

STMA in action

The SAFE Foundation: philanthropy and fun

The Foundation for Safer Athletic Field Environments (SAFE), STMA's philanthropic organization, has an important role at the association's annual conference. SAFE conducts the Live and Silent Auctions, and Raffles.

At the next conference, which will be held at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort and Convention Center, January 12-16, 2010, SAFE will introduce a new Raffle: Pull-Tab Cash Cards. This raffle replaces the 50/50 Cash Raffle and provides opportunities for 130 people to win cash! Each card sells for \$2. One hundred people will win their \$2 investment back, 16 will win \$10 each, eight will win \$25 each, four will win \$50 each and two people will win \$100 each. SAFE will sell the cards at STMA's Registration counter, and winners can redeem their cash from there, too.

SAFE's highly attended Silent Auction will take place during the trade show on Thursday, January 14 and Friday 15th and the Live Auction and Raffle will take place during the Pre-banquet Awards reception on Friday. You can help make these three events successful by donating an item. Any donation is appreciated—team gear, sports turf equipment and products, tickets to sporting events, autographed items, wine, restaurant gift certificates—whatever you wish to donate will be a great addition to our fundraising efforts.

The annual Golf Tournament held in conjunction with the STMA Conference is also a fundraiser for SAFE. Tournament fees paid by participants go to SAFE, and Jacobsen, A Textron Company, covers the costs associated with the tournament. With the 2010 tournament, Jacobsen has been staunchly supporting SAFE for 10 years in row. The tournament will be held at Championsgate Golf Club in Orlando January 13.

SAFE is funding \$12,500 in scholarships for the 2010 school year and \$8,000 in awards to the two top Student Challenge teams. For the first time, SAFE is awarding a \$1,000 grant for continuing education, the Terry Mellor Continuing Education Grant, sponsored by Turface Athletics. The grant is to be used to help a chapter member with expenses to attend the STMA national conference. STMA will provide a complimentary conference registration to the Mellor recipient.

SAFE is also applying to receive grants from other foundations via a grant-writer to help generate funds for the development of educational resources and industry research. The Foundation does receive a generous grant annually from the Toro Company's Giving Program to help fund the SAFE scholarship program. In addition to scholarship, research and education are the primary functions of The Foundation. Although the three-year turfgrass tolerance and wear study SAFE was to fund through the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) was cancelled due to lack of turf trials, SAFE remains very focused on providing applied research to the industry. Sports turf research has been designated as a top priority by the SAFE Board of Trustees. SAFE's Board includes Chairman Boyd Montgomery, CSFM, The Toro Company; Vice Chairman Leo Goertz, Texas A&M University; Treasurer Jay Warnick, CSFM, World Class Athletic Surfaces, Inc.; Matt Armbrister, John Deere; Tom Burns, Diamond Pro/TXI; Chris Calcaterra, M.Ed., CSFM, CPRP, City of Peoria Sports Complex; Ken Curry, Covermaster, Inc.; Amy Fouty, CSFM, Michigan State University; Jody Gill, CSFM, Blue Valley School District; and Gil Landry, Ph.D., University of Georgia/Griffin Campus.

Gifts to SAFE, a 501 c (3) charity, are tax deductible, as allowable by law. ■

Thank you, 10-Year Members!

Congratulations to members who joined STMA in 1999! It is with sincere appreciation that STMA acknowledges your support and commitment to the association.

Members Since 1999

Merett Alexander	Norval Lunan
Richard Alford, CSFM	Tim Lund
Dan Almond	Jeff Macko
Ted Baker, CSFM	Patrick Maguire
Mike Bandy	David Mann
William 'Jay' Beals, III	Eugene Mayer
Kevin Bevenour	Charles Meeks
Jim Biggers	Jamie Mehringer
J. Gregory Blanton	Kevin Meredith, CSFM
Ray Boyer	Jerad Minnick
Darrell Bradford	Elliott McKinley
James Brandenburg	Mark McWhorter
Larry Brandenburg	Robbie Mitten
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Steve 'Tex' Byars	John Mott
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Dennis Easley	Pat Searight
Gregory Elliott	Matthew Selle
Brent Emerick	Mark Sheheane
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Keith Evans	Joel Simmons
Roger Fairchild	David Smith
Thomas Fletcher	Joel Sportel
Michael Flowers	Ken Stein
Burt Fordham	Clay Stewart
Dale Forester	Robert (Dave) Stover
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Jim Gavigan, CSFM	Tony Strickland, CSFM
James Graff	Tim Sullivan
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Brett Grams	Judith Teates
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Philip Hatcher	Cindy Unger
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Chris Hope	Scott Urbantke
Derek Howatt	Charlie Vestal
Ernie Jenkins	Tom Wentz
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Chase Kirby	Joe Wilkins III
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Norris Legue	Alan Wilson, CSFM
Keith Lehman	Murray Wingate
Bruce Lemons	Bill Wright
Art Lewis	Daniel Wright
Sergio Lopez	Kevin Yeiser ■

STMA members win turf manager awards

Tom Nielsen of the Louisville Bats has again been voted as the International League Sports Turf Manager of the Year. Voted on by International League field managers and pitching coaches, the award was established in 1992 to recognize outstanding effort and excellence in the care and maintenance of a baseball playing surface. Nielsen also won the award in 2003.

Dan "Dirt" Douglas of the Reading (PA) Phillies was named winner of the 2009 Eastern League Diamond Pro Sports Field Manager of the Year Award. This marks the fourth time in his career that Dan has been selected as the winner of the award, which is voted on by Eastern League field staff and umpires. Douglas is the long-time president of the Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization and 2001 recipient of STMA's prestigious Harry C. Gill Memorial Award.

Corpus Christi Hooks field superintendent Garrett Reddehase has been named the Texas League's Turf Manager of the Year in voting by league managers and umpires. Reddehase, who has been involved with the grounds crew at Whataburger Field since the building of the facility in 2005, has been the club's head groundskeeper since October 2007.

Ed Attalla of the Southern League's Jacksonville Suns has been named its 2009 Groundskeeper of the Year, as selected by the league's field managers and umpires. The honor marks the fifth time Attalla has been named the circuit's top groundskeeper. Attalla joined the Suns in 2003 and won the award in each of his first four seasons with the club. He was also named the Double-A Field Turf Manager of the Year in 2003. ■

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STMA Affiliated Chapters Contact Information

Special Announcement: The North Carolina and South Carolina Chapters are co-hosting a conference on November 17-18, in Myrtle Beach, SC, at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. The Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association is also holding their annual conference at the Center during this time. The NC/SC STMA Conference & Trade Show is hosting an Athletic Field Tours, Trade Show, and Social on Nov. 17, followed by Educational Sessions and the Trade Show on Nov. 18.

Featured speakers are Kim Heck, CEO of STMA and Larry DiVito, Head Groundskeeper, Minnesota Twins. For more information visit their websites noted in the list below.

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

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

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

Florida #1 Chapter: 954/782-2748

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

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association: www.gstma.org.

The Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: www.stmalabasin.com.

Illinois Chapter STMA: 847/263-7603.

Intermountain Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: www.imstma.org.

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.

Minnesota Chapter STMA: www.mstma.com.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: www.mokanstma.com.

New England STMA (NESTMA): www.nestma.org.

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

North Carolina Chapter of STMA: www.ncsportsturf.org.

North Florida STMA Chapter: 850/580-4026.

Northern California STMA: www.norcalstma.org.

Ozarks STMA: www.ozarksstma.org.

Sports Turf Managers of New York: www.stmony.org.

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: www.sfinanj.org.

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA): www.ostma.org.

Oregon STMA Chapter: 503/953-9406

Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association: www.pnwstma.org.

Southern California Chapter: www.socalstma.com.

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

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

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): www.tvstma.com.

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association: www.vstma.org.

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association: www.wstma.org.

Forming Chapters:

Central Florida: Contact George Lawson, 863-665-5800

Gulf Coast Chapter: 225/757-9136.

Nevada STMA Chapter: 702/884-2987.

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