

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Gil Landry, Jr.

As the popular TV commercial with Bo Jackson and comedian Dennis Leary says, "I think you hear me knocking." I think opportunity is constantly knocking at your door.



To professional sports turf managers, opportunities can materialize in mysterious ways, like the wrath of Mother Nature and/or the challenge of maintaining multiple-use facilities. These opportunities provide invaluable on-the-job experience.

I believe opportunities constantly pass us by because we do not recognize challenges as opportunities — a chance for us to excel and professionally grow. Guess what — have I got an opportunity for you!

STMA's Fifth Annual Conference and Exhibition is at Oriole Park, Camden Yards, home of the Baltimore



Orioles, November 6-9. Conference Co-chairs Greg Petry and Dr. Henry Indyk have done an excellent job creating a program with professionals such as former Oriole Pitcher Jim Palmer, Orioles Turf Manager Paul Zwaska, the legendary George Toma, Dr. Trey Rogers from Michigan State University and the Silverdome Project, Dr. Don Waddington from Penn State and Tony Burnett from the RFK Stadium just to name a few.

University facility members, maintenance professionals and park district professionals also are on-hand to discuss current industry topics such as transportable turf and integrated pest management.

There are also tours of RFK Stadium, Howard County schools, and park and recreation facilities, Towson State University Campus and Oriole Park. Our host, and the group responsible for a majority of the local arrangements, is

the STMA Chesapeake Chapter, led by Chapter President Art Downing. The chapter is also hosting a special Baltimore Harbor cruise.

Additionally, Awards, Scholarship and Auction Chairman Mike Schiller has collected some great sports memorabilia for a silent auction. If all of this is not enough to entice you, think of all the opportunities you have to visit with fellow professionals who are seeking professional and personal development.

The exhibition includes vendors displaying their products and services right inside Camden Yards. This off-beat setting is an exciting addition to our conference package.

The Fifth Annual Conference and Exhibition promises to be a special event. Respond more effectively to the opportunities surrounding your daily routine — an education awaits you this November in Baltimore. And if you can't attend the conference and exhibition, make a special effort to respond to the knocking of professional development in your area.

STMA Chapter News

Chesapeake Chapter: STMA — The 5th Annual STMA Conference and Exhibition will be held November 6-9 in Baltimore at Oriole Park, Camden Yards. The Chesapeake Chapter welcomes all STMA attendees and pledges to make this the best meeting ever.

As part of this exciting event, an "Evening on the Inner Harbor — Buffet Boat Cruise" will be held. Be sure to sign up soon. It's a great way to see the city while enjoying the company of other STMA members.

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

The New England Chapter: STMA — NESTMA will be co-sponsoring a session with the Connecticut Parks and Recreation Association this fall. More details on this event will be announced soon.

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

Midwest Chapter: STMA — Programs geared to the sports turf manager will be included among the workshops and clinics offered at the North Central Turfgrass Exposition, November 29 to

December 1, at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, IL. The overall program is being coordinated by the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation. The Midwest Chapter: STMA is one of 10 allied turfgrass organizations co-sponsoring the Exposition.

Successful Practices for Golf, Lawn Care and Sports Turf Management will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. on November 29. The program includes "Organic Compounds for Turfgrass Management," by Dr. Michael Agnew, Iowa State University; "What's New in Soil Modification?" by Dr. Peter Landschoot, Pennsylvania State University; "Inclement Weather Use," by Dr. Hank Wilkinson, University of Illinois; and "Integrated Pest Management for Golf and Sports Turf," by James Wilmott III, Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Drainage and Repair Techniques for Sports Turf is scheduled from 8:30 to 11 a.m. on November 30. This program includes "Drainage Systems for New and Existing Athletic Fields," presented by David Heiss, Turf Services/Drainage Technologies; and "Rapid Repair of High Intensity Sports Turf," by Dr. Hank Wilkinson, University of Illinois.

Four sessions of a "Back to Basics" program will be offered as part of a comprehensive educational certification pro-

gram being developed by the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation, as well as other informative sessions geared to specific segments of turf industry professionals. The NCTE trade show exhibit hours are 4 to 6:30 p.m. on November 29; 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on November 30; and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on December 1.

For information on the North Central Turfgrass Exposition contact: Nancy Jones or Jack Lagershausen at the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation, One Illinois Center, 111 East Wacker Drive, Suite 200, Chicago, IL 60601-4298, Phone (312) 616-0800, Fax (312) 616-0223.

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

STMA Florida Chapter #1 — For information on the South Florida Chapter, or for details on this meeting or other chapter activities, contact John Mascaro (305) 938-7477 or Ed Birch (305) 938-0217.

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

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