

MO-KAN Chapter aids All-Star effort

WITH THE HELP OF A \$50,000 GRANT from the Baseball Tomorrow Fund (BTF), the MO-KAN Chapter of STMA devoted more than 150 man hours to move 900 tons of material, improve drainage, fix irrigation, and provide an overall facelift to the baseball fields at Cleveland Park in Kansas City. The field work was done with the help of the Boys and Girls Club of Kansas City (BGCKC) in order to bring the facility up to par as the host for the Jr. RBI Classic, a Reviving Baseball in the Inner Cities (RBI) baseball and softball tournament, which was played there in conjunction with the 83rd MLB All-Star Game festivities throughout Kansas City, July 6-10. Teams from as far away as Canada and Florida braved the scorching heat to participate.

The ribbon cutting on was on July 6, where Dave Smith of BGCKC, Cathie Bradley of the Baseball Tomorrow Fund, Kim Heck of STMA, representatives from

the Kansas City Royals, including some former players, the Kansas City Council, KC Parks and Rec, and the MO-KAN Chapter were on hand to celebrate the renovations. BGCKC and BTF were effusive in their praise for the hard work of the local STMA Chapter over the preceding weeks to get the fields in top shape to host this nationally recognized event. Chapter President Vance Rzepka of VSR Design was there and said, "I couldn't be prouder of the work done by our Chapter."

STMA put BGCKC in contact with the MO-KAN Chapter early in 2012 to begin evaluating the needs of the fields. Rzepka and Kansas City Royals Head Groundskeeper and STMA member Trevor Vance then worked through what they thought the site needed and provided a scope of work to BGCKC. With the help of Kissick Construction and LeRoy's Sports Fields out of Kansas City, the project

wrapped up just in time for the first pitch and fields are poised to host many other games and the BGCKC's 800-player league for years to come. ■

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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

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

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

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

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association:
www.wstma.org

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