President's Message

Troy Smith, CSFM

troy.smith@broncos.nfl.net



M2MEDIA360 PRESIDENT/CEO Marion Minor

VP OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS
Gerald Winkel

VP OF CIRCULATION AND COLLATERAL SALES

Joanne Juda-Prainito

PRODUCTION & OPERATIONS DIRECTORMary Jo Tomei

DIRECT MAIL LIST SALES Cheryl Naughton 678-292-6054 cnaughton@m2media360.com

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES Phone 845-856-2229 Fax 845-856-5822

REPRINTS

Cheryl Naughton 678-292-6054 cnaughton@m2media360.com

Account Representatives:

Leslie Palmer 16267 W. 14 Mile Rd., Ste 202 Beverly Hills, MI 48025 Ph: 248-530-0300, ext. 1402 lpalmer@m2media360.com

Bruce Loria

626 Wilshire Blvd., Ste 500 Los Angeles, CA 90017 • Ph: 213-596-7226 bloria@m2media360.com

Classified Sales/Marketplace:

Glenn Datz

Phone: 213-596-7220 Fax: 213-624-0997 gdatz@m2media360.com

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Handing over the gavel

S I END MY PRESIDENCY of the STMA, there are many people I would like to thank in helping me during the year. First, thank you to the STMA Board of Directors. This group of professionals works diligently and focused throughout the year to govern the association as well as represent each of our categories. Second, I have relied on the guidance and enlightenment of the Past President, Chris Calcaterra, CSFM. Thank you, Chris. Third, a very sincere 'thank you' to our committee volunteers. Their work has been instrumental in creating and advancing the programs of STMA.

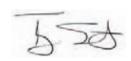
A huge 'thank you' goes to you, the members, for allowing me the opportunity to lead this association. This year will be something that I will never forget. I realize that I have received so much more than I have given. Being President has made me a better manager of people and time. More importantly, I have met so many wonderful, passionate members from all over the world who care deeply about the STMA's success. It is these connections, old and new, that I truly value, and I equate this profession to a family. We rely on each other's experience and advice. We learn from each other. We encourage each other. When I became a member of STMA in 1994, I remember feeling a sense of belonging. I hope that our newer members feel the same way. Back then, networking and learning from educators and other professionals was the big selling point to me and hooked me. As our organization has matured and grown, these original ideals are still in place and will always be the foundation of STMA. Just as technology has certainly changed our profession and improved our daily jobs, networking and education remain core to our individual and collective success.

I encourage all of you to continue to support the STMA, both locally and nationally by renewing your membership. I know that my involvement in our Colorado Chapter has made me a better sports turf manager. Supporting your local chapter improves the entire profession. Also, I hope that you will make it a priority to financially support our SAFE Foundation in its endeavors to improve fields for all of our end-users through education, scholarship and research.

I'd like to recognize our CEO, Kim Heck, and her staff who keep our association running smoothly on a day-to-day basis from our headquarters. All of our members should feel reassured in knowing that our association is in good hands with our staff.

And finally, I would like to offer my best wishes to incoming STMA President, Dr. Mike Goatley. I am certain that with our newly updated strategic plan in place and newly elected board of directors that Dr. Goatley will do a great job on your behalf.

Thank you all again and best wishes for the upcoming year



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