

s warming weather moves spring sports onto the field, it's time to take a quick pause to say thank you to all those who have made STMA Chapters so successful in 1999 and to all those who have made the commitment to actively support their chapters in 2000.

The administrative tasks associated with running a chapter take hours of hard work by each chapter's officers, board members, committee chairs and committee members. Records must be maintained, funds collected and bills paid. There's more time involved in developing and maintaining communication channels: a newsletter, hot-line, Web site or calling tree. Chapter programs for scholarships, fields of the year or service projects all must be developed and coordinated by more volunteers.

There's a mountain of behind-the-scenes work that must take place for each event, whether it's an educational session, on-field workshop, vendor display, site tour or a combination of any of these. A team of individuals must come up with the idea; gain the approval of all involved; work out the scheduling and logistical details, including a back-up plan for inclement weather; line up the speakers, demonstration materials and equipment; put together the informational materials to alert potential attendees; coordinate the registration, funding, and/or sponsorships; coordinate the set-up, tear-down and on-site activities; and handle all the wrap-up details.

So please, do make a point to personally pass along a thank you to your chapter's dedicated team.

Also please thank Chapter Relations Chair Abby

McNeal and our chapter sponsors: Gold Level for 1999 and 2000: Novartis and John Deere; Gold Level for 2000: Pro's Choice: and Silver Level for 1999 and 2000: Alpine Services and Hunter Industries.

Great job everyone!

**Chapter News** 

Congratulations to STMA's newest affiliated chapter:

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