There will not be conventions as usual this year in North Carolina.

Dear Friends,

We are sorry for any inconvenience or disappointment this will be to some of you, but we are writing to let you know there will not be conventions as usual this year in North Carolina.

The conventions will instead be 3 days and held at rented facilities consisting of daytime meetings only:

Gastonia

September 8, 9, 10

Gastonia Conference Center

145 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Gastonia, NC

Greensboro

September 22, 23, 24

Meridian Convention Center

312 W Meadowview Rd, Greensboro, NC

Those who normally attend in Denton could attend in Greensboro, and those who normally attend in Shelby could attend in Gastonia, but this is also flexible, and you are welcome to attend both. Please note the dates, as Gastonia is now the earlier convention and Greensboro is the later convention. There should be plenty of room for any who wish to attend.

There are no overnight accommodations at these convention centers. Some may choose to commute from home. Others may wish to make other overnight plans. Furthermore, arrangements are being looked at for lunch time meals during each of the days. More information on this will be provided soon.

We apologize for the inconvenience these changes may cause to those who already made overnight reservations for 2023. Financial assistance for losses due to cancellations and for securing overnight accommodation is also available.

For these inquiries and any other questions, please send an email to <u>nc-</u> <u>conventions@googlegroups.com</u>. Our friends who have offered to help host these events will respond to you in a timely manner.

There will be additional information regarding these events sent out in coming days.

We have heard your concerns, and we feel this change is in the best interest for this year.

Our convention season will soon arrive, and for some we are looking forward to being together again and for the help that may come.

There are others who are more reluctant, and understandably so. Each has a right to make their own decision, and we do not want to place judgment on this very personal decision.

The NC/VA/MD/DE Workers