

New Space, New Faces at Headquarters

Although there are still many boxes to unpack and review, we are settled and would like to introduce our new location and ourselves to you.

The STMA headquarters moved October 1 to its new location at 805 New Hampshire, Suite E, Lawrence, KS 66044. The move from Council Bluffs, IA, involved transporting 8,500 pounds of files, printed materials, and association history. Although the move took place during that day, the headquarters was up and running with phone service and staff at 8:00 AM October 1.

Our offices are located in the oldest existing warehouse in the state of Kansas. The original stone and wood structure was built in 1857 and was among the carnage of burned and destroyed homes and businesses from the infamous Quantrill's Raid of Lawrence during the Kansas/Missouri border wars.

As the town of Lawrence rebuilt, this was one of the first buildings to be restored. In addition to being a general store, the location was also the long-time home of The Barteldes Seed Co. Friedo Barteldes, the proprietor of a small bakery, decided to add a new line to his business. So he bought a few large sacks of garden seeds, and in his spare time, weighed them out into small sacks that were then displayed next to his bread counter. That was the beginning of the Barteldes Seed Co. In 1875, his nephew took over and established the Kansas Seed House that thrived here until 1962.

In 1998, local investors made the commitment to rehabilitate the historical downtown building. The top two floors of the three-story building were converted to office space. STMA is located on the second floor, with natural stone walls and exposed ceiling beams and ceiling rafters. The building also houses a real estate agency, an architectural firm, and an advertising agency.

Our staff includes Erica Spurling, manager of finance and operations; Leah Craig, manager of member programs; and Kim Heck, chief executive officer. All three come to STMA from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Spurling worked in the Finance and Member Solutions department at GCSAA as the coordinator for accounts payable and accounts receivable. She was also responsible for exhibitor and attendee registration at the GCSAA annual conference and show. She has 12 years of accounting background is looking forward to meeting and working with the STMA members. She and her husband, Eric, have three children, Adam, Shawn, and Emily.

Craig has five years of association experience in member programs, career development, and market research. Before her employment with GCSAA, she was responsible for researching student loan application denials for the federal government, and is also experienced in retail sales. She and her husband, Chris, have one son, Logan.

Heck has 10 years of experience in all facets of association management. At GCSAA she created the career development and student services areas and oversaw the scholarship function. She also participated on the membership growth team, conference and show team, and headed up the brand strategy and market research division. Before GCSAA she was heavily involved in marketing engineering and environmental services. Her background includes advertising agency work and several years in the cellular technology industry. She is involved in the Lawrence community where she serves on several boards and committees. Heck has three children, Jessica, Madeline, and Andrew.



Left to right: Kim Heck, Leah Craig, and Erica Spurling, the new STMA Headquarters staff in Lawrence, KS.

chapter news

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:

Our final show this year was in Yuma on Thursday, December 2, 2004 at the Yuma Civic Center. The Golf Tournament was held on Wednesday, December 1st. Our program included topics on the following: Aeration principles (Dr. David Kopeck), Playground Safety (LandscapeStructures), Seven Deadly Sins of Tree Care (Tina Mckeand, City of Yuma arborist), and Selecting the Right Sprinkler (Nate Gould/Hunter). They were followed by a round table discussion on topics affecting our sports turf members. For more information on the show contact: Larry Munoz at 928/373-5221 or Joel Hubbard at 928/373-5227. For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, contact Chris Calcaterra at 623/412-4231 or by e-mail at chrisc@peoriaaz.com or Bill Murphy at 480/312-7956 or by e-mail at bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us.

Chesapeake Chapter STMA (formerly called Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization - MAFMO Chapter STMA): For information on the Chapter or other pending activities, call the Hotline at 866/818-8873 or e-mail Nick Gammill, CSFM, at ngammill@american.edu.

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter or upcoming activities, visit the Chapter's website at www.CSTMA.org or call the CSTMA Chapter Hotline at 303/346-8954, or contact Chapter President Ryan Jensen at 303/464-5687 or rjensen@ci.broomfield.co.us.

Florida Chapter #1: The Chapter is offering two upcoming regional seminars, they are: January 18, 2005 the FTGA Palm Beach Regional Seminar in Lake Worth, FL and on January 19, 2005 the FTGA

Miami-Ft. Lauderdale Regional Seminar at Pro-Player Stadium in Miami, FL. For information, contact John Mascaro at 954/341-3115 or STMA@Turf-Tec.com.

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association: On December 15, the Chapter will be hosting their annual, year-end meeting banquet. For information on the Gateway Chapter or upcoming events, call Mike Krone, Missouri Baptist College at 314/392-2328 or e-mail krone@mobap.edu.

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, contact Skip Kirby at 770/928-1580 or e-mail skip@sportsturfmanagement.com.

The Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: The Chapter