

SPORTS TURF MANAGER

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faxing (519) 766-1704 or via e-mail.

The President's Desk

ANDREW GAYDON



Well it's nearly spring! We have
the three meanest winter months
behind us and I have had the
privilege of being in this new
seat for all of those three months.

I have been a Director of the Sports Turf
Association for a number of years and it
has been a most fulfilling experience with
a group of fellow directors who are not
only highly professional, but believe
passionately in the well being of the STA.
I would like to sincerely thank outgoing
President Paul Turner for being an
outstanding President and taking the STA
through a period of many successes.

As always, your feedback on the
website and any of our services
(Field Day, OTS, newsletter, etc.)
is much appreciated.

Our membership continues to grow
each year. The Field Day gets bigger and
better annually and our website is of
increasing benefit to members and non-
members alike. The *Sports Turf Manager*
continues to maintain a high professional
reputation in the turf grass industry with

its educational content, interesting articles
and timely information, and of course
provides a key forum for our advertisers,
the support of whom we could not do
without. As always, your feedback on the
website and any of our services is much
appreciated.

AGM Highlights & the OTS

We held a lively AGM at the Ontario
Turfgrass Symposium (OTS) in Niagara
Falls and are very pleased to welcome
David Smith as a new board member.
David brings a new dimension onto the
board as a consultant in turf management.

Chris Mark, one of our original
members, is moving on to share his
expertise elsewhere. Chris was one of the
true 'guides' in our industry and led the
Sports Turf Association into opportunities
and areas where we could most benefit our
members. He served as President from
1994-1999. We will greatly miss his
contribution, but we say many thanks and
wish him health and happiness in his new
position.

The OTS was well represented by many
participants from across the industry. This
annual conference and trade show is an
educational forum for STA, the Guelph
Turfgrass Institute, the Nursery Sod
Growers Association of Ontario, the
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food,
the Ontario Recreation Facilities
Association, the Professional Lawn Care
Association of Ontario and the University
of Guelph. The venue (Niagara Falls) was
new as was the format and we thank the
entire team of professionals that helped
to make OTS 2004 a success.

On my travels visiting different people
and organizations in this diverse and
"never a dull moment" industry, optimism
is high for the coming season. We are all
hoping for an early warm spring unlike
last year where winter lasted until June
and then summer arrived overnight! I wish
all our readers a great spring season –
remember, think sunshine! ♦