

 Monday, November 24, 1997 3:43:50 PM
Message



From:  WTRACY@nazarene.org,Internet
Subject: WTS/CHP
To:  Bill Kostlevy
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November 24, 1997

Dr. Marlin Hotle
Executive Director, CHP

Dear Dr. Hotle:

Imagine my astonishment when, quite by accident, I discovered at the CHP Editorial Committee meeting that WTS was expected to develop a six-hour "Convention within the Convention" at the CHP meeting (complete with a special luncheon) next April. That a program has gone to press announcing such a radical new plan without one syllable of this being communicated to the WTS officers is--well, to say the least, an unfortunate infelicity.

I would have expected that some sort of contact would have been made with me since I was the president of the society. But not a word. I was disappointed when your office sent the program to press last year without the name of our workshop or its leader in the program, as if we were supposed to somehow ascertain your deadline and press date with no contact from your office. That was bad enough, but this is a full-fledged unfortunate infelicity.

At our Executive Committee meeting of November 6, 1997, we talked about the plans for the 1998 CHP meeting. We were all present: president, first vice-president, second vice-president, secretary-treasurer, journal editor, and promotional secretary. No one in that group had heard a word about the ambitious new plan, or if they did, they kept it a secret when we discussed the 1998 CHP convention plans. Who else would your office be communicating with regarding WTS and CHP?

If we had gotten some inkling of your "Convention within the Convention" notion, we could have made some plans for the programming and the significant extra expense that it would incur. We could have at least discussed it at our fall meeting of the society or at one of our two Executive Committee meetings during 1997. Now we find ourselves in an embarrassing situation.

Here are some of the complications that this last minute

information brings to mind. The society moves its annual meeting from the fall to the spring in 1998. That means that the month before we are expected to program a day from 10:30--4:30 at CHP, we will have just staged our annual meeting. With a November 1997 meeting and a March 1998 meeting, our financial resources are already taxed. To add another "Convention within the Convention" is simply not financially feasible. We simply are not set up financially to stage three conventions in six months. Further, such a meeting calls for considerable planning, programming, and staffing that at this point is all but impossible.

My term of office in WTS is past, but I am forwarding this letter to the members of the current Executive Committee. What to do about this dystopian megillah is their call, not mine. They are gracious men, but I don't know what they can do to remedy this grim imbroglio. An embarrassing gap in the program may be slouching toward Kansas City like a sweaty, disheveled messiah. I recommend that someone from your office contact WTS president Dr. Doug Strong at the earliest possible moment (Phone 202-885-8655, Fax 202-885-8605, E-mail: Gnorts@erols.com).

This also may prompt a tergiversating response to your idea of WTS raising its annual dues so that \$5 or \$6 of each member's dues could be sent to CHP.

Through the tender mercies of our God, may the Dayspring from on high bring you light and peace (Luke 1:78-79).

Every blessing,

Wesley Tracy
Past President, WTS

cc Doug Strong
Wm. Kostlevy
Barry Callen
Albert Truesdale
Steve McCormick
Stephen Lennox