

# **Secretary Minutes from March 28-29-30, 2003 Preconference Assembly Tonopah, NV**

## **Friday, March 28**

Assembly opened at 6:32 pm with Serenity Prayer and the Preface and statement of Assembly purpose. Concept Four was read by Sue followed by Opening remarks from the Barbara M.

### **DCM Reports followed.**

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District 1 - Elected DCM had to resign due to personal reasons and Alternate, Kerri D., stepped in to give report. Attendance at district meetings is up. Due to DCM resignation a special meeting will be held to vote for new DCM. Outgoing DCM was recognized for her hard work. Thanks given for all the hard work from District 1 in the hosting of the weekend in Tonopah.

District 2 – After slow start the District has a DCM, a secretary, treasurer, and a good amount of funds and 4-5 active GSRs. DCM is contacting 22 groups in district. Also district looking for a “project” within the AA community. Two past DCMs from district present and more GSRs expected tomorrow.

District 3 – Bill L stated times of next meeting. District planning pancake breakfast at Founders Day on June 7. Raffle at event will include “copy” of the Big Book 1<sup>st</sup> edition printed in 1985 in commemoration of AA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Attended 1<sup>st</sup> PRAASA and thanked all responsible for making the event happen. Attended Roundtables and enjoyed them a lot.

District 4 – Report read by alternate, Bob K. due to DCM not able to attend. GSR survival training guide given to all GSRs in district although it was mentioned that updating is needed to guide. Time of monthly meeting mentioned and attendance so far is 8-10 people. Attendance from local groups is encouraged. District continues in the tradition of ‘controversial’ meetings with 1<sup>st</sup> being held on 5/1 at Triangle Club with topic of “*Singleness of Purpose*”. Prudent reserve for district established with overages being sent to NAGSC and Area 42.

District 5b – Dean reported he is learning his job and the district had no planned activities as of yet and that attendance at meetings was fair. How best to serve the district is the goal of District 5b.

District 6 – Dave W reported that the District would be hosting GSR Survival training at Alano Club in Carson City, 4/13 at 1:00. June 8<sup>th</sup> will host 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Founder’s Day picnic. Delegate to give report at picnic. District emphasizing need to have Big Book at local public schools and libraries. 13 active GSRs and 11 from district present at Tonopah.

District 8 – High Sierra Group Funded 6 people to PRAASA. Some controversy afterward which will be discussed at next business meeting. District 8 had 16 people at PRAASA. District needs new treasurer. Several positions need to be filled. New Spanish-speaking meeting meets Thursday at 8:00. Had White Elephant potluck, which was very successful. All meetings have good attendance. Reported by Jeanette who reported as alternate DCM due to DCM having to work late.

District 9 – Mary Jo reported that the purpose was to reorganize the district while reaching all groups and getting more people involved in service, find out which are active and not. Attended PRAASA along with attending several Roundtables. Speaker potluck scheduled for 6/8 in mid-town Las Vegas, and planning fall activity. Will provide doughnuts for SAGSC meeting in June. Impromptu meeting is called for 3/29 at Tonopah!

District 13 – Gregg introduced the GSRs in attendance. Out of 32 meetings, 22 have GSRs. Conducting Service Sponsorship workshop and young people’s round up. Several people from district were funded to PRAASA as well as several funded to Tonopah. Most service positions filled with bright future ahead.

District 14 – Jason introduced GSRs in attendance. 10-15 members of District attended PRAASA. Corrections and Treatment Workshop on May 4 in Truckee. Position created for C&T for district. Guidelines for district are being reviewed. Archivist position being reviewed for creation. Website under consideration at this point. GSRs in district are serious but light-hearted.

District 16 – Paul introduced district persons present. Attended PRAASA and had several members attend as well. Annual Christmas affair scheduled even though last event cost district money. Plenty of food for all and it carried the message. New alternate DCM replaces one who had to step down.

District 17 – 14 active groups with 22 meetings. 10 active GSRs with 5 planning to attend Tonopah Assembly. Inaugural roundup in Pahrump this year, flyers on table. Reports on various committees included; CPC, H&I, PI, and hotline.

District 18 – given by alternate DCM, Carol, in absence of DCM due to work commitment. A brief history of the district was given, but is alive and well. Concepts have been included in discussion at district meetings. Great potluck was held in

December with over 40 attendees and a speaker. Another is planned for July, all are welcome to attend. Still a lot of court-ordered attendees at meetings and discussion of "chanting" has ensued. Groups have remained autonomous with some continuing and some not. 22 meetings a week still going strong in District 18!

District 20 – Alternate DCM, Jon M, gave report, which included; representation with 7 GSRs at Assembly, sponsorship of Secretaries Workshop in Susanville, lead by past delegate and having an excellent attendance. Development of H&I is going well with local detention centers. Founder's Day Campout will be June 7-8-9. at Canyon Dam at Lake Almanor. Plans are proceeding well. Next NAGSC meeting at Susanville Fellowship hall on 4/ 6 at 1:00pm. Plumas County has 20 meetings in 4 towns with 3 active GSRs. Many court-ordered attendees but meetings are strong.

District 21 – All are invited to special Hispanic General Forum in Vegas on May 4. Topics will include 1) objective of area committee, 2) importance of open communication in arriving at informed group conscience, 3) should GSRs attend the Area Assembly, 4) does Area Assembly follow Tradition 2 involving all AA groups to participate.

Districts not giving reports Friday: 5A, 7, 11, 12, 15, 19. District 22 to send written report to Secretary.

**PRAASA REPORT – Roberta L., past delegate, PRAASA 2003 Co-Chair**

Committee members were asked to stand as well as volunteers and were thanked. General Service General Manager, Greg M., stated "best PRAASA he'd attended". A portion of PRAASA history for 2002 was read for Assembly and would be presented as our part of the historical report of PRAASA history book. 1335 attendees registered for PRAASA 2002, and attendance record. Recap was done on how planning process for the Assembly went along. 104 of 189 feedback forms submitted were all positive, only a few were considered to be critical in more than one area. Attendees of the Area Assembly were invited to review comments for themselves. Suggestions and comment forms will be forwarded to 2004 Committee for their consideration. (A large ovation was given for the PRAASA 2003 Co-Chairs, Roberta L. and Dick H., for their hard work in making Reno PRAASA a success)

A suggestion by Past Trustee, Ruth J. was made to include cut-off date on flyer for refunds as well as stated policy for refunds.

Committee Members were identified by Barbara M. and those not attending meeting in Blue Room were asked to stay in main room for roundtable discussions.

Ask-It-Basket procedure explained by Barbara.

**BREAK TO COMMITTEE MEETING (8:25)**

Area Committee meeting notes

Attendance sheet passed and meeting opened with Serenity Prayer  
Barbara M. suggested that DCMs and Committee members consider current level of funding and current level of funding to Area Assembly based on current hotel, transportation and meal costs.

- Loving Discussions ensued

Question posed by Byron F. that this question is not an Area funding issue and that the Groups, Districts and Northern and Southern Areas should be used to assist in funding first.  
Barbara restated that the issue should be taken back to the Groups and Districts for consideration.

GSR Survival Guide was discussed and it was agreed generally that an updated version was needed. Consider appointment of an ad-hoc committee to update was discussed. Discussion ensued regarding the best possible time and way to inform GSRs of their duties, responsibilities and make them more comfortable in their roles. Survival Guides requested at PRAASA would be sent through the Area Delegate (Kathy S.), electronically for distribution throughout their Area. This proposal will be reviewed for approval with the Delegates by our Delegate. Timeliness of Conference Agenda items being given to the Area as a whole was discussed and the process and flow of information was detailed by the Delegate and it was noted the time-line between the Delegate receiving the information and the communication to the Area was very tight and that all were under time constraints to forward the information and that everyone was aware of the issue of timeliness and would work toward doing the best job possible going forward.

Kathy S. asked for floor to discuss issue of 2005 PRAASA in Tucson and the fact that the Hotel we were to use has been double-booked and the question sent out to all Pacific Region Delegate Areas was, can the PRAASA 2005 be moved back one week to the second weekend in March to accommodate this snafu? All Areas are asked to review and Area 42 did not seem to have any objections at present with such a move although no decision needs to be made at this Assembly.

New Area Newsletter person was appointed (Rick M.).

The prospect of an Area 42 Website was discussed and many points of view were discussed and no decision will be reached immediately.

Area Treasurer, Byron F., emphasized that the DCMs were the vital link to getting group contributions going to the right mailing address and that a permanent Post Office Box was in the process of being established to prevent future issues with checks being lost or being sent to the wrong address.

New book from Conference "Experience, Strength and Hope" now available in April from GSO.

Attendees			
Ed dP	Jason C	Charlie K	Rick S
Jon M.	Ray G	Steve S	Rick W
Kathy S	Joyce P	Kerri D	Terri K
Scarlett P	Bill F	Barbara M	Bill L
Marion T	Byron F	David W	Dean B
TJ R	Bob K	Paul E	Jeanette R-W
Dave W	Sophie K	Roxanne Z	Elizabeth S
Don S	Ken P	Susan K	Mary Jo A
Roger R	Gregg L	Steve H	

End of Discussion

### **Saturday, March 29, 2003**

9am welcome from Barbara M., Area Chair and Delegate, Kathy S. had announcement about contributions. Group Contribution forms from GSO available at table. Serenity Prayer and Concept 5

Minutes from last September (2002) Assembly were approved unanimously.

Last call for banquet tickets made and breakfast tickets for Sunday. Past Delegates in attendance were asked to stand and introduce themselves. There were 5 including one from the Colorado area; Brian R, Kevin D, Joan M, Ruth J, and Roberta L.

Extra copies of Minutes from last Assembly could be requested through Area Secretary, Ed dP.

### **CONFERENCE AGENDA ITEMS AND PRESENTERS COMMENCED**

1. How items are brought to Conference process was explained by past delegate from Colorado, Brian R.; Mind of Alcoholic – to Assembly and Delegate – to Trustee Committee – Questions – to Agenda Committee – possibly to Conference. If it isn't going right then AA needs to look at it. (Comments and questions from open microphone ensued)
2. CPC Kit used as tool? Demonstrated the contents of kit and ease in losing items, which may fall out. Some items pamphlets not included in kit and should be. Possible 3-ring binder format for ease in handling. Add Message to Correctional Facility pamphlet? Many misconceptions exist amongst professionals about AA. (Vote taken and more information needed for decision) – presenter Marion T.
3. CPC – ways to reach wider variety of professionals – mission is to inform not affiliate. How can we educate and be supportive of professional is a start. Review pamphlet, what does AA do and NOT do? Reviewed were variety of ways we currently reach professionals. New ways; networking, consider other than traditional professionals such as foremen, business owners, contractors, etc. (open microphone discussions and comments ensued) – presenter Gene H.
4. Corrections – combine kit and workbook in single 3-ring binder (useful?) – ideas were expressed in favor of such a move to make it simpler and less cumbersome. (Discussion at microphones ensued with agreement to pursue) – presenter John
5. Corrections – Do we need statement of purpose developed by Trustees Committee in Correctional Facility workbook/kit? Presenter gave both sides of issue and microphone discussion ensued with Assembly agreed to pass. – presenter Roxanne Z.

6. Grapevine – add “encouraging subscriptions” to GVR job description in pamphlet? Presenter did not seem to feel it would hurt to do so. After discussion the Assembly decided not to include. Presenter Elizabeth S.
7. Grapevine – consider production of various GV material. Discussion was held and Assembly voted yes. – presenter Elizabeth S.
8. Literature – Adding historical context statement to 12X12 – is it needed? Presenter said that his group favored footnoting only but no additions to 12X12 although no statement has yet been developed (Delegate). Discussion ensued with opinions on both sides. Position of Assembly to discuss further. Presenter John ?
9. Literature - Update changes to pamphlet General Service Office updating GV and LaVina wording. Discussion took place and the Assembly voted to accept this suggestion. Presenter Gary?
10. Literature – Delete the phrase “even your parents” from “Too Young” pamphlet/cartoon – loving discussion at the microphone ensued with the decision to keep it as is. Presenter Jenise F.
11. Literature – Change wording in AA Group pamphlet about “job” vs. “service” – presenter expressed support to better clarify group service positions and after some discussion the Assembly voted to pass the measure. Presenter Dean B.
12. Literature – Consider replacing “It Happened to Alice” pamphlet with new comic strip pamphlet. Presenter agreed with the updating of obsolete material, discussion at the microphone ensued with the feeling of the Assembly that we should proceed. Presenter Anna S.
13. Policy and Admissions – Secondary Conference Committee to review all aspects of GSO Internet Usage? Presenter stated the number of ways the truth could be distorted on the Web and that, keeping the Traditions in mind, we should carefully move forward on this issue. Assembly agreed after some discussion. Presenter Kerri D.
14. Policy and Admissions – Form a Committee on Special Needs – it would essentially change the structure of the Conference in NY. Presenter made the case for moving forward in this case with his report (handout with complete report was made available). The Assembly with little discussion agreed. Presenter Steve S.
15. Public Information – Approve TV PSAs developed by PI Committee and continued development of new spots. Much discussion ensued considering costs of PSAs but Assembly agreed to move forward with approval. Presenter Jerry P.
16. Public Information – Use of Website as PI tool. – Presenter made case for use of Website as PI tool but also made case for not putting the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Big Book on the Web. Discussion ensued and the Assembly agreed that the Web be used as a tool for PI but was not in favor of putting the BB on the Web. Presenter Mike D.
17. Report and Charter – Consider changes to Service Manual regarding Delegate duties. Presenter made case for Assembly and was passed with little discussion. Presenter Mary Jo A.
18. Report and Charter – Consider suggestion to add to Service Manual under GSR, additional duties. Presenter made case for not mandating this change and discussion that followed at the microphone failed to pass the suggestion. Presenter Craig H.
19. Report and Charter – Consider changing wording in Service Manual under qualifications for GSR (have a sponsor). Presenter made case for both sides and after loving discussion at the microphone, the item failed to win approval. Presenter Kerri D
20. Treatment Facilities – Review progress report on combining kit and workbook into single binder. Presenter made case for the one-binder idea and after discussion the Assembly was split. Presenter Mike M.
21. International Conventions/Forums – Discuss tradition of inviting not more than 21 non-alcoholic speakers to AA International with their expenses being paid. Presenter reviewed customs of why and how they become invited and costs per convention and after loving discussion, the Assembly agreed with the concept. Presenter Jason C.
22. International Conventions/Forums – Discuss ways to encourage more participation in Forums. Presenter explained the purpose of Forums and costs and talked about several ways to encourage participation including; outreach, sponsorship, better education and getting word out early. Assembly agreed. Presenter Gregg L.

End of Reports

Several DCM reports followed with

District 7 – Car wash being sponsored and picnic on August 17. report given by Mike M.

District 18 – Don S, DCM, gave same report as given by Alternate earlier

District 21 – See earlier report

District 22 – (waiting for written report from Pablo S.)

### **Sunday, March 30, 2003**

Assembly was opened with Serenity Prayer

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Kathy S.(delegate)

Thanks to organizers and volunteers at PRAASA and the Area Assembly. Announcements were made About several Pacific Region events as well as the upcoming 2005 International Convention in Toronto, Canada. A special note was made that entry requirements into Canada are difficult if you Have a felony on your record. All are advised to make inquiries to assure their entry is legal. Website has information.

Upcoming Events	
PRAASA 2004	Irvine, California
PRAASA 2005	Tucson, AZ
Regional Forum 2004	Portland, OR
Special Forum	British Columbia
Special Forum, 2004	Honolulu, HI

Delegate mentioned that GSO is searching for a Class A Trustee and if anyone had suggestion, Contact her at 702-566-1174. Candidate should be professional (Clergy, medicine, etc)

GSO figures membership at 2+million with over 100K groups, in 150 countries and 52 autonomous GSOs around the world at present.

Agenda item at upcoming regional Forum, site selection of 2015 International. Sites so far include Los Angeles, Honolulu, Seattle in the Pacific Region.

New publications from GSO include "Experience, Strength and Hope" as well as others.

Numerous others are now available in other languages besides English.

Alternate Delegate Thanks to Area 42 for allowing her to serve at PRAASA and as Alternate Delegate (Joyce P.)

Reviewed NAGSC changes in service positions.

Area Chair (Barbara M.)

Thanked Area for allowing her to serve (and not puke) at Area and PRAASA

Alternate Chair (Steve H.)

Thanks Area for opportunity to serve, and likes being on the "timer".

As SAGSC Chair likes the opportunity for himself and others to grow.

NAGSC Chair (Rick W. r)

Recounted journey in General Service. Northern Area undergoing Inventory Of N. Area at present. Will be looking forward to Delegate report 1<sup>st</sup> weekend In June. April 6 is Meeting in Susanville at 1pm.

Treasurer (Byron F. )

Reviewed group contributions and sites desire to have permanent PO Box To avoid confusion in future years.

Expressed desire to be available anytime for all questions about the treasury.

Reviewed budget and expenses are forecast to exceed income.

Alternate Treasurer Balance currently of \$8,527 with anticipated \$2K of expenses due. (Ray G.)

Also expressed desire to remain open for questions and comments.

SAGSC Treasurer (Terri K.)	New software option being used is easier with bookwork  Open for comments and questions.
Secretary (Ed dP)	Thanks to Area for opportunity to serve at PRAASA and Area Assemblies.  Thanks for willingness to be flexible to changes and "controversy"
Alternate Sec. (TJ R.)	New and learning job – thanks for all the patience
Archivist (Roger R.)	Thanks for assistance of all at PRAASA. Mention of special private archival Display. Encourages groups, districts, and areas to send in archival information.
Alternate Archivist (Jack F.)	Made donation to GSO of book and will bring letter of commendation and thanks To next assembly. Mentioned the wonderful archival display at GSO and encourages All to go if in NYC. Las Vegas Central Office also has archives.
Registrar (David W)	Thanks to all for opportunity to serve. Talked about the RT at PRAASA he attended As being very helpful.
Alternate Registrar (Sue K.)	Encouraged all to bring updates to Susanville meeting on Sunday, April 6. Explained how and why the update sheets work.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Liberty Bells Group presented a proposal for consideration of the Assembly (Fall) and for discussion to change the wording in the book Alcoholics Anonymous, Chapter "To Wives" be changed to read "To the Family and Friends". (Complete proposal will be available at the September Assembly or through the Liberty Bells Group @ PO Box 28278 Las Vegas, NV. 88128-2278)

#### **Ask-It-Basket**

Assembly concluded with 12 questions answered by Past Delegates; Ruth J, Kevin D, Roberta L, Joan M, and current delegate, Kathy S.

End of report

Service People Rock!

EdP

Reviewed by Ad Hoc Communications Committee for Anonymity Breaks in 2016.