

2015 Winter Committee Meeting

January 24, 2015

Lord of Life Church, La Fox, IL

(NIA 20 Officers and volunteers, Host)

Call to Order Robert called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM

Quite Time

3rd Step Prayer

New Attendees

Brent M, DCM District 52
Dave, District 22
Joe, GSR Oswego

Cory, GSR District 10
Tom GSR District 70
Doug, DCM District 71

Amanda
Kevin, GSR

AA Anniversaries

Amanda, 8 years
Amy L, 6 years

Brent, 5 year
Kevin, 3 years

Carol, 16 years
Marty, 3 years

Twelve Concepts of World Service Read by Robert S

Announcements for today Tina announced lunch will be served at 11:30AM. Cheryl V, announced a card would be circulated for the family of Jack O, Past East Central Regional Trustee and Panel 34, Area 20 Past Delegate. Jack passed away peacefully on January 12, 2015.

Robert announced, you can register for the Spring Conference today

Approval of 2014 Fall Committee Minutes Robert called for comments or corrections; there were none. Minutes approved as written. John C; new alternate Web Admin – Ben M,

Treasurer – Janet N

This report is being presented as of December 31, 2014. The following is our financial status as of this date.

	<u>2014</u>
Contributions/Income:	\$63,550.84
Expenses:	<u>\$65,378.82</u>
Excess of Expense over Income	\$(1,827.98)

Current checking account	\$ 2,848.19
Current prudent reserve	<u>\$17,835.00</u>
Net Assets	\$20,683.19

2014 Primary Purpose Register The 2014 primary purpose register thru December 31, 2014 is attached to this report. PPB15-15 and PPB16-15 are highlighted. The original PPB motion that was approved by the fall Assembly included \$1000 for the ECR Conference (which will not occur in 2015) and omitted \$1000 for the ECR Forum (which will occur in 2015). The attached Primary Purpose Register has corrected the mistake.

Starting in 2015, the prudent reserve will be reduced to \$16,800, which is 30% of the total 2015 PPB's of \$56,000.

Total 2014 contributions to GSO were \$20,380.20. In December, 2014 the Area made a contribution of \$6000 for the 2015 General Service conference.

Can Contributions

Pink Can Fund: in 2014 \$8,302.45 was received in contributions. We spent \$9,311.50 during 2014.

Green Can Fund: no activity

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

Finance Committee

No report

Operating Committee

Steve -committee has no report

Service Orientation Workshop

Kelly introduced the topics and presenters for the Service Orientation Workshop

Marilyn – GSRs and Groups

Dawn B – Importance of registering your meeting

Kelly – Group Service Structure

Judd – Primary Purpose

Cheryl – We got the money, do you go the time?

Old Business

Bids for the 2016 State Conference and East Central Regional Conferences – Carol H, DCM District 11, and Chuck D, DCM, District 10, reported Districts 10, 11, and 12 have discussed hosting the State Conference next year but don't want to deprive anyone else of an opportunity. If your district is interested in hosting, please contact Chuck or Carol.

2015 Spring Assembly Conference Report: John G reported the planning committee is full and busy. 43 registrations received. Our Co-chair stepped down; Marcia S has been elected to fill that position. Marcia reported she has packets of flyers for DCMs and will mail to those who are not here. We will be calling DCMs to set up district meeting visits. Anyone interested, can register for the conference today.

Questions/Comments:

John C -I would like to hear issue regarding ASL.

John G -given our budget numbers, one of our advisors suggested we have a cutoff date to sign up for ASL services. Concern was taken to committee and we came to an informed group conscience that was presented to this group. I am open to revisiting this issue and answer has been no. I am friends with an ASL interpreter that will be available should we need ASL services. Spanish translation will be set up and provided for. We want to be conscious of how we are spending your money. Special needs is set up for online registration and we are interested in taking care of those with special needs.

Kelly L –how much does it cost for an ASL signer on stand-by? John G -she wants nothing more than what she normally asks for. If we have walk-ins, we will take care of it. ASL signer works for an organization with other signers. John C -will we stay within budget if we need to handle walk-ins?

Tina R –this is a slap in the face if someone walks in; we've always had signers at our conferences

John G -spoke with Megan and Mary for both to sign at conference it would be \$600

Bob P, concerned about ASL and last year we advertised it and provided it. We had several walk-ins that required ASL interpreters. We made provision for a table close by the ASL interpreter; I recommend we have signers.

Larry S -I believe a discussion requires a motion; I was told this would be questions

Rich H -we have 4 assemblies per year; has break out space been accounted for? John, general discussion has been had.

Tracy will get you a space if committees would like to meet. Rich, hopefully those who come want to participate in the conference, if they are there for the assembly, no payment required, correct? John –correct; that would include assembly and any breakout.

2015 Big Book Conference: Ed reported the BBC planning committee has met 5 times as of January 11th. The theme for the conference is “This Is the Easier Softer Way”; all service positions filled. Haven’t finalized location but have an agreement from Palatine H high school. Program committee is making progress on speaker selection and panel members. Date is Saturday, October 24, 2015. After our next meeting, will submit a request for seed money.

2016 Spring Conference: Pete, reported, Districts 90 and 91 will host 2016 Spring Conference April 1-3, 2016, at the Holiday Inn Rock Island; planning meetings occurring.

Delegate Report – Cheryl V If I thought my report for December’s Assembly was about a quiet stretch, the period between then and today is even quieter. There has been no Board Weekend in the time since my last report, that will happen next weekend. The January Board Weekend includes the Delegate Chairs of each committee attending. At the November Board meeting a motion was made and seconded to change the policy regarding the role of the Delegate Chair. In part this motions read; “Delegate chairpersons are invited to sit with the trustee chairperson at the meeting of the corresponding trustees’ committee and participate in the meeting. The trustees’ committees welcome input from the delegate chair of their corresponding Conference committee; however, they are not voting members of the corresponding trustees’ committee.” This is, I believe, in part because the Delegates have been saying that we want more say in agenda items. It will be interesting to talk to Bruce D., Delegate from Area 2 Alaska and Literature Delegate Chair, to find out how this change is implemented. While he won’t have experienced last year’s Board Weekend so can’t make a true comparison, we have kept in touch with Carmella last year’s chair. So my guess is we’ll be comparing some notes.

I have received my Conference Buddy and been in communication with her. This year I get to be the “big sister” to Lisa P. Area 93 Delegate from Central California. We’ve had several exchanges already regarding many aspects of being a Delegate and on the Conference itself.

General Service Conference (GSC) The 65th General Service Conference will be held April 18th through 25th.

I have sent out the Preliminary Agenda for the 65th General Service Conference. A printed copy is on the table with all the other reports. The final agenda should be available on the dashboard around February 15th. Once it’s available I will download onto a cd and turn it over to AMOT to make copies for us. They have performed this service for us the last few years at. Once the copies are complete, Kelly will be distributing these throughout the Area along with copies of the final agenda.

Our Pre-General Service Conference Workshop will be held on April 11th here at Lord of Life. I’m guessing that will change rather quickly. It is my hope that we can generate plenty of interest in the GSRs to attend the event. It is an opportunity for them to bring the voice of their group regarding the various agenda topics. As has been said by countless Delegates before me.... If you don’t tell me what you think, I’m left with what I think. As of yet I have had no requests to visit Districts to present the agenda items. I will take those on a first come basis and get to as many as possible.

General Service Office (GSO) Staff Update As I reported in December, Phyllis H, General Service Office (GSO) general manager has announced that she will retire in October of 2015. A letter was sent to a large number of people regarding the search for a replacement. This letter went to Current and Past Trustees, Current and Past Directors, Delegates, Current and Past GSO Staff, and Central offices/Intergroups.

These are the qualifications for the position:

1. Ten years minimum sobriety
2. Demonstrated leadership ability in AA and in a business/professional career.
3. Proven general management experience, preferably as General Manager of a multifunctional organization; understanding of organizational issues, planning and controls, financial reporting, human resources practices, and informational technology applications and trends.
4. AA service experience; knowledge of General Service structure and AA history.
5. Effective communications skills, both verbal and written; ability to report clearly and concisely on GSO operations to the appropriate boards, the General Service Structure and the Fellowship at large.

6. Demonstrated understanding of the unique nature of AA, the structural limitations and balances of authority in AA services, and the ability to work with and resolve conflicting viewpoints.

Deadline for submission is April 15, 2015. If you feel you qualify for this position, please let me know and I will forward the letter along with the resume form to you. Of course, you do need to be willing to relocate to New York.

Delegate's Sharing Since December I've only had one response on a Sharing request come to me. It was regarding Electronic Equipment Committees. It was quite and interesting read. Of the responding Delegates, most do not have much beyond a web person, and many don't have much more than one or two laptops. Quite a number had translation equipment which sound similar to ours. Area 78, Alberta & Northwest Territories, supplied quite a bit of information regarding their committee that mostly handles their website. I have forwarded this material to John in case he has an interest. The most memorable comment was from Bruce D., Area 2 Alaska. He said, "As I explained to our Area Chair some years ago at PRAASA when one of the other Area's representatives stated that all their Officers now had computers and she looked at me curiously, 'some Areas buy computers, some Areas buy airline tickets.'"

I expect to start seeing more of these requests coming to me soon as the list of the 93 Delegates has just been sent out electronically so people can cut & paste addresses.

Upcoming Events The Northern Illinois Spring Assembly Conference, hosted by Districts 20, 22 & 61, will be held on March 27-29 at the St. Charles Pheasant Run Resort. Sunday morning speaker and GSO Staff will be Albin Z. who is a General Service Trustee. For those who are asking in their minds, yes, this means he is an alcoholic. Albin was elected General Service Trustee in April of 2013, the same time our Regional Trustee Bill F. was elected. He served 4 years as a non trustee director and his "other job" is as an associate publisher with a newspaper publishing company. He was appointed to serve as the Secretary to the General Service Board, and a director of the AA Grapevine Board. In addition he serves as a member of the Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee, the Trustees' Committee on Literature and the Trustees' Committee on Public Information.

Plans continue for the International Convention that will be taking place in Atlanta, Georgia over the 4th of July weekend. In the last report I read they have filled up two blocks of rooms already and were working on the third block. The last communication I received regarding registration numbers was back in October with over 27,000 people already registered. Plans to host an East Central Region hospitality room continue. If you think nothing happens fat in AA, well, it's the same in planning this. We do know that we've been given space in the Omni Hotel, apparently located near the main events. We still do not have food and beverage terms from the hotel. The ECR committee has decided to move forward with planning as best we can. Past Trustee Bob M. is seeking information on previous financial experience might be found. Each of the 14 Areas will be asking for some funding. So expect to hear a motion presented in April for a Primary Purpose Motion regarding this.

The Conference of Delegates Past and Present will be held in Bay City, Michigan February 13 through 15th. Any and all are welcome to make the drive and attend. Personally, I'm hoping for good weather. The drive will include going around the south half of Lake Michigan, a well-known snow belt. Then to the shores of Saginaw Bay of Lake Huron. Which is apparently also known for snow. WooHoo indeed!

The 42nd Annual Illinois State Conference will be hosted by Area 21, our sister Area to the south. This time we will not have to drive quite as far since it will be held in Normal, Illinois on August 28 through 30th next year.

Please start thinking about hosting the 43rd Annual State Conference now. This will also serve as the East Central Regional Conference. That means that our event will be drawing people not just from Illinois, but also from 13 Areas in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Questions/comments:

Joe S -should we openly invite all members of AA for the Pre-GSC Workshop? Cheryl V - you won't have a vote, but bring your voice. Unfortunately not same at the General Service Conference where you need to be a voting member to be invited.

John C –items for the plan for LaVina was of concern to me; Cheryl - I don't have any information on Grapevine because I'm not on that committee.

New Business

BTG Committee's Wording for the Service Handbook; Presented by Rich H

Motion: It is moved that the following basic activity be added to the PPR for the current and for subsequent years,
Presented by Rich H

Questions/comments:

John C –expected outcome, BTG committee, what does that mean? Rich H, another committee member who will serve in the future when I'm no longer part of the committee; could support activity for multiple members of the committee
Judd W – BTG committee might be 23 people. Is that what you mean? I think putting additional guidance around this committee might help. Are you saying up to \$2000 limit?

Cheryl V, to what Judd suggested, "BTG chair, or someone he designates" would help clarify for the Treasurer who will be reimbursed. Would members of BTG accept that friendly amendment? Rich H, yes we accept

Robert S –will you make the changes? Rich -yes

Larry S -my suggestion is 1) to get together with finance and work out language, 2) based on Judd's remarks, if this motion passes assembly, then this activity should be added to duties and responsibilities piece

Judd –motion is to update the guidelines then PPB updates itself

Robert S –as I understand the wording, it is moved that the following Basic activity be added? Rich will meet with committee to clarify and we will discuss at assembly and vote on at that time.

Officer Reports

Alt Delegate, Kelly L reported I haven't done much since the last committee meeting expect wait by my computer and phone for a district to inquire about a workshop. LOL

If you haven't heard about the primary purpose basic motion PPB5; it is a motion dealing with the alternate delegate hosting roughly eight Service Orientation workshops within the districts. I am looking forward to being able to use all eight, or close to it this year. Please let me know what you would like to have presented and I will work on getting the appropriate members there.

I did receive a request from district 72 which would like to work with districts 70, 71 and 73. He is looking at some time in in the beginning of March. I helped in putting the agenda together for today's workshop portion. I wish we could have an entire day and used all of the Officers for presentations. I am hoping that someone here whether a DCM, standing committee member or a GSR will see something they like and feel it would be good to have it presented to other members of their district.

I am registered for the 2015 Conference of Delegates Past in Present being held in Area 32 in Michigan which is one of the Areas in our Region, East Central Regional.

Please do not forget to register for the 2015 Spring Assembly Conference hosted by districts 20, 22 & 61 at the Pheasant Run in St. Charles. I will be registering for that conference today.

I would like to thank the district secretaries for adding me on their list for e-mailing the district minutes and the DCMs for sending the DCM reports. I am receiving reports from districts that I did not receive in the past. Thank you again

Alt Chair, Marilyn reported, since the last Committee Meeting held on 10/18/2014 I have attended the following:

10/19/2014 – 2015 Big Book Conference Planning meeting (first meeting)

10/25/2014 – 2014 Big Book Conference hosted by District 40

11/09/2014 – 2015 Big Book Conference Planning meeting

11/16/2014 – 2014 Big Book Conference wrap-up meeting

11/16/2014 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting

11/23/2014 – 2015 Big Book Conference Planning meeting

12/13/2014 – Winter Assembly

12/14/2014 – 2015 Big Book Conference Planning meeting

12/21/2014 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting (South Elgin)

01/11/2015 – 2016 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting (Moline)

01/18/2015 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting (South Elgin)

I was unable to attend the 2015 Big Book Conference Planning meeting January 11, 2015, because I was in Moline for the 2016 Spring Assembly/Conference's 1st planning meeting. There was a very large turn-out at their first meeting.

Robert S. our Area Chair went to the 2015 Big Book Conference Planning meeting on my behalf.

Alt Treasurer, Judd W reported, summary of contributions received from 1/6/2014 through 12/31/2014:

Date deposited	(All)
Row Labels	Sum of Contribution amount
District contribution	\$16,822.71
Group contribution	\$46,647.84
Pink Can contribution	\$8,302.45
(blank)	
Remember November contribution	\$1,926.50
Conference contribution	\$8,089.65
personal contribution	\$17.40
Other contribution	\$44.14
Conference contribution, seed money	\$2,500.00
Grand Total	\$84,350.69

Secretary, Nicole E advised if you are a new DCM or service committee member, please let me know and I will create a name badge.

Alt Secretary, Tina R reported the GSR meeting schedule has been updated; if any further changes are required, let me know.

Registrar, Dawn B reported 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.

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

PLEASE MAIL ALL CHANGES TO NIA20 REGISTRAR, Box 196, 684 S. Barrington Rd (4B Plaza) STREAMWOOD IL 60107

Information updates since 11/29/2014

Requests input between 11/29/14 and 01/09/15

Total Since 11/29/2014	
Group information	20
New groups/Pending Active	4
Folded/Inactive/Unknown	3
Group contact information	9
District/Individual contacts	17
Area contacts	5
Total updates	58

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

Alt Registrar, no report

Chair, Robert S reported I attended the planning committee meeting for the 2015 Big Book Conference on Sunday January 11th due to Marilyn being involved with another planning committee meeting.

I participated in a workshop on literature in district 22 where I was able to provide thoughts on anonymity.

I will be attending the Conference of Delegates Past and Present, in Bay City Michigan, on February 13th where I will be the time keeper for discussions.

I have been able to make all of my appointments, to administrative committees, including their acceptance of the appointment; the names of which are part of the agenda for today's meeting.

Service Committee Reports

Archives, no report

Archivist, no report

Bridging The Gap, Rich H reported, since Mike and I were elected to the BTG Committee, we as a Committee have agreed upon motions to get this Committee started. And these motions will be presented today. We have received volunteer contact information from Carol, Weezie, Betty, and from Registrar Dawn. At our last Assembly there were individuals that asked to be involved, some as volunteers and to be involved in the committee formation. Some want to be involved in the Committee's 12 step work and one because they know there is a local need for this program in a specific facility. Looking forward to our first Committee break out session or sessions at the Spring Conference/Assembly in St. Charles. Topics for this and future BTG Committee Meetings could be guidelines and information that will help volunteers better understand this work, Encourage individuals to create a wish list of facilities they would like to see a Bridging the Gap Program started. And to plan on how to approach a facility that they may have been thinking about.

Concepts, no report

Web Administrator, John C reported, I'll start by expressing my deep appreciation to Ben Moore, our new alternate website administrator. Ben is a professional software architect, highly accomplished in web development and will be a valuable asset to this committee. He can be reached at alt-webmaster@aa-nia.org.

Second, to make things more intuitive for newcomers to our website I have changed the web administrator's email to webmaster@aa-nia.org. Tom S. had changed it some time ago to avoid spam. I apologize for asking you to change your records, but I believe this is a necessary move. The email link on our Contact web page has been updated with the new address. Due to time constraints at the winter assembly I couldn't deliver my report at the mike, so here is the part I especially wanted to be sure you hear: One major website project this year is to restructure it to accommodate mobile devices. That will also be an excellent opportunity to take an inventory and build the best site possible. The first step is to determine how the site is currently used and to identify appropriate enhancements. In that regard, I'm asking all of you here today to let me know what you currently like and/or dislike about our website. I'll repeat this request to the GSRs at the next assembly, but in the meantime please send any feedback you have to webmaster@aa-nia.org.

Literature, no report

PI, no report

CPC, Joe submitted a written report: This past week, the CPC Committee was forwarded a local contact request from the Cooperation With the Professional Community Coordinator, Racy J. at GSO. This information is now in the hands of servants in District 22, who will meet with the employees of a nursing home, and see if a meeting can be started at that location. The CPC Committee receives these type of information requests about every 2 months; it is important to update GSO after local contact is made. Attended service workshops in November and December in Districts 62 and 72 respectively.

For DCMs and local service committee chairs, please contact me because the Area 20 CPC Committee can help assist with 12 step work.

Special Needs, no report

Treatment, Weezie reported, I am having a BTG program workshOp in District 22/Elgin on May 30th from 12-3PM at the Frist Baptist Church. I will have flyers at the Assembly. I will be visiting District 72 in Elizabeth in the next couple months. I am also doing a BTG program panel at the upcoming Spring Conference. I will be happy to come to your district; just let me know. I also received old Grapevines from the Archives committee. The places we go thank you for that.

Electronic Equipment, no report

Report and Charter, Bill E submitted a written report: The Report and Charter Committee has met on four occasions since the last Assembly by way of conference calls. Our most recent meeting was Tuesday, January 20th.

As suggested by the NIA Chairman we are addressing the NIA Service Handbook with a goal of providing one complete guide. With the assistance of Judd Wilcox, we are reviewing content, one chapter at a time, for organization, clarity, flow, appropriateness, brevity, and conformity with the Traditions and Concepts of Alcoholics Anonymous.

We will be providing suggested changes, if any, to Committee Meetings and Assemblies as they are readied. We have no doubt this process may be slow and will likely take a year or more for a complete document. We have also determined that this process will be better served by face to face meetings with occasional conference calls as a backup.

We would welcome any suggestions, preferably in writing, as the process moves forward.

Corrections, Dan L reported, the Corrections Committee has been busy planning a workshop for February 28, 2015. It is being called the All DuPage Corrections Workshop. We have also been working on getting the four different Districts in DuPage County to work together as one Committee for the DuPage County Jail and Courts. Literature has been purchased and distributed all around the Area for State, County and Juvenile facilities.

Please take Pink Can Labels back to your Districts. There is a great need for literature and not enough money to keep up with it! WE NEED PINK CAN DONATIONS!!!

Answering Service, no report

DCM Reports

Dist 10, Chuck D reported, we in District 10 followed in the Area's footsteps by sending SIA 21 30 packs of the Grapevine. We voted to send one 30 pack of Grapevines to the Corrections Chair in SIA 21 once a quarter throughout 2015

CPC Chair in District 10 and his committee are putting on a workshop on May 2nd at Condell Hospital in Libertyville. The Workshop is geared towards the Dr.'s in the community to help them understand what AA is and how we can help them, their colleges or patients. District 10 prints its directory monthly so that any changes are changed in the directory immediately and put into circulation. The idea is to keep an up to date schedule and hopefully crowd out the old and out dated directories. We as a district have been in contact with other districts about hosting, as a combined effort, the 2016 State Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous

Dist 11, Carol H reported, In October, our LCM completed many meeting and contact information updates for the meetings held in McHenry County. We printed up 2,600 schedules for our GSRs to distribute.

Our Treatment Committee elected a committee chair. NIA Archivist, Ray M, joined us to share information about resources that are available to complete a group history at our December meeting.

We voted on our 2015 budget. Pat C was elected as alternate treasurer. We have had discussions with Districts 10 and 12 about hosting the 2016 State Conference and will begin preparing a bid.

Dist 12, no report

Dist 20, no report

Dist 21, Barbara H reported, our district covers Palatine and Rolling Meadows. We currently have 24 registered groups. After a late start in deciding to host the 2015 Big Book Conference, we made up a lot of ground quickly. We have a date (October 24), a location (Palatine High School), and a theme ("This is the easier, softer way"). We have filled almost all slots for officers, chairs, and alternate chairs. The program committee is hard at work finding speakers and panel moderators. We are grateful for the guidance and support we are receiving from the Northern Illinois Area and those with experience in making these conferences work. The planning committee meets at the Palatine Club on the second Sunday of the month at 3:00 p.m.

We have made adopted a district budget for 2015 and are sending surplus funds to NIA and the General Service office. Our largest single expense, answering service, has been cut to less than half its previous level after our answering service chair came up with a simplified system that replaced a phone line, a commercial answering service (used only to play a message and switch incoming calls), and two cell phones with a single cell phone. Most of our service chairs are occupied; most slots for alternate chairs are vacant.

Groups are doing well. Some report higher attendance, others lower, and others more or less unchanged attendance. The district has 24 registered active groups and many more with unknown status. Five people have volunteered to contact every group we can find to update the GSO database of contact information and status.

Dist 22, Manus reported, I am very happy to report that groups in our district with support of the district have hosted no less than four workshops in the last three months. The most recent workshop last Saturday was a study of the AA brochures that are available. We were very excited to have about a hundred people attending this workshop. The format of the first half is worth mentioning because it proved to be so very popular. There were four pairs of speakers and the speakers moved from table to table rather than asking the attendees to rotate among the tables. Much time and confusion was avoided and I have made a mental note to advocate this format for future workshops.

District 22 continues to function relatively smoothly with 65 meetings a week and about 50 attendees at the monthly district meetings. Service chairs are working smoothly and we are pleased with the overall results. :

Dist 23, no report

Dist 28, Bill E submitted a written report: District 28 currently has 24 meetings per week at various locations in the Barrington and Lake Zurich area. There are also an additional 31 meetings per week at the local Alano Club. District 28 has completed its rotations for the new year. We are happy to report that all but one Committee Chairs have been filled this year. Archives is still open, but we're confident that a direct approach, and an open and positive attitude will find the right fit soon.

No Treatment or Corrections facilities in our District has not discouraged our two latest Committee Chairs. They are searching for and reaching out in a coordinated effort to carry the message beyond our boundaries. It is a "Bridging the Gap", of sorts, between committees to eliminate wasteful duplication of efforts and resources as they reach out to the still suffering alcoholic. Strengthening A.A.'s connection to the ER at Good Shepard Hospital is also a shared goal for both Treatment and PI/CPC committee's in the new year.

District 28 has had guests from the NIA Spring Assembly Conference Committee and the ISCYPAA Spring Conference promoting their spring events. Our 2015 Budget is currently under review and will be presented to our GSR's and committee chairs at the February Meeting.

The No Name Group, which meets Sunday mornings at 10:30AM at the Lake Zurich Police Station, is celebrating 30 years of helping the suffering alcoholic; celebration will be held Sunday, January 25, 2015, at 10:30AM with cake and coffee to follow.

Dist 40, Chris reported we recently filled the alternate special needs position. We're excited to be part of the DuPage County Open. Jennifer informs me they are ready. Dan L has accepted an invitation to come to our district meeting to speak about corrections and the upcoming DuPage County Corrections Workshop.

Rich Z from District 61 will attend our upcoming district meeting to speak about the NIA 2015 Spring Conference at Pheasant Run.

Dist 41, no report

Dist 42, no report

Dist 43, no report

Dist 51, no report

Dist 52, Brent M, newly elected DCM reported I am honored to be elected to do this.

Dist 61, no report

Dist 62, no report

Dist 64, Matt J, newly elected DCM reported I'm excited for the service opportunity. All our chair and alt positions are filled except for Web master. Fortunately some of our GSRs and chairs have stepped up to help out with the site. We have a lot of new people to service making up our district, and excited to work side by side with their group is carried. Looking forward to being of service to the Area in whatever capacity you need.

Dist 70, no report

Dist 71, no report

Dist 72, no report

Dist 73, Gary reported we've had 2 meetings in Winning Wheels (Wheelchair bound rehabilitation facility), Prophetstown, IL. Members are participating in 2015 Summit of Hope Conference; information fair 2/24 carrying information to persons connected with parole, probation, supervised by corrections institutions. We've had contact with new Federal Prison in Thomson. Good welcome. Contact to continue. District 73 meeting schedules are updated on NIA website. Check before you travel!

Dist 79, no report

Dist 80, no report

Dist 90, Jesse N reported, planning is underway with District 91 for the 2016 Spring Conference in Rock Island. We had a great turnout for our initial organization meeting, and we're working to maintain participation and enthusiasm throughout the district. District 90 will also host the Fall Assembly in September, and we're in the process of making arrangements for a facility in the district. Our Corrections Committee has started a new program for AA members to sponsor inmates at the East Moline Correctional Center. The aim of the program is an in-depth working of steps one through five. So far we have had 4 inmates request a sponsor, and 2 AA volunteers to go into the facility. We are actively seeking out more volunteers.

Dist 91, no report

Following open mic, Dan L made a motion to close the meeting

Jim W second

Meeting adjourned