

PLCAA Day on Hill a success



The Professional Lawn Care Association of America's Legislative Day on the Hill was held on July 20-21 in Washington, D.C., with more than 70 lawn and landscape management professionals lending a hand to beautify the grounds of Arlington National Cemetery.

Browner thanks LCOs

Carol Browner, Environmental Protection Agency administrator, commended PLCAA for working closely with EPA on projects such as environmental stewardship, and spoke of a time of continued cooperation between government and private industry.

"The work you are performing today, and the work groundskeepers perform every day here at Arlington National Cemetery, is an honor to this national shrine; to these American men and women who gave their lives

for our country," Browner said.

Arlington Superintendent Jack Metzler; PLCAA President Bob Ottley, One Step Tree & Lawncare, N. Chili, NY; and event coordinator Phil Fogarty, Scotts Lawn Service, Euclid, Ohio, made remarks during the dedication ceremony complete with a presentation of the Joint Color Guard.



Carol Browner: PLCAA members do important work.

"I think PLCAA improved the image of the turf industry by helping a national shrine look better to the average citizen," said Brad Williams of Williams Landscape Services, Inc., Chapel Hill, NC.

"Being a veteran myself, it is a great honor to participate at Arlington," said Gene Pool of Emerald Green/Bolton & Pool Lawn Care, Van Wert, Ohio.

"I feel Arlington is the most sacred ground I'll ever stand on, second to Calvary."



▲ PLCAA members and their families gather at the foot of the Unknown Soldier memorial for a photo before work begins.

◀ Members of Pena Landscaping, Scotts Lawn Care and All Green Corporation at Arlington.

On the day following the Arlington project, lawn care operators met with legislators or legislative aides to discuss crucial issues affecting business operations, most importantly the FQPA.

"Not only have we made progress on issues, but more importantly, we have built a relationship with our representatives; they now address me on a first name basis," said Pool.

Other issues discussed on the Hill were compensatory time vs. overtime pay; contin-

ued funding for the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program; and comprehensive OSHA reform.



Pool: discussed the issues with Ohio lawmakers.

The following companies made financial or in-kind contributions to the Arlington Cemetery project: American Cyanamid; The Andersons; Bayer; Chantilly Turf Farms; Dow AgroSciences; FMC; Georgia Marble, Co.; Jacklin Seed; Lesco; Medalist America; Novartis; PBI Gordon; Riverdale; The Scotts Company; Zeneca Professional Products. **LM**