

# 7th KAFMO Conference

## Chapter donates \$1,000 to SAFE Foundation

BY ERIC SCHRODER

The Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO) sponsored its 7th annual Athletic Field Conference in February. The STMA, Pennsylvania Rec & Park Society, Penn State, and 23 commercial sponsors assisted in putting together the program and exhibit.

Kevin Yeiser, Lebanon Valley College (LVC), Annville, a KAFMO board member and 2001 Field of the Year winner, was named KAFMO's "Fowler Founder's Award" winner, a highlight of the daylong event. Accepting the honor named for active member Don Fowler, Yeiser was heartfelt as he thanked his family and long-time assistant Keith Evans.

Special guest speaker Mike Andresen, CSFM, from Iowa State came east and made presentations on two topics: "Successful Tips for Field Management" and "Developing a Maintenance Budget." Andresen said, "Trust your crew and allow them to have ownership of your fields," and use vendors to your advantage. "They see a lot of ground and know what is going on in your area," he said.

Dr. Pete Landschoot from Penn State presented, "Developing Nitrogen Fertility Programs" during which he shared his research into topics such as determining amount of N needed via soil tests and the different sources of N on the market. "Your primary goal should be optimizing plant uptake and enhancing root growth," he said.

STMA Executive Director Steve Trusty also traveled east to update attendees on what's happening at National Headquarters. He also encouraged visitors to the "Members Only" section of the STMA website, [www.sportsturfmanager.com](http://www.sportsturfmanager.com). Trusty also accepted a \$1,000 donation from KAFMO president Dan Douglas to the SAFE Foundation (see p. 48). The chapter later donated \$3,000 to the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council.

The exhibits, with nearly 40 companies represented, were open nearly 3 hours of the day to give everyone a chance to make his or her rounds. Thanks to the many exhibitors who gave this correspondent some face time.

Turfage is sponsoring the Terry Mellor Memorial Scholarship, an award to remember the brother of Red Sox turf manager Dave Mellor. Anyone in the sports turf industry is eligible for this \$1,000 scholarship. You can register by attending local STMA chapter meetings and signing the Turfage roster sheet. Multiple entries are accepted. Money can be used for any turf-related educational opportunity. Winner to be drawn December 1.

Grass Stains Productions jumpstarted the after-lunch awards ceremony with another Seger-inspired video clip and scored again. Kudos to Jeff Fowler and Steve LeGros.

2002 Fields of Distinction winners were Dave Anderson, Hempfield, softball; Scott Whitmeyer, War Memorial Field, Ephrata, soccer; and Jim Koontz, Chapman Field, Mechanicsburg, football. Chris Lessig won the Waddington/Harper scholarship, while Jeremy Menna, Preston Kresovich, and Jeff Borger, all Nittany Lions, were 2003 scholarship winners.

KAFMO's 2003 officers are: President - Douglas; Vice-President - Yeiser; Secretary - Nancy Bosold, Penn State Extension; and Treasurer - Jim Welshans, Penn State Extension. Board members are: Stan Weaver, Upper Dauphin School; Tim Spangler, Central Dauphin School; Neale Magill, Hampden Township; Chris Lessig, Manheim Township; Jeff Fowler, Penn State Extension; Dan Andrus, Lehigh University; Phillip Shirk, Elizabethtown College; Steve LeGros, Hersheypark Stadium; Greg Mayfield, Diamond-Tex; Ben Burns, Hummer Turfgrass Systems; and Mike Dickert, Manor Township.

ST

## STMA Chapter News

**Minnesota Chapter STMA:** The Chapter will hold their Spring Workshop on April 8 at the Metrodome. For information on the Minnesota Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Jeff Hintz, Bethel College & Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota at tel. 651-638-6075 or e-mail: [j-hintz@bethel.edu](mailto:j-hintz@bethel.edu).

**Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA):** The Ohio Chapter will hold a hands-on workshop on field painting at Fremont Ross High School in Fremont on April 14. Experts on painting will share their knowledge and tricks of the trade. For information on the OSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call OSTMA Headquarters at 888-824-9805 or 419-824-9805 or Boyd Montgomery at 419-885-1982; or visit the chapter's website at [www.ostma.org](http://www.ostma.org).

**Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association:** The Chapter will meet on April 18 in Curtis. Brad Jakubowski, Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture, will host the meeting. For information, or upcoming events, call Loren Humphrey at: 402-461-2324 or email to [lhumphrey@city-ofhastings.org](mailto:lhumphrey@city-ofhastings.org).

**Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA):** TVSTMA is planning an April Coaches Clinic at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Details will be announced soon. For information, or upcoming events, call Chapter President, Bob Elliott, Tieco, at 800-239-9547 or Glenn Lucas at 800-837-8062; email to [Glenn@tvstma.org](mailto:Glenn@tvstma.org), or visit the chapter's website: [www.tvstma.org](http://www.tvstma.org).

**Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association:** The Gateway Chapter officers for 2003 were elected at the annual meeting February 4. The officers are: President - Scott Parker- St Louis Rams, serving the second year of a 2-year term; President-Elect/Treasurer - Mike Krone, Missouri Baptist University; Secretary - Donna Howard, Florissant Sod; and Commercial Vice-President - Mike Ridder, Lesco.

The Chapter is planning a spring event to be hosted by Bill Findley of the St. Louis Cardinals. More details will be announced soon. The Gateway and Mo-Kan Chapters of the STMA, in association with the University of Missouri, will present the first ever MU SportsTurf Field Day June 11 at the MU Turfgrass Research Center in Columbia, MO. Please see the Mo-Kan Chapter block for additional details.