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Keith Atkins

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September really seemed to fly by within the blink of an eye! As the world tries to recover from COVID-19, the virus continues to let us know that it's a fighter, and it is determined to find a way to keep going. On the positive side, we've been getting a nice preview of nice Fall temperatures here in Arkansas. I've seen several trees beginning to display beautiful hues of orange and gold, welcoming the departure of harsh Summer temperatures and high humidity. While I admit I am a fan of summertime, this Summer hasn't been the same, and the normal outdoor activities that I enjoy during warm weather didn't happen this year. I'm happy to get a break from the heat now.

September without ADDC Convention was not the same. We've been working on updating our Convention hotel contracts for 2021, 2022, and 2023 to make sure we don't set ourselves up for the same possible financial loss we were facing this year due to the pandemic. We got lucky with the Sheraton Pittsburgh in the end though. Since the hotel is still not back to normal operations and would not have been able to host our Convention last month, we were able to void our contract with them, allowing us to renegotiate a more favorable contract or look at other hotel options that better fit our needs for 2022. Considering our attendance in 2022 could be lower; the room, food, and beverage requirements in the existing contract would have made it very difficult to meet without losing money.

The 2020 Registrar Committee is still receiving and counting club ballots for our election of 2021 Officers. The current problems plaguing the US Postal Service led to some presidents not receiving their official ballots timely, even though they were mailed out several weeks before the deadline to return them. Since this is our first time to elect our officers in this unusual manner, we want to make sure your voices are heard and that every club that submits a ballot by the deadline is counted. We still hope to announce the election results around October 1. I know we are all anxious to know and to congratulate our newly elected 2021 Board. Stay tuned!

The 2nd Quarter Financials are also on their way in the coming days. There are just too many things happening in the past few weeks, but we're almost there. After the upcoming Board Meeting, we'll have more to report

"Well done is better than well said." Benjamin Franklin

Keith