

STMA Regional Conference heads to Volunteer country

THE 2011 STMA REGIONAL CONFERENCE will be hosted by The University of Tennessee-Knoxville, June 15-16, 2011. University of Tennessee professors Dr. Jim Brosnan and Dr. John Sorochan, with the 2011 Regional Conference Steering Committee, are putting together a rich program that encompasses both sports turf research updates, tours of the varsity athletics facilities and a tour of the new state-of-the-art UT Center for Safer Athletic Fields. The Tennessee Valley (host), Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia Chapters will be participating, and will be sending mem-

bers from all over the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic states.

While focusing on sports turf managers, STMA encourages attendance by members, crew, coaches, parks and recreation professionals, athletic directors, school business officials, and others, and will be providing education for all levels of sports turf experience. Education will be provided by local professional sports turf managers, academics, builders and architects, all with significant sports field experience. According to Pam Sherratt, STMA Director-Academic, "You will not find a better sports turf specific educational experience out-

side of the STMA Conference and Exposition held every January."

As a special treat, after touring Smokies Park, attendees will get a night at the ballpark and watch the Tennessee Smokies, the Double-A affiliate of the Chicago Cubs, take on the Chattanooga Lookouts.

Registration and Exhibition costs for the 2-day event are still being determined, and online registration will be available for STMA members, so keep checking your inbox and at www.STMA.org for the most up to date information regarding the event.

Five educational resources now available en Espanol

STMA HAS THREE OF ITS MOST POPULAR educational bulletins and two DVDs translated into Spanish. The educational bulletins now in Spanish include *Strategies for Managing Heavily Used Fields*, *Football/Soccer Field Safety and Maintenance Checklist* and *Field Management During a Drought*. These are accessible from the STMA home page of its website, www.STMA.org. Also on the homepage is a link to *Baseball Field Management in Spanish*, funded by Baseball's Tomorrow Fund, an initiative of Major League Baseball and the Major League Baseball Players Association.

Two STMA DVDs have also been translated into Spanish and the viewer can select to watch them in Spanish or in English. *Baseball Mound Reconstruction: A Professional Approach* with a bonus track, *Home Plate Maintenance*, and its companion DVD, *Baseball Infield Maintenance* are available for a special purchase price of \$25 for the set from STMA.

For more information contact STMA headquarters at 1-800-323-3875; to order DVDs, see the form on the association website, www.stma.org and fax or mail it to STMA.

Future Regional Conference Locations

STMA HAS ALREADY secured locations for the 2012-2014 Regional Conferences. In the summer of 2012, the Association comes back to the Midwest in Columbus, OH; the 2013 event travels west to Provo, UT; and the Baltimore, MD area will be the site of the 2014 STMA Regional Conference. This allows those who may not be able to make it the national conference each year to take advantage of the national level education put on by fellow members at these yearly events. The actual dates of these events will be announced in 2011.

Companies announce winners of STMA Conference incentive programs

PIONEER ATHLETICS and Smithco each conducted separate incentive programs during the STMA 22nd Annual Conference and Exhibition; what they have in common is that STMA and its members benefit.

Pioneer Athletics conducted a drawing for five 2011 STMA memberships (or 2012 if the winners had already renewed their memberships). The five who will receive Pioneer-paid STMA memberships are: Rick Covert, San Diego Community College; John Barta, Billings Mustangs; Sam Jones, University of Delaware; Patrick Jonas, St. Andrew's Parish Parks & Playground (SC); and Peter Thibeault, Noble & Greenough School (MA).

Smithco held a drawing for an STMA member's trip to the 2012 Conference in Long Beach next January and the winner was Paige Cruse, athletic foreman for the City of Franklin, TN.

SAFE, Turface Athletics again sent lucky winner to Conference

AGAIN THIS YEAR, STMA presented the Terry Mellor Continuing Education Grant, presented by Turface Athletics. This year's winner of the \$1,000 grant, named in honor of the late brother of STMA member Dave Mellor, was Kevin Fernandez from White Bear Lake ISD #624 in White Bear Lake, MN.