

CHRISTOPHER MARK  
**The President's Desk**



**H**ello to all members. I am sure by the time everyone reads this, all your athletic field maintenance responsibilities will be concluded for the year and a few months of reduced pace will be welcomed after a hectic summer and fall. It was a difficult season for most, and those without irrigation on their fields faced larger challenges than usual. I for one do hope we receive the "forecast" of significant snow accumulation this winter since our fields, both athletic and agricultural, are starved of moisture.

Now it is the holiday season and a time for sharing and enjoying time with family and friends. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Board of Directors and especially to our Executive Manager, Lee Huether, for their excellent efforts, support, and dedication during 1998. I would like to personally thank Lee, who has been with us for just over a year. She continues to provide the membership and the Board with outstanding service and ensures the day-to-day administrative affairs of the Association are promptly looked after on our behalf.

Another individual I would like to express appreciation to is Dr. Ken Carey, who at the GTI is always available to assist us with computer/technical assistance. The use of email for the Association during 1998 has been a huge success, and without Ken's help, this technological transition would have been much more difficult. Although we presented him with a book at the summer Field Day, I would like to again offer our

appreciation to Ken and all his efforts to support the STA.

With Christmas holidays upon us, members will have an opportunity to relax and prepare for the OTS '99, Turf Technologies: Positioning for the New Millennium. It is hard to believe but another great symposium is almost here. The improved brochure is terrific and the layout is superb. The list of speakers, suppliers, and scheduled activities indicates that Pam Charbonneau and Peggy Nagle have put forth another great effort.

When you register, please ensure you check the Sports Turf box in the Industry Sector portion on the registration form. Ticking this box indicates your membership or affiliation to the STA and credit will be given to the Association. Funding from the OTS is one of the primary revenue streams for the STA, so please take the time to check off the box.

While at the OTS, please join us at the Annual General Meeting and Dinner on Tuesday, January 5, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. Contact Lee at our office for more information and to reserve a seat for the dinner. It promises to be a wonderful evening.

To all STA members and their families, I wish everyone a happy, joyful holiday season. May the spirit of the season and the fellowship and goodwill always displayed at Christmas remain with all of us throughout the coming year. Best wishes.

Yours for better, safer sports turf. ♦

— Christopher Mark



## Ontario Turfgrass Symposium

January 5, 6, & 7, 1999  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**Support Your Association and Save Money Too!**

When registering for the OTS make sure you indicate you are a member of the Sports Turf Association, a sponsoring association of the symposium. On your registration form please  Sports Turf Association to ensure your membership credit is directed back to us!

**Save money** on your registration fee with low association member rates.

On your registration form please  Sports Turf Association.

**Save more money** on the registration fees of others from your facility/organization who are not members of the Sports Turf Association. Non-members registered **at the same time** as a member qualify for the same lower association rates.

Send the registration in the same envelope, fax it at the same time, or make just one phone call to register.

**See You There!**