

## president's message

# COME JOIN IN THE STMA "FAMILY REUNION"

**THE YEAR 2003** is passing quickly. As we look to the holidays, we hope that our football fields will withstand the remaining practices and games as wear increases and the weather starts worsening. It is the time of year we look to the future and reflect on the year that has passed.

With all the new initiatives we started this year, it has been a challenging time for the STMA Board and Headquarters staff. Thanks to a great deal of hard work and dedication by a number of people, several of our goals have already been reached this year. Our overall goal to improve the image of our profession and provide support to help our members grow professionally remains our primary mission. We continue to focus our efforts on these important tasks.

One goal we committed to in January 2003 was the review of and revisions to our by-laws and code of ethics. I am pleased to report that this has been accomplished and, as pledged, the members of this association will have the opportunity to vote on the revisions by the end of the year.

On behalf of all the members of STMA, I would like to thank Ken Mrock and all the members of the by-laws committee for the time and effort they put into the task representing all the members of this association.

As you are starting to make plans for next year, I hope you are planning to join us in beautiful San Diego January 21-25, 2004, for the 15th STMA Annual Conference and Exhibition to be held at The Town and Country Resort. This is the time we get together to "charge our batteries" and prepare for another season.

Under the leadership of Mike Trigg, CSFM, Conference Chair, and Dr. John Sorochan, Conference Education Subcommittee Chair, this Committee has assembled a program that promises great educational sessions and optional activities, along with excellent networking opportunities. The trade show continues to grow and this year promises to be the best ever as both the trade show and educational sessions are located in the same facility.

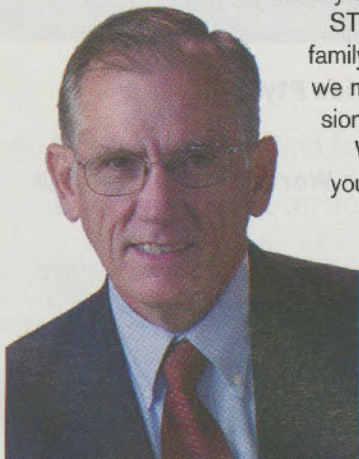
Once again, Wednesday, January 21 will be jam-packed with activities. You will have the opportunity to choose the always-popular seminar on wheels, the baseball field seminar conducted by major league sports turf managers, or the Jacobsen-sponsored SAFE Golf Tournament at La Costa Resort. Choosing which events to attend has always been a tough decision. I hope you will also be able to take some extra time to unwind by seeing the many interesting sights in this beautiful part of the country.

The conference is a great opportunity for professional growth as well as the chance for us to reconnect with our old friends to share our experiences, including the problems and opportunities our profession faces. It's a time to review the year just past, personally and professionally.

STMA is like a family, so consider this conference an opportunity for a family reunion. And it's a welcoming, growing family, so that each year we meet new friends and are able to learn new things about our profession. That's the best part of the deal.

Whether you're a rookie in the profession or a grizzled veteran, you'll want to be part of it all.

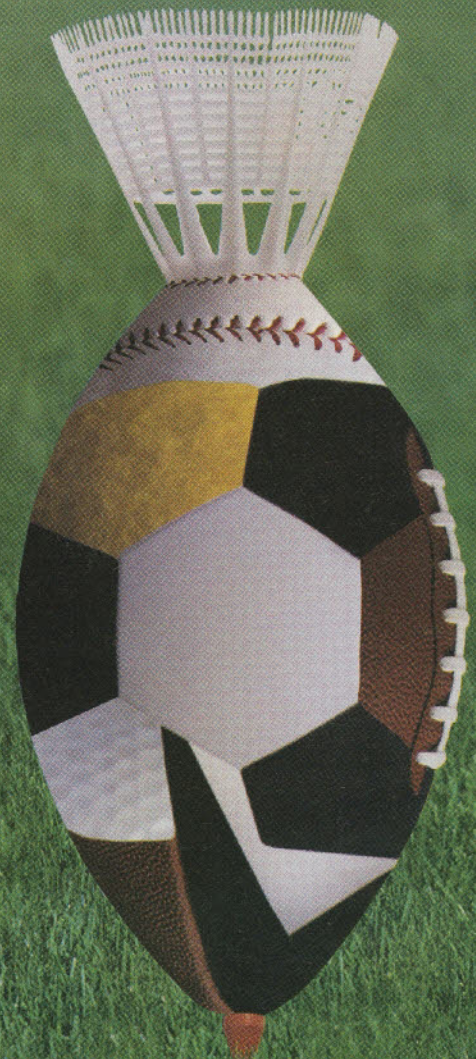
I hope to see you in San Diego.



BOB CAMPBELL, CSFM

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