



2000

January 6

New York State Turfgrass Association's (NYSTA) Northeast Regional Conference, The Marriott, Albany, NY. Contact NYSTA: (800) 873-8873 or (518) 783-1229.

January 10-13

North Carolina Turfgrass Conference and Show, Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, NC. Contact Marsha Richardson: (910) 695-1333.

January 11-13

Eastern Pennsylvania Turf Conference & Trade Show, Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA. Contact Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council (PTC): (814) 863-3475.

January 12

Professional Turf & Landscape Conference, Westchester County Center, White Plains, NY. Contact Carol Mueller: (914) 636-4195.

January 12-16

Sports Turf Managers Association's (STMA) 11th annual Conference & Exhibition, St. Louis, MO. Contact STMA: (800) 323-3875 or (712) 366-2669.

January 17-20

Michigan Turfgrass Conference, Holiday Inn South-Hotel and Convention Center, Lansing, MI. Contact Kay Patrick: (517) 321-1660.

January 17-February 4

Professional Golf Turf Management School, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact Keith Wilson: (732) 932-9271, ext. 617.

January 19

South Carolina Landscape and Turfgrass Association's (SCLTA) annual conference, Jamil Temple, Columbia, SC. Contact SCLTA: (803) 738-2021.

STMA MESSAGE



Carry the Flag

I had the privilege the other day to step away from my busy office duties at Marina Landscape and spend the day as a student of Floyd Perry. I was one of the 75-plus sports turf enthusiasts at a Floyd Perry workshop in Riverside, CA. I had a ball!

For all of you that have attended one of his presentations, you can understand my excitement for a day well spent in the class room and on the field. Floyd's workshop reminded me of my college days at the University of Rhode Island when the soils class would venture out of the classroom and into the depths of the earth to review a soil profile. It's the combined experience of seeing, hearing, and touching that cements the learning process and really makes a difference in one's education. For all of you who have not had the opportunity to experience Floyd's "Day on the Field," I highly recommend it. And, while you're there, pick up an STMA membership brochure to join our organization if you are not already a member, or pass it on to your colleagues. Floyd will be with us at the 11th Annual STMA Conference & Exhibition in St. Louis (Jan 12-16, 2000), so be sure to thank him for all he's done to carry the flag and promote our organization across the United States.

There are many other STMA members who also deserve a big thank you for carrying the flag. Some of these individuals serve as speakers at state, regional, and national conferences and include information about the STMA and our programs in their presentations. Many provide our membership brochures to their attendees.

Those planning and coordinating Chapter meetings carry the flag on the local and regional levels. Many of the STMA Chapter leaders work in conjunction with their state or regional turfgrass associations to develop and coordinate a "sports turf track" at the conferences of these associations. Some chapters also opt for a booth at trade shows to spread the word about their chapter and the national association.

Most of our STMA members carry the flag in one-on-one or small group networking situations, freely sharing information, advice, and sometimes "don't do as I did" experiences.

Wow, what an association we have!

Out on the field, cold weather is closing in and many soccer fields are showing the heavy wear of near constant play. Do get that aeration completed and fertilizer applied before the snow hits and the ground freezes in the northern climates. Here in California and throughout the South, our perennial ryegrass has been overseeded on our bermudagrass fields to protect the warm season turf from further damage in its dormant state. Do adapt your fertilization programs for this new crop. Follow this tip from Bob Campbell at the University of Tennessee: topdress those sand-based fields for added surface stability. Watching a few televised football games last week, it sure could help.

Do take advantage of all the educational opportunities available to you. A good groundskeeper is a smart groundskeeper.

Stephen Guise, STMA President
(714) 704-0403