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President's Report  
March 31, 2009  
Robert Banks  
Wichita, KS

Work on the conference has been progressing well and I'm sure we will have more information for you at the meeting. Registration numbers have been significantly below our original projection, which seems to be primarily due to the economy. I've heard from several regular MPLA attendees that are unable to attend this year because of budget cuts.

Kansas is also experiencing similar budget problems and registrations are down for KLA members as well.

Unfortunately, we may be facing this issue for the next two or three years, which creates significant issues for MPLA because we rely heavily on conference revenue for income. As we all must in our regular jobs and personal lives; it will be necessary for us to find ways for MPLA to cut expenses and raise revenues. Not an easy situation in difficult times. Your creativity will be welcome. We have some amazing people in MPLA and I'm sure we will find ways to survive this problem and emerge stronger for it.

Judy will hopefully have audit information for us at the meeting. Given some new national bookkeeping standards, we may be asked to make some changes in our procedures. We will deal with these things as they come along.

Just to cover the Leadership Institute status; I have signed the contract for April 2010 with YMCA of the Rockies. Maureen Sullivan has agreed to facilitate for us again. She and I have been trying to talk about this and missing each other. It is my turn to try to contact her! We are in the process of forming a job description for the coordinator for the institute. Additional information will come to you as it is available.

I look forward to seeing each of you in Wichita, as I draw great strength from the enduring friendships formed through MPLA.