

# WAYNE'S PLACE



I'm going to make my column very short and to the point this month. At our December election meeting the elections were influenced by one group of people from one section of the Mid-Atlantic region. In essence what they did was right, proper and very necessary. It was necessary, because, for many years people have been getting elected because they were from a particular area or group and were backed by the smaller groups. These people may not have been the best people for the jobs, in some cases they didn't even want the jobs, but by cornering a block of votes, they were put in office. We, as the Mid-Atlantic, have been fortunate in that most of our boards and board members have been viable, but it could have gone the other way. This small group has finally brought this situation to a head.

The groups we're talking about here are the Baltimore, Washington and Eastern Shore areas. For the last few years the Mid-Atlantic has grown larger, and because of this it has been hard to get a lot of members to travel far distances every month or every other month to meetings. Many people in the different groups have

voiced concern about this. My comment to this is, you joined the Mid-Atlantic Association. This is a large area. You knew when you joined it wouldn't be close to home every month. Many of the members who used to go to all the meetings, no matter where they were, have become complacent and stopped attending meetings regularly. Let me remind you, your best representation is by attending all these meetings yourself.

Now we've come to the crossroads. Do we continue this bickering between sections or do we settle it here and now? If you take the position of saying it's not a problem, or if you feel that you shouldn't rock the boat, shame on you. It's time that we took an objective look at this thing. Some people have talked of separating into sub-chapters. They feel that the Mid-Atlantic would not suffer, but gain more interested and informed people. Others feel that dividing and going into sub-chapters would dilute the association's position nationally. I feel whatever the majority feels is best should be decided upon *NOW!!!*

I would offer the newsletter as a vehicle to carry anyone's opinions, pro or con, on separation. In this issue we have heard Virgil's opinion. I would like to hear others. I would like to see us bring this thing to a head professionally and stop talking casually about it over cocktails. Whatever the outcome of this situation, let it be whatever is best for the Mid-Atlantic Association.

May God bless you all and your families in the New Year.

Wayne Evans

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