

Play Ball!

STMA in Action

As spring continues to spread its warmth across North America, field use escalates. Though it's the busiest time of the year for many sports turf managers, it's also a very busy time for STMA chapters, as you can tell from the events listed below.

On-field demonstrations and hands-on training sessions offered at many of these spring chapter meetings provide one of the best opportunities for sports turf managers at all levels of experience to upgrade their skills. A mound building demonstration may be the first opportunity for a novice to learn the basic proce-

dures. The same demonstration may give a group of experienced groundskeepers the chance to discuss their own techniques and explain why they do specific processes a little differently to meet the needs of their own fields and the players who use them. Generally, every attendee picks up at least one idea to take home and put to use.

Chapter meetings held at field sites provide another great opportunity: the ability to get behind the scenes guided tours. These sessions tell it like it is, as Bill Murphy at Scottsdale Stadium and Grant Trenbeath at Bank One Ballpark so ably demonstrated during the Seminar on Wheels sessions at STMA's Annual Conference in Mesa.

These types of sessions showcase the fields as living proof of the field maintenance program presented. They also provide a forum for discussion of why specific procedures are done the way they are at that field, under the circumstances of use, time, climate, expectations, and budget.

So hats off and thank you to chapter meeting planners and coordinators, on-site hosts, speakers, presenters, trade

show and demonstration participants, and all the others behind the scenes who make these chapter events so successful. Because of sports turf managers who are willing to share their ideas and experiences, the entire industry takes a giant step forward.

Chapter news

Congratulations to STMA's four newly affiliated chapters:

Indiana Chapter
North Texas Chapter
Wisconsin Chapter
Tennessee Valley Chapter

Indiana Chapter: Chapter officers and committee chairs are planning the spring and summer meeting schedule. Events will be announced soon.

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

North Texas Chapter: The chapter is planning a field day/golf outing May 20 in Flower Mound, TX. More details will be announced soon.

For information, contact Rene Aspiron, Diamond Pro: (800) 228-2987;

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Grant Trenbeath hosts STMA Conference attendee's at Bank One Ballpark.

Courtesy: STMA

or Tom Welch, CSM, Central Garden and Pet: (800) 788-9581.

Wisconsin Chapter: Board members are as follows:

- Rich Riggs**
Rettler Corporation
- Gregg Knudson**
University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Rich Miller**
Wisconsin Turf Equipment
- Mark Grundman**
Medalist America Seed
- Chris Brindley**
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
- Chris Wendorf**
Olds Seed Company
- Tom Schwab**
O. J. Noer Facility
- John Stier**
University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Greg Freix**
Marathon County

The chapter will hold its spring meeting, a ballfield maintenance seminar with Floyd Perry, April 22 in Wausau. The chapter will also participate in the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association's summer field day at the O. J. Noer Facility August 10.

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

Tennessee Valley Chapter: TVST-MA is planning a spring workshop.

Details will be available soon.

For information, contact Tom McAfee, Nashville Sounds: (615) 242-4371; or Bill Marbet, Southern Athletic Fields, Inc.: (931) 380-0023.

KAFMO Chapter: March 23, KAFMO/STMA is co-sponsoring the Northwestern Pennsylvania Athletic Field, Turf and Ornamental Conference in Meadville, PA. Contact Jeff Fowler for more information on this event: (814) 437-7607.

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

MAFMO Chapter: The Mid-Atlantic Field Managers Organization will hold a two-day irrigation training and installation seminar March 24-25.

For information, contact the hotline: (410) 290-5652.

Michigan Chapter: A March MiSTMA meeting is in the works. An April seminar with Floyd Perry on baseball and softball field care is also in the planning process.

For information, contact Rick Jurries, West Ottawa Public Schools: (616) 395-2364.

Minnesota Chapter: The Minnesota



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Chapter is planning a March workshop at the newly expanded Toro headquarters in Bloomington, MN. More details will be announced soon.

For information, contact Connie Rudolph: (651) 646-1679.

Florida Chapter #1: The Florida Chapter will participate in the South Florida Expo - IFAS in Fort Lauderdale in March. Also planned is an April 20 meeting at Palm Beach Gardens which will focus on construction.

For information, contact John Mascaro: (954) 341-3115.

Southern California Chapter: The So-Cal Chapter will host its "Season Opener" event 2 pm, April 24 at San Diego's Qualcomm Park. There will be a stadium tour, a tailgate party, and admission to the San Diego Padres game.

For more information, contact the chapter hotline: (888) 578-STMA.

Great Lakes Chapter: GLSTMA has two events in the planning stages: a tentatively planned workshop with the Cleveland Browns (date TBA), and an athletic field day and workshop at Ohio State University July 7.

The GLSTMA Web page is now active. Check it out: <http://members.tripod.com/~glstma>.

For information, contact Joe Zelinko: (800) 897-9714, or Boyd Montgomery: (419) 885-1982.

Mid-South Chapter: A joint meeting between the Mid-South Chapter and the new TVSTMA Chapter is in the planning stages for this spring with a mid-state location and the date to be announced.

For information, contact Jim Calhoun: (901) 755-1305, or Robert Bodi: (901) 383-2414.

Colorado Chapter: For information, call the 24-hour CSTMA Chapter hotline: (303) 346-8954.

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

Midwest Chapter: The Midwest Chapter Board will meet March 24 at the Village of Lincolnshire Village Hall.

To provide input for this meeting, or for information on the Midwest Chapter, call the chapter hotline: (847) 622-3517.

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

Chapters on the grow

A new chapter is taking shape in the Kansas City MO/KS area. A March 17 meeting is being planned.

For more information, contact Trevor Vance: (816) 504-4271, John Cundiff:

(816) 525-7600, Bill Tritt: (816) 941-4424, Jody Gill: (913) 681-4121, Gary Custis: (816) 468-6215, or Jay Sutton: (816) 795-8873.

Arizona Chapter: Thanks to those members of STMAAZ who helped with the STMA Annual Conference, especially to the hosts of the Seminar on Wheels and Category I visits. Special thanks to Grant Trenbeath, Bill Murphy, and Mike Varner, who filled double and triple slots.

For 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.

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

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

STMA in Action

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This year's judges were (AL-East) Mike Williams, Tampa Bay Devil Rays; (AL-Central) Roger Bossard, Chicago White Sox; (NL-Central) Dutch McMullen, Cincinnati Reds; (NL-West) Grant Trenbeath, Arizona Diamondbacks.

For more information, call:



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