

# PRESIDENT-ELECT'S MESSAGE

By Greg Petry



## 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"

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

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you must become involved. We all have "comfort zones." Venturing outside of those zones can provoke anxiety—feelings that we may fail. Just remember that, in retrospect, it is usually the things we *haven't* done, rather than those we *have* done, that we most regret.

We need to take steps outside our comfort zones. Take on new challenges. The results will be personal and professional growth, as well as a strengthened organization.

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. □

## STMA CHAPTER NEWS

**Chesapeake Chapter: STMA**—The Chesapeake Chapter will hold their annual meeting at Festival Hall in Baltimore, MD, in conjunction with "Turfgrass 93," presented by the Maryland Turfgrass Council. "Turfgrass 93" is a three-day event, running January 6-8. A special sports turf session will be conducted on the afternoon of January 20, during which the Chesapeake Chapter: STMA's annual meeting will take place.

The annual banquet will be held on January 7, as part of a cruise departing from Baltimore Harbor.

For additional information on "Turfgrass 93," the meeting, the chapter, and its programs, contact Ray Flood at (301) 405-3320.

**Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association**—The Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association annual meeting will be held at 8 a.m. on January 20 at the Des Moines Convention Center, Des Moines, IA, in conjunction with the Iowa Turfgrass Conference.

The conference is a three-day event, from January 18 to 20, with both general sessions and concurrent educational sessions targeted specifically for golf course, lawn care, and sports turf and grounds professionals. Registration opens each morning at 7 a.m.

On January 18, workshops run from 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m., with the grand opening of the trade show scheduled from 4 to 7 p.m. Monday workshops include two six-hour sessions: "Basic Turfgrass Management" and "Preparing for the Pesticide Certification Exam" and eight three-hour workshops: "Current Issues, with instructors Thomas Delany, director of state government affairs, Professional Lawn Care Association of America, and Mona Hood, executive director, Iowa Alliance of Environmental Concerns;" "Soils and Fertilizer;" "Golf Course Irrigation;" "Landscape Irrigation;" "Working With Weather;" "Sports Turf, with instructors Larry Leuthold, extension turfgrass specialist, Kansas State University, and Zac Reicher, extension turfgrass specialist, Purdue University;" and "Diseases of Turfgrasses on the Golf Course."

On January 19, the Pesticide Certification Exam will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The morning is devoted to general sessions, beginning at 8 a.m. General Session I will include an Iowa State University Update and a new products introduction. General Session II will include "Issues Facing Turfgrass

*continued on page 18*



## STMA Chapter News

continued from page 17

Managers in the Future," and "Pesticides and Human Health." The trade show opens at 11:30 a.m. The special Sports Turf and Grounds sessions will include "Sec 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 (515) 792-6433.

**STMA Florida Chapter #1:** An all-day event is scheduled 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 activi-

ties. 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 education 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 point-of-view.

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, Chuck Dixon, Turf Diagnostics & Design.

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 Throssell, Ph.D., Purdue University.

"Turfgrass Traffic Tolerance," Steve Cockerham, University of California,

Riverside.

"Turfgrass Water Management," Clark Throssell, 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.

"Warm Season Weed Control," Eugene Mayer, O.M. Scott & Sons Company.

"Seed Priming and Pregermination," 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. □