



2009/2010 Midyear Report
AWCI Convention Committee

Chairman: Terry Kurdzionak, MA
Members: Brad Wellman, Ohio; Ron Price, MA
Assistants: Loretta Price, MA; Kaye Cassedy (Casker Co.) Ohio
Office liasons: Tom Pack, Ohio; Bonni Scepkowski (Stellar Meetings and Events, NJ)

We plan to celebrate our 50th Anniversary/Annual Meeting in grand style. The dates and hotel have been chosen, and some of the events are already set. There will be a change in the schedule as well as an additional day added to this event, due to the necessity of honoring meeting times, vendor time, classes, and yes, even FUN!

Thanks to Board member Tony Riggio, we will all have the added entertainment of his HT articles taking us through the years from 1960 to the present. Donna Baas will also be pulling pertinent articles out of the HT archives for your reading pleasure in the few months that remain until our annual meeting. My "Countdown to the Fiftieth" will continue in the HT as well, designed to inform the membership about the celebration, classes, vendors, meetings, hospitality, hotel, and outside activities.

Brad and Nancy Wellman are the local contacts that are gathering important information for the committee. They have completed several tasks that have been assigned to them thus far. Kaye Cassedy (Casker Co.) attended her first AWCI convention last summer and offered to help this year. She has already arranged a full day of events for the spouses/guests. Ron and Loretta Price have agreed to run our hospitality suite again this year.

Thanks to Jerry Faier and both components of the Education Committee for their suggestions on classes thus far. We hope to have a technical expert from Ronda Co. (Switzerland) do a Saturday class on those movements. We are planning to have a financial person from Johnson Associates do a class on keeping your business afloat during financial hard times. The remaining plans for the Saturday educational symposia have not been finalized.

I am excited to report that there is international interest in our vendor fair. I met with the folks from Witschi last November in Switzerland. They indicated a strong interest by their company in participating this year based on their experience with us last summer in Providence. They had also shared their experience with a German company (Greiner) that wanted to know more about our plans. We have heard the requests of the vendors and will act on them by scheduling the vendor fair on Friday morning, with no other event planned for that time. The vendors will have four hours of uninterrupted time with the convention attendees.

The cost for vendors will change from \$250 to \$500. We will offer more opportunities for corporate sponsorships this year, e.g. continental breakfasts or other refreshment breaks.

We have a full day planned "off-site" for the significant others, at a modest additional cost. Based on prior conventions, we know that attendees like to have a place to go, as well as a pre-planned way to get there and get back.

I have decided to run a one hour session "for girls only" on Friday afternoon. The cost to AWCI will be zero and the revenue generated in terms of dollars will also be zero, but they will have fun.

The next immediate task will be to tackle the report of the revenue and income from last year's meeting and turn it into a vehicle that can be understood and used to better plan for the future annual meetings

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Kurdzionak