## **Headquarters Report**

by Steve Trusty, Executive Director

Telcome to our two newest Chapters. Pacific Northwest and the Georgia Chapters have completed all of the necessary paperwork to become officially recognized as STMA Affiliated Chapters. I look forward to speaking to the Georgia Chapter at their September 6th meeting. We are still working on a date for me to speak to the Pacific Northwest Chapter. I had hoped to be there in August, but my open dates didn't jibe with their schedule. Chapter visits are one of the most pleasing aspects of my work with STMA. While I enjoy presenting any of the several topics that I speak on, it is most gratifying to get out and visit with so many people on the local level. It gives me a much better handle on the challenges and concerns of the Sports Turf Manager. I also get the opportunity to visit with potential members, their bosses and their employees. Other dates on the schedule include: Michigan Chapter on August 13, Greater LA Chapter on September 12 and New Jersey Chapter on December 12. I hope I can get scheduled to meet with your Chapter in the near future.

If you are involved in planning a program for your chapter or another local or regional event, check out the Speakers Bureau site on the STMA web page www.sportsturfmanager.com. You will not only see the topics that are available from Headquarters, but many other speakers and their range of topics are listed there. Speaking of the website, do you check it regularly? There are several features of the website that I had expected members to use more frequently. Check out the discussion section. Post a question or reply to other's questions. I would think this could be very useful to you. Another area that should be getting a lot of use is the PowerLinks. Anytime you are looking for a product or service that one of our Commercial Members might be offering, check out PowerLinks. All you need to do is click on the type of product and then click on the company or companies that you want to get more information on. I would love to find that kind of service on things that I might be interested in for the STMA Headquarters.

No matter what your needs are for products and services, be sure you give those companies that are STMA sponsors and advertisers a fair shot at your business. Many of them have invested a lot in STMA. They are much more likely to continue their support if you let them know that you saw their ad or their sponsorship and that because you saw and recognized their support, you are

giving them a shot at your business. Thank them every chance you get for helping you and STMA.

Are you documenting your potential Award Winning Field? Now is the time to be doing that. Your copy of the Awards Booklet is enclosed in this newsletter. If you have any questions about the procedures, contact headquarters.

Another use for the website is to check out Chapter events - for your own chapter, for one you might have a chance to visit, or to get ideas for programming in your area. Each of our 25 chapters has space to list their events and other items of interest. These areas are open to the general public so they can also be used to drum up interest on the local level. If your chapter's web page could use a little work, why don't you volunteer to help out?

If you can't do that, let your Chapter Officers know what you can do to assist them. If you don't have a chapter in your area, now would be a good time to get one started. Just let Headquarters know of your interest and we'll provide all the details.

Until next issue, get more involved in YOUR Association. You'll reap benefits many times greater than what you put in.



