SAFE hires intern and expands educational outreach

The Foundation for Safer Athletic Fields for Everyone (The SAFE Foundation) has hired a summer intern. Kenzie Jay, who will be a senior in the fall in Strategic Communications at the University of Kansas, is focused on developing content for SAFE’s website, SafeFields.org. She is interviewing previous scholarship and grant recipients to find out where they are today, promoting and soliciting for SAFE’s annual fundraising events, and expanding its social media presence.

In addition, she will be working on SAFE’s new educational videos that target volunteers, parents, coaches and youth athletes on how to maintain a field. SAFE’s videos will be available at SafeFields.org in late summer.

Awards Programs: Field of the Year & Innovative applications are ready

Two of STMA’s important awards programs have updated applications online. Go to STMA.org and click on the Professionalism tab, then on each awards program.

Field of the Year recognizes those members who have managed their fields using ingenuity, solid maintenance and cultural programs, and environmental stewardship, while maximizing budget dollars and resources. Awards are given to fields for baseball, softball, soccer, football and sporting grounds at the schools/parks level, collegiate level and professional level. Winners are recognized with a plaque presented at the STMA Awards Banquet, signature clothing, and in an issue of Sports Turf magazine. Three complimentary hotel nights at the STMA conference are also provided to winners.

The Innovative Award program has been adjusted to provide more value to STMA’s commercial members. For the 2015 awards program, which will be judged this year, commercial members have a 2-year time period in which to introduce a new product, service, or piece of equipment and apply for an Innovative Award. Previously, it was one year; it had to be introduced sometime following the current exhibition and shown at the next exhibition. The new, 2-year time period will allow those submitting the opportunity to apply two times for an innovative award with that same innovation. This will provide more time for the innovation to garner visibility, testimonials and real-world use.

President David Pinsonneault appointed a new task group, the Innovative Awards Task Group, to review previous procedures because no Innovative Awards were given this year. In addition to the expanded time period for introduction, the Task Group recommends that a separate committee of non-commercial members judge the program, rather than the Awards Committee, which is heavily involved in judging the Field of the Year and Minor League Baseball Sports Turf Manager of the Year. More media promotion of the winning innovation is also being planned in addition to its current recognition. STMA presents its winner(s) with an award during the trade show, signage at the trade show, recognition during the annual awards banquet, and authorizes the use of a special logo for the winning innovation.

The Task Group encourages commercial companies to submit for this program. It is very important to the judging process to include why the company believes their product, service or equipment is innovative, and explain how it is being used in the marketplace to substantially enhance the effectiveness of the sports turf manager and/or make the playing surface safer and more playable. The Task group gives a broad definition to the meaning of innovation: products, services or equipment that are cutting edge and have never been seen.

The Task Group is chaired by Rene Asprion, and its members include Steve Bush, CSFM, Ben Polimer, Chad Price, CSFM, CFB and Matt Tobin.

The applications for both the Field of the Year and the Innovative programs are due October 15.
Standout students receive special one-time Watson Scholarship from Toro

To celebrate its centennial (100 years in business) year, the Toro Company recently requested and received applications for a special one-time scholarship. Several standout students were awarded the scholarship. They are Andrew Wilhelm, Purdue University; Kevin Hansen, Iowa State University; and Christie Segars, Oklahoma State University.

Three $2,000 scholarships were awarded through the SAFE Foundation, STMA’s charitable foundation, to deserving collegiate students who have at least one semester of education to complete before graduating. The scholarships were awarded to students who will attain a degree in sports turf management or comparable field of study from a two-year, four-year or graduate program.

In addition to the cash award, the students will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to the Toro Sports Fields and Grounds Forum, being held July 28-31, 2014 in Minneapolis.

STMA recognizes its 5 & 10 year members

Thank you to STMA members who have reached the 5-year and 10-year milestones of membership. We salute you for your commitment to the profession! Through your support, you strengthen the industry, and you make possible STMA’s continued development of resources and educational programs that are the foundation of the value of membership.

These members received their service pins in May.

5-YEAR

Adamski Julie
Altamuro Ian
Atkins Jeremy
Baldino Ron
Bardell Tracy
Barnes Joshua
Beggs Andrew
Bell Kevin
Bland Justin
Bonneau Mark
Breeden Gregory
Brown Thomas
Bryant Aaron
Buckner Tab
Burls Brannon
Byron Bill
Compaú James
Cook Daniel
CroB Dale
CroSeC Ken
Dan Vlad
Dickson Kyley
Eberhart Shaun
Eddington Jock
Emanuel Jeff
Fleming Tim
Gerth Joshua
Gianoli John
Gilbert Jeff
Gonzalez Frankie Jr.
Goyne Thomas
Grefrath Phillip
Hardy Kevin CSFM
Hooten Mitchell
Hopkins Michael
Horne Logan
Huester Gene
Huffman Rick
Hunt Joel
Jacobson Jerry
Jennings Dan
Johnson Andrew
Johnson Rob
Johnson ScoO
Kirsch Thomas
Kline Blaine
Koester Jason CGCS
Kolander Kelly
Lansdowne Jeff
Lauer Christopher
LeBlanc Robert
Lock Ryan

Mardesich John
Mast William
McCaskill David
Merrell Kenneth
Mitchusson Mahow
Moffat Mark
Moray Michael
Mueller Jason
Mueller Jason
Nagelhout Garald Jr.
Peters George
Peters James
Peters Neph
Picha Donald
Pifer Tom
Powers Bryant
Reams Chris
Rolli JoLynda
Schader Troy
Schiller Mahow
Schools Brian
Schoonmaker Brink
Shaw Sean
Simons Zach
Snide Connor
Soper Michael
Spacone David

Spier Donald
Steinman Alexander
Stokes Brian
Stokka Dave
SuOon Ken
Taylor Kevin CSFM
Thompson David
Tucker Wayne
Umeda Kai
Vandyne Jim
Watson Stephen
Wolsfeld Bill

10-YEAR

Allgood Dave
Alterio Chad
Appelfeller Weston CSFM
Ashworth Scott
Avellino Arthur
Balough Matt
Bergdoll James CSFM
Betulius Joe
Boetcher Michael
Borgen Cory
Bosserd Andrew
Bowell Jack
Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona: www.azstma.org

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@sun dome.org


Intermountain Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: http://minstma.blogspot.com/

Indiana - Contact Clayton Dame, Claytondame@hotmail.com or Brian Bornino, bornino@purdue.edu or Contact Joey Stevenson, jstevenson@indyindians.com


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


Oklahoma Chapter STMA: 405-744-5729; Contact: Dr. Justin Moss okstma@gmail.com

Oregon STMA Chapter: www.oregonsports turfmanagers.org


Southern California Chapter: www.socalstma.org.

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


Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: www.txstma.org


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