

WTA Winter Conference Prospers at Olympia Site

By Monroe S. Miller

As the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association Winter Conference has grown, it has needed to move to larger facilities. Each move is somewhat nerve wracking and filled with anticipation.

So it was this year when the meeting moved to new quarters. The WTA conference committee worked a full year covering details for the 1991 meeting.

Their work paid off handsomely on January 8th and 9th when a record number of turfgrass managers from all over the state landed at the Olympia Resort in Oconomowoc.

The program was excellent and loaded with great speakers addressing subjects timely for everybody. Personally, I loved Prof. Kussow's analysis of *Poa annua*/bentgrass populations and what the literature tells about controlling those populations. Don't miss his **Wisconsin Soils Report** elsewhere in this issue of *THE GRASS ROOTS*.

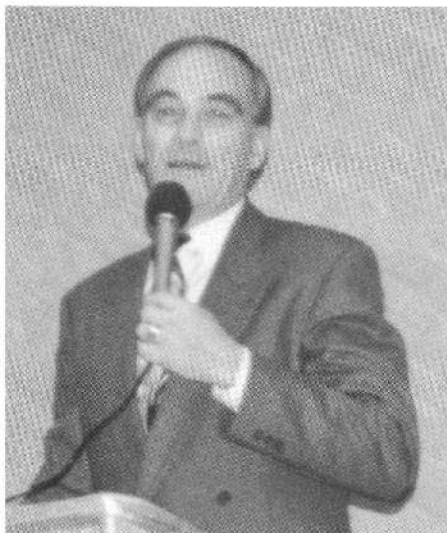
Dr. Hank Wilkinson was a busy man both days, at the lectern and in the hallways, answering lots of questions one on one.

Chuck Koval is recognized as one of the best speakers you'd want to hear, and despite an illness, he was there. So were Dr. Gayle Worf (nowadays Dean Worf) and Dick Schneider.

The USGA's Bob Vavrek, the GCSAA's Don Bretthauer and Landscape Management magazine's Terry McIver brought good information as a result of the national scope of their organizations.

Dr. Tom Perkins and Dr. Virginia Lehman came with strong academic credentials and broad practical experience to share.

Toro's Mike Hoffman, Lesco's Neal Howell and Pursell's John Detrick all



Celebrity speaker Hank Stoddard

gave an industry twist to their presentations.

The session chairmen—Bob Erdahl, Ed Devinger, Dave Payne and Bill Vogel—added a lot to the program with commentary and detail troubleshooting.

The tabletop trade show was greatly improved this year simply because there was generous room in the display area. We had room to move and to view products. More exhibitors than ever before participated in the 1991 conference.

WTMJ-TV sportscaster Hank Stoddard took center stage at Wednesday's noon luncheon and offered up some of the fun experiences he's had during his career in television in Milwaukee. He then answered any and all questions from the audience. Great entertainment!

The annual meeting and election were brief. Red Roskopf, Dave Payne

and this reporter were re-elected to the WTA board for three year terms.

A board meeting was held after the annual meeting, and 1991 officers were elected. Gary Zwirlein will serve as president, Wayne Otto was chosen vice president, Roger Bell was re-elected treasurer and Monroe S. Miller will be the secretary for another year.

There was unanimous praise for the work of Red Roskopf during his time as president. It was a tough time for him personally, but he dispatched his duties like the class guy he is.

The 1992 Wisconsin Turfgrass Association Winter Conference will return to the Olympia Resort. The dates of January 7th and 8th have been reserved.

WTA TABLETOP TRADE SHOW LIST OF EXHIBITORS

American Excelsior Co.
The Andersons
Bliffert Lumber Company
Ciba-Geigy Turf & Ornamental
Clifford Sales & Marketing
DowElanco
Hanley
Horst Distributing, Inc.
Kellogg, Inc. Seed & Supplies
Knox Fertilizer
Lebanon Total Turf
Lesco, Inc.
Milorganite Div of MMSD
Mobay Corporation
Nor-Am Chemical
Northrup King Co.
Pendleton Turf Supply
Reinders Irrigation
Reinders Turf
Rhone Poulenc
O.M. Scott & Sons
Seaboard Seed Company
Spring Valley Turf Products
Standard Golf Company
Tractor Loader Sales
Tyler Enterprises
Vigoro Industries, Inc.
W.A. Cleary Chemical Corp.
Waupaca Materials/Greenmix
Wilbur Ellis Co/Brayton Chemicals Div
Wisconsin Sod Producers
Wisconsin Turf Equipment Corporation



The head table was a veritable "Who's Who" in the Wisconsin turfgrass industry



The tabletop exhibits get better every year.