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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Gil Landry Jr.

The development of professional relationships or networking can and should be one of the more rewarding aspects of association membership. It is natural for individuals to share personal experiences, and most professionals enjoy sharing their views of turfgrass management. In fact, I feel this sharing is one of the best services an association can facilitate.



Many of the professional turf managers I have had the good fortune to work with will visit regularly with their professional associates to compare growing conditions, to get another opinion on some article, to ask their opinion on some new product or technique, and so on. Sports Turf Managers Association encourages networking like most associations do.

STMA members recently received one of the association's best networking tools, our *STMA 1993-94 Membership Roster & Resource Manual*. This manual represents an important forum for information exchange throughout the country. Together, members can learn,

grow, and increase the knowledge and scope of our rapidly expanding profession.

About three years ago, U.S. cities with synthetic turf fields that wanted to bid for the 1994 World Cup soccer championship tournament realized they had to figure out how to apply natural grass over synthetic turf if they hosted the event. One result of this dilemma is the development of a patent on "transportable natural turfgrass playing surfaces," called Integrated Turf Management by The Greenway Group in Horsham, PA. Turf grown in transportable modules was installed in the Silverdome in Detroit with the assistance of Michigan State University.

Two of the parties involved in this state-of-the-art process. Dr. Henry Indyk of the Greenway Group and Dr. Trey Rogers of Michigan State University will be sharing their experiences on these systems with STMA at our annual conference and exhibition November 7-9, in Baltimore. What a great opportunity to hear about this new technology! Obviously, there will be many other educational opportunities, tours and exhibits at the conference. Look for more information in future issues of *sportsTURF*, or call STMA headquarters at (312) 644-6610.

STMA Chapter News

Florida Chapter #1, STMA: The International Turfgrass Society Research Conference will take place July 18-24 in Palm Beach, FL, with headquarters at the Breakers Hotel.

Sports turf managers are encouraged to attend the July 23 symposium "Quantification of Surface Characteristics of Sports Fields," which will be chaired by Dr. D.V. Waddington of Penn State University. Scheduled sessions are as follows:

8:25 - 8:30 a.m. — Introduction and announcements by Dr. Waddington.

8:30 - 9:10 a.m. — "Concepts of Playing Quality: Criteria and Measurements," by S.W. Baker and P.M. Canaway, Sports Turf Research Institute.

9:10 - 9:50 a.m. — "Alteration of Sports Field Characteristics Using Management Practices," by S.T. Cockerham, V.A. Gibeault and R.A. Khan, University of California.

10 - 10:40 a.m. — "Soil and Turf Properties Governing Playing Quality," by P.M. Canaway and S.W. Baker, Sports Turf Research Institute.

10:40 - 11:20 a.m. — "A Multivariate Risk Analysis of Natural Grass and AstroTurf Playing Surfaces in the National Football League, 1980-1989 — an Epidemiological Study of Ankle Injuries," by J.S. Powell and M. Schootman, University of Iowa.

11:20 - Noon — "Playing Quality, Performance and Cost-Effectiveness of Soccer Pitches in the UK," by R.J. Gibbs, NZ Turf Culture Institute, W.A. Adams, University College of Wales, and S.W. Baker, Sports Turf Research Institute.

1:30 p.m. - 2:10 p.m. — "A National Approach to the Performance Testing of Cricket Grounds and Lawn Bowling Greens," by K.W. McAuliffe and R.J. Gibbs, NZ Turf Culture Institute.

2:10 - 2:50 p.m. — "Present Status of Quantification of Sports Turf Surface Characteristics in North America," by

J.N. Rogers III, Michigan State University, and D.V. Waddington, Penn State University.

2:50 - 3 p.m. — Questions and Closing Remarks.

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

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.

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

Colorado Chapter, STMA: Due to record-breaking rainfall, the institute scheduled for June 18 at Sky Sox Stadium in Colorado Springs had to be postponed. The new date is Friday, July 16. Hopefully, the weather will be more cooperative for the rescheduled date.

The Colorado Chapter will be co-host for a workshop on August 2 at the University of Colorado in Boulder. It will include a tour of the football stadium, which has both natural and artificial turf.

For additional information on these events, contact Mark Leasure, executive secretary, at (719) 597-1449. For information on the Chapter or upcoming activities, contact Ron Marten, Falcon Colorado School District 49, at (719) 495-3601.

The New England Chapter, STMA: The New England Chapter, STMA, plans a day-long meeting August 11 at Forest Park in Springfield, MA. This event will include educational sessions; equipment demonstrations; a trade show; and the annual business meeting and election of officers. Further details will be announced soon.

For information on the meeting, trade show exhibit space or other chapter activities, contact Mary Owen, University of Massachusetts Cooperative Extension System, at (508) 831-1225.

Chesapeake Chapter, STMA: The results of the recent election of Chapter officers are as follows:

- President — Art Downing
- 1st Vice President — Joe Dick
- 2nd Vice President — Tim Anderson
- Secretary — Mike Gerwig
- Treasurer — George Frazee

Chapter members are always invited to attend chapter board meetings, which are held the first Wednesday of each month. The August 4 board meeting will be held at Cedar Lane Park in Columbia, MD. The September 1 board meeting will be held at Oriole Park at Camden Yards in Baltimore.

An Athletic Directors' Field Day will be held 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.

For information on the field day, the chapter and other activities, contact the Chapter Hotline (310) 865-0667.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: The Iowa Turfgrass Field Day will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on July 14 at the Iowa State University Horticulture Research Farm. Sports turf information will be available at several of the different session sites throughout the day. There will also be an outdoor exhibit area with vendors on hand to answer questions. For further details, contact Dr. Mike Agnew at (515) 294-0027.

SPECIAL REMINDER: ISTMA will hold a "hands-on workshop" on August 4 in Des Moines, IA, at Sec Taylor Stadium, home of the Chicago Cubs' AAA affiliate. Registration for this full-day workshop begins at 8 a.m.

The program will be directed by two sports turf leaders: Mike Andresen, head groundskeeper of the Iowa Cubs, and Jesse Cuevas, stadium superintendent of Rosenblatt Stadium, home of the Kansas City Royals' AAA affiliate and site of the annual College World Series.

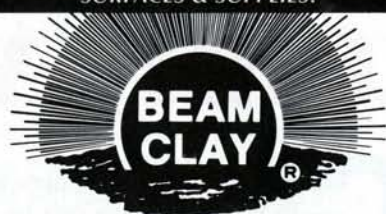
This workshop will start off with a 9 a.m. tour of the stadium and "cover the field" on baseball field maintenance. Scheduled sessions include "Maintaining Infield Lips, Post-Game Repairs of the Mound, Home Plate and Bullpens, and Measuring the Mound Specifications"; "Proper Infield Dragging and Pre-Game Infield Set-Up"; and "Drying Puddles and Wet Areas." An exhibit area will be included and time allowed to visit the booths and talk with exhibitors.

For information on this workshop or other Iowa Chapter activities, contact Gary Peterson (515) 791-0765.

Southern California Chapter, STMA: Hosts of the Southern California Institute will be laying the groundwork for a new STMA chapter during the July 23 Institute at San Diego Jack Murphy Stadium. The action-packed, day-long seminar and exhibition will feature perennial All-Star and four time Gold Glove winner Tony Gwynn. Registration begins at 10 A.M. with sessions including Major League Baseball infield preparation, an introduction to the latest field maintenance, irrigation scheduling, soil sampling and analysis, and baseball field design and layout. Following the education sessions there will be a BBQ luncheon, vendor exhibition and raffle, an evening of fun and relaxation is planned as the Padres take on the Expos at 7:05 p.m.

For additional information contact Chris Bunnell at (619) 432-2421, Steve Wightman at (619) 525-8272, or STMA headquarters at (312) 664-6610.

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