

## DCM Report 04/05/2018

This past month I attended the Area 20 Spring Conference/Assembly. At the Area Assembly on Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, there were about 20 individuals from District 11 present, which was great to see. Here are some of the highlights of the reports given during the assembly as well as business that occurred:

- Delegate report – Our delegate, Robert S., discussed how the manuscript litigation put forth by our General Service Board was dropped. We then paid the current owner of the manuscript \$135,000 to cover his/her legal fees that the litigation caused. There is about \$34 million in the benefit pension plan which is used for past paid staff workers who work in our General Service Office. As an organization, we also offer insurance benefits to our paid workers and about 18 waived the insurance while 14 waived dental, which ended up saving us money.
- Treasurer report – Our Area treasurer Carol H. reported that the Area's current balance was \$44,422.56 and that our current excess funds over prudent reserve total \$20,839.50. The finance committee will be considering these funds prior to the Summer Committee Meeting in May. Please note that the address for Area contributions has changed. Please have your groups send any contributions to P.O. Box 524, Crystal Lake, IL 60039.
- Three positions within the Area were filled. Kim is our new Accessibilities Alternate Chair and Tracy is our new Grapevine Alternate Chair. The CPC Alternate Chair was also filled.
- It was asked at the Assembly if there were any bids for the 2019 Spring Conference/Assembly. No bids were made. At that time the Area Conference Advisory Committee asked to make a floor motion that the assembly allowed to be heard.

The motion was as follows: **On behalf of the Area Conference Advisory Committee it is moved that the 2019 Spring Assembly Conference be cancelled. The 2019 Spring Assembly will convene as a stand-alone event at a location to be finalized when the 2019 calendar is approved later this year.** This motion was seconded and discussion followed. Much of the discussion centered around the fact that it has been difficult to find groups to host the conference for the past few years. Bids have been coming in late after emotional appeal has been made by a couple members of the Area, which leaves less than 12 months for the conference to be planned. It was emphasized that this would be only in regard to the 2019 conference. Other people did express the importance of the conference through their own experience of getting involved. A vote was taken with 94 people for the motion and 14 against. Minority opinion was heard. Another vote occurred, and the motion passed. I did vote in favor of this motion as I felt that the lack of participation and willingness to host the conference by districts and groups in our Area made it clear that the conference was not wanted by our Area as a whole.

- 2018 Conference report – At the time of the Assembly, there were a total of 385 registrations for the conference and the room block had been filled.
- Area Inventory Report – At the time of the Assembly, 18 paper inventories had been turned in and 71 online inventories had been at least started. A report on what came from the inventories will be given at the Summer Assembly.

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming Area events. These are all events which GSRs participate in and carry their groups' voices to the Area. Please plan on attending the following:

- Pre-General Service Conference Workshop – April 7<sup>th</sup> at the Lord of Life Church in La Fox
- Summer Assembly – June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Lord of Life Church in La Fox
- Fall Assembly – September 15<sup>th</sup> at the Lord of Life Church in La Fox
- Winter Assembly – December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Lord of Life Church in La Fox

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Kelly B.

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