

TO: All Auxiliary Members

FROM: Pat Cerny, Chief of Staff

SUBJECT: Floor work at Convention

We have reached a point of having to make a big decision.

First: Money – our membership is less than half of what it was 20 years ago. This means that much less dollars in the bank. We had to slash our funding to the VA Hospitals, SD Veterans Home and Human Services Center by one third. That is a huge chunk to take away from our veterans.

Second: Partly because of the lack of numbers renting motel rooms for convention and partly because the motel/hotel situation is changing we are not always allowed large rooms for our meeting. Floor work demands large rooms. We also have the challenge of getting the VFW to understand the need for room size.

Third: If we have to pay to rent large rooms it not only depletes from our funds but in some cases we may have to travel to other facilities, lugging all our 'stuff'. The rent usually is \$150 to \$200 , sometimes more, for each day. \$400 may not sound like much, but in our very limited budget it means cutting something else and there is hardly anything left to cut.

Forth: Many younger members feel it is a waste of their time for floor work when the time could be spent on programs, socializing, etc. They (plus many of the long time members) feel we need to change. We need the younger crowd.

Fifth: National Bylaws do NOT say we need to do floor work. We can follow a Contemporary format as we do in our Auxiliary and District meetings.

Sixth: We are proposing to try Contemporary for a Convention or two. Incoming Presidents have the option of "doing it their way". (After they make proper additions to their budget for the year)

This will be the proposal to be discussed at the next Council of Administration meeting which will be held at Legislative Conference.