Headquarters Report

by Steve Trusty, Executive Director

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TMA continues to grow. As you can see on pages 6 and 12 in this issue another 120 new members are welcomed. Renewals are coming in strong also. In fact, dues income for year-to-date compared to the same period last year shows a 49% increase. While this keeps the staff very busy we are concerned about those of you that haven’t renewed yet. As soon as this newsletter is finished, we will be sending out a letter to all non-renewed members. We want to make sure you have every opportunity to renew and if you are not planning to renew, we want to know the reason. Any time you have any questions or concerns, member or non-renewing member, please let the office or one of your Board Members know. This is a member’s organization and can only continue to grow and supply your needs if you let us know what they are.

You can also be of great help to STMA if you let us know any time that you have a change of address. You will receive your mailings on a more timely basis and we will save postage. Each issue we receive too many copies back with postage due because someone has moved and the post office can no longer deliver mail to the old address. Not only do we then have to find where the person is now residing or working, we end up paying postage 3 times for one piece and the second two are at much higher rates. Most of all, timely information that you may need to know is delayed. It is also important right now to let us know of any changes in address, phone, fax or e-mail as we are about to go to press with the 2000 Membership Roster and Resource Manual. Please check your address on this issue of the newsletter and let us know if any part of the address label needs to be updated. Also let us know if there have been any changes in your title or facility or if you have added an e-mail address. Your fellow members would prefer to have up-to-date information if they want to contact you.

If you have recently been on the website - sportsturfmanager.com, you will have noticed a members only section. As I write this column, that part of the site is not up and running, but we are getting close. As soon as all the bugs are worked out you will be receiving notification on how to enter the site. We are working on a number of enhancements for our site. Take a look at it and let us know what you think. We want it to have some value to anyone looking for information on sports field care, but we also want it to have areas of interest only to members and those that should be members. If you have any suggestions for further areas that would be helpful to you, don’t hesitate to let us know.

Over the next couple of months Rich Moffitt and I will be attending a session sponsored by the American Society of Association Executives that is designed to help the CEOs, Chief Elected Officer and Chief Executive Officer, accomplish more together. I will be attending an ASAE Legal Seminar to help STMA in a number of areas and Dale Getz and I will be attending the National Certification Commission Annual meeting to help our Certification Program. While STMA is, hopefully, playing a very important role in your educational improvement, your staff and officers rely on other organizations to help themselves and STMA grow.

May you learn what you need to make your job more enjoyable and worthwhile, for yourself, your facility and your end-users.