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!

This photo from the STMA Kurtz Historical Collection taken at Metropolitan Stadium in Minneapolis, shows STMA Founder Dick Ericson's crew using Wooley Weed Burners to thaw out the warning track. Often sports turf managers were forced to come up with innovative ways to prepare the field for athletic competition. Originally designed for use in parking lots for weed removal, Wooley Weed Burners were used by early sports turf managers to dry wet infielis for play and burn off weeds in preparing a seed bed.