

President's Message

Committee volunteers propel initiatives

Last fall the Board of Directors spent a few days of the board meeting mapping out a five-to-seven year strategic plan for STMA. The plan sets forth bold initiatives for the association. The involvement of committees is essential to reaching these goals. Your board members chair or serve as liaisons to at least one STMA committee. This is an important responsibility because we're expected to set cognitive goals, help provide energy, and also ensure that the appropriate committees address the strategic plan initiatives. In many cases, there must be multiple committees working on different angles of the same goal simultaneously. As board members' tenure grows, so does their understanding of how one committee's work is intertwined with the work of other committees. If one part of the machine slows down or ceases to function, the whole machine slows down. I assure you that each board member takes his and her responsibility very seriously for keeping our machine full of fuel and running smoothly.

Members of our association amaze me! What is truly remarkable and makes our board's responsibilities much easier, is having engaged and energized committee members. There are more than 200 member volunteers on STMA committees for this year. Many volunteers are sage veterans of STMA whose wisdom and experience provide our association with its strong foundation. Many more are new, or nearly new members, who see great things going on and are willing to lend new ideas, new energy, and new sets of expectations to build on that foundation.

It's exciting to track the progress of each committee, to learn about new perspectives, and to be involved in our association's evolution. STMA is doing a lot of work, not because we developed a strategic plan, but because of the passion of its more than 200 committee members. They embrace a vision that we will grow by enhancing the value of membership through fulfilling members' needs and expectations.

I personally want to thank those who voluntarily serve on committees and task groups for STMA. It's a great lesson in teamwork to see our collective work making STMA better today than it was yesterday. Thanks to Kim and our staff at headquarters for helping keep the pieces in place and ensuring we don't feel overwhelmed. Thanks also to the Board and non-Board members who lead our committees. Your dedication and passion is making a difference now and for the future. Most importantly, thanks to each member who voluntarily has chosen to set aside time to advance this profession and leave your stamp on STMA. We're all very grateful for your commitment to STMA and trust it will be rewarding in a few years to see how far we've progressed! The heart of STMA is its members, and each member is equally important to our future. Thank you.



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Editor's Note: To view STMA's Strategic Plan, go to www.STMA.org.

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