

s spring continues to spread its warmth across North America, Afield 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 handson 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 procedures. The same demonstration may of group 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

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, onsite 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

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 Asprion, Diamond Pro: (800) 228-2987;

