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First-ever Terry Mellor Continuing Education Grant Presented by SAFE

ddie Atherton of the City of Owensboro, KY has received the first Terry Mellor Continuing Education Grant, awarded by The SAFE Foundation, STMA's philanthropic arm. This \$1,000 grant is funded through a generous donation from Turface Athletics.

The grant funded a portion of the Atherton's attendance at the STMA Conference last month, where he was recognized at the association's annual Awards Banquet. In addition to the cash grant, SAFE funded a free conference registration.

The grant is named in honor of the late Terry Mellor, the brother of Red Sox Director of Grounds David Mellor, who died at the age of 43. He was very involved in his community and was named volunteer of the year for the state of Wisconsin for the Special Olympics. He was a strong supporter of continuing education and this grant honors his passion.

The STMA scholarship Committee, who judges the SAFE Scholarship winners each year, selected Atherton based on a letter of recommendation. The letter was sent in by Marcus Dean, CSFM, from the University of Kentucky and the Kentucky Chapter's President, who cited Atherton's "dedication, efficiency and attitude," in his letter.

This grant will be offered again for the 2011 STMA Conference in Austin, TX. Please keep an eye out for the nomination form and more information by mid-2010.

New Membership Pins

At the STMA recent conference, STMA unveiled its Membership Pin Program and distributed membership pins to recognize those members who have supported STMA for 5 years, 10 years, 15 years, 20 years and 25 years. If your years of support are in between, i.e. 8 years, you will receive the 5-year pin. Pins will be mailed in February to those who were unable to attend the conference. Thank you for your continued support of STMA. We sincerely appreciate it!



Celebrating 8 years of membership!

THANK YOU to these members who joined STMA in 2002. We appreciate your continued support of STMA, and look forward to your continued membership with us!

Ron Adams Mike Albino Dave Anderson Whitey Anderson Mark Bachmann Gary Ballingham Ron Barendt Mark Berry Pat Berger, CGCS Karsten Blackwelder Rick Bold, CSFM TJ Brewer **George Brothers** Mark Brown Scott Burt Chris Casper Eddie Chittom **Bob Christofferson** Webb Cook Sean Connell Ken Curry Marty Curtis Mike Davis James Dobmeier

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Dale Sellner Ryan Sherwood Phil Shirk Blake Siler Jimmy Simpson, CSFM Joseph Sirgany Kim Spearman Joey Stevenson Andrew St. Julian **Bruce Suddeth** Paul Syracuse **Emory Thomas** Todd Tribble Walter Tucker Joseph Vocke Clint Waltz, Ph.D. Jack Warner Michael Weddle Chad Wheeler Tim Wilson Cory Wisinski Paul Young

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2009 SAFE Scholarship Winners

Graduate Scholarships

Dr. James Watson Graduate Scholarship - \$2,500

Andrew Hoiberg, Iowa State

Brian McDougal, Michigan State

Kyley Dickson, Tennessee

Four Year Scholarships

Dr. James Watson Undergraduate Scholarship - \$2,500 SAFE Undergraduate Scholarship - \$2,000 SAFE Undergraduate Scholarship - \$1,000

Two Year Scholarships

Dr. Fred Grau Memorial Scholarship - \$1,500 SAFE Two Year Scholarship - \$1,000 Ryan McGillivray, Massachusetts

Kent Dickerson, Georgia, Eric Haub, Purdue, Zack Severns, Washington State

Patrick Escalera, Mt. San Antonio College

he Foundation for Safer Athletic Field Environments (SAFE) was created to provide research, educational programs, and scholarships geared to sports field specific endeavors. The level of scholarship funding has steadily increased since the scholarship programs inception in 1999 and in 2009 we awarded \$12,500 to eight recipients in two-year, four-year, and graduate level categories. Since the scholarship program's beginning, SAFE has awarded more than \$150,000 in scholarship and travel to the STMA Conference and Exhibition.

Judging criteria: A panel of eight judges independently scored each entry based on each students academic preparation, experience in the sports turf management industry, professional goals, extracurricular activities, and input from academic advisors and employers. Each student also wrote an essay describing his or her background and career aspirations.

Scholarship Program Supporters: The TORO Foundation provides generous support for the Dr. James Watson Scholarship winners. Jacobsen supports the SAFE Scholarship Program through the SAFE/Jacobsen Golf Tournament held at the STMA Conference each year. The program is also supported through individual and corporate donations made throughout the year and proceeds from the Live and Silent Auctions and raffle held each year on the STMA Trade Show Floor. These sponsors fund a stipend for each recipient to attend the STMA annual conference (including lodging) and a scholarship ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,500.

Recognition: Scholarship recipients had their financial aid mailed directly to their university, with a check made out jointly to them and their schools financial aid office. The students were recognized during the Annual STMA Awards Banquet at the 21st Annual STMA Conference and Exhibition held at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort and Convention Center in Lake Buena Vista, FL.

STMA recognizes STA as first International Affiliate Organization

he Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) is very pleased to announce that it is recognizing its first International Affiliate Organization, the Sports Turf Association (STA) headquartered in Guelph, ON, Canada. The STA was formed in 1987 to promote better, safer sports turf through innovation, education and professional programs. STA and STMA will collaborate and share information and educational resources.

To be an International Affiliate, the organization must be recognized as a business entity in their country and provide proof to STMA annually; develop bylaws or other governing documents; and have a governing Board of Directors. The STA meets these requirements and officially became an STMA International Affiliate Organization last November.

In addition to sharing information and resources, STMA will list the STA on its website as an International Affiliate Organization, provide one membership annually to the President of the STA, and will offer to the membership of the STA conference registration and education and training resources at STMA member rates.

Outgoing STMA President Abby McNeal,

CSFM was enthusiastic about the new partnership. "Officially establishing a relationship with the STA will help to connect our memberships and allow us to collaborate on issues common across the profession," said McNeal. "Our Board of Directors has much respect for the work of the STA, and we know we will learn from them."

Gord Dol, STA President, concurred. "We believe that this is an important step forward in establishing an information conduit for organizations around the world to share research, knowledge, and experience for the advancement of everyone involved in the sports turf industry."

STMA Affiliated Chapters Contact Information

Special Notes: The Chesapeake Chapter is re-establishing as the Mid Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization. The forming Central Florida Chapter has secured 43 signatures for its official documentation to become an affiliated chapter.

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona: www.azstma.com.

Chesapeake Chapter STMA (formerly Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization – MAFMO Chapter STMA): www.ccstma.org. * See note abaove

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association: www.cstma.org.

Florida #1 Chapter: 954/782-2748

Florida #2 Chapter: 850/580-4026.

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association: www.gatewaystma.org.

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association: www.gstma.org.

The Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: www.stmalabasin.com.

Illinois Chapter STMA: 847/263-7603.

Intermountain Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: www.imstma.org. Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: www.iowaturfgrass.org.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Org. (KAFMO/STMA): www.kafmo.org.

Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association: www.kystma.org.

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA): www.mistma.org.

Minnesota Chapter STMA: www.mstma.com.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: www.mokanstma.com.

New England STMA (NESTMA): www.nestma.org.

Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association: 402/441-4425.

North Carolina Chapter of STMA: www.ncsportsturf.org.

Northern California STMA: www.norcalstma.org.

Ozarks STMA: www.ozarksstma.org.

Sports Turf Managers of New York: www.stmony.org.

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: www.sfmanj.org.

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA): www.ostma.org.

Oregon STMA Chapter: 503/953-9406

Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association: www.pnwstma.org.

Southern California Chapter: www.socalstma.com.

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

Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: 866/897-8621.

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

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

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association: www.wstma.org.

Forming Chapters:

Central Florida: Contact George Lawson, 863-665-5800 (See note above)

Gulf Coast Chapter: 225/757-9136.

Nevada STMA Chapter: 702/884-2987.

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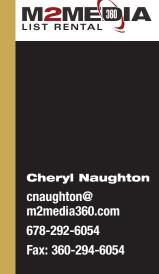
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	Hydraway Drainage		
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BY DR. DAVID MINNER

Professor, Iowa State University

Questions? Send them to David Minner at Iowa State University, 106 Horticulture Hall, Ames, IA 50011 or email dminner@iastate.edu.

Or, send your question to Grady Miller at North Carolina State University, Box 7620, Raleigh, NC 27695-7620, or email grady_miller@ncsu.edu.



Are you asking the right question?

he questions we ask, not the answers we seek, often show us the way. We focus on a specific aspect of sports turf management until a task is completed or a problem is solved. We are driven and that is good.

For me it is the high traffic sections of fields that get worn to dust. I make it a goal to hit every traffic-related talk at the STMA National Conference and there were several good ones last month. But I also noticed a profound change that shows the awareness and growth of STMA. The general public is beginning to

a dedicated professional that honestly cares about the players who compete on their fields. But what they don't realize is that many sports turf managers also have a real affinity for preserving and protecting the land we live and play upon.

Kevin Trotta (turfip mguy@aol.com), Mary Owen (mowen@umext.umass.edu), Kevin Mercer

(ksmercer@smcm.edu), and Roger Miller (rmiller@blackhawk.edu) gave excellent presentations on sustainable and eco-friendly practices that sports turf managers can implement at their facilities. A first step for many may need to be backward. Look away from the fields and toward everything you do off the field for a moment. You may be the steward of a considerable piece of property that requires many resources and accumulates much waste. How would today's society grade your environmental report card?

Many sport facilities contain considerable acreage that is not specifically used for traditional sports. Does the water that flows onto your property leave cleaner than it arrived? Where do all those drains go and what is in them? Are you the steward of the water while it is on your property? Are bioswales, containment areas, and roof/rain gardens part of your water management plan?

We know all about the cleats that trample our field but do we know anything about the carbon foot print we leave on the earth? Before stepping from the shop to the grass you can reduce your carbon foot print by recycling. Here is a great publication from our friends in the golf industry to get you started: "Golf Course Pollution Prevention Guide"

(http://www.iwrc.org/downloads/pdf/golfcourse04.pdf).

Many of our fields require intense maintenance for their intended use: to sustain a safe playing surface. Let's take mowing for example. Mowing increases our carbon foot print because it requires fuel and creates carbon emissions. Do double-cutting and mowing intricate patterns unnecessarily increase the carbon foot print? This is offered as an example, not a judgment. Asking the

> right question shows that you are beginning to understand the role sports turf can play in a sustainable society.

Another great organization to partner with is the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program. There are more than 500 golf courses certified in this program but only a few athletic facilities. I know this program and it is a perfect fit for many athletic facilities across the country. The program includes: site assessment and environmental plan-

ning, wildlife and habitat management, water, resource management, and certification. Upon certification in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program, you and your facility will be immediately recognized for your stewardship within the community and that is a good thing for the sports turf industry. Contact Jim Sluiter, 518-767-9076 or jsluiter@auduboninternation al.org or check out the website to get started (http://acsp.auduboninternational.org/).

The four work horses listed above are certainly leading the way toward sustainable sports fields and I want to give a special shout out to STMA member Kevin Mercer and his Saint Mary's College of Maryland team for becoming a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary (see July 2009 *SportsTurf* p. 24). Kevin's facility is about 70 miles from where I grew up in Seaford, DE. It is nice to know that he is SUSTAINING that precious estuary around the Chesapeake Bay. I'll be back in late summer for some soft shell crabs; a couple 6-inch peelers on white bread will do me just fine, Kevin—and I'm buying. ■

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