

# President's Message

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## Happy Holidays!

I wish you and your family a very relaxing holiday season, and one that creates great memories. As I reflect on the past year as president and with one month left in this office, I realize that I have many people to thank, about 2,500, at last report. It has been an honor and privilege serving you, the membership, and I am very grateful for the opportunity.

It is through your unfailing support of STMA, as members and as volunteers that our association continues to advance. I have had the chance to meet and talk with professionals in other industries who are members of their professional associations. My impression is that STMA is unique and stands head and shoulders above other organizations. This is because of the passion you have for the profession, your enthusiasm to share your knowledge, and your willingness to get involved.

Our volunteerism is high and continues to climb. Interest in board service was the highest we have ever had, and I'm sure you'll agree that anyone elected from the Slate of Candidates will do an outstanding job for STMA. Last spring, when the Executive Committee was placing those who volunteered for the 2010 committees, some of our committees had to swell so that we had spots for everyone who wanted to serve. This is a great problem to have! We rely on our volunteers to bring ideas for new programs and services and for better ways to serve all of you. The 2011 committee year is approaching. You'll find a committee volunteer form on line and in this issue. I encourage you to give back to your association, and I can promise you that your experience as an STMA committee volunteer will also be very rewarding for you.

STMA has much on its horizon, and we want you continue to be a part of this journey. It is very important that you renew your membership. We are in the midst of our 2011 renewal cycle, and you should have received your dues notice via the U.S. mail. You can also go online at [www.STMA.org](http://www.STMA.org) and log in to the members only side to renew. If you need help in securing funding for your membership, a quick glance through our educational resources on the members only side should provide some assistance. There are dozens of high level educational bulletins, maintenance calendars, podcasts, and webinars, with more being added frequently. I encourage you to print a few out and show your boss the high quality of information you receive from STMA. Of course, the annual conference and exhibition offers the one place that you can immerse yourself for three days in the latest information and technology available. As another benefit of membership, your conference registration fees are much lower.

I hope to see you in Austin where you can renew your spirit and continue to experience that special holiday feeling as you see old friends and make new ones.