The STMONY chapter has experienced great success in its first year and predicts strong continued growth. When asked about this success, President Mike Albino attributes it to a combination of several things.

First, their chapter structure capitalizes on local involvement. "We bring our events to our members," says Albino. STMONY is segmented into eight zones, and each zone has a zone leader. "We ask the zone leader to set up a meeting place and time, and I do the rest. We have a chapter meeting in one of the zones each month," says Albino.

He schedules the meetings in locations that have had a particularly tough season. "That way," he says, "the meeting and networking sessions can help those sports turf managers solve their problems."

Albino and Executive Director Kevin Meredith attend each meeting. Between the two of them, they know almost everyone in attendance and for those they don’t, they want to put a face with a name. "We want to meet face-to-face, listen to our members, and let them know about how the chapter can meet their needs." There is no charge for chapter meetings and Albino gets a sponsor to provide the food and beverage, so there are no cost barriers to attending. There is one annual meeting for all the zones.

Secondly, the dues structure really provides a great opportunity for multiple members to join. "Our dues structure applies to all members, sports turf manager and commercial alike," says Albino.

Third, Albino has a very focused strategy. "I have identified organizations that would benefit from being members, such as the building and grounds supervisors and the high school athletic directors," Albino says, "and I direct my efforts to getting them to join. I go to every green industry meeting in the state."

Early on he concentrated his efforts on reaching every member of the national STMA in his region and all green industry members. When asked about his approach, he said, "I am relentless. I send multiple emails, and I fixed 600 people with letters and applications!"

Albino credits his company, Ballard Sports, for allowing him the time and resources he spends on STMONY. "I couldn’t do it without Ballard’s support," he says. When asked to project STMONY’s growth, Albino responded, "We plan to grow the chapter as large as STMA over the next three to five years!"

**STMA Chapters**

**Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:** www.azstma.com.

**Chesapeake Chapter STMA (formerly called Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization - MAFMO Chapter STMA):** www.ccstma.org.

**Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association:** www cstma.org.

**Florida #1 Chapter:** 354/782-2748

**Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association:** www.gatewaystma.org.

**Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association:** 770/928-1580.

**The Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:** 909/394-5611 ext. 5174.

**Illinois Chapter** (formerly Midwest Chapter) STMA: 847/263-7603.

**Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association:** www.iowaturfgrass.org.

**Keystone Athletic Field Managers Org. (KAFMO/STMA):** www.KAFMO.org.

**Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association:** www.kystma.org.

**Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA):** www.mistma.org.
Board member Jay Warnick, CSFM resigns

Board Member Jay Warnick, CSFM has resigned his position on the STMA Board of Directors. Warnick has taken a new position at World Class Athletic Surfaces, Inc., effective Nov. 17. Per the STMA Bylaws, a board member who was elected to represent a non-commercial category must resign the board position if he/she becomes employed in the commercial sector.

Warnick was completing his first elected year of a two-year term as the college and university board representative. He was appointed on March 8, 2005, by President Mike Trigg, CSFM to fill out the term of Jimmy Rodgers, CSFM, who resigned his board seat due to becoming employed in a category other than the one he was elected to represent.

By the end of this year, President Trigg plans to appoint a replacement to fulfill the remainder of Warnick's term, which is up in January 2008.

Trigg says, "Jay has been an excellent board member, and we will miss the studied and balanced perspective he brings to our discussions. His absence will leave a void, but I know he'll continue to be involved in STMA through committee service, chapter involvement, conference, and in other ways. We wish him every success in his new job."

Warnick was the Grounds Supervisor for BYU Idaho, where he and his full time crew of 10 managed 33 acres of athletic fields, and 83 acres of grounds and hardscape for the University. Prior to BYU Idaho, Warnick was the Director of Fields for the Seattle Seahawks for four years, the Athletic Field Manager for the University of Utah, and the Assistant Field Manager for the Baltimore Ravens. Warnick will not need to relocate for his new position. He will direct distribution for World Class Athletic Surfaces in the western U.S.

Minnesota Chapter STMA: www.mstma.org.


Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association: 402/441-4425.


Southern California Chapter: 858/679-2526.

South Carolina Chapter of STMA: www.scstma.org.

Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: 866/897-8621.


FORMING CHAPTERS:

North Florida STMA Chapter: 850/580-4026.

Idaho STMA: 208/496-2421.

Nevada STMA Chapter: 702/433-3113.

Quad-State STMA Chapter: 417/836-5963.