



June 13, 2020

2020 Summer Assembly Cover Letter

Who else is excited for our first virtual Assembly?! We have fine-tuned our registration process a bit. We hope this will help our Registrars and provide a clear picture of who is in the “room”. I will leverage the registration reporting in advance of our meeting to learn who our first-time attendees are – always my favorite part. No offense to those of us who are regulars. I want to dedicate this cover letter to recognition. You all do so much behind the scenes and lord knows this year has taken its toll on so many, on so many fronts. I have learned to answer hardship with gratitude.

To you DCMs and Alternates who are making a way for your district servants to meet and conduct business, thank you. I get the opportunity to hear from many of you about things that concern you. I’ve heard from you about Area and GSO finances. You raise questions about how meetings reopen safely and how we will conduct area business during this pandemic. You challenge us to think about things we had not considered that might benefit all. You include area officers on your minutes, and you keep the lines of communication flowing freely. Thank you for all you do. How can we continue to serve you?

Service committees – I can’t thank you enough for answering the call to showcase your work and share openly with the broader Area about carrying the message considering the circumstances around us. At our May committee meeting, I was moved to see so much willingness by our area committee chairs to participate in service showcase sessions to be held at each assembly. I’ll be looking for a few more of you to get ready for the September showcase!! Thank you for your outreach to your district counterparts and for your feet on the street whenever needed. Your committee work is AAs lifeblood.

Administrative committees and positions – I know many of you are just getting acquainted and there may not be much activity yet. As you come together, I look forward to the recommendations and ideas you will bring forward. While some committees have specific tasks over the year, others ramp up as needed. How do we keep our documentation current, how do we evaluate our financial state, how do we approve outlier expenditures, how do we advance our use of technology to share information and communicate more effectively? How do we craft our newsletter as a vehicle for unity, service, and recovery in our area? How do we make our manual accessible to all who need it? How do we track our history in the making? You work to answer to these questions. Thank you for graciously accepting the call to serve.

Past Delegates – thank you for making yourselves available to me as a voice of experience and support. I appreciate your willingness to continue to serve and guide our area. We need you!

My fellow area officers - I hope I say this enough any old time – thank you for all you are doing to keep us responsible to those we serve. Especially in these recent weeks and days, your support means so much to me, personally. It is so much fun getting to know you better and to work with you. What can we tackle together next?!

I will see you all soon at Assembly!

Carmela R, Area Chair