



Board Views

Dr. Roy E. Miller
TDI President

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“Hot Stuff”

The recent TDI Biennial International Conference in Las Vegas was brim full of “hot stuff.” The exhibit hall was the perfect place to see some of the current “red-hot” telecommunications technology of potential benefit to people who are deaf and hard of hearing. And the conference was blessed with presentations by some of the “hottest” speakers in the telecommunications business. As always, the TDI staff was “warm” and fuzzy, and TDI Board members carried out their responsibilities with “fiery” enthusiasm. The special awards program evoked “burning” images of lengthy and productive relationships involving TDI and its many corporate partners. Furthermore, conference attendees could often be seen hanging around the dice and blackjack tables hoping for the “hot” streak that would bring fortune their way. And for those so inclined, there was plenty of “steaming” entertainment on and off the strip that was guaranteed to “raise the temperature” of even the most detached observer.

But none of that “heat” could hold a candle to the “heat” that a person felt if they stepped outside the air-conditioned environment of the Green Valley Ranch Station Hotel and Casino (the TDI conference hotel). With the daily temperatures hovering around “115 degrees,” going outside in the daytime meant facing the “scorching” blasts of desert winds. If one breathed too deeply, it felt like you were “searing” the air sacs in your lungs. Indeed, to the uninitiated, taking a short walk in out-of-doors Vegas was akin to trying to take a nap inside a “blast furnace.” Just one visit to Vegas in the middle of summer can make one fully understand why everything happens after sundown in all desert regions! Even so, there were rumors that a small band of “sweltering” golf junkies (including the TDI executive director) put wet towels on their heads and played eighteen “sizzling” holes on the day before the conference began. Their brains must have been “fried” by the end of the day!

Another feature of this year’s TDI Conference that was “hotter” than usual was the announcement of the results of the election for Regional Representatives on the TDI Board of Directors. Each of the three regions up for election had three excellent candidates running, and the competition was “blazing.” Only a few votes separated the candidates in all three regions! Ted Hart from Washington was elected to represent the Western Region; Fred Weiner from Maryland was elected to represent the Southeastern Region; and incumbent Tom Driscoll from Massachusetts was re-elected to represent the Northeastern Region. Congratulations to all of the winners in what were the most “torrid” elections in recent memory.

In recognition of his “glowing” contributions to the TDI Board in the past, Joseph Duarte was appointed to an at-large seat on the Board for the coming four years. Joe has been involved in many “heated” discussions on the board in the past, and we look forward to his continued presentation of “passionate” perspectives on many “seething” issues in the future.

Last I would mention that the Board had a rather “tepid” election of officers for the next two-year period, returning everyone in the former leadership team with but one necessary substitution. There were no “broiling” controversies, and no “burning” challenges. The officers of the TDI Board for the 2003-2005 period are Tom Driscoll, Secretary, Lori Breslow, Treasurer, Joe Duarte, Vice-President, and Roy Miller, President.

Indeed, there was a lot of “hot stuff” that occurred at the past TDI Conference, and it will probably long be remembered as the “hottest” conference in the history of TDI. And what more can one ask of a conference, than to have it result in “white-hot” images being “burnt” into one’s memory. Just think, 2005 is only a couple of years away!!! **SK**

