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- Editor Ray Gerber 865 Hillside Ave. Glen Ellyn, Ill. 60137 Phone — 469-6467
- Associate Editor Robert Williams 90 East Franklin, Apt. 208 Lake Forest, III. 60045 Office Phone — 432-0088

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Those of us who took advantage of the opportunity to work the booth at the Flower Show again came away with the satisfaction that can be achieved by helping someone in an effort to beautify his environment. This is also public relations at best. I would like to recommend that we elaborate on it and take it one step further.

I mentioned this at the board meeting back in January and all seemed interested. What we decided was to ask for volunteers to speak to garden clubs, homeowners associations and other interested groups on the subject we know best--''Lawn Maintenance''. We would need to write a more or less basic speech to ensure a uniform presentation. The speaker should be from the area where the talk will be presented, and if possible, two speakers would share the podium.

It would be necessary to have a sign printed to display at the Flower Show with forms available to obtain the group's name, the address, time and location where the presentation would take place, as well as the name, address and phone number of the chairman of the group. It would be prudent to limit the appearances to the winter months, probably November through March. Basically, what it amounts to is a chance to showcase the talent that keeps popping up at the Fall Clinic. There is no shortage of speakers in the M.A.G.C.S.

If we were to start at the 1980 Flower Show we will have better than a year to write the speech and make all necessary refinements. I think it would be a worthy challenge and an opportunity to improve our public image. To ensure success we will need more than a few participants. It may seem a long way off, but if there is enough interest shown it would be feasible to start as soon as possible. Of course, if there is lack of interest or it becomes apparent that we cannot do it in a professional manner, it would be wise to postpone it until such time as it can be done right.

I would like at this time to thank Dr. Bill Daniels, Joe Grenko and, as always, Ben Warren, who again furnished the sod. And, of course, those members whose participation made it a success. Also, Albie Staudt for his assistance in dismantling the booth. It is a paradox of nature that the more you help another, the more you help yourself and in conversation with both the commercial people and the superintendents who contributed time at the booth, they have invariably commented on how much they enjoyed the discussion of the turf problems with the people who visited the booth. I think it can be the same if we implement a speaker program. **Robert Breen**

