

the cosmetics for people-pleasing maintenance operations. The two are indeed compatible.

These are the things that make up the lure of the Green Section today. Twenty-five years ago the work was mostly reacting to day-to-day happenstances and the swings of nature. There is much less need for this today because golf course folks are much better educated and have more sophisticated tools with which to work. Note that I did not say smarter or better equipped. Today, golfers get what some people believe are better playing conditions. They certainly tax the skill of superintendents more than ever before.

My thrill in getting back to total golf work is that with better education and much more beneficial research involvement than in the past, golf course superintendents not only recognize the real problems — soil conditions, water quality, the plants' survival capabilities and more — they are able to do something about them. The next decade should end band-aid maintenance of golf courses. I hope to be there, right in the middle of it and, hopefully, helping it happen.

THE GRASS ROOTS IS HONORED IN SAN FRANCISCO!

The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association was recognized for publishing the "best overall chapter newsletter" among those chapters of similar size. This is the second consecutive year THE GRASSROOTS has won an award for excellence. Editor Monroe S. Miller accepted the award at the newsletter editor's seminar. The award was also announced at the conference opening session.

There was a change in the competition categories in 1985. The number of awards was reduced to seven. Best overall — categories A, B, & C — were given, and the competition was divided in A category for chapters with less than thirty members, B category for chapters with 30 to 70 members, and the C category for chapters with more than 70

members. Additionally, four special recognition awards were made, regardless of chapter size: best flag design, best cover, best original editorial content, and best format and readability. Judging was done by a highly qualified panel of independent journalists.

The GCSAA award was based on quality and that quality reflects the excellent writing of those people who have generously given their time to this journal. Industry was well represented with articles by Ken Altorfer, Dr. Richard Hurley, Bill Keenan, Julie Nara and Dr. Tom Perkins. Our feature columnists — Dave Cookson, Ron Frame, Jim Latham, Bob Lohmann and Stan Zontek — met printing deadlines issue after issue with vital and interesting material. The University of Wisconsin — Madison faculty had a hand in earning GRASSROOTS recognition and we thank Dr. Alma Baron, Dr. Helen Harrison, Dr. Ed Hasselkus, Dr. Wayne Kussow, Dr. Jim Love, Dr. Birl Lowery, Dr. Kevin McSweeney, Dr. Emmett Schulte and Dr. Gayle Worf. Several spouses of WGCSA members — Cheryl Lange, Cheryl Miller, and Mary Worzella — cared enough to share their thoughts with our readers. WGCSA members figured prominently and put forth many interesting and educational pieces. Thanks go out to Tom Harrison, Dave Helke, Rod Johnson, Jerry Kershasky, Mark Kienert, Ric Lange, Monroe Miller, Pat Norton, Jeff Parks, Danny Quast, Bill Roberts, Mike Semler and Randy Smith. Photographic work by Ed

Devinger, Rod Johnson and Monroe Miller added greatly to the attractiveness of each issue. And very special thanks are due Gene Haas and his outstanding talent with pen and sketch pad.

Maybe deserving most credit of all is the generous group of people and companies that pay the bill for the GRASSROOTS — our advertisers. Without their support, all of the previously mentioned efforts wouldn't receive public distribution.

The unsung heroes in the process of putting this magazine in your hands are the fine staff at Kramer Printing in Madison. They really care about their craft, willingly put up with a demanding editor and work to make each issue better than the one before. Diane, Connie, Sandy and Larry are worthy of thanks from the WGCSA.

Will we stand on our laurels? No way! 1986 will be a challenge that is entirely new. Cookson, Lohmann, Latham and Worf have promised to be there again. Several new features will be forthcoming — thanks to Pat Norton, Larry Lennert, Mike Semler and Rod Johnson. Their features will each be timely and make for enjoyable reading. Our ad rates have remained stable and some refinements in layout are in the offing. Finally, this editor remains committed to publishing a magazine that accurately portrays the interesting and exciting work of the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendent. It is the easiest job of all!



GRASSROOTS Editor Monroe S. Miller accepts GCSAA Award for "Best Overall Chapter Newsletter."