

South Central



SOD PRODUCERS PLAN CONCLAVE

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The American Sod Producers Association's Summer Convention & Field Days will be held at Thomas Bros. Grass Co. here July 14-16.

An educational program and the ASPA annual business meeting will kick off the convention July 14, including election of officers and recognition of those completing terms on the board of trustees.

Thursday and Friday are demonstration days at Thomas Bros., including a tour of the company at 9:15 a.m. Friday.

More information is available from the ASPA at 708-705-9898.

Mountains



UTAH DEQ HEAD WANTS BALANCE

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — Dr. Dianne R. Nielson, the new executive director of the Utah Department of Environmental Quality, says she will strive for balance in considering the impact of economic development on the environment.

Appointed on Jan 4, Nielson, a geologist, said in the DEQ newsletter that she believes everything is interconnected and "environmental quality, environmental protection is part of that connection. It is a balance: What we do as individuals with our lifestyles, how we work with industry and the land, how industries, governments and individuals operate within our state."

While maintaining that the environment is precious, she added: "We also need to look at workable business regulation. That means if an operator comes to us requesting a permit, we need to realize the operator is our customer."

Nielson said she will seek ways to find workable ways to facilitate a discussion.

"There are regulations we need to follow, and we need to make sure those are enforced," she said. "But we must also ask how we can best facilitate the project within the requirement of regulations."

ROCKY MOUNTAIN FUNDING

The Rocky Mountain Regional

Turfgrass Association has awarded \$32,000 to the Rocky Mountain Turfgrass Research Foundation.

The foundation uses these proceeds to fund turfgrass research and provide scholarships to outstanding students.

Over the past five years, the Turfgrass Association has donated over \$120,000 to the Turfgrass Research Foundation to further research in the Rocky Mountain Region.

The new funding represents proceeds from the 39th Turf Conference and Trade Show held last December.

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MID-AM OFFICERS ELECTED

Peter Grathoff of Thornapple Landscape Maintenance in Geneva, Ill., has been re-elected president of the Mid-America Horticultural Trade Show.

Grathoff is joined by Vice President Richard Schwarz of Schwarz

Nursery & Garden Center in Addison, Ill., Secretary Thomas Hoerr of Green View Cos. in Dunlap, Ill. and Treasurer Don Groth of Don Groth Landscaping in Greenfield, Wis.

Platt Hill of Platt Hill Nursery in Bloomingdale, Ill., was appointed to serve as a director and Frank Mariani of Mariani Landscape in Lake Bluff, Ill., was re-elected as a director. Schwarz, Broth and Mariani were re-elected.

Directors Cheryl Muskus of C&J Landscaping in Addison, Ill., and Paul Swartz of P. Swartz Nursery & Garden Shop in Burlington, Wis., are continuing their terms.

REINDERS CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

WAUKESHA, Wis. — Reinders Brothers, Inc. turf equipment and irrigation supply company reports 1,450 people attended its 11th biennial turf conference March 17-18 at Waukesha Expo Center.

Industry representatives discussed current trends and displayed more than \$1 million worth of turf equipment and supplies.

Educational sessions were presented by Drs. Joe Vargas, Frank Rossi and Wayne Kussow of the University of Wisconsin and Dr. Jerry Pepin of Pickseed West, among others.



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