

Region 1 & 2 Combined Retreat 2009
July 22-24, 2009
Dayton OH
Prepared by: Chris Wretschko, Governor

Wednesday, July 22, 2009

On Wednesday, Jo Ann Hatfield, Laurie Koelling, Katie Colden and I, got an early start and drove from Michigan to Dayton Ohio for the Regional Retreat, which had been organized by a committee chaired by Nancy Farkas, Region 2 VP, with 12 members.

Arriving in Dayton in the rain, the first item on the agenda was a visit to Carillon Historic Park where we learned a little bit about the history of Dayton (Kitty Hawk – First in Flight, Home of the National Cash Register Company and home of Delco – division of GM), before enjoying a wonderful dinner in the Mass Transportation Building. At this dinner, there was also the usual silent auction going on which made the region over \$2500, to help defray the costs of this meeting.

Thursday, July 23, 2009

The next morning began with a nice continental breakfast and an acknowledgement of the all of the sponsors (for entire list – see below). Craig Rider (from The Rider Group), the Facilitator, began the sessions with an interactive welcome./networking exercise – where we all get to meet about 5-10 people that we hadn't known before. Of course, networking is one of the major reasons for going to a Regional Retreat, so this was a great way to start ours!!

Becky Hill, our 2009 National President, then gave a 20 minute session on Success Strategies. She told us that Successful People: Are optimistic; Have a definite purpose – a dream; Are willing to work hard; Are disciplined with systems in place; Trust their intuition; Are risk takers; Are historically prolific readers; Expect the best; and, don't become successful alone. Sounds like a well run WCR chapter to me!!

Craig Rider continued with an Interactive Leadership Exercise – developing leadership skills – another important reason for attending Regional Conferences.

The WCR Past National Presidents Power Panel was next where they discussed Leveraging Leadership WCR & Beyond. The panelists included: Brenda Ballard (2000), Deborah Battersby (1999), Ann Defries (2008), Shelia Espinosa (1993), Gail Harnett (2006), and Barbara Lach (2002) and it was facilitated by Deborah Gilmore, 2009 WCR National President Elect. What a powerful panel!! They each had a specific topic on Leadership to speak about for 5 minutes – these topics were as follows:

Developing Leadership Skills

Self Leadership

Leadership in a Changing Market

Leadership Skills in the Community

Leadership Skills in Business

How you react and interact with your Family and Friends

After learning some wonderful tips from these very powerful women, Craig Rider continued through lunch.

After lunch, Jackie Leavenworth talked about “Pricing Your Listings – the Dartboard Approach to Pricing” where we heard some very good ideas and learned some important verbiage to use at our listing presentations. She gave us her flow sheet with the correct verbiage for all of her listening presentations where she discusses how to “POSITION” (not price) your home. If you would like a copy of this, let me know. I just noticed that Jackie will also be at the MAR convention in Traverse City – you could talk me into listening to her again – she was good!

Shortly after that last session ended, a bus arrived to take anyone who wanted to go to the Wright Patterson Air Force Museum where they had a private tour of the National Air Force Museum.

For dinner that evening, we headed by bus to the beautiful NCR (National Cash Register) Country club where we enjoyed a very nice dinner with music. Following dinner, the party livened up a bit as many of the members present pretended they were on America’s Got Talent or something and we witnessed a very good Hula Hoop twirler, singing and dancing. What fun!! I will bet that by now, portions of this are on UTube!!

Back to the hotel for the evening, we headed to the lobby bar to play Euchre – since the girls from Michigan had started this the night before, there were now about 6 tables playing Euchre!

Friday, July 24, 2009

This morning began by heading up the street a short ways to the Dayton Board of REALTORS® Building where we enjoyed a continental breakfast before listening to Amy Chorew talk about the “Real Estate Service Strategies in an Information Age.” This was a very informative session about Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Realtown, You Tube, Active Rain, Trullia, Craig’s List, and more. When Amy concluded this 3 hour Con Ed session, we had a nice buffet lunch and then the Michigan girls – and many others – left for home. The last session that we missed that afternoon was called “Green-The New Paradigm” by Alex Hagarty. I would have liked to have heard this session, but we had a long drive home.

This meeting was sponsored by the following:

Wells Fargo Home Mortgage
Dayton Area Board of REALTORS®
Dayton Chapter WCR
Ohio Association of RELATORS®
Coldwell Banker Heritage REALTORS®
Columbus Chapter WCR
Hallmark Title Agency
Pillar to Post Home Inspectors
American Home Shield (Ohio)
Dayton Marriot Hotel
Carillon Historical Park
Clark, Schaefer, Hackett
Hebron Pediatrics
Nancy Farkas
Region 1

In summary, about 100 members attended this conference. The entire conference was very well organized, with few hitches. They handed out a note book full of everything that we needed of all of the meetings. It included the agenda, the bios of the speakers, the handouts for each sessions, the inspirations that were read, a roster of all attendees and the history of Ohio! In the back of the notebook, they also included a page to put all of the cards that we collected at the conference. This was a very good conference which all members of our region should attend – it is more relaxing than some of the State and National Meetings and yet you still get to learn, site see and network.

Respectively submitted by,

Chris Wretschko
Governor 2009