

# Birds of a Feather

**W**hat do Orioles and Ravens have in common? Besides being birds, they are the nicknames of two popular sports teams in Baltimore. They also share the area of Baltimore known as Camden Yards, and they both have talented individuals that were willing to share their expertise with the MAFMO Chapter Oct. 1.

More than 80 sports turf managers, groundskeepers, and others responsible for the care of athletic fields in the Mid-Atlantic area met on the sunny fall day. After sign in and refreshments, the group heard welcoming remarks from Chapter President Tim Moore in the end-zone stands of the Ravens' spacious new stadium.

STMA Executive Director Steve Trusty attended the meeting as part of STMA's Chapter Development program. These trips are generously sponsored by John Deere and Novartis at the Gold Level; and by Alpine Services, Hunter Industries, and the Scotts Company at the Silver Level.

Trusty discussed the soon to be available Certified Sports Turf Manager program. He urged attendees to get involved on both the local and national levels to help increase professionalism in the industry, and to reach out to others and help them get involved.

Baltimore Ravens Field Maintenance Manager Vince Patterozzi talked about construction of the new field. He discussed issues faced while working with the team's temporary home, and the differences encountered with work at the training facility.

Patterozzi feels that Zoysia and

Bermuda are both good choices for athletic fields in the Mid-Atlantic region. He also went into detail about the need for stabilizers in the rootzone of high-use, high-profile fields. He mentioned several stabilizers on the market, and talked about their respective benefits.

Though he now manages what he called the Ravens' "big experimental field," Patterozzi thoroughly understands tight budgets and limited resources. He showed that he is willing to share his acquired knowledge in any way he can to help others.

same used by Little League fields.

Zwaska is very active on the Category I Committee for STMA. He urged attendees to get involved and to help each other by sharing information.

Guided tours of Oriole Park capped off the afternoon. Attendees got to see many areas that the general public seldom, if ever, sees.

As is customary with chapter functions such as this, friendships were made, ideas were exchanged, and much was learned.



**MAFMO Chapter Field Day attendees get a first-hand look at Ravens Field.** *Courtesy: Trusty & Assoc.*

A guided tour of the entire stadium rounded out the morning. During the lunch break, vendors showcased their latest products. Attendees moved to the other side of the facility in the afternoon for a look at Oriole Park.

Head Groundskeeper Paul Zwaska discussed care at the Major League Baseball field. He gave a fine presentation on infield mixes and preparation, and his crew demonstrated the step by step processes of preparing the home-plate area for a game. Zwaska emphasized that the process was basically the

a presentation by Rich Genoff, sports turf manager for the San Francisco 49ers. Activities will move to the field in the afternoon for demonstrations and a lawn mower competition.

For information, contact Sal Genito, UC Davis: (530) 752-1691.

**Midwest Chapter:** The chapter will again participate in the North Central Turfgrass Exposition (NCTE) Nov. 30-Dec. 3 at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, IL.

For information, call the chapter hotline: (847) 622-3517.

## Chapter news

### Florida Chapter #1:

Rain Bird is sponsoring an irrigation meeting Nov. 17 at the City of Parkland Parks and Recreation Department. It will include a tour of the completed field construction project the chapter viewed in process approximately one year ago.

For information, contact John Mascaro: (954) 938-7477.

### Northern California

**Chapter:** The chapter's Fall Seminar will be held Nov. 18 at the Simpkins Center at San Jose State University Stadium in San Jose. Morning seminar sessions will include

**Minnesota Chapter:** As part of the Minnesota Turf and Grounds Foundation, the Minnesota Chapter will participate in the 1998 Minnesota Turf and Grounds Conference and Trade Show Dec. 9-11 at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

For information, contact Connie Rudolph: (612) 646-1679.

**Colorado Chapter:** The chapter encourages members to attend the Rocky Mountain Turfgrass Conference in Denver Dec. 9-11.

For conference information, call: (303) 770-2220. For general information, call the 24-hour CSTMA hotline/fax: (303) 438-9645.

**Iowa Chapter:** ISTMA will again participate in the Iowa Turfgrass Conference Jan. 25-27 at Des Moines Convention Center. Along with special sports turf educational sessions, the chapter will hold its annual meeting.

For information, contact Lori Westrum at the Turf Office: (515) 232-8222, or fax (515) 232-8228.

**KAFMO Chapter:** For information, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club: (610) 375-8469 ext. 212.

**Southern California Chapter:** For information, contact the chapter hotline: (888) 578-STMA.

**Great Lakes Chapter:** GLSTMA congratulates the winners of the 1998 GLSTMA and Turface Sports Field Products Field of the Year Awards:

**High School Football**

Springfield High School  
Rick Haskins

*Director of Buildings and Grounds*

**High School Softball**

Genoa High School

Mark Cuthbertson

*Head Softball Coach*

**Recreational Softball/Baseball**

Sylvania Pacesetter Park

Boyd Montgomery

*Facilities and Maintenance Director*

**Recreational Soccer Field**

Sylvania Pacesetter Park

Boyd Montgomery

*Facilities and Maintenance Director*

**Professional Baseball**

Akron Aeros Canal Park

Rick Izzo

*Director of Field Maintenance*

The GLSTMA also honors:

**President's Award winners**

Joe Zelinko

*Athletic Field Services*

Boyd Montgomery

*Sylvania Recreation*



**Ravens Field Maintenance Manager Vince Patterozzi shows attendees a cut section of turf.**  
*Courtesy: Trusty & Assoc.*

**Outstanding Commercial Affiliate**

Turface/AIMCOR

For information, contact Joe Zelinko:

(800) 897-9714, or Boyd Montgomery:

(419) 885-1982.

**MAFMO Chapter:** For information,

contact the hotline: (410) 290-5652.

**Michigan Chapter:** For information,

contact Rick Jurries, West Ottawa

Public Schools: (616) 395-2364.

**Mid-South Chapter:** For information,

contact Chip Houmes: (901) 377-

5081, Jim Calhoun: (901) 755-1305, or

Robert Bodi: (901) 383-2414.

**Chapters on the grow**

**North Texas Chapter:** For information on the forming chapter, contact Rene Asprion, Diamond Pro: (800) 228-2987; or Tom Welch, CSM, Central Garden and Pet: (800) 788-9581.

**Arizona Chapter:** The Arizona Chapter will take part in the City of Yuma's sixth annual Sportsturf and Equipment Show, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, Dec. 4 at the Ray Kroc Baseball Complex. Arizona Diamondbacks Head Groundskeeper Grant Trenbeath will be the featured speaker.

Events will include both educational sessions and demonstrations covering irrigation, ballfield maintenance, fertilization, pest identification, and xeriscape.

The third annual Sportsturf Golf Tournament will be held Dec. 3 at Desert Hills Golf Course. Tee off time is noon.

For information on these two events, contact Larry Munoz, Yuma Parks and Recreation Department: (520) 329-2824.

For general information, contact Bill Murphy, City of Scottsdale Parks & Recreation Department: (602) 994-7954; or Kris Kircher, City of Chandler Parks & Recreation Department: (602) 786-2728.

**Indiana Chapter:** Things continue to move forward with the officer and board member selection process taking place and meeting plans in the works.

For information, contact Terry Updike, B & B Fertilizer: (219) 356-8424, or Pat Hickner: (800) 672-4273.

**Wisconsin Chapter:** For information, contact Rich Riggs, R. H. Rettler & Associates, Inc.: (715) 341-2633.

**Nevada Chapter:** For information, contact Ibsen Dow: (702) 649-1551; or Alan Paulson, Clark County School District: (702) 799-8724.

**Great Plains Chapter:** For information, contact Mark Schimming, City of Wichita: (316) 337-9123. □