

SPORTS TURF MANAGER

Official Newsletter of the Sports Turf
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President's Message

What a Group!

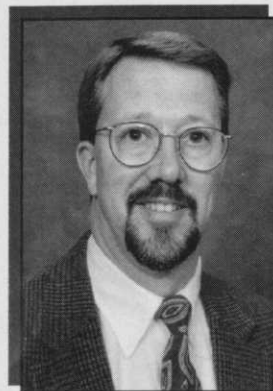
by Steve Guise, President

By now you all should have received your 1998 Membership Roster and Resource Manual. As I thumb through the names and titles, I feel very proud of the individuals, facilities and companies now represented in our growing organization. As a seasoned member, I can tell you that this list of sports turf managers is the best I've seen during my eight year tenure for networking within our elite industry. This new Roster is a library of contacts each representing years of experience and knowledge – information to aid us all.

I can't tell you how many times over the past years I have called members and been called by members from around the country. It's great!

For me, with my consulting business, this networking has been a resource of advice, especially on agronomic suggestions in areas of the country that I am not familiar with or where I've had limited previous hands-on experience. I have called on member resources such as Dr. Gil Landry, of the University of Georgia, and Frank Hardy, of Standard Sand in Florida, for Southeastern field design and turf maintenance recommendations. I've sought assistance from Eugene Mayer, of the Scotts Company, and Dr. Henry Indyk, of Turfcon, for their East Coast and Midwest experience. And, in the western part of the country, the members I've contacted are too numerous to mention. THANKS to ALL of you! Your help is, and has been, much appreciated.

The resources are endless and all that accumulated education, knowledge and experience that you tap into will expand your own personal resources, not only making you a better sports turf manager, but also making you a better resource for other sports turf managers when you're on the receiving end of one of those networking calls.



Steve Guise

Another resource manual that you should have received with your Membership Roster is the STMA Compendium of articles, Sports Turf Topics. These are either written by, or about, STMA members. As you review these articles that were published worldwide on behalf of our organization, you will detect some of those members who have a great deal of knowledge to share. It takes time and effort to produce an article and I thank all of you that have contributed.

I invite those of you that have something to share to contact our Headquarters. Suz Trusty or Stephanie Watts (*congratulations Steph to you and your new husband David!*) can work with you -- by interview, from notes, or from a draft of an article -- to help get out your message. As a past contributor, I can tell you that the experience is rewarding.

So don't just file your Roster and Compendium. Visit with your fellow members and read about their experiences and their solutions to the everyday problems that we all experience in one of the most demanding jobs known to mankind - the sports turf manager.

Summer is here - let's get at it!