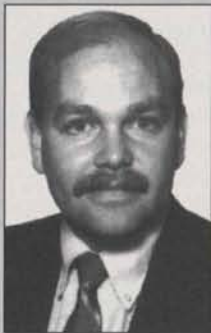


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Greg Petry



Have you ever wondered why people join an association like STMA? One way to examine the question is to look back at the origin and development of associations.

In the 17th century, common men would surround themselves with the brotherhood of their trade. These men immersed themselves in each other's lives. They worked together, lived together and enveloped each other with their common lives.

Even in the Old Testament, references are made to people of common occupations living and working together to share knowledge, train apprentices and ultimately, to leave a successor behind to carry on their trade.

People join associations for many reasons. Among the most common is a desire to advance common interests, to address political and educational needs and to protect the status of their profession and industry. With the roots and ties to the Old World guilds, associations today have evolved to occupy a unique and important place in society.

We learn early in our careers that by joining associations, we can accomplish what we could not do by ourselves.

So why do people join an association such as STMA? For the same reason we join other associations — to solve problems; to meet educational needs; to obtain information and to better oneself.

I personally feel that the most rewarding aspect of STMA membership is the development of professional relationships. It is so natural for people to share personal experiences (both good and bad) and information. As time goes on, your relationship with the contacts you have begins to form a network.

It's the network of friends and fellow professionals that make STMA membership so valuable!



STMA CHAPTER NEWS

Iowa STMA. The Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association will hold a Football Field Maintenance Practice and Care Workshop at Atlantic High School, Atlantic, IA on November 5 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Registration opens at 8 a.m. in the high school auditorium. Morning sessions include: Welcome and Introduction of Speakers, 8:30 a.m.; "Turf Grass Selection of Sports Fields" presented by Dr. Eldon Everhart; "Setting Up a Fertilizer Program for Your Field" by Mike McCaffrey; "Aerification on Compacted Fields" by Dale Roe; "Pest and Weed Control" by Dr. Everhart; "Mowing Tips" presented by Bill Antons; and "Traffic Control on Fields," also by Antons.

Afternoon sessions include: "Painting and Marking Fields," "Putting Your Field Away for Winter," and "Planning Next Season's Turf Program."

For more information about the workshop, contact McCaffrey at (712) 792-8010 or Dr. Everhart, (712) 755-3104. For information about the Iowa Chapter or other chapter activities, call Gary Peterson at (515) 791-0765.

STMA Florida Chapter #1. The Florida Chapter will hold a meeting at the University of Miami's Mark Light Stadium on November 15, beginning at 10 a.m. The program will focus on the conversion of the field from artificial to

natural turf. Kevin Hardy will host the meeting.

For more information about the meeting or other chapter activities, call John Mascaro, (305) 938-7477.

Chesapeake Chapter STMA. Do you plan to attend the National STMA Meeting in Florida? Will you be leaving from the Baltimore area? Would you like to make the trip with other Chesapeake Chapter members? If so, contact Art Downing at (410) 313-7254.

The Chesapeake Chapter postponed its Regional Institute until the spring of 1995. One workshop will revolve around the installation of an irrigation system on a soccer field at Worcester, MD, City Parks Department. Mike Howell of the Worcester Parks Department will help coordinate the program.

A Field Day will be held in Bowie, MD, at the new baseball complex of the Double-A Bowie Bay Sox. Jimmy Juergens, director of field maintenance for the complex will coordinate the program.

Chesapeake Chapter board meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month from 4-6 p.m. For information on the chapter or any upcoming activities, call the Chapter Hotline, (301) 865-0667, or Downing at (410) 313-7254.

Midwest Chapter STMA. The Midwest Chapter of the STMA is one of

the 10 allied turfgrass organizations co-sponsoring the North Central Turfgrass Exposition, which is scheduled for November 28-30 at the Pheasant Run Resort & ExpoCenter in St. Charles, IL. The conference will address the needs of seasoned turfgrass professionals as well as offer introductory material, including five sessions of a "Back to Basics" program. Over 100 firms will exhibit at the trade show in the Pheasant Run MegaCenter.

A designated Sports Turf session is set for Tuesday, November 29, beginning at 8:30 a.m. The program includes: "Planning and Constructing Athletic Fields on a Tight Budget," presented by Norm Hummel; "Assessing Athletic Field Quality and Safety," by Mark Altman; "Maintaining Turf Density," by Dr. Ken Diesburg; and "Managing Water for Sports Fields," by Dr. Clark Throssell.

Midwest Chapter board meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month. For information on the chapter, the NCTE or other upcoming events, call the Chapter Hotline, (708) 439-4727 or Marc Van Landuyt, (708) 367-7828.

The Heartland Chapter STMA. Matt Hoops, director of maintenance for the Gladstone, MO City Parks and Recreation Department, is the new acting president of The Heartland