

Regional Meeting Ideas/Notes  
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June 13, 2008

**Ideas for running a region from Region VI:**

**Remind, Remind, Remind** your presidents of everything.

**Communication is key.** Share information with your presidents. Do not assume they already know. Since they don't attend Regional or Executive Committee meetings and often don't attend conferences and conventions, YOU must tell them all that you have learned.

Lots of **enthusiasm and energy on your part** as Regional Director goes a LONG way to motivating your region.

**Roster** – have a roster of your presidents, former presidents, former regional directors, anyone else still involved in “running” your region

Region VI conducts meetings about 8 times a year. **If distances keep you from meeting in person or from meeting as often in person, do email meetings (set a time when all of you are on line) or telephone conference meetings ([www.freeconferencecall.com](http://www.freeconferencecall.com)).** It is crucial to bonding and exchanging ideas.

Region VI now considers itself a unit and sister clubs/members.

Don't view fellow clubs as competitors.

Coordinate a presence at community events, fairs, and Central Committee events to make sure newsletters and membership forms are there.

Newsletters – send to all other clubs in your region to share ideas.

Attend one other's meetings for ideas and speaker referrals.

Use agendas for your regional meetings.

Emphasize sharing ideas, tips, and things to be avoided.

Make your regional meetings productive and fun. Have food, wine, meet at a restaurant or home, go around the room for a report from each club, remind clubs of CFRW or Northern Division events, deadlines.

Remind your clubs of CFRW and Northern Division deadlines and events.

**Don't assume everyone knows as much as you do.** Make sure to share information, deadlines, events, and tips from Executive Committee meetings and Regional Meetings with your regional presidents.

**Make your regional group go BEYOND just the "current" presidents.** Make sure if a president cannot attend that they have a Vice President or some other board member participate.

**Region VI has current presidents, past presidents, past regional directors, and any board member who would like to participate from a club on the "Council." We now call it our "Regional Council."**

Teamwork, no gossip.

Praise, praise, praise

Thank you's, thank you's, thank you's

**Attend one another's events, fund raisers, meetings, and mixers.**

**Have a regional conference (it could be a day-long event with speakers and lunch or just one speaker over lunch).** It is invaluable for outreach to the public and also to bond your region. Each club does a task (for example, one club takes registration, another mans the registration desk, another brings decorations, another the speaker gifts). Hold a 50/50 to break even. The Regional Director acts as chairman in conjunction with club presidents.

**Summarize your regional meetings and send to your presidents. Summarize (non-confidential) Executive Committee meeting meetings and send to your presidents. Summarize your own meetings with your clubs and send to your presidents.**

**Email list of all your clubs where you regularly (at least twice a month) update them,** if nothing else but to energize them, tell them you are there for help.

Emphasize we are part of larger and more powerful group with being part of CFRW and NFRW

Push Associate memberships. Men are looking for a place to learn, too.

Share membership forms, business cards, brochures, letters, and other ideas at each meeting.

Have a discussion topic each time—a "roundtable" so to speak on publicity, fund raising, membership, and newsletters. Invite each club's chairman on that topic to attend and contribute.

**Work as a group with letters to the editor or for calls/emails to legislators.** Pick a topic, provide the contact info, and inundate the press or politician. Region VI sent 140 letters to the editor in 2007. It was a friendly competition among the clubs.

Remind your clubs they can and should **pay for speakers and mileage.**

**All clubs should have their own email lists to remind their membership of events/meetings.**

Encourage **clubs to have a website.** Grandchildren often can set them up or often \$200 can get you one by a semi-professional.

Have a **regional bank account** to seed money Northern Division opportunity gifts, your own regional conferences, seed money for the regional director to pay for flyers, etc.

Region VI charges each of its 6 clubs \$10 a year (and puts in the bank account) as seed money.

Remind your clubs they should budget for conferences and conventions. Remind them they should pay some or the entire “registration fee” for members and a set amount for president’s expenses.

Remind your clubs to review their by-laws.

Remind your clubs to line item \$ figures for speakers and for conferences/conventions.

Have a guest column by a teen or young person in club newsletters. Members’ kids or grandkids are great sources.

Each club should have a member of the year.

Have a regional Christmas celebration or summer BBQ.