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September 2014

Is it possible that Convention is upon us? It is now just a few short weeks away. The emails have been flying with last minute details and I don't know how everything could have been accomplished in years past without instant communication. The membership response has been amazing, and I am happy to say it will be one of the largest conventions in the past 5 years.

It takes a huge effort to plan and then host a major event such as Convention and Kathy Martin and her committee have put in countless hours toward making this an extraordinary event. I appreciate their dedication and willingness to take on this huge endeavor. After 3 years of planning, Kathy and the Lafayette Club are looking forward to showing you "Livin', Lovin' Lafayette".

The ADDC Board will be meeting for the Pre-Convention meeting on the Tuesday of Convention week. We will be reviewing what the Board and committees have accomplished this year and touching on what still needs to be done. If you have any concerns or items for discussion, now is the time to let your Region Director or any member of the Board know and they can bring it during the meeting.

We are trying something new at Convention this year. Each attendee will receive a suggestion form in their registration packet and we will have drop-off boxes for these suggestions. Please give us your thoughts and ideas. As an Association, we must continue to improve what we are doing. Your feedback is important to us!

Next month, I will be happy to introduce your new ADDC Officers for 2015 and give you a recap of this year's Convention. If you are planning to attend, I look forward to seeing you soon. If you cannot join us, I will sure miss you.

I would remind each club that it is time to start putting together your packet for contest. The deadline for entry is December 15 so start choosing entries you want to send in. From the bulletins I have read this year, every club should have great entries.

Be sure to start making notes of items you want your 2015 Regional Director to bring before the Budget and Planning Meeting in January 2015. Your input is invaluable in planning for the future of the Association.

Autumn marks the transition from summer into winter. It is also the time to start thinking about our own transitions in Desk and Derrick be that a club, region or association level. Who will be our new leaders? We are an organization that relies heavily on its volunteers and without that, we would falter. Take a moment during the month to think about your own skills and leadership abilities and how you can best help. Most commitments only take a few hours a month to fulfill. Challenge yourself and take that next step to offer

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assistance on a committee that you know little about. What an education! As an added bonus, you will meet new people and develop lifetime friendships.

Each year at this time, I like to reflect on the bounty of hard work, give thanks for blessings in my life and make preparations for the coming winter months.

I wish for each of you many blessings ahead.

Linda Rodgers

Upcoming events:

Pre-Convention Board Meeting – September 23

2014 ADDC Convention – September 24-28