



# THREE CHEERS FOR...

By Monroe S. Miller

It's time to get caught up in our "thank you's" and give public acknowledgement to those among and around us who contribute to golf turf's well being.

## Prof. Ed Hasselkus and Larry Binning

Search Committee Chair Hasselkus and Horticulture Department Chair Binning extended a great gesture of respect to the turfgrass industry by involving it during the hiring process to fill Bob Newman's position. Their kindness reaffirms the strong partnership between the turf industry and the CALS at the UW-Madison.

## GCSAA Board of Directors

The GCSAA, during a spring board meeting made a decision to change eligibility requirements for a GCSAA scholarship.

Previously, students enrolled in a four-year turfgrass degree program—like the one at the UW-Madison—were required to have completed two years to be eligible for the scholarship competition.

Students enrolled in a two-year certificate program, however, were required to have completed only one year for eligibility. It was obviously a highly discriminatory policy against degree students.

Wouldn't you know it—last year one of my employees was a GCSAA scholarship applicant. He was highly qualified—3.5+ GPA, valedictorian of his large high school class, very active in college extracurricular activities, several summers' experience on golf courses, etc. He also wants to be a golf course superintendent.

He went through the application process and was ranked very near the top by the full GCSAA scholarship committee.

Until a staff person discovered he was only a sophomore (and therefore ineligible). I was livid; he was distraught. Yes, we should have read

the fine print. That notwithstanding, the policy was clearly from another time.

And the board of directors recognized that and changed the policy. Their change reflects GCSAA's commitment to making a bachelor's degree the standard for the profession.

Excellent decision!

## Bill Vogel

Most people talk about "giving something back" to their alma mater, their profession or some other institution influential in their lives. Few, however, follow through and actually do something about it.

Some do, though. I like the vehicle Bill Vogel's chosen. He is giving a \$500 scholarship to a student in the turf and grounds degree program at the UW-Madison. He leaves the selection up to the faculty advisors.

Great choice. And generous, too.

## New York Audubon Society

We are participating in the golf course sanctuary program sponsored by the Audubon Society of New York. I'm in the middle of completing the resource inventory required of participants.

I am impressed with what they've put together with the USGA and feel confident that a lot of good will come from it, both for wildlife right here in the middle of the city and for us.

It's very refreshing to see an attitude like the New York Society has. Rather than automatically assuming golf courses are detrimental to the environment (which they are not), they have decided to form a partnership with golf and help enhance golf course value to wildlife.

Other Wisconsin golf course superintendents have been as impressed as I have and are happy to be one of the Society's partners.

If you haven't signed up, give it some thought. It's a great opportunity.

## Peter Beaves

As one of the owners of Midwest Irrigation, Peter was in a position to help with the irrigation system at the NOER facility.

And he did. He put it in the ground. Like all the other installations he's made, this one works beautifully.

Next time you see him, thanks are in order.

## Reinders Irrigation

Without their support, coordination and contributions, the irrigation system at NOER facility would be a fraction of what it is now. To everyone in that organization, our gratitude.

## Tom Emmerich

Before we could begin to raise trump for an irrigation system at the NOER facility, we had to define what was needed.

Tom did that, giving us the plan that is shown in Tom Salaiz's article in the July/August issue of *THE GRASS ROOTS*.

He put all the factors—water source, plot requirements, faculty needs—and came up with a system that will serve the facility for decades.

It was a very professional effort.

## McKay Nursery The Bruce Company Long Island Farm

The NOER facility is really looking good these days, due in no small part to three companies. Jerry Draeger (McKay Nursery), Jim Huggett (Long Island Farm), and Dave Wever (The Bruce Company) contributed the landscape materials and the expertise to put the final dressing at the research farm. Tom Harrison coordinated the project.

See Tom Salaiz's report in the July/August issue for specific details about the contributions of these companies.

They've been extremely generous.