

The President's Desk *continued...*

improved the Association for the road ahead. We implemented the new website which has been a great success, and convenient Visa and MasterCard payment options for members. This alone has made life easier for Executive Manager Lee Huether and has helped with our cash flow. The office is now up to speed in the technology area and we should be in good shape in this respect for the next few years.

The Field Day, through the help of the committee members, suppliers and sponsors, has risen to never before seen levels. Attendance has increased markedly over the last three years and as a small association, we rely on this annual event for a major part of our revenue.

The Association is, however, going to be facing some potentially tough budget decisions going into the next few years. We will need to become more creative in how we do things, particularly with respect to raising revenues. Costs are rising for us all through things like insurance, printing, labour, etc., but I believe we have the people in place to make these decisions easier.

To Andrew Gaydon who will be President in 2004, I wish you all the best. To Lee, thank you for making this term whiz by efficiently. To all the other wonderful board members, thank you for also making the past two years seem like just yesterday. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. ♦



More Benefits for OTS 2004 Delegates!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACCREDITATION ENHANCED

OTS, the premier education and trade show for the Ontario Turfgrass Industry being hosted January 19-21, 2004 in Niagara Falls, will provide professional development recognized and accredited by the industry's leading associations including the Sports Turf Managers Association, the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, and the IPM-PHC Council.

The additional accreditation of the OTS educational seminars through the IPM-PHC Council this year will provide professionals with over 15 continuing education credits toward the voluntary accreditation of their companies, golf courses and parks. The expansion of accreditation opportunities reinforces the 2004 OTS theme, *Leading through Learning*. For more information and registration details visit the OTS website at www.open.uoguelph.ca/ots.

Register now for the industry event of the year!

2004 Ontario Turfgrass Symposium

**Educational Conference & Trade Show, January 19-21, 2004
Sheraton on the Falls, Niagara Falls, Ontario**

Two Ways to Save...

Visit www.open.uoguelph.ca/ots for details...

1) Association Discount. As an STA member in good standing, you qualify for lower association rates. **2) Group Discount.** Others from your facility/organization who are not STA members **when registered with a member** qualify for the lower association rates. Send the registration in the same envelope, fax it at the same time, or make just one phone call to register.

Odds and Ends

Cold... A Deadly Winter Hazard

In Canada, more than 80 people die each year from over-exposure to the cold. Over a five year period (1992 to 1996), Statistics Canada reported 411 people died from frostbite, hypothermia and other cold injuries. Exposure to extreme cold claims more lives in Canada than lightning, floods or tornadoes combined! For more details on windchill, visit, www.msc.ec.gc.ca/education/windchill/windchill_fact_sheet_aug_10_e.cfm (*Envir. Canada*)

Quotes of the Month

If all the year were playing holidays, to sport would be as tedious as to work.

— William Shakespeare, "King Henry IV Part I," Act 1 Scene 2

Winter is on my head, but eternal spring is in my heart.

— Victor Hugo (1802-1885)

STA Membership Plaques

Display membership plaques are available in executive engraved walnut for \$50 plus S&H. To order, contact Lee at the STA office.

Spring 2004 Submissions

If you have something you'd like to submit for the next issue, please forward it to the STA office by January 30, 2004.

Editorial Content

Opinions expressed in articles published in *Sports Turf Manager* are those of the author and not necessarily those of the STA, unless otherwise indicated.

Voice Your Opinion!

We appreciate member feedback. To make this process easier, we have a form on our website, www.sportsturfassociation.com, under the "newsletter" link called *Feedback*. Check it out!