WTA "HITS THE ROAD"



Thomas Harrison presenting keys to Dr. Worf.

The Wisconsin Turfgrass Association presented the keys to a 1984 Chevrolet half ton pickup truck to University of Wisconsin turfgrass research staff members on May 14th. The vehicle will be used by UW personnel in their travel to all areas of Wisconsin where research plots are located and to visit individuals in the field that might need their assistance.

Access to a vehicle designated only for turf research and extension work will overcome a significant transportation problem of past years. The WTA has retained ownership of the truck so the control of availability remains in the hands of the staff needing it the most. The normal situation for support groups like the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association has been to make such a vehicle an outright gift. WTA Board members felt a break in this tradition was beneficial from not only the availability standpoint, but also in eliminating the bureaucratic problems associated with a motorpool vehicle. It also gave the WTA the opportunity to maintain the truck in a manner consistent with its status as a long term investment.

Many WGCSA members are also members of the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association. It is a real compliment for everyone involved in the WTA that the Association was able to put a truck on the road after only four years of existence. At least as significant as this fact is that the truck purchase did not jeopardize grants to UW staff members for research. A \$5000 grant was given to Dr. Gayle Worf for turf pathology research in 1984. Dr. Dan Mahr received a grant of \$3100 for turf entomology work. Dr. Bob Newman requested a modest amount of money for turfgrass seed purchases, and this request was met.

Few could dispute that the ownership is a major goal accomplished and that the truck fill a significant void. Now that it is in hand, the WTA will be able to expand its efforts to help with turfgrass research investigations in Wisconsin. What's next? Become a member and be a part of that decision-making!

ASPA CONVENTION SCHEDULED FOR JULY 24-26

Wisconsin has the distinct honor of hosting the 1984 Summer Convention and Field Days of the American Sod Producers Association (ASPA). The event is scheduled for July 24 — July 26 at the Olympia Resort in Oconomowoc. Members of the Wisconsin Sod Producers Association are serving as meeting organizers and hosts.

Sod producers from all over North America and several overseas nations will meet to hold their annual meeting, tour the Ransomes factory in Johnson Creek, tour three sod farms in Wisconsin, and to view exhibits set up by manufacturers and distributors. There will also be social activities to round out the event.

ASPA officials have emphasized that both members and nonmembers are welcome to attend the event, and should feel free to bring spouses and children as well. Although WGCSA members will not have to worry about any housing accommodations, registration information is available from ASPA Headquarters at 4415 West Harrison, Hillside, IL 60162. They also point out that individuals may register on-site for the entire Convention or any of the separate and individual activities. Those preregistrations received prior to July 2 will enjoy some discounted fees.

Early responses and the large numbers of inquiries received by the ASPA lead officials to believe that the Wisconsin meeting will break all previous records for both registrants and for exhibiting companies.

The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Associations wishes the Sod Producers the best of luck in their convention and hopes that this major meeting of the turfgrass industry will soon return to the Badger State.

WGCSA AUGUST MEETING Stevens Point Country Club Stevens Point August 13