

36", 60", 72" cutting widths - with or without loading hopper.



mower that cleans, mows

and sweeps.



Mathews Company

BOX 70, CRYSTAL LAKE, IL 60014, PHONE: 815-459-2210

Circle 129 on free information card



WISTW

VIEWPOINT

Bruce Shank, Editor

Every man and woman lives with the hope that each day's labor is a significant contribution to his profession and that years later those contributions will be recognized by family and associates. Without the feelings of worth and recognition man is incomplete.

The Green Industry, basically a second or third generation industry, falls short on recognition of its members when they step aside for the next generation. For the most part, commercial growth has taken place in golf, landscaping, tree maintenance, memorial park, and weed control since 1920. Those persons in their seventies started us on our way.

The Green Industry needs its own Hall of Fame, something of national scope based upon input from regional associations. In my opinion, such a collection of notables, should come from all segments of the Green Industry.

Trying to get cooperation from all groups within the Green Industry has been fairly difficult so far. The American Council for Turfgrass, formerly known as the National Turfgrass Federation, has not received the support needed to get off the ground, after two years of trying.

But what better reason to join together than to honor our best? How much disagreement could there be about the need to recognize persons who made our occupations what they are today?

Another indication that the Green Industry hasn't organized its methods of recognition, is the tough time our foundations are having getting the financial base necessary to support industry projects and research.

Foundations make alot of sense. Through trusts a person can put otherwise lost estate taxes to work for the industry which supported him during his working life. There is nothing greedy or un-American about controlling the direction of your estate after death. I'll bet every senator and congressman has a trust fund.

Combine the need for recognition with industry support of research and development through trusts and you have one smart solution to both problems.

The younger generations can strive to be recognized as their predecessors were with the aid of new information derived through research supported by trusts and memorials.

I am currently aware of two foundations in this industry, the Musser and the Noer Foundations. If you would like more information about these foundations or think the Hall of Fame idea is sensible, let me hear from you.

We've got to do more to show our predecessors our gratitude. History is the foundation of every endeavor. It is the common link for the entire Green Industry. Honoring our predecessors has the effect of strengthening our foundation, giving all of us a sense of unity and worth.

It's time to quit thinking about patting our early leaders on the back, and do it.