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 905 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 Quantrell’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 looking forward to working with the STMA members.

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.

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 in 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.

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,_PLAYGROUND SAFETY (LandscapeStructures), Seven Deadly Sins of Tree Care (Tina McKee, City of Yuma Arborist), and Selecting the Right Sprinkler (Nate Gould). They were followed by a round table discussion on topics affording 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 chris@peoriaaz.com or Bill Murphy at 480/317-7956 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 303/464-5667 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 Masaro at 965/341-3115 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
announces the incoming 2005 Executive Board: President, Emilio Avalos, President Elect, Carol Gundlach, Commercial VP, Paul Webb, Secretary, Bill Rudometkin, and Treasurer, Tim Isles. For information on the Chapter or pending events, call Eric Johnson, USC at 213/621-6654 or ejohnson@busaff.usc.edu.

Indiana Chapter: For information, contact Stan Moscrop, Indiana University at 812/886-2256 or smoscrip@indiana.edu.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: Mark your calendars now for the Iowa Turfgrass Conference and Show, January 31, February 1 & 2, 2005 at the Polk County Convention Complex in Des Moines. For information on the Chapter or upcoming activities, contact Jeff Wendel of The Turf Script @ iowaturfgrass.org.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA): The 9th Annual KAFMO/FPRPS Athletic Field Conference will be held Friday, February 18, 2005 at the Holiday Inn - Grantville. Topics to be discussed include grassy weeds, mushroom soil, aeration, worn areas and limited resources. John Mascaro of Turf-Tec International is the featured speaker. There will be a vendor exhibits along with "Field of Distinction" and scholarship presentations. For information call Mike Green at 913/888-8055 or e-mail mgreen865@earthlink.net.

Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association: The Kentucky Chapter's Board members met and determined the dates of their 2005 meetings; they are as follows: February 21-25, The KTC Short Course at the Executive Inn in Louisville - the Sports Turf International is the featured speaker. There will be vendor exhibits along with "Field of Distinction" and scholarship presentations. For information call Mike Green at 913/888-8055 or e-mail mgreen865@earthlink.net.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: For information call Mike Green at 913/888-8055 or e-mail mgreen865@earthlink.net.

Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: For information call Jenet Gift at 530/788-4200.

Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: The Chapter is having its annual lunch and business meeting on December 6th at the Texas Turfgrass Institute & Trade Show to be held in Bowling Green. For more information, check out the website at www.kystma.org or contact Tom Nielsen at TNielsen@batsbaseball.com or Donnie Mefford at dmeff001@email.uky.edu or call him at 859/257-1451.

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): The 9th Annual Meeting & Lunch from 11:30am -1:30pm at Columbus Crew Stadium - cost $210 and you can get more information and register online by visiting www.pware.com/2753. OSTMA is working on other spring and summer events for 2005 and will be announcing them shortly. We will be having a workshop with the Cleveland Browns this year and will have our Fall Field Day in September at the Intramural complex - Fred Beckman Park at OSU. For information call OSTMA Headquarters at 888/824-9806 or 419/824-9806 or Boyd Montgomery, CSFM, at 419/685-1982 or visit www.ostma.org.

South Carolina Chapter of STMA: For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, contact Bob Christofferson at bchristo@mariners.org.

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association: The Chapter is holding their Annual Membership Meeting on January 12, 2005 during the Virginia Turfgrass Council's Conference and Marketplace. For information on the Chapter or other upcoming events, contact Bob Studholme, Fairfax County Park Authority, at Robert.Studholme@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703/330-6590.