

## San Antonio 2003 - Big as the Heart of Texas - And Then Some

Once again, if you missed the 14th Annual STMA Conference & Exhibition in San Antonio, you missed a fantastic time! Although the weather was a bit cooler than normal - Wednesday's Major League Baseball Seminar, Seminar on Wheels Tour and the SAFE/Textron Golf Tournament were all a huge hit! The Sports Turf "Jam" Sessions were very well attended - AND - we had a **record** number of first time attendees at the Get Together Reception and a super turnout at the Opening Reception!

The Educational Sessions were jam packed with excellent topics and speakers - ranging from Basic Aerification, with Dr. Gil Landry, University of Georgia; to Microbiology of Sports Turf Soils, with Dr. David Zuberer, Texas A & M University. We had Mike Veeck on Wednesday, giving his insight on "Thinking Beyond the Ballpark," and Dr. MiMi Paris on Saturday with a "Fourth Degree Black Belt - For Life!" With the MLB/NFL panel of experts, 10 morning and 10 afternoon



Workshop choices AND the Round-Table Discussions - there truly was something for everyone!

The Trade Show was outstanding! We had a record number of exhibitors and

exhibitor personnel showing and discussing their wide array of products and services, all designed to make the sports turf manager's job easier, faster, and more efficient.

Thank you to all who contributed and/or participated in the Raffle and Live and Silent Auctions. Because of your creativity, generosity and support, we were able to raise over \$10,000 for the SAFE Foundation.

The Awards and Scholarship presentations took place at the Awards Banquet on Friday night. Thanks to Steve LeGros and Jeff Fowler for the fabulous "Like a Rock," opening tribute to all sports turf managers, and to Tim Moore, CSFM for his outstanding presentation. For those of you who were not there, Field of the Year recipients are listed in the last issue of

the newsletter. The Founders and other Awards and the Scholarship recipients are listed on page 9 of this issue.

Your 2003 Board of Directors was



presented at the lunch and Annual Meeting on Saturday. A complete listing of the Board is on page 2. You can read about incoming members, Eric Adkins, CSFM, and Abby McNeal, CSFM, beginning on page 14. We'll spotlight incoming Board Member, George Trivett, CSFM in the next newsletter.

Congratulations to our two newest CSFM's who tested at the Conference, Chad Price, CSFM, Carolina Green Corp., and Jeff Salmond, CSFM, Northwestern University. Way to go guys!

Surveys have been sent to all Conference attendees. Make sure you respond to them promptly. For those of you who were not able to attend this year, your input also is welcome. Our goal is to continue to provide you with the best possible Conference experience you can get!

Start the ball rolling now to join us next year in San Diego for the 15th Annual Conference & Exhibition. Conference dates are January 21-25, 2004. The site is the beautiful Town and Country Resort & Convention Center. Contact Headquarters for details.

See you there!

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