



SAFE Raises \$25,000+ at Conference

The Foundation for Safer Athletic Field Environments, (SAFE), STMA's charitable arm, raised \$25,500 at the 2005 STMA Annual Conference in Phoenix in January.

Leading the donations was the Jacobsen/Textron Golf Tournament, which raised \$16,000. In addition, Jacobsen/Textron funded \$30,000 of the tournament costs. Highlight of this year's tournament was a hole-in-one by Luke Yoder, director of field and landscape maintenance at San Diego's Petco Park.

Due to the efforts and hard work of auctioneer Tom Curran, and the help of John Mascaro and Steve Torske, the Silent Auction, Live Auction and Raffles

raised \$9,500. A special raffle, a chance to win a spot on the grounds crew for the All-Star Game, was donated by Heather Nabozny of the Detroit Tigers. Steve Gilbertson, City of Lino Lakes, Chisago City, MN, won the opportunity to work on the crew July 9-12, and will receive lodging and transportation.

SAFE's mission is to support sports field-specific research, scholarship, and educational programs to promote user safety. SAFE believes that science is the key to benefit sports fields in the areas of playability, user safety, and the environment. The results of SAFE's support will assist athletes at all levels with safer playing fields.



Dave Rulli and Steve LeGros catch up at the Jake tournament.

chapter news

Profile

The newest addition to the STMA chapter network, New England Sports Turf Managers Association (NESTMA), brings 219 members into the affiliated chapter program from more than a half dozen states.

Thirteen board members govern the chapter. Serving as President is David Pinsonneault, Public Grounds Superintendent, from Lexington, MA. Vice President Nick Caggiano is the Park Superintendent

in Nashua, NH. The Treasurer, Tim Walsh, holds the position of Public Works Director in Westwood, MA, and Assistant Superintendent Mike Buras, CSFM, from Longwood Cricket Club in W. Newton, MA, is Secretary. Holding the office of Immediate Past President is Mary Owen, Extension Turf Specialist, at the University of Massachusetts.

NESTMA holds an annual summer field day the second Wednesday in August with the proceeds going to the Charlie Mruk Scholarship Fund. Other

educational offerings include free workshops for members in the spring and the fall, held in various New England locations and alternating between professional, school and municipal facilities.

North and South Texas Chapters Merge

A process that began in 2003 has culminated in the consolidation of the North and South Texas Chapters, now known as the Texas Sports Turf Managers Association (TXSTMA).

This action was undertaken to strengthen volunteerism, increase membership, provide more effective governance, and provide more value to vendors. The North Texas Chapter, which was the more established chapter, and the younger, less established South Texas Chapter have been able to collectively build a strong nucleus by combining each chapter's resources. Both chapters had a 100% approval from their members to consolidate into one chapter. A Board of Directors comprised of members from each former chapter governs the new association. The association will host meetings in Dallas/Ft. Worth, San Antonio/Austin, and Houston to provide access to all members.

NESTMA Membership Statistics

