

Fall 2016 Region 7 Assembly Report

I had the opportunity to serve as a Region 7 Assembly representative this October, at the Turf Valley Hotel in Ellicott City, MD. There was a revived "Meet and Greet" session by the Intergroup Renewal Committee on Friday night. We broke into several small groups and brainstormed on several items: 1- what exciting things our intergroups are doing, 2 - how we handle the holidays, and 3 - pet stories.

Total attendance at assembly was still down. We only had 36 reps present, out of a total of 57. Since 30 are required for a quorum there is the realistic concern that a future assembly will not have enough reps to conduct business. On Sunday we only had 33 reps show up at roll call. Two Intergroups have closed - Northeast PA and West Virginia Mountain State. CJIOA is now one of 3 intergroups that is authorized to have 5 region reps since we now have 41 groups.

Most of Sunday was taken with the elections – 5 minutes each listening to candidate stories and allowing 10 minutes each for questions. We elected Ginny as chair, Claudia as Corresponding Secretary, and George as Treasurer. Karen was affirmed as Trustee. Terri has stepped up to be the interim Vice Chair, since Ginny is vacating that position. Grace was appointed as interim Recording Secretary to fill the position that Terri will be vacating.

I was assigned to the Bylaws Committee. We spent the morning debating wording and issues with several motions. We added an amendment to one motion which was later voted not to add by the assembly. We worked with the Parliamentarian and voted to totally rework another motion, requiring an emergency meeting with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the proposing committee to get their approval to present a substitute motion. It was so insightful to have the opportunity to see our work presented to the floor, and to see the reaction of the assembly to the motions.

Present at this assembly were the Region Chairs so we had the opportunity to listen to their ESH at lunch, before entertainment and in lieu of Sunday learning sessions.

I am appreciative of the opportunity to network with other members in the region and to grow as a member myself, applying the Steps and Traditions in my life.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi L