

president's message

See you down the road

I have thought about this last message for quite some time, probably since I became president a couple of years ago. There were many times I actually looked forward to it while suffering through my monthly panic attack as the deadline neared and I had no idea of what to write.

I hope I succeeded in conveying the benefits of membership in STMA and how vigilant we must be to preserve what we believe to be the sanctity and integrity of sports.

I would like to thank everyone for their support over these past two years and thank each of you for entrusting me with the duties of your president. It has truly been an honor and responsibility that I did not take lightly. In some ways, the past two years have flown by and, in other ways, they seem to have occupied a lifetime. I know that I am a better person for all the new friends I have made and been able to work with.

A while back, I wrote a message about those of us in STMA being the guardians of the game. It was a compilation of my thoughts and reflections on the way the game used to be played versus the way it is played today.

Sadly, those days are gone forever. With that in mind, STMA and each of us who are sports field managers must also be willing to change without having to give up our core principles or we risk being left behind.

This past year, the Board of Directors decided that it was time for STMA to step out on its own by establishing our own headquarters and staff. This has provided us the opportunity for self-evaluation, as we look at where we are going and how we are getting there.

Kim Heck, our new CEO, has not only brought a fresh approach to the way we do business, but also has brought new ideas for how STMA can better serve all its members. There have been and will continue to be some missteps as we experience this changeover, but, in the long term, this is the only way STMA can reach its full potential.

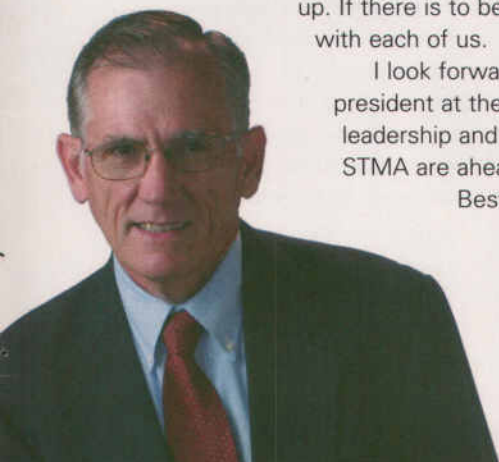
As in any other field, this profession requires a strong national organization. There is strength in numbers. Working together through STMA, sports field managers can do far better for the advancement of this profession than they can as individuals.

There are a number of people who have never been a member and some that gave up their membership for various reasons. STMA is our members. With your membership, you can help make the association what you want it to be. This is the perfect time to be a part of this association and be a part of forming a new and better STMA.

If you truly care about this profession and its future, now is the time for you to step up. If there is to be a change in our association and profession then it has to begin with each of us.

I look forward to working with Mike Trigg when he assumes the post of president at the annual conference in Phoenix later this month. With Mike's leadership and help from each of you, I am convinced that the best times of STMA are ahead.

Best wishes to each of you.



BOB CAMPBELL, CSFM

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