



## 2000

### 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

70th annual 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 & Turfgrass Association's (SCLTA) annual conference, Jamil Temple, Columbia, SC. Contact SCLTA: (803) 738-2021.

### January 20

Rutgers University continuing education course: "Successful ID and Control of Turfgrass Diseases," New Brunswick, NJ. Contact Kurt Martens: (732) 932-8451.

### January 27

Northeastern Pennsylvania Turf School & Trade Show, The Woodlands Inn & Resort, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Contact Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council (PTC): (814) 863-3475.

### February 8-12

Turfgrass Producers International (TPI) Midwinter Conference & Expo: "Turfgrass Sod Production for the New Millennium," Adam's Mark Hotel, San Antonio, TX. Feb. 8: Inaugural Al Gardner Memorial Golf Outing, The Quarry Golf Club, San Antonio, TX. Contact Tom Ford, TPI: (800) 405-TURF (8873) or (847) 705-9898.

## STMA MESSAGE

Sports  
Turf  
Managers Association

www.sportsturfmanager.com



## You're The Greatest

This is my last message to you as STMA President, which leads to reflection. I'm pleased with the progress we've made during the two years I've served, and I'm excited about the opportunities on the horizon. It's been a wonderful experience; one that reinforces what I've known for a long time: sports turf managers are the greatest.

It's nearly time again to announce our scholarship recipients and the individuals and fields and the company chosen to receive the 1999 STMA Awards. That also leads to reflection on the past year's success stories and on the more distant past that includes the highs and lows of our young organization.

Our Awards Committee, directed by their Chair, Tim Moore, spent many long hours in November hard at work analyzing the numerous entries, applications, and nominations. Every year the list of entrants and nominees grows. Because of that, two five-judge subcommittees were established this year: one for the Scholarship and Founders Awards and one for the Field of the Year Awards.

Scholarship offerings now include two-year programs, four-year undergraduate programs, and graduate programs. More Universities are starting sports turf related curriculum and are sending their students to the STMA for scholarship opportunities as well as for future internships and full-time positions.

We take our Awards program very seriously. It takes many hours for our dedicated committee members to sift through, consider, and evaluate the information provided. The individual assessments of each judge are sent to STMA Headquarters, the results tabulated and the final selections confirmed by a conference call among all the committee members. The points awarded independently by each judge are kept in complete confidence, known only to our Executive Director, Awards Coordinator, and Committee Chair. The Scholarship recipients and Field of the Year Award Winners are notified prior to the Conference. The Founders Award recipients and the Outstanding Commercial Affiliate may not learn of the honor until the announcement at the Awards Banquet.

Last year, Tim introduced a striking computerized presentation highlighting the Field of the Year winners, the scholarship recipients, and the Founders Award recipients. That format will be repeated this year. It's exciting to see the honorees and top fields in each category showcased on the screen.

In October, your Executive Officers and Board of Directors met in Knoxville, TN. We spent two days reviewing everything from the year 2000 budget to the conference details. While there, we had the opportunity to visit the University of Tennessee's Neyland Stadium, gather some of their maintenance program details, and inspect the latest in turf cover technology. It never fails, I learn something new every time I set foot on an STMA member's field. Thanks to Bob Campbell, Director of Facilities for the University of Tennessee and STMA Category II Board member, I left the field with a better understanding of ways to extend turf color and growth and provide player stability on overseeded bermudagrass fields.

That's what STMA is all about - learning, sharing, and growing together. In this, too, you're the greatest!

**Stephen Guise, STMA President**  
(714) 704-0403