

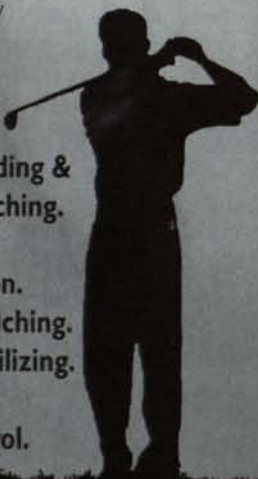
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Greg Petry



Soon Bob Milano, University of California at Davis, will gather nominations for the 1994 STMA Awards Program.

Now is the time to start organizing your thoughts about the field you're going to nominate.

Each year STMA recognizes its members who make personal and professional contributions to our industry and the organizations they serve. The awards (and they are beautiful) are traditionally presented at the annual conference banquet. As you probably know by now, the Annual Convention and Show is February 4-8 in Bradenton, FL.

For those of you who attended the banquet last year, I'm sure you'll never forget the tremendous talk Jim Palmer gave. How about that emotional acceptance of the Harry Gill award by Mike Schiller? What an evening that was!

Speaking of memorable events surrounding STMA awards, I'll never forget how my organization reacted when we received the 1989 Beam Clay Award. When I announced that the Waukegan Park District was named the *best* managed baseball field in the country, the staff and park commissioners were elated. It was so gratifying to see that everyone was sharing in our success. Winning that award has helped me justify my department's efforts over the past several years. It was also a tremendous thrill for several of our park commissioners and members of the community.

Our award-winning field was constructed with a lot of "sweat equity." Several members of the community joined forces to beg, borrow, and arm-



twist many people to help turn a sandlot into a city-wide baseball complex. Many people contributed time, labor, and materials to make this project happen. It did. Al Grosche Field still stands as one of the finest in the Chicagoland area. Winning the award has helped confirm that our organization has a commitment and mission to provide excellent programs, facilities, and services. It solidified the thought that we were meeting the needs and desires of the community. Subsequently, other athletic field improvements throughout the park district have been spearheaded because of the success associated with our STMA/Beam Clay award-winning field.

I'm sure many of you have a great story to tell about your facility — a story that involves people and organizations committed to providing a first-rate facility for your community. Let's hear about the great job you're doing. Nominate your field as the nation's best.

This year, six awards will be bestowed at the STMA Awards Banquet:

- STMA/Beam Clay Baseball Diamond of the Year
- STMA Football Field of the Year
- STMA Soccer Field of the Year
- STMA Groundskeeper of the Year, Harry C. Gill Memorial Award
- STMA Commercial Affiliate Award
- STMA Recognition of Excellence in Research.

Watch for nominating material in the newsletter and conference packet. Although you are extremely busy now in the height of the season, take some time to document your success. Carry a camera with you to photograph the great job you are doing, and plan on submitting an award application.

STMA CHAPTER NEWS

The Minnesota Sports Turf Managers Association — The Minnesota Sports Turf Managers Association will hold a Baseball/Softball Infield Workshop on June 16 at Westonka High School. Registration opens at 8:30

a.m. with the program running from 9 to 2:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided. This will be a hands-on event. The old pitcher's mound will be removed, the new mound will be built, basepaths will be

edged, and the skinned area worked. Registration is free to MSTMA members and \$5 to non-members.

This event is jointly sponsored by the Minnesota Turf and Grounds Federation, an umbrella organization formed to develop more unity within allied Minnesota associations and businesses involved with turf and grounds. The foundation hopes to provide greater educational opportunities and improve interaction between turf and grounds care professionals. For more information on foundation-sponsored events, contact Brad Pedersen, (612) 624-7407

For more information on MSTMA contact Tom Rudburg, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, (612) 962-6545; Mike McDonald, Bierman Athletic Complex, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, (612) 625-6097; or Brian Deyak, St. Cloud Sports Center, St. Cloud, (612) 255-7223.

The New England Chapter: STMA — On Wednesday, August 10, the New England Sports Turf Managers Association, the University of Massachusetts Cooperative Extension System, and the College of Holy Cross, Worcester, MA, will host the third

annual New England Sports Turf Managers Association Athletic Turf Management Field Day. The day-long event, held at Holy Cross, will include: a tour of the Holy Cross facilities, sessions on developing and maintaining a successful municipal athletic field management program, and a presentation on the maintenance practices for the Holy Cross national award-winning fields. Demonstrations will feature field marking and painting, and irrigation and sprinkler head comparison. Exhibitors should contact Jack Schimdgall, Town of Danvers, (508) 892-0382 ext. 3014 or (508) 465-1653.

For more information contact Mary Owen, University of Massachusetts Cooperative Extension, (508) 892-0382.

The Southern California Chapter: STMA — The Southern California Chapter will hold an STMA Night at Dodger Stadium on Friday, August 12. Evening events will include a tour of the facility with the opportunity to look behind the scenes. During the panel discussion, your peers will share their problem-solving methods from the trenches of real life. Participants will view batting practice, enjoy a buffet dinner,

and end the evening watching the Dodgers play the Cubs. Cost of the event is \$30 per person. Make check payable to SO-CAL STMA. Attendance is limited to 50 people. Send registrations to: Guise & Associates, c/o Steve Guise, Suite 215, 515 W. Commonwealth, Fullerton, CA 92632. Registration must be postmarked on or before August 3. For more information contact Steve Guise, (714) 578-0215.

In conjunction with national STMA, the Southern California Chapter will hold a Regional Institute at UCLA on Wednesday, October 12. The institute will focus on building a winning team with coaches, administration, and turf professionals. Keynote speaker, UCLA head coach Terry Donahue, will present "A Winning Game Plan." More details on this event will be announced soon. For further information, contact Dave Ashman, athletic facilities director, UCLA, (310) 206-6662.

For more information on the Southern California Chapter, contact Chris Bunnell, (619) 432-2421.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association — The Iowa Sports Turf

continued on page 28



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Chapter News, continued from page 17

Managers Association is planning a Soccer Meeting for August 4 in Muscatine, IA. More details will be announced soon.

For more information contact Gary Peterson, (515) 791-0765.

Midwest Chapter: STMA — A meeting is in the planning stages for July 19 at Kishwaukee College in Malta, IL. This meeting will center on the turf and floral test plots and turfgrass management. Further details will be announced soon.

For more information contact The Chapter Hotline, (708) 439-4727.

STMA Florida Chapter #1 — The South Florida Chapter has several meetings in the planning stages. A meeting will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on July 13 at the City of Pompano Stadium. The prime topic will be aerification. From 9 to 10 a.m., Tom Mascaro, Turf-Tec International, will cover aerification principles. From 10 a.m. to noon, aerification equipment will be demonstrated.

ed. The lunch from noon to 1 p.m. will provide attendees additional opportunities for networking. Tom Curran will host this event. Those wishing to make arrangements to demonstrate equipment should contact John Mascaro.

An August 3 meeting at Floyd Hall Stadium will focus on fertilization and irrigation. The event will be hosted by Kathy Conner.

The chapter also will take part in the Florida Turfgrass Association Conference and Trade Show slated for September 18-21 at the Ft. Lauderdale Convention Center.

Further details on these events will be announced soon.

For more information contact John Mascaro, (305) 938-7477 or Ed Birch, (305) 938-0217.

Chesapeake Chapter: STMA — The Chesapeake Chapter is working on a September Regional Workshop that will be held at RFK Stadium in conjunction with the national STMA.

Board meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month from 4 to 6 p.m. Members are invited to attend. The July 5 board meeting will be held at Camden Yards.

For more information contact the Chapter Hotline, (301) 865-0667.

The Heartland Chapter: STMA — Plans continue to develop for the Heartland Chapter's first Sports Turf Field Day, scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. on July 13, at the Heritage Park Softball Complex, Olathe, KS. This event will be co-sponsored by the Missouri Valley Turfgrass Association. MVTGA members can contact President Ty Heidbreder. Further details on the field day will be announced soon.

The Heartland Chapter Board meets the first Wednesday of each month from 4 to 5 p.m. at Heritage Park Sports Complex. All members are invited to attend.

For more information contact Mark Diller, sports turf manager, Johnson County Parks and Recreation, (913) 782-7625 or Jack Schwarz, J.S. Sports Turf, Liberty, MO, (816) 792-2808 or (800) 344-8873.

Colorado Chapter: STMA For more information on the chapter or its future activities contact Joe Adams, Greeley Parks and Recreation, (303) 350-9340.

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