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REGION VII DIRECTOR Christina Forth-Matthews AOG International October 2014



It is no secret that when Desk and Derrick members get together, we learn, network and share. At this year's Convention, we had 386 attendees including 63 first-timers; we hope this will not be their last convention. By the way, I wonder if anyone thought to warn the first timers that Conventions are addictive? Surely by now they know that! I hope the Convention attendance numbers are indicative of where our organization is heading.

The newly elected 2015 Association Board, under the leadership of Lori Landry, is ready to work hard on behalf of the membership. Congratulation to the 2015 ADDC Officers elected at the Saturday business meeting. They are an outstanding group and, along with the seven Regional Directors, will lead this association with skill, commitment and enthusiasm. They are:

President President Elect Vice President Secretary Treasurer Lori Landry Connie Harrison Maggi Franks Mark Loch Christina Forth-Matthews

As we begin winding up 2014, clubs will begin holding their annual meetings and elections. Many of you have stepped forward to take on a leadership role in your club, your region or at the Association level, and I can honestly tell you from experience that your contributions and efforts will be repaid tenfold.

Kathy Johnson, San Antonio Club President, sent an email to her members and it was so eloquently written and heart felt that I wanted to share with the entire membership:



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REGION VII DIRECTOR Christina Forth-Matthews AOG International "One thing that was very apparent and a constant theme of the 63rd ADDC Convention was that Desk and Derrick will only continue to succeed if we are all involved to the best of our abilities. We often think that someone else will take care of the needs of Desk and Derrick, but in reality we have seen an overwhelming decrease in participation within each club. We must remember that the focus is to educate the communities in which we live about our industry. By doing so, we help promote and foster a positive image in all that oil does for us. Attached is the list of committees that we need participation in. Would you each please consider serving on one of these committees? It is an excellent way to learn more about Desk and Derrick and it is a rewarding way to give back." I couldn't have said it any better myself!

Because of the timing of Convention this year, I am not able to provide a comprehensive recap as I would have liked this month. However, I promise to give a thorough report in next month's letter.

Members: you **are** the backbone of this organization and our greatest asset; we could not accomplish what we do without your involvement. I appreciate the warm wishes and support that I received from members throughout the Association. The friendships and kindness are one of the most amazing aspects of our organization. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for all that you do toward furthering our motto: Greater Knowledge, Greater Service!

Línda Rodgers