MAFMO Sports field design and construction seminar a huge success

The 2000 Sports Field Design & Construction Seminar of the MAFMO Chapter was held on Friday, Aug. 4, 2000, in Annapolis, Md. The well-attended seminar covered broad areas of field design and construction, offering insight on many of the various facets that must be considered when preparing for such a project.

The seminar was opened with remarks from Craig J. Zucker, Legislative Director in the Maryland House of Delegates. Don Campbell of French & Associates spoke to the group about field design from the architectural and engineering perspective. Dr. Andrew McNitt of Penn State University spoke about soils and drainage from the agronomic view. Dr. Kevin Mathias of the University of Maryland talked about the playability standpoint of turf selection. Tim Cleary with TORO addressed the group on irrigation issues. Jerry McGovern of Musco Lighting spoke about safety and playability of lighting. The seminar sessions wrapped up with a presentation by Mike Riley of Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission on the fundamentals for successful projects with project management.

Vendors were able to show their wares during breaks and the buffet luncheon held at the Radisson Hotel in Annapolis.

Chapter News

Mark your calendars now for STMA's 12th Annual Conference and Exhibition, "Upward and Onward," to be held Jan. 17 to 21, 2001, at the Tampa Marriott Waterside and the Tampa Convention Center in Tampa, Fla.

Florida Chapter #1: The Florida Chapter will meet on Oct. 17 at the University of Miami. Speakers include: Tim Moore, ballfield coordinator for the Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission on Baseball Infields ("Build Them for Optimum Playability and Easy Maintenance"); Steve Trusty, executive director of STMA ("Professionalism for Sports Turf Managers"); John Rowland, consultant ("Fertility Requirements of GN1 Bermudagrass at the University of Miami"); and Kevin Hardy, University of Florida ("The Baseball Maintenance Program at the University of Miami"). Also on the chapter's calendar are: the Turf Rodeo at Delray Beach on Nov. 1, 2000, and an Equipment Demonstration Day on Dec. 5, 2000, at the City of Parkland. For information on the Florida Chapter or pending activities, contact: John Mascaro at (954) 341-3115.

Tennessee Valley: TVSTMA will hold a Field Day on Oct. 19 at Pringles Park, home of the West Tenn Diamond Jaxx at Jackson, Tenn. Bill Marbet and Rob Bodi will address Infields and Irrigation Problems. On November 5, the chapter, in conjunction with the Tennessee Recreation and Park Association, will tour the Bell South Park Baseball facility in Chattanooga, the Findlay Football Stadium, the Jack Frost Softball Stadium and the Girls Preparatory School track and field facilities. For information on the TVSTMA Chapter or upcoming events, contact: Bill Marbet, Southern Athletic Fields, Inc. at (931) 380-0023 or (800) 837-8062.

Southern California: The Southern California Chapter's First Annual Golf Tournament will be held at Twin Oaks Golf Course in San Marcos on Oct. 25, 2000. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. with a Shotgun Start at 12:30 p.m. For more information on this event, contact Ron Kirkpatrick at (858) 453-1755 or Scott Martinez at (760) 802-6476. The SO-CAL Chapter will meet on Nov. 13 at 7:00 p.m. at Filippi's at 9969 Mira Mesa Blvd. in San Diego.

Mid-Atlantic Field Managers Organization (MAFMO): Join the MAFMO Chapter for a Down to Earth Seminar...Out at the Yard on Oct. 17, 2000, at Camden Yards.
Also on the SO-CAL schedule is an educational program at Mira Costa College from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Dec. 7. A pesticide presentation will be included in the program. CEUs will be awarded. For information on the Southern California Chapter or pending activities, contact: Ron Kirkpatrick at (858) 438-1755.

**Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO):** Oct. 31, 2000, is the deadline for applications for the “KAFMO Field of Distinction” and nominations for the “KAFMO Person of the Year.”

The 5th Annual KAFMO Athletic Field Conference will be held in Grantville, Pa., on Feb. 9, 2001. The event will feature Boyd Montgomery of the Sylvania (Ohio) Recreation Department, along with seminars by KAFMO members, the annual awards ceremony, and vendor exhibits. For information on the KAFMO/STMA Chapter or upcoming events, contact: Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club, at (610) 375-8469, extension 212 or via the chapter e-mail address: kafmo@aol.com.

**Northern California:** The Nor-Cal Chapter will be holding their annual Fall Continuing Education Seminar on Nov. 13 in Santa Cruz at a facility associated with the University of California-Santa Cruz. Details are yet to be finalized, but the event will take place on a Monday (the 13th) to allow participants to combine the meeting with a weekend family outing on the beautiful Santa Cruz beaches. Dennis Suit, sports turf manager at San Jose State University, is chair for the event. For information on the Nor-Cal Chapter or pending events, contact Janet Gift at 530/758-4200.

**Colorado:** The Colorado Chapter will again participate in the Rocky Mountain Regional Turfgrass Association Conference and Trade Show which will be held Nov. 29 to Dec. 1 at the Denver Convention Center. For information on the Colorado Chapter or upcoming activities, log on to the Chapter’s Web site: www.cstma.org or call the CSTMA Chapter Hotline: (303) 346-8954.

**North Texas:** The North Texas Chapter will meet on Dec. 2, 2000, in conjunction with the Texas Turfgrass Association Conference in San Antonio. More details will be announced soon. For information on the North Texas Chapter or pending activities, contact: Rene Asprion, Diamond Pro, at (800) 228-2987 or Dr. James McAfee, Texas A & M University, at (972) 952-9220, or log onto www.ntstma.org to check out the Web site.
Ohio (formerly GLSTMA): The Ohio Chapter will participate in the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Conference in Columbus, Ohio, on Dec. 4-7, 2000. The OSTMA's annual meeting and awards breakfast will be held on Dec. 5 in conjunction with the Conference. For information on the OSTMA Chapter or upcoming events, contact: Joe Zelinko at (800) 897-9714 or Boyd Montgomery at (419) 885-1982 extension 50, or click on your computer to www.glstma.org to visit the chapter's Web site.

Arizona: The Arizona Chapter will meet in Yuma on Dec. 5, 2000. For more information on this event contact Larry Munoz, City of Yuma Parks and Recreation at 520/329-2824. For information on the chapter or upcoming events, contact: Bill Murphy, City of Scottsdale Park, Recreation and Facilities Manager, at e-mail: bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us or phone: (480) 312-7954.

Minnesota: The Minnesota Chapter will again participate in the Minnesota Turf & Grounds Conference and Trade Show. Dates are Dec. 6-8, 2000. Several Conference sessions will focus on sports turf management. For information on the Minnesota Chapter or other upcoming events, contact: Ron Werner at (507) 694-1176.

Iowa: The chapter will participate in the Iowa Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show to be held from Jan. 29-31, 2001, at the Polk County Convention Complex in Des Moines, Iowa. A special sports turf track will again be offered. For information on the Iowa Chapter or upcoming activities, contact: Lori Westrum at The Turf Office at (515) 232-8222 (phone) or (515) 232-8228 (fax) or e-mail: Lori@iowaturfgrass.org.

Gateway: For information on upcoming events or on the chapter, contact: Mark Jennings at (314) 983-5345 or Jim Anthony, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO, at: (314) 977-2956.

Indiana: STMA - For information on the Indiana Chapter or pending activities, contact: Terry Updike, B & B Fertilizer, at (219) 356-8424.

Michigan: For information on the chapter or other pending events, contact: Rick Jurries, West Ottawa Public Schools, at (616) 738-6974 or click on your computer to www.mistma.org to visit the chapter's new Web site.

Midwest: For information on the Midwest Chapter or pending activities, call: The Chapter Hotline (847) 622-3517.

Wisconsin: For more information on the Wisconsin Chapter or pending events, contact: Rich Riggs, R. H. Rettler & Associates, Inc. at (715) 341-2633.

Mid-South: For information on the Mid-South Chapter or upcoming events, contact: Robert Bodi at TURF419@aol.com or Jim Calhoun at (901) 755-1305.

Chapters On The Grow

Kansas City, Missouri - Kansas: For information on MO-KAN STMA, the newly forming chapter, or on upcoming events, contact: Trevor Vance at 816/504-4271; Gary Custis at 816/460-6215; Jay Sutton at 816/795-8873, or Jody Gill at 913/681-4121.

Nebraska: For information on the forming chapter or upcoming events, contact: Gregg Bostelman, City of Grand Island, at (308) 385-5426.

South Texas: A chapter is developing in South Texas. For information on the newly forming chapter or upcoming events, contact: Tom McAfee, Nelson Wollfe Municipal Stadium, San Antonio, at (210) 207-3754.

New York: A chapter is forming in Central New York. The group will meet at 10:30 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the National Soccer Hall of Fame. Interested? Want more information? Contact Kevin Meredith, National Soccer Hall of Fame, via e-mail at Kevin@wpe.com or by phone at (607) 432-2953.

New Jersey: For information on the forming chapter or upcoming events, contact: Jim Gavigan, Lesco, at (732) 248-8979 or Eleanora Murfitt, Director, Township of Clinton Parks & Recreation Department, at (908) 735-5999.