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President's Desk

BY PAUL GILLEN

elcome to the Winter edition of your association's newsletter. Your executive has been very active during the late summer and early fall and there will be some exiting new announcements coming later this year and into the spring. Watch your emails for updates and visit the website often during the winter months.

STA, together with the Ontario Recreation Facilities Association, presented in November an Introduction to Synthetic Turf and Air-Supported Structures workshop at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute and University of Guelph. Thank you to our speakers Mark Nicholls, Turf Industry/UBU Sports, Gord Dol, Dol Turf Restoration/Sports Turf International, and Ian McCormick, The Farley Group. After the morning indoor sessions we bussed over to the University of Guelph campus where Bill Clausen, Frank Cain and Andrew Godard took us on a tour of the synthetic turf fields, Fieldhouse and Alumni Stadium. Thanks gentlemen! And thank you to all who joined us on the sunny but very cold excursion! If you were unable to attend this event, Ian McCormick has provided us with an article inside offering you an introduction to air-supported structures. There will also be sessions on synthetic turf in the programs of all three of the upcoming conferences for sports turf managers. See the Event Calendar for dates and details for the Sports Turf Managers Association Conference & Exhibition, the Ontario Turfgrass Symposium, and the Canadian International Turfgrass Conference & Trade Show. We hope to see you at one of them!

Speaking of sports fields and the cold, when you receive this issue the Grey Cup will have been decided... Hamilton versus Saskatchewan – should be a great game in a frigid Regina venue! Read in this issue how the Hamilton Tiger-Cats came to play their 2013 season "home away from home" games in Guelph, just up the road from their actual home in Hamilton, Ontario.

That's it for me!

Our very best wishes for a safe holiday season and happy New Year. •



On the field session at Alumni Stadium, University of Guelph.