and demonstrate their products to practicing arborists.

So the ISTC, while striving primarily to disseminate scientific knowledge and to foster a respect for and an active interest in trees, also recognizes the importance of industry in the advancing technology of tree care. This last factor is in itself commendable.

The staff of Weeds and Turf salutes the International Shade Tree Conference, its current president Dr. Spencer H. Davis, its respected secretary Dr. L. C. Chadwick, and the officers and members who have worked together to bring the organization to its present level of excellence and dedication.

We hope this 40th convention will herald a new era of success and achievement, and we pledge our pages to the utmost cooperation with the aims of this fine organization.

WEEDS AND TURF is the national monthly magazine of urban/industrial vegetation maintenance, including turf management, weed and brush control, and tree care. Readers include “contract applicators,” arborists, nurserymen, and supervisory personnel with highway departments, railways, utilities, golf courses, and similar areas where vegetation must be enhanced or controlled. While the editors welcome contributions by qualified freelance writers, unsolicited manuscripts, unaccompanied by stamped, self-addressed envelopes, cannot be returned.