

## **Fall Committee Meeting**

October 19, 2013

Lord of Life Church, La Fox, IL

(District 21, Host)

Call to order

Quiet time

New attendees

Robert- Alt Ans Serv Elect- District 23

AA anniversaries

Jim W-11 Years

Twelve Concepts of World Service -Kevin

Announcements –Mike M.

Approval of 2013 Summer Committee Minutes: Terry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jeff, vote approved

Jeff G, Literature Committee would like to add floor motion re; Bridging the Gap pamphlet, would like it today so that it can get to 2014 GSC. Vote taken, will be added as number 8 on agenda.

Officer Reports

Chairperson Kelly L

Alternate Chair Allen J

No report

Secretary Dawn B

Alternate Secretary, Dana C

Registrar Marilyn F

## Fellowship New Vision database

Fellowship New Vision database (FNV) was developed by the General Service Office and released for use by the areas in May, 2007. FNV is a web based tool and because of that, updates are immediate. FNV also provides each area, via their Area Registrar, access to update certain area information directly into the database. Because FNV is an online-real time database, what is entered by either the areas or the GSO Records department is available for immediate use.

Four times a year the Alternate Registrar will be sending to the DMC and the District Secretary a document of all of the groups in their district. The last column is where updates can be entered. GSRs can update group information by working with their DCM or district secretary or by completing a group information change form which they can find online at

<http://www.aa-nia.org/forms.html>.

Group information includes group name, group number, area, district, history dates, meeting locations and times, and complete group contact information. District information, on the other hand, includes district service positions and contact information for those elected to those positions and Area information is similar to district information but at the area-level.

This information is the key to communication throughout the A.A. general service structure. GSO uses group information to send information kits to new GSRs, copies of Box 459, the GSO quarterly newsletter, and GSO quarterly reports. Similarly, the area uses the information to send to the group Concepts, the NIA newsletter, and area assembly meeting minutes. This information is also used by GSO to send information kits to District and area-level committee chairs to help orient them to their service positions and by area service committee chairs to communicate with their district counterparts.

Just a reminder: Since the Concepts uses the information from FNV, and GSO also uses this information, it is still important that the groups and contacts be kept current

Since we will be sending minutes via e-mail, please check with me or your DCM to be sure that your e-mail is correct in FNV.

In FNV the Registrar can search for groups or individuals and do instant updates.

It is no longer necessary to send group information updates to both NIA and GSO. All information update requests can be sent to the area registrar at registrar@aa-nia.org.

New e-mail address for the Area Registrar

The new e-mail address for the Area Registrar is: registrar@aa-nia.org.

Information updates since 01/01/2013

All update requests that were received before 10/17/2013

have been processed in FNV.

Total for 2013

Group information 138

New groups 29

Folded/Inactive 59

Group contact information 198

District contacts 91

Area contacts 17

Total updates 530

We will continue to send welcome letters from the area to new GSRs. The packets include the following:

- a welcome letter from the area
- a snapshot of the group's information from FNV
- NIA contribution envelope

Since 1/1/2013 the Area Registrar/Alternate Registrar have sent 130 new GSR group packets.

## Treasurer's Report Mike F

This report is being presented as of October 15th. The following is our financial status as of this date.

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Contributions/Income:	\$69,465.19	\$55,149.63
Expenses:	<u>\$61,871.85</u>	<u>\$60,497.58</u>
Net Contributions/Expenses:	\$7,593.34	(\$5,347.95)

As you can see we are well ahead of last year's contributions compared to expenses.

### Can Contributions

**Pink Can Fund:** has received a total of \$4,170.64 YTD in contributions. We have spent \$5,274.12 on literature.

**Green Can Fund:** has collected \$18.57 YTD. We have spent \$165.65 on literature.

I sent a contribution to GSO for \$8,000.

### 2013 Primary Purpose Register (Basic)

The 2013 PPR Basic Budget to date with 2014 proposed line items is attached to this report.

If you have any questions regarding this information or the attached financial reports just give me a call or send me an email.

Alternate Treasurer Janet N

The contributions report is attached to this memo. The summary of the numbers are as follows:

Group Contributions	\$ 39,406.42
District Contributions	16,944.35
Conference Contributions	<u>9,085.22</u>

Total: \$ 65,435.99

Please let your groups know that the address to send contributions to the NIA Treasurer is:

**NIA Treasurer**

**Northern Illinois Area, Ltd.**

**P.O. Box 241**

**Elburn, IL 60119**

This address is valid until December 31, 2013. I will have new address and envelopes available after that date.

Please indicate your group number on your donation. If you know of a missing group number on my report, and have the group information, please contact me.

Thank you to everyone for your contributions to NIA 20.

Delegate Report Rich H

Hello Area 20 Committee

Good morning everybody.

The 63<sup>rd</sup> General Service Conference affirms that the Internet, social media and all forms of public communications are implicit in the last phrase of the Short Form of Tradition Eleven, which reads: "...at the level of press, radio and films."

I really like saying that. For reasons being, I like the way it sounds, it was one of my prouder moments of unity within Alcoholics Anonymous at this years General Service Conference, and it is a start, if only a small start to getting our membership to look at our behavior on social media and other forms of public communication.

FROM AAWS HIGHLIGHTS: PUBLISHING- Total gross sales for the first eight months through August 2013 are \$8,774,270, which is \$166,380 (1.93%) over estimate for the period, and ahead of last year's gross sales At this time by \$172,818.

AAWS recommended that the price of e-book versions of AAWS literature be kept below their print version equivalents.

AAWS recommended that a soft cover, abridged, large-print edition of Alcoholics Anonymous be produced in early 2014.

FINANCE-For the seven months ended July 31, 2013, contributions from AA groups and members of \$3,845,796 were \$57,700 over budget. Gross profit on literature sales of \$4,801,540 was \$281,400 over budget. Total operating expenses of \$8,883,998 were \$16,400 over budget. Net loss totaled \$236,347, compared with a seven month budgeted loss of \$557,888.

I can only speak for myself, I know that our home group and myself personally do our parts with continued contributions to District 11, Area 20 and the General Service Board. Are you and your group doing your part?

GRAPEVINE: Income above budget by \$178,116, average subscriptions are below budget by 1,619.

LaVina subscriptions are increasing, income is over budget by \$8544. The by month subscriptions are decreasing to 15%. LaVina's renewal rate is lower than Grapevine's.

Grapevine now offers 17 e-Books.

FNV/Grapevine and Your Group project has resulted in 4,039 new group contacts to date.

Grapevine Daily Quote has 22,479 subscribers

Launched the Spanish language weekly quote, Cita Semanal con LaVina on September 2, 2013.

The two simplest ways to support Grapevine are to subscribe, and to submit articles. I again do my part I have 1 Grapevine and 2 LaVina subscriptions. And I have submitted stories that were never published.

There is an opening for an Appointed Committee Member for the Trustees' Committee on Public Information. All Area Committee Members should have received that information from me this week. If not and are interested or know somebody that may be interested, see me during a break or after the meeting today.

The AAWS Online Bookstore has been deployed of Tuesday October 15<sup>th</sup>. I did not buy anything but was able to easily navigate through it. You can get there through the AAWS web site.

I sent out pre-order forms for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Edition Big Book. You can order now for an April Delivery. Again see me if you did not get this from me in an e-mail

Don't forget our East Central Regional Forum in Fort Wayne Indiana on November 15-17. Where you should be able to meet our General Service Office Manager, Chairman of the General Service Board, our new Regional Trustee, an AAWS Board Trustee, a Grapevine Board Trustee, our Grapevine Executive Editor Publisher, our LaVina Editor and a Non Alcoholic member of the General Service Board. You will be able to engage in conversation and ask questions of all of these people. Plus there will be workshops, presentations and ask-it baskets. There should be something of interest for everybody.

We are getting close to the 2014 Conference of Delegates Past and Present in Schaumburg on Feb. 7-9, Hosted by Northern Illinois Area 20. We have 3 registrations in. We have people willing to volunteer. See me if you are interested.

At our last Assembly I talked about my concerns of the \$12.00 price tag on the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Edition Big Book. Well I sent a letter to select members of the General Service Board and AAWS Board, and I was contacted this week that my letter and concerns will be discussed at the Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> AAWS Board Meeting. I surely can't ask for more than that. I'm happy the discussion will take place.

Question, Bill w, will BB comprised of 164 be large print? Rich, yes.

Rich, if every AA member donated roughly 7 dollars to GSO, we could be self supporting.

### Alternate Delegate Cheyl V

Greetings and salutations to everyone!

Since our Assembly in September I have participated in two workshops. The first was in Crystal Lake hosted by the Flying Geese. This was a 4 hour event and had a diverse format, including round-robin tables, presentations, and a skit. The round-robin tables allowed attendees to ask questions of the various trusted servants who were in attendance. I think this was a good way to ask questions rather than in a larger forum where people can get kind of shy. The second workshop was in Lake Zurich, and hosted by both Districts 21 & 28. This was a simple 2 hour workshop with two panels, one presentation and an ask-it-basket.

In both cases I think there was a fair amount of the choir present. As has often been said, we get new people in ones, and twos, and threes, not in great droves. Since there were a few new people at each event, I would call them successful. If someone can tell me why people don't show up if you use the word *service* in a workshop title..... I think we should start a subterfuge by using another word or phrase. Like maybe *carrying the message* ;-)

I also attended the meeting hosted by the Finance Committee to discuss the Primary Purpose Register for 2014. This was chaired by our current Alternate Treasurer Janet Nelson who managed to scramble and find a new location at the last minute. Well done Janet! Plus you ran a good meeting and we have lively discussion about the various Basic and Motion items.

I will be making a visit to District 41 on Sunday. I get to talk about one of my favorite topics... Service! I don't know how anyone can resist when they see how enthusiastic I am =D

I have started my preparations to rotate into Panel 64 Delegate. I have received e-mails from about 30 currently seated Delegates from around the US and Canada. What an experience already. And in keeping with it's a small world, Area 46 New Mexico's Delegate got sober in Lake County and lived just up the road from me at the time. It truly is a wonderful fellowship and sometimes people are friends I just haven't met yet... or in this case, old neighbors.

I've also begun to talk with Kelly on how we might best serve the Area together in her role as Alternate Delegate. Unfortunately for her, I won't have much literature to hand off, as the Districts have been happy to have a few extra pieces to hand out to their GSRs when I bring pamphlets.

### Conference Reports

#### 1. Annual BTG Workshop Weekend

#### 2. 2013 Big Book Conference (D62) Michelle H, Chair

The 2013 Big Book Conference is just over a week away! There are a few things I want to make sure everyone passes on to their districts before the big day.

Registration is still available online until Wednesday the 23rd, and you will also be able to register on site the day of the conference with cash or check. However, we would ask that as many people as possible pre-register by Monday the 21st in order for us to get an accurate count for lunches. Lunches purchased the day of the conference will be limited and also first come, first serve basis. Receiving as many pre-registrations as possible will help ensure that we order enough food. There are a few restaurants for those who do not order lunch about 3 blocks away. As you can imagine parking will be an opportunity for us, please ask people to car pool if possible. We are allowed to park on the street but we must obey the signs and be careful not to park in front of driveways or fire hydrants. The literature committee is eagerly anticipating the conference, and we have some great news to pass on! We will have every conference-approved book available for purchase, along with many other complimentary materials. We have also made sure to have plenty of literature in stock. Our goal is to get the message of AA into as many hands as possible, and we are excited to say that literature will be available for purchase with credit and debit cards this year, as well as cash and checks. Please be sure to pass this along to your districts since this is a new and exciting venture for us! We are very excited and humbled to have this opportunity to host the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NIA Big Book Conference. We are so grateful for your help in passing along these messages!

We have 200 people registered so far to date, we are currently on budget. As a team and as a district we have took donations from the district to make baskets for the speakers we will be able to provide a wonderful hospitality for our guests.

Hope to see you all Saturday 10/26

### 3. 2014 Spring Conference (D10,11,12) Bob P, Chair

Registration tables have been set up at Area 20 events since the August 10<sup>th</sup> Summer Committee Meeting. A registration table is planned for the upcoming Big Book Conference as well as the District(s) 10 & 12 Fall Breakfast. Similar tables are planned for the remaining committee meetings and assemblies prior to the 2014 Spring Assembly Conference which will be held March 28, 29 and 30 of 2014. FOURTEEN REGISTRATIONS have been received to date.

The planning committee is on schedule according to the suggested target dates as set forth in the Area 20 "Procedures for Planning the Spring Assembly Conference". The committee is welcoming Area 20 volunteers – particularly in the areas of Greeting, Hospitality, Alcathon and Registration - and is distributing flyers promoting that need. The planning committee meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month at Joy Lutheran Church, 749 S. Hunt Club Road, Gurnee, IL 60031. At present, one committee position is open: Alternate Secretary.

8000 bi-lingual flyers have been printed and are being distributed throughout Areas 19, 20 and 21 in Illinois, as well as Area 75 in southern Wisconsin. The flyer is being distributed electronically as well to Alano Clubs, individual Districts, District newsletters, Area newsletters and anywhere else that leaps to mind. Area 20 DCMs have each received a supply of flyers. The committee chairs (Bob P and Bill W) plan to visit each individual District meeting to promote the event and stress the need for volunteer help.

The event will be held March 28, 29 and 30 at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Gurnee, IL. The address is: 6161 W. Grand Ave.; Gurnee, IL 60031 (Great America and Gurnee Mills exit off Interstate 94.) The room rate is \$89.00 per night for Double as well as King accommodations.

A walk through of the facility was held on September 8, 2013. The individual committees are at work with each other coordinating as necessary. The main A.A. and Al-Anon speakers have been secured with "thank you" notes having been written and mailed. The Alateen speaker will be determined closer to the event. Other than printing, the committee has not incurred any major expenses, yet. As of October 7, 2013, the bank balance was



\$2129.47. A tentative Alcahion schedule is in the works. The Program committee is working with the committees and is hard at work in planning the event. An ice cream social, banquet and dance are being planned for.

The 2014 Spring Assembly Conference Budget was based on the following:

600 registrations @ \$20.00 per registrant

300 banquets @ \$35.00 per banquet meal (The food & beverage commitment is \$8500.00. Ice cream social and box lunch will apply towards this.)

250 rooms @ 250 "room nights" (One complimentary room will be given to NIA20 for every 25 "sold" rooms.)

The conference website is: [www.niaspringconference.com](http://www.niaspringconference.com) Online registration (PayPal only) is available

#### 4. Delegates Past and Present Conference (Area 20)

##### Discussion of NIA Committee Agenda items

1. Bids for the 2014 Big Book Conference

None

2. Bids for the 2015 Spring Assembly Conference

None

3. Proposed 2014 NIA Calendar

Districts to Host 2014 Winter Committee?-Dave Dist 11, volunteers to host.

District to Host Spring Assembly 2014?- Ern Dist 73, volunteers to host.

District to Host PreGSC workshop-Joe, CPC committee, and Jim, PI committee, volunteers to host, possibly at Lord of Life.

District to Host Spring Committee?-Robert S, Dist 40, volunteers to host.

District to Host Summer Assembly?-Bill Dist 21 and 28, volunteers to host.

District to Host Summer Committee?-Amy, Dist 62, volunteers to host.

District to Host Fall Assembly?-Urbano, Dist 20, volunteers to host if it can be at Lord of life

District to Host Fall Committee Meeting-Randy and Ed, Dist 90 and 91, volunteers to host

District to Host BB Conference?-Karen, Dist 23, volunteers to host

District to Host Winter Assembly?-Cindy B, Dist 64, volunteers to host

4. Primary Purpose Registrar

Alt Treas, Janet N, went over changes.

Bill W. PPB 16, seems a little low for travel to Ohio for 2 people. Joe S, PPB 10. What is repository rent? That is archives rent in Elgin. PPB15, There is no forum next year, so there will be no money spent. Randy, PPB3, for assemblies, why that number? Mike F, we printed one extra assembly minutes last year, and that is no longer happening. Also rent for Lord of Life is cheaper when assemblies held here. Janet, I would like to keep PPB 3 the same.

Mike F, PPB12, why is it that high? Janet; we are allowing for 31 to participate at 250 each. We are not trying to discourage people from participating. Terry, PPB 15, will it be reduced to 0? Mike, yes. Robert S, PPB 7, will that include equipment for Concepts Editor? No, that will be a PPM (computer for Concepts Editor). Terry, what is the new total? Janet, 56,200.00.

5. Motion from Report & Charter to have Service Orientation Workshop

Jim W, presenting. Question; Robert S, where would this go in the Agenda? Jim, no idea. Kelly, I know where this will go, I will give you old agendas. Carol; Who would facilitate this workshop? Kelly, the Alternate Delegate. Kelly, this is a great idea right at the beginning of the year. Joe; the odd year DCMS do not have this? So everyone coming in will have this? Kelly, yes. Heather, in the handbook, couldn't we just take out "every other year"? Why is it going into report in charter instead of right in the handbook where service orientation workshops are? Cheryl; this is about having a central one AT the committee meeting.

Discussion; Cheryl, this is a way to get new DCMs involved. Things will be less scary. Having Alt Delegate do this is a good way to split responsibility. This WILL need 2/3 majority at assembly.

6. Motion from the Finance Committee on Finance Guidelines

Mike M, Presenting.

Questions; Kelly, you want to add the paragraph? Mike yes. Cheryl, would the finance committee accept a friendly amendment? Terry, I would object to that, bc any interested party has a chance to speak to it at committee and assembly. All that meeting is for is to PREPARE the presentation. Mike, Terry didn't say people are prohibited from coming. Finance will NOT take friendly amendment. Michelle; would you be willing to a friendly amendment of taking "if any" out of the motion? Mike; Why?Not every single motion and line item was discussed. Discussion; Cheryl; I believe it's important to state that officers and service chairs are invited, and that needs to be stated. Robert, you're taking out standing committee chair, delegate, other officers that would provide valuable info to the committee. I think it's important to have them present. Michelle; if you continually read this EVERY single line item needs to be discussed. Ray, the notion by whatever means suitable implies it may not be a face to face meetings. ALL business meetings are open to all. This should be a round table face to face that everyone can be present at. Carol; I was ignorant of this process until I got a message that this meeting was happening. Terry, everyone had a chance for input. We are trying to cut down on number of meetings people HAVE to attend.

7. Motion to Add to the Procedures for Planning the Spring Assembly Conference

Presented by Joe, Needs second; Cheryl V Seconds

Questions; Cheryl will ask for a friendly amendment, remove part of corresponding breakout session Saturday morning. They may NOT be sat morning, may be afternoon instead. Joe, breakout sessions will be held immediately following business portion. It's going to be very difficult. Cheryl, will you take out "and corresponding committee breakout sessions" REMOVED from the motion? Joe, no, I am opposed from preventing attendance at all in service breakouts. Mike F, could we change guidelines to explain on flyer that if you're attending assembly you do not have to pay for conference? Joe, I agree, I'm not willing to do so. The issue you're bringing up wasn't clearly stipulated.

Phil, Don't we expect NIA to pay the cost of the assembly, and if that's the case, doesn't that include breakouts? Mike, what's the thinking to allow people to pay for breakout sessions? Dave, for those of us who want to attend breakout and don't want to pay why not remove "morning" and just leave it "Saturday"? Joe, I agree with Dave. I'd be happy to accept that as a friendly amendment. Joe, do we trust our servants to follow directions? Rob, is the intention to not have people paying for a business meeting? Joe yes. Discussion, Bill W, AA service should not be charged for. Robert, what are we doing here? Why are we doing this? Are we afraid that someone's going to charge for assembly? We can't police this? Heather; If someone is dishonest THEY pay the price, not us. Michelle B, I cannot control all this, we have to trust our trusted servants to be honest.

Terry, we don't want to charge, but we do need to designate attendee for assembly or conference.

People had a lot of hard feeling when they couldn't attend breakout without paying for conference. Cheryl, we have a lot of guidelines and a lot of commitments in a Spring Conference. We need to be educating our groups. Jeff, I was alt chair of the area for the first two times this was done. As an area oover the years we've been doing this we've come to the conclusion that service activities should NOT be paid for, but conference activities should be. How do we get this into writing as policy? Rich, Joe thanks for doing this. Our GSRs shouldn't have to pay to be GSRs. Assemblies have always included breakout for FREE. This came about bc of service structure committees trying to get GSRs to show up. Our committees are limited due to geographic size, we NEED these opportunities for committees to get together. Mike F, what I was thinking as far as amending motion is cost. Maybe part of planning for breakout is to find out how much cost is so that is included in assembly budget. When I first saw conference/assembly on flyer 20 dollars, it leads to believe they have to pay to attend assembly. This combination is not easy to do. Kelly, revisions will be approved by substantial unanimiity, and then go to assembly. Must pass here first. Vote at Committee;

**(with the word morning struck)**

**Vote of 29 to 4; PASSED.**

**Minority speaks; Cheryl, I think we could do better on this motion. We need to think about this more. Ern, I am concerned on conf registration fee is waived, that is much to confusing. Robert, I am agreeing with Cheryl. It's not bad, but I think the wording should be changed.**

**ANY VOTE CHANGES; NO. WILL NOW GO TO ASSEMBLY**

#### 8. Floor Motion by Literature Committee re: Bridging the Gap Pamphlet

Jeff G, Presenting.

The NIA Literature committee, after discussion of the matter, recommends that the Area 20 Delegate send correspondence to GSO requesting that pamphlet P-49 (Bridging the Gap) be revised. This pamphlet currently addresses Bridging the Gap only in terms of treatment facilities. The desired revision would be to rewrite this pamphlet so it is sufficiently broad in coverage to include "Treatment", "Corrections" or any other institutions where "Bridging the Gap" may apply. A draft copy of a letter that the delegate can use as the basis for their correspondence and a copy of the current P-49 pamphlet are attached as background material.

Questions; Ray; I assume you're doing this so Rich can send this on to the GSO as to this passing if it does. Are you aware of similar activity. Jeff, it's written this way so that it can go through our delegate, this came up at BTGWW, so not aware if other areas are doing this. Discussion, Rich H, I'd be honored to write and present this. This needs to be presented by January to make it to 2014 GSC. Carol, if this does go to assembly I'll include it in newsletter. It's very timely since BTHWW is sending some recommendations. Bill W, Corrections committee is strongly in favor of this.

DCM Reports

\_Dist 91-Ed M,

1. We are happy to report a strong district, where although a slow process GSRs and others are being added to the district rolls.
2. The Bridging The Gap Conference was attended by a interested member, we hope to have an action report.
3. Elections will occur in November of this year, we should be a stronger district, going forward
4. Numerous groups are stable, many have local events
5. One group presented district 91 with an infusion of cash to be sent on a local level
6. District 91 continues to support NIA20 and GSO with financial support.
7. We plan to have three workshops at district level this winter. The months being January, February and March for the workshops.
8. One member plus others are setting these three events up.
9. This district continue to grow and interest continues as well

Dist 10-Mike M, Our way out anniversary was a success. Spiritual Kindergarten anniv breakfast was great. Ans serv workshop was a big hit, with a great program. We are hosting this meeting. Fall breakfast for dist 12 is coming up, Ray is going to be our guest speaker. Spring conf report has been given.

Dist 11-Dave G, Our dist 11 elections were held, previous committee chairs have put binders together to help transition. Lots of buzz regarding Spring Conference planning. The LCM committee really have made a lot of effort to make sure info for groups is accurate, and is on website. New DCM is still open.

Dist 12, Paul, tomorrow is elections. Alano club will be hosting traditions dinner at 4 pm. Dist Christmas dinner will be in December. 2014 Spring conf planning committee will be at Gurnee Comm Church. There will be a registration table at the party for Sp Conf. Corrections, we are still in dire need of volunteers. Sponsor panel 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays.

Dist 20, Urbano, 2 groups a week, trying to get GSRs. Some volunteers going into jails. PI has pamphlets for health clinic, police dept, etc. Some workshops are being brought to groups.

Dist 21,

Dist 22, Joe, October elections, Manus is new DCM alt is Kevin B starting in January. All but 1 positions are filled. Christmas party is coming December 13<sup>th</sup>. Ans service wkshp this Tuesday at St. Hugh of Lincoln.

Dist 23, Karen, elections held, filled majority of positions. Jenn is new DCM. Edi is moving to Streamwood. GPVine workshop is coming.

Dist 28, Bill E.

- A. District 28 shared hosting of a Service Workshop with District 21 on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at the Lake Zurich Police Department. It consisted of four parts: Our Three Legacies, Our Responsibility Declaration, The GSR and an Ask-it-Basket open sharing session.

Larry S., D-22, Barry M., D-28 and Cheryl V., Alt. Delegate were our Three Legacies panelists. Larry M., D-22 and Jim W., D-21 were our Responsibility Declaration mini panelests. Cheryl V, gave a 30 minute session on the GSR. Jim W. was the facilitator for the Ask-it-basket Q & A session.

Although attendance was a little light ,we considered this first effort a success and are already looking at making this an annual event. I think we needed to get the word out about the event to a broader audience. More exposure may have meant better attendance.

- B. District 28 has changed its monthly meetings from the last Thursday of the month to the last Monday of the month. Our next meeting is Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. We expect to see a list of candidates from our Nominating Committee for District positions at that time. Due to Thanksgiving we have historically bypassed a meeting for November, and elections will be in December for a January rotation.

Dist 40,

Dist 41,

Dist 42, no report

Dist 43, Erik

Elections for the 2014-2105 term were held with most of the positions being filled. Our next DCM will be Craig D. who had been our Alternate DCM the past 2 years.

Our PI Committee has been organizing mailings to the professional community.

Our Treatment Committee continues to arrange for speakers at the Linden Oaks Treatment Facility and Detox Units in Naperville. We are also continuing participate in an inter-district effort to carry the message into the Good Sam Detox facility as well as the Crisis Intervention Center in Lombard.

Dist 51, Jay

#### **D51 October 2K13 Meeting(s) of the Month**

**AA's, GSR's, Alternates, Volunteers, Group & District Trusted Servants, Meeting Chairs & Contacts,**

**Attached is the October 2K13 Meeting(s) of the Month – Southeast Quadrant in support of the meetings in our District 51.**

**Monday's 7:00pm - Who Cares Group - Group #656250  
Grace Lutheran Church, 907 Luther Dr. (rear door), Wilmington**

**Tuesday's 7:00pm - Cullom Comfort Group - Group #674781  
American Legion Hall, 127 W. Jackson St., Cullom**

**Tuesday's 7:00pm - Main Street Group - Group #166056  
First United Methodist Church, 401 Kahler Rd., Wilmington**

**Tuesday's 8:00pm - As Bill Sees It Group - Group #169789**  
Immaculate Conception Church Hall,  
School and Main on Main (Rte. 113), Braidwood

**Wednesday's 8:00pm - Gardner Big Book Study - Group #132471**  
United Lutheran Church, 309 E. Jefferson (Pine & Jefferson), Gardner

**Thursday's 7:00pm - Custer Park Big Book Study Group**  
Group #676694 - Custer Park Township Hall  
35332 Grant St., Custer Park

**Friday's 8:00pm - Braceville Friday Night Group - Group #165470**  
United Methodist Church, 106 Goold St., Braceville

**Saturday's 7:00pm - Saturday Wilmington Mtg. - Group #140454**  
First United Methodist Church, 401 Kahler Rd., Wilmington

Per your Meeting/Group/Fellowship Informed Group Conscience Guidelines, please print and put inside your Group Information Folder at-the-ready for the newcomer - or others – inquiring about meetings in the Southeast portion of District 51.

If you'd like to know how The General Service Office (GSO) has your Group and/or GSR'S/Contact Information listed, please contact us! [webmaster@aadistrict51.org](mailto:webmaster@aadistrict51.org)

In Service,  
Your District 51 Trusted Servants,  
<http://www.aadistrict51.org/>  
815-741-6637  
[webmaster@aadistrict51.org](mailto:webmaster@aadistrict51.org)

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**September Meeting(s) of the Month (Lockport)**

**Monday's 7:00pm - R.A.A.P. Group [Recovering AA People] - Group #164338**  
High Road Bible Church, 380 High Rd, (135th & High Rd.), Lockport

**Tuesday's 7:00pm - L.O.S.T. Group - Group #128945**  
St. Joseph Church, 410 S. Jefferson St., Lockport

**Wednesday's 9:30am - Genesis Group - Group #178969**  
St. Joseph Church, 410 S. Jefferson St., Lockport

**Wednesday's 6:30pm - Beginners Group**  
**Wednesday's 7:30pm - Mid-Week Group**  
Group #104775 Babysitting available  
both at - Shepherd of the Hill Church, 925 E. 9th St., Lockport

**Thursday's 8:00pm - Big Book Believers - Group #140822**  
Saint Dennis Church, 1214 S. Hamilton St., Lockport

**Friday's 8:00pm - Zodiac Group - Group #133894**  
St. Joseph Church, 410 S. Jefferson St., Lockport

**Saturday's 7:00pm - Saturday Nite Alive Group**  
St. Joseph Church, 410 S. Jefferson St., Lockport

Dist 52,

Dist 61, Betty, elections next week. Winter assembly work going on. Corrections going great.

Dist 62, Michelle H

We've had a very busy few months at District 62, working hard on the Big Book Conference with weekly meetings to finalize the details and everything is coming together nicely.

It is highly suggested to Register ASAP! You can still do so online and pay at the door. The final count for lunch is due on Tue 10/22/2013. There will be some lunches for sale the day of the conference but they will be limited and on a first come first serve basis. It is also recommended that people car pool as much as possible! Be sure to follow the parking guidelines on the street and to look for our NEON signs that are posted along the way. The Literature Table will be accepting credit cards at the conference. This is a new and exciting venture for us! There will be a 3% convenience fee for the use of credit or debit cards.

We recently had our District Elections and presently have not filled the DCM position but have filled the Alt-DCM and a few other positions. We are hoping that after the dust settles more will step up.

District 64 will be joining us for a Post Delegate Report at the November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting which will be held at the Church of the Brethren 155 S Boulder Hill Pass Montgomery IL 60538 at 7:30 PM.

We are truly humbled at this opportunity to serve the Area and we are VERY MUCH looking forward to the big day! I hope that we see you all there!

Dist 64, Cindy B.

General Information:

- 39 Meetings – 34 Registered Groups – 19 Meetings no GSR (56%). More GSR involvement will be a goal in our district.
- Budget of \$10,938 Annually.
- Recent Elections - Critical Committee Positions filled - Some alternate positions left – Special Needs Committee added.

Committee Information:

- Answering Service – August 170 calls, September 211 calls.
- Corrections – Connections made to Aurora Police Department, Women's Corrections facility, Hased House, and IDS Group.
- Treatment – Mercy Center –meeting at IOP weekly, Gateway – Bridge Group male/female weekly, three AA meetings weekly. Will need Bridge-the-Gap position.

Conclusion:

- I am newly elected two weeks ago and just wrapping my head around the district happenings. This is a vibrant, strong, service-oriented District. This is the District I got sober in many years ago, so taking on the job and being useful is both personal and a privilege.

Dist 70,

Dist 71,

Dist 72, Steve, dist positions will stay same, per group conscience at District elections. Stevenson County jail will be getting Grapevine. Updating the list for our 800 number. Service manual study started two months ago had 10 people last month.

Dist 73, Ern, we had elections, Wally L is new DCM, and alt is not filled. Traditions wkshp went well. Annual Fall Roundup is coming on Nov 21<sup>st</sup> in Dixon.

Dist 79

Dist 80

Dist 90, Randy, Fall campfire meeting with three speakers. Smaller turnout than usual but was good.

We had noms at October meeting and elections in November.

#### Standing Committee Reports

Archivist Ray, we will be there at BB conference

Concepts, Phil, please update me on changes. Computer at home is down. December 10<sup>th</sup> is next deadline

Literature, no report

PI, no report

Webmaster, absent

Special needs, Jeff L

Since the Summer assembly I had the opportunity to participate in the Service Workshop in Crystal Lake. I attended the Primary Purpose Budget Meeting. I helped get 10 large print Big Books to Weezie in District 90. Also, Grapevine is looking for stories from people with special needs. I have copied all district Special needs chairs on this.

Treatment, Robert, Went to Crystal Lake workshop. Great layout and set up. Thank you

Operating Committee-no report

Finance, Mike M, we met, 9/28, reviewed PPR, concurred with rec to send 8k to GSO

Elec equipment, I need to buy a computer for Concepts editor. Prob going to do that and ask later.

Report and Charter, Jim W.



Since the September 14th Fall Assembly, the R&C cmt. was requested to look over two motions and then present these here at the Fall Committee Meeting. Via email we came to a consensus that the service orientation workshop being an annual event at the winter committee meeting and notated in the NIA service manual was a good motion and are presenting it here today. We could not reach a consensus regarding the Spring Assembly Conference motion, which attempts to make provisions for AA members attending just the assembly, business portion, that they would be exempt from the Conference registration. Therefore, we are not presenting this motion.

Corrections, Bill W.

This report has been a struggle to put together. Directly affected by the Government Shutdown and falling into a depression that I have not known since Viet Nam, I struggled with what to say. Thank God for a Veteran's Court graduation yesterday which did help me find the words. Three of the four graduates were alcoholics. All of those had found recovery in AA and have carried that message beyond. As AA Twelve Steppers we are asked to do just that every time we enter a facility.

The keynote speaker touched me greatly. He was a very successful man of society as a retired CEO of a major Chicago based national and international know company. He spoke of "three bridges" in his life. The first one his company where he buried the shame felt from returning from Viet Nam. The second being AA where he got free of one of the crutches he fell upon to cope with that pain of burying the past. And lastly the secret of being of service through a VA program for PTSD. His point in all three was that he must still remain as part of that Bridge even when he has crossed. Keeping it available for the next man. A part of me was healed Friday. As I rotate out of this Service position the next work is becoming more clear.

I attended a workshop in Kane County , which will be an annual event. One of the speakers was Tom I so the interest of Corrections was obvious.

Several Districts have contacted me about "Pink Can" contributions. How they can give.

I rest well nightly knowing that all volunteers carrying messages into facilities as well as those Bridging the Gap upon release are performing well.

I thank each and every one for the opportunity to serve.

AA Love and Service

Answering Service, Matt J

We've been pretty busy. I attended a workshop hosted by Dist 10 Answering Service Chair Robin. It was awesome, good questions and they had a couple of mock 12 step calls. Gary and I will be attending an Answering Service workshop in Elgin on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. I will also get a chance to meet up with the incoming Answering Service area chair.

Cheryl would like Robert to ask for a floor motion for new computer. Robert, we are talking about buying 1400 or 1500 hundred dollar computer for concepts. That would be the motion, roughly 1500 dollars. Questions; Rob, does that include software. Robert, yes.

Motion to closed Cheryl move, Jeff second

Adjournment and Close

## **5. Motion by Report & Charter to have a Service Orientation Workshop held at the January Winter Committee Meeting**

### **Motion**

It is moved that a Service Orientation Workshop be held at the NIA Winter Committee Meetings. That a bulleted item be placed under the section entitled "Scheduled Committee Meeting Agenda Items" which reads:

January (Winter) Committee Meeting

- Provide a Service Orientation Workshop

This section is currently on page 41 of the Northern Illinois Area 20 Service Handbook (Unabridged). This is true of both the version on the web and the most recently printed version.

An additional bullet point should be added to the responsibility section of the Alternate Delegate that reads:

- Organize and coordinate orientation workshops for both January's Winter Committee Meeting and as outlined in the Service Handbook section entitled "Orientation Workshops."

### **Background Material**

In January 2010 and 2012 a Service Orientation Workshop was held in conjunction with the NIA Winter Committee Meetings. This activity was well attended and seemed to be well received. It gave newly elected trusted servants at the Area, District and Group level an opportunity to better understand the AA Service Structure and their role in it early into their new rotations. It also provided the opportunity for any questions to be asked regarding the AA Service Structure and what the responsibilities are for each position in the structure.

In both years, the previous panel of Area Officers hosted this event. This custom could be continued although expanded to any member of the Area Committee who has a broad knowledge of the service structure. Because this event is a Service Orientation Workshop we would like to see everyone in Northern Illinois Area 20 invited to the event. If this activity were approved arrangements would be needed to use a space larger than normally needed for a committee meeting to accommodate the expected attendance. In 2010 and 2012 this meant the use of the sanctuary at Lord of Life.

While NIA rotates every two years, there are Districts that rotate on the other year. For this reason, it is suggested that the orientation happen every January. This would also help those people who are elected to positions that are vacated between normal election times.

## **6. Motion from the Finance Committee on the Finance**

### **Guidelines**

It is moved that under Finance Committee Guidelines on page 67 of the Northern Illinois Service Handbook, version 06/15/2013, the paragraph at the top of the page be stricken. In version 01/01/2012 the paragraph is the last full paragraph on page 60. The paragraph reads:

Schedule and conduct an annual PPR meeting at least three weeks prior to the Fall Area Committee Meeting. Attendees should include the Treasurer, Delegate, Officers, Standing Committee Chairpersons, and alternates for all previously named, and should be open to other interested members of the fellowship. During the meeting the Finance Committee records all issues that may impact the PPR for the coming year. The Finance Committee works to resolve all issues and reports their resolutions at least one week prior to the Fall Area Committee Meeting.

The Finance Committee should meet at a time and place of its own choosing or by whatever means it finds suitable, prior to the Fall Committee meeting to adjust or amend the Primary Purpose Basic for discussion, if any, at the Fall Committee meeting followed ultimately by consideration at the Winter Assembly.

### **Rationale**

This language is a holdover from our previous, more traditional budget model which required that annual budgets be approved for specific Area Committee members. The meeting was held prior to budget discussions at the Fall Committee meeting so that budgeted trusted servants could present their budget requests for the upcoming fiscal year. With the advent of Primary Purpose Finance the meeting as defined here is unnecessary for the following reasons:

1. There are no budgets for individuals.
2. Spending is linked to activities approved by the Assembly.
3. Even with the change of Trusted Servants in a rotation year an activity remains a part of the Primary Purpose Motions and may be followed through with by the new servant(s).
4. New activities can be proposed at any time. There is no advantage to making such proposals at a particular time of year.

## **7. Motion to Add to the Procedures for Planning the Spring Assembly Conference**

It is moved that the following bullet points be added to the 'Purpose and Guiding Principles' section of the 'Procedures for Planning the Spring Assembly Conference' found on page 101 of the NIA Service Handbook, starting after the second bullet "The Assembly is a business meeting...", as the third and fourth:

- For those AA members solely attending the Spring Assembly and corresponding committee breakout sessions, Saturday morning, the Conference registration fee is waived.
- AA members that wish to attend any non-business portion of the Conference are required to pay the registration fee.

### **8. Floor Motion from Literature Committee**

The NIA Literature Committee, after discussion of the matter, recommends that the area 20 delegate send correspondence to GSO requesting that pamphlet p-49 (Bridging the Gap) be revised. The desired revision would be to rewrite this pamphlet so it is sufficiently broad in coverage to include "Treatment" "Corrections" or any other institutions where "Bridging the Gap" may apply. A draft copy of a letter that the Delegate can use as the basis for the correspondence and a copy of the current P-49 pamphlet are attached as background material.