November 14-17
The ninth annual Green Industry Expo, Opryland Hotel Convention Center, Nashville, TN. Contact Eleanor Ellison: (770) 973-2019.

December 7-10
Ohio Turfgrass Foundation (OTF) Conference & Show, Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, OH. Contact OTF: (888) OTF-3445 or (614) 760-5442, or fax (614) 760-5431.

December 9-11
The Rocky Mountain Regional Turfgrass Association's 45th annual Conference and Trade Show, Currigan Hall, Denver, CO. (303) 770-2220.

December 10

1999
January 4-8

January 4-February 19
UMass Winter School for Turf Managers, Monday-Friday. Contact Trudie Goodchild: (413) 545-248, or Mary Owen: (508) 892-0382.

January 5-7
Eastern Pennsylvania Turfgrass Conference & Trade Show, Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA. Contact Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council: (610) 863-3475, or Nancy Bosold: (610) 690-2655.

January 13-17
Sports Turf Managers Association's (STMA) 10th annual Conference & Exhibition, Mesa, AZ. Contact STMA: (800) 323-3875 or (712) 366-2669.

STMA MESSAGE

Major Support

I was asked last month by John Moss, president of the South Atlantic League for Major League Baseball, to suggest some speakers for the organization's October meeting. I spent close to an hour on the phone with John, and shared our commitment to provide and promote better and safer sports fields for his teams.

Kurt Nilsson of Aimoor, a member of the Membership Committee, offered to represent the STMA at the South Atlantic League Meetings. I commend Kurt for his involvement in this critical committee. I also applaud Kurt's company for supporting his commitment, and for developing opportunities to get the word out about the STMA.

Major League Baseball is transporting the level of play to a higher standard. I see more and more new Minor League stadiums being constructed with state of the art technology, from sand-based fields to staged events on and off the field.

I don't know about the rest of you, but I'm into fighting mascots, sumo wrestling, and special theme nights. These staged events bring young families to the ballpark. They create new baseball fans and players for years to come.

More players equal more teams; more teams equal more fields. You follow?

I would also like to thank those STMA members and chapter members who do such a great job of spreading STMA's message in chapter events and state and regional turfgrass conferences and turf shows. Thanks are also in order for our STMA Category V and Va (commercial) members, who promote STMA during conference presentations and hand out STMA membership brochures and other STMA materials at exhibit booths in the trade shows.

Thanks go to STMA members who include information about our association in presentations they give at chapter and conference programs. They willingly share their experience and expertise with others in groups and in one on one conversations, in person and on the phone.

STMA belongs to you, the members. It's what you are saying and doing on behalf of STMA that spurs its growth. Thank You!!

Growing into the New Millennium, both professionally and as an association, is the focus of STMA's 10th annual Conference and Exhibition. It's just a few months away; now is the time to send in your registration form and lock in your hotel room.

If anyone wants to share a room to help out with expenses, please notify STMA Headquarters. We will attempt to connect you with other attendees looking for the same budgetary savings.

Lunches, receptions with a wide array of delicious foods, and the annual Awards Banquet are all included in the attendee fees. It's not only easier on your budget, but you also have more time for that important networking.

So don't leave your conference information at the bottom of the pile on your desk. Pull it out and send it in now to be a part of the greatest sports turf show on earth.

Stephen Guise, STMA President
(714) 704-0403

November 1998 7