I had the privilege of attending the 35th Annual U.S. North Central Regional Delegates Meeting in Bloomington, Illinois. Ginny was willing to drive, and Theresa and I had the opportunity to be passengers. I sat in the back seat and slept most of the way. The highlight on the way to Illinois was stopping at a gas station and seeing Rose and Ann who drove separately. We all decided to meet for dinner in Orland Park where I had the honor of meeting and giving a real hug to a member that I had met on the 5 am phone line in November 2019.

The Regional Delegates Meeting (RDM) reminded me a little of the International Conference as there were many speakers and all of them were amazing.

The RDM's primary purpose is to share their experience, strength, and hope of the past delegates with the new delegates before going to conference. I had the privilege of reading the General Warranties and learned to introduce myself as: Merri G- Area 44, Alternate Delegate, Panel 64.

There was a total of 19 speakers at the conference made up of new delegates, current delegates, and past delegates.

I was in the "Growing Service Committee" breakout room where members gave ideas on how to attract members to serve. One idea was to form a road show and go around to different groups and perform service skits. Another Breakout room idea was to have a sponsor fair and auction out willing-to-be-sponsors with those who do not have a sponsor.

Ohio volunteered to host the 2025 RDM and this report with edits accomplished my 300- word limit goal

Please remember to email me your contribution to the Ohio Al-A-notes on your favorite CAL to <u>merrig.iamfree@gmail.com</u> by March 31st, 2024.

Sincerely,

Merri G.