

Mr. Peter Orum who was Eastern Region President in 1989-90.

Mr. J. Peter Vermeulen who was Eastern Region President in 1965-66 and received the Eastern Region's Plant Propagators' Award of Merit in 1981.

AWARD OF MERIT—EASTERN REGION

Richard Bosley presented the Award of Merit to **Peter Orum**.

Peter Orum, Midwest Groundcovers, St. Charles, Illinois, was presented the Eastern Region Award of Merit at its annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri. He served as Eastern Region President for the 1989-1990 year, presiding at the 40th Annual Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio. His most recent efforts on behalf of the I.P.P.S. have been directed at bringing about the establishment of the Denmark Region.

Peter joined the Eastern Region in 1965. He began his service in the Eastern Region on the Long Range Planning committee as both a member and eventually chairman. He next served on the Board of Directors in 1984-1985. After leaving the Board he took on the task of starting the Endowment Committee as its chairman during 1986-1987. In December 1987 he became 2nd V.P. and 1988 1st V.P. and Program Chairman for the Toronto, Canada meeting.

He was born in Soborg, a suburb of Copenhagen, Denmark 4 December 1941. Orum grew up in Vraa, Vendsyssel (most northern province of Denmark) and worked in his father's small nursery.

He also was nursery apprentice at both Spejlborg Nursery and Vilvorde Nursery for four years. He graduated from Vilvorde (Copenhagen) Horticulture School.

In 1965 he arrived in the U.S.A. and held the positions of supervisory trainee at D. Hill Nursery Co., Dundee, Illinois. He later was superintendent of propagation at the same nursery for seven years.

In 1969 Orum and his wife, Irma, began Midwest Groundcovers (the Peter Orum Nurseries) in John Wilde's back yard in West Chicago. He acquired five acres in St. Charles and moved the nursery there in 1970. By 1986 the nursery had grown to 160 acres with 100 acres in production as propagation and container nursery. Orum's nursery annually produces about 10 million plants and employs 80 people in peak season. Midwest Groundcovers is the largest ground cover producer in Illinois.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON 3 DECEMBER 1992

The afternoon session was convened at 2:00 p.m. with Dan Studebaker serving as moderator.