



Vice Chair's Report

March 2015

Hello Region Delegates,

I listened to your concerns and questions that you had for the Radisson. They do have a new *General Manager* who wants to work with our group and to fix any of our problems and concerns. They have been in contact with me to see if we would like to confirm any dates for the year 2016. I did send them an email letting them know that the *March Assembly* would be the last time that we will be using the Radisson for our Assemblies. Therefore, this will be our last assembly at this hotel.

I have looked at several other hotels in this area and not far from Merrillville so we can continue to have our assemblies in this area. I have made two trips to check out other hotels one in December and the other one was in February. Both of these trips were to look at other hotels and to work on the contracts. I wish I could tell you at this time where we will be after the *March Assembly* but I can tell you that I am working on that and should have an answer for you by the next assembly. As I write this report I still do not have an answer as to where our next assembly because I am currently working on the contracts with two hotels at this time and once I make the decision and it will be made before the *March Assembly*. I will let you all know when I see you at the Assembly in March.

For those delegates who were not with us in July or November, I would like your input on these questions that I presented at the July Assembly. Feedback is always welcome.

- Is Merrillville the right location for our Region or is another location better for us?

- We talked about evaluating our move from Fort Wayne to Merrillville after we had been here for a year and that has not happened, to my knowledge. Therefore, I would like you to evaluate our move by letting me know what works for you and what does not work for you. Be willing to speak the truth with honesty and integrity so we can find the right place for us.
- Is it time to evaluate whether we continue to meet three times a year and/or do something else for our assemblies?
- Is it time to rotate the assemblies around the Region again instead of meeting in one location?
- Is it time to do one of our assemblies in conjunction with our Region 5 Convention?
- Since we live in a world that is so able to communicate with one another by multiple ways should we try one of them where we could meet by phone or Skype for one of the assemblies?

These are some of the things that we need to begin to talk about and then process what works and what does not work for us. I am beginning to realize that with some of our intergroups struggling in order to survive it might be time for us to rotate the assemblies in order to give struggling intergroups a boost by having the Region Assemblies in their areas. I think we need to think about how we can best serve the Region. My reasoning would be, that instead of one or two board members going to the struggling intergroups we could have a whole group of people who could share their experience, strength and hope with those intergroups to give them what they need in order to continue to be in existence and to fire them up. This may or may not work but I believe it is worth a try. What are your thoughts about this idea?

Finance Committee - Patty and I have been working on what method we will use in order to pay for our assemblies, as well as our conventions and group donations on line. More information will be given to you at the assembly.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon! Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity to be of service.

Hugs in OA Service, Mike  
Region 5 Vice-Chair