

Portland (OR) Chapter President Report April 10, 2021

CLUSTER:

Note the Tacoma (WA) Chapter sends out their newsletter the second week of each month. Keep in mind when sharing program notices and events to other chapters it's best to send at the beginning of the month.

AREA:

For those who did not receive the Western Area Director's March 9, 2021 newsletter, it is here

<https://view.joomag.com/wa-march-newsletter-first-edition/0050247001615167297?short&>

The 45th Western Area Conference theme is *"Footprints to the Future, A Whole New World"*! The Call to Conference is planned to be open Wednesday, April 7. Do not delay, please register the first day under the Host Chapter option. Conference formally opens June 2 and ends June 6. The June 1st is the executive board and presidents appreciation dinner. The conference will conclude June 6th with a Gospel closeout. The conference planning is based on an expectation of higher than 1500 attendees. The conference will be highly interactive so every attendee feels as if they are truly involved. We are receiving 1N5 credit. The 1N5 period extended a year because the 1N5 credit was not awarded for the 2020 National Assembly. The current 1N5 period is 2018-2023.

All chapters with 75% of its members registered by April 28 will get their chapter delegate and alternate's regular registration fee waived. That is a \$450.00 savings to the selected chapter. There will be prizes for the chapter with the most VIP registrants.

Regular registration April 7-April 28. Late registration is \$300.00, April 29 - May 13. The Host Chapter registration is \$175.00. Aluma registration is \$100.00. VIP "Portland Roses" \$500.00 for which the benefits are still being developed but one item is the Coffee Table/Souvenir Book. Why is there a charge for the conference? The Area Conference is a fundraising initiative, the Area does not have the privilege of taking on the expense of the conference without a charge. There are tremendous expenses associated with delivering a high quality virtual conference. The technology is the most expensive even in an in person environment but gets more expensive in a virtual platform. The attendees must incur some of the cost but it is low.

Evincibles provides a platform which allows networking/Friendworking options. The phoneapp will be available as well to give attendees another way to connect.

The concluding event Saturday night will be an optional concert by Robert Ingram. There will likely be 50 vendors in the marketplace during the conference. The vendor fee is \$300.00 or less.

Mission Statement:

“Friends Transforming Communities Through Service”

Humbly Submitted by

Link Serena Ashley