

# STMA gets its share of 8.1 billion hours

**The Annual Volunteering America Report** for 2011 notes that Americans volunteer 8.1 billion hours! The Report was released this year by the Corporation for National and Community Service. STMA has nearly 200 people volunteering on 22 committees, and they give many hours of service to the association. The charge for each committee differs, but the results are very much alike. "Committees help guide the programs and the services that are important to our members, says CEO Kim Heck. "The ideas and feedback provided by these volunteers help to ensure that our staff is meeting the needs of our membership."

STMA's committee size averages 10 to 15 people, and virtually every committee meets via conference call. STMA's Awards Committee historically held a physical meeting to judge the Field of the Year and MiLB Sports Turf Manager of the Year awards. That process was re-engineered to an online system, so that committee now uses conference calls to complete its work. Depending upon the committee's charges for the year, they may meet via phone as few as twice during the year, or as frequently as twice a month for several months. These calls offer a great opportunity to meet and learn from each other while helping STMA. Appointments are for one year beginning on March 1.

In 2010, STMA created a forum at its annual conference for that year's committee members to attend, meet each other in person and continue any dialogue on projects. STMA is again holding that forum in Long Beach on Wednesday, January 11, 5:45-6:45 p.m. All current committee members will receive an invitation to attend.

Please consider committee service. Sign up using the form below or via [www.STMA.org](http://www.STMA.org), even if you are currently serving on a committee. The deadline to volunteer for a committee is January 31. President Mike Goatley will be making the committee appointments by March 1.

Here is a short overview of the purpose of each committee:

- **Awards:** To judge the association's awards program applicants selecting the Field of the Year winners and the Minor League Baseball Sports Turf Manager of the Year; to develop strategies to enhance the programs.

- **Bylaws:** To develop association bylaws, which are fair and enforceable, and clearly define the expectations for membership, governance processes and board of directors' service.

- **Certification:** To develop strategies to grow the number of certified members; to consistently monitor the program and recommend enhancements to ensure that the program is the top achievement for sports turf managers.

- **Chapter Relations:** To create a chapter structure that is beneficial locally and nationally; to financially assist chapters with their administrative, operations and educational efforts; to facilitate the sharing of best practices.

- **Conference:** (Conference Education, Exhibition, and Tours subcommittees) To develop all content, sessions, workshops and off-site venues, and select speakers and moderators for the next year's conference that will make it a "must attend" event for members and nonmembers; to recommend strategies that will drive attendance to the exhibition and will add value to exhibitors.

- **Commercial Membership:** To recommend specific strategies to grow commercial membership and to develop benefits and value for our commercial members.

- **Editorial:** To insure that the STMA magazine contains information relevant to the sports turf manager; to provide ideas and contacts for articles for publication.

- **Environmental:** To develop environmental strategies that position STMA and its members as leaders in environmental stewardship and the related health and safety issues that impact fans and players.

- **Ethics:** To provide a fair and unbiased council to investigate claims of ethics violations, determine if the claim has merit, and shepherd the appeals process. (This Committee is called into operation only if there is an ethics violation claim).

- **Finance & Audit:** To provide oversight of the STMA's financial resources by reporting information to the Board of Directors.

- **Historical:** To preserve the history of the association and the profession.

- **Information Outreach:** To develop educational and informational opportunities for mem-

bers to enhance their personal and professional development.

- **International:** To position STMA as a global leader in sports facility management and make STMA the 'go-to' resource for those who work internationally in the industry.

- **Membership:** To develop initiatives to drive membership growth and retention; to recommend programs that add value for each member.

- **Past President's Advisory Council:** To advise the STMA Board on issues pertaining to the past, present and future of STMA. (Limited to STMA Past Presidents)

- **Scholarship:** To judge the recipients of the SAFE Scholarships, the Terry Mellor Educational Grant and the Gary Vanden Berg Internship Grant; to develop strategies to enhance these programs.

- **Student Challenge:** To develop the annual student challenge exam questions, answer key, and protocols; assist in proctoring the exam as needed.

- **Technical Standards:** To help determine standards and best management practices needed in the profession and to guide the work of the ASTM on developing sports field and facility standards.

- **Website:** To insure that the STMA website contains information relevant to members, prospects and the green industry in an easily accessible and consumable format.

STMA also has a Nominating Committee that is appointed directly by the Nominating Committee Chair. The chair is always the Immediate Past President, as defined by the Bylaws. Thus, Troy Smith, CSFM, will assume that role for 2012. ■

## STMA Committee Volunteer Form

*Committee appointments are for a one-year term of service beginning in March. Please fill out a new form annually.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Facility \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Facility/Industry Representation (*check one*)

Facilities used by Professional Athletes  Commercial  Student  Schools K-12  Parks & Recreation  Higher Education  Academic

Name of the Committee on which you are interested in serving:

**SportsTurf**  
MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

Experts on the Field. Partners in the Game.

Return this form to STMA Headquarters, 805 New Hampshire, Ste. E, Lawrence, KS 66044  
Fax: 785-843-2977 or via email [STMAinfo@STMA.org](mailto:STMAinfo@STMA.org)

DUE JANUARY 31, 2012