

## Certification - It's Worth It!

Becoming a Certified Sports Field Manager, CSFM, is much more than adding the letters behind your name. It's a sign of distinction that shows the industry and the world that you've achieved the top level of professional competence as a sports field manager, and that you've committed yourself to continue your professional development to maintain that status. Here, the first five CSFMs give you their perspectives on the process and the designation.

Ross Kurcab, CSFM, said, "The process was as simple as following the instructions, quick and painless. I tested through an assessment center. The testing was straightforward and simple -- other than answering the questions. I feel I've become a more well rounded sports turf manager. It forced me to study in areas where I hadn't had experience, like baseball skinned infields, which I wouldn't have done otherwise. It was great to put something positive in my personnel file and to receive the recognition from my bosses and my peers. It made me better at what I love to do and that's what I did it for. I consider it a strong brush stroke on the canopy of my career."

Ted Baker, CSFM, said, "Going through the certification process tested my skill level and helped validate all I've learned through STMA over the years. It has helped me define my direction. My Park District asked key employees to implement a plan for their education and certification. Since I had just achieved Certification status and know the requirements in CEUs and ISPs necessary to retain it, I've been able to give them a clearer path of where I'm going in my professional development."

Eric Adkins, CSFM, said, "The application process wasn't difficult or time consuming. I studied for the test, but I didn't knock myself out doing it. The test is tough enough to challenge you, but it's not impossible. The main benefits will be down the road as more people become certified. The jobs will be more geared to a CSFM. That's what has happened with GCSAA. In the long run, I know Certification will be the biggest benefit I'll get from STMA. It's a privilege to be one of

the first. I wanted to distinguish myself within the profession and I think that has happened."

Mike Schiller, CSFM, said, "Back when I was STMA president, it became apparent we needed to act on the Certification issue we'd been discussing for years. Because we had the funds to move forward and we had a dedicated, hard-working committee and the full support of the Board, the Certification Program became a reality. Then I wanted to show my support by becoming one of the first ones certified.

And I made it. I hope my brothers and sisters in sports turf management also will go after certification because the more of us that become certified the better off our industry will be. In the future, employers will look at certification as being a vital part of the resume."

Dale Getz, CSFM, said, "I think it's a good exercise to go through the introspective process of doing a resume. Preparing the application is fairly simple and user friendly. In preparation for testing, I

reviewed the competencies and then studied things I felt I wasn't quite up to date on and brushed up on things I had forgotten. It sharpened my skills and I wouldn't have done it otherwise. The test was challenging, yet rewarding. I see the CSFM designation as a personal accomplishment that will have increasing significance in the future. Do I think it's worth it? You bet I do. Am I proud of it? Yes. The first thing I did when I received the official notification was to order new business cards with CSFM after my name."



Stephen Guise (l), presents the plaque to Ross Kurcab, our FIRST Certified Sports Field Manager



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## President's Message

Spring is here, and here early in much of the country. For many of you, that warm weather pattern has compressed your pre-season preparation time, requiring your fields to be "player ready" before the normal target date. And they were ready. You rearranged priorities, adjusted maintenance schedules, and showed your expertise at multi-tasking to get your fields in shape for practices and play.

All that was possible because you had a strategic plan. You knew exactly what you needed to accomplish and had developed a series of procedures to achieve that goal. To develop that plan, you combined your knowledge of agronomics, turfgrass physiology, sports-specific field maintenance issues, site-specific maintenance issues, personnel management issues, budgetary issues, weather-related issues and, most likely, a bunch of other factors. All that is necessary in the complex position of sports field management. And key to your success is something very basic, yet essential to all your planning: knowing exactly what you need to accomplish.

Just as strategic planning is a vital part of your job, it's a vital part of the Sports Turf Managers Association.

The Founders of STMA had a strategic plan with a definite goal back in 1981: the formation of an organization that could serve as a vehicle for exchanging information on sports field construction, establishment and maintenance to raise the safety and playability levels of athletic fields. That goal is reflected in the STMA Mission Statement, "To be the leader in the sports turf industry, to enhance, promote, and improve professionalism through excellence in communication, training, research, education and services."

STMA has come a long way since 1981. We've established a strong membership base at both the national and Chapter levels and we're attracting more international



**Rich Moffitt**

members. We've established a strong financial position to support our programs and our growth.

The Certification Program is up and running. It's a key to advancing professionalism within the sports turf industry and gaining recognition for that professionalism within the green industry, athletic community and general public.

The Sports Turf Foundation, a 501(c)(3) corporation, is being developed to focus on research and education specific to the sports turf industry.

I join with our current and past Officers and Board Members in thanking each of you for the contributions you've made to STMA's progress.

But we've just scratched the surface of what there is to accomplish. So, we're tackling a Strategic Planning initiative to better define the STMA vision and the procedures it will take to move forward in the new millennium. And again, we're asking your help. Please think about what you want STMA to become in the future, what goals you'd like STMA to achieve and what services you'd like STMA to provide. Then tell us about them. Contact any of your Officers or Board Members directly (see column at left) or contact STMA Headquarters by phone, fax or e-mail. All the information you provide will be shared with the Strategic Planning Committee and taken into consideration as the initiative moves forward. With a comprehensive Strategic Plan, YOUR association will continue its pursuit of excellence well into the twenty-first century.

# How Do You Do...?

**With spring ahead of schedule in many parts of the country, what are you doing to "quick start" your fields for use?**

*Answered by Bill Murphy, City of Scottsdale, AZ*

In the southwest our spring weather can often come very early and this year that is holding true to form. In January we were placing some preemergent herbicide (Pendimethalin with 13-3-7 slow release) to give the turf weed prevention, some nutrient kick and stimulating the turf as warm weather arrived. We're completing that control with broadleaf weed spraying for winter annuals. With the recent warm winter we have been experiencing the last few months the grass is starting to show some shoot growth. We'll be supplementing that grass also with some calcium nitrate(15-0-0) and organic compost topdressing in the next few months.

Our main goals at this time of year are to schedule aeration to assist with water infiltration and retention, continue to check irrigation valves on a bi-weekly basis, and complete water audits. This will help check head rotation, distribution patterns, and trouble shoot screens and nozzles that need to be clear of debris. We are placing controls and monitoring ants and gophers that are more active as the soil temperatures increase.

*Answered by Mike Andresen, Iowa State University*

Evergreen covers help extend our season on the football stadium field. Grass under these covers has been growing since early February. On baseball, softball and soccer we apply a fertilizer in the fall just as the top growth stops. In early March we look for a period of 5-7 days of semi-warm nights (30+ degrees) with warm days (50+ degrees). During this window we cut our bluegrass/ryegrass fields to 1.5", sweep with an aggressive turf sweeper to remove winter debris, then roll with a 1400 lbs. roller. This process seems to get more of the warming sunshine to the soil layer allowing it to warm up faster than the surrounding areas. Inducing the plants to put out this new growth so early in the year makes me nervous, but the greenup is significant, and generally well worth the effort! Though our home season is scheduled to start in mid-March, field water cannot be turned on until early-April, due to freeze potential with above ground backflow preventers. If field water were available during this early period, I would use it in various ways to also help the "greening" process. Even with the small things we are able to do the color difference between the fields and the perimeter areas is striking!

*Answered by Marty Kaufman, Tennessee Titans*

**Should** we "quick start" our fields? Temperatures in Nashville have been becoming more consistent. We hit

80 degrees just last week! So, all this warm weather not only has us thinking about start-up, but the turf-grass as well. We removed the grow tarps from the fields on Ash Wednesday and mowed the ryegrass twice at 3/4". This is the first time it has been cut since before the Super Bowl. We also have restarted our irrigation program which consists of deep watering periodically to increase the moisture level in our 90% sand, 10% peat rootzone. We also will be lowering the height of cut and transitioning out the ryegrass with a selective herbicide. After the results of a soil test come in, we will address the fertilization concerns. Heavy nitrogen application will not be necessary until the end of April or the first part of May. All these, and other spring cultivation practices, are dictated by the consistency of spring temperatures. Let's hope things continue to warm up!



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# Introducing - Your New Board Members!

**Mr. Mike Andresen, Athletic Turf Manager at Iowa State University, is your new Board Member, Category II.**

Mike holds an A.A. in Health & Recreation from Grand View College and an A.A.S. in Horticulture from Des Moines Area Community College. He was with the Iowa Cubs from 1991-1995 and has been at Iowa State since then. He is a 6-year member of the STMA. Mike has been on the Board of Directors for the Iowa Chapter of the STMA since 1992, serving as President in 1994 and was co-chair of the STMA National Chapter Relations Committee from 1996-1998. Mike lists his hobbies as Fly-tying and fishing, hunting, and playing "banker" to his 2 teenagers.



**Mike Andresen**

construction and scheduling processes. Communicate how field health reflects on athlete health.

**Do you have any words of wisdom for your peers in the STMA?**

We all need to commit ourselves to be better communicators. Our talents need to include more than just being superior groundskeepers.

**Mr. Monty Montague, Director of Sports Turf Operations, Turfco Mfg., Inc./National Mower Company, is your new Board Member, Category V.**

Monty has an Associates degree in Business and over 30 years experience in the industry, 11 in turf and 20+ in marketing. He has been an STMA member



**Monty Montague**

since 1990. His hobbies include golf and coaching both baseball and basketball.

**Why did you decide to become a member of the STMA?**

Ken Mrock of the Chicago Bears brought me to my first Conference. I joined soon after that because of the friendships and camaraderie of the members as well as the chance to help support safer sports fields.

**What do you feel are major issues facing the sports turf industry today?**

Education & Research are big issues that need to be addressed. We also need to find a way to get more association and industry information out to students at the High School level.

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**Why did you decide to become a member of the STMA?**

The networking aspect hooked me. Now, the friendships and networking are too good to let go of, professionally and personally!

**What do you feel are major issues facing the sports turf industry today?**

Overuse of facilities. The commitment of the facility managers (us) is not matched with the same commitment administratively.

**What would you do to resolve some of these issues?**

We have to accept no less than to be included in all levels of



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# Evaluating Your Irrigation System

Excerpted from the presentation given by Richard H. White, Ph.D., Associate Professor Turfgrass Physiology, Texas A & M University at the 2000 STMA Annual Conference

**A**thletic field managers must consider the water conservation needs of their area while providing a safe and aesthetically pleasing facility for recreational use. Knowledge of the capabilities of the irrigation system combined with knowledge of the factors that affect turfgrass water use are essential for effective irrigation management.

To design an effective irrigation schedule it's essential to know: your irrigation system; your soil type, the rooting depth of your turfgrass; the water requirements of your turfgrass; and how environmental conditions affect the water-use rates of your turf.

## Your Irrigation System

Do take the time to thoroughly understand your irrigation system, plotting the location and type of heads within each zone and learning all operational and programming aspects of your irrigation controller. You'll need to make frequent modifications to irrigation scheduling due to seasonal changes in turfgrass growth and variable environmental conditions. Knowing the application rate and distribution pattern of each head are key to establishing an effective and efficient irrigation schedule. To evaluate your current system, you can have an irrigation audit conducted for you or follow the steps listed below to conduct one yourself.

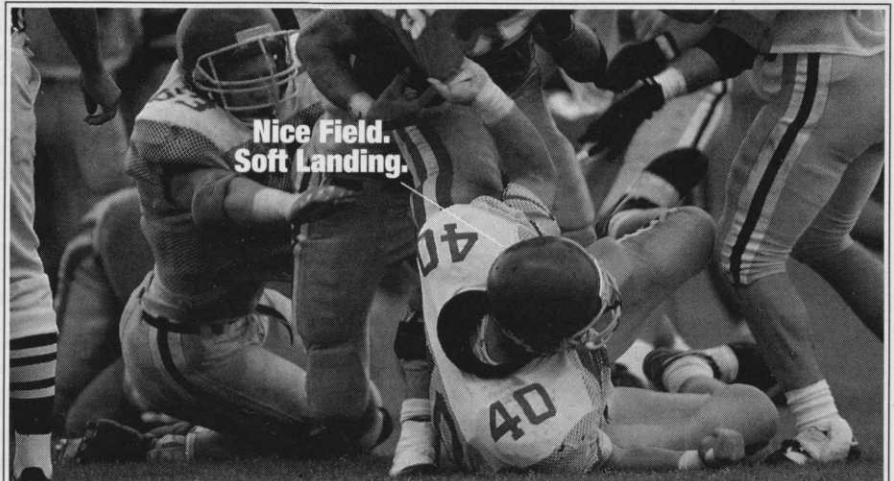
## Your soil type

Your soil type influences how often you need to water as well as how much water you need to apply per application, since different soil types have different water holding capabilities. As soils dry, they hold onto their remaining water more tightly. Eventually, water is held so tightly by the soil, the turfgrass roots are unable to extract it for use. Thus, available water

is the fraction of water that is held by the soil and can be extracted by plant roots. Under conditions of high evapotranspiration (ET), a percentage of the available water might not be available rapidly

enough to prevent drought stress. Therefore, for the purposes of irrigation scheduling, it is important to focus on *Readily Available Water*, or the volume of soil water

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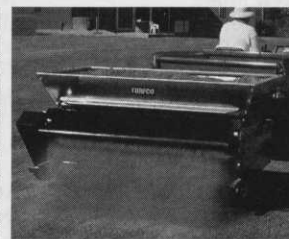
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*New Members continued on page 12*



# Sports Turf Happenings



## Chapter Events

### The Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association

The next Gateway Chapter event will be a baseball field prep day at the T. R. Hughes Ball Park, home of the River City Rascals, in O'Fallon, MO, beginning at 4:00 PM on April 25. Activities will include a field prep demonstration by Mark Cantrall and his River City Rascals crew. Attendees are invited to stay for the baseball game between Saint Louis University and Mizzou. If you are planning to attend or need more information on this event contact Mark Jennings at (314) 983-5345.

For information on other upcoming events or on the chapter, contact: Jim Anthony, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO, at: (314) 977-3228.

### The Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona

The Arizona Chapter will hold a Fiesta in Tucson on Friday, May 5, at the Pima County Sports Authority Complex at Tucson Electric Park. Registration begins at 7:00 AM; events begin at 8:00 AM. Events will include educational seminars, demonstrations and vendor displays. For more information on this event, contact Chris Bartos at (520) 434-1301 or Bill Murphy.

For information on upcoming events, contact: Bill Murphy, City of Scottsdale Parks, Recreation and Facilities Department, at e-mail: [bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us](mailto:bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us) or phone:(480) 312-7954.

### Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association

The Wisconsin Chapter will hold their Spring Meeting on May 9. Events will start at 8:00 AM with a three-hour hands-on infield workshop at the Nienhaus Sports Complex in Appleton, WI. The group will then travel to The Wisconsin Timber Rattlers Stadium for lunch and a field preparation demonstration. The meeting will end at 2:00 PM.

Attendees are welcome to stay for the Rattlers game that night.

For more information on the Wisconsin Chapter or pending events, contact: Rich Riggs, R. H. Rettler & Associates, Inc. at (715) 341-2633.

### Florida Chapter #1: STMA

The Florida Chapter has scheduled a meeting in conjunction with Kilpatrick Turf Equipment Company for the third week of May at the Miami Dolphins training facility in Davie. Equipment maintenance will be addressed. Dr. Phil Busy, University of Florida will speak on weed control for 2000 and beyond.

For information on the Florida Chapter or pending activities, contact: John Mascaro at (954) 341-3115.

### Midwest Chapter: STMA

The Midwest Chapter will meet on May 18 at the Kane County Cougars Stadium in Batavia, Illinois. Events will begin with a pre-game preparation demonstration by Head Groundskeeper Sarah Martin. This will be followed at 4 PM by a picnic social. Attendees are welcome to stay for the Cougars' evening baseball game.

July 11th is the date of the Multi-Chapter Meeting to be held at the University of Notre Dame campus. The morning's educational sessions will be followed by lunch and an afternoon tour of the athletic fields and facilities conducted by Dale Getz, CSFM.

For information on the Midwest Chapter or pending activities, call: The Chapter Hotline (847) 622-3517.

### The Great Lakes Sports Turf Managers Association (GLSTMA)

GLSTMA will hold a Field Day with the Columbus Crew on May 20. Activities will include a tour of the facili-

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## Evaluating Your Irrigation System

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that will effectively prevent drought stress injury, regardless of environmental conditions. As a starting point, classify your soil type as sand, sandy loam, loam, silt loam, clay loam or clay, and check published soil texture charts for an approximate rating of readily available water expressed in inches per foot.

### *The rooting depth of your turf*

Follow the procedures on step 6 of the irrigation audit to establish the average rooting depth of your turf. You'll want to irrigate to a depth just below the effective root zone. Irrigation water found below this depth is unavailable to the roots. Irrigating to a depth significantly less than the effective root zone can lead to a decrease in rooting depth. The deeper you irrigate within the effective root zone, the less frequently you'll need to irrigate.

### *The water requirements of your turfgrass*

Water requirements of turf can vary significantly depending on species and varieties, the specific use of the turfgrasses and their level of management. Heavy traffic and high priority athletic fields require a higher level of management and an irrigation level matched to this level in order to maintain appropriate turfgrass quality.

### *The effects of environmental conditions*

Humidity levels, temperatures and wind speeds all significantly affect water lost through evapotranspiration. Seasonal changes, specific daily or weekly weather patterns and the elements of individual microclimates must all be considered to balance irrigation scheduling to turfgrass needs.

### *Performing an Irrigation Audit*

1. To obtain the most accurate results, perform the audit during the same time of day the system normally operates. Extremely windy or rainy conditions should be avoided.
2. Determine the square foot area of irrigated turf and record this value on the auditing report. Draw the area on graph paper to scale (as best you can).
3. Turn the irrigation system on and flag each sprinkler head by individual zones, with flag stakes. Plot each head on the graph and label with a letter.
4. Measure and record the distance between each

head (head spacing).

5. Using a soil probe, pull multiple soil samples from across the irrigated area.
6. Examine the soil samples and determine the effective rooting depth. The plant's effective rooting depth is the depth of soil, in inches, that contains a large number of live, growing roots. Find an average rooting depth from all soil samples. This will provide a more realistic measurement. Record the average rooting depth in a report form.
7. Determine the soil type by feeling a soil sample. A clay soil will feel sticky and form a ribbon when squeezed between the fingers. A sandy soil will feel gritty and a loamy soil will be a mixture of sand, silt, and clay. Record this information for later use.
8. Start with zone I.
9. You will need sufficient catch cans to perform the irrigation audit. Straight-sided cans such as coffee cans, tuna and cat food cans work well, or rain gauges can be used.
10. Place the catch cans at each sprinkler head and halfway

continued on page 10

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## Board Meeting Report

Your STMA Board met on March 3 and 4, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona. The Minutes of the January 11 Board Meeting, the January 15 Annual Meeting and the January 15 post-Conference Board Meeting were all approved. Treasurer Bob Campbell reported that the prelimi-

nary financial report for the period ending February 27, 2000, showed a positive financial return on the 1999 Conference and membership renewals running ahead of previous years. After review, the financial report and check disbursement listing both were approved by the Board.

STMA continues to grow

and to increase membership services. New Committees have been formed and all Committees have become much more active. To allow better preparation for Board Meetings, Committee Chairs provide a written report for the Board Books noting what has been accomplished since the previous meeting, outlining goals for action and highlighting issues on which the Committee requests Board action. These books are sent to all Board Members during the week prior to the Board Meeting.

One major function of this Board Meeting was the Board's interview of strategic planning facilitators. After nearly a year of discussion, preparation and review, the Strategic Planning Committee had narrowed the field of candidates for this important initiative to two firms. The key individual to be involved in the process from each of these firms was interviewed by the Board, one individual in person and one individual by speaker phone. Committee Chair, Murray Cook, asked the questions as proposed by the Committee and the Board. Following the interviews, each Board member provided their assessments which were taken under advisement by the Committee in making the final selection.

Note: The Strategic Planning Committee held a Conference call on March 8 and selected Dr. Philip Kuehl with Westat as the facilitator. The planning session has been set for May 12 and 13 at Westat's facilities in Rockville, Maryland. The Board is seeking your input on your vision for STMA's future. Please see Rich Moffitt's column on page 2 of this newsletter.

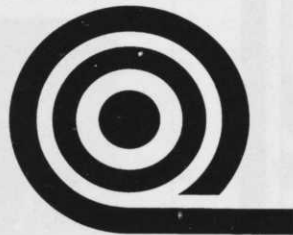
The Board approved attendance at several meetings: Executive Director Trusty and President Moffitt to the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) Chief Elected Officer

*continued on page 15*



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## Evaluating Your Irrigation System

continued from page 8

between heads. This simple placement pattern requires the least number of catch cans while providing adequate coverage of the tested area. When placing catch cans "at each head" make sure they are far enough away from the head as to not interfere with the spray pattern. Plot the location of each catch device on the graph and label it with a number.

**11.** Run the zone for a short period of time. The runtime should be long enough to allow for five to ten rotations of a geared rotor or impact sprinkler head. Normally, testing runtimes are in the range of 10-30 minutes for large sprinklers. While shorter testing runtimes permit faster auditing, the longer times give better accuracy. Spray head systems will normally not need to run more than 4 to 7 minutes to provide accurate measurements. Record the runtime.

**12.** While the system is running, it is a good idea to check and record the water pressure of each head.

**13.** After the zone has completed its designated runtime, measure, and record the depth of water caught in each catch

device. A ruler can be used to accurately determine the depth.

**14.** Average all catch can depths for the zone. Record this value.

**15.** Transfer all individual catch depths and head pressures to their appropriate location to the graph.

**16.** Look for distribution problems within the system. Keep in mind, other heads, not on that particular zone might add to the depth of some catch cans, especially those cans near each head.

**17.** If problems exist, determine the cause(s). (Pressure, wind, head alignment, etc.)

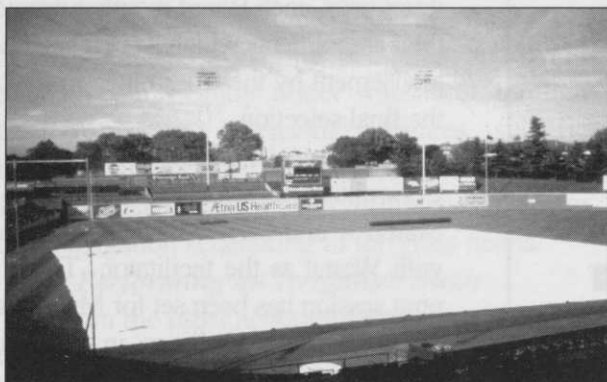
**18.** Repeat steps 10 through 17 for the remaining zones.

Aside from irrigation audits, routine checks of your system should be performed to ensure each head is set up and working properly. Record any problems on a report form. Things to look for include: broken sprinkler heads; misaligned heads; sunken heads; high pressure; low pressure; leaks; and improper rotation.



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## Chapter Events

*continued from page 7*

ty, educational sessions and attendance at the game between the Crew and the Dallas Burn.

In the planning stages are: a field day with the Columbus Clippers and Diamond Pro, and a joint chapter function with MiSTMA and GLSTMA. Details on these events will be announced soon.

GLSTMA welcomes its four newly appointed board members: Darian Daily of the Columbus Crew; Jeff Limburg of the Columbus Clippers; Pam Sherratt from the Ohio State University Department of Agronomy; and Brian Gimbel from the Ohio State University Athletics.

For information on the GLSTMA Chapter, the Chapter's Field of the Year Program, or upcoming events, contact: Joe Zelinko at (800) 897-9714 or Boyd Montgomery at (419) 885-1982 extension 50, or click on your computer to [www.glstma.org](http://www.glstma.org) to visit the chapter's website.

### **The Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association**

The Iowa Chapter will hold their Wheels Tour 2000 on June 8 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Registration begins at 9:00 AM at Vets Memorial Stadium, with the tour of that facility beginning at 9:30 AM. Other tour sites include: Kingston Stadium, Twin Pines Golf Course for a topdressing demonstration, Bluegrass Enterprises for lunch and a sod demonstration, and Xavier High School.

ISTMA will hold a Vendor Workshop at Iowa State University on June 21 with registration beginning at 8:00 AM. Four concurrent sessions are on the morning program: Dr. Dave Minner with Mowing Principles and Demonstrations; Mike Andresen with Aeration Principles and Demonstrations; Don Larson with Topdressing Principles and Demonstrations; and Dale Roe with Painting Principles and Demonstrations. Next on the program will be lunch with the "Vendors on Parade," During the afternoon session, from 1:30 to 4:00 PM, 30 minute presentations at five separate stations will be repeated five times, allowing participants to visit each stations. The stations are: Calibrating Spreaders, Calibrating Sprayers, Irrigation Repairs, Renovation Seeding Principles, and the Vendor area.

The Chapter also will participate in the Iowa Turfgrass Field Day on July 13 at the ISU Horticulture Research Station in Ames, Iowa.

The Iowa/Minnesota Sports Turf Managers Chapter Challenge will be in Des Moines, Iowa, with the Golf Challenge on July 14 and the Softball Challenge on July 15.

For information on the Iowa Chapter or upcoming activities, contact: Lori Westrum at The Turf Office at (515) 232-8222 (phone) or (515) 232-8228 (fax) or e-mail:

[Lori@iowasturfgrass.org](mailto:Lori@iowasturfgrass.org).

### **The Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association**

MiSTMA will hold its Annual Summer Conference on June 22 at the West Ottawa Public Schools in Holland, MI.

For information on the Chapter or pending events, contact: Rick Jurries, West Ottawa Public Schools, at (616) 395-2364 or click on your computer to [www.mistma.org](http://www.mistma.org) to visit the chapter's NEW website.

### **Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO Chapter STMA)**

KAFMO is in the process of planning their summer field day. The date and location will be announced soon.

For information on the KAFMO Chapter STMA or upcoming events, contact: Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club, at (610) 375-8469, extension 212 or via the chapter e-mail address: [kafimo@aol.com](mailto:kafimo@aol.com).

### **The Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association**

The Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association - The Colorado Chapter currently is planning several events: a mid-May seminar; the second annual Seminar on Wheels in July and an August 3 Football Seminar at Folsom Field on the University of Colorado campus.

For information on the Colorado Chapter or upcoming activities, log on to the Chapter's Web site: [www.cstma.org](http://www.cstma.org) or call the CSTMA Chapter Hotline: (303) 346-8954.

### **Minnesota Chapter:STMA**

The Minnesota Chapter is planning a Spring Workshop in Elk River, Minnesota for mid-May. The annual Tour on Wheels is also in the planning stages.

For information on the Minnesota Chapter or upcoming events, contact: Ron Werner at (507) 634-1176.

### **The Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association**

For information on the Nor-Cal STMA Chapter or pending activities, contact: Janet Gift at 530/758-4200.

### **Southern California Chapter:STMA**

For information on the Southern California Chapter or pending activities, contact: The Chapter Hotline: (1-888) 578-STMA (toll free in Southern California).

### **Indiana Chapter: STMA**

For information on the Indiana Chapter or pending activities, contact: Terry Updike, B & B Fertilizer, at (219) 356-8424 or Pat Hickner at (800) 672-4273.

*continued on page 15*

# Welcome New STMA Members

continued from page 6

<b>Jim Sanders</b> City of Lake Oswego Lake Oswego, OR	<b>Jason Schell</b> Student/Colorado State Univ. Fort Collins, CO	<b>Heath Schesser</b> Student Manhattan, KS	<b>James C. Schrage</b> Santa Clarita Comm. College Santa Clarita, CA	<b>Charles Scibetta</b> University at Buffalo Buffalo, NY
<b>Scotland Yard, Inc.</b> Patrick "Paddy" Drimmie Hunt Valley, MD	<b>Leonard Smith</b> S. Illinois Univ.-Carbondale Carbondale, IL	<b>Mark A. Smith</b> Lockheed Martin Dallas, TX	<b>Ronald E. Stahley</b> N. Whitehall Township Coplay, PA	<b>Seth Stern</b> Student/Michigan State Univ. Waterford, MI
<b>Barry Stewart</b> Mississippi State Univ. Mississippi State, MS	<b>Shane Stoughton</b> Student State College, PA	<b>Mark Sweeney</b> MICDS Ladue, MO	<b>James L. Swint</b> Fun Valley Sports Complex Hutchinson, KS	<b>Brad Thedens</b> Student/Iowa State Univ. Ames, IA
<b>T.J. Thompson, Jr.</b> City of Colleyville Colleyville, TX	<b>Cindy S. Tonderum</b> City of Scottsdale Scottsdale, AZ	<b>Chris Towers</b> City of Thornton Thornton, CO	<b>Dan Treadway</b> City of Alhambra Alhambra, CA	<b>Bill Tully</b> City of Coral Springs Deerfield Beach, FL
<b>Turf Diagnostics &amp; Design</b> Sam Ferro Olathe, KS	<b>Umtech USA, LLC</b> Alex Greene Clarksville, VA	<b>George Van Keulen</b> Linn-Benton Comm. College Albany, OR	<b>Marco Volterrani</b> University of Pisa Pisa, Italy	<b>James E. Ward</b> Poplar Bluff Parks & Rec. Poplar Bluff, MO
<b>Gary Welty</b> Lee's Summit Parks & Rec. Lee's Summit, MO	<b>Greg Witt</b> College of Lake County Grayslake, IL	<b>Karen Zelinko</b> Athletic Field Services Oregon, OH		



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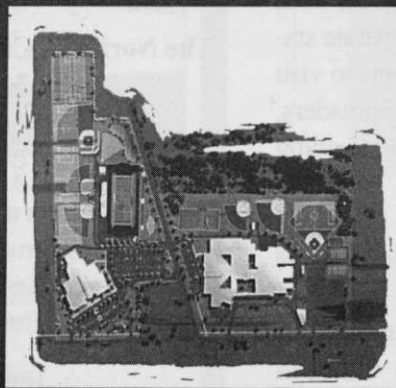
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## MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

**Ron Hall**, senior editor of Landscape Management, adds the title of editor-in-chief of Athletic Turf to his responsibilities. Ron can be reached at 440/243-8100.

**Matt Mattes**, formerly with the Columbus Redstixx, is now with the Kansas City Royals. Matt did not have a current phone number at press time, but we hope to have one for him soon.

**Eric Holland**, formerly Head Groundskeeper at the University of Virginia, has taken the position of Head Groundskeeper for Georgia Tech. You can reach Eric at 404/894-0969.

## CONGRATULATIONS GUYS!

*If you, or anyone else you know, has changed positions recently, please let us know at Headquarters so we can help get the word out!*



## Introducing - Your New Board Members!

continued from page 4

### What would you do to resolve some of these issues?

I feel that the Board of Directors as well as vendor and research level members need to work together on research. We also need to work with members both locally and nationally to spread information on the Association to the High Schools.

### Do you have any words of wisdom for your peers in the STMA?

We all need to do our part and still work together to keep up with the professional support of the STMA.

### Mr. Mike Trigg, Superintendent of Parks for the Waukegan (IL) Park District, is your new Board Member, Category IV.

Mike holds a B. S. in Urban Forestry from Michigan Technological University and is a graduate of the Parks & Rec. Maintenance Management School conducted by North Carolina State University. He is a Certified Leisure Professional through the Illinois Park & Rec. Association. Mike is past president and Honorary Life Member of the Midwest Chapter and has served on the STMA National Raffle/Auction Committee for four years and on the conference educational committee for two years. He also is the 1989 recipient of the Beam Clay Baseball Diamond of the Year Award for Al Grosche Field. Mike lists his hobbies as gardening and his two boys. He volunteers for the Scouting program as an adult leader for both the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts and coaches their Little League Baseball teams.

### Why did you decide to become a member of the STMA?

I became a member of STMA for the opportunities to share my knowl-

edge and experiences, but more importantly to learn more about sports turf management.

### What do you feel are major issues facing the sports turf industry today?

Recognition of the important role that the sports turf manager plays in providing safe and playable athletic fields, particularly with park and recreation facilities.

### What would you do to resolve some of these issues?

I want to be a catalyst for the continuing growth and development of the STMA. I would like to continue to be a part of the "professionalism" and of assistance to the membership, repaying what I have received in the past from many STMA members. Continuing the tradi-



Mike Trigg


tion of sharing information to build and maintain quality sports fields in our community is of the utmost importance to me.

### Do you have any words of wisdom for your peers in the STMA?


The new Certification Program will be a major contributor for professional advancement. Utilize the services of STMA via the national conference, magazine and newsletter, or through your local chapter to assist in preparing and qualifying to achieve certification status.



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# Headquarters Report

by Steve Trusty, Executive Director

**S**TMA continues to grow. As you can see on pages 6 and 12 in this issue another 120 new members are welcomed. Renewals are coming in strong also. In fact, dues income for year-to-date compared to the same period last year shows a 49% increase. While this keeps the staff very busy we are concerned about those of you that haven't renewed yet. As soon as this newsletter is finished, we will be sending out a letter to all non-renewed members. We want to make sure you have every opportunity to renew and if you are not planning to renew, we want to know the reason. Any time you have any questions or concerns, member or non-renewing member, please let the office or one of your Board Members know. This is a member's organization and can only continue to grow and supply your needs if you let us know what they are.

You can also be of great help to STMA if you let us know any time that you have a change of address. You will receive your mailings on a more timely basis

and we will save postage. Each issue we receive too many copies back with postage due because someone has moved and the post office can no longer deliver mail to the old address. Not only do we then have to find where the person is now residing or working, we end up paying postage 3 times for one piece and the second two are at much higher rates. Most of all, timely information that you may need to know is delayed. It is also important right now to let us know of any changes in address, phone, fax or e-mail as we are about to go to press with the 2000 Membership Roster and Resource Manual. Please check your address on this issue of the newsletter and let us know if any part of the address label needs to be updated. Also let us know if there have been any changes in your title or facility or if you have added an e-mail address. Your fellow members would prefer to have up-to-date information if they want to contact you.

If you have recently been on the website - sportsturfmanager.com, you will have noticed a members only section. As I write this column, that part of the site is not up and running, but we are getting close. As soon as all the bugs are worked out you will be receiving notification on how to enter the site. We are working on a number of enhancements for our site. Take a look at it and let us know what you think. We want it to have some value to anyone looking for information on sports field care, but we also want it to have areas of interest only to members and those that should be members. If you have any suggestions for further areas that would be helpful to you, don't hesitate to let us know.

Over the next couple of months Rich Moffitt and I will be attending a session sponsored by the American Society of Association Executives that is designed to help the CEOs, Chief Elected Officer and Chief Executive Officer, accomplish more together. I will be attending an ASAE Legal Seminar to help STMA in a number of areas and Dale Getz and I will be attending the National Certification Commission Annual meeting to help our Certification Program. While STMA is, hopefully, playing a very important role in your educational improvement, your staff and officers rely on other organizations to help themselves and STMA grow.

May you learn what you need to make your job more enjoyable and worthwhile, for yourself, your facility and your end-users.



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## Chapter Events

*continued from page 11*

### **The Mid-Atlantic Field Managers Organization (MAFMO Chapter STMA)**

The Mid-Atlantic Field Managers Organization (MAFMO Chapter STMA) - The MAFMO Chapter will hold its annual Irrigation Seminar on May 4 and 5. The event is sponsored by TORO and Turf Equipment and Supply.

For information on the MAFMO Chapter or pending activities, contact the Hotline: (410) 290-5652.

### **The Mid-South Chapter STMA**

For information on the Mid-South Chapter or upcoming events, contact: Jim Calhoun at (901) 755-1305 or Robert Bodi at (901) 383-2414.

### **Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association**

For information on the TVSTMA Chapter or upcoming events, contact: Bill Marbet, Southern Athletic Fields, Inc. at (913) 380-0023 or Bob Hogan at 888/224-6426.

### **North Texas Sports Turf Managers Association (NTSTMA)**

For information on the North Texas Chapter or pending activities, contact: Rene Asprion, Diamond Pro, at (800) 228-2987 or Dr. James McAfee, Texas A & M University, at (972) 952-9220, or check the website: [www.ntstma.org](http://www.ntstma.org).

### **Chapters On The Grow**

**New York** - A chapter development meeting for the new chapter taking shape in Central New York is planned for April 27 in Oneonta, NY. Interested? Want more information? Contact Kevin Meredith, National Soccer Hall of Fame, via e-mail at [Kevin@wpe.com](mailto:Kevin@wpe.com) or by phone at (607) 432-2953.

**Kansas City, Missouri - Kansas area.** For information on **MO-KAN STMA**, the newly forming Chapter, or on upcoming events, contact: Trevor Vance at 816/504-4271; Gary Custis at 816/460-6215; Jay Sutton at 816/795-8873, or Jody Gill at 913/681-4121.

**Nebraska** - A new Chapter is taking shape in Nebraska. For information on the chapter or upcoming events, contact: Greg Bostelman, City of Grand Island, at (308) 385-5426.

**New Jersey** - For information on the forming chapter or upcoming events, contact: Jim Gavigan, Lesco, at (732) 248-8979 or Eleanora Pene, Director, Township of Clinton Parks & Recreation Department, at (908) 735-5999.

## Board Meeting Report

*continued from page 9*

and Chief Executive Officer Symposium, Trusty to the ASAE Legal Seminar, Certification Co-Chairs Dale Getz and Trusty to the National Certification Commission Meeting, Trusty to an Ohio State University meeting with NFL representative, Tim Davey.

Trusty was authorized to pursue a membership promotion arrangement with the National Federation of High School Athletic Directors. Some of the other key issues raised at this Board Meeting that were directed to committees or headquarters for further action include: action on requests for services issued from the Chapter Officers Training Session, exploration of methods to increase student and educator participation, further action on the establishment of the Sports Turf Foundation, updating of the STMA membership application form and increased promotion of STMA membership, chapters and the Certification Program.

The next Board Meeting will be held on June 2 and 3 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Anyone having input for the Board Meeting, or questions about any of the administrative functions of STMA is invited to contact STMA Headquarters or any of your Board Members.



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