

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dr. Gil Landry, Jr.

The Sports Turf managers Association (STMA) board of directors unanimously approved the inclusion of two more chapters into the association this past June: Chesapeake and Iowa. This expands STMA's chapter base to six, which also includes Colorado, Florida, Midwest, and South Carolina.

The East Coast-based Chesapeake Chapter of STMA is headed by chapter president, Raymond Flood, Landscape Tech III, University of Maryland, College Park, MD. This group recently conducted its Second Annual Field Day & Workshop at the University of Maryland. More than 150 sports turf professionals were on-hand to participate in turf-related workshops and listen to speakers, such as the University of Maryland's new football coach, Mark Duffner.

The Iowa Chapter of STMA is headed by chapter executive director, Gary Peterson, Iowa Co-Op Extension Service, Newton, IA. The Iowa Chapter boasts some 80 members dedicated "to working with and improving the quality of sports turf areas in the state of Iowa."

The Iowa Chapter's recent workshop garnered approximately 40 participants and featured 15 exhibitors—exhibiting machinery, equipment, chemicals, and seed.

Meeting Regional Needs Through Institutes And Workshops

The month of July also featured a Northwest Institute, which was held at the University of Portland. More than 50 sports turf professionals enjoyed listening to, among others, STMA Past President Steve Cockerham, University of California-Riverside, Riverside, CA. Tom Cook, horticultural department, Oregon State University,



Corvallis, OR; and Gwen Stahnke, Washington State University, Puyallup, WA, headed this institute.

University of St Thomas' Tom Rudberg was instrumental in developing a workshop held in St. Paul, MN, this past July. More than 90 sports turf professionals participated in this program. Hosted by the University of St. Thomas, this workshop was highlighted by the Minnesota Vikings' Sam Munson, training and facility grounds supervisor.

Communication Is The Key

STMA President-elect Greg Petry, superintendent of parks, Waukegan Park District, Waukegan, IL, is currently working on a program for chapters that will facilitate interaction with the national body. In addition, Petry is researching the possibility of a new policy manual for chapter organization, institute coordination, logo use, etc. We hope to have something for review at the annual meeting.

With proper communication, I'm certain that the regional and national groups can continue to complement each other. On a national level, STMA continues to provide scholarships, awards, research grants, education programs, and hopes to implement a professional certification program and develop standards for athletic field construction. All of which stands to benefit the industry. Regional and the national body working together to fulfill our association's mission.

Fourth Annual STMA Conference Around The Corner

The Fourth Annual Sports Turf Managers Association Conference takes place at the Indianapolis Convention Center and Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis, IN, December 13-15, 1992.

This year we are hosting our conference in conjunction with the 23rd Annual National Federation Conference of High School Directors

of Athletics. Registered delegates from both organizations may attend any STMA or National Federation workshop, seminar and/or general session. Additionally, besides sharing programs, we also are sharing the exhibition hall.

With our annual conference comes the chance to delve into the rapidly changing and compelling world of sports turf management and surface with answers to everyday questions regarding budgeting and communications; maintenance practices; soils and fertilizer management; turfgrass selection; renovation; water management; sports turf safety; synthetic turf and cultivation practices, to name a few.

The Fourth Annual STMA Conference and Exhibition is, quite simply, user-to-user education—sports turf professionals networking and interacting with each other, fostering education and professionalism. Attending the national conference makes simple dollars and "sense." A solution or strategy learned can save your organization time and money. Our conference represents a unique chance for direct one-to-one interaction with industry leaders, vendors, and peers from around the country. Make the fiscally responsible move, attend the national conference—it could be the most cost-effective management decision your organization makes this year.

STMA member David Minner has teamed with Dr. Henry Indyk and our Executive Director, Bret Kelsey, and the National Federation's Assistant Directors Frank Kovaleski and Brad Rumble, to concentrate on conference logistics. These 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 or Susan E. Seibert at (312) 644-6610, otherwise watch for these materials, complete them and send them back to STMA headquarters.

**Sports
Turf
Managers Association**