



## A thank you

"'Renewal and Remembrance' is a chance for us to do with our actions what is impossible to put into words; to say 'thank you' to the veterans of every war and armed conflict that has befallen this great nation, to the nearly 250,000 men and women who lie here under the shadow of the Capitol, in honored glory under this blessed sod.

"It's been said that we honor our dead by fighting our battles as they fought the battles of their day. We honor our heroes today by doing what we do as a profession: quality lawn care. It is our green blazon of thanks!"

—Phil Fogarty



# PLCAA remembers







*More than 100 members of the Professional Lawn Care Association of America tend the grounds at Arlington National Cemetery in remembrance of those who fought our nation's wars.*

by TERRY McIVER / Editor-in-chief

Some of the 'Renewal and Remembrance' volunteers. Opposite page, clockwise, from top left: Gene Pool of Emerald Green and others from the Ohio team tend the grounds around the Kennedy Memorial; Phil Fogarty speaks by radio to a worker, with Tom Delaney, PLCAA government affairs director; a Joint Color Guard presents the flags of the United States and its military branches; Carl Petelle, Leisure Lawn. Across center of page: Tim Doppel, right, with Todd Schray and Paul Johnson; PLCAA President Terry Kurth and daughter Krista; Mike Dietrich, center, and the Lesco team check their bearings; the team of, l to r, Sean and Mike Kravitsy, Grasshopper Lawns; Mike Bolton and Larry Ellmaker, Moyer Lawn Care; Ken Fick, Green Giant Lawn Care. At bottom, the entire team of volunteers prior to getting started.

**M**ore than 100 lawn care professionals from across the U.S. volunteered manpower and equipment in the morning and afternoon hours of February 3, to enhance the beauty and vigor of the grounds of Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va.

The "Renewal and Remembrance" environmental enhancement project was complete with its own

souvenir hats, a Joint Color Guard, and much time and effort by people who certainly could have spent their day doing something else.

It was all Phil Fogarty's idea, but he'd much rather point to the 100 volunteers who helped make it happen.

Fogarty, owner of Crowley's Lawn, Tree and Shrub Service of Cleveland, thought the event would be a great way to kick off the PLCAA legislative weekend on Capitol Hill, and would certainly be a fine gesture of thanks.

"This was our chance to show our appreciation to veterans everywhere," said Fogarty. "This shows the kind of commitment you have to our industry, our environment and this country.

"We're very proud of the work done today, and hope that our efforts will make a lasting impression on the beauty and environment of our national cemetery grounds," said Fogarty.

"We plan to continue to support this project at Arlington in the future."

#### **From one veteran to another**

"This project means a lot to me," said Vietnam veteran, Don Tannahill of Hort-Ventures, Olathe, Kan.

"I often visit Arlington, and what we're doing here today contributes to the beauty of a very reverent place."

"It was a lot easier than I thought it was going to be," said Tim Doppel, president of Atwood Lawn Care, Sterling Hts., Mich.

"It was incredibly well-organized," said Doppel "My hat's off to Phil Fogarty. It was a pleasure and an honor. You saw [while working on the grounds] the grave of a colonel, next to the grave of a major, next to the grave of a general. This was my small tribute to them. When you realize the sacrifice they made, pushing a spreader around didn't seem like a hard day at all."

#### **Colors and commendations**

The day began with a dedication ceremony near the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, complete with the presenting of the colors by the Joint Color Guard.

Arlington Superintendent Jack Metzler and industry professionals, including Fogarty; PLCAA President Terry Kurth of Lawn Care of Wisconsin, Middleton, Wisc., spoke to the crowd of more than 100 workers.

"Our theme, 'Renewal and Remembrance,' captures in words what we are here to achieve: renewing the cemetery lawn in remembrance of those who gave so much to this country," said Kurth.

"While most people look around at such well-cared for places like Arlington and appreciate the beauty of a healthy lawn, especially during spring and summer, many people don't think of the benefits a healthy lawn brings to our environment."

#### **Pallets of supplies**

Not only was time given freely here; materials were brought in by the pallet-full. Here's what they put down:

- ▶ 40 tons of dolomitic pelletized limestone;
- ▶ 10 tons of dolomitic pelletized lime;
- ▶ 100 gallons of N-Sure;
- ▶ 2000 pounds of Falcon II turf-type tall fescue.

"Renewal and Remembrance" was co-sponsored by:

FMC Turf & Ornamentals; Bayer, Inc.; DowElanco; and Novartis Turf & Ornamental Products.

Contributors were: The Andersons; Zeneca Professional Products; American Cyanamid; Riverdale Chemical Co.; Lesco, Inc. and PBI Gordon. □