



# THE GRASS ROOTS



an official publication of the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association

Volume XIII, No. 5

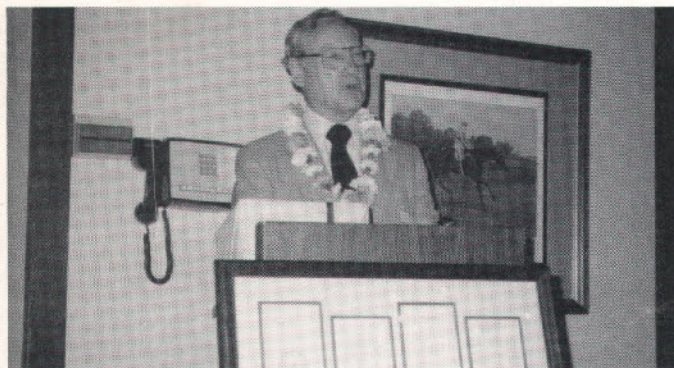
September/October 1986 Issue

## JIM LOVE HONORED AT RETIREMENT

The retirement of Professor James R. Love from the faculty at the University of Wisconsin—Madison was noted with a surprise party held in his honor on May 18, 1986. Nearly one hundred former turf students, spouses and friends from the turfgrass industry gathered at the Nakoma Golf Club in Madison to pay tribute to Jim's 25 years of service to the turfgrass industry and 35 years in the Department of Soil Science. He retired on July 15.



A rare sight for any student of Jim Love's — the professor wringing his hands at a loss for words!



But he found a podium, quickly recovered and thanked everyone for the trip, the evening and the memories.

Plans for honoring Dr. Love were started at the GCSAA Conference in Washington, D.C. in early 1985 at a meeting of the UW—Madison Turfgrass Alumni Club. Bob

Erdahl, Randy Smith and Monroe Miller assumed responsibility of organizing the event and contacting alumni. Class chairmen volunteered to help. The response, needless to say, was overwhelming. Because of Jim's expressed desire not to have his retirement noted in any way, secrecy was essential. Despite widespread knowledge of plans among his colleagues, friends and former students, he was indeed surprised. That fact alone



Bob Erdahl and Randy Smith welcomed Jim and Nancy upon their arrival at Nakoma for the surprise retirement party.

made it a special night.

The evening was planned to cover all details. Dr. Love assumed he was going to Nakoma to dine with Peter Miller and his wife, who were in town to pick their daughter up at the end of the semester. Instead, he entered the Club to warm and sustained applause from the gathered crowd, including many who had travelled hundreds and hundreds of miles from a number of other states.

Leo Walsh was there and offered remarks as a part of the program. A long time colleague of Jim's in the Soil Science Department, Dr. Walsh noted that although he knew Jim was not "turned on" by the long and effusive speeches common at one's retirement, it was appropriate that a person of such commitment deserved comment. Walsh expressed disbelief that Jim was retiring — he seems far too young and still in the prime of life. "I have always felt," Walsh said, "that the appropriate question to ask at the time of one's retirement is 'has one's con-

(Continued on page 29)