



## AWCI

Convention Committee

Annual Report 2013-2014

The convention committee has been in contact via email since the 2013 annual meeting. The board had decided on the site of Philadelphia, PA for our 2014 convention; however, we were unable to find a hotel at that time that met our needs in terms of pricing and meeting room space. Fortunately, our VP Fred White suggested a hotel in Clinton, MD. The committee chairman visited the hotel and plans were made to secure it for use for our 2014 convention.

The committee is pleased with the course offerings and the idea of the “spare parts” workshop for all attendees. We are also grateful to Mr. Fred White for suggesting and securing our keynote address speakers. We are grateful to those members willing to share their time and talent with us.

We have a bigger vendor fair this year with new participants as well as some of our regular participants. I believe that you will see some good things happening at this convention.

At the mid -year board of directors meeting in Florida this past February, the decision was made to have the 2015 convention in Kansas City, MO. The dates will be from September 30-October 3, 2015. We are going to have a tour of the Jules Borel Company on October 1. We are excited to go to a new place for our convention as there are many great places to visit in that city.

It is our desire to have an annual meeting in a good hotel close to interesting venues and restaurants. If we choose a major city, travel to and from the airport is easy and interesting city sights are within reach. However, to get a less costly hotel, we find ourselves giving up some amenities and paying for transportation to and from the airports and the other various venues. The convention committee needs to have a two way communication with the BOD and ED in order to obtain the necessary funding for all that is connected with having a convention. The people with the passion for AWCI are what make conventions worth attending. Those who choose not to come do not know what they are missing.

My thanks go out to my committee members, Fred White, Paul Wadsworth and Chris Carey. I also want to thank Jordan Ficklin and all of his staff at the office that made my job easier. It takes more than a “village!”

Please enjoy this time in Maryland!

*Terry Kurdzionak*

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