

Headquarters Report

by Steve Trusty, Executive Director

Evidently all the preparation paid off. Your headquarters office suffered no problems from the so-called Y2K bug. All systems are normal. We did backup and archive all computer records before shutting down on the 31st.

Obviously, the biggest event of the New Year was the Conference in St. Louis. It was great seeing so many of you there. It was a special treat to meet for the first time so many of the 205 who were attending their first STMA Conference. From what many of them have told us, they don't plan to miss any future ones. Those of you that didn't make it to St. Louis missed a great Conference and Trade Show. A new record was set for Full Conference Registrants and for Exhibitors. A special Thank You to all who helped with Registration, Book assembly, passing out evaluation sheets, merchandise and book sales, the auction and raffle, and all the other areas whenever they were asked. Space and memory don't allow me name everyone that helped out, but special recognition should go to Henry and Mary Indyk, Char Schiller, Pam Saul, M. J. Calvert, Mary Owen and Bob Campbell.

Plans are already underway for the 2001 Conference in Tampa. Mark your calendar for January 17 to 21 and make plans to be there. Our hotel is the brand new Tampa Marriott Waterside, directly across the street from the Tampa Convention Center, site for our Trade Show. We have already sold over 60 booth spaces. This Conference and Show promise to be even bigger and better than the past one. You won't want to miss it. Be sure to budget for it and start letting whoever controls the purse strings know the benefits of attending will help you do your job even better. If you need any help, talk to any of this year's attendees for information on what they gained from attending. We have a limited number of the attendee books containing speaker outlines and other worthwhile information available if you would like to purchase one. See the notice elsewhere in this issue.

Interest and applications for the CSFM program keep rolling in. Congratulations to those already certified. Terri will be happy to process your application when you are ready to go through the process.

We have been contacted by a company that is producing a 30 minute TV show on "New Turf

Technologies" for airing on CNBC as a part of The Cutting Edge Technology Report: Techno 2100. Clark Gaines from the NFL Players Association and Vince Patterozzi with the Baltimore Ravens were the initial contacts of the Producer and suggested STMA get involved. Any of you that feel that you might have something to contribute to the project are welcomed and encouraged to contact the office. Since I will need to share the information with several people, I would appreciate it if you would put your thoughts in writing and mail (snail or e-) to the office or fax to 800/366-0391. The more input we have, the better. You just may be able to see yourself on TV also. In any event, this should be a great opportunity to get the word out about what sports turf managers do.

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



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