

Where are they now? Following up with 2010 Student Challenge winners

Purdue University

Our students typically begin preparing for the Student Challenge 3-4 months before Conference by attending 1-2 hour review meetings every 2 weeks. Teams begin taking mock exams from September until one week before leaving for the Conference; these mock exams include all aspects covered on the actual Challenge exam. We bring in local superintendents and sports turf managers to cover real life scenarios for the short answer/essay sections and maintain our own greenhouse for turf and weed identification.

Zak Peterson and Joey Gerking will be graduating in May 2012 and are actively pursuing employment upon graduation. Justin Shirley graduated May 2011 and is working as an intern for the Milwaukee Brewers grounds crew. Cody Whitis is currently working in the golf sector in Indiana.

The students chose to use the prize money to help a local middle school (Klondike Elementary) repair their practice pitching mounds on the baseball field and slit-seed and establish a fertility regiment for their football field. The team re-graded the pitching mounds with new clay and set new pitching rubbers. The football field wear areas were prepped to establish good seed to soil contact, slit-seeded and fertilized to aid in good recovery before the season began. Plans are to revisit the two fields to repair any seasonal damage and



WINNERS FROM MT. SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE (L to R): Steve Dugas (coach), Pat Escalera, Kevin Marsh, Chaz Perea, Wade Anderseck, Matthew Janney, Chris Romo, Brian Scott (coach) and Tom Skelton.

apply additional fertilizer as needed. The team also spoke with the athletic director regarding additional maintenance such as irrigation practices and weed management.-Tracy Tudor, graduate research assistant-turfgrass science, Purdue University

Mt. San Antonio College, Walnut, CA

With our winnings we are constructing a 50% scale Little League field for Wiffle ball. It will have a pitcher's mound, turf infield and outfield with skin base paths and an outfield fence. This will be used to demonstrate the many facets of maintaining a baseball field (as well as much needed departmental recreation!). Gail Materials donated the infield mix and pitcher's mound

clay, Hunter Industries donated irrigation equipment, and Spears Manufacturing donated the fittings. Thank you!

We have also installed sports turf demonstration plots for turfgrass identification and observation. These were installed on May 14, 2011 by agriculture students from Buena Park High School and Mt. SAC Horticulture Science students. Many thanks to West Coast Turf for donating the turf and to Sports Field Turf Services for donating the Axis soil amendment.

Here's an update on our team: Pat Escalera is currently employed at Mt. SAC as an equipment operator/sports turf specialist. Chris Romo was just hired at Mt. SAC to help care for the athletic facilities. Kevin Marsh works for Brookside Golf Course as an interim assistant superintendent. Chaz Perea is the landscape manager at Dodger Stadium. Tom Skelton and Wade Andersek work for a water management firm in southern California. Matt Janney is currently not working in this industry.

Pat, Kevin, Matt and Chris are all still in school working toward their A.S. degree in Park and Sports Turf Management. Chaz just graduated with his degree and is teaching an Integrated Pest Management class here at Mt. SAC. He is planning on enrolling at Penn State Spring 2012 using their distance learning courses to obtain his bachelor's degree in turf science.-Brian Scott, horticulture professor, Mt. San Antonio College. ■



PURDUE'S WINNING TEAM (L TO R): Team coach Tracy Tudor, Zak Peterson, Cody Whitis, Justin Shirley, and Joey Gerking pose with Challenge sponsor Hunter Industries' Lynda Wightman.

STMA announces its slate of candidates for 2012

The **STMA Nominating Committee** has developed the 2012 Board of Directors Slate of Candidates and is presenting it to the membership for election. STMA voting members have been issued ballots and can cast their votes via US mail or fax using the ballot, or electronically by following the instructions on the ballot. Included with the ballot are recommended changes to the Bylaws, which if passed, will create a new category of membership, Retired. Voting for the Board of Directors and the Bylaws closes on December 20.

Those slated on the ballot include:

For President James Michael Goatley Jr., Ph.D., Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA; for Immediate Past President Troy Smith, CSFM, Denver Broncos Practice Facility, Englewood, CO; for President-Elect Martin Kaufman, CSFM, Ensworth Schools, Nashville, TN; and for Commercial Vice-President Rene Asprien, Diamond Pro/TXI, Dallas, TX.

There are two candidates slated for Secretary/Treasurer: Ron Hostick, CSFM, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA and David Pinsonneault, CSFM, CPRP, Town of Lexington, MA. The winner of this race will automatically be slated for President-Elect in 2013 and for President in 2014.

Four Director positions are up for election and have two candidates slated for each. Slated for the Higher Education Director are Jeff Salmond, CSFM, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK and David Schlotthauer, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT. Jeffrey Fowler, Penn State Cooperative Extension, Franklin, PA and Brad Jakubowski, Doane College, Lincoln, NE are the candidates for the Academic Director. The Parks and Recreation Director candidates are Debra Kneeshaw, City of Portland Parks & Recreation, Portland, OR and Brian Winka, CSFM, City of Chesterfield, Chesterfield, MO. Andrew Gossel,

Covenant Christian High School, Indianapolis, IN is running against Jay Warnick, CSFM, University of Portland Athletics, Portland, OR for the Director At-Large position.

Two Directors have one year left in their terms. Allen Johnson, CSFM, Green Bay Packers, Green Bay, WI represents the membership segment who manage facilities used by professional athletes and Mike Tarantino, CSFM, Poway USD, Poway, CA is the Director for Schools K-12.

The Commercial Director position is vacant due to the slating of Director Rene Asprien for Commercial Vice President and will be appointed by the President.

Those elected and appointed will officially take office at the STMA Annual Meeting, January 12, 2012, which will be held in Long Beach in conjunction with the Annual Conference and Exhibition. ■

The Value of Belonging

STMA was created in 1981 by four founders: Dick Ericson, Georg Toma, William Daniel, Ph.D. and Harry Gill to advance the profession of sports turf management. They believed that by creating an association for those in the profession information on managing sports fields would be shared, agronomic research and education on field management would expand, and the result would be a stronger sports turf industry. Their vision is now reality.

STMA has more than 2,500 members and 33 affiliated chapters. It has hundreds of educational resources available to its members and disseminates the latest information about sports field management through its conferences, monthly publications and website. The membership has created a culture of sharing and helping others to succeed. This close-knit community networks and collaborates with its peers, which leads to increased learning, personal growth and career progression. This intangible value is what makes STMA unique among professional associations.

Join your peers in becoming a vital member of this professional association. In addition to having access to peers across the country to give you advice, the benefits

are many. STMA members receive:

- Access to the Members' Only section of STMA.org, which has a searchable membership directory, technical resources, educational materials, employment openings and résumés of potential employees and interns for easy recruitment.
- Discounted registration/exhibition fees to attend STMA's Annual Conference and Exhibition—an event unmatched in the industry for sports field specific information and education, and discounted registration to STMA's summer regional conference.
- A subscription to *SportsTurf* magazine, the official magazine of STMA and the industry's leading publication.
- A hard copy Membership Directory.
- A monthly e-newsletter that communicates association, industry and career development information.
- Online access to Michigan State's Turfgrass Information File (TGIF), the green industry's greatest resource for up-to-date technical information.
- Discounts to the University of Georgia's and the Ohio State University's distance-learning programs.
- Opportunity to take a leadership role

through national committee service.

- Ability to enter your sports field in the nationally recognized Field of the Year Awards Program.
- Ability to apply for a scholarship through The SAFE Foundation, STMA's charity (student members).
- Recognition as a professional and access to further validate your abilities through certification.

Go to www.STMA.org and join STMA today! ■

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Add to your Conference experience, support SAFE

The Foundation for Safer Athletic Fields for Everyone (SAFE) will be hosting several fundraising events at the 2012 STMA Conference and Exhibition in Long Beach, CA January 10-14, 2012.

Every donation, big or small, ensures SAFE may continue to support its core purpose of funding education, outreach, research and scholarships to advance the safety and sustainability of playing surfaces and reduce sports field injuries.

The always popular SAFE Golf Tournament will be taking place Wednesday, January 11 at Industry Hills Golf Club at Pacific Palms. The 7,211-yard Eisenhower

Course, lovingly nicknamed "Ike," will play host to the event and provide a challenging, yet fair, test of the game to players of all skill levels. There will be the typical prizes for the top-3 finishers, plus long drive and proximity prizes and a hole-in-one contest. This event has limited space available and registration rates are \$135 per player through December 15, 2011. Rates go up to \$160 per player thereafter. Golf clubs will be available for rental at the rate of \$50 per set.

On Wednesday night after the Golf Tournament, SAFE will host its first ever Casino Night at the STMA Welcome Reception in the Regency Ballroom at the Hyatt Long Beach. Join other conference attendees to support the SAFE Foundation and have a good time in the process. Participants will gain entry to SAFE Casino night, where they can then enjoy many casino-style games and compete to win prizes, including wine, electronics and more. Early registration rates are \$45 and go up to \$55 on-site.

As usual, SAFE will be conducting auctions and raffles on-site. Attendees can purchase entries and bid on electronics, autographed merchandise, memorabilia, equipment and products, and much more at these events. Items in the silent auction will start at just \$5 and raffle tickets will be \$10. There will be some equipment, products or services available in the live auction that may require authorization from your employer and purchase orders will be accepted. Come prepared, as some items are not available at these reduced prices outside of this auction and can provide a great value for your facility or organization.

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Visit www.STMA.org for more information on these events and the 23rd Annual STMA Conference and Exhibition. ■

STMA Affiliated Chapters Contact Information

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:
Chris Walsh cwalsh@scottsdaleaz.gov

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

Florida #1 Chapter (South): 305-235-5101
(Bruce Bates) or Tom Curran CTomSell@aol.com

Florida #2 Chapter (North): 850/580-4026,
John Mascaro, john@turf-tec.com

Florida #3 Chapter (Central): 407-518-2347,
Scott Grace, scott@sundome.org

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

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

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

Illinois Chapter STMA: www.ILSTMA.org.

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

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association:
www.iowaturfgrass.org.

Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association:
www.kystma.org.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Org. (KAFMO/STMA): www.kafmo.org.

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA): www.mistma.org.

Mid Atlantic Sports Turf Managers Association (MASTMA) (formerly the Chesapeake Chapter STMA) Ph. 410-704-2197
www.mastma.org

Minnesota Park and Sports Turf Managers Association: www.mpstma.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

Northern California STMA:
www.norcalstma.org.

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

Oregon STMA Chapter:
www.oregonsportsturfmanagers.org
oregonstma@gmail.com

Ozarks STMA: www.ozarksstma.org.

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

Southern California Chapter:
www.socalstma.com.

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

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

Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:
www.txstma.org

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

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

Chapter Sponsors



STMA gets its share of 8.1 billion hours

The Annual Volunteering America Report for 2011 notes that Americans volunteer 8.1 billion hours! The Report was released this year by the Corporation for National and Community Service. STMA has nearly 200 people volunteering on 22 committees, and they give many hours of service to the association. The charge for each committee differs, but the results are very much alike. "Committees help guide the programs and the services that are important to our members, says CEO Kim Heck. "The ideas and feedback provided by these volunteers help to ensure that our staff is meeting the needs of our membership."

STMA's committee size averages 10 to 15 people, and virtually every committee meets via conference call. STMA's Awards Committee historically held a physical meeting to judge the Field of the Year and MiLB Sports Turf Manager of the Year awards. That process was re-engineered to an online system, so that committee now uses conference calls to complete its work. Depending upon the committee's charges for the year, they may meet via phone as few as twice during the year, or as frequently as twice a month for several months. These calls offer a great opportunity to meet and learn from each other while helping STMA. Appointments are for one year beginning on March 1.

In 2010, STMA created a forum at its annual conference for that year's committee members to attend, meet each other in person and continue any dialogue on projects. STMA is again holding that forum in Long Beach on Wednesday, January 11, 5:45-6:45 p.m. All current committee members will receive an invitation to attend.

Please consider committee service. Sign up using the form below or via www.STMA.org, even if you are currently serving on a committee. The deadline to volunteer for a committee is January 31. President Mike Goatley will be making the committee appointments by March 1.

Here is a short overview of the purpose of each committee:

- **Awards:** To judge the association's awards program applicants selecting the Field of the Year winners and the Minor League Baseball Sports Turf Manager of the Year; to develop strategies to enhance the programs.

- **Bylaws:** To develop association bylaws, which are fair and enforceable, and clearly define the expectations for membership, governance processes and board of directors' service.

- **Certification:** To develop strategies to grow the number of certified members; to consistently monitor the program and recommend enhancements to ensure that the program is the top achievement for sports turf managers.

- **Chapter Relations:** To create a chapter structure that is beneficial locally and nationally; to financially assist chapters with their administrative, operations and educational efforts; to facilitate the sharing of best practices.

- **Conference:** (Conference Education, Exhibition, and Tours subcommittees) To develop all content, sessions, workshops and off-site venues, and select speakers and moderators for the next year's conference that will make it a "must attend" event for members and nonmembers; to recommend strategies that will drive attendance to the exhibition and will add value to exhibitors.

- **Commercial Membership:** To recommend specific strategies to grow commercial membership and to develop benefits and value for our commercial members.

- **Editorial:** To insure that the STMA magazine contains information relevant to the sports turf manager; to provide ideas and contacts for articles for publication.

- **Environmental:** To develop environmental strategies that position STMA and its members as leaders in environmental stewardship and the related health and safety issues that impact fans and players.

- **Ethics:** To provide a fair and unbiased council to investigate claims of ethics violations, determine if the claim has merit, and shepherd the appeals process. (This Committee is called into operation only if there is an ethics violation claim).

- **Finance & Audit:** To provide oversight of the STMA's financial resources by reporting information to the Board of Directors.

- **Historical:** To preserve the history of the association and the profession.

- **Information Outreach:** To develop educational and informational opportunities for mem-

bers to enhance their personal and professional development.

- **International:** To position STMA as a global leader in sports facility management and make STMA the 'go-to' resource for those who work internationally in the industry.

- **Membership:** To develop initiatives to drive membership growth and retention; to recommend programs that add value for each member.

- **Past President's Advisory Council:** To advise the STMA Board on issues pertaining to the past, present and future of STMA. (Limited to STMA Past Presidents)

- **Scholarship:** To judge the recipients of the SAFE Scholarships, the Terry Mellor Educational Grant and the Gary Vanden Berg Internship Grant; to develop strategies to enhance these programs.

- **Student Challenge:** To develop the annual student challenge exam questions, answer key, and protocols; assist in proctoring the exam as needed.

- **Technical Standards:** To help determine standards and best management practices needed in the profession and to guide the work of the ASTM on developing sports field and facility standards.

- **Website:** To insure that the STMA website contains information relevant to members, prospects and the green industry in an easily accessible and consumable format.

STMA also has a Nominating Committee that is appointed directly by the Nominating Committee Chair. The chair is always the Immediate Past President, as defined by the Bylaws. Thus, Troy Smith, CSFM, will assume that role for 2012. ■

STMA Committee Volunteer Form

Committee appointments are for a one-year term of service beginning in March. Please fill out a new form annually.

Name _____

Facility _____

Chapter _____

E-Mail _____

Telephone _____

Facility/Industry Representation (*check one*)

Facilities used by Professional Athletes Commercial Student Schools K-12 Parks & Recreation Higher Education Academic

Name of the Committee on which you are interested in serving:

SportsTurf
MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

Experts on the Field. Partners in the Game.

Return this form to STMA Headquarters, 805 New Hampshire, Ste. E, Lawrence, KS 66044
Fax: 785-843-2977 or via email STMAinfo@STMA.org

DUE JANUARY 31, 2012