

2002 NJTA EXPO AND SFMANJ PERFECT TOGETHER

By George Van Haasteren CGM

The New Jersey Turfgrass Association (NJTA) recently held its annual Expo at the Trump Taj Mahal Casino and Resort in Atlantic City, NJ. Held on December 10, 11 and 12, 2002, the Expo featured educational sessions for the turfgrass professional to improve his/her knowledge and expertise as well as ways of staying abreast of recent developments in the industry. The Expo is also known for having a great Trade Show that displays the latest in equipment technology, supplies and materials that clearly are on the cutting edge for all that are involved in the turf industry. SFMANJ was a part of the trade show having a booth on the floor. Trade Show registrants had a chance to drop their business cards at the booth for a chance to win leather travel bag and a portable TV.

Realizing the importance and growing concern over the last several years of having athletic fields maintained at their best SFMANJ helped facilitate sessions geared specifically towards the sports field manager. The first session was held on Wednesday, December 12. Pens (donated by Jim Hermann, CSFM of Total Control Inc.) and pocket calendars were presented to each individual in attendance.

A panel discussion that was titled "**Successes in Athletic Field Improvements. The Problem – The Procedure – The Results**" was the theme for the afternoon. Panelists included Dr. John Grande, Director, Snyder Research Center, Rutgers University, Eleanor Murfitt, President, SFMANJ, Dr. Henry Indyk, Professor Emeritus, Rutgers University, and Barry Imboden, Grounds Supervisor, Hunterdon Central Regional High School. Afterwards Ann Waters from NJ DEP discussed "**Keeping Up-To-Date On Pesticide Regulations.**"

On Thursday, December 12 morning and afternoon sessions were held. The morning had three speakers. Dr. Stephen Baker from the Sports Turf Research Institute of the United Kingdom gave a presentation on "**Athletic Problems and Their solutions in the UK.**"

Dr. Jim Murphy, Extension Specialist in Turfgrass Management, Rutgers University spoke on "**Mowing Management As It Affects Turf Quality**" and Steve Trusty, Executive Director of the Sports Turf Managers Association discussed "**Professionalism In Sports Field Management.**"

Thursday's afternoon session focused on the SFMANJ Annual Business Meeting. Elected to serve on the board of directors were the following:

Bud Perdun, N. Brunswick Board of Education, North Brunswick, NJ.
 Representing Public/Private, Elementary/High Schools

Eleanor Murfitt CRS, Washington Twp Parks & Recreation, Long Valley, NJ Representing Parks & Recreation, Buildings & Grounds, DPW

Clare S. Liptak, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ Representing College or University

George Van Haasteren CGM, Sports Field Management Systems Inc., Paramus, NJ Representing Professional Facilities

Fred Castenschield, Storr Tractor, Somerville, NJ

Dean Marzocca, Deans Lawn & Landscape, East Millstone, NJ (1year term) Representing Commercial/Contractors

Dr. James Murphy, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ Representing Education/Extension

Returning Board Members include:

Jim Hermann CSFM, Jeff Cramer, John Salisbury, Tom Torpe and Dr. John Grande. Advisor, Dr. Henry Indyk.

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SFMANJ BUSINESS

Next Board of Directors Meeting – Monday, January 13, 5:00 pm at Storr Tractor Company, Rt. 22 Somerset, NJ

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This newsletter is the official bi-monthly publication of the Sports Filed Managers Association of New Jersey. For information regarding this newsletter, contact:

SFMANJ at 908-236-9118 or 730-7770

Co-editors

Jim Hermann, CSFM & Eleanor Murfitt