PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dr. Gil Landry, Jr.

he Sports
T u r f
Managers
Association
(STMA) has
encountered and
conquered several significant challenges through the
first three quarters of this year.



All organizations face challenges on a daily basis, just as we do individually. Challenges spur change. We have worked hard to meet the challenge of change and we will continue to do so.

Our number-one challenge as we enter the fourth quarter of this year is the success of the Fourth Annual Sports Turf Managers Association Conference at the Indianapolis Convention Center and Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis, IN, December 13-15.

As many of you already know, this year we are hosting our conference in conjunction with the 23rd Annual National Federation Conference of High School Directors of Athletics. The benefits of a concurrent meeting and exhibition are numerous. Registered delegates from both organizations may attend any STMA or National Federation workshops, seminars, and/or general sessions. Besides sharing programs, we also are sharing the exhibition hall.

STMA member David Minner has teamed with our Executive Director, Bret Kelsey, and the National Federation's Assistant Director and Show Manager, Brad Rumble, to concentrate on conference logistics. These three individuals are working diligently to develop a valuable and enjoyable conference. Exhibitor and registration materials are forthcoming. If you are interested in more immediate information, feel free to contact Bret at (312) 644-6610. Otherwise watch for these materials, complete them, and send them back to STMA headquarters.

July was an especially active month for our chapters around the nation. The South Carolina, Midwest, and Colorado chapters held institutes that featured everything from renowned sports figures, such as Chip Toma, Danny Ford, and Irv Brown to facility tours of impressive structures, such as Furman University's Paladin Stadium and the U.S. Air Force Academy's 178-acre Multi-Use Athletic Facility. In addition, the University of Portland played

host to the Northwest Regional Sports

Turf Institute, which was spear-

headed by Tom Cook.

Managers Association

More than 300 sportsturf professionals across the nation participated in the workshops and tours offered by these institutes. Credit is due to those individuals who took the lead in organizing these programs. Special thanks to Bucky Trotter, Mike Trigg, Bill Whirty, Tom Cook, and their assistants. Your work is a shining example of the need this professional organization is dedicated to fulfilling.

Please take a moment to review the Calendar of Events listed in this magazine. You'll see more institutes scheduled for this year: the California Regional Sports Turf Institute coordinated by Stephen Guise and the Northeast Regional Sports Turf Institute coordinated by Mary Owen.

As President Teddy Roosevelt said, "Every man owes part of his time and money to the business or industry in which he is engaged..." The sports Turf Managers Association exists to, among other things, enhance sports turf managers' professionalism. Education is an integral part of being a professional. All the people mentioned in this column are professionals dedicated to fostering professional development through education. I encourage you to mold your professional image through STMA.





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