

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Greg Petry

STMA members I accept this position of president of STMA with a deep sense of duty and responsibility. I've been an active member with STMA since 1987.

Those of you who know me, know that I speak my mind and am open and honest with people. I also do what I say I'm going to do.

When I was critical of STMA's operation in 1987, I did something about it — I got involved. I made the commitment because I believed in our association, our industry and my career.

I hope that you will consider getting involved. This is our association and it needs volunteers and assistance. By committing to becoming an active member, you are committing to your career and your profession. I ask you, are you an active member?

Are You an Active Member?

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed, Or are you just content that your name is on the list? Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock, Or do you stay in your office



and criticize when one of us knocks? Do you take an active part to help the work along, Or are you satisfied to be the kind who will just belong? Do you ever work on committees to see that there is no "trick," Or do you leave the work to just a few and talk about the "clique?" So come to the meetings often and help with hand and heart, Don't be "just a member" but take an active part. Think this over my dear friend, you know right from wrong, Are you an active member OR DO YOU just belong?

This anonymous poem brings to heart the message that STMA is made up of people who want the association to succeed and grow. Today, STMA has grown — it's alive and viable. I have established three major goals for next year: 1. Continue on the current track and maintain our stability and momentum. We are moving STMA the old Penn State way — straight ahead, nothing fancy, grind it out and move forward. 2. We're going to work hard at creating a financial surplus. 3. Get more people involved by strengthening our working committees. If you are interested in joining any of the following committees, contact the chairman listed:

Membership Services — Richard Moffat, Chapter Relations — Bill Whirly, Education — Mike Trigg, Annual Conference and Exhibition — Mike Schiller, Awards and Scholarship — Bob Milano, Public Relations/ Communications — Gil Landry, Technical Standards — Steve Wightman, San Diego Jack Murphy Stadium or Steve Guise, Guise and Associates. Financial — Steve Guise, Nomination and Election — Gil Landry, Bylaws, Mission and Objective — Gil Landry.

If you ever have a question, need clarification on an issue or would like to talk about the association in general, call me at work, (708) 360-4725 or at home, (708) 623-7473. I must warn you — if you call me with a problem, have a solution ready. If you have an idea, be ready to act. If you have a special project in mind, be ready to plan and implement it. The Chesapeake Chapter can attest to that — they got involved, became a host chapter for our fifth annual conference and did a superb job.

I hope that throughout my tenure as president I get the opportunity to meet and talk with each and every one of you. I also hope we can form an active team; a team that works together to promote more newsletters, more institutes, more research and more conferences. Together we can develop more resources and opportunities for our careers and our industry.

In the immortal words of George Toma, "Let's work together, and them some," because the more we know, the more we grow. □

STMA Chapter News

Chesapeake Chapter: STMA

The Chapter will be exhibiting at the Maryland Turfgrass Council's Turfgrass '94 on January 3, 4 and 5 at the Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor in Baltimore, MD. This will be a great opportunity to "get the word out" on the chapter and its activities. Those interested in helping "man" the booth, please contact Art Downing at (410) 313-7254.

An all-day board meeting will be held in January to set the agenda for 1994. The place and time will be announced soon. All members are invited to take part.

For information on the chapter or upcoming activities, contact The Chapter Hotline (301) 865-0667.

The New England Chapter: STMA

The Massachusetts Turf Conference will be held February 28 through March 2, 1994. NESTMA will be one of the co-sponsors, along with the Massachusetts Turf and Lawngrass Association. Included in the conference will be sessions geared toward athletic field maintenance and other issues of concern to sports turf managers. NESTMA will hold both a breakfast and mid-day meeting March

2 in conjunction with the conference.

For information on the turf conference, the NESTMA breakfast and meeting, or other chapter activities contact: Mary Owen, University of Massachusetts Cooperative Extension System at (508) 892-0382.

Iowa STMA

The ISTMA Annual Meeting will be held Wednesday, January 26 at 8 a.m. at the Des Moines Convention Center. This Meeting is held in conjunction with the 60th Annual Iowa Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show which runs from January 24–26.

Workshops and sessions geared to the sports turf manager include: The **January 24th** Sports Turf Workshop: 8:30 a.m., "How Grasses Grow," by Dr. Donald White; 10:15 a.m., "Physical Testing of Soils," by Chuck Dixon; 12:45 p.m., "Optimizing Pest Tolerance," by Dr. Ken Diesburg; and at 2:45 p.m., "ASTM Minimum Standards for Maintenance and Construction of Sports Fields," by Dr. Norm Hummel.

On **January 25**, the morning is devoted to general sessions beginning at 8 a.m., with concurrent specialized sessions held in the afternoon. Sports Turf Sessions: 1:30 p.m., "Managing Sand vs. Native Soils," by John Hopko; 2:15

p.m., "Sports Field Expectations," by Jesse Cuevas, Jr.; 3 p.m., "Post-Season Care of Football Fields," by Dr. Ken Diesburg; and at 3:30 p.m., "Weed Control for Sports Fields," by Dr. Frank Rossi.

Sports Turf Sessions on **January 26** are: 8:30 p.m., "Care of the Field After the Game," by Dan Wright; 10 a.m., Panel Discussion: Flood Damage, chaired by Mike Anderson.

For information on the Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show, the ISTMA Annual Meeting, or other chapter activities contact: Gary Peterson at (515) 791-0765.

STMA Florida Chapter #1

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

Midwest Chapter

For information on the chapter and future activities, call The Chapter Hotline (708) 439-4727.

Colorado Chapter

For information on the chapter and future activities, contact Ron Marten, Falcon Colorado School District 49, at (719) 495-3601.