## How Do You Do ...?

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can be done in several ways: Conference attendance can actually pay for itself through savings resulting from new knowledge gained at the conference. Finding a more cost effective product, learning about a new time saving approach, finding out how to better manage disease and insect problems, learning how to do minor repairs and preventive maintenance on equipment, and learning about athletic field safety and liability issues are some examples of how knowledge learned at a conference will save time and money. Also, being an effective sports turf manager requires a broad range of knowledge, from diseases, insects, agricultural practices, pesticide application, seed and product selection, irrigation operation, maintenance procedures, equipment selection and operation, budget management, etc. No one has all the

knowledge and expertise in every one of these areas, nor should they be expected to. More important is knowing who to ask or where to get the information you need. Networking at conferences and seminars provides the opportunity for making contacts and developing relationships with extension agents, professors, sports turf consultants, other sports turf managers, and vendors. It is these contacts that allow one to quickly get the information needed when new problems arise. Getting the proper information will save time and money. These examples demonstrate how conference attendance can help make better use of available resources.

Justification of conference expenses can take some explaining, but the benefits are well worth the cost and effort.

## **Call For Nominations**

our nominating committee is seeking individuals willing to serve as board members in the following categories: Category I -- Professional facility sports turf manager and Category III -- Other schools, research, extension agents, teaching.

If you feel a strong commitment to STMA and would like to get involved, contact Nominating Committee Chair, Mike Schiller. If you would like to recommend someone, contact them and make sure they area willing to serve before contacting Mike.

STMA has a WORKING Board. The Board meets four times a year: once in conjunction with the annual Conference, then once in March, July and November. The 1-1/2-day meetings are usually held on Friday afternoons and all day Saturday.

In addition, board members are asked to serve on one or more committees, provide input to other committees, review and vote on key issues affecting the direction of STMA and be responsive to the needs of the membership.

As with most national and international associations, the Nominating Committee traditionally selects officer nominees from among those who have previously served as Board members and are thus familiar with the administrative and financial functions of the Association.

As well as nominations, any questions or requests for further information may be directed to committee chair, Mike Schiller, Rolling Meadows Park Maintenance Facility, 3900 Berdnick Street, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008, phone: (847) 963-0550, fax: (847) 963-0549 or e-mail: mobygrape@aol.com.

