

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Gil Landry



Spring always provides a feeling of optimism — an opportunity for sports turf professionals to work off the frustration of the winter doldrums and apply the latest techniques they've learned through reading or attending educational programs.



Spring usually is *not* the time to think about upcoming fall and winter conferences. However, planning for those conferences is already under way. Since professional improvement through education is a major objective of STMA conferences, mark November 7-9 on your calendars for the Sports Turf Managers Association's fifth annual conference and exhibition. I am confident our educational program will provide an excellent opportunity for professionals to learn about

the latest in sports turf technology.

The fifth annual conference and exhibition theme is "The More We Know, the More We Grow." It will be held in the unique confines of Oriole Park at Camden Yards in Baltimore. Baltimore is the ideal location for the national conference. It is our first trip to the East, and it offers you the opportunity to see and feel both cool- and warm-season turfgrasses.

Conference co-chairs Greg Petry and Dr. Henry Indyk have worked closely with our Chesapeake Chapter, represented by Joe Ardolino and Camden Yards Head Groundskeeper Paul Zwaska, to make conference arrangements. In addition to Oriole Park, the group is working on possible tours of JFK Stadium, Townson State University Campus and research turf plots at the United States Department of Agriculture in Beltsville or the University of Maryland.

Keep your eyes open for more information this summer. Be sure to enter

our member referral contest — you can win round-trip airfare and free registration to the conference. Better yet, since we are in the midst of our 1993 membership drive, join us. For contest and conference information, contact STMA Headquarters at (312) 644-6610.

If you intend to make a career in the sports turf industry, you need to consider membership in a professional organization. STMA should be your organization. We are the only professional association that represents all aspects of sports turf management. For more reasons for professional membership, see our ad in this magazine.

As spring signals the official beginning of major league baseball and the drive of your favorite team to an October engagement with the World Series, think about becoming a member of the best organization for sports turf professionals and join us this fall for "The More We Know, the More We Grow."

STMA Chapter News

The New England Chapter, STMA: Future plans of the New England Chapter include a day-long seminar to be held 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.

Carolina Chapter, STMA: For information on the Carolina Chapter and its activities, contact: Marc Farha, facilities manager for the Charlotte Knights, at (704) 332-3746.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: ISTMA will hold a "Hands-On Workshop" 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/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.

Colorado Chapter, STMA: The Colorado Chapter is in the planning

stages for a late-spring workshop on topdressing, a summer institute on care of soccer fields and a fall workshop on football field maintenance.

The Colorado Chapter will hold a workshop May 19 in Commerce City. This will be a hands-on event on the use of Turface on baseball infields. The workshop is co-sponsored by L. L. Johnson Distributors.

On June 18, the chapter will host an institute at the Colorado Springs Sky Sox Stadium. Institute events will include: informative sessions with guest speakers; vendor demonstrations; and game-day ball diamond preparations. The day will end with a game between the Sky Sox and the Portland Beavers.

For additional information on these meetings, contact: Mark Leasure (719) 597-1449 or Joe Adams at (303) 350-0390. For information on the Colorado Chapter and/or upcoming activities, contact: Ron Marten, Falcon Colorado School District 49, (719) 495-3601. □