

STMA Message

By Bret Kelsey — executive director of STMA.



Volunteers Are the Difference

It's hard to believe, but the calendar on the wall tells me that another year has zipped by. It seems like only yesterday that we were putting plans for 1994 together and now that year is history. It was a productive year for the STMA, but I'll let you be the judge of that.

One of the STMA's primary goals is to promote information sharing — among our members as a body, then among members, the industry and allied organizations. This sharing of information takes many forms: our annual conference and exhibition, regional sports turf institutes, affiliated regional chapters, *SportsTURF*

magazine, bimonthly newsletters, sports turf topics, reference manuals and our membership directory. Each of these information-sharing forums provides the opportunity to network with others who are, have been or plan to take on the challenges you face every day in your facility.

In 1994, the STMA maintained its emphasis on education and representation of its members' interests in significant programs. The technical/standards committee is monitoring the ongoing development of standards for the construction of sports fields. An ad hoc committee was established to work toward the development of a certification program for sports turf managers. With the continued emphasis on safe playing-field conditions, STMA is posi-

tioning itself as the natural education provider.

There is no doubt that 1995 will be another challenging and exciting year. Volunteers are currently working on STMA issues such as membership service, chapter relations, education, the annual conference, awards/scholarship, communications and more. The volunteers on these committees are working to make the jobs of every sports turf professional better. We look forward to the challenge, and want to hear from you — members and nonmembers. The Marines aren't the only ones looking for a few good men and women. I encourage you to volunteer in the STMA and realize the many professional and personal benefits you can receive. See you in 1995!

Sports
Turf
Managers Association

STMA Chapter News

The Midwest Chapter STMA will hold its Fifth Annual Meeting and Luncheon March 2 at the Schaumburg Golf Club, Schaumburg, IL, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. The educational program will include "Limiting Liability Through Risk Management," "Base Safety Standards," by Lou Hernandez, sales manager for AFP Softouch; and "Sports Field Facilities: Improving General Safety." Following the luncheon, the awards program and a chapter membership update will be presented.

Midwest Chapter board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month. Chapter members are invited to attend. For information on the annual meeting, the chapter, board meetings or other upcoming activities, call The Chapter Hotline, (708) 439-4727.

The New England Chapter STMA urges members to attend the Massachusetts Turf Conference March 6-8 in Springfield. Highlights include presentations by STMA President Greg Petry, Dr. Norm Hummel of Cornell University, Dr. Eric Nelson of Medalist America and Pierre Landry of the New England Patriots. For more information on the conference, contact the Massachusetts Turf and Lawngrass Association at (413) 549-5295.

The annual NESTMA Breakfast is scheduled for March 8 and is open to all NESTMA members.

For information on the breakfast, the chapter or other upcoming events, contact Mary Owen at the University of Massachusetts Cooperative Extension System at (508) 892-0382.

The Minnesota STMA's next meeting is scheduled for March 14. The site, time and other meeting details will be announced. For information on the Minnesota Chapter or future chapter activities, contact Mike McDonald, Bierman Athletic Complex, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, (612) 625-6097; or Brian Deyak, St. Cloud Sports Center, (612) 255-7223.

The Southern California Chapter STMA has scheduled a Landscape and Lawn Seminar for April 27 at Sea World in San Diego. Multiple demonstrations are planned for the morning sessions covering topics such as big-roll sod, pruning, bedding plants, aeration and mowing comparisons. For information on the seminar, the Southern California Chapter and other upcoming activities, contact Chris Bunnell at (619) 432-2421.

Chesapeake Chapter STMA has several events in the planning stages for 1995, including a Spring Irrigation Seminar; a Fall Football Seminar; and short, informal bimonthly "tour and how-we-do-what-we-do" meetings at various sites throughout Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Chapter board meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month from 4-6 p.m. Members are invited to attend. For

information on the chapter or upcoming activities, call the Chapter Hotline, (410) 290-5652.

The Heartland Chapter STMA is planning a February meeting. For details about the meeting, or the chapter, contact Matt Hoops at (816) 436-2200.

Iowa Chapter STMA — For information on the Iowa Chapter or chapter activities, contact Gary Peterson at (515) 791-0765.

Colorado Chapter STMA — At its Jan. 13 meeting, the Colorado Chapter STMA elected the following officers and board members for 1995: president, Ross Kurcab — Denver Broncos; vice president, David Rulli — Jefsco Schools; commercial officer, Larry Perotti — Sharp Brothers Seed; and past president, Joe Adams — city of Greeley. Board of directors elected are: Armen Suny, golf course and sports turf consultant; Bill Goble, Colorado State University (Hughes Stadium); Ken Norkowsky, city of Aurora; Ron Williams, city of Greeley; and Bill Whirly, city of Fort Collins. Executive secretary is Troy Smith of the Denver Broncos.

For more information on the Colorado Chapter or future activities contact Kurcab at (303) 649-9000 or Mark Leasure, Colorado Springs Sky Sox, at (719) 597-1449.

STMA Florida Chapter #1 — For information about the South Florida Chapter or upcoming activities, contact John Mascaro at (305) 938-7477 or Tom Curran at (305) 786-4001.