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SOUTHEAST REGION

DIRECTOR

**Angie Corvers**

Retired

WEST REGION

DIRECTOR

**Heather Woods**

Whiptail Midstream

**Heather Woods**

2024 West Region Director

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Dear West Region Members:

As I outlined in my July letter, we will be voting on several proposed changes at Convention (and by mail vote afterwards, as appropriate).

In my mind, the two proposals that warrant the most discussion are:

- Alternating Region meetings and Convention yearly with virtual business meetings for the Association on off-years for Convention. This proposal leans on the support of two-year Officer terms.
- New: Eliminate Regions, therefore eliminating Region Director Board positions, and introducing a Club Liaison position to represent all the Association Clubs on the Board. This would eliminate Region Meetings and maintain an annual in-person Convention.

As can be reasoned, we will want to vote in one option or the other, or neither! With only one full month left prior to Convention, it is important to have serious discussions and make decisions on how your Club would like to vote.

As you consider your position on this subject, reasoning for eliminating Region Directors often includes the Associations finances, which I encourage you to investigate before making your decisions. My own conclusions have led me to understand that the Association is financially healthy, with an annual budget in the black for several years now. While it is true that eliminating three board positions will help with the cost for the board to attend Convention, I would be mindful that the Association has the resources for the immediate future to cover those costs, and that three sets of eyes, along years of experience and understanding, will no longer be involved in the functions of the board.

On to less heavy topics. I hope you are all enjoying these summer months and taking opportunities to engage with your fellow Club members. Don't miss out on fair weather activities for social events and educational field trips. As I spend more time in leadership positions and get to hear from our Clubs and members, it seems that those Clubs finding networking and teamwork opportunities gain a lot of stability. Don't be afraid to take a chance on a brown-bag lunch, bowling alley night, or BBQ at so-and-so's house. Those little encounters give us both time and opportunity to get to know each other better, even if the whole club cannot show up in force. We all enjoy and are more likely to attend functions with familiar people, so don't be afraid to spend your Club time building relationships as well as on the educational stuff.

Many Thanks,  
Heather Woods