

Headquarters Report

by Steve Trusty, Executive Director

Spring -- always a busy time for you - also is a busy time for your Headquarters Staff. The 1999 edition of the Compendium is nearing completion. The 1999 Roster will be in process by the time you receive this newsletter. If you haven't renewed your membership, you may have missed out on being listed this year. March 31st is the cutoff to assure being included. Depending on where we are in the production process, we may be able to include renewals received shortly after that date. Once the proofs are ready, we are unable to make additions. If your intention was to renew, but for some reason you haven't done so as yet, ACT NOW.

Your Certification Committee will be meeting again on April 16th and 17th. It is their intent at this meeting to finalize the STMA Resource List and the Certification Competencies. The committee also will be finalizing the test questions. Once those projects are completed, the tests will be reviewed by an outside agency for clarity, accuracy and fair coverage of the competencies. It is the goal and charge of your Certification Committee to be ready to accept applications some time this summer.

Your Board met on March 12th and 13th and worked hard on a number of items, including next year's conference and a strategic plan. It is great working with a board that is looking ahead and is willing to put in the extra effort to assure an even stronger organization for the future. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for June 18 - 19. As always, contact any of your Board Members or Headquarters with any suggestions or concerns you have about YOUR Association.

Have you ever wondered how


sports fields are maintained in China or considered sharing your expertise with a sports turf manager there? As requested by the VP of the China Sports Science Society, the China Workers' Center for International Exchange has contacted STMA Headquarters to inquire if STMA would like to sponsor a study tour to China. The purpose of the proposed visit is to establish close professional links with our Chinese professional counterparts, sharing each other's work and educational experiences, and to build a long-term professional cooperation at a personal level. Participants would visit three or four Chinese cities within a 12-14 day period. Such a trip would require a mini-

mum of 10 people. Each participant would be responsible for their own expenses (approximately \$3,895 to \$4,290) which could be paid individually, by the facility or sponsored by someone. If there was enough interest, the trip could be tied in with a tour of the China & Hong Kong Golf Exhibition & Conference which is to be held September 5 -7 in Guangzhou.

If you have interest in such a trip, or know of someone who might be interested, contact STMA Headquarters for more information.

Until next issue, may your challenges be no greater than you can handle.






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