

Photo contest coming this spring

The STMA Historical Committee met in late November for the first time to log and develop the acquired collection of Dr. Kent Kurtz, STMA's first executive director. "Doc", as he was admiringly referred to, also served as the association's first historian, and amassed an amazing collection of documents and photographs of the sports turf profession and STMA. Doc's collection included a kind donation from the estate of turf industry pioneer Dr. Fred Grau. In appreciation of Doc's



contribution and the generous donation of the Kurtz family to STMA we will be running a monthly account of the people, places, stories, equipment, and photographs that are important to the profession and association.

Hold on to your photos! Starting this spring, and in order to enrich Doc Kurtz's collection, the STMA Historical Committee will be running a contest each month to see who has the most unique pictures of sports turf specific equipment and significant STMA members. Look for details in this section in future issues! ■

STMA Founder Dick Ericson, left, with rake, worked for many years at Metropolitan Stadium in Minneapolis, a typical multi-use facility of the time that was used baseball, football, and soccer. In this STMA Kurtz Historical Collection photo, Ericson can be seen overseeing his crew mowing, rolling, and painting the outfield in preparation for a game. The equipment in use is a 1950's era tri-plex style mower, roller, and a hand pump paint sprayer. Paint was often purchased at a local paint or hardware store and thinned with water to achieve a consistency that would cover evenly. The most affordable and most abundant latex house paints were used. Through trial and error and other research into paint and painting, sports turf managers and paint companies produced the quality products that are in use today.

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