

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Gil Landry Jr.

Last month's cover story in *Sports-TURF* magazine on the work being done with natural grass in a dome stadium was excellent and definitely a milestone for our industry.



Playing World Cup Soccer on natural grass in the Pontiac, MI, Silverdome is a great example of capable people responding to opportunity. After visiting Dr. Trey Rogers, coordinator of the dome project, and viewing the field work at Michigan State University and at the Silverdome, I was struck with the feeling of unselfish cooperation.

This project appears to have succeeded because of teamwork. The university graduate and undergraduate students, the local golf course superintendents, participating MSU faculty and administrators, the modules manufacturer, the sod grower, the local turf industry suppliers, the fork lift operators, the local soccer association, Federacion Internacional de Futbol (FIFA) and countless others.

STMA also recently tasted success with the publishing of our first mem-



bership directory in more than four years. STMA is also working hard to finalize our annual conference and exhibition at Oriole Park at Camden Yards this November.

The conference will begin with keynote presentations by Oriole great Jim Palmer and Oriole Field Director Paul Zwaska. Speakers include Dr. Trey Rogers, Michigan State University; Dr. Henry Indyk, formerly of Rutgers University; Dr. Don Waddington, Penn State University; Dr. Dave Chalmers, Virginia Tech; Dr. Tom Turner, University of Maryland; Eugene Mayer, O.M. Scotts; Tony Burnett, RFK Stadium; and Dr. David Minner, University of Missouri. I hope you see an "opportunity" in November to join us.

Most opportunities in our industry are close to home. Professional opportunities can take the form of local conferences, field days, distributor programs and visits with fellow professionals. Teaching opportunities include explaining the complexities of turf management to administrators, coaches, facility users and the general public. Be aware of these opportunities and recognize them when they come. Your success provides endless value to those directly associated with the turf industry.

director's field day will be held on August 12 at the Howard County Grounds Maintenance Division Facilities, 8640 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21043, in conjunction with the chapter's quarterly meeting. The contact for the field day is Joe Dick (410) 313-2892.

Chapter members are always invited to attend chapter board meetings, which are held the first Wednesday of each month. The September 1 board meeting will be held at Oriole Park at Camden Yards in Baltimore. The October 6 board meeting will be held at Cedar Lane Park in Columbia, MD.

Remember to mark your calendars for the national STMA meeting on November 6-9 at Camden Yards. It's going to be GREAT!!! The Chesapeake Chapter is putting together an information packet for those who would like to

spend a few extra days in the Baltimore area or nearby Washington, D.C. Contact the Hotline for details.

The Chesapeake Chapter welcomes volunteers to assist with making this the best STMA meeting ever. Contact Art Downing at (410) 313-7254.

For information on the field day, the chapter and other activities, contact the Chapter Hotline (301) 865-0667.

**The New England Chapter, STMA: SPECIAL REMINDER** — An athletic turf maintenance field day will be held August 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Forest Park in Springfield, MA. Along with field day events, the New England Chapter will hold their annual business meeting and election of officers.

To kick off the field day's morning session, Dr. Rich Cooper, a University of Massachusetts agronomist, will present "Construction of an Athletic Field: Begin With the Soil," covering soils, root zone mixes and topdressings. During the afternoon, a hands-on baseball field renovation session will feature rebuilding of the pitcher's mound, reworking the base paths, field aeration and topdressing. Coordinating the hands-on session will be Jack Schmidgall, tree and grounds supervisor for Danvers, MA, and Twi-Light Field, the 1992 Municipal Diamond of the Year. Other scheduled sessions will include sprayer calibration, weed identification and management, field trial demonstrations of growth regulators and fertilization, equipment demonstrations, and a trade show. Pesticide applicator recertification credits will be issued.

For information on trade show exhibit space, contact Joe Kovolyan (603) 437-0060.

A field day is in the planning stages for Plymouth State College, Plymouth, New Hampshire, targeting an early October date. Further details will be announced soon.

For information on the chapter or these activities, contact Mary Owen, University of Massachusetts Cooperative Extension system (508) 892-0382.

**Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association:** For information on the Iowa Chapter and its activities, contact Gary Peterson (515) 791-0765.

**Midwest Chapter, STMA:** For information on the chapter or upcoming chapter activities, call the Chapter Hotline (708) 439-4727.

**Colorado Chapter, STMA:** For information on the chapter or upcoming activities, contact Ron Marten, Falcon Colorado School District 49 (719) 495-3601.

## STMA Chapter News

**Florida Chapter #1, STMA:** On Tuesday, August 17th, the South Florida Chapter will hold a meeting at the University of Miami on renovation of a baseball stadium from artificial grass to natural grass. Host for the August meeting is Kevin Hardy.

The Florida Turfgrass Association Conference and Show will run from September 26-29 in Tampa, FL.

A baseball seminar is being planned for October 15. The location, time and schedule of events will be announced soon.

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

**Chesapeake Chapter, STMA: SPECIAL REMINDER** — An athletic