This new monthly feature will honor the people, places and equipment that helped to create the foundation for our association and advance the sports turf management profession. The “Doc” in Doc’s Dugout refers to the late Dr. Kent Kurtz, who spearheaded the initial effort to preserve the history of STMA.

Joe Torre, former player, manager and broadcaster with the California Angels speaking at STMA’s 1987 Conference during the Awards banquet. The conference was held at the Hyatt Regency in Phoenix, AZ. During his speech about the impact that a turf manager/groundskeeper has on the game he commented, “The Sports Turf Managers Association is going to be the driving force behind the improvement and maintenance of the field surfaces throughout the country. STMA’s purpose in educating its members is to be commended.” With Torre, L to R, are: Mark Hodnick (STMA Past President 1988); Bill Wrobel; and Steve Wightman (STMA Past President 1985-1987).

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