

President's Message

An association of involvement

STMA's committees are in full swing, working hard on behalf of the association. I am pleased to report that STMA has more volunteers involved in committee service than ever before in the history of the association.

Like most associations, our volunteers assist staff by providing ideas and direction for association projects and services. Unlike other associations, the STMA committee members actually spearhead projects, do research, and help staff be more effective by providing additional "manpower." Our committees have already logged more than 40 hours in conference calls this year as they work on STMA business and help to extend staff resources.

Each committee chair has developed the committee's "charges" for the year—the items and activities that need to be completed for the association to achieve its overall goals. I encourage you to look at the list of our committees in this issue (page 41) and to be thinking about where you can make a difference in future years.

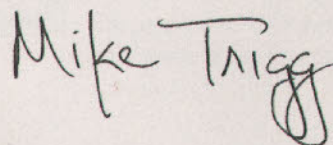
Being a committee volunteer has its personal and professional rewards, too. Committing time, energy, and talents can bring self-satisfaction, potential learning of new skills, networking opportunities, and camaraderie. Being involved in committee service can help prepare you for additional leadership roles within your organization, your local chapter, and the STMA.

The association is committed to continuing to involve as many volunteers as possible to help it achieve its mission and goals. We are reengineering our committee processes to offer even more opportunities for volunteerism. Look for information about this new committee process in the fall.

Although our committees are set for this year, there are other ways you can be of service to STMA. Are you interested in board service? In this issue is a Call for Nominations that allows you to nominate an involved member or yourself for board service. Our Nominating Committee, chaired by Bob Campbell, CSFM, is currently seeking input from members for its Slate of Candidates to be presented to the membership in early winter as part of the annual election.

Do you know a member who should be considered for a Founders Award? You will find much information about the 2005 winners in this issue as well as a form to nominate someone for these prestigious tributes. The Founders Awards are STMA's highest honors, and you are encouraged to nominate a deserving member. The Awards are presented during the STMA annual conference's Awards Banquet and are kept secret until the winners are announced at that time. It is a very exciting and much anticipated event.

I am privileged to work with so many dedicated volunteers, and I thank all of you for your continued support of STMA.



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