President's Message



Enclosed in this issue of the *Grass Roots* is a brochure and pledge card for the O.J. Noer Center for Turfgrass Research. I urge you to familiarize yourself with this ambitious project so that you can (1) contribute directly and (2) become a resource person for golfers and other users of turfgrass as they are asked to contribute.

The Center will be a complete facility built in Madison with outdoor research plots and indoor space for meetings, offices, and laboratories. After giving to other research projects for many years, it is exciting to have our research efforts "come home" to Wisconsin. The better facilities will lead to more and expanded research projects and, ultimately, more turf researchers and students.

The three year fund raising campaign will raise \$200,000 to be matched with a 100,000 challenge grant for a total effort of \$300,000. The contribution being solicited is strictly individual and voluntary. We are looking for more than an employer-paid contribution. Your personal contribution can be made in a variety of ways as indicated on the enclosed pledge card. Give all that you can.

The WGCSA was well represented in Houston. I am sure there were more of our members present at the show this year than in other years. Congratulations are in order for Bill Roberts who



won his re-election campaign with the highest vote total in GCSAA history. Monroe Miller collected his (annual?) *Grass Roots* award. And the Golden Tee Club had a large proportion of WGCSA members — many of them sporting "charter member" status. Randy Smith and Jerry Kershasky did not get a plaque for hosting a most successful hospitality room, but they certainly deserved one. Thanks, guys!

The WGCSA has a lot to be proud of — we're a bunch of generous, hardworking and successful folks. We made a difference in Houston and we can make a difference in the O.J. Noer Center; so study the enclosed brochure carefully and USE it — don't LOSE it!

