

SUMMER TIME

Summer is here!!! Along with all the severe weather, between the heat, humidity, and tornado, high winds rain and flooding. It has been an adventure. Last night we had severe storms with 8 inches of rain, Thank God, The electricity stayed on or we would have been flooded. It was a day/night to remember.



Just returning from IRD in Halifax, Nova Scotia which was very nice. Wish more of you could have been there to share in all the wonderful winners and hear their success stories. The speakers were outstanding, especially our TOPS President Barbara Cady. I heard from the men that the "Men in TOPS" also had a great workshop and another first was The KOPS Honor Society had a special meeting for KOPS Societies.

The Music was outstanding, Earl Garner and Sharon Burke Randle was excellent as were the song leaders. The Three Gals from Canada who lead the group, and had everyone singing.

We had our own great winners, Gwenn Smith was among the tops 10 Coordinators placing # 6 and New Coordinator Connie Crane was honored as one of the top 10 Area captains placing 3rd. Good Job. Our Area also received an award for Growth of 251 members for last year and I was honored as the Regional Director of the year. It was a great year for the states of Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin. Hope to see all of you up there next year.

2011 IRD will be held in Milwaukee and our states are hosting so we will need all of you to come and give us a hand. Many hands make light work. If you have a talent and want to share it in the Hospitality room great, If you are a good organizer, Knit, quilt, dance, song leader, soloist, or you like telling people where to go we can use each and every one of you.

WHAT CAN YOU DO? Just ask and we will find something for you to do.

Chapter, you might want to do a special fund raiser to help your members to attend IRD. It will never be this close unless your state offers to host one down the road. I know we can do this with your help.

Our membership is down for the year. How about each of you asking your chapters to check their records to make sure everyone has renewed. Someone called last week for information and I discovered her membership had lapse and she was the leader.

TOPS rule states the leader's membership is free. That is a true fact, however it is not TOPS that pays the membership it is your chapter.

Your Area Captain is out presenting the Stress program which has been very well received. Be sure you help her with some gas money. You do not need to pay mileage, but let's not expect them to drive 100 miles for \$5.00 either. Perhaps you would consider adding something to your chapter bylaws regarding what you pay a speaker. It is embarrassing to be asked "what do we owe you?" Some of you are very generous and we Thank You.

See you next Month.

Ruth