

Athletic Directors

Sports Turf Managers

& Team Up

by Connie Rudolph

Teamwork does make a difference. This definitely turned out to be the case when the Minnesota Sports Turf Managers Association joined forces with the Minnesota Athletic Directors Association for a spring workshop May 6. The joint meeting was billed as "Turf Day."

Seventy-five attendees gathered at 9:00 am at the high school campus in Farmington, MN, eager to cash in on the promise of quality field-care information. That promise was fulfilled in presentations based on practical, down-to-earth information, and in demonstrations packed with ideas to take home and put to use.

John Hopko of Professional Turf & Renovation opened the program by discussing how to get the most out of fields on a tight budget. He focused on the practical aspects of preparing and maintaining native-soil fields to withstand today's typical heavy-use schedules. Hopko combined examples from his company's renovation experience with questions from attendees.

Next, Mike Kelly of the Glenn Rehbein Company covered examples of field renovation projects. He included information on the costs of building different types of fields.

Dr. Don White from the University of Minnesota closed the classroom portion of the workshop. He used slides to illustrate different types of fields,

soil-related problems and developing strategies to combat them.

The workshop proceeded with demonstrations of field-care equipment. Attendees saw groomers, mowers, and aerators in action on the Farmington High School baseball field.

The groups were buzzing as the networking and idea exchange continued during a great lunch.

This joint event grew from our chapter's annual spring membership drive. Shannon Hendrickson, our immediate past president, had suggested that we contact Pete Veldman, executive secretary of MADA, about the possibility of including an advertisement or a flyer promoting our spring workshop in the organization's newsletter. Once Hendrickson explained the type of event we were planning, he and Veldman began discussing common problems, and Veldman suggested bringing the two groups together in a joint workshop.

Hendrickson had already offered his school's facilities for the spring workshop. The MSTMA Board agreed to come up with the speakers, recruit companies for the demonstra-



Pictured left to right: MSTMA joint workshop attendees Tom Rudburg, University of St. Thomas (seated); Lori Gislason, University of Minnesota; and Shannon Hendrickson, Farmington Independent School District.

Courtesy: Connie Rudolph

showing both good and bad examples and explaining the details of each. He used the examples to help attendees work through the basics of diagnosing

tions, and make arrangements for lunch. We put together the promotional flyer, included it in our newsletter to members, and sent it to our extended mailing list. All of this was standard procedure for organizing a regular chapter workshop.

MADA covered the costs of copies and the mailing costs of including the flyer in its newsletter. MSTMA handled the registration duties, and the chapter retained the funds generated by the workshop.

This successful outreach to one of our targeted groups was far easier and more successful than we'd anticipated. The enthusiasm was so great that plans were already brewing for the 1999 joint workshop before the end of the session.

Connie Rudolph is groundskeeper for Midway Stadium, St. Paul, MN.

Chapter news

Colorado Chapter: The Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association will hold its "Mountain Seminar" July 17, at Steamboat Springs. CSTMA's annual golf tournament, "Lawnmower Man Open," will be held Monday, July 13, at West Woods Golf Course in Arvada.

For more information on these events, the Colorado Chapter, or other upcoming activities, call the 24-hour CSTMA chapter hotline/fax: (303) 438-9645.

Minnesota Chapter: The Minnesota Sports Turf Managers Association will hold its "Workshop on Wheels" July 15, starting at Midway Stadium in St. Paul. Events begin with groomer demonstrations. The tour then moves to Canterbury Park, a horse racing facility. Following lunch at Canterbury Park, the group heads to Lakeville for a tour of the high school athletic fields, including the new football field. A tour of the Apple Valley Park Sports Complex follows. The group then heads to Turf Supply for the last tour of the day. The workshop wraps up back at Midway Stadium for tailgating, networking, and a St. Paul Saints game.

The chapter is also planning a workshop in September. For information on the "Workshop on Wheels", the September event, the Minnesota Chapter, or other pending activities, contact Connie Rudolph: (612) 646-1679.

KAFMO Chapter: Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization joins PGMS, the Penn-Del Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture, Westtown School, and Penn State Cooperative Extension in sponsoring "Grounds

browsing, refreshments, and door prizes. The traditional picnic supper will be held from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm.

For information on this event, other upcoming activities, or the KAFMO Chapter, contact Dan Douglas of the Reading Phillies Baseball Club: (610) 375-8469 ext. 212.

Iowa Chapter: The Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association will participate in the "Iowa Turfgrass Field Day" July 16, at the ISU Horticulture Research Station in Ames. ISTMA will also participate in the "Iowa Turf Institute (ITI) Golf Tournament" September 14, at Glen Oaks Country Club in West Des Moines, IA. Further details will be announced soon.

For more information on these events, the Iowa Chapter, or other upcoming activities, contact Lori Westrum at The Turf Office: (515) 232-8222, or (515) 232-8228 (fax).

Midwest Chapter: The Midwest Chapter will hold its "Athletic Field Construction Seminar" July 29, at the Carol Stream Park District, Carol Stream, IL. The seminar will highlight Panther Football Field.

For information on this event, the Midwest Chapter, or other pending activities, call the chapter hotline: (847) 622-3517.

Southern California Chapter: The chapter is

planning its annual community service project for early August at Mount San Antonio College in Walnut, LA County. Further details will be announced soon.

For information on the service project, the Southern California Chapter, or pending activities, contact the chapter hotline: (888) 578-STMA (toll free in Southern California).

Mid-South Chapter: The Mid-South Chapter STMA is planning a tour of the new Redbird Stadium now under construction in Memphis.

For more information on this event, the chapter, any of the regions, or other pending activities, contact Chip Houmes: (901) 377-5081, or Jim Calhoun: (901) 755-1305.



Attendees take advantage of field demonstrations at MSTMA's joint workshop.

Courtesy: Connie Rudolph

Managers Field Day" July 15, at Westtown School in Westtown, PA. Registration and trade show both open at noon.

A triple offering of grounds, tree, and turf tours run from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Attendees choose one of three selections: a grounds walk with Dr. Jim Sellmer, horticultural specialist at Penn State; an arboriculture program with Penn-Del ISA Chapter leaders, which will feature a discussion of lightning protection for large trees; or a focus on athletic field management topics with Multi-County Turfgrass Agent Nancy Bosold and KAFMO members.

Following the tours, attendees return to the trade show for more



Nor-Cal Chapter: For general information about the Northern California Chapter STMA, contact Sal Genito, UC Davis: (530) 752-1691.

Florida Chapter #1: For information on the Florida Chapter or pending activities, contact John Mascaro: (954) 938-7477.

MAFMO Chapter: For information on the MAFMO Chapter or upcoming activities, contact the hotline: (410) 290-5652.

Chapters on the grow

Wisconsin Chapter: The newly forming Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association will meet July 22, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Registration opens at 8:30 am.

The program includes: Mike Schiller, STMA Immediate Past President, "The Benefits of the National STMA"; Rich Riggs, "The Benefits of WSTMA"; John Stier, University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Sports Turf Research Update"; Chris Brinkley, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, "Equipment for Sports Turf Management"; and a training session on equipment used to maintain facilities at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

For information on this meeting, contact the O.J. Noer Turf Grass Facility: (608) 845-6536.

For more information on the forming chapter, contact Rich Riggs, R. H. Rettler & Associates, Inc.: (715) 341-2633.

Arizona Chapter: STMAAZ is planning a July meeting in Show Low. For information on this meeting, the Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona, or upcoming events, contact Bill Murphy, City of Scottsdale Parks and Recreation Department: (602) 994-7954, or Kris Kircher, City of Chandler Parks & Recreation Department: (602) 786-2728.

Great Plains Chapter: Plans are moving forward for a fall workshop and for a workshop with Floyd Perry of Grounds Maintenance Services. More details will be announced soon.

For information on these events, the Great Plains Chapter, or other upcoming activities, contact Mark Schimming, City of Wichita: (316) 337-9123.

Indiana Chapter: Plans are moving forward on the formation of a new chapter in Indiana. For information on this developing chapter, contact Terry Updike, B & B Fertilizer: (219) 356-8424, or Pat Hickner: (800) 672-4273.

Michigan Chapter: The newly forming chapter is planning a July event at

Michigan State University. It will include a presentation on field marking, and a tour of the athletic facilities. An August event with presentations on football field compaction is also in the planning stages. More details will be announced soon.

For information on these events, the developing chapter, or other pending activities, contact Rick Jurries, West Ottawa Public Schools: (616) 395-2364.

Great Lakes Chapter: Great Lakes Sports Turf Managers Association is planning an August golf outing at Carleton Glen Golf Club, and a November meeting in Toledo, OH. Executive board meetings are scheduled for July 28, August 25, September 29, and October 27.

A call for 1998 GLSTMA Sports Facility Awards entries has been issued by direct mail and in the GLSTMA Newsletter. The deadline is September 1.

For information on these events, the awards program, or the newly forming chapter, contact Joe Zelinko: (800) 897-9714, or Boyd Montgomery: (419) 885-1982.

Nevada Chapter: For information on the forming Nevada Chapter STMA or upcoming events, contact Ibsen Dow: (702) 649-1551, or Alan Paulson, Clark County School District: (702) 799-8724. □

Get Serious With STMA
Application for Membership

The Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) is an organization of professionals representing all segments of the sports turf industry. Our members work to combine the science of growing grass and the art of maintaining sports turf to produce playing fields that are both safe and aesthetically pleasing.

STMA provides members with a variety of benefits, including: education through regional institutes and conferences; support for sports turf research; facilities tours; a national awards program; access to the STMA National Conference and Exhibition; complimentary subscriptions to Sports Turf Manager and sportsTURF Magazine; and much more.

If you're serious about the sports turf industry, then it's time to become a member of STMA. Join today!

Member Information

Name _____
 Title _____
 Employer _____
 Type of Business _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Fax _____
 E-mail Address _____
 Signature _____
 Referred by _____
 (ST8)

Membership Category (please check one)

- Professional sports turf facility manager \$85
 - Four-year colleges and universities sports turf facility manager \$85
 - Other schools, research, ext. agents, teaching \$85
 - Parks and recreational sports turf facilities \$85
 - Commercial (US or International) \$195
 - Additional members from same company \$50
 - Student (non-voting) \$20
 - International (other than commercial) \$85
- (must be in US dollars)

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Please enclose payment (check, money order, Master Card, Visa, Discover or American Express) and send to:

Sports Turf Managers Association, PO Box 3480, Omaha, NE 68103-0480

For more information, contact STMA Headquarters at 800/323-3875

"Promoting Better and Safer Sports Turf Areas"