



In Busy Times Stay Connected

Spring is a busy time of year for all of us. It's important that we all get on top of our work and take advantage of the warming trend during the next few months.

It's also a busy time for your STMA committees and for STMA Headquarters. The Conference Committee is already hard at work on the details for our next Annual Conference (Jan. 12-16, 2000; St. Louis, MO). The Committee, Headquarters, and the STMA Board of Directors issue a big THANK YOU to all who provided feedback on the 1999 Conference. Your input is a major factor in planning the 2000 Conference.

- The STMA Board of Directors met in San Diego in mid-March. Their meetings bring the results of all the work of all the committees to the table for consideration and input from all board members.

Part of the meeting focused on the 1999 and 2000 Conferences. Another key agenda item was the long-range strategic planning initiative taking shape under the direction of a new committee chaired by President-Elect Rich Moffitt.

The Board's review and monitoring sessions are extremely important in managing the growth and direction of your association. Your comments and ideas on any area of the association are always welcome and do make a difference.

- Also hard at work are the 1999 Membership Recruitment Committee, chaired by Kurt Nilsson; and the 1999 Chapter Relations Committee, chaired by Abby McNeal and composed of the presidents of all STMA affiliated chapters. They will work closely with Executive Director Steve Trusty and President-Elect Rich Moffitt to lay out the future outline for membership definitions, and the role of the chapters as part of the long-range strategic planning initiative. If you have ideas along these lines you'd like to share, please don't hesitate to contact them.

- The Certification Committee is meeting again in mid-April in Chicago. They continue to move at a steady pace in final preparation of test questions and fine-tuning of the program's format and details. All of you involved deserve a lot of credit for your commitment and dedication. Thank you.

- If you haven't heard, one of our finest has been hired to manage Tiger Stadium. Congrats to Heather Nabozny, the first female head groundskeeper in Major League Baseball. Stepping in to replace Heather as head groundskeeper for the West Michigan Whitecaps is Raechal Sager, the 1997 STMA undergraduate scholarship recipient.

No one in this industry needs a reminder to work hard. But do take the time to stay connected with your peers and your association during this busy season. We're all stronger when working together.

Stephen Guise, STMA President
(714) 704-0403



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