

## Message from Herb Farrington on 2020 AM

### CRA President

We're in a difficult and historic time. Our country has been in rough times before, survived, and then proceeded to new heights. I'm confident that will happen again. But when you're in the middle of a storm, it's hard to have a long term perspective. There are existential dangers to our individual health and the national economy. But it's not a time to panic; panic leads to bad decisions.

A big decision the CRA had to make recently was about our 2020 Annual Meeting (AM). We have always held those; even after "9/11" and the recession of 2008-2009. I had the optimistic opinion that we could hold the AM up until the evening that President Trump announced a national emergency and the NBA said they were suspending the 2019-20 season. Although optimism is a good thing, we have to be realistic. At that point I knew we had to cancel/postpone the AM. I gave notice to the Doubletree hotel and, after a couple of days, they agreed to the cancellation without penalty.

Although our contract for the AM is cancelled, I am hopeful that we can reschedule and hold our AM this fall. The Doubletree in Denver indicated they are interested in rescheduling. However, the future course and duration of the pandemic is uncertain. So, we can't make any decision now. That will have to wait for a couple of months or more. We will keep you advised when we make a decision.

For those CRA Directors who made airline ticket purchases and other travel arrangements, we have provided them with instructions as to cancellation options and CRA reimbursement procedures.

With the cancelled/postponed AM, there are a couple of things the CRA Directors will have to do in the meantime. One is to elect a CRA President for 2020-21 and the other is to approve our annual budget for that time frame. Fortunately, we now have a procedure to do those things over the Internet. CRA Directors will be advised about the voting procedures in the near future. If other issues arise, we will handle those in a similar manner.

I have seen that many of our chapters have cancelled their recent and upcoming meetings. Those were good decisions. We all have to adapt to current reality. I'm sure we'll return to our usual schedules before long. We will post any important communications and events on our CRA website at: <http://chevronretirees.org>

I wish each of you the best of health, stay safe. Keep your faith in a better future. Try to be positive; being negative will hurt your health. Follow the CDC and other health agency guidelines. I'm confident that "This too shall pass". We'll return to the good old days, when the only virus we had to worry about was computer virus.

*Herb*

Herb Farrington  
President, Chevron Retirees Association