The Code: Live by It!

My grandfather's favorite saying was, "Remember who you are and who you represent at all times." I have tried to live my personal and professional lives by these words. There have been times in my life and career when such sayings as "an eye for an eye" and "do unto others as they have done unto you" would have been easier to follow, but I have forced these feelings to the side.

In today's competitive world, I think all of us have had to work at our professional and ethical attitudes and behaviors to keep them on the straight and narrow path and headed in a positive direction. It takes a concerted effort at times. As a commercial member, I can tell you first-hand that a few of my competitors can, at times, try my patience.

I realize, as I'm sure many of you do, that things happen. We're not all perfect, but we must be big enough to do what's right and ethical, especially when there's family involved. Families spend a lifetime together, and likewise, our STMA will be together for a long time!

Over the last year, the STMA Board has been reviewing the association's Code of Ethics. We've been considering some revisions that will reflect the scope of the larger organization we are in the process of becoming.

At the March meeting, the Board approved the revised version. A copy of the revised STMA Code of Ethics was printed in the March-April newsletter, Sports Turf Manager, and it's posted on the STMA Web page: www.aip.com/STMA. Additional copies of the Code may be obtained from STMA Headquarters by calling (800) 323-3875.

The STMA Code of Ethics helps ensure that we live our professional lives to the fullest. It was written as a guideline to protect the integrity of our family. I consider our family to be our members and our day to day associates.

The Code reflects the STMA family's expectations of your professional behavior. As you read the STMA Code of Ethics, it makes good sense. If followed, it will allow the STMA to be a shining example within our industry. We will remain united and committed to the benefit of all members and associates.

It's this type of family that others will want to join and be associated with, and we welcome those individuals and commercial affiliates with open arms. As our family continues to grow, I ask all of you to be an example to your brothers and sisters, and to support them through their STMA life.

On another positive note, it's great to read through the Chapter News (pg. 34) and see all the chapter activity around the country this spring. It's thrilling to see the time and effort members are devoting to sharing knowledge and expertise through presentations, demonstrations, and tours, and to see the community involvement and local community support.

I'm proud to consider all of you family.

Keep up the good work!

Stephen Guise, STMA President
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Correction

A printing error occurred within the Pesticide Charts published in the March 1999 issue of sportsTURF. Do not follow the advice given in those charts. You'll find a correct version in this month's issue. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Stephen Guise, STMA President
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