

REGION 2 MONTHLY MEMO

March 1999

COMMODORE PETE MOHNEY
REGION 2 REGIONAL COORDINATOR



Greetings! Welcome to the first of my Monthly Memos. I will be following the tradition set by my predecessor, Kelly Hilliard, in sending a short newsletter in between publications of the Region 2 Update.

I am very excited about becoming your RC, and I have jumped in with both feet. Many of you were present at the Summit early this month, and heard me talk about my plans for the region. These plans echo what I promised in my campaign letters, and the number one plan is increased communication. This has already started. All chapters should have received their chapter roster by now, so you can see what needs fixing, who needs to be added and what members you might have that you did not even know about. You will receive this list every quarter. I have created a e-mailing list for all the staff and Commanding Officers for R2, and I have sent quite a few emails to each of these groups already, asking for advice, thoughts, and passing some news. I am also joining a committee composed of some of the members of the AB/EC to discuss the rules for awarding of honorary and lifetime memberships.

I plan to hold the first of my monthly regional chats at 8 p.m. on April 4, in a chat room on AOL that I will create. This will be a very informal meeting, just to test the AOL venue and see what kind of response I get. In May, I plan to have a regional chat on ICQ; at this time, I am not very ICQ-literate, so I am going the AOL route for now. If you have an AOL Instant Message handle, please send it to me at my email address below and I will add you to the list of folks to invite. I have also recently installed Netmeeting on my PC, so if anyone would like to chat with me extensively by voice, we can do so without either of us incurring big phone bills. This is a free download from microsoft.com, and downloads and installs quite quickly.

I also will be visiting chapters and events in person as much as time and finances permit. I have trips planned for June to the Marine Muster, July to Dragon Con in Atlanta, in August to the International Conference, and in October to visit a chapter which is forming in Mobile. If you have an event this year, or would like me to come to a meeting sometime, please contact me and I will try to schedule a visit. More than likely I will have to drive to these events, so I will not be able to visit South Florida, but just about all the rest of the region is within reach.

The transfer of Region 2 property and funds will occur as soon as all of the bills from the Summit are paid. Enclosed with this newsletter is an updated Summit 2000 Flyer, which has my address as the mailing address. Mike Henigan will continue to be the Summit Chairman, but the money will flow to the new Region 2 Treasurer, Denby Potts. A list of registrants will appear in each Region 2 Update and Monthly Memo, so you can see if your registration has been received and processed. As soon as the regional funds are transferred to me, I will be opening a double-signature checking account for the region in a Birmingham bank.

I will be very busy this year; in addition to becoming your RC with all the travel and work that entails, I am also the head of the Summit Committee for the 2000 Summit, which will be held in Birmingham. We plan to try to make this the biggest and best Summit ever, and have a lot of fun stuff planned. All of the section heads on the Summit Committee have attended all four of the previous Summits, so we have a pretty good idea of what is needed, what will work, and what can be improved. We think you will be pleased with the results, and if you have any ideas, suggestions or complaints, please do not hesitate to let us know!

I have been in touch with the Region 2 Constitutional Committee, and have been assured that progress will be immediate. I intend to bring a document to a regional vote before the year is out. If you have any concerns or ideas, please contact the chairman of that committee, Jon Reddick. We have been lucky in the region to never have suffered the problems that occurred at the national level, but there is no guarantee that will last forever. I plan to build up Region 2 and give it the protection that an organization this important deserves.

At the Summit, while there were still complaints about lack of service, failure to receive membership materials and lost or late Communiques, the level of complaining was lower than any of the previous three years, I take that as a very good sign. I now have a pretty good idea of who is still having problems and who is not, and each of your Commanding Officers should have a good idea what data SFI HQ has on your ship. This should go a long way toward solving the remaining problems.

As always, I am here to serve you. Report your problems and achievement in your monthly reports, and I will look to solve the first and congratulate you for the second. If you need to contact me, email is preferable; please limit telephone calls to weeknights no later than 9 p.m. or weekends no later than 10 p.m.

Region Two, Second to None!

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