

President's Message  
By Teresa Grooms

This year is passing by very quickly. In about four months, Kathy Teague, MTPA's President-Elect will be starting to formulate a ballot for the 2004 Board of Directors. In order to get started on that task, she will be looking at the 2003 Membership Applications to see which of our members have expressed an interest in being on the MTPA Board. Here is what she will find. Of the 125 members (as of 05/19/03), 102 are full voting members of our association. Of those 102 members, 9 people have marked on their application that they would consider serving on the board in the next three years (THANK YOU). Of those 9 people, 4 are already serving on the board.

MTPA is a volunteer driven organization. In order to provide you with the member benefits you have paid for, we need volunteers to run the organization. Job and home demands sometimes make it impossible for those that have volunteered to serve to complete their terms. We understand that, and it is one of the reasons we need more people to make their willingness to volunteer known. Sometimes it is possible to have board positions that are co-chaired like we have done this year with the Member Services position. Ideally we would have a chairperson and a committee to help them. Unfortunately, the lack of volunteers causes the current board members to take on more than one position and creates burnout.

Please think about volunteering your time to MTPA. When Kathy Teague gives you a call this fall, please consider chairing a committee or at the very least volunteer to assist whomever is named the chair. MTPA has very intelligent and professional members. We need those members to serve on the Board of Directors to keep this organization moving forward.