



#### April 7

New York State Turfgrass Association's (NYSTA) Adirondack Regional Conference, Hilton, Lake Placid, NY. Contact NYSTA: (800) 873-8873 or (518) 783-1229.

#### July 21-23

Turfgrass Producers International (TPI) Summer Convention & Field Days, Holiday Inn South, East Lansing, MI. Contact TPI: (800) 405-8873 or (847) 705-9898.

#### July 27

Midwest Regional Turf Foundation's Midwest Regional Turf Field Day, West Lafayette, IN. Contact Bev Bratton: (765) 494-8039, or fax (765) 496-2926.

#### November 9-12

Turf and Grounds Exposition, OnCenter, Syracuse, NY. Contact NYSTA: (800) 873-8873 or (518) 783-1229.

## \*Correction\*

In the February issue of *sportsTURF*, improper credit was given for photos in the feature titled: "Principles of Water Movement." All images were supplied by the Crop and Soil Sciences Club at Washington State University. Address any inquiries regarding the images to Crop and Soil Sciences Club, c/o Dr. Bruce Frazier, Washington State University, P.O. Box 646420, Pullman, WA 99164-6420.

For general inquiries about the article, contact François Hébert at Lanco Aménagement, 1110 Place Verner, Laval, Quebec, Canada H7E 4P2; phone: (888) 664-7489; fax: (450) 664-4555; e-mail: [lancoturf.com](mailto:lancoturf.com).

## STMA MESSAGE

Sports  
Turf/  
Managers Association



## Rock-Solid Foundation

Every successful association is built on a solid foundation of individuals and commercial affiliates and sponsors. Their roles in the organization further the association's activities and progress. Their ride can feel like a roller coaster going up and down, left and right, until finally leveling out and returning to the platform.

Just like riders on a roller coaster, these association members can arrive at the end of their adventure feeling exhilarated and satisfied. Some leave with a smile, while others, feeling the strain of the experience, shake their heads with relief that they managed to stay on and finish the ride.

Our latest Annual Conference this January had more of these riders in attendance than in past years. You could see the satisfaction in their faces as they looked around and visited with the 500+ attendees. Their involvement and their willingness to share the good and the not so good times are an important part of cementing together the old and new constructions of our organization.

The most important part of any roller coaster is the solid foundation at its base. It must be capable of supporting an equally sound structure at its top. This rock-solid foundation supports the riders during the ups and downs and zigzag paths of the ride.

Like that roller coaster, the STMA has built a solid foundation through the continuing support of all its members in all categories of membership. If any of the less than positive roller coaster rides of our past history repeat themselves, we as an association are on a rock-solid foundation. We are well-prepared to handle whatever comes our way.

Just as members must be professional examples in their positions and in their communities, the STMA has become a professional association. For the STMA to remain financially strong and sincere to our mission, we must continue our efforts to maintain a solid management foundation.

When I select members to serve as chairs of the STMA committees, I must decide on each individual's ability to perform the duties of that committee. Just as importantly, I must determine each individual's willingness and dedication to devote the time and effort required by our active committees.

When committee chairs select their members, they must go through the same assessment process. When those of you who have volunteered to serve on a committee are asked to fill a committee position, you too must assess your own abilities, your workload, your dedication to the goals of that committee, and your willingness to serve. These are important decisions for our association. It is the work of these committees that constructs and creates opportunities that will lead our organization into the future.

So, if after doing your personal assessment, you are interested in getting involved in an STMA committee, please let me know. We need future "founding members" for the many additions that will surely come.

Stephen Guise, STMA President  
(714) 704-0403