

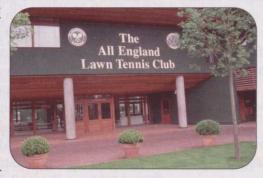
SPORTS TURF MANAGER

September/October 2000 • OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SPORTS TURF MANAGERS ASSOCIATION • Volume XVIII, Number 5

Behind the Scenes at Wimbledon

TMA Executive Director, Steve Trusty, received a

S g r a n d tour of the only major tennis tournament played on grass. Head Groundsman, E d d i e Seaward, gave Trusty the tour



during his recent trip to England in early September. Since this was a behind-the-scenes tour, the entrance shown on the upper left-hand of the page wasn't seen by Trusty until half way through the facility. Trusty was impressed with the size of The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club, Wimbledon. Besides the famous Centre Court and the other main courts featured during the fortnight in June, there are a total of 34 grass courts. 20 of these are used for competition and 14 for practice. There also are clay courts, hard courts and even indoor artificial courts.

While club play takes place around the facility during the year, the famed Centre Court sees players only during the Grand Slam event. Eddie (pictured below left on Centre Court) maintains excellent conditions on all the other courts of the club for their continual use, while spending 50 weeks of the year making sure everything is ready for the eyes of the world to turn to Centre Court as they tune in to Wimbledon. During that fortnight he also must contend with the 38,000



people milling daily around the property and filling the stands. As with any good groundskeeper he is most concerned about the surface for the players. During his 11 years at Wimbledon he has worked for some of the best.

The bal-

cony outside the Centre Court Stadium (pictured at upper right) is used by club m e m b e r s throughout the year. The walk-



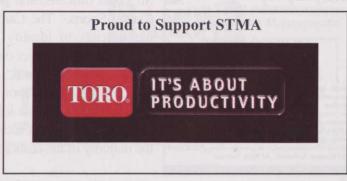
way (pictured

bottom right) leads from one of the parking areas, through a beautiful water feature, into the picnic area and to the rest of the facilities at Wimbledon. Number 1 Court is to the left of the picture. The Administration and Media Building is to the right. Centre Court Stadium is between them.

For your own in-depth, behind the scenes tour of "A



Year in the Life of Wimbledon" come meet Eddie Seaward in Tampa next January and hear his presentation.



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President's Message

Reaching Out by Rich Moffitt, President

The more I work with our Strategic Planning Committee on the focus of STMA's future, the more I realize how many opportunities there are for us to grow our profession and our professionalism. One area of future growth will focus on our image and will include outreach efforts to raise the level of understanding about what sports turf managers do and how it affects the quality and overall playability of athletic fields. This outreach will extend to those who use our fields, to facility ownership and administrative groups, and to the general public.

One arm of that outreach effort continues to be assistance in providing quality athletic fields for individuals and groups who would not have access to such facilities without this assistance.

Many of STMA's affiliated Chapters "adopt" a field in need of help as their service project each year. They work with their commercial members to arrange for donations of materials and the use of equipment, or with more extensive projects, special pricing on these items. Then they bring together as many of their members as possible to tackle the field make over. This may be a one-day project, a weekend project, or a long-term project involving many days of service throughout the year. They also serve as a resource for those who will be handling the continued maintenance of the improved field.

I'm currently involved in a more extensive outreach project in conjunction with the St. Louis Cardinals, metropolitan St. Louis officials, and general contractor Clayco Sports. The Cardinals work with the officials to identify locations where youth baseball facilities could be constructed and would be used. We're currently working at the first site on the prototype for what is anticipated as a long-term, ongoing project. While the Cardinals are funding the majority of the costs for this project, the



Rich Moffitt

companies involved are donating services. There's great satisfaction in turning a barren lot into a baseball field and providing some inner-city youth with a quality, accessible field on which they can develop their skills.

Outreach continues in other areas as well. In early September, two STMA Board members, President-Elect L. Murray Cook, and Secretary Tim Moore, were part of the team in Sydney, Australia, working at Palm Meadows Baseball Park, the Team USA training facility, and assisting the Sydney Olympic staff with the preparation of the baseball facilities and fields at Sydney Olympic Park.

Cook also had taken a crew to Cuba to work on Estadio Latinoamericano for the Baltimore Orioles exhibition game against the Cuban National Team.

While the Olympic preparations were taking place, STMA Executive Director Steve Trusty was in England, attending the IOG's SALTEX 2000. (See Headquarter column for details.)

And, keeping in this international mode, two of STMA's featured speakers at the STMA 2001 Conference in Tampa, Florida, are from across the pond. Turfgrass Consultant John Souter, of Braco, Perthshire, Scotland, will be speaking on the topic, "New Technologies in Construction & Maintenance of Soccer Pitches." Eddie Seaward, Head Groundsman for The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club Wimbledon will provide a behind the scenes view of "The Wimbledon Year."

WHY I DO WHAT I DO

by Kevin Merideth, Meredith Maintenance/National Soccer Hall of Fame

A s I was mowing the other day, I experienced an incredible feeling of peace, serenity and satisfaction. I felt comfortable in my being and fully comprehended why I do the type of work I have chosen. As I continued mowing I wondered if it would be possible to articulate my thoughts, express my feelings and convey to others the wonderful sensation that comes from knowing that you are doing the right thing. This is my attempt to do so.

I consider myself among the very fortunate. Not only do I enjoy the challenge of my chosen profession, I receive monetary compensation for doing what I like. I am sure that what I do is not just for the paycheck. If it were, then I would only be cheating myself and those I serve. I am confident that I am not in it for the direct praise of those that use my fields. To them I am anonymous. They do not know who I am, nor do they have to know. I do not do this work to gain favor with those that compensate me. They expect and receive professional results. Although others are capable of doing my job I am the one that has been blessed with it. I consider it an honor and privilege to be able to go to work, give my best and achieve satisfactory results.

I enjoy watching people utilize my fields. I like knowing that I have presented the safest, highest quality fields I am capable of. I like being there on a Saturday morning when young players first step onto the fields. I like to hear them say "oh wow," and to watch their faces light up with the prospect of playing on the nicest turf they have ever experienced. I like the idea that I am part of a growing organization which is helping promote a great sport and preserving its history. I am part of something bigger than myself.

I do not want it to appear that I view the world through rose colored glasses. My job has its share of stress. I can not control the weather. I must stay informed and work around it. I can not control other people. I must educate them and in turn listen to what they have to say. To be adversarial is to be counterproductive. There are times when I make mistakes. I try and view my mistakes as learning experiences. I figure my mistakes, looked at from that perspective, become character building exercises. Through the years I have come to understand that there really isn't that much that I do have control over. In fact, it is clear to me that there are only three things I have any control over. They are: everything I Think, everything I Say and everything I Do.

The realization that I am responsible for what I think, say and do has played a key role in helping me develop as an individual and as a manager. As a younger person I never gave much thought as to what I would say and do. I was motivated by immediate gratification and was not concerned with the future. My life was out of control. My thoughts were hedonistic, my words were harsh and my actions unacceptable. I was not capable of living like I choose to live today. Today I am able to control my mind, measure my words and demonstrate restraint in my actions. To me these attributes are rewarding, and without a doubt allow me a better way of living.

Why do I do what I do? I do what I do because it makes me feel as though I belong. I do what I do because mowing for me is therapeutic. It allows me to spend hours in contemplation and helps me establish harmony and balance. I do what I do because I created this life by the choices I made. I do what I do because I enjoy it. I do what I do because I like where I am at this point in time. I also like the the idea that the other side of the fence is not greener than mine.

"Why do I do what I do?" Quite simply I like what I do and it brings me a feeling of satisfaction. I believe that there is no greater satisfaction than liking what you are doing. Liking what you are doing perpetuates satisfaction. It is an ongoing process that recreates itself and results in peace, serenity and gratitude. I am continuously rewarded for what I enjoy doing. For all of this I am grateful and truly hope that others can find the same amount of satisfaction I experience.



For Job Listings - Call the STMA Jobs Hotline: (712) 366-1145 or go to the website: www.sportsturfmanager.com and check out the Discussion Forum in the Members Only Section

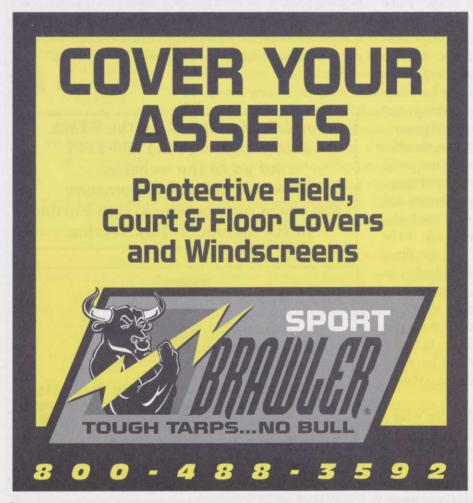


by Boyd "Rob" Montgomery, Sylvania Recreation

The key to managing multi-use fields is understanding all the elements that impact them. Field scheduling, field painting, mowing height, grass color, field layout, spectator area, maintenance program, and the site all play a key part in managing your multi-use field. Another key is an open line of communication between the turf manager and all the user groups. Last, but not least, a turf manager must be an educator for the user groups, upper management, and elected boards.

To get an understanding of some of the key elements requires a lot of effort on the turf manager's part. At Pacesetter, we try to organize all user groups together and discuss with them what their ideal field conditions are, how they want the field painted,

mowing height of the grass, game schedules, and field layouts. Make sure you educate the groups on both the cost side and agronomic side of their request. For example, a group might want the grass to be cut a fi to fl inch height. If your site happens to not have a grass cultivar that can be cut at that height, you'll need to educate the group on the effects of cutting the grass at a lower cutting height than recommended for that grass. You could discuss alternatives such as renovation or overseeding with a new cultivar that might withstand lower cutting heights. Present cost figures for both and discuss how a project like that might be paid for. We also invite one representative from each outside user group to attend all of our board



meetings. This allows the groups to stay in touch with the operations of the park. As a turf manager you must understand what we do to prepare a field. The average person has no concept of how much time, labor, and materials go into the finished project. That is why an open line of communication is so important. If you cannot discuss situations with groups and educate them to our business, then you will have difficulty as a turf manager.

The site is one place to start in managing multi-use fields. You as a turf manager must know what you are dealing with under the grass. What kind of a soil structure is in place? Does your site have heavy clay or are you built on a sandy site? Both cases have totally different maintenance programs. Soil cores should be pulled and soil test run to determine the soil pH and levels of macro and micronutrients in the soil. A tissue test should also be performed on the turf. What type of drainage does your site have? Do you have in-ground or above ground irrigation? Research and obtain as much information about your site as you can. As a turf manager you want to make sure you have an up to date, as built, drawing of your fields. Make copies of these drawings and, as problem areas surface, highlight them on the drawings. This will help you in tracking and in figuring out the problem.

Understanding some of the key elements for multi-use fields is very important. On field scheduling, how many games can be played on one field? I will give you an example that happened at Pacesetter. One of our travel soccer leagues that plays out at the park in the fall had a 160 game schedule. In the summer, the group contacted the park and we informed them that *continued on page 5*

continued from page 4

we would lay out four full sized fields and two medium sized fields for them. The group then turned around and gave that information to the league schedulers. I received the schedule the night of the first game and went through it the next day. Out of the 160 games scheduled at the park, 156 games were scheduled on three of the fields. The remaining 4 games were scheduled on two of the remaining three fields. This meant one field we had laid out was not even being used. Out of the 156 games that were played on the three fields, 77 games were scheduled for one field alone. As you can see scheduling can be a key to cutting down the wear and tear on your fields. Here again, communication and education helped the scheduler understand why we needed to work for a more even schedule. We have since met with the scheduler and laid out a uniform scheduling policy for the number of fields we lay out. Another aspect that goes into scheduling for a multi-use facility is parking. On a given weekend at Pacesetter Park, we can have 2,000-3,000 people move through the facility. If you do not communicate with your schedulers the importance of staggering start times you will encounter a traffic nightmare. With baseball, softball, soccer, lacrosse, flag football, and tournaments all competing for parking spaces, you must convey the importance to the user groups of good scheduling practices.

Mowing practices are a key to keeping healthy lush turf. For multi-use fields a standard will need to be set. Since you will have two or three different sports playing games in one area, and each of them having a different view on how the grass should be cut, you will need to set a standard. First, know what type of grass you have. Next, what are the recommended cut heights for that variety? Once you have established a cutting height you must realize the closer you get to the lowest cutting height on that grass the more likely it will be that your grass will be stressed faster, cut more frequently, need more fertilizer and water, be more susceptible to disease and insects, and wear more. At Pacesetter we have an old variety of Kentucky bluegrass. We mow the soccer and baseball fields at a 1 fl" height. Our frequency is three days a week during the active growing season and two days a week the remainder of the mowing season.

continued on page 12



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Members on the Move

Adams Business Media/sportsTURF Magazine, have moved their offices. New contact information is: Mike San Filippo, Editor, 250 S. Wacker Drive, Ste. 1150, Chicago, IL 60606. Phone number is (312) 977-0999.

Steve Erickson, former Head Groundskeeper with the Schaumburg Flyers, has taken the position of Superintendant/Field Maintenance for the Pittsburgh Pirates. Steve can be reached at (412) 323-7690.

Aaron Gettler, former student member, is now an Assistant Golf Course Superintendant at Deer Run Golf Course, Indianola, IA. Aarons' new phone number is (641) 742-5596.

Ken Irons, former Supervisor/Bldgs. & Grounds for the Oakland Raiders, has retired to Arizona. You can reach Ken at (520) 743-4441.

CONGRATULATIONS GUYS!

If you, or anyone you know, has changed positions, let us know so we can help Spread The Word!



Sports Turf Happenings



Chapter Events

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

Join the MAFMO Chapter for a "Down to Earth Seminar Out at the Yard" on October 17, 2000, at Camden Yards. Registration begins at 8:00 AM with the Seminar hours running from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The featured speaker is Al Capitos, the new Groundskeeper at Oriole Park. Other speakers include: Arnold Bruns, Turfgrass Agronomist and former Director of Golf Maintenance at Pinehurst who is now with Tru-Gro/Eagle's Choice; Steve LeGros, Director of Field Operations at Hershey Sports Complex; and Kevin Yeiser, Physical Plant Operations Director for Lebanon Valley College. Topics include: baseball and softball infield management, integrated pest management, soil problems and issues, soccer field management and general ballfield construction.

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

Florida Chapter #1: STMA

The Florida Chapter will meet on October 17 at the University of Miami. Speakers include: Tim Moore, Ballfield Coordinator for the Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission on Baseball Infields: Build Them for Optimum Playability and Easy Maintenance; Steve Trusty, Executive Director of STMA, on Professionalism for Sports Turf Managers; John Rowland, Consultant, on Fertility Requirements of GN1 Bermudagrass at the University of Miami; and Kevin Hardy, University of Miami, on The Baseball Maintenance Program at the University of Miami.

Also on the Chapter's calendar are: the Turf Rodeo at Delray Beach on November 1, 2000, and an Equipment Demonstration Day on December 5, 2000, at the City of Parkland. For information on the Florida Chapter or pending activities, contact: John Mascaro at (954) 341-3115.

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association

TVSTMA will hold a Field Day on October 19 at Pringles Park, home of the West Tenn Diamond Jaxx at Jackson, TN. Bill Marbet and Rob Bodi will address Infields and Irrigation Problems.

On November 5th, the Chapter, in conjunction with the Tennessee Recreation and Park Association, will tour the Bell South Park Baseball facility in Chattanooga, the Findlay Football Stadium, the Jack Frost Softball Stadium and the Girls Preparatory School track and field facilities. For information on the TVSTMA Chapter or upcoming events, contact: Bill Marbet, Southern Athletic Fields, Inc. at (931) 380-0023 or (800) 837-8062.

Southern California Chapter:STMA

The Southern California Chapter's First Annual Golf Tournament will be held at Twin Oaks Golf Course in San Marcos on October 25, 2000. Registration begins at 11:30 AM with a Shotgun Start at 12:30 PM. For more information on this event, contact Ron Kirkpatrick at (858) 453-1755 or Scott Martinez at (760) 802-6476.

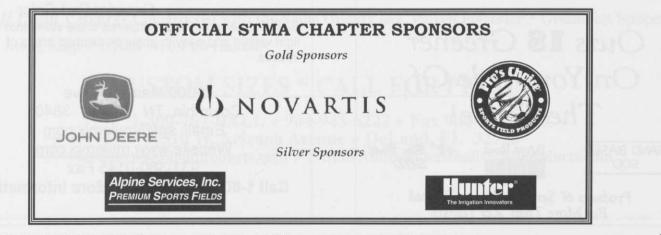
The SO-CAL Chapter will meet on November 13 at 7:00 PM at Filippi's at 9969 Mira Mesa Blvd. in San Diego.

Also on the SO-CAL schedule is an educational program at Mira Costa College from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM on December 7. A pesticide presentation will be included in the program. CEUs will be awarded.

For information on the Southern California Chapter or pending activities, contact: Ron Kirkpatrick at (858) 438-1755.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA)

October 31, 2000, is the deadline for applications for the "KAFMO Field of Distinction" and nominations for *continued on page 11*



DOC'S DUGOUT - An Inning From Our Past -Dr. William H. Daniel: Man, Innovator, Scientist, Friend - Part I

By Dr. Kent Kurtz - STMA Historian

The Sports Turf Managers Association owes the late Bill Daniel and his legacy a big thank you for his assistance in getting STMA off the ground in the early 1980s. This series will focus on Bill as a young man, his contributions as a scientist, educator, innovator and friend to STMA.

Bill's Early Years

Bill was born on January 31, 1919 in Sparkman, Arkansas, the youngest of five children. He was raised on a farm where his family grew cotton for cash and all the work was performed with animals. His intention was to return to the family farm after World War II but fortunately for the turfgrass industry he never did. He received his BA degree in social science from Ouchita College in 1941 and then served in the Air Force as a pilot. Following the War he returned to Arkansas and completed a BS degree in Agriculture at the University of Arkansas in 1946. He received encouragement from friends and a scholarship to pursue graduate studies at Michigan State University in peach tree fertilization and received his MS in 1948. Two years later, assisted by the GI Bill and a Fellowship in turfgrass, Bill completed his Ph.D. at Michigan State University.

While attending college in Arkansas, Bill met his future wife Gwen who was a big part of his life. It was her support that was a giant factor in Bill's happiness and success. He always talked about his life as "we" rather than "T". Gwen looks on their years together with pride and satisfaction. She remembers the hard times, the war years when Bill went into the service. They were married just before Bill finished his tour of duty as a pilot. Throughout their years together, when Bill was busy with teaching, research and consulting, Gwen was busy with



numerous community organizations. They spent a great amount of time together, they enjoyed their work but vacations were always built around work. They were an inseparable andwonderful team for many of Bill's students and industry participants who attended the turf conferences and field days at Purdue University.

Midwest Regional Turfgrass Foundation, Inc. (MRTF)

Turfgrass roots run deep in Tippecanoe County, Indiana continued on page 9





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DOC'S DUGOUT - An Inning From Our Past - The Year 1988

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where Purdue University is located. In 1945 the Agricultural Experiment Station (now known as the Office of Agriculture Research Programs) began a turfgrass research program. Also in July of 1945 the MRTF was incorporated to support turf research projects. The MRTF was composed of individuals from sports fields, schools, golf courses, and cemeteries in Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin.

One of the first actions of the MRTF was to send \$ 1,500 to Purdue University's Agronomy Department to pay the salary of a research assistant to breed turfgrasses. The MRTF then teamed up with the Indiana, Indianapolis District, and the USGA to fund a second turf research assistant's position. These actions began a collaborative and mutually beneficial relationship between the university and the turfgrass industry. It was one of the firsts, it was successful and other states imitated the concept.

In those early years of the MRTF Purdue University researchers began developing grasses that could easily be propagated by seed, started analyzing the response of bentgrass to fertilizer, investigated and recommended the use of bentgrass on golf course fairways and found that certain pesticides had detrimental effects on turfgrass even at recommended rates. The results of the Purdue research investigations impressed the MRTF so much that in June 1950 they funded half of the salary of a fulltime turf specialist. Purdue University funded the other half of the salary and they hired Dr. William H. Daniel.

In 1951, Bill commented on the benefits of collaboration with the turfgrass industry in a report to the MRTF. Bill noted that he made over thirty trips to participate in meetings and to observe and advise on turf problems. He commented that the information gained by Purdue

researchers made his research efforts much more effective since they were able to study industry problems. He also stated that his research was aided by the willingness of the MRTF members to try new methods or materials in limited amounts under conditions found in the "real" world.

By 1953, Bill Daniel and his coworkers had tested turf in Purdue's lawns, fairways, grass-breeding plots, an experimental putting green, and turf around airports and local highways. The researchers and an ever-growing number of students focused on improving varieties of grasses and preventing turf diseases.

Bill Daniel was truly one of the pioneers in turfgrass science in the United States as he began his career during the 1950's. He was one of a handful of people across the country working with turf as this was not a subject area or curriculum offered at that time by colleges and universities. Bill was also a man before his time with ideas and innovations that were criticized by many of his peers, yet today these ideas are a vital part of our turfgrass world and the field of sports turf management.

(Next month we will take a look at Bill Daniel the researcher, innovator and teacher - and the strong connections as one of the founders of STMA.)



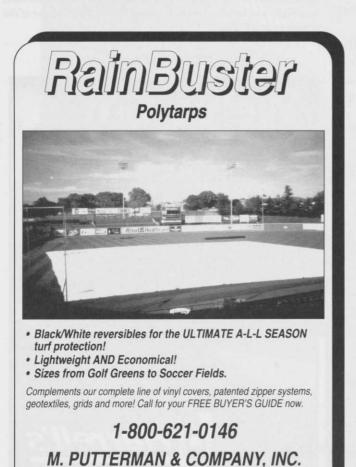
Textron to Sponsor Golf

Textron Golf & Turf has made a commitment to be the exclusive sponsor of the 2001 STMA Conference & Exhibition Golf Tournament. Steven Yolitz, Vice President, Strategic Planning & Business Development, stated in a letter to STMA Executive Director, Steve Trusty, "We are excited about the opportunity to support the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA), and committed to providing an exciting, top-notch event for your members." Besides a round of golf at a class A golf course facility in the Tampa area, Textron will provide carts, transportation to and from the course, lunch following the tournament, beverages, gift packages and prizes.

All of the income from this tournament will be used for scholarships and research grants. STMA Executive Director, Steve Trusty stated, "This is an excellent opportunity for STMA to be able to fund more and larger scholarships and to start funding needed research for better and safer sports fields." The tournament will be limited to the first 120 golfers to sign up. The golf tournament information is included in the Conference registration package sent to all members in mid-September. The first Textron/STMA Golf Tournament will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2001, in conjunction with STMA's 12th Annual Conference & Exhibition in Tampa, Florida. Trusty states, "Thanks to the generosity of Textron, what has been just a 'fun' golf outing in past years can become a first class golf tournament to attract more golfers and at the same time provide funding for scholarships and research."

Textron and STMA have the option to renew this contract for a one to three year period after the January 2001 event. Yolitz states, "We are anxious to show our support of your important association."

Look for more information on the course that will host this tournament in the next issue of STM and be one of the first 120 to sign up for this fun and competitive event.



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Chapter Events

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the "KAFMO Person of the Year."

The 5th Annual KAFMO Athletic Field Conference will be held in Grantville, PA, on February 9, 2001. The event will feature Boyd Montgomery of the Sylvania (Ohio) Recreation Department, along with seminars by KAFMO members, the annual awards ceremony, and vendor exhibits.

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

The Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association

The Nor-Cal Chapter will be holding their annual Fall Continuing Education Seminar on November 13 in Santa Cruz at a facility associated with the University of California-Santa Cruz. Details are yet to be finalized, but the event will take place on a Monday (the 13th) to allow participants to combine the meeting with a weekend family outing on the beautiful Santa Cruz beaches. Dennis Suit, Sports Turf Manager at San Jose State University, is chair for the event.

For information on the Nor-Cal Chapter or pending events, contact Janet Gift at (530) 758-4200.

The Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association

The Colorado Chapter will again participate in the Rocky Mountain Regional Turfgrass Association Conference and Trade Show which will be held November 29 -December 1 at the Denver Convention Center.

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

The North Texas Sports Turf Managers Association

The North Texas Chapter will meet on December 2, 2000, in conjunction with the Texas Turfgrass Association Conference in San Antonio. More details will be announced soon. 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 log onto www.ntstma.org to check out the website.

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (formerly the Great Lakes Sports Turf Managers Association (GLSTMA)

The Ohio Chapter will participate in the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Conference in Columbus, Ohio, on December 4 - 7, 2000. The OSTMA's annual meeting and awards breakfast will be held on December 5th in conjunction with the Conference.

For information on the OSTMA Chapter 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 to visit the chapter's website.

The Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona

The Arizona Chapter will meet in Yuma on December 5, 2000. For more information on this event contact Larry Munoz, City of Yuma Parks and Recreation at 520/329-2824.

For information on the chapter or upcoming events, contact: Bill Murphy, City of Scottsdale Park, Recreation and Facilities Manager, at e-mail: bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us or phone:(480) 312-7954.

Minnesota Chapter:STMA

The Minnesota Chapter will again participate in the Minnesota Turf & Grounds Conference and Trade Show. Dates are December 6 - 8, 2000. Several Conference sessions will focus on sports turf management

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

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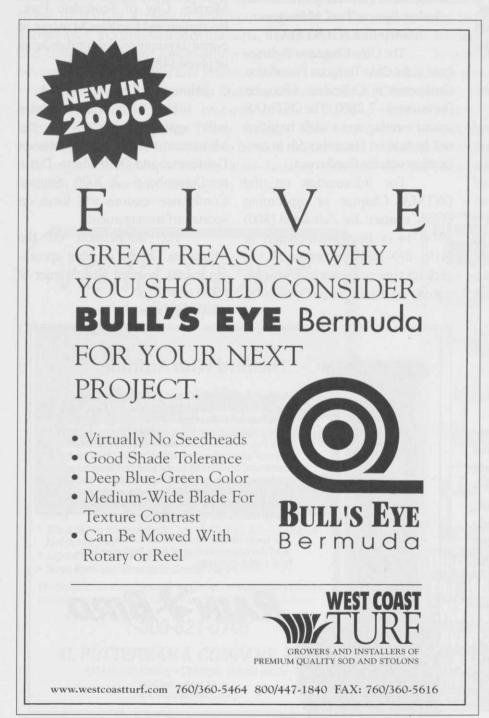
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RAIN BIRD

continued from page 5

Field layout and painting is another key aspect in managing multi-use fields. As a turf manager you must research the proper sizes for regulation play. After a survey of your site you will need to look at the layout in relation to the sun setting, spectators, and boundaries. For open area fields portable goals are the best solution. This allows the turf manager to change the field's location from season to season, allowing the wear areas to be in different locations each season. If multiple fields are going to be on the same area you must make sure that one field is not too close to the other so that neither spectators nor participants are at risk of injury.



As far as painting, you must be aware of all the additional lines that might be needed on fields i.e. coaches boxes, spectators lines. If you are laying multiple fields on top of each other make sure a different color is used for each. Keep up on your field painting, use a paint that won't harm the grass but will give you good color and longevity. Remember if you have healthy grass, the more you water, the more you will have to paint and mow.

Good sound cultural practices are also a key. Core aeration on heavy clay soils is a big part of growing healthy turf. Typically we core before and after each spring and fall season. We also add during-the-season coring if we have above average rainfall that would add to the compaction. Each time we core we do four different patterns and let the cores decompose on the surface. The only time we will remove the cores is during the season. A heavy overseeding and topdressing program also is a key. Of course, this can be very expensive for multi-use facilities due to the vast acreage. If money is the issue then the overseeding aspect can be concentrated on the wear and use patterns of each of the fields. Your seed also is a key. If you are looking for a quick cover in goal areas, for example, we use a mixture of three-way rye, fertilizer, and absorbing material. If you were doing general overseeding then grass cultivars that are comparable to the one already present would be the best. Topdressing can be done in some of the more severe areas of wear. Make sure when you topdress your facility that you use the same soil material that is present. If you don't, you will start to create a layering effect in those areas.

Of course, one of the big keys is a good fertility program. Through the soil and tissue tests you preformed, you should be able to establish a good fertility program. You will need to perform *continued on page 15*

Chapter Events

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The Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association

The Chapter will participate in the Iowa Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show to be held from January 29 to 31, 2001, at the Polk County Convention Complex in Des Moines, IA. A special sports turf track will again be offered.

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@iowaturfgrass.org.

The Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association

For information on upcoming events or on the chapter, contact: Mark Jennings at (314) 983-5345 or Jim Anthony, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO, at: (314) 977-2956.

Indiana Chapter: STMA

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

The Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association

For information on the Chapter or other pending events, contact: Rick Jurries, West Ottawa Public Schools, at (616) 738-6974 or click on your computer to www.mistma.org to visit the chapter's NEW website.

Midwest Chapter: STMA

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

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association

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

The Mid-South Chapter STMA For information on the MidSouth Chapter or upcoming events, contact: Robert Bodi at TURF419@aol.com or Jim Calhoun at (901) 755-1305.

Chapters On The Grow 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 - For information on the forming chapter or upcoming events, contact: Gregg Bostelman, City of Grand Island, at (308) 385-5426.

South Texas - A chapter is developing in South Texas. For information on

the newly forming chapter or upcoming events, contact: Tom McAfee, Nelson Wollfe Municipal Stadium, San Antonio, at (210) 207-3754.

New York - A chapter is forming in Central New York. The group will meet at 10:30 AM on the first Wednesday of each month at the National Soccer Hall of Fame.

Interested? Want more information? Contact Kevin Meredith, National Soccer Hall of Fame, via email at Kevin@wpe.com or by phone at (607) 432-2953.

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



Headquarters Report

by Steve Trusty, Executive Director

started work on this column in Jolly Old England, worked on it some more crossing "the pond" on my way home and completed it on a very hot Sunday afternoon in my office. My trip to England was at the invitation of my counterpart at The Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG). Patrick Gossett, IOG's Chief Executive, invited me over to be a stand judge at SALTEX 2000 and also to see first hand what is happening in the turf fields of Great Britain. For those of you that need a brush up on the Queen's English, our word for stand is booth. Some very important things I quickly learned on the trip were to ask for a cloakroom rather than a restroom, a lift instead of the elevator, refer to turf instead of sod, a groundsman rather than sports turf manager. I also found that when I rode in the front seat of a car that the driver sat to my right and drove on what he said was the "right side" of the road. To me, it was the left, I dare not say "wrong". I met some great people that reinforced my contention that those that take care of athletic facilities are some of the most caring and sharing people in the world. I visited with several people that have been trading ideas with Kent Kurtz for years. I talked with one gentleman that used to receive STMA publications on a regular basis and used them in classes he taught because he felt that "those of you in the U.S. were always 10 years ahead of your counterparts in the U.K." I'll see to it that he receives more publications, although he is mostly retired now. My other team member for stand judging was Gordon McKillop who had become the Chief Executive of the Sports Turf Research Institute only 6 weeks previous. STRI has over 60 employees that are responsible for research, education and consultancy in the sports turf field. Some may argue that England is way ahead of the U.S. in this area, and I tend to agree. Stay tuned for more on this subject.

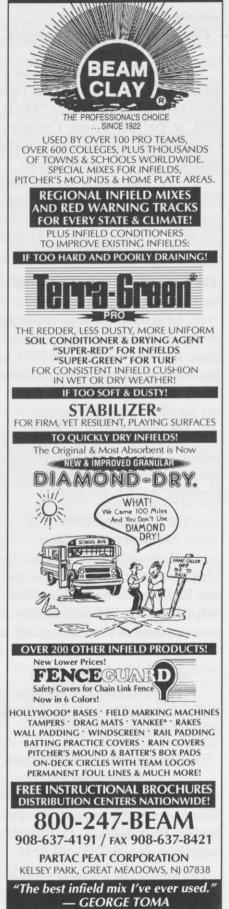
SALTEX is IOG's Sports, Amenities and Landscaping Trades Exhibition. It is held outdoors at the Royal Windsor Race Track and attracts over 15,000 people over 3 days. This year's show was September 5 - 7. Besides over 400 suppliers exhibiting their wares and services on over 55,000 square meters of space, there was a large demonstration area where equipment was shown in action, and in some cases, operated by potential buyers. As STMA continues to grow, I think we can work towards some similar type of event. I picked up several ideas that we might incorporate into our present trade show.

The hospitality was great. Besides seeing SALTEX and many exhibitors (some of whom are already STMA members with space in Tampa and some potential new ones) I received a very special tour. On Friday morning before departing from Heathrow, I got a complete tour of The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club Wimbledon. You will get your own tour of Wimbledon and learn first hand how Head Groundsman, Ed Seaward, prepares for up to 38,000 visitors a day for the fortnight of Wimbledon. Ed's wife, Chris, not only picked me up at my hotel and drove me to Wimbledon, she also took me to the airport. As I've said before, groundspeople are great.

Thank you for letting me be a part of your world - and until next issue, may you make some new friends and share an idea that can help make someone else's job easier.



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these tests twice a year. Monitor your pH levels and macro & micro nutrient levels. If one is getting high or low then a corrective application might be needed. For a regular maintenance fertility program a good quality fertilizer will be needed. I have set Pacesetter up on a program that spoon feeds (similar to a golf course) the turf. Instead of making 4 or 5 applications at 1 lb./1,000 of nitrogen each year, I have broken it down to six minor applications and one major application. I do the major application in the fall and generally use around 1.25 to 1.5 lbs./1,000 of nitrogen. The minor applications range from fi lbs./1,000 to fl lbs./1,000 of nitrogen per feeding. This allows the turf to have a continuous feeding. For the late spring, summer, and early fall applications I use a slow release fertilizer. For the summer applications it is generally a 100% slow release product. The other times I generally use a 50% slow release product. To stimulate root growth in the spring and early fall growing seasons I use a higher phosphorus fertilizer. In early October, I generally add a liquid iron treatment (15-0-0) to keep things nice and green. Fertility programs need to be adjusted to your site. What works for one site might need adjusting for

another. That is why knowing your site and staying up with your testing is so important. Pre-emergent (spring) and Postemergent (fall) treatments for broadleaf weeds must be done at the proper times. Chemical treatments for insects and diseases should be done on an as-needed program. Diagnose the problem first, before you spray any chemical. Look at all aspects of the problem before you decide on using a chemical for treatment. Remember all aspects of the disease triangle have to be present on your site (host, pathogen, environment) to have a disease occur. If insects are the problem, monitor the population. If increasing pressure is occurring then treatments will need to be made. For example, timing is a key for controlling grubs. You must target them in the early instar stages.

Multi-use facilities are a challenge. That challenge can be greatly compounded when open lines of communication between user groups, maintenance staff, and recreational programmers are closed. Turf managers need to be very open to all aspects of the communication end of a multi-use field as well as the agronomic side.





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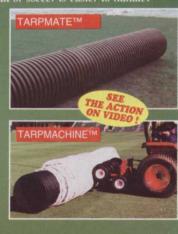
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