

DOC'S DUGOUT - An Inning From Our Past -

The Year 1988

By Dr. Kent Kurtz - STMA Historian

The Year 1988 was Significant in STMA's Life. Many milestones were reached during 1988 that solidified the Association's future and contributed to the success we enjoy today. The following are highlights from 1988.

Regional Sports Turf Institutes

Three regional Institutes were presented by STMA, the Western at Cal Poly, Pomona, the Midwestern at the College of DuPage, Illinois, and the Eastern at Holy Cross College in Massachusetts. Keynote speaker at the Western Institute was Dr. William H. Daniel who discussed the development of the PAT athletic field system. Chicago Cub Hall of Fame outfielder Billy Williams was the keynote speaker for the Midwestern Sports Turf Institute. His topic was turf management as it relates to the players. Keynote speaker at the Eastern Institute was the "old turf master" Harry Gill who entertained the audience with tales and stories about the trials and tribulations of the groundskeeper.

Scholarship Recipient

The Harry Gill Scholarship was presented to Eric Carl

Hansen who was a student at Texas A&M. Eric is a current STMA member and the Turf & Grounds Superintendent for the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Beam Clay Baseball Diamond of the Year Awards

Professional Category - Tom Burns - Charlotte County Stadium, Port Charlotte, FL. Tom is a current STMA Board member and Director/Major League Field Operations for the Texas Rangers Baseball Club.


College/University Category - Leo Goertz - Head Groundskeeper - Olsen Field, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. Leo is still active at the University and within the Association.

Municipal Category - Jeffrey Bowman - Park Superintendent, City of Farmington, NM. Jeff is now Director/Parks & Rec. for the city and an active STMA member.

Research Grant

A \$1000 research grant was presented to Steve Cockerham, Superintendent/Ag Operations for the

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University of California/Riverside for sports turf studies and wear tolerance. Steve is remains an active STMA member and is continuing his work with sports turf research at UCR.

The IOG/STMA join forces at the GCSAA Conference

The Institute of

Groundsmanship sent 25 delegates to Houston for a joint educational program with STMA. Distinguished speakers included Dr. Peter Hayes, Director of the Sports Turf Research Institute, Bingley, England, Ray Johnston, National Chairman for the IOG and Brian Robinson, IOG Educational

Chairman. Speakers from the U.S. included Dr. James Beard, Dr. Eliot Roberts, Dr. Henry Indyk and Dr. Robert Carrow.

STMA's Youngest Member

Patrick Sherer was a senior at Stevens High School in Rapid City, South Dakota. He played baseball and graduated from Cal Poly, Pomona in Turfgrass Science. Currently Pat is a Sales Manager for High-Tech Irrigation in Palm Desert, CA.

Moving West

Steve Wightman left Mile High Stadium after 12 years as turf manager to become Stadium Turf Manager at Jack Murphy (now Qualcomm) Stadium in San Diego where he continues to perform his professional skills.

Souter of Stirling Celebrates 21 Years of Service

John Souter of Stirling, Scotland founded his business in 1967 with one helper working out of an 8'x6' shed and a working capital of \$370. It's now one of the largest sports turf construction and consulting businesses in the UK. John is an honorary life member of the STMA.

Other News

Wrigley Field in Chicago installed lights for night baseball and its first night game on August 8th. Soldier Field in Chicago replaced the artificial turf with Kentucky bluegrass and the Chicago Bears played the Miami Dolphins for a preseason game in August. STMA and the Sports Turf Association of Canada (STA) joined forces for an educational program in Toronto. Ken Mrock, turf manager of the Chicago Bears, and Dr. Kent Kurtz, STMA Executive Director, gave presentations at this first ever joint meeting.



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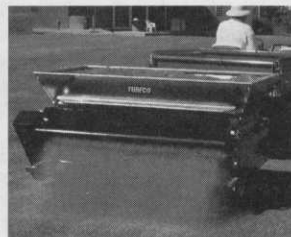
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