

WTA ANNUAL MEETING A SUCCESS

The Wisconsin Turfgrass Association, joined by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Wisconsin Extension, sponsored a Turfgrass Research Conference on January 27, 1983. The setting for the gathering, which also featured the annual meeting of the WTA, was the Public Events Center on the UW Arlington Experimental Farm. The Board of Directors was more than pleased when nearly two hundred turf professionals from as far away as Eau Claire and Beloit, Platteville, Milwaukee and Green Bay took time to attend. It speaks highly for those interested in keeping abreast of the latest research findings in turf management and demonstrates a recognition of the need to support the work of our land grant institution.

The format of the meeting was altered somewhat from that of 1982 to take into account constructive suggestions that resulted from that meeting. Formal research presentations this year supplemented the informal framework from 1982. This approach allowed ample time for attendees to view the many turf exhibits and visit with colleagues and University specialists.

One of the highlights of the day was the appearance of Dr. Leo Walsh, Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the UW-Madison. Dr. Walsh took several hours from a busy schedule to welcome everyone at the noon luncheon and to offer some remarks at the afternoon assembly. He noted the critical role of groups like the WTA and his encouragement should motivate those truly concerned about turfgrass research to support the WTA in upcoming years.

The annual meeting was convened during the afternoon session. Minutes from 1982 were read, Treasurer Jim Huggett reported that nearly \$6,500 was donated to the UW during 1982, and the elections were held. The officers and board members for 1983 are as follows:

President

Thomas R. Harrison
Maple Bluff Country Club
500 Kensington Dr.
Madison, WI 53704

Vice-President

Egon Herrmann
Loft Seed
14125 West Sun Valley Dr.
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Secretary

Monroe S. Miller
Blackhawk Country Club
Box 5129
Madison, WI 53705

Treasurer

James Huggett
Long Island Farms
Rt. 1, 5146 Ridge Rd.
Marshall, WI 53559

Board Members

George R. Brandt
American Sod
331 West Northwest Highway
Palatine, IL 60067

George P. Brandt
Brandt Sod Farms, Inc.
331 West Northwest Highway
Palatine, IL 60067

Ed Devinger
Reinders Brothers, Inc.
13400 Watertown Plank Rd.
Elm Grove, WI 53122

Rod Johnson
Sheboygan Country Club
Box 1066
Sheboygan, WI 53081

Marshall E. Scheibe
17425 W. Sierra Lane
Brookfield, WI 53005

A successful and educational meeting such as this one serves as a great finale for 1982 and an inspiring beginning for 1983. The WTA Board and members looks for even more support from the Wisconsin turfgrass industry in 1983.

Superintendents Meetings – Why Should I Host One?

When I first thought about having a Superintendents Meeting, I asked myself that same question. I was relatively new as a Superintendent, and was leery at the prospect of hosting superintendents from all over the state.

After having two meetings, I now can look back and say they were beneficial for me and my initial hesitancy was unfounded. By inviting the Superintendents to our course, I found I wanted the course to be the best it possibly could be. I'm not saying that the course wasn't in good shape to begin with, but it made me aware of the small things on the golf course that a person tends to let slide when he runs short on time. The things I'm talking about are better sand trap maintenance, giving that second look to the flower beds and keeping the area around the shop a little cleaner (inside and outside!) I've found that having an event like this gives me a new challenge and adds a new dimension to the season. It also keeps me from getting stale on the job.

The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Assoc. is a group of professionals banded together to promote our profession, and to help each other solve problems in the maintenance of golf courses. The two ways we can accomplish these goals is by communicating with fellow Superintendents and having them as guests at our courses for meetings. While at that meeting many Superintendents ask the host about his course. Eventually the topic of problems comes up and we find many of our problems are similar. We then can share our solutions. Not only can you get a great deal of help and information from an exchange like this, but you can contribute solutions to other people's problems based on your experience.

These are just a few good reasons to invite the Superintendents Association to your course. The best reason I can think of is the feeling of satisfaction you'll have at the end of the day overhearing your peers saying that they had a very enjoyable time. I hope this article will encourage you to invite the association to your course soon.

Dale E. Marach
Clintonville Riverside Golf Course