

# A summer with SAFE: an intern's diaries

**T**he SAFE Foundation strives to champion safe, sustainable sports and recreation fields for all athletes, and I had the amazing opportunity to intern for them this summer. As a student at the University of Kansas, I was pleased to discover such an amazing non-profit so close to my heart right here in Lawrence! I played competitive softball for 15 years growing up, and understand how critical it is to have safe fields for athletes to play on. Even during my college career, intramurals depended on safe fields to ensure a fun and successful game.

I got to work on a variety of projects as an intern for the SAFE Foundation. Not only did I get to learn what the SAFE Foundation was all about, but I also got to help improve the foundation for the future. From an intern's perspective, you can't really get a better opportunity than that.

Over the course of the summer I had many different things on my plate, but the main focus was the scholarship anniversary articles. As seen in the August issue of *SportsTurf*, and also in the upcoming November issue, I got the opportunity to interview and talk with some amazingly successful people about their scholarship experience through SAFE. Speaking with those celebrating their 10-year

and 20-year anniversary since receiving their scholarship, I was able to learn how the SAFE scholarships can benefit students and their future careers. The best part about speaking with these individuals was what they had to say about the sports turf community. Every person I talked to raved about the camaraderie and friendships they had within the industry, and how receiving their scholarship and being introduced to STMA was a great launching point.

Most of these friendships rekindle when they join forces at STMA's Annual Conference. Since the SAFE Foundation's funding greatly benefits from the raffles, auctions and events at the conference, my responsibilities included promoting and requesting donations for these events. I also did a little investigation into more options for our silent auction for women. Looking into such options as athletic wear to a relaxing spa day, SAFE is hoping to cater toward the women of our industry.

Another main task for me this summer was working on the SAFE Foundation's social media and website. Since more and more people are taking to the internet and smart phones to find information, my job was to help find ways to make this more accessible to

*Continued on page 49*

## STMA Affiliated Chapters Contact Information

**Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:** [www.azstma.org](http://www.azstma.org)

**Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.cstma.org](http://www.cstma.org)

**Florida #1 Chapter (South):**  
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**Florida #2 Chapter (North):** 850-580-4026,  
John Mascaro, [john@turf-tec.com](mailto:john@turf-tec.com)

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

**Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.gatewaystma.org](http://www.gatewaystma.org)

**Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.gstma.org](http://www.gstma.org)

**Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.stmalabasin.com](http://www.stmalabasin.com)

**Illinois Chapter STMA:** [www.ILSTMA.org](http://www.ILSTMA.org)

**Intermountain Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:** <http://imstma.blogspot.com/>

**Indiana -** Contact Clayton Dame, [Claytondame@hotmail.com](mailto:Claytondame@hotmail.com) or Brian Bornino, [bornino@purdue.edu](mailto:bornino@purdue.edu) or Contact Joey Stevenson, [jstevenson@indyindians.com](mailto:jstevenson@indyindians.com)

**Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.iowaturfgrass.org](http://www.iowaturfgrass.org)

**Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.kystma.org](http://www.kystma.org)

**Keystone Athletic Field Managers Org. (KAFMO/STMA):** [www.kafmo.org](http://www.kafmo.org)

**Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA):** [www.mistma.org](http://www.mistma.org)

**Minnesota Park and Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.mpstma.org](http://www.mpstma.org)

**MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.mokanstma.com](http://www.mokanstma.com)

**New England STMA (NESTMA):** [www.nestma.org](http://www.nestma.org)

**Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey:** [www.sfmanj.org](http://www.sfmanj.org)

**Sports Turf Managers of New York:** [www.stmony.org](http://www.stmony.org)

**North Carolina Chapter of STMA:** [www.ncsportsturf.org](http://www.ncsportsturf.org)

**Northern California STMA:** [www.norcalstma.org](http://www.norcalstma.org)

**Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA):** [www.ostma.org](http://www.ostma.org)

**Oklahoma Chapter STMA:** 405-744-5729;  
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**Oregon STMA Chapter:** [www.oregonsportsturfmanagers.org](http://www.oregonsportsturfmanagers.org)  
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**Ozarks STMA:** [www.ozarksstma.org](http://www.ozarksstma.org)

**Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.pnwstma.org](http://www.pnwstma.org)

**Southern California Chapter:** [www.socalstma.com](http://www.socalstma.com)

**South Carolina Chapter of STMA:** [www.scstma.org](http://www.scstma.org)

**Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA):** [www.tvstma.com](http://www.tvstma.com)

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