TMN State Representatives Spring Web Meeting

Meeting called to order at 10:00 am by Mary Pearl Meuth.

Participants introduced themselves by chapter and position.

**18th Annual Meeting, Omni Corpus Christi Hotel, 20-22 Oct 2017, txmn.org/2017-annual-meeting**

Contest info on website.

Call for proposals open now, closes 1 June. Speakers are sought for 1-4 hour programs with statewide themes or skills that can be taken back to local chapters.

Agenda by early summer. Registration by mid to late summer.

Trainees who attend within first couple years tend to be more active, stay connected longer.

Each chapter gets one scholarship.

Nominate Chapter Advisors for awards (due 1 Sept)

One rep commented on lack of chapter displays and the value to other chapters. MONETARY AWARDS!!
Another suggested dedicating time slot to project displays.

South Texas Chapter is putting together great line-up of field trips.

State Reps guide available on website. Pre-conference, State Reps can:

* Encourage presenters to apply
* Encourage members to attend
* Remind membership of registration deadlines
* Seek meeting sponsors
* Identify items for silent auctions (Rio Grande Chapter will be silent auction host.)
* Encourage chapter video and project displays

At the meeting, need assistance with:

* Staff registration desk (3-4, perhaps a Chapter can “adopt”)

Also lost and found, meeting room info, FAQ

* Chair of Photo contest (Ed Barrios has easels, will coordinate event, if no other takers)

At the meeting:

* State Rep meeting for “plus-delta”; date and time not yet determined
* Conference rate at hotel is available three days prior and three days after

Hotel questions: State Office has held 200 of the 475 rooms at Omni; will book rooms through TMN website registration. This allows TMN to guarantee occupancy, get better rates, and use State tax-free purchasing. For staying before or after, will need to contact Omni directly and let them know that you are coming for TMN to get the conference rate. Spouses can stay in the room at the conference rate; there is a meal option for spouses in the registration. The Omni is giving us discounted parking, as well. The dates are within the official hurricane season; there is a contingency plan in the contract with the hotel (“it will be a wash”--MPM), but Michelle and Mary Pearl have not established a contingency plan for the meeting itself.

**20th Anniversary Project, http://txmn.org/20th-anniversary**

Launching oral history collection. Alamo Area Chapter was established in 1997, State Office was established in 1998. Each AgriLife District Office has an iPad video kit for checkout. There is a list of questions available for the interviews. There are examples of good and bad videos on the website. A volunteer from Prairie Oaks Chapter will prepare a number of products from the videos and photos. We are collecting interviews, videos, photos, stories, adventure tales, memorials, dreams. Want to have the materials collected by this fall so that the products can be assembled by the 2018 meeting. There is an FAQ, and we will be adding to it.

Q: What are you looking for in videos? A: Choose members who have made significant impacts on your chapter--founding members, key members in key chapter projects, volunteers with hour milestones, etc. You can do as many as you wish.

**Annual Report Addendum**

Make sure all chapter contacts are updated in VMS. Some information cannot be pulled from VMS. Some chapters have not completed the survey. You know how you are!!

There are some chapters which have not completed the Annual Report Addendum yet.  They include:

Bois D Arc

Cradle of Texas

Gulf Coast

Heartwood

Highland Lakes

Indian Trail

South Plains

Rolling Plains

Trans Pecos

**TMN Listserv**

Primary means for Michelle and Mary Pearl to maintain contact with chapters. There is a digest option. Another listserv on government topics is coming up.

**General Q&A**

Q: Is there a State Rep section on the website where this information can be posted? A: MPH will create one under Chapter Resources. Q: Were there any notes from the President’s Breakfast from last year’s State Meeting? A: Yes. I don’t know if they were posted anywhere. Maybe we can investigate a call-in option for those who can’t make the State Meeting.

Q: On VMS, what’s the deadline for getting data in? A: For getting hours in, it’s 15 Feb, since you can’t report more than 45 days after the event. For qualitative data (contacts, etc.), by Jan or Feb, since it will affect communications with the chapters.

Q: My chapter is revisiting dues and wanted to have an idea of the range statewide. A: State office has collected that in the annual survey.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 am