

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Greg Petry.



As my term as president of STMA reaches a midpoint, I recall something my predecessor, Gil Landry, wrote a few years ago. It has stuck with me over the years and is worth repeating.

He wrote, "Developing professionalism is one of our biggest challenges and toughest obstacles. If you want to be considered a professional, you have to

act, dress and speak accordingly. Professionals may not always have all the answers, so they rely on other professionals, such as colleagues, suppliers, consultants, reference books or associations for assistance."

Webster's Dictionary defines a professional as "of, engaged in or worthy of the high standards of a profession." A profession is "a vocation or occupation requiring advanced education and training and involving intellectual skills."

Being perceived as a professional takes dedication and effort, Gill said. We

need to make the effort to gain knowledge as well as to share what we know with others. That's what STMA is all about, at both the national and chapter levels.

I urge all members to make the effort to attend our annual conference in Bradenton, FL, on Feb. 4-8. By participating in this event, you not only exhibit professionalism, you share it with others.

If we focus on professionalism every day, our stature as a group will rise more quickly. I hope to see you in Bradenton.



## STMA CHAPTER NEWS

**FLORIDA CHAPTER # 1** - At its Dec. 6th annual meeting, The South Florida Chapter elected the following "new" officers: President - Tom Curran, City of Pompano Beach; Vice President - Mike Bell, Florida Atlantic University; Secretary - Lanny Dixon, Broward County Schools; Treasurer - John Mascaro, Turf-Tec International. New board members are: Education and Meetings - Kathy Connor, City of Ft. Lauderdale; Membership - Scott Brown, O.M. Scott and Bruce Bates, Florida Silica Sand Co.; and Immediate Past President - Ed Birch, Broward County Schools. Contact: John Mascaro at (305) 938-7477 or Tom Curran at (305) 786-4001.

**IOWA SPORTS TURF MANAGERS ASSOCIATION** - *Special Reminder*, The Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association is one of the green industry participants in the 61st Annual Iowa Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show, which will be held at the Des Moines Convention Center on Jan. 23 - 25, 1995. The Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association annual meeting will be held at 8 a.m. on Jan. 25. Contact: Gary Peterson at (515) 791-0765.

**MIDWEST CHAPTER** - Plans are being finalized for the 1995 Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon on March 2 at the Schaumburg Golf Club, Schaumburg, IL. Educational sessions will cover athletic facility risk management, safety and standards. Midwest Chapter board meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month. Members are invited. Contact: (708) 439-4727.

**THE NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER** - The Massachusetts Turf Conference will be held March 6 - 8 in Springfield, MA. Highlights already on the schedule for March 8 include presentations by STMA President Greg Petry; Dr. Norm Hummel from 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 will be held the morning of March 8th. The breakfast is open to all NESTMA members. Please RSVP to Mary Owen at (508) 892-0382. Contact: Mary Owen, University of Massachusetts Cooperative Extension System at (508) 892-0382.

**MINNESOTA SPORTS TURF MANAGERS ASSOCIATION** - The Minnesota Sports Turf Managers Association elected the following slate of officers at its December meeting. They are: President - Mike McDonald, University of Minnesota; President-Elect - Sam Munson, Minnesota Vikings; Secretary-Treasurer - Brian Deyak, St. Cloud Sports Center; and Director-at-Large - Mark Sullivan, Trugreen-Chemlawn. Tom Rudberg of the University of St. Thomas was elected representative for the Minnesota Turf & Grounds Foundation. The next meeting of MSTMA is scheduled for March 14. Contact: Mike McDonald, Bierman Athletic Complex, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, phone: (612) 625-6097.

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER** - The Southern California Chapter is planning to hold a Landscape and Lawn Seminar on April 27 at Sea World. Demonstrations are planned for the morning sessions covering such topics as: big roll sod, pruning, bedding plants, aeration, and mowing comparisons. Contact: Chris Bunnell at (619) 432-2421.

**CHESAPEAKE CHAPTER** - Events in the planning stages for 1995 include a Spring Irrigation Seminar; a Fall Football Seminar, and short, informal, bimonthly meetings at various sites throughout Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Chapter board meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. Members are invited to attend. Contact: (410) 290-5652.

**THE HEARTLAND CHAPTER** - Momentum continues to build for The Heartland Chapter. Those interested in being involved in this growing organization, or wanting to find out more about the Heartland Chapter, are urged to contact: Matt Hoops at (816) 436-2200.

**COLORADO CHAPTER** - For more information on the chapter or future activities contact: Ross Kurcab at (303) 649-9000 or Mark Leasure at (719) 597-1449.

### STMA

401 N. Michigan Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60611  
(312) 644-6610