

# STMA in action

## SAFE Foundation seeking items for auctions, raffles



The SAFE Foundation (Safer Athletic Field Environments), the 501(c)(3) charitable arm of STMA, is seeking

items to include in its auction and raffles. The STMA Live and Silent auctions and the Raffle are held each year during the STMA annual conference. The next annual conference will be at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort and Conventions Center, January 13-16, 2010 in Orlando. Donated items in previous years have consisted of team gear, sports turf products and equipment, tickets to unique events and attractions, personal communication

devices, travel and entertainment opportunities, and cash. Donations to SAFE may be tax deductible (check with your tax attorney) and member companies that support SAFE will receive commercial member priority points.

Through the auctions and raffles SAFE collected more than \$13,000 during the 2009 conference. These funds help to support the STMA/SAFE Scholarship program, the STMA/SAFE Student Collegiate Challenge, and sports field specific research. In 2008, STMA awarded \$12,500 in scholarships to STMA student members, and provided \$4,000 each to the winning two-year and four-year collegiate challenge competitors. Penn State University's 4-year students and Mt. San Antonio College's 2-year students are using the stipend to develop hands-on sports field specific learning laboratories at their respective institutions.

SAFE also raises funds from the SAFE Jacobsen Golf Tournament. This year nearly \$14,000 was raised from the tournament in San José. More than 100 golfers competed in the Ninth Annual SAFE Jacobsen Golf Tournament held at The Ranch Golf Club. Jacobsen, a Textron Company, has raised more than \$130,000 for SAFE, and will again be supporting the tournament for its 10th year in Orlando. Contributing hole sponsors Landscapes Unlimited and Carolina Green and corporate golfers, Aerway, Carolina Green, Covermaster, Diamond Pro-TXI, Dry Ject/Advanced Agrotech, Game Day, Inc., GreenOne Industries, Hunter Industries, Jacklin Seed/Simplot, Kroneke Sports/Colorado Rapids, Landscapes Unlimited, Richmond Strikers, The Toro Company, and West Coast Turf added to the tournament's successful fundraising. Members also support SAFE through ground level contributions, and the SAFE Foundation annually receives donations from the Toro Giving Program and from Ewing Irrigation.

SAFE is conducting its first in-depth research study on sports field traffic through the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP). This 3-year study begins in October and its results will provide much needed applied research on field traffic and wear to sports turf managers.

Please consider donating an item for the auctions or raffle so that the SAFE Foundation can continue to provide scholarship, research and educational funding to STMA members and the industry. Send your contributions to: SAFE, 805 New Hampshire, Ste. E, Lawrence, KS 66044 and include the following form. ■

### SAFE Raffle, Live and Silent Auction Donation Form

SAFE Auction's to be held during STMA Conference and Exhibition, January 13-16, 2010, Orlando, FL

Donor/Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Item Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Item Value: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping:  Drop Off at STMA Conference Registration Desk on or after Jan. 12, 2010

Ship to STMA Headquarters prior to Dec. 11, 2009  
Address: 805 New Hampshire, Suite E, Lawrence, KS 66044

Ship to Disney's Coronado Springs Convention Center (call STMA to make arrangements)

I hereby donate the item stated above to the SAFE Live or Silent Auction.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to STMA Headquarters via mail to:

Mailing Address: STMA, 805 New Hampshire, Suite E, Lawrence, KS 66044  
Or Fax: (785) 843-2977

If you have any questions, please contact STMA Headquarters at (800) 323-3875 or [STMAinfo@STMA.org](mailto:STMAinfo@STMA.org). A letter acknowledging your donation will be sent to you after the Auctions/Raffle for your records, provided the item(s) listed are presented and auctioned/raffled as described on this form. SAFE is a 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit foundation. Please consult your tax advisor regarding the deductibility of your donation to the SAFE Foundation.

## Congratulations to our 14-19 year members!

In the May issue, STMA recognized its 20+ year members. In this issue, we salute our 14 to 19 year members for their support of and commitment to STMA! It is with great appreciation that we acknowledge the loyalty of the following STMA members:

Year Joined	Name
1990	Tra Dubois
	Brian Deyak
	Michael Tarantino
	Mike Trigg, CSFM
	Russ Nicholson, CPAG
Anthony Koski, Ph.D.	
1991	Richard Moffitt
	Ross Kurcab, CSFM
	Floyd Perry
1992	Steve McQuerry
	John Pridgen
	Michael Boekholder
1993	Kevin Vos, CSFM
	Paul Griffin
	Danielle Marman
	Peter Ashe, CSFM
1994	Abby McNeal, CSFM
	Brian Gimbel
	Lyle Minshull
	Ron Werner
	Mary Owen
	Bob Shumate
	Ron Hall
	Jeff Kershaw
	June Boston
	John Noe
Dan Bergstrom	
Kurt Nilsson	
William McGeough	

## Donations can be fun

By Bryan Wood

While at the national STMA conference and trade show last January, I participated in the SAFE Foundation auction.

For those of you that haven't been to a national show, there is always a silent auction and a live auction. The proceeds from these auctions go to the SAFE Foundation. The SAFE Foundation's mission statement is "To support sports field specific research, educational programs and environmental concerns to promote user safety."

I was the winning bidder on two NASCAR tickets to the Aaron's 499 at Talladega in April. Being the race fan that I am, this was right up my alley. The tickets were donated by Toro, which is a track sponsor at Talladega. My brother-in-law summed it up perfectly when he said, "Next to the Queen of England, Bryan's wife is the last person I'd expect to see at a NASCAR race." But thanks to Toro, we both had a great race weekend. We received VIP treatment in the Toro hospitality tent for the Saturday race, and great seats accompanied by a Toro cookout Sunday. All in all, not bad for a tax deductible donation to a good cause! ■

*Bryan Wood is the owner of Commercial Turf & Tractor in Chillicothe, MO.*

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