GLAB GOLF TOURNEY registration area was a busy place for last year’s event. Make sure you register ahead of time for this year’s Annual Golf Tournament set for July 14 at Costa Mesa Country Club Los Lagos Course. (See story on page 3 and Registration Form on back page.)

Background Photo: STMA DUAL CHAPTER FIELD DAY at the Lake Elsinore Storm Baseball Stadium included a water distribution and measurement demonstration put on by the folks from Ewing Irrigation Products. Members of both the Greater Los Angeles Basin Chapter and the Southern California Chapter of STMA attended the June 18 event sponsored by Toro and Turf Star. (More photos on pages 4-5.)
A Word from the President

Brian Scott Interviewed by National Publication

STMA’s national publication, Sports Turf Magazine, recently featured a detailed interview with GLAB President Brian Scott, who is a Professor of Horticulture and Agricultural Sciences Department Chair at Mt. San Antonio College. The article begins with a detailed listing of Brian’s primary responsibilities at Mt. SAC, and then moves into his involvement as Coach of the Turf Team, a student group he has been organizing since the first competition in Orlando in 2006. The banquet room that year was very small and I sat at a table with Doc and Harry Gil. I will never forget that evening. It instilled something in me that was rekindled in 2001 when I began my teaching career. Once again, I found myself seeking council from my long-term mentor, Doc. He was still at Cal Poly which is right next door to Mt. SAC. He welcomed my students as they were his own. He edified me in front of my students even when I was very wet behind the ears. He helped me to plug back into STMA as he and Steve Dugas were getting ready to start a new local chapter which became the Greater LA Basin STMA, the chapter of which I am now serving as President. I became an active member of the national STMA that same year when the conference was in Vegas. I have been to every conference since and have met many people who have helped me develop the turf program at Mt. SAC to what it is today. We did not even have a sports turf ‘program’ when I started and now we have a program that has national recognition through the STMA. The success of my students is what my career is all about. In that light, STMA has provided an avenue of success for my students, thus an avenue of success for me.

This responsibility [as Turf Team Coach] includes qualifying students for the team, training the team, acquisition of funds for travel (which in the past has included several landscape jobs installed by turf team members) and organizing all travel details. Chaz Perea has been coaching the team since 2011 and he has taken over the primary responsibility of conducting all training sessions. I [also] oversee our turf plots and sports turf lab which consists of Kent Kurtz Memorial Stadium which is the wiffle ball field we installed to provide a training area for sports turf students and occasional extremely competitive wiffle ball games, at night, with glow-in-the-dark balls.

How has my career benefited from being a member of STMA? I think it started as a student member when I was attending Cal Poly Pomona. Dr. Kent Kurtz was my advisor and I remember working out of that office in Upland when he was the Executive Director. ‘Doc’ encouraged me to apply for a scholarship that was being awarded by the STMA. I applied and was awarded the ‘Harry Gil’ Scholarship. It was to be awarded at the first independent STMA National Conference in Vero Beach, Florida in 1989. Doc told me I had to go to Florida to receive the award. I told him that it would cost me more to go to Florida than the scholarship awarded me. The next thing I knew he told me that the hotel and airfare were all taken care of by STMA. I came to find out later through other sources that he paid it out of his own pocket.

The banquet room that year was very small and I sat at a table with Doc and Harry Gil. I will never forget that evening. It instilled something in me that was rekindled in 2001 when I began my teaching career. Once again, I found myself seeking council from my long-term mentor, Doc. He was still at Cal Poly which is right next...

Explaining the student’s history of success in the STMA’s Student Competition... I believe that it is my role to give students a vision that overpowers the excuses that would keep them from the immense commitment of time and effort that is required to prepare for the competition. I have always talked about the opportunities that are created by attending the conference and networking and learning from their potential employers. I also speak to the fact that the relationships they build with their teammates through the entire experience will last a lifetime. I share with them that my own experience in college was defined by going ‘above and beyond’, investing time in extracurricular activities that are still paying dividends today. I also live by the philosophy that I would rather have a few extremely dedicated students on the team rather than several partially committed students. We do not accept partial commitments.

I attribute much of our success in recent years to the coaching efforts of Chaz Perea. He has developed an incredible training system. His expectations of the students are extremely high. But at the same time he dedicates countless hours to their success, and they see that and appreciate it. Chaz and I are not paid for the time we spend developing the turf team. The students do not earn units toward their degree for participating on the team. The only reason I mention that is because I think it speaks volumes as to WHY we do it.

Another portion of the article deals with change over the next 10 years. Brian forecasts: “Rainwater harvesting and water recycling at facilities will play a major role. Every structure will have solar panels to supply part or all of the power. Turf managers are going to have to be astute in all of these systems as I am sure it will be part of...Continued on Next Page
their responsibility to maintain these systems. Battery operated equipment may become the standard. The demand for quality fields will increase. I am not sure the budgets and resources will ever keep up with that. It will become more important for students to acquire the ability to interact with supervisors, peers and subordinates. These skills are difficult to teach. To sum it up, in the past we were able to focus on a particular field or facility. Going forward we are learning to think about how every decision we make impacts not only our facility, but the environment around it as well as the ‘footprint’ that is going to be left for future generations.

The last part of the article goes into Brian's Passions and Interests, and life outside of work. He names his family as his first passion – his amazing wife of 25 years, and his two daughters, 19 and 16, whom he calls “incredible young women.” He also discusses his love for the outdoors, including water skiing, wakeboarding, boating, fishing and camping. He also golfs, has taken up competing in marathon races, and enjoys attending concerts ranging from AC/DC to Blake Shelton.

The article concludes with a detailed and heartfelt answer to the question, “Who would be included at the dinner table...?” I would choose to have one more dinner with my grandpa, Billy Jo Scott who passed away in 2010 after living for 7 years as a stroke victim. I would want it to be just the two of us, like old times before his stroke. Among the many reasons Brian gave for his selection, are the following:

You see, my grandpa was my hero. He did not have a college education. He did not even finish high school. Yet somehow he taught me about the value of being educated. He was one of the best teachers I have ever known. He taught me how to weld, hunt, and to mold lead bullets for his black powder guns. He taught me the value of family and friends, and how to nurture those relationships. He taught me how to discipline (or be disciplined) but show love at the same time. He taught me about how to deeply love my wife, as he and my grandma were married for over 60 years. He taught me how to look for the positive qualities in everyone, and see them for what they can be, but love them for who they are. He taught me how to forgive, and how not to hold a grudge.

This is where I developed my passion for teaching, by watching my grandpa give so much of himself to others on a daily basis. We did not always have long, deep conversations. We just kind of hung out and experienced life together. And that is what I would like to do one more time. Greet him with a hug, break bread together, have a few laughs, shed a few tears, and just hang out, one last time. This time, I won’t say goodbye. I will just say see you later.
LAKE ELSINORE STORM baseball team opened its facilities to a special joint meeting of GLAB and So-Cal chapters of STMA on June 18. The event was well-attended and a huge success.

TURF STAR/TORO reps Jimmy Wheaton, Ron Moore, Dale Getz, John Perez, and Scott Deeth, welcome info seekers to their display table at the big STMA event. Turf Star and Toro were event sponsors.

EWING TEAM at the Storm Stadium numbered about 14! Shown with some of their reps is Ewing Vice President Raul Gonzalez (second from left in front row).

WEST COAST TURF VP John Marman did triple duty, helping with registration, staffing his information booth, and promoting the STMA GLAB Golf Tournament July 14.

GLAB SECRETARY Caroline Mitchell, Mt. SAC Baseball Coach Kevin Smith, and UCLA’s Chris Romo get ready for the day’s busy schedule.

JOHN DEERE LANDSCAPE rep Lee Mangum enjoys the fact that the information tables were set up just outside the doors of the meeting and dining area, providing excellent access to attendees.

SO CAL PRO TEA rep Keith Andersen displays his products to scores of attendees from the greater LA area, and from south to below San Diego.

LARGE MEETING/DINING area at the Storm Stadium was packed with members of both GLAB and So Cal Chapters of STMA, enjoying good food, great speakers…and air conditioning.

GLAB PRESIDENT Brian Scott officially welcomes attendees from both STMA chapters to the information-filled educational event.

KEYNOTER, TORO’S Dale Getz, Sports Fields & Grounds Sales Manager, talked about how and why he chose sports turf management as his profession, sharing insight from his decades of experience.

POMONA COLLEGE rep Kevin Quanstrom and Ken Rokosz enjoy the equipment exhibits on the Storm field.

INVOLVED in all aspects of the Green Industry in Southern California, Ewing reps Andrew Baker and James Minnich meet and greet attendees.
Meet at Lake Elsinore Storm Stadium

STMA PRESIDENTS X2 – GLAB President Brian Scott and So Cal Chapter President Dan Mudd both agree, the joint chapter meeting at the Storm Baseball Stadium was a grand slam home run.

CROSS TOWN RIVALS? Not here! Although GLAB Founder Steve Dugas is a USC VIP, and Chris Romo is Field Superintendent at UCLA, they remain the best of friends and strong STMA supporters.

JACOBSEN rep Erin Novotny greets attendees with a smile and information about their extensive list of products.

HEAD GROUNDSKEEPER of the Lake Elsinore Storm Joe Jimenez (right), is thanked by GLAB President Brian Scott for opening up their fine facility for this large, dual chapter event.

SPRINKLER SYSTEM UNIFORMITY discussion and demonstration was led by Ewing’s Jim Borneman, and featured the measuring of water distribution of spray nozzles vs MP Rotators.

EQUIPMENT DEMONSTRATIONS and product discussions were abundant, and took place on the Storm baseball field. Here, Scott Deeth of Turf Star points out the features of a large Toro mower.

Meet at Lake Elsinore Storm Stadium
It’s no longer just a luxury for Super Bowls or championship games. College and professional sports turf facilities around the world now demand high end, top quality sports fields. So how do they get them?

Head groundskeeper of the Arizona Diamondbacks, Grant Trenbeath, started the trend of custom growing his own fields at the sod farm prior to his 1998 inaugural season. As the first ballpark with a retractable roof, Bank One Ballpark (now Chase Field) needed to be prepared.

“...Continued on Next Page
Every turf manager likes their turf different. I want to go out there to the farm and see what it looks like for myself. I could call and ask, and someone could say “it looks great!” but then I’d be shooting blind. I have 2 acres of grass out there that I am going to put down. Sometimes I want a fungicide, sometimes I don’t. My requirements vary. Sometimes I need to change the moisture to match my needs at the stadium.”

“I start out looking for a very mature bermuda. We have an extremely tough transition time, and we need to give our grass a fighting chance. We battle May gray and June gloom, so our bermuda doesn’t really start kicking in until July and August. So transition is important,” Yoder explained. “I walk the whole field because I need to be sure it is even. If I order ¾” cut sod I can’t risk it being uneven. I can’t flatten it out on the field that fast. I also want just a decent overseed. Nothing heavy.”

Clay Wood of the Oakland Athletics is also a firm believer in being very hands on. “We re-sod every year because we have the Monster Truck and Super Cross,” Wood said. The O.co Coliseum is also the only dual professional baseball and football facility left, which makes his turfgrass situation even more complicated than most.

“My timeframe for baseball is really tight,” Wood added. “I only have about 3 weeks to get the field ready for Opening Day baseball. My goal when I am out at the farm is finding the most established sod. I need to start my field with a strong stand of mature bermuda with a strong stand of rye. I need the sod to have the stability to stand on its own and sustain itself if need be. With our chances of inclement weather here, I can’t take a risk. I like to be able to walk the fields. These days you can get a text photo of the field and it looks great, but I need to get out there and talk to Larry. We’ll talk herbicide, and fertilizer, and I’ll walk the field looking for any weeds. It’s hard to explain. I think it’s just a groundskeeper thing,” Wood said. “I need to know exactly what to expect when I receive that sod. And let’s hope they keep Luke’s dogs off my section.”

So it seems the sod farm managers have the most pressure to perform. Larry Contreras has been in the business for almost 3 decades and is West Coast Turf’s Southern California farm manager. “I actually like to have the guys come out and inspect the fields on a regular basis. On their first visit we establish which field they like best. All of the managers are different and have unique needs. Some like a very dense bermuda base and a light overseed. Others only care about a strong base and a great looking grass. One customer wants a dense bermuda, yet a heavy overseed. Others only care about a strong base and a great looking grass. One customer wants a dense bermuda base and a light overseed. Others only care about a strong base and a great looking grass. One customer wants a dense bermuda base and a light overseed. Others only care about a strong base and a great looking grass.”

As for Luke’s dogs? “I just let them go. They are so happy and excited to be out there that I’d never say a word.”

**NOTE: Luke Yoder has since left the Padres to pursue other interests.**
Setting priorities during times of water scarcity are crucial. Here are some to consider:

1. Ensuring that public parks, school play grounds, and sports fields have sufficient water to maintain their landscape plantings and lawns should be a high priority. Children and young adults need to play and exercise on grass, not asphalt or dirt, and we all benefit from walking and exercising in a green, pastoral setting.

2. Ensuring that bonafide botanical gardens and arboreta have sufficient water to maintain their collections should also be a high priority. These institutions have documented, curated, scientific collections of plants that have immense research and educational value. One wouldn’t turn off the fire alarm and fire suppression and other protective systems at The Getty, so why turn off the water at a botanical garden or arboretum? Indeed, these research collections of plants have immense value. For example, the plant collections at the world-famous San Diego Zoo actually have greater value than the animals. It can be argued that the value of the plant collections at, for example, The Huntington in San Marino, is equal to if not greater than its art or library holdings.

3. Water the trees. Trees form the infrastructure of our landscapes and urban forest, and are their permanent or, at least, most long-lived and valuable components around which the other plants intermesh, if not depend. Mature trees are among the most valuable and difficult-to-replace plants in urban areas. Their loss would be devastating. Trees can be likened to the steel framework of a building; how could the building exist without it. So, keep the trees watered.

4. Limit lawns to areas that require its function as a recreational or walkable surface or where erosion or dust control is needed. Remember that lawns are relatively easy and inexpensive to install and established compared to woody plants and groundcovers; thus, if severe water cuts are mandated, irrigation of functional lawns could be greatly reduced or eliminated to allow continued irrigation of high-value woody plants and groundcovers.
West Coast Turf Names John Marman
VP of Sales and Marketing

Anthony Pulizzano Added to So Cal Sales Team

GLAB Golf Chair John Marman has been named VP of Sales and Marketing for West Coast Turf (WCT).

Marman has been with WCT for nearly 20 years, and originally started working hands-on in the field shortly after graduating from UC Riverside with a degree in Environmental Sciences. He spent several years with WCT’s Nevada operation in Las Vegas and, until recently, held the company’s Regional Sales Manager position. Marman replaces WCT’s recently retired Vice President, Jeff Cole.

“We chose John for this position for several reasons. Obviously he had the experience with the company. He has worked for us in several capacities, so he has a real understanding of the business and a grasp on what exactly it is that our customer needs. With his education in Environmental Sciences, he is always current on the cutting edge of new water saving grasses, and can be the 'go-to' guy for our clients when it comes to that technology. He has good long-standing relationships in the industry, and is well liked by his peers. He was also mentored early on by one of the best in the business (the late Barry Mohon). We are excited to have John heading up our sales and marketing division. We know he will continue to be a leader,” said WCT’s President John Foster.

Also changing positions in the company, Anthony Pulizzano was added to the Southern California Sales Team. Pulizzano was a natural pick for WCT’s Southern California Sales Representative position. He is a familiar face at WCT, as he was formerly an inside Customer Service Representative and Dispatcher at their Scottsdale, Arizona farm.

“Anthony will handle all of our Southern California sports turf, golf course, and commercial accounts (along with Jim Davis in the Desert and Tom Stafford in the Los Angeles area),” Foster said.
EWING rep and strong STMA supporter Andrew Baker, catches up on the latest industry news with GLAB Secretary Caroline Mitchell.

REGISTRATION CREW greeted attendees. They are: (Seated) Ed Schmachtenberger, President Brian Scott, and John Marman. (Standing) GLAB Founder Steve Dugas and Turf Star’s Scott Deeth.

EVENT HOSTS Scott Deeth and Doug Dahl of Turf Star welcome guests to the outstanding educational event.

WELL-ATTENDED and very interesting, the GLAB event was filled with learning and great networking.

KEYNOTER Tim Conner, Director of Technical Services at Turf Star, gave an informative presentation on equipment maintenance, mixed with a few lighthearted comments just to keep it fun.

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TURF STAR’S Brea facility was the site of an April 23 Educational Seminar which drew scores of old and new GLAB members.

EVENT HOSTS Scott Deeth and Doug Dahl of Turf Star welcome guests to the outstanding educational event.

REGISTRATION CREW greeted attendees. They are: (Seated) Ed Schmachtenberger, President Brian Scott, and John Marman. (Standing) GLAB Founder Steve Dugas and Turf Star’s Scott Deeth.

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We work hard to meet the challenges faced by our customers. From golf to parks to sports fields, and more, we know you are always looking for ways to get more done with less. We’re here to help with insights about the right turf maintenance and irrigation equipment for you.

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THE TACO LINE was long but moved swiftly and was well worth the wait, as plenty of tasty Mexican food was served up during the lunch period.

LONG-TIME FRIENDS and industry associates, STMA President Brian Scott and Freddie Gonzalez chat about old times.

INDUSTRY VETERANS Steve Dugas and Best Products' rep Stephen Bitter enjoy the informative GLAB event.

CITY OF WALNUT rep Carol Partridge and GLAB Membership Chair Ed Schmachtenberger enjoy a lunchtime chat.

GOLF CHAIR John Marman of West Coast Turf networks with Turf Star VIPs Tim Conner (the day's Keynote Speaker) and Turf Star President Len Gregory.

PW GILLIBRAND rep Caroline Mitchell introduced her new co-worker and Sales Associate Calen Hochstetler to all the Turf Star event attendees.

STMA’s Mission Statement: To be the recognized leader in strengthening the sports turf industry and enhancing members’ competence and acknowledgement of their professionalism.
Experts on the Field, Partners in the Game.
Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association Annual
Golf Tournament at: Costa Mesa Country Club, Los Lagos Course 1701
Golf Course Dr. Costa Mesa CA 92626

Please join us on Tuesday JULY 14th, 2015 @ 9:00 AM for Golf, Prizes and Contests. This will not be a shotgun start.

*$100.00 Member Entry Fee includes continental breakfast and lunch

$380.00/foursome

$110.00 for non members. Become a new member now or the day of the tournament and the STMA will honor the $100.00 entry fee.

*For $150.00 hole sponsorship opportunities call John Marman at (760) 272-7720

RSVP to John Marman at: john.marman@westcoastturf.com

Send Fee to:
Greater LA Basin Chapter STMA
P.O. Box 4008 Covina CA 91723

Full Out and return with payment

Name____________________________________________________________

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Contact Info.____________________________________________________

Others in your group (4 Total)

__________________________________________________________________

Costa Mesa Country Club is a 36 hole complex open to the public 365 days a year.
The Los Lagos course with its rolling fairways, lush elevated greens, sparkling water holes, deep sand bunkers with tricky dog legs along with beautiful mature trees will make the play fun and challenging.

*Profits go to: The Kent Kurtz Memorial Scholarship Fund - The Mt. SAC Turf Team and to University Research