STMA: An Investment Decision

When it comes time to pay membership dues, questions seem to mount faster than they can be answered. Do the benefits and services you receive as an STMA member outweigh the dues? With today's tight economy, how can you justify paying dues, much less volunteering time?

These are tough questions. Here are some answers.

STMA is shaping the future of the sports turf industry. We have more than 600 members committed to increasing the quality of care for sports turf and sports turf facilities. As the leader in "promoting better and safer sports turf areas," STMA assists you in your quest to become a better sports turf "professional."

It may be a bit philosophical, but to "unravel the secrets of the universe"

As an STMA member, I have opportunities to learn new techniques, increase my knowledge, and sharpen my skills. That's a direct return on my membership dollar.

Together, we must understand the role of STMA. That role is to focus outward as well as inward, not only developing new services for existing members, but also enhancing the image of the sports turf professional.

Yes, these are hard times. Justifying membership in STMA is a matter of decision making. We're talking about a return on your dollar.

How does that translate?

I'll never forget my visit to Jack Murphy Stadium in San Diego. Steve Wightman answered every question I asked—even questions I thought may have been dumb. After the tour, I really had the feeling that Steve was truly interested in my personal success.

I would never have met someone like Steve had I not joined STMA. Other members have also helped me grow professionally including Steve Cockerham, the late Harry Gill, Mark Hodnick, Henry Indyk, Ken Kurtz, Ken Mrock, Mike Schiller, and Doc Watson to name a few. I encourage you to make contacts and form friendships to help build your career. I directly attribute my salary level, career development, and success on the job to my involvement with STMA.

As an STMA member, I have opportunities to learn new techniques, increase my knowledge, and sharpen my skills. That's a direct return on my membership dollar. I believe you'll find STMA membership provides a direct return on yours, and I hope you will participate in our association's activities as we embark on 1993.
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Turf and Grounds sessions will include "See Taylor Stadium Renovations;" "Weed Control on Sports Fields;" "Nitrogen Fertilizer Programs for Sports Turf;" "Soil Compaction Research Update;" and "Relationship Between IHSA and Turfgrass Managers," conducted by Dave Harty of the Iowa High School Athletic Association.

On January 20, the trade show is open and concurrent sessions will be conducted. The Sports Turf morning sessions include: "ISTMA Annual Membership Meeting;" "Legislative Issues for Public Grounds;" "Sports Turf Calendars, conducted by Roc Gaussoin;" "Potassium—An Essential Nutrient, conducted by Dr. Nick Christians;" and "Irrigation Installation on Sports Fields."

The afternoon Grounds Maintenance sessions include: "Landscape Development at the Casey's General Store Headquarters;" "Low Maintenance Grasses;" "Grounds Maintenance at Grinnell College;" and "Large Tree Decline in the Landscape."

For information on this meeting, the Iowa Chapter, its goals and activities, contact Gary Peterson at (615) 792-6433.

STMA Florida Chapter #1: An all-day schedule is being set for January 13, with STMA of Florida and Regal Chemical Company. C.E.U.s (Continuing Education Units) will be issued. Further details will be announced soon.

For information on the South Florida Chapter, or for details on meetings and chapter activities, contact John Mascaro (305) 938-7477 or Ed Birch (305) 938-0217.

Midwest Chapter: STMA—For information on the Midwest Chapter and chapter activities, contact Mike Trigg, Waukegan Park District, (708) 360-4750.

Colorado Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association—Plans are progressing for the annual meeting and banquet, which will be held December 30 at Mile High Stadium. Tickets for that night's Denver Nuggets Basketball Game will be available. This meeting will serve as a review of the past year's events and a kick-off for 1993 activities. For further details on the annual meeting, contact Mark Leasure of the Colorado Springs Sky Sox at (719) 338-0381, or Bill Whirty.

For information about the chapter and its activities, contact Bill Whirty at (303) 221-6660.

Carolina Chapter: STMA—Planning sessions continue for the Carolina Chapter as newly elected president, Joe Wilson, works with the board to outline future events.

For information on the Carolina Chapter and its activities, contact Marc Farha (facility manager of the Charlotte Knights) at (704) 332-3746.

New England Chapter: STMA—The New England Chapter STMA committees are planning for two major educational events in 1993. The board is ironing out final details on the chapter bylaws and developing guidelines for membership categories within the chapter. Those interested in participating or seeking details on the chapter and its activities, contact Mary Owen, University of Massachusetts Cooperative Extension System at (508) 831-1225.

STMA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 12
2-6 p.m.—Early Registration.
6-8 p.m.—Welcome Reception.

Sunday, December 13
8:45-9 a.m.—“Welcome,” STMA President Gil Landry, Ph.D., University of Georgia.
9-10 a.m.—“Sports Turf—and Then Some,” George Toma, Kansas City Royals.
10-11 a.m.—“Perspectives on Athletic Field Expectations,” from an athletic director, athlete, and grounds superintendent.
11 a.m.-12 p.m.—STMA Annual Meeting.
11 a.m.-5 p.m.—Exhibits Open.

Concurrent Workshops
1:30-3:30 p.m.—Workshop I: "ABCs of Soils," A.J. Powell, University of Kentucky.
1:30-3:30 p.m.—Workshop II: "Preparation of a Realistic Budget," Greg Petry, Waukegan, IL, Park District; Richard Caton, Ph.D. Turfcon.
9:15-10:30 p.m.—Exhibit Hall Reception.

Monday, December 14
8-11 a.m.—Session I: "Basic Turfgrass Management," Clark Throsell, Ph.D., Purdue University.
"Turfgrass Traffic Tolerance," Steve Cockerham, University of California, Riverside.
"Turfgrass Water Management," Clark Throsell, Ph.D., Purdue University.
"Turfgrass Nutrition," Bruce Augustine, Ph.D. Lesco, Inc.
"Athletic Field Reconstruction," Henry Indyk, Ph.D., Turfcon.
8-11 a.m.—Session II:
"Innovations from the Industry," Larry Perotti, Sharp Brothers Seed Co.
"Maintenance of Athletic Fields on a Low Budget," A.J. Powell, Ph.D., University of Kentucky.
8-11 a.m.—Session III:
"Cool Season Weed Control," Dave Minner, Ph.D., University of Missouri.
"Seed Priming and Pregeneration," Virginia Kanikeberg, Jacklin Seed Company.
11 a.m.-5 p.m.—Exhibits Open.
12-1:30 p.m.—President’s Lunch

Concurrent Workshops
2-4 p.m.—Workshop III: "STMA Chapter Development and Management," Ray Flood, Landscape Tech III; Mike Trigg, Waukegan, IL, Park District; Greg Petry, Waukegan, IL, Park District.
2-4 p.m.—Workshop IV: Tips from the Pros," Steve Wightman, Jack Murphy Stadium; Dale Getz, Notre Dame University; Tom Lujan, Mile High Stadium; Jesse Cuevas, Rosenblatt Stadium; George Toma, Kansas City Royals.
5:15-6 p.m.—STMA Exhibitor Meeting.
6-7 p.m.—Pre-Banquet Cocktail Reception.
7-9 p.m.—STMA Awards Banquet.

Tuesday, December 15
8-8:45 a.m.—"Athletic Shoes and the Turf Surface," Kathleen O'Dell, Nike, Inc.
8:45-9:30 a.m.—"Effective Communication," Richard Caton, Ph.D., Turfcon.
9:30-10:30 a.m.—Turf Industry Publishers/Editors, "The Future of Sports Turf," Matt Trulio, sportsTURF; Jerry Roche, Landscape Management; Harry Cline, Western Turf Management.
10:30-11 a.m.—Memorabilia, Raffle, and Silent Auction Announcements.
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.—Tour of the Hoosier Dome.
11 a.m.-1 p.m.—Exhibits Open/Festival Closing.
1-3:30 p.m.—Exhibitor Move-Out.
6:30-9:15 p.m.—National Federation of State High School Associations.