

president's message

Thank you

This is my first column as President of the Sports Turf Managers Association. Over the years I've learned the importance of giving team members praise when they deserve it just by complimenting or voicing appreciation with a simple "thank you."

I wish to extend a simple thank you to all of you involved in STMA.

First, to all of the participants in our 2005 Conference and Exhibition in Phoenix, I thank you for your involvement with and support of the STMA. I am sure that you will agree it was a successful and exciting conference for members and exhibitors. A special thanks goes out to Dr. Dave Minner, Conference Education chairman, and to all of the speakers for their informative educational sessions. We truly appreciate their efforts in preparing their presentations.

Another group that that I would like to thank is the Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona for their assistance throughout 2004 in preparation for the conference. In particular, a special "hats off" to Chris Calcaterra, CSFM, Darin Budak, CSFM, and Bill Murphy for their legwork in organizing the sites for the Seminar-On-Wheels tours and the MLB/NFL Workshop.

Thank you to Bob Christofferson of the Seattle Mariners for all his efforts in coordinating the MLB/NFL Workshop and also to all of the professional members who assisted Bob with the Saturday workshop. These include, from MLB: Roger Baird, Chicago Cubs; Tom Burns, Texas Rangers; Larry DiVito, Los Angeles Dodgers; Leo Liebert, Seattle Mariners; Dave Nehila, Baltimore Orioles; Grant Trenbeath, Arizona Diamondbacks; John Turnour, Baltimore Orioles; Tim Wilson, Seattle Mariners; and Luke Yoder, San Diego Padres.

From the NFL: Darian Daily, Cincinnati Bengals; Ross Kurcab, CSFM, Denver Broncos; Abby McNeal, CSFM, Denver Broncos; and Steve Wightman, San Diego Chargers.

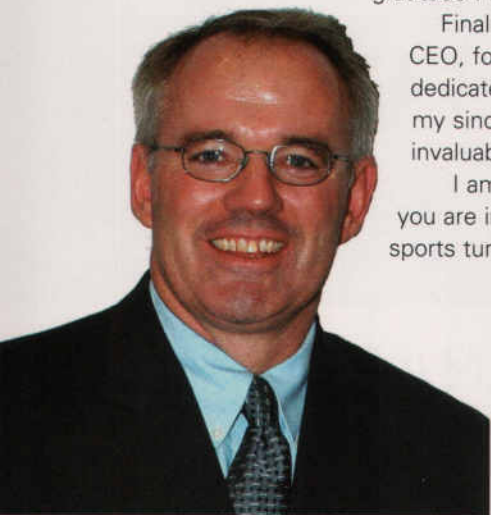
I would also like to thank the team of Brad Jakubowski, Chad Follis, and Steve Cockerham who created and coordinated STMA's first Student Challenge event. I look forward to watching this competition grow each year as more and more student teams challenge each other for first place honors.

Thank you as well to our exhibitors who showcased cutting edge technology and information, which helps to make our profession stronger. And, to our sponsors, thank you for helping us to enrich our entire event. Through your generous support our attendees receive a strong educational, informational, and enjoyable experience. Sponsors included Beacon Athletics, Covermaster, Cygnet Turf, Ewing Irrigation Products, Hunter Industries, Midwest Rake, Pro's Choice/Oil-Dri, Sports Turf Company, Profile LLC/Turface, The Toro Company, and West Coast Turf.

In addition, no conference would be as successful as ours without the remarkable contributions made by many. I wish I had room to name all of you, and I hope that you know and understand the gratitude I feel for all that you have done for this association.

Finally, I want to thank all STMA Board Members and Kim Heck, CEO, for their support. I am honored to serve with these individuals so dedicated to the development of this organization. I also wish to extend my sincere thanks to Past President Bob Campbell, CSFM, for all of his invaluable service these past two years as President.

I am honored to serve as President, and I am committed, as all of you are in the sharing of information to promote the advancement of the sports turf management profession.



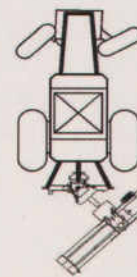
MIKE TRIGG, CSFM

mtrigg@waukeganparks.org

Mike Trigg

We make turf RENOVATION our business.

The **AERA-vator®** will aerate high traffic areas, loosen soil before laying sod and relieve compaction from sporting events. The **SEEDA-vator®** can primary seed or over-seed without any other type of preparation. The **MULTI TINE AERA-vator®** makes overseeding sports fields easy with no disruption of play. The **VERTI-cutter** operates at a consistent depth up to 1 1/2" deep – even while making gentle turns. The **FLAIL-mower** is a great choice for economical mowing on all types of sports turf.



Patented swing hitch allows units to turn without tearing the turf.



AERA-vator®
Model AE-60



AERA-vator®
Multi Tine Model FT-60



FLAILmower
Model FL-72



SEEDA-vator®
Model SE-60



VERTI-cutter
Model VC-60

www.1stproducts.com
FIRST PRODUCTS, INC.

164 Oakridge Road
Tifton, GA 31794

Toll Free: **1(800)363-8780**

Call for a free product video or DVD