

REPORT ON 2015 CONFERENCE IN BRANSON, MO

The 2015 reunion conference was held at the Radisson Hotel in Branson, MO from 24 to 27 SEP. There were approximately 35 guests in attendance. The event was well coordinated thanks to the Herculean efforts of Bruce Shiels - down to the smallest detail, he ensured that nothing was overlooked. The relationships he has forged in Branson paid off well as we were treated like royalty at the entertainment shows he arranged for us - two top notch shows. Bruce, we can not thank you enough for the outstanding job!

Please note that the dates for the next two years are set for 22 to 25Sep, 2016 and the 2017 dates are set for 21 to 24 Sep, 2017 - both scheduled for Branson. I urge everyone to make plans to attend - this was a great chance to catch up with old friends and forge relationships with new friends.

On Thursday evening we met at Charlie's Steak and Ale house where Dick Dionisio and his wife Madeline were surprised by a CGIA themed cake celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary.

Our business meeting on Friday lasted only 65 minutes - a possible world record for CGIA. The minutes of the business meeting (as well as the executive board minutes) are posted elsewhere on this web page. The short meeting left plenty of time for swapping tales of years past - most of which started with "This is no....."

The highlight of the conference was the dinner on Saturday evening - great company, and a tribute to the God-Father of CGIS - Dick Dionisio. He was accompanied to the conference by his wife Madeline, one of their daughter's, Trish Braun, her husband Chris Braun and their daughter, Lauren Braun. We presented Dick with a badge replica as our way of saying thanks for all he did for CGIS over many, many years.

At some point during this upcoming year, we will initiate the election process. According to our by-laws, 2016 is an election year. More to follow.....

While it appears that our organization will never fill a large hotel for our conferences, even with our small turnout this year, I believe that everyone fully enjoyed themselves this year. I encourage everyone to give serious thought to attending next year. Bruce, I am sure, is already working to prepare for the 2016 conference and he has promised to arrange other round of good entertainment.

Sincerely,

Steve Little
President