

Hi, All,

Linda Taber (Region 8 Retirement Ed Chair) and I have attended this conference in St Charles for four years. It is a statewide techie conference and is usually well attended. It does, however, conflict with MRTA's Legislative Day. Linda and I usually go up on Sunday and set up our booth so that we are "ready to roll" on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Linda has worked this with me on Monday, with someone else on Tuesday and then again with me on Wednesday. That didn't quite work out this year. The leadership of the Conference has changed and we were not getting emails in a timely manner. So, we went (with our "stuff") to set up on Monday -- bright and early -- all we found was our name on curtains. It was downhill from there. According to an email sent Sunday that I did not receive until Monday, the exhibitors were not to set up until noon and the Hall would not be available to attendees until Tuesday (Legislative Day).



Past MRTF Grant Recipient

Pat Lane (STL MRTA Ambassador) was scheduled to work with Linda on Tuesday. It didn't quite work out that way. The booth was manned on Tuesday by a member of the SSD and Suburban Unit (Roz Cantoni) and Pat Lane (both nearly froze to death because it was so cold!). They handed out a lot of grant applications and pink pens. The placement of the booth was NOT ideal for us. They did, however, find three past Grant winners. Because this is a statewide conference I feel that it is VERY worthwhile to give this another "shot" next year, even though, the conditions were NOT ideal this year. I talked with the woman who was in charge on Wednesday (it was a little warmer that day) and explained what our organization was all about and hopefully she will adjust our situation next year.



Past MRTF Grant Recipient

Attendance was down because a lot of the schools did not send anyone until Monday. That was NOT the case the last three years. The woman in charge was new AND there was another group that did not vacate the Convention Center until Sunday afternoon, plus the weather was bad all weekend. Hopefully, everything will be on track next year and we can pass out more pink pens, grant applications AND talk to a lot of actives about MRTA.

Nancy Craig
Region 8 V-P



Past MRTF Grant Recipient