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Welcome!

New and Renewed SFMANJ Members

Currently we have 214 new & renewed members. In December 2009, SFMANJ mailed invoices for 2010 membership dues to all current members. If you did not receive an invoice, please contact us at 856-514-3179 or download the membership form available at www.sfmanj.org. Mail membership dues direct to SFMANJ, PO Box 205, Pennsville, NJ 08070.

Tom Barton	Berkeley Twp.
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Scott Bills	Northern Nurseries, Inc.
Chris Carlson	Bergen Community College
John Cataldo	Chatham School District
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Federico Nealon	Student, Slippery Rock University
Michael O'Conner	Bergen County Tech School
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Sam Pepe	Central Regional School District
Matthew Pinkerton	County College of Morris

continued on page 8

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MISSION STATEMENT:

Committed to enhancing the professionalism of athletic field managers by improving the safety, playability and appearance of athletic fields at all levels through seminars, field days, publications and networking with those in the sports turf industry.

Contact us at:

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National Organization

Sports Turf Managers Association

www.stma.org

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Phone: 800-323-3875

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This newsletter is the official quarterly publication of the Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey.

For information regarding this newsletter, contact:
 SFMANJ at (856) 514-3179 or Brad Park at (732) 932-9711, x127
 Editor: Brad Park, Rutgers University Email: park@aesop.rutgers.edu

SFMANJ does not necessarily support the opinions of those reflected in the following articles.



Dr. Henry W. Indyk
Graduate Fellowship
in
Turfgrass Science

As many of you know, the turfgrass industry lost a dear friend and colleague in September 2005. We will all miss Henry very much and would like to insure that his legacy lives on. The Indyk family would like to establish a memorial fellowship to support graduate students interested in applied turfgrass science. This fellowship is being created to help assure that tomorrow's graduate students have the financial resources to get an advanced degree in turfgrass science at Rutgers University. To fund a full graduate assistantship each year in Henry's name, we will need to raise a total of \$400,000. Your generous support at this time will bring us closer to reaching this goal.

To make a tax-deductible contribution today, please send a check payable to the Rutgers University Foundation, 7 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901. Be sure to indicate "Indyk Fellowship, Turfgrass" in the memo portion of your check. If you desire, you may provide a donation in the form of a pledge payable over several years.

For information on other ways to support this fellowship, please contact

Dr. Bruce B. Clarke, Director – Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science
 (732) 932-9400, ext. 331; or clarke@aesop.rutgers.edu or

John Pearson, Director of Leadership Gifts at the Foundation, by calling
 (732) 932-7899 or email: pearson@winants.rutgers.edu



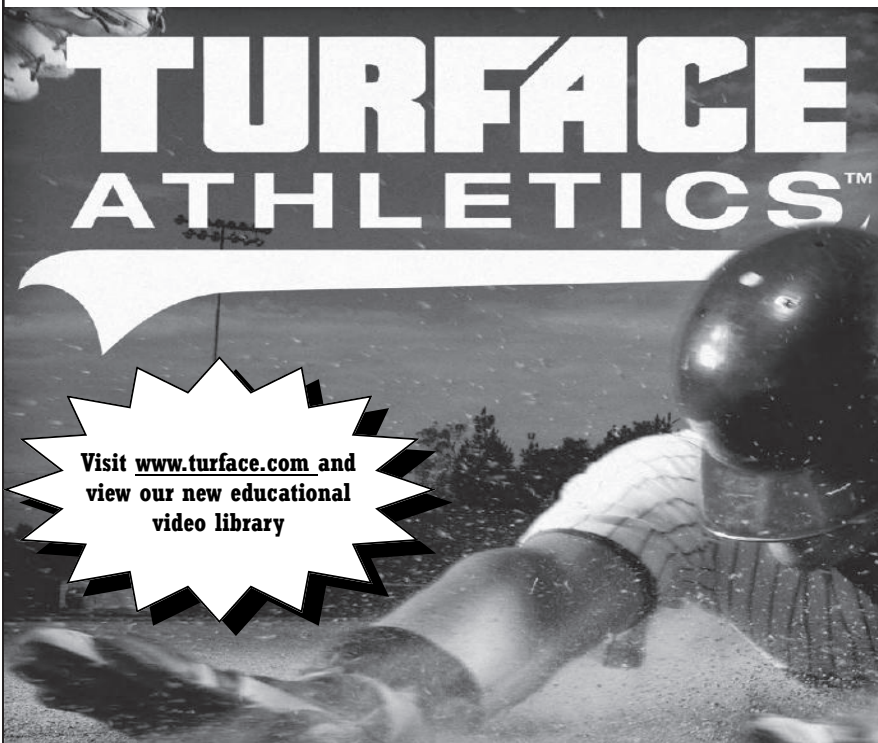
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Why I Love My Job in the Spring!

By Don Savard, CSFM, CGM

As a Sports Field Manager, I love my job in the spring! It begins with the February anticipation; I want to go outside and accomplish something. There are new things I'd like to try out on the fields. Will the weather cooperate today so that I can complete some task? Will I meet my deadlines so the teams can hold practice?

Next, the season begins, people are having fun. There's good weather, followed by bad weather, followed by decent weather and the challenges that come with rescheduling games and adjusting mowing schedules. Finally it all comes together; the smell of fresh cut grass, warm sunshine, short sleeves, suntan lotion, and doubleheaders.

Did someone ask about a Field Day? We got 'em! See inside this newsletter for details on our upcoming events; first, our Summer Field Day on June 22, 2010 at our 2009 Field of the Year in Lacey Township New Jersey. Following that next will be the Rutgers Turfgrass Research Field Day 2, Lawn, Landscape and Sports Fields to be held July 28, 2010 at the Adelphia Turf Research Farm. Good stuff, always news you can use!

Interested in enhancing your career? Becoming active in the SFMANJ has been one of the best things I have done for my career. Here is why:

1. It has introduced me to people in our industry I would not have met. I have developed a valuable network. I know who to call when I need help and people call me when they need help too.
2. I have access to the latest industry trends and developments. This helps me manage my sports fields effectively and smarter.
3. It has given me an opportunity to give something back to the industry by serving on a committee, writing an article, or helping out at an event.

4. I have had an opportunity to work with people outside of my place of employment. It has exposed me to new ideas, different outlooks and a chance to perform at a higher level.
5. I have a better understanding of how the State and local government operates and what the challenges and issues are and the effect it has on my job.
6. My sports fields are better.
7. Because of whom I know and what I know, I have developed more credibility at work.
8. I have input when it comes to the what, when, and where of event planning.
9. I enjoy the camaraderie with my fellow board members.
10. I have grown personally and professionally.

**Care to join us sometime?
SFMANJ Board meetings are open
to all members.**

Come and see what we do. Our SFMANJ Board of Directors usually meets the first Wednesday of the month. Usually we meet at the Rutgers Geiger Center at Turf Farm II. All are welcome, please call ahead: (856) 514-3179; or email: mail@sfmanj.org and let us know that you are coming so we can have a seat for you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Savard" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Don Savard is a Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM) and Certified Grounds Manager (CGM); Director, Athletic Facilities and Grounds, Salesianum School; and President, SFMANJ.

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SUMMER FIELD DAY 2010

Lacey Township, NJ

Continued from page 1

At the end of the Lacey Township field day activities, there will be a meeting for all SFMANJ members. Members will be given updates on upcoming chapter events and informed of any pertinent business issues within the organization. This will be an open forum where association members can chat with the board of directors and provide feedback and insight.

Registration forms outlining a schedule of events, directions and other information for the summer field day can be downloaded from the association website at www.sfmanj.org. Pre-registration is highly recommended by mailing in a registration form as soon as possible or by contacting SFMANJ headquarters at (856)514-3179.

Matt Olivi is Sports Turf Manager, Piscataway Board of Education, Piscataway, NJ; and member of the SFMANJ Board of Directors.

Rutgers

LAWN, LANDSCAPE & SPORTS TURF

FIELD DAY 2010

By Brad Park

SFMANJ to again sponsor a Trade Show and Equipment Demonstrations at Rutgers' Adelphia Research Farm

SAVE THE DATE – July 28, 2010

In what has become a highly successful integration of turfgrass education and vendor participation, Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey (SFMANJ) will once again collaborate with the New Jersey Turfgrass Association (NJTA) and Rutgers University to take part in the annual Rutgers Lawn, Landscape, and Sports Turf Field Day at the Rutgers Adelphia Research Farm in Adelphia, NJ. The Field Day will be held on July 28, 2010.

A trade show, sponsored by SFMANJ, will begin at 7:30 am in conjunction with morning registration. Coffee and bagels will be served. Education and equipment demonstrations will begin at 9:00 am. This will be the third year where equipment demonstrations will be integrated into morning tour stop rotations. Expect to see the latest in lawn, landscape, and sports turf equipment each hour of the morning in addition to practical turfgrass information including the newest cool season turfgrass cultivars and pest management strategies.

As always, this is a great opportunity for SFMANJ members and other Green Industry professionals to network with peers and industry representatives as well as examine the latest product offerings from trade show and demonstration vendors. Pesticide credits will be available to those certified applicators in attendance.

Schedule for August 1 is as follows:

- 7:30 am Registration & Trade Show Opening
- 9:00 am Research Tours & Equipment Demonstrations
- 1:00 pm Lunch and trade show
- 2:00 pm Conclusion & Pesticide credits

Look for registration materials to arrive in the mail. Online registration will be available at the NJTA website: www.njturfgrass.org

Brad Park is Sports Turf res. and Ed. Coord., Rutgers Univ.; SFMANJ Board member; and Editor, SFMANJ Update.

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TOP 5

Red Flags to Budget Approval



By Raghavan Rajaji (Courtesy of Sports Turf Managers Association)

As a sports turf manager, a portion of your time is spent on budgets --- whether you are managing your monthly numbers on expenditures, forecasting for the future or going through the annual preparation process. With so much time and energy focused on your budget, make certain that when it is time to present your budget for approval you have a defensible plan.

Following are five areas that can send up red flags if they are overlooked.

1. Half the story. There are few things more distressing to your employer than being told up front about only part of the costs involved in a proposed project. The surprise ending comes later, when more money is suddenly needed to keep things going. You lose credibility, and set yourself up for more scrutiny in the future.

2. Far from average. Asking for a budget increase by some percentage that is dramatically different from the rate at which the overall business/revenue is growing. For example, if the organization is growing at roughly 10 percent a year and you request a 200 percent budget increase, it sends up a 'red flag.' And it works the other way, too. A request for just an inflation adjustment when the rest of the organization is growing rapidly also causes questions. Not that these necessarily mean that there is a problem, but they will cause a closer review of your

proposed budget and may lead your employer to believe you are unaware of the current environment.

3. Out of alignment. With all the emphasis on business alignment these days, you'd think there would be nary an unaligned project proposed, but it still happens. Be cautious about proposing a project that focuses on a low-priority issue. The fact that you are not aware that it is a low priority for the institution suggests that you are out of touch.

4. Not all there. In addition to providing incomplete information about costs, budgets may fail to specify in enough detail considerations such as, which organizational goals the proposed project will support and how, exactly, it will support them.

5. Vague plans. Watch the use of obscure statistics as a rationale for a budget increase. For example, you may have read somewhere that sports turf managers are increasing their operational budgets by 10 percent in the next year, so you request that same increase without knowing what you'll spend it on. Again, this can cause your employer to question your business judgment.

Other articles authored by Raghavan Rajaji can be found at www.cio.com; Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA), Lawrence, KS

NEW & RENEWED SFMANJ MEMBERS

Continued from page 3

Frank Ravaschiere	City of Long Branch
Steven Segui	Turf Trade
Daniel Shemesh	New York Red Bulls
Kevin Shipman	Kingsway Regional School
Karl A. "Chuckie" Singer	City of Bayonne
Brent Sliker	Twp of Mansfield
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Fred Testa	Brick Board of Education
Andrew Tobias	South River Board of Education
David Ward	Roxbury Twp.
George Warden	Middlesex Co. Dept. of Parks
Tony Wilcenski	Monroe Twp.
Scott Wylie	Brick Board of Education

The Directory will be published soon

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