

Going Once, Going Twice, SOLD! SAFE Needs Auction Items

The SAFE fundraising events are just around the corner, and SAFE needs items donated to make them a success. Held at the annual STMA conference each year, the auctions and raffles fund two very important activities: scholarships and student challenge winning team awards.

Typical items donated for the Silent Auction include team gear, sports memorabilia, gift certificates to restaurants and sporting events, sports field related products and much more. The Silent Auction is held during the STMA trade show, on the show floor, and new items are added daily.

Tickets for the Large Item Raffle are sold throughout the conference with the drawing held right before the STMA Annual Awards Banquet Friday, January 14. Turf equipment, GPS systems, and new many technology devices, such as the iPhone, have been raffled in previous years.

The Live Auction, also conducted before the banquet, has sold vacation packages, race events, one-of-a-kind signed sports gear, unique wines, and much more.

Meet Andrew Hoiberg, a 2009 Scholarship Recipient

"Winning the Dr. James Watson Graduate Scholarship was a huge honor for me," says Hoiberg. He received the 2009 STMA Watson Scholarship, which is awarded to the top candidate who is pursuing an advanced degree in turfgrass research. The award is sponsored by Toro's foundation and is named in honor of Dr. James Watson, a long-time green industry researcher and consultant. "The Watson Scholarship helped immensely with some of the costs associated with graduate school in our current eco-

nomic climate and was a reminder that we all work together in the Sports Turf community," adds Hoiberg.

Hoiberg believes that being in the industry for several years before attending graduate school at Iowa State University was beneficial. "Being a member of STMA for many years as an industry professional prior to attending graduate school, I was aware of the hard work that graduate students put forth to make ends meet and to further scientific knowledge in our community," he says.

His goals are to make an impact on the profession in several ways. "When I finish my Ph.D. at Iowa State, I hope to secure a faculty position where I can further and renew my research objectives, provide extension services for local and national Sports Turf managers, and help shape the future for undergraduate and graduate turf students," Hoiberg says.

He is already has a great start on achieving his goal of advancing the profession. He is presenting twice at this year's national conference. On Friday, January 14, he will be presenting "Research You Can Use: Seedbanking, Seeding Rates, and Increased Nitrogen Fertility." The presentation will focus on his research at ISU, and he'll report findings about seeding once versus seeding multiple times through the season and how these schedules affect turf cover. At a roundtable, later that afternoon, he and David Minner, Ph.D., will be available for questions regarding this research. Please help SAFE continue to award scholarships to deserving students like Hoiberg. Send a donation for our raffles and auctions to SAFE/STMA Headquarters, 805 New Hampshire, Ste. E. Lawrence, KS 66044, or bring them with you to the conference. ■

Meet the 2011 Candidates for the Board

The STMA Nominating Committee has completed its work and presents the following Slate of Candidates to the Membership for the 2011 election. The ballots have been mailed to STMA voting members, and they are due back to headquarters by midnight on Dec. 17.

The Nominating Committee has slated:

For Immediate Past President

Chris Calcaterra, M.Ed., CSFM, CPRP, City of Peoria Sports Complex, Peoria, AZ

For President

Troy Smith, CSFM, Denver Broncos Football Club

For President-Elect

James Michael Goatley, Jr., Ph.D., Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

For Secretary/Treasurer (Two Candidates)

Martin Kaufman, CSFM, Ensworth Schools, Nashville, TN

OR

David Pinsonneault, CSFM, CPRP, Town of Lexington, Lexington, MA

For Director - Professional Facilities

(Two Candidates)

Allen Johnson, CSFM, Green Bay Packers, Green Bay, WI

OR

Chris Ralston, Sacramento Rivercats/Raley Field, W. Sacramento, CA

For Director - Schools K-12 (Two Candidates)

James Cornelius, CSFM, West Chester Area S.D., West Chester, PA

OR

Mike Tarantino, Poway USD, Poway, CA

For Director - Commercial

Rene Asprion, Diamond Pro/TXI, Dallas, TX

OR

Paul Hollis, Redexim North America, Fenton, MO

For Director - At Large

Jeff Fowler, Penn State Cooperative Extension, Franklin, PA

OR

Kevin Meredith, CSFM, Wright Soccer Complex, Oneonta, NY

Returning Board Members (1 year left in term)

Commercial Vice President: Chad Price, CSFM, Carolina Green Corp., Indian Trail, NC

Director - Higher Education: Ron Hostick, CSFM, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA

Director - Academic: Pam Sherratt, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Director - Parks and Rec: Vacant due to David Pinsonneault, CSFM, CPRP slated for Secretary/Treasurer. This position will be filled by appointment of the President per the STMA Bylaws.

To view more information about each candidate, go to STMA's website, www.STMA.org and click on STMA Election information.

STMA accepts ballots through the mail, fax or electronically. Specific instructions are included on the ballot about the procedure to return it to STMA to insure that it qualifies to be counted, yet maintains the voter's anonymity.

The Nominating Committee is comprised of Chair Abby McNeal, CSFM, and members Andrew McNitt, Ph.D.; Mary Owen; David Rulli; Mike Trigg, CSFM; Lynda Wightman, and Steve Wightman. ■