

## SPORTS TURF MANAGER

Official Newsletter of the Sports Turf Managers Association

1027 S. 3rd Street

Council Bluffs, IA 51503-6875

712/322-STMA (7862), 800/323-3875

(FAX) 712/366-9119, 800/366-0391

(e-mail)

STMAHQ@st.omhcoxmail.com

(world wide web)

www.sportsturfmanager.com



Volume XXI Number 1  
January/February 2003

### OFFICERS

#### President

Bob Campbell, CSFM  
University of Tennessee

#### President-Elect

Mike Trigg, CSFM  
Waukegan Park District

#### Immediate Past President

Murray Cook  
SPORTSTURF Services

#### Commercial Vice President

Monty Montague  
GreenOne Industries

#### Secretary

Mike Andresen, CSFM  
Iowa State University

#### Treasurer

Tim Moore, CSFM  
The Brickman Group, Ltd.

### BOARD MEMBERS

Abby McNeal, CSFM  
Invesco Field at Mile High

Eric Adkins, CSFM

Spartan Stadium/Michigan State University

George Trivett, CSFM

Granite Falls Middle School

Boyd Montgomery, CSFM

Sylvania Recreation

Vickie Wallace

Turf-Seed, Inc.

Dr. Tony Koski

Colorado State University

### NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

#### Executive Director

Steve Trusty

#### Communications Director

Suz Trusty

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Stephanie Watts

Trusty & Associates

### NEWSLETTER TECHNICAL EDITOR

Dr. Gil Landry, Jr.

The University of Georgia

Sports Turf Manager is a publication of Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA). It is published bi-monthly and is free to STMA members. Sports Turf Managers' goal is to promote the mission of the association by providing a channel for communication between the representatives of the board and its constituency. STMA is not responsible for the opinions expressed in this publication. Address changes, advertising, photographs, and editorial inquiries should be directed to the executive offices. © 2003 Sports Turf Managers Association. All Rights Reserved.

# President's Message

## Thanks for the Honor – and the Responsibility

by Bob Campbell, CSFM

This is my first column as President of the Sports Turf Managers Association. I'm humbled by the honor of serving as President of an association filled with individuals so dedicated to the profession. I've just returned from our 14th Annual Conference in San Antonio where I had the opportunity to meet many of you for the first time and to reconnect with others I've grown to know over the years. Once again, I'm personally impressed with the willingness of STMA members to share their knowledge and expertise and to openly discuss what they've learned through their failures as well as their successes. The networking that takes part within this group of professionals is the greatest asset of our association and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a part of it.

We again had a great Conference and I extend my thanks to all those who contributed to it. I've heard excellent feedback on the speakers in all the educational sessions and workshops and on the roundtable discussions. I've also heard great reports about the site hosts of the Seminar on Wheels Tours and that the Golf Tournament was challenging and great fun. The members of the North and South Texas Chapters were willing and able hosts who provided that special touch of Texas hospitality along with all their assistance.

The presenters for the Major League Baseball Seminar did an excellent job. Thank you to: Heather Nabozny and Gail DeGennaro of the Detroit Tigers; Leo Liebert and Tim Wilson of the Seattle Mariners; Eric Hansen and Larry Divito of the Los Angeles Dodgers; Charles Brunetti of the Boston Red Sox; and Luke Yoder of the Pittsburgh Pirates. Thanks also go to those who helped with the development of the Seminar, but were unable to take part due to job-related commitments. Special thanks go to Tom Burns of the Texas Rangers who handled the interim arrangements and to Bob Christofferson of the Seattle Mariners who stepped up to the plate to coordinate the event both behind the scenes and onsite. Special thanks also go to site host, Tom McAfee of Nelson W. Wolff Municipal Stadium.

Serving as President of STMA is a responsibility that I take very seriously. I strongly feel it's important not only to give back

to new members and young people starting off in this industry, but also to support the positive image of the sports turf manager as a professional in an important and worthwhile profession.

This past year was filled with even more challenges than usual for sports turf managers. Many of our members were the focus of negative media comments, often without any opportunity to discuss the conditions that led to a less than perfect field. Yet, as I watched the TV coverage on Super Bowl Sunday, it was apparent how far we've come as an industry in providing safe and playable fields. As we as sports turf managers have worked to improve field conditions, expectations also have risen. And that's not a totally bad thing. High expectations, combined with information on what it takes to produce and maintain high quality athletic fields, can give the opportunities to provide the best possible fields for all levels of play.

Those opportunities come with challenges. Having been privileged to manage high school athletic fields and minor league baseball fields prior to accepting the position with the University of Tennessee, I understand the unique challenges and the rewards involved in this profession. I know from my own experience how the information gained from my peers helped me handle my challenges. So I'm confident that, working together, we can meet the challenges of the future.

I believe our potential for growth as an association is unlimited. I also understand that, growing as fast as we are, there are bound to be some turbulent times. We need to work through these, learn from them, and make wise choices to move forward for the good of the membership. I believe communication is very important. I want anyone to feel free to contact me or the other STMA board members at any time. I promise we will listen to you and take your opinions into consideration on any decisions made.

