Conferences increase professionalism

State, regional, and national conferences give turf managers the opportunity to learn from educational sessions and workshops, network, and establish relationships with suppliers.

Top industry researchers and university educators, as well as by sports turf managers from around the world, conduct most sessions. Many sports turf-specific tracks at state and regional conferences are developed with input from area sports turf managers to meet specific needs. Of course, the STMA Annual Conference is totally focused on these areas.

Sports turf managers recognize the important role suppliers fill in providing the goods and services they need to do their jobs better. Conference-related trade shows create the ideal conditions for making these important connections. Suppliers can show their new products in an atmosphere that allows easy question-and-answer exchange without having managers under pressure to get back to the field. Every meeting of sports turf managers is filled with networking opportunities. These all-important relationships provide the basis for long-term idea exchange and problem-solving connections.

STMA Chapter News

Midwest Chapter STMA: The Chapter will hold an expanded 2-day Irrigation Workshop February 11-12 at Chevy Chase Golf Club in Wheeling.

For information on the Midwest Chapter, or pending activities, visit the Chapter’s website, http://mcestma.org, or call Libby Baker at 847-263-7603 or email Bake60ft6in@aol.com.

Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: The Chapter will be co-sponsoring a Sports Turf Session as a portion of the program of the NCTLC EXPO. The EXPO will be held February 20-21 at the Santa Clara Convention Center.

The Sports Turf Session runs from 1:30 to 3:30 PM on February 20. Featured on the program are: “Overview of the Association and Introduction,” by Bob Milano, University of California; “Synthetic Sports Surfacing: Options, Alternatives and Care,” by Greg Weidbrich and John Burke, Southwest Recreational Industries; “Baseball and Softball Facility Care: Details, Details, Details,” by Mark Lucas and Nick Cole, University of California; and “Equipment Evaluation and Selection for Sports Facilities,” by Dale Getz.

CSFM, The Toro Company,
For information on the Nor-Cal Chapter, or pending events, call Janet Giff at 530-778-5200.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA): The Seventh Annual KAFMO/STMA Athletic Field Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn in Grantsville on February 21. Take the opportunity to view exhibits and visit with the exhibitors. Featured on the program are presentations by Mike Andresen, CSFM, of Iowa State University Athletics, and Dr. Peter Landseroott of Penn State, and panel discussions. Also included are award presentations, the chance to win raffle prizes, and lots of great networking opportunities.

For information on the KAFMO/STMA Chapter or upcoming events, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club, at tel. 610-375-9469, ext. 212; or e-mail to: kafmo@aol.com.

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: The Chapter announces a special 10 percent discount for SFMANJ members attending the 3-Day Athletic Field Construction & Maintenance program presented by Rutgers University February 25-27. For information on this event call 732-932-9271 or visit the website: www.cook.rutgers.edu/ocpe.

For information on the New Jersey Chapter, or upcoming events, call Fred Castenschudson at 908-722-9830 or email to eleanorrmurfitt@comcast.net; or call Janet Gift at 570-758-4200, by Rutgers University February 25-27. For information on this event call 732-932-9271 or visit the website: www.cook.rutgers.edu/ocpe.

For information on the Ohio State University to put on a sports turf short course at the Huntington Club Suite at The Ohio State University on March 4-5. The registration deadline is February 14. Please contact 614-292-4220 to register. For more program information please contact Pam Sherratt at 614-
STMA Chapter News

OSTMA will hold a hands-on workshop on field painting in Fremont Ohio on April 14. Experts on painting will share their knowledge and tricks of the trade. Event details will be available soon on line at www.ostma.org or by contacting headquarters at 419-824-9805.

For information on the OSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call OSTMA Headquarters at 888-824-9805 or Boyd Montgomery at 419-885-1982; or visit the chapter's website at www.ostma.org.

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona: For information on the chapter, or upcoming events, contact Chris Calcuterra at e-mail: chris@pcoriaz.com or tel. 623-412-4231 or Bill Murphy, at e-mail: bnmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us or tel. 480-312-7956.

The Greater LA Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter or pending events, call Steve Dugas, California State University-Fullerton, at 714-278-3929 or email sldugas@fullerton.edu.

Southern California Chapter: For information on the Chapter, or pending activities, call Steve Wightman at 619-641-3106.

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter, or upcoming activities, visit the Chapter's website, www.CSTMA.org, or call the CSTMA Chapter Hotline at 303-346-8954.

Florida Chapter #1: For information on the Chapter, or pending activities, call John Mascaro at 954-341-3115.

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Gateway Chapter, or upcoming events, call Mike Krone, Missouri Baptist College, 314-392-2328 or email krone@mobap.edu.

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the chapter or upcoming events, contact Lori Turak at 770-509-3663 or gastma@earthlink.net.

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

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter, or upcoming activities, contact Jeff Wendel of The Turf Office at tel. 515-232-8222, or fax 515-232-8228, or e-mail: jeff@iowaturfgrass.org.

Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization (MAFMO Chapter STMA): For information on the Chapter, or pending activities, call the Hotline at 410-290-5652.

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA): For information on the Chapter or pending events, contact MiSTMA Headquarters at 517-712-3407, or email Amy Fouty, University of Michigan, at fouty@umich.edu, or go to www.mistma.org to visit the chapter's website.

Minnesota Chapter STMA: For information on the 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.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, call Jody Gill at 913-239-4121, Gary Cusim at 816-460-6215, or Mike Green at 913-208-6156 or e-mail to mo-kanstma@aol.com.

Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, call Loren Humphrey at 402-461-2324 or email to lhumphrey@cityofhastings.org.

Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the chapter or upcoming events, contact in Washington, Jay Warnick at JayW@Seahawks.com or in Oregon, Mike Wagner at MWagner@Oregon.UOregen.org.

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, call Bill Marbet, Southern Athletic Fields, Inc., at 931-380-0023 or 800-837-8062 or visit the chapter's website: www.tvstma.org.

North Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter, or pending activities, contact Rene Aspron at 972-647-5395, or visit the website at www.ntstma.org.

South Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter, or upcoming events, call Craig Potts, Texas A & M University, at tel. 979-458-8841, or e-mail: CPotts@athletics.tamu.edu.

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter, or other upcoming events, contact Bob Studholme, Fairfax County Park Authority via e-mail: Robert.Studholme@FairfaxCounty.gov or at 703/524-8590.

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association: For more information on the Chapter, or other pending events, call Richard Miller at 608-756-1150.

Chapters on the Grow:

Las Vegas: For information on the chapter developing in Las Vegas, contact Rod Smith, Grounds Manager/Cashman Center at e-mail: rsm@fveca.com or at tel. 702-386-7140.

New York: For information on the chapter forming in Central New York, contact Kevin Meredith, National Soccer Hall of Fame, at e-mail: kevin@wpc.com or at tel. 607-432-2953.