

## 'People of the Year' have always led the charge



*Terry McIver*

TERRY McIVER  
Editor-in-Chief

**T**his month, we present to the Green Industry our "People of the Year" recipients for 1997.

What an excellent quartet of Green Industry leaders: Tom Lied; Jeff Bourne; Dr. Roger Funk; and Paul Latshaw, Sr.

The criteria for the "People of the Year" award is that a Green Industry professional exhibits a history of contributions to the Green Industry during the course of a career or during a significant portion of that career.

Our winners have done just that, and show no sign of slowing down. They're long-ball hitters. Team players. Coaches. Managers.

**Tom Lied**, president of Lied's Landscape Design and Development, has been a regular contributor to the Associated Landscape Contractors of America, including being a co-founder of the group in 1962. He learned the business from his father, Delmar, and is one of those people who never looked back. He knew his career path and interests, and attacked his work with excitement and vigor.

**Jeff Bourne**, our grounds management winner, is in charge of about 6000 acres of property and 3000 parcels of dedicated open space in Howard County, Md. He is responsible for an operating budget of \$13 million, including 600 employees (career, part time and contractual).

**Paul Latshaw**—his son is also Paul—could be called a "Tournament Specialist" in the superintendent ranks. Throughout his career, he has prepared several country clubs for championship play, with great results. His most recent was the U.S. Open Championship at Congressional CC, where he has been superintendent since 1993.

**Dr. Roger Funk** of the Davey Tree Expert Co., has been a leader in horticultural science and plant health care for Davey since 1973.

He has authored numerous papers on horticultural topics, and has brought some very good ideas to the table in the interest of reduced product use and "plant health care."

Besides a definite tendency towards excellence, our "People of the Year" share something else in common. Each one entered the Green Industry at a very early age, and knew early on that this was where they wanted to be; where they wanted to make their marks; where they wanted to make a difference.

Lied started in his father Delmar's nursery company as a young boy. After earning a degree in horticulture, Lied went back to serve the company, and began his career full throttle. He was also a co-founder of ALCA.

Latshaw was fresh out of the Navy, and had turned from a potential occupation of poultry farmer when in 1962 he started at a Pennsylvania golf course.

Bourne's involvement with grounds began as a student of Community and Outdoor Recreation at Springfield College, Springfield, Mass.

Roger Funk joined the Davey Tree Expert Co. in 1973 as a horticulturist. He's been there ever since, and has been the technical force behind it's initiatives into the concept of Plant Health Care and other lawn care/tree care-related programs.

We congratulate our "People of the Year" for 1997. We know we could find four times that number on any given day, because there are many committed Green Industry Professionals out there who have made life-long contributions.

The "People of the Year" will receive their awards during the Green Industry Expo in November and GCSAA show in February. To learn more about them, see the story that begins on page 17. **LM**