

Area 42 Spring Pre-Conference Assembly 2016

6:00 PM Welcome – Opening Announcements; Ronnie, serenity prayer, Nick, declaration of unity, Phil, anonymity statement and opening announcements; introduced Bob trustee at large

Secretary: Paul, September 2015 minutes motion to approve 2nd and passed unanimously

Treasure report: Tinna, Come see me for your contribution receipts.

1) We are over the Grapevine display budget.

The reason we only put \$100 in the budget is because the SAGSC GV Chair used to go to their Central Office to pick up the literature and then pay Central Office when they were done. SAGSC needed the \$100 funding this year to put on the display, and felt justified in asking as it was in the budget. And, I must say it was a great GV display and fun games. NAGSC also needs \$100 funding this year to put on the display in the Spring, and also saw it in the budget.

The finance committee decided to pay both SAGSC & NAGSC and adjust the budget next year.

2) After the Fall Assembly last year it was pointed out that our checks said Alcoholics Anonymous on them. This created an anonymity issue for some people and after some discussion with the finance committee and input from GSO, I shredded the old checks and purchased new checks without the name Alcoholics Anonymous on them.

3) Our 2014 Taxes were filed August 18th of 2015. I took over as Treasurer in the beginning of July. I received a letter from the IRS, sent to the Las Vegas P.O. Box saying our request for an extension of our filing date had been approved, that's how I found out the taxes hadn't been filed yet. I worked with our accountant to get the necessary information and we got the taxes filed. There is no penalty due for the 3 days we were late.

4) I'm going to talk to you now about a situation that came up with the IRS concerning tax year 2010. I'm going to talk about penalties that were charged to Area 42 for not filing on time and what was done about those penalties. In the end, my goal is to set up protections for the Area Treasury and future Area servants so this type of situation is less likely to occur.

In August when I filed the taxes for 2014 I changed the contact address to my mailing address for the IRS.

On November 9th I received a letter from the IRS stating that Area 42 owed \$1,416.79 in penalties and interest from tax year ending 2010. I would like to note here that as a non-profit 501C3 entity we do not pay income tax.

The letter stated I needed to respond with payment or documentation proving we didn't owe the money by December 8th.

Of course I figured I would get the documentation that proved we didn't owe taxes for 2010 from the Archives and take care of the matter.

So I contacted the Archivist. It turned out that the financial archives had been removed from the main archives and were at the home of the person who was Treasurer in 2011 responsible for filing the tax year in question.

So I contacted the 2011 Treasurer and asked for the tax documents from 2010.

I was unable to get those documents from that Treasurer despite several requests made by phone and email.

I combed through the Areas Minutes on the website looking for any mention of tax issues. I found none. I contacted members of the Finance Committee during 2010-2011-2012 and no one had any recollection of tax issues.

Since I was running out of time to respond, I went into the IRS without any documentation, kind of flying blind if you will.

The IRS did have documentation and were very willing to share it with me. I have it with me today.

It turns out that the Area did not file our 2010 taxes until October 17th of 2011. As a 501C3 our taxes are supposed to be filed no later than May 15th each year.

On December 12th of 2011 the IRS sent a letter to our Las Vegas P.O. Box stating that we owed \$2,522.45 in Penalties for late filing.

The 2011 Treasurer sent a letter back to the IRS stating we had asked for an extension to file until August 15th 2011. The IRS accepted this letter, even though it too was late, and forgave us the penalties due from May 15th 2011 – August 15th 2011. Still we didn't file until October 17th 2011. Two months after the extension date. We still owed for those two months \$1,262.45. The IRS continued to send notices to the Las Vegas P.O. Box that we still owed the money and they never heard back from us until they sent the letter to my address and I responded.

So, interest had been added and we now owed \$1,416.79.

I wrote a letter to the IRS, which I also have with me, pleading for mercy and explaining that our area would take measures to insure this didn't happen again. On February 24th 2016 I received a letter back from the IRS stating they had forgiven our debt.

I'm very pleased that the situation turned out this well, however it took a lot of time and effort and was made unduly difficult by my inability to access the financial archives.

To summarize, a) our 2010 taxes were filed late b) we asked for an extension after the fact c) we were forgiven the penalty up to the extension date d) we still owed the penalty for the two months after the extension date e) no further action was taken on behalf of the area until 2015 f) I was unable to obtain our financial archives g) we were, in the end forgiven the rest of the penalties and interest

I am working on some suggestions for changes to the financial guidelines that would increase accountability and support for the treasurer filing the taxes and the guidelines concerning the archives that would increase protection of, and access to, records. It is my hope these will protect future Area Servants and the Area Treasury.

DCM Reports:

District 1: Claudia, Hi, my name is Claudia and I am an alcoholic. I am also the DCM for District 1. First, I want to say how excited I am that I got to represent our district at PRAASA and that we have such wonderful participation in service from our district. Next, we are in the process of planning two workshops this year, one in July or August and the other at the end of October on the topic of Sweet Amends. We are also covering the 8 to 8 shift on the first Monday of the month on the hotline. We are making great strides on working on our guidelines and have printed copies for our District meeting this weekend. The other things that we are continuing to do is incorporate discussions on chapters from the service manual into our monthly (Non-SAGS/Tonopah) meetings and a discussion at each meeting of some of the challenges that we have in our service positions. There is also a new women's meeting in our District on Wednesdays at noon in beautiful Boulder City that focuses on articles from the Grapevine. And, while it's still a bit early, the District 1 picnic is being planned for October 8 this year. Thank you for letting me be of service. By the way, this is a reminder to our District One GSRs; we will be meeting in the blue room on Saturday at noon.

District 2: Mary, Greetings! District 2 membership has seen some changes with new GSRs and alt GSRs in attendance at our monthly meeting; we welcome all to this service. Our new members hope to complete their registrations at this assembly. Our treasury is healthy and we have been able to support GSRs in attending the Assembly and we were able to fund the DCM's PRAASA trip to Spokane in March. The Alternate DCM has resigned and elections will be held at our next meeting in April. The ad hoc committee is creating our district guidelines and we hope to complete them this year. Our district is grateful to District 6 and District 7 for sharing their guidelines; we have been using their models as we go forward. Fall guests included SWACYPAA committee members and we were delighted to participate in the monthly events they held around the district. We look forward to the June 2016 convention. In January, we joined Districts 4 and 16 in a Grapevine writer's workshop; it was a good afternoon of inspired writing and fellowship. Upcoming guests include Corrections in April and Special Needs in June. We will have our district elections in August prior to the Fall Area Assembly. Each month in their reports, the district GSRs present problems and solutions. It is always heartwarming to witness the support this group gives each other. The spiritual journey of general service is an experience not to be missed and I am humbled by the group's representatives in this district. These trusted servants show us why GSR may be the most important job in AA. Joyfully in service, Mary D, DCM

District 3: Jerry, District 3 remains financially solvent thanks to the support of the active groups in the District. Groups in District 3 with active GSR's The Graduates: Steve McK GSR, Mesquite AA: Dave M GSR, How It Works: Rebecca F GSR, Weekend Warriors: Lisa L GSR. District 3 will be involved with PIC/CPC and Accessibilities Committee with their up-coming event on April 16. We will be providing donuts, something we're good at. District 3 and Mesquite are hosting a Service Festival / Potluck in Mesquite NV. on May 7 (read form the flyer) flyers are available on the table. Thank you Jerry B. DCM Dist. 3

District 4: Wayne, Hi, I'm wayne and I am the alcoholic DCM for District 4.

I was very fortunate to be able to attend the Pacific Region AA Service Assembly (PRAASA) in Boise a few weeks ago. I always find it an educational as well as inspirational event. On January 16th we hosted a GSR training event. We had a nice turnout from several of the surrounding districts. I would like to thank Chris for filling in at the last minute to do the training. We are looking forward to the Reno Nevada's Young Peoples AA hosting the Southwest Area Conference of Young people's AA (SWACYPAA). They are holding planning committee meeting the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. This is coming up June 2nd to the 4th. We are also looking forward to the spring festival April 8th to the 10th at the Nugget in Sparks. So, if your going to be around Reno Sparks Next weekend It should be a good time. The Reno Triangle Club has always had rent set at one half of the 7th tradition. Which works out great for new groups. If you have a new/small group, and only get \$4 for 7th tradition, you rent is only \$2. However, The club has put out a memo stating they expect one half of all monies collected, not just the basket (i.e. The pink cans for hospitals and institutions.). This has been discussed at the group and district level. Most of the groups felt they could no longer pass the pink cans because the money collected is supposed to go to hospitals and institutions, NOT to support the Reno Triangle Club. Two of us have meet with a member of the board of directors of the Triangle club and a neutral party. They are sticking with the position that they would like half of the pink cans. They explained the club was not breaking even and was looking for more income. They even encouraged us to pass the cans saying half of the money was better than nothing for hospitals and institutions. A representative will be meeting with us next week at the district meeting to further discuss the topic. Thank you for listening. Wayne H

District 5B: Bryce, MY NAME IS BRYCE AND I'M AN ALCOHOLIC. I'M THE DCM FOR DISTRICT 5B AND THIS IS MY REPORT. OUR LAST 2 MEETINGS HAVE BEEN ON THE SAME DAYS AS SAGSC'S AND THE ROUNDTABLES SO WE HAVEN'T A LOT TO REPORT. OUR GSR'S HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT THE AGENDA ITEMS AT THEIR BUSINESS MEETINGS. THE MEETINGS THAT I HAVE ATTENDED HAVE SHOWN INTEREST IN 2 OF THE TOPICS MORE THAN OTHERS. FIRST, THE PLAIN LANGUAGE VERSION OF THE BIG BOOK AND THE PROPOSAL OF ALLOWING ACA PEOPLE TO SIT IN ON THE CONFERENCE. I'M CONFIDENT THAT OUR GSR'S WILL GO TO THE MIKE AND PROVIDE THE DETAILS IF THEY SO CHOOSE. AT THE BEGINNING OF MARCH I HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF GOING TO THE PRAASA CONVENTION IN SPOKANE WA. AS ALWAYS IT WAS A VERY EDUCATIONAL AND ENJOYABLE EXPERIENCE. THERE ARE TOO MANY TOPICS TO COVER IN THIS REPORT, AS THERE WERE SO MANY GOOD ONES. BUT JUST BRIEFLY, AT OUR DCM WORKSHOPS WE TALKED ABOUT SUCH THINGS AS TRADITIONS BREAKS, ANONYMITY, MEETING PLACE SAFETY AND HOW TO MAKE WORKSHOPS MORE FUN. TAKE YOUR SPONSOR TO DINNER, SERVICE MANUAL BINGO AND AA JEOPARDY WERE A COUPLE OF THE SUGGESTIONS MADE. AND ON THE SAFETY SIDE IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT WHEN THERE IS A THREAT OF VIOLENCE IN A MEETING THAT EVERYONE STAND UP AND FORCE THE DISRUPTER TO LEAVE. I FELT THAT THAT IS A GOOD IDEA BECAUSE IT SUPPORTS OUR FIRST TRADITION (COMMON WELFARE, UNITY). WE ARE GOING TO HAVE OUR SPRING WORKSHOP ON MAY 14, FROM 2 TO 4 PM AT THE KCB CLUB IN NORTH LAS VEGAS. WE'RE GOING TO TALK BRIEFLY ON THE 12 CONCEPTS. WE WILL FINALIZE THE DETAILS AT OUR NEXT DISTRICT MEETING ON THE 9TH OF APRIL. AS ALWAYS THERE WILL BE SNACKS SO PLAN ON COMING EARLY AND STAYING LATE. THERE'S A FLYER POSTED ON THE AREA WEBSITE. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS YOU CAN CALL OR TEXT ME. I'LL GET BACK TO YOU AS SOON AS I CAN. THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO BE OF SERVICE. BRYCE B

District 6: John, District 6 has been cruising along. We have had new GSR's and alt GSR's show up at our District meetings. We continue to look at ways to reach out to groups that do not currently have any representation. I was extremely grateful to attend my second PRAASA. PRAASA seems to always to teach me open-mindedness and humility. It seems to be the time for inventories, as many groups in the district have completed or are planning on conducting there group inventory. Back in January we had a very successful workshop with around 40 attendees. We had a triple panel presentation that included and Archive presentation by the Northern Area archivist Pat S., A grapevine presentation by our district Grapevine rep Dani A., and CPC presentation by Joyce and Cheryl our NNIG/NAGSC chair and co-chairs. So all this discussion and information sharing went well, and we even were able to fill our CPC chair at the district level, which had been vacant for almost two years. Thank you Terry for stepping up! Our district will be hosting our annual Founders day picnic, just around the corner in June at the beautiful historic park in Genoa, please be on the lookout for a flier. Finally, I want to mention that we had a GSR pass away. Longtime member and GSR of the Genoa Tuesday night meditation group Mac S. passed. We keep in our hearts and try carry on his message of love and hope!

District 7: Bud, Hello Everyone my name is: Bud L. and I currently have the privelage of serving you as your DCM for District 7. It has been an honor serving as the DCM this past year and almost a half. I have learned so much from everyone and very grateful for this. We started off the year by organizing our 4 events for 2016 with the biggest emphasis on our 31st annual Mt. Charleston Picnic. I have brought

a save the date flyer for you information on when it is. I know its not till August but this way we know its out there. Along lines our first service event is around the corner Titled "Came to Believe" Mark H. is the chair for this event should prove to be a great event. It is April 16th from 11-1 at the serenity club. I also brought some flyers as well and placed them by the door. Our other service events will be on June 18th, and finally Nov 5th. As usual we have a full year with everything going. We have had such great participation at our District business meetings which is very refreshing. The enthusiasm of AA is strong. Earlier this month Lisa T. represented District 7 at PRAASA as she is our Alt. DCM. Very grateful of her to step and go. She came back with a lot of insight for us all. Also this past month District 7 won the Southern area district Chili Cook-off. Sandra won 1st, Kelly M. 2nd and Alfredo won peoples choice. What a showing by District 7. I am setting a challenge now for the other Districts in the south to come participate in next years cook-off and try and beat us! It is a great time for Districts to fellowship and get to know one another. Once again I am honored to serve in Area 42 as the DCM or District 7. Thank you all for showing me the way. In Service, Bud L.

District 8: Scott, Hello Everyone, It is good to see you all again in Tonopah for this Pre-Conference Assembly. The agenda item discussion process is always very informative and it is always great to get different perspectives on the issues affecting AA world-wide. About our District. District 8 is located in Eastern California, running north to south over 100 miles between the crest of the Sierra Nevada mountains and the Nevada border. The main population centers in the district are Bishop and Mammoth Lakes and there are currently 10 groups. Our last district service event was a Secretary's Workshop held in Mammoth Lakes in November. Meanwhile, the Bishop and High Sierra groups held their bi-annual White Elephant Auction/Pot Luck/Speaker Meeting at the end of January which was well attended. The High Sierra Group which, is the largest group in Bishop is currently in the process of moving locations for 9 of its meetings. Their former meeting hall has a serious mold problem and many members considered that location unhealthy. The doors were closed at 129 E Line St in Bishop on March 31. On April 1 two new doors opened. One at the United Methodist Church 205 N. Fowler St and the other at the Coyote Meadows Community Center on the northeast corner of Pa Ha & W. Line St. Both of these locations are in Bishop California. Schedules and websites are being updated with these new locations. Our district continues to work on guideline revisions and we have a document that will be ready for a first reading at our upcoming meeting in May. The next general service event that we have in the planning stages is the 4th annual Chili Cook-off/Summer Kick-off/Delegate's Report that will be held on June 25 at Mill Pond Park in Bishop. Hope to see you there! Thanks for letting me be of service. Scott B.

District 10A: Janet, My name is Janet T, grateful to be serving as temporary DCM for District 10A. Amelita T regrets being unable to finish the current rotation. Also, I will be moving to Area 64 (Tennessee) this summer and District 10A is working on finding a fulltime DCM. I'd like to introduce the District GSRs in attendance today. Dennis W is working on updating our GSR roster, providing correct contact information for the Area. This list will be available soon. The Elko 'Serenity in the Rubies' Campout committee is working diligently preparing to host the annual campout. Be sure to mark July 22 - 24 on your calendars so you can join us in the spectacular Ruby Mountains and Lamoille Canyon near Elko. Please see the flyers available at this assembly. The District received a recent request from Owyhee asking for a workshop on AA. We will be asking NAGSC for assistance with this opportunity to carry the AA message to a new region. In grateful service, Janet

District 9: Vicky read report for John, Hi everybody, my name is John F on the DCM for District nine. District 9 had a step study on step 11 January 16 at central office. It was attended by about 25 people in Bill H in a great job on step 11. We are looking forward to a great new year for District nine as we complete our step study. Our balance of the treasury proximately \$1700. Yours in service, John

District 10B: Samantha, District 10B meetings are hosted by a different Group each time and meet the 4th Sunday of odd months at 10 a.m. We have _ GSR(s) in attendance today. The March District meeting had 2 GSRs and 2 visitors in attendance. We have only received 7th Tradition contributions from 2 groups in the last 2 quarters and cannot afford to fully support the DCM to NAGSC or Assembly meetings. The only Spanish speaking meetings in Winnemucca have closed. I asked to get in contact with the Spanish speaking meeting's chairperson to see if there's anything the District can do to help get Spanish speaking meetings start up again. One member is concerned that his group's business meeting is getting muddled with AI-Anon & NA issues & not getting the AA's issues resolved. He said they spend so much time discussing the building issues they don't get to AA issues outside their group that are important like District, Area, & GSO topics. One Group's meeting place only allows one member to have a key & open the doors. This poses a problem when that member has health issues & cannot be there. We talked about Three Legacies Group giving a report & having a voice, but no vote since it's not a registered group. Members said they'd like to hear what Three Legacies is doing & had questions on what Three Legacies Group discussed during their business meetings; excess funds distribution, items from Area & GSO, etc. We discussed having more District workshops and voted on a Grapevine writing workshop along with Archives trivia. We're planning on having elections for District officers at the next District meeting. And we're excited about getting a date from our delegate to come give his GSC Report.

GSC Agenda Item discussion:

On Literature Item A, the sense was no. Comments included:

- I'm part Native American & there were 3 tribes with 3 different languages where he lived.
- She's worked with sponsees where she had to explain very simple words in the Big Book & it was a wonderful experience.
- We'll always have the original Big Book as a tool.
- Who's going to write this new version? How much will it cost?
- Effectiveness of a simpler language will not outweigh the cost.
- If a person is hurting enough they'll go to any lengths for the solution including getting help with words.
- Where's the line between helping & enabling?
- What lengths are we willing to go to as Sponsors?
- Is going to any lengths as a Sponsor on the decline?

On Policy & Admission Item C, the sense was no. Comments were:

- AA has already been diluted enough.
- It's a slippery slope.
- It blows my mind that we're discussing an outside issue on the GSC agenda!
- If I can't attend the GSC & I'm a member of AA, why would we allow a member of another Fellowship?

On Literature Item H, comments were:

- Are they AA or not? If we've decided this as a Fellowship, where is it stated?
- If we have a pamphlet for Young People, what will a Guideline do for them or us?

- The A.A. Guidelines represent the shared experience of A.A. members and groups throughout the service areas in the US & Canada. They are used by GSRs, DCMs, & Area Committee members when we have questions, for example, regarding anonymity on social media, how AA cooperates with Al-Anon, treatment & correctional centers, clubs, etc.
- The Guidelines are typically 1-2 pages. It might be useful to create a Guideline for YPAAs once we're certain whether they are in fact part of AA since there's been so much discrepancy. Some of the Young People's meetings I've attended are solid AA meetings. YPAA conventions are listed in our Box 4-5-9.
- Is this pertaining to YPAA conventions & conferences or regular meetings?

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Samantha

District 12: Ed, Hi Everybody, My name is Ed and I am an alcoholic, District 12 is alive and doing well, it appears as though there is a new GSR at every meeting. We are now starting to recruit GSR's for next term. I am also looking for a replacement DCM as the alternate has chosen not to stay with the district at this time any takers? Since the last assembly we have had many presentations from NAGS committee members. They have been very helpful and given our GSR's much to talk about at group business meetings. Hopefully this will inspire others to get involved and find out what we all have about service in AA. Yes it's a lot of work but the payoff is GREAT!!! The friends are lifelong no matter where you go, and staying busy equates to staying sober. We have a large recovery house in Fallon Nevada near to where we have our business meeting and monthly birthday speaker meeting, both held on the same day, The second Saturday of each and every month. Many of the residents of the recovery home stay in the Fallon area where they feel safe and there are lots of great meetings. This is due to many of our members getting involved in the recovery of the residents while they are at New Frontier. People come out get jobs places to stay and begin their new life where they felt welcomed and accepted. At least half of the crowd at our speaker meeting is New Frontier. We get to know many of the new comers while they are just starting out and I must say the town of Fallon AA's go out of their way to be of love and service. We as a district strive to educate ourselves in all aspects off service so that we can of love and service. Silver Springs AA group has put a flyer out for their annual campout the best in all of AA they say. You can bring your kids, dogs they must be on a leash, kids on leashes optional, quads, dirt bikes and horses. They even feed you Friday night and there is a pot luck speaker meeting Saturday night. This all happens the second weekend of June. There are many events going on and around district 12 and you are all most welcome. Our Alt DCM John and I have done some more traveling. We drove to Spokane for the PRAASA when most flew we are kind of weird like that. Then to Roundtables the following weekend in Reno. I must say that despite the distance Area 42 was well attended at PRAASA. I attended the technology workshop and found it to be very interesting. We talked about social media a little but more on the subject of how to reach the still suffering Alcoholic. The DCM roundtable was a lot of fun and many great ideas came from that session. If you have never gone go you won't regret it even if you have to drive. Thank You For Allowing Me To Be Of Service

District 13: Alison, District 13 is doing well, although participation has been fairly low recently. My Alternate DCM stepped down as well as a couple other Committee Reps and GSR's. We are still hosting the monthly speaker meeting that is held on the second Tuesday of each month @ 6:30p. Our next speaker is my dad, Bob S., who will be sharing his experience, strength, and hope with us on Tuesday April 12th at 6:30pm. In February we gathered for my favorite event of all time which was titled, "On the Yellow Brick Road to Happy Destiny." We put on a short skit based around the 3rd step and we even had themed food like lions and tigers and bears oh my! Animal Crackers as well as Tin Man hat Hershey's kisses. Our speakers wore costumes and everyone had a great time. Our next event is scheduled for May 21st from 2p-330p which will be a Grapevine writing workshop co-hosted by District 13 and The Grapevine Committee. We will have a platform for members to brainstorm and submit their stories to The Grapevine Magazine, and we will be filling out an Arbor Card as a team. Thank you for allowing me to be of service. Respectfully submitted, Alison S.

District 14: Anne, District 14 is doing well. We are getting a great response to our Quarterly Speaker Meetings. We have been averaging 100 people. Or next one is Saturday April 30th 7pm at the Biltmore in Crystal Bay. The Jamboree will be held at the Truckee Regional Park on August 7th. The issue that we are having is getting support from our groups. They are tight on money so they are not contributing. We are looking at getting rid of the answering service and having everything go thru NNIG in Reno.

District 16: Cathy, In September, at our last assembly we got a new District Grapevine chair Elise R., Thank You for stepping up. At the last assembly a full complete hard copy of our District guidelines was handed to me. After the Assembly at our September meeting Roberta B, special needs/remote communities chair for Northern Area was finally able to attend our meeting, Thank You Roberta B. At our meeting in October Gary S. Northern Areas Treatment Facilities/Bridging the Gap chair gave us a short presentation. Thank you again Gary for coming to our meeting and informing us on such short notice. In November Cheryl E. Northern Areas CPC chair along with Joyce Y. were able to attend our meeting with a short presentation. Thank you Cheryl and Joyce for coming to our meeting and informing us. In December I was able to talk with the Joyce Y. after the NAGCS meeting. She had a lot of good information so I invited her back to our District meeting and put on a presentation of how to give a fully informed group conscience. Due to an illness we finally did have Joyce Y. come out in February. Thank you again Joyce Y. coming to our meeting and informing us. In December we had our 29th annual Christmas Affair at which I filled in as standing Treas. during the event. Our chair Stacy P. did an Outstanding Job! I personally counted over 125 people in line for Turkey dinner with all the trimmings with well over 35 raffle prizes. We were able to fully replenish the District funds For the Christmas Affair. The Masonic Lodge has already been booked and paid for. It will be December 10, 2016. This year will be the 30th annual District 16 Christmas Affair, so Mark your calendars now. The start of our year on January 10, 2016 we joined with District 2 and 4 for a Grapevine writing workshop at the Alano club in Sparks. The Grapevine writing workshop was well attended with a turnout of 21 participants. I had the chance to write half of my story and one the raffle prize again-Sorry. Debbie S. Northern area Grapevine chair was the perfect facilitator at our workshop. Thank You Debbie S. for your time. In February under new business we discussed hosting the NNIG speaker meeting as a District. Also during this time the District Treas., Jay K. came up with an approved budget. Due to the fact that Joyce Y. gave her presentation on a better informed group conscience, the body decided to table the vote for the NNIG speaker meeting until the March meeting. With more information brought to March's meeting the District voted to host the NNIG speaker meeting. Details will follow. Also in February our new Grapevine chair, got us as a District to buy a yearly subscription to the Grapevine. The District is doing pretty well, at the beginning of March the District funded me in full to go to PRAASA in Spokane Washington. On a personal note I took my better half with me and on the car ride home he told me he wished he had taken notes. He said it was a great experience and very informative. At 14+ years sober this was his first PRAASA. Also this District funded me to Area 42 Assembly again. I have a lunch date with the DCM's for Districts 2 and 4 to brainstorm another joint District activity for the Reno/ Sparks area. Can't wait to see what we come up with. I have added a lot of records for the District 16, Area 42 Archives. Nothing had been added to the Archives since 2007. The Archives are very important. If you have any paperwork, please don't throw it out. Thank you for allowing me to be in service.

District 17: Dale gave report for James, District 17 is based mainly in Pahrump, NV. with over 31 weekly meetings in Pahrump and five outlining areas which include Death Valley, Beatty, Ticopa, Amargosa, & Sandy Valley. Most of the outlining area only have one meeting a week and aren't doing well. Our DCM has been busy getting a few events going with help from all of the Districts, Officers, and GSRs. Besides our Alcothon we also put on a 12 step play and Loral Cannon Run as well. We're trying to get another event going soon but it's not together yet. Many of the groups are contributing to the District now so we're able to pay out bills and keep our heads above water. It's been quite a struggle for some time but at last we're breaking even for a change. Thank you for the chance to be of service. We still need several positions to be filled, like Alt. DCM, events coordinator, & a few others but we manage. Thank you Dale B. District 17 Treasurer

District 20: Larry, A brief summary of District 20 report might well read, "the usual"; Members and meetings come and go, donations rise and fall, controversy ebbs and flows, events are planned and occur with varying degrees of success. What is exciting to me, at this moment, is the numerous problems and challenges that occur within the district. One group, for example, discovered that one meeting secretary was using literature that was non-conference approved but had little relation to AA and was inappropriate and offensive in most environments. What followed was what ignited a positive glow for the benefits of the program. First several members contacted me to discuss the issue and related principals, traditions and concepts. Group members then met and decided on a course of action. Problem was resolved with little fanfare or drama. Not all challenges that arise are addressed as well or with such dispatch, but the process I see becoming accepted practice is cause for celebration: (1) Recognize the problem, (2) Review pertinent information, and (3) Resolve by applying AA principles. Are we not truly blessed?

Standing Committee Chairs

SAGSC Grapevine: Jake, My name is Jake- I'm a alcoholic. Welcome once again to beautiful downtown Tonopah Nevada. I am very grateful to be here with all of you again. We have a very busy weekend, I could give you a three hour report about what has been going on since the last time we met, but I will spare you that agony. The first thing I will report to you is the results of the 2015 grapevine subscription challenge. When we started the subscription challenge Nevada had 456 paid AA grapevine subscriptions. During the subscription challenge we received 181 new paid subscriptions. That put us right at 40% growth in new paid subscriptions. For the subscription challenge overall that put us in fourth place. Thank you very much to everyone who ordered a new subscription and supported us during the subscription challenge. Missouri won the subscription challenge with 60% growth in new paid subscriptions. If you happened to see the grapevine news after the subscription challenge was over you saw Missouri first place then you saw 4 other states listed underneath them and Nevada was not one of them. What they did was listed Missouri as first place with the biggest percentage of new growth in paid subscriptions, then the 4 states underneath were where the greatest number of new subscriptions came from, not the greatest percentage of growth. The subscription challenge was based on growth in new paid subscriptions and out of the whole subscription challenge we were 4th place in growth of new paid subscriptions. For 2016 we have a very exciting new activity called grow your Grapevine. This grow your grapevine growing season will be [between March 1, 2016 and February 28, 2017](#). The purpose of the grow your grapevine is to create awareness about the AA grapevine, to support the AA Grapevine, and to have a lot of fun! The AA Grapevine always needs support to grow. To help carry the message groups, groups of groups, districts and or areas are invited to form teams to work together to complete as many grow your grapevine activities and to record those on an arbor card. This is what the arbor card looks like. There is a list of 15 activities on the front. On the back there is a place for you to record the activities you've completed. Some of the activities are submit a written or recorded audio story, submit a photo for if walls could talk, write a letter to the editor, and by a grapevine book, e-book, or other item. You can create as many teams as you want or do it by yourself. You can submit as many Arbor cards as you wish throughout the year. The area with the greatest number of arbor cards will be featured in a magazine section and on-line during 2017. All of the arbor cards that are submitted will be entered into a drawing. Five winners will receive a huge selection of Grapevine books and other items. I have Arbor cards with me so please come and get some and start forming your teams for this new challenge. The southern area 42 grapevine committee will be at a lot of events coming up. We will also be holding another grapevine writing workshop with district [13 May](#) 21st from 2-3:30pm in the big room at the triangle club. We are very excited about this event and hope all of you will come. This weekend we will be voting on a lot of different agenda items. A lot of us are very passionate about these items. I hope that we can all remember what Madeline P. past trustee from Idaho told us. That how we treat each other this weekend will always be way more important than any work we will get done here. Alcoholics Anonymous has saved my life and general service has become a huge part of my program of recovery. Thank you all so much for being here this weekend and for giving me a life worth living I love you all!

SAGSC GSR Trainer: Lisa, Good Morning everyone, I am Lisa, a grateful alcoholic. I am the Southern Area 42 GSR Trainer. Since our last assembly in September, SAGSC has met twice, in November & January. In November we had 13 new GSR'S, and in January we had 3. At January's training we were honored to have Mike, our Delegate sit in on the session, he was very helpful and inspiring to all of us. Thank You Mike. At our Roundtables held on March 12 I gave a brief overview to 7 new GSR'S of what was to take place, why & how to bring this information to their groups and what to expect in Tonopah this weekend. We also discussed the Right Of Decision, which as we know is a privilege we are entrusted with as trusted servants. Thank You for allowing me to be of service. Lisa T

SAGSC CPC: Cherie, PI/CPC committees meet @ 4:30 PM @ Central Office 2nd Monday of the month (before intergroup) All are welcome!

- Mayor's Faith Initiative (MFI) on going monthly meetings – 2 events where we had tables & spoke briefly on A.A. (with District 21)
- Lifestyle Intervention Conference (LIC) @ Bellagio (conference space gifted)
- National Council on Behavioral Health @ Caesars (GSO sponsored space included literature)
- Have spoken briefly @ various A.A. events on CPC
- Upcoming (PI/CPC/SN) workshop 4/16, 1-3 @ St. Lukes, flyers are here. Sat.- Julian main speaker, panel with A.A. members who have come into the fellowship through PI/CPC

PI/CPC guidelines (a few) will be on the info table. Also you can go online to aa.org and link to literature – guidelines – PI/CPC. Also professional link – check out 8 minute presentation, newsletter for professionals. Thank you to all who've given of your valuable time and resources! We're able to carry the message to many more people because of your help! Thank you for allowing me to be of service! Cherie

SAGSC DCM Trainer: Glenn, Hi everybody, My name is Glenn and I am the DCM coordinator for the South. My duties in this position is to facilitate one training session prior to the January SAGSC meeting of a new rotation year, provide literature to assist them and to co-chair a training section at each of the area assemblies. We had an awesome sharing session at last year's fall assembly with so many topics and solutions and we look forward to seeing all our Southern DCM's and Northern DCM counterparts Sunday morning in the Blue Room at 7:30am. Thank you. See you there. Yis, Glenn W

SAGSC Intergroup Liaison: John, Last month **Central Office** reported **402** Information Calls, **63-12th** Step Calls —Hotline received **2235** info calls. We had average of **188** website visits per day for a total of **4,588** for the month.

Treasurer: Don H. reported an Intergroup check book balance of – **\$8,023.07** Literature Account balance of **\$12,101.16** Prudent reserve of **\$15,542.90**

Hotline Doing well, but always have shifts available. Please get the word out to your groups. **12 Step Committee** has new Co-Chair, Steve M. The 12 Step Committee really needs support. You can volunteer through the web site www.lvcentraloffice.org and click the 12 Step link.

Silver Streak is always looking for local articles to print. Districts and groups are encouraged to submit information regarding upcoming events. Submissions received by the 15th of the month are published in the next issue. Submissions can be submitted online at www.lvcentraloffice.org or send them e-mail to www.lvcentraloffice.org. Subscriptions for the Silver streak are \$10 per yr., or \$7 for the electronic version, or \$1.00 per issue and can be picked up at central office. Online subscription is free.

Regular Intergroup Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 6pm, at Central Office and we encourage all reps. from your Districts and groups to attend.

2016 SAGSC Area42/Intergroup Service Festival is being held at the Tie Club, Sunday April 17, 2016 from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Many aspects of service in A.A. will be addressed by our presenters.

Gratitude Ball Committee meets the 2nd Thursday of month at Central Office. This year's Gratitude Ball is at the Westgate Hotel, April 23, 2016. Checks must be post marked no later April 10, 2016. Banquet, Speakers, and Dance \$45.00; Speakers and Dance \$15.00. You may contact me here at the assembly for ordering information, or call Central Office in Las Vegas on 702-598-1888.

Thank You for letting me be of service. Respectfully submitted, John C

SAGSC H&I: Jonelle gave report for Matt, I'm alcoholic my name is matt. I am the southern Nevada H&I chair. I would like to apologize to the area for not being at the assembly this weekend. My job would not allow me to get the weekend off. So I've asked jonelle to give my report. First off I would like to thank the individuals, groups and the districts that have given of there time, energy and contributions to H&I. Without all your help we wouldn't be able to share the message of alcoholics anonymous with the still suffering alcoholic. This passed year has been good for H&I. we've been able to start over 20 new panels in five new different treatment centers. We've been able to get more people to sign up and get approved to go into the jails and prisons. This year we will be having quarterly H&I workshops and we are working on getting a panel started in hi desert prison. I would like to thank everyone for supporting hospitals and institutions. Thank you for allowing me to be of service matt.

SAGSC PI: Samantha gave report for Tim, Samantha standing in for Tim (current chair)

- Libraries – ongoing – literature support including Grapevines – 4 Henderson libraries & Pahrump community library. Presentation at Green Valley
- Literature racks placed (upon requests) to non-profits – most English. Some English / Spanish. 6 placed at Foundation Recovery
- 12 tables @ public events including Clark County Health Fair & Convoy of Hope (75% with District 21)
- Tables @ A.A. events District 17 service workshop
- Brief overview of PI A.A. events
- Attending District & Group business meetings – more group reps. Joining us – more green cans being passed – contributions increasing – look forward to being self-supporting

Thank you to all who have contributed to our committees so we are able to continue to carry the message. Workshop upcoming 4/16 @ St. Lukes, 1-3, flyers here. Hosted by District 3. Thank you for allowing me to be of service!

SAGSC Accessibilities: Darryl, Had our first ASL, Deaf, Hearing Impaired meeting had six in attendance a good start appreciate the support would appreciate any further support. Was, a great first meeting. We meet ever Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Take a flyer for location and other info. PRAASA was good, great panels. Unfortunately we were bundled with Treatment again. I kind of foresaw that and had our own roundtable Friday night with my Northern Area opposite Roberta and Jon from Sacramento (Next year's PRAASA Host) had some great brainstorming with them.

It was suggested by someone from the floor that well funded groups could host an ASL INTERPRETER once a week or once a month, which I think is a great idea. Please take that to your groups. Also Sunday met Seattle's past chair for Special Needs and Accessibilities. So have another wonderful resource. Looking forward to Tonapah in April, see you there. Thank You for helping fund me to PRAASA and all your support. DARRYL

SAGSC Bridging the Gap: Lenny, I am happy to say that I am nearly caught up on the responses from the inmate requests. I am down to pairing up the last two men from Pioche My goal is to have three volunteers per request. My next task is to have Big Books sent from Central Office to High Desert prison in the next week, per inmate request. The letter I received said they are having impromptu meetings in the yard with one worn out Big Book . After that the inmates have asked if I would present to the Warden presiding if AA meetings may be arranged to go to High Desert Sorry so late in the game, Paul Much Life and Love in Service, Lenny H Bridge the Gap coordinator South ps.....my future goal is to help the committee members trying to clear volunteers for such services. I believe they go hand in hand.

NAGSC CPC: Cheryl, Here are the activities that CPC (NAGSC CPC and NNIG PI/CPC) have been involved with since our last Area 42 assembly Sept 2015.

- **NNIG CPC/PI:** At the Nov. 2nd Northern Nevada Intergroup (NNIG) business meeting, a motion was made that NNIG CPC will temporarily assume NNIG PI responsibilities. It was unanimously accepted. The NNIG PI position had been open for a year. Therefore, NNIG will be CPC/PI with Joyce Y. as the chairperson until the new rotation in June 2016 when elections are held. This will mean that NAGSC CPC and NAGSC PI will be working as a team with NNIG CPC/PI, which has already been taking place.

- **University of Nevada Medical School, Reno:** Joyce Y. (NNIG CPC chair and NAGSC CPC co-chair) and I, along with other CPC committee members meet with Dr. D. and 4-5 third year medical students. We provide the students with some appropriate pamphlets and central office meeting schedules and a short presentation on CPC. The students get an assignment from Dr. D. to attend a 12 step meeting and then they report back on their experience in about 6 weeks. We also attend the report backs. We meet with a new rotation of students every 6 weeks. This continues throughout the year. Since the last report in September, we met on Oct. 19th, Nov. 16th, Nov. 30th, Jan. 12th, Feb. 22nd, Mar. 7th, and will meet again on Apr. 11th and Apr. 25th.
- **Washoe County School District (WCSD), Reno:** Joyce, Tom B., and I gave a presentation on Dec. 10th to the Washoe County School District Project Review Committee requesting to make presentations to students in health classes. We received an approval letter on Dec. 22nd. Joyce, Tom, and I met with Katherine of the WCSD Counseling Department on Feb. 17th to begin creating a lesson plan for our 45 minute presentation to high school students during health classes. Joyce, Tom, and I met on Feb. 26th to create an outline of the presentation using the lesson plan format from Washoe County. Tom sent a copy of the outline to them to review to ensure we are on the right path. We will meet with Katherine and her staff after Spring break after Apr. 4th. We have a couple member/teachers who will help us with the development of this presentation.
- **UNR National Judicial College:** Joyce had been in contact with Crystal Noel from UNR Judicial College. Judges attending the judicial school for a week from all over the country would be attending the Almost Heaven meeting at 5pm on Oct. 27th at the Triangle Club. Joyce and I attended Almost Heaven business meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 13th, to let them know there would be ~26 judges at their meeting on the 27th. Several CPC committee members and other AA members attended the Almost Heaven meeting that night to support the group. We followed up with the Program Attorney, Irene H at the Judicial College in Feb. to see if CPC can get on their curriculum on a regular basis. Irene indicated there were only 2 other courses that might be applicable to us, one in May and one in Sept. She will get back with us if appropriate. Otherwise, we will hear from them again in October when they have the next week of judicial school where the judges will attend an AA meeting.
- **Lotus Radio:** We were forwarded a request from Central Off to contact Laurie at the Spanish Speaking radio station, Lotus Radio, located at 6990 E. Plumb, Reno, NV. On short notice, we were not able to get Spanish speaking volunteers for this request. They wanted us to participate in a live radio broadcast on Dec. 7th for an hour on alcoholism and AA. Joyce, Tom, and I attended this. Laurie wants this to be a monthly program. Joyce contacted Henry B, DCM of the Spanish speaking district 22. Henry said he would work with his district to provide volunteers. District 22 has been providing volunteers for this service since then.
- **Victim Impact Program:** Joyce, Sue, and Sally met with Linda, the Victim Impact Program manager for Douglas County on Jan. 22nd in Carson City. Linda gave the okay for Sue to be on the panel on Feb. 9th at the Douglas County Courthouse in Stateline, NV. Folks that get a DUI must attend a Victim Impact Panel as part of their requirements. There were three folks on the panel. Linda, representing a victim of a drunk driver; a fireman representing a first responder to impaired driving, and Sue representing a person in recovery. Joyce, Merl, and I attended this panel to understand what takes place. The panel will take place about 6 times per year and will alternate between Stateline and Minden/Gardnerville. They would like us to participate on the panel. The next panel will be April 21st at 3:00pm on the East Fork Justice Court in Minden.
- **Orientation to AA Sessions:** Joyce and several other members have been working on an overview of the Orientation to AA Sessions for the past couple years. The purpose of these sessions is to help folks new to AA and court ordered folks to understand AA meetings and the language of AA and how and why we do what we do. There will be 6 sessions. The court will require their court ordered folks to attend these 6 sessions. Bristlecone Treatment center in Reno has also asked to have these sessions be presented to their treatment patients when they are ready. These are NOT AA meetings. These sessions are a service to help folks learn about AA. There will be facilitators of these sessions. They will need to be "trained" to facilitate to provide consistency. These orientation sessions will be maintained by CPC to ensure the sessions will continue and that the message will be consistent. Members of the CPC committee have been attending "mock" presentations to provide feedback to the folks who created them. There is an opportunity to sit in on these 6 sessions at the Reno Spring Festival on April 9th at the Nugget. The Spring Festival committee have agreed to provide a room next to the marathon meetings. The first two sessions will be from 10-12, and the last 4 from 2-6. All members are welcome to come and to see what this service will provide and give feedback. There will also be table space in the hospitality room for information and questions on these sessions. These sessions will also be presented during the SWACYPA conference at the Nugget June 3-5. Details of time to be determined.
- **District Meetings:** We are attending Northern Area district meetings to give a 10 minute overview on CPC/PI. We attended District 16 (Sparks) business meeting on Nov. 17th. We participated in a 2 hour workshop with Archives and Grapevine hosted by District 6 (Carson City) on January 24th. We will be going to District 12, Fallon, this summer.
- **CPC Committee Meetings:** We held a committee meetings on Oct. 11th, Feb. 21st, and Mar. 20th at the First Congregational Church (Sunnyside) in the annex building in Reno from 2-3:30. Our next committee meeting will be Apr. 24th, same place, same time.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be of service and to grow my sobriety/recovery. Cheryl E

Break: 7:40 - Resume: 8:00

GSR Orientation: Joyce; talked about elections, the way we select our trusted servants, Byron; talked about money and the cost of running our General Service Office, Bob W.; Trustee at Large U.S., shared some of his early experience in service.

Area Committee meeting: Justin chaired meeting opened with serenity prayer
Phil talked about inviting Bob W. Trustee at Large, there was much discussion on the cost to have him come and some loving discussion on him flying into Mammoth vs Las Vegas. This was about a \$90.00 difference, the sense of the room (3 opposed) was to have Area pay because it was within the budget.

Web site: anonymity issues were raised, it was pointed out that all items for the Area 42 web site should go through the Area 42 secretary first. It was suggested that the Area 42 chair form an Ad-Hoc committee to look into the anonymity breaks.

Saturday April 2, 2016

Open: 8:00 AM

Martine, serenity prayer, Laura, Deceleration of Unity, Anne, Anonymity statement,

Delegate: Mike, Something happened last night that really touched me. When Tinna gave her report and was thrown into a whirlwind and how she handled it was wonderful, thank you for your service Tinna. I going to start with the end, please ask me questions this weekend. How many people are here for the first time? (about 25%) So I need to tailor my talk to those that are new to the Assembly. My number one priority as Delegate is communication. This weekend we will be talking about 5 new agenda topics and the 4 that were discussed at the roundtables. What I want to here is how you feel about these and I asking you today if you could educate me on how you feel. Question: Fox, Just what are your duties as Delegate. Answer: There are 93 Delegates in the U.S. and Canada. We go to the General Service Conference each year. We go over these topics and we are separated into 13 different committees and my committee is Report and Charter, with 9 members on the committee our main focus is on the Service Manual. Question: Sue, How many places do you go to give your report? Answer: I go where asked if I can fit the time in. I want tell you a little bit about the person you are going to here from next. Bob W. Trustee at Large, my first meeting of a conference member of the committee I was on was a rare Delegate that will get to go to 3 conferences because his first one he went as Alt. Delegate and then was elected as Delegate and his name was Jim he was from Alabama and Ohio State just beat Alabama. So I went up to him and said you know Jim I have to tell you I'm a Buckeye and he said awe damn Mike and I was starting to take a likein' to you too. So we hugged and made up and we didn't talk football any more the rest of the week. This guy and I really enjoyed our time and I really looking forward to see him again. They had just had their spring assembly and Bob was there and Jim took him to the airport to fly to Russia (a nine hour flight) and spent 5 days there and then flies to New York to spend 9 days at the conference, he was away from his home for a total of 27 days. I'm just amazed at how much time and effort he puts into our program.

Trustee: Bob W. Trustee at Large U. S., Thank you Mike, for the introduction. My flight arrived a day early and I got to spend that with Phil and Laura and to see a little bit of your Area and it is beautiful. Duties of Trustees; There are two Trustees at Large, one in the U.S. and one in Canada and we serve a 4 year term and I'm in my third year. I got to A.A. at the age of 23 and I got involved in service early on. Alcoholism took my mother just before I was elected and my zeal to serve the fellowship went up 100 fold. I have six children and a beautiful wife of 19 years that I meet in A.A. so I have a very busy life outside of A.A. What is a Trustee? 21 total, 14 alcoholic (class B), 7 non-alcoholic (class A) (see service manual). Are assigned to different committees. Trustees at Large represent A.A. around the world. Trustee at Large represent A.A. at the world service meeting which happens every other year it rotates once in the U.S. and then once anywhere in the world or at REDELLA which happens in the off years. REDELLA is a Spanish acronym for the meeting of the Americas that's our zonal meeting and is held in South America. My last world service meeting was in Warsaw Poland, in Oct. 2014, there were 61 Delegates from around the world and 41 countries represented, some Delegates represent multiple countries particularly in Central America. International Literature Fund was instituted in 1991 and was instituted to help defray the cost of literature and help develop it around the world. There are 59 different general service offices around the world. A.A. is in approximately 175 countries. The Big Book is currently translated into 69 different languages and 13 in progress and other literature is in 89 languages. The world service meeting is divided up into committee meetings; 1 Agenda, 2 Literature/Publishing, 3 Policy/Admissions/Finance, 4 Working with Others there are also workshops and sharing sessions on the topic of singleness of purpose. Alcoholics Anonymous is illegal in Iran and call themselves "nameless sobers". We closed this world service meeting by joining hands and saying the serenity prayer in 28 different languages. REDELLA (zonal meetings) my first one was in Ecuador; 20 delegates representing 15 countries and I was the only there that did not speak Spanish. The language of the heart is the same no matter where you go. This is how your 7th Traditions dollars work. Bob told of his travels around the world. I attended the 40th anniversary of A.A. in Japan in Feb. 2015. Japan has a large Buddhist population and when it started in 1975 they had to work though the idea of a higher power. Russia has two different general service offices that work separately. I attended the 17th general service conference in Ukraine. I did 5 different presentations and shared my story 5 times. I attended the 37th convention in Rimini, Italy this past September. I would like to thank my family, wife sober 24 years and 6 children. Money and spirituality really do mix, our structure helps pay for most of this and the different general service offices help with some. We need to embrace social media to help us communicate, be mindful of anonymity. We all share one common bond our suffering with alcoholism. We need to keep our translation efforts going. Thank you all very much for all that you do for A.A. Question: Lynn; What is the progress of women at meetings around the world? Answer: It has been a discussion topic at both REDELLAs and the world service meeting and it is difficult in some countries because some cultures just do not accept women in the same way that you might see herein the U.S., but the discussion is happening and there are many people reaching out and many men admitting that there are women that do it better than they do and are trying to entice them to come in. It's a slow progress but its definitely on the radar screen and we are making progress.

Announcements: Sabrina; SWACYPA, June 2-5, at the Nugget in Sparks, NV.
Phil; The Pacific Region Forum will be in Kona, HI., September 30th – October 1st & 2nd

Break: 9:45 - Resume: 10:05

Agenda Item Presentation and Discussion

Grapevine Item B: Sue H.; Consider the list of suggested Grapevine Book Topics for 2017 or later.

Why is it on the Agenda?

What: An Advisory Action was previously recommended that the Conference Committee on the Grapevine review a list of proposed book topics for 2017 or later.

Why: This would help to achieve some form of "Uniformity of Procedure" and gain Conference input to Grapevine special items.

The AA Grapevine items are published for several reasons:

1. To carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous members and friends of the fellowship via their stories.
2. To help the Grapevine maintain it's self-supporting status.
3. To provide a "service of fellowship" by making Grapevine and La Vina articles in print, audio and digital.
4. To help deepen member's interest and understanding of the Steps, Traditions, and history of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The proposed working titles for suggested books:

1. **Young & Sober II** - Members stories who came into A.A. in their teens, 20s and 30s.

2. **Stories by Atheist & Agnostic AA members** - An Atheist & Agnostic A.A. members book would reach and attract a significant number of alcoholics who might not otherwise find the doors of A.A. or achieve sobriety.
3. **Steps Four and Five** - Hopeful and helpful stories about how A.A. members did Step Four & Five and how it changed their lives.
4. **Beginners II** - Helpful experiences about members early days in A.A.

Emails from A.A. Members requesting books stated:

1. The Grapevine magazine has given a voice to our tremendously diverse fellowship over the years, without altering A.A. Members personal stories.
2. The single biggest obstacle in reaching and helping suffering alcoholics maybe the mistaken impression that the suggested program of recovery requires belief in a higher power (God).
3. Reading the members stories of those who have stayed sober without relying on a higher power might make the difference for many newly sober alcoholics in helping them get and stay sober.
4. In the last 10 plus years Agnostic and Atheists meetings have grown significantly based on A.A. Meeting schedules.
5. Both the A.A. Literature (Big Book, 12 and 12, Living Sober, etc.) and the Grapevine/La Vina magazines provide a perfect balance in maintaining permanent recovery.
6. The most important question when considering the publication of a book like this is, whether such a book would help us achieve our primary purpose.

History presented by A.A. Members:

1. The Freethinkers Group in Denver Colorado had researched the possibility of a self-publish book about Agnostics, Atheists and Freethinkers for their First International A.A. Conference in November 2014 (Santa Monica, CA)
2. After contacting the General Service Office in New York the Freethinkers Group decided to request a publication of a book about Agnostics, Atheists and Freethinkers who are staying sober and for it to be placed on the April 2016 Conference Agenda.
3. When the Group spoke with Ami B., a Grapevine staff member, she was very supportive of this concept for a book. She indicated that the GV Board might want to include stories of people who were initially non believers, but who converted to believe.
4. The Freethinkers Group found such stories to be difficult and offered their experience, strength and hope in staying sober without the concept of having to convert or change their belief system.

Comments from the floor: Jay, "Stories by Atheists & Agnostic A.A. members" my group felt that there should be more books on there specific religion (Christian, Buddhist, Muslim, Jewish) and the expense could out way the number of people it reaches. A; estimated cost \$2000.00 each, Rhonda, would like to see stories from atheists & agnostics that did not conform to a religious belief, Barbara, make it a pamphlet, AJ, my group was in favor of a book about atheists and would also like to see a book about people that got sober in there "silver years", Robert, there are no absolutes in our program, David, unanimous to do this if cost was not too high, Fox, against more cost, Cherie, we embrace spirituality not religion and I do think a pamphlet would be great for PI work, Libby, I know people have died because there is not literature out there that lets them know that they don't have to believe in a God, Claudia, I just want to be clear that we are talking about 4 new books from the Grapevine with stories from previous published stories from the Grapevine, Mark, my concern is that we may have people that are trying to separate themselves and be special alcoholics, Jonelle, already a book "Spiritual Awakenings" is there a need for it, Pam, should we make more books that we already have available by e-book, Terry, I think there are no special cases in A.A. and more people die from terminal uniqueness than the lack of literature, Maryann, Q; what is the \$2000.00 cost for? A; \$2.50 per book for 10,000 to be sold at \$10.99 and e-book \$9.99, Laura, trust our trusted servants.

Sense 95% in favor 5% opposed

Report & Charter Item A6: Claudia; Hello, my name is Claudia and I am an alcoholic. My topic is to Consider request to revise text in the Concept Eleven essay regarding "male/female" distinctions in the Twelve concepts for World Service

The Nature of the Current Request

A memo was sent from the Panel 64/Area 68 Delegate who was on the Trustees/ Archives Conference Committee regarding identifying, attracting and recruiting future General Service Board Trustees. The delegate identified obstacles that arise in appealing to potential candidates for trustees on the AA GSB. Of those who were approached for this position, only two submitted their resumes. Obstacles included time and travel and the message that is carried in Concept XI in the Service Manual. The delegate states that AA deserves the very best in leadership yet the message in this concept suggests an outdated and out-of-touch organization. On page 58 of the 2014-2015 *AA Service Manual and Twelve Concepts for World Service*, Bill writes two paragraphs describing the distinctions between men and women.

"...Women workers present still another problem Our Headquarters is pretty much a man's world. Some men are apt to fee, unconsciously, that they are women's superiors thus producing a reflex reaction in the gals..."

"...Men, for example, because they are men, are apt to be better at business..."

"...But suppose we replaced our six women staff members with six men? In these positions could the men possibly relate themselves so uniquely and so effectively to our Fellowship as the women? Of course not. The women can handle the assignment far better, just because they *are* women..."

The delegate suggested that Bill wrote these essays over fifty years ago and that perhaps it is time to revise our current literature or create new material more likely to help rather than hinder the attraction of new board leadership.

A memo was also sent from the Panel 65/Area 10 Delegate and Alternate Delegate requesting similar changes to Concept XI. The delegate addresses concerns that changing these paragraphs might increase calls to change some of Bill's other writing. These concerns are misplaced for several reasons:

1. In some other AA literature such as "To Wives," "The Family Afterward," ad in the 12x12, it is possible to read these as "To Spouses" or "every boy wants to grow up to be president." These paragraphs from Concept XI explicitly address the innate differences in the ability of men and women to perform business roles effectively.
2. From their understanding of the GSO operations, these paragraphs no longer apply.
3. These paragraphs can be removed without changing the substantive content of the regarding the general principles guiding Concept XI.

Background Information

The Preface to the "Twelve Concepts" makes reference to three Advisory Actions from 1985 that pertain to publishing the original Twelve Concepts in the *AA Service Manual* and adding numbered footnotes at the end of each chapter to show factual and statistical information. The pertinent paragraph in the Preface (Page III of *AA Service Manual*) reads "Following the recommendations of a ad hoc committee of the AA General Service Board, the 1985 General Service Conference recommended that future publication of the Concepts in *The AA*

Service Manual and the booklet *Twelve Concepts for World Service* would be in the original 1962 version with required factual changes provided as numbered footnotes at the end of each chapter.

In 1983, a subcommittee of the GSB was charged with reviewing in the wording in the Twelve Concepts. They were asked to identify wording changes and when each occurred; determine the origin and report to the board. The subcommittee found that "over the years there have been a large number of changes" and that "in general, it has not proved to be possible to find any record of who was responsible for the changes or of why they were made." They also noted that in the Introduction to the Twelve Concepts (page 1-3 of the *AA Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service*), Bill suggested that "far-reaching changes, when finally approved, might be entered into a special section of the manual which might be entitled "Amendments." (Quote from subcommittee report)

Furthermore, Bill wrote in the Introduction "This would leave the original draft of the Twelve Concepts intact as an evidential record of our former experience. Then it could always be clearly seen by our future service workers just what did happen and why."

The subcommittee proposed several recommendations including, printing the original 1962 Twelve Concepts in *the Service Manual* and suggestion that future changes be guided by Bill's suggestion in the introduction.

Comments from the floor: Maryann, in favor of amendments, Randy, in favor of amendments, Joyce, footnotes are a good way to take care of this, David, unanimous to change this, Elisa, read the whole thing, Jerry, I need this as a male to be corrected, Christian, important to leave this as is and footnote it, Anne, this is a slap in the face to women take it out, Fox, to change this would be wrong but we can correct this, Shelly, read it all there is already a footnote, Scott, if we are not doing it this way why do we have it in a document that describes our structure, Lynn, we need to get with the times, Rhonda, against it, Tinna, this does not intimidate me read the current footnote, John, this expresses inequality, Alejandro, we are all equal, Bill, step 10, Barbara, we don't change our history, Claudia, read the first two paragraphs of concept 12, Mike (Delegate) thanks for your feedback. Sense 20% in favor 80% opposed

Cooperation with the Professional Community Item B: Andrea; Consider adding text regarding A.A. and medications to the pamphlet "If You are a Professional"

Hello. My name is Andrea and I am an alcoholic from District 16.

The 2016 Conference Committee on Cooperation with Professional Community has asked for Consideration on

***CPC-Agenda Item B.

*** Here is some background. In 2013, General Conference Advisory Action: recommended changes to pamphlet (P-46) "If You are a Professional". Asking the trustees' Committee on Cooperation With the Professional Community/ Treatment/ Special Needs-Accessibilities, to revise the pamphlet and bring back a report or draft pamphlet to the 2014 Conference Committee. In response to the recommendations and additional consideration from the 2013 Conference Committee, the trustees' Committee reviewed and agreed; to forward to the 2014 General Service Conference Committee suggested revision.

*** The 2015 CPC staff member report, of The 65th Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference reads - Experience indicates that many professionals are aware of A.A., yet relatively few know what A.A. is or what it is not. It appears that even fewer have been to an "open" A.A. meeting. The CPC desk responds daily to numerous inquiries from professionals to assure that A.A. is a resource for professionals. I am very impressed with the perseverance of CPC, to learn of their availability to and displays at 26 National Conventions of Professionals in 2014; to actually be invited as Speaking presenters at three conventions in 2015.

Throughout the year, students from Cornell University Medical Center visit GSO. The students are given literature, a brief introduction to the A.A program, a tour of General Service Office and provided with information on how to find open A.A. meetings. During the students visit in the fall and winter of 2014, topics that peaked the highest interest among medical students were those regarding the Traditions.

Tradition Two, our group conscience and Tradition Ten; Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues.

The professionals have expressed concern that some recovering alcoholics struggle with fear and stigma that, in following their doctors direction and taking their prescriptions; the idea, they are not sober and they refuse the needed help available to them.

So, our Agenda Topic, CPC item B.

In January 31, 2016 trustees' Committee report, a Subcommittee did suggested to the trustee Committee on Cooperation with Professional Community/Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities to, consider a draft addition; to the pamphlet "If You are a Professional". The addition is to be on page 5, beneath the "Singleness of Purpose and Problems Other Than Alcohol" section. The additional draft does come from the existing conference approved pamphlet (P-11) "The AA Member- Medications and Other Drugs".

**Addition reads as follows in BOLD.

**AA MEMBERS AND MEDICATIONS~

NO AA MEMBER SHOULD "PLAY DOCTOR"; ALL MEDICAL ADVICE AND TREATMENT SHOULD COME FROM QUALIFIED PHYSICIAN. THE SUGGESTIONS PROVIDED IN OUR PAMPHLET "THE AA MEMBER- MEDICATIONS AND OTHER DRUGS" MAY HELP AA MEMBERS FIND THE RIGHT BALANCE AND MINIMIZE THE RISK OF RELAPSE.

This reference, for the professional to pass to the patient; committees suggest and would like us to consider making this addition. Thank you, Andrea.

Comments from the floor: Ted, we need to go a doctor and listen to them, Ryan, let your doctor know you are in recovery, Cherie, adding this would be incredibly valuable, Robert, medication is medication and drugs are drugs, Chuck, anything we do would help, Samantha, stronger CPC work would help, Lenny, someone played doctor and my daughter was murdered, Dale, be honest with yourselves, Andrea, this is for the Professionals, David, should be changed, Tom, page 133 in the Big Book, Claudia, this is in a pamphlet for us lets put it in a pamphlet for the professionals, Tony, anything we can do to help the professionals help us we should, Allen, first I had to work the steps, John, I changed my sobriety date due to prescription pain meds, Ronnie, be honest with your doctor, Sue, AA member medications and other drugs, Sense 98% in favor 2% opposed

Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities Item A: Lisa; Treatment/ Special Needs:Item A

Consider removing "Special Needs" from Conference Committee on Treatment/Special Needs- Accessibilities' name and throughout the committees' Composition, Scope, and Procedure.

In November of 2014, a letter from the Delegate of Area 24 (which is in Iowa) was received by GSO requesting the Conference consider changing the name of the Treatment/Special Needs Committee to Treatment/Diverse Needs Committee.

The letter includes excerpts of the Special Needs/Accessibilities Workbook stating; "While there are no special AA members there are many members who have special needs." They believe this statement contradicts itself, that If there are no special members then how can our needs be special? Members of AA who need these services are not special, just equal like the rest of us.

Another line of the Workbook states; "Some Special Needs/Accessibilities serve parents with young children who may have limited access to AA meetings." This proves that the services this committee provides are quite broad and inclusive. Other barriers that were reported for

which this committee serves are those homebound, those who cannot drive at night, people with impaired hearing, vision, learning, reading or information processing abilities, and still others who use wheelchairs or have other mobility impairment, or language barriers. The goal of this committee is to raise awareness of these barriers and provide information and tools so that home groups can respond to them in the Spirit of the Responsibility statement: “When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that, I am responsible.”

In August of 2015 during a committee meeting the staff secretary was asked to explore appropriate vernacular. A phone call with an Associate Professor of Deaf and Hard of Hearing at Columbia University shared that in her field of academics, the term “Special Needs” was replaced for “diverse needs” among peers in the education field around 1975. Other Developmental Services used different vernacular such as Accessibility Help.

So once again, the purpose of this item being brought to the conference is to eliminate the word “special” and replace it with “diverse”. The Committee would now be called Treatment/Diverse Needs. What does Area 42 think?

Comments from the floor: Chuck, special needs is degrading and I think diverse needs is a much better term. Anne, we are not current, Darryl, diversity might not be the word we are looking for, Christen, diverse is not the right word, David, my was 2/3s in favor in changing but are we getting to knit picky, Dale, if the cost is not too much change it, Robert, before I became disabled I didn’t get it, Maria, if it offends someone lets change it, Cherie, we should change it, Ronnie, lets change it, Alejandra, change it, Samantha, I have mental illness and don’t feel offended by the phrase special needs, Taylor, I thought of a word universal needs, Sense 85% in favor 15% opposed

Lunch break 11:55 - Resume 1:40

Trustees Item F: Bob W.; Hello my name is Bob W. and I am an alcoholic. I currently serve the Fellowship as Trustee-at-Large/US and am extremely grateful to be here with all of you. I was asked to present a summary of agenda item F from the Conference Committee on Trustees which will be discussed at next month’s General Service Conference in New York City.

Agenda item F states: **“Consider option presented by the trustees’ Committee on Nominating regarding the unexpected vacancy of Regional Trustees.”** The trustees nominating committee reviewed a report from the Subcommittee on the Unexpected Vacancy of a Regional Trustee at its January 31, 2016 meeting and after careful discussion forward the following option to the Conference Committee on Trustees for their consideration:

“If a vacancy for a Regional Trustee occurs prior to September 1 in the first year, then an election for a three-year term would occur at the following General Service Conference (GSC) for the affected region. If a vacancy for a Regional Trustee occurs between September 1 in the first year and August 31 of the third year then the delegates of the affected region would be given an option to hold an election for a six or five year term, or leave the position vacant, depending on when the vacancy occurs. Regardless of whether the term was for three, five or six years, the Regional Trustee would be expected to serve two-years on one of the two operating corporation boards”

With any agenda item that we consider at our General Service Conference, I think it is important to look at each one objectively to be sure we don’t formulate an opinion too quickly and before considering and weighing all the facts. This path ensures we follow our beloved 2nd Tradition; that we have a fully informed group conscience allowing a loving God to express Himself. As with most important matters we face as alcoholics, we need look no farther than our literature for guidance. In the Big Book, the appendix on the Spiritual Experience, Herbert S. so eloquently states “There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all arguments and which cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance—that principle is contempt prior to investigation.”

We do currently have a policy to address vacancies of regional trustees included in our bylaws that can be found on pages 114 and 115 of the A.A. Service Manual. I think it’s appropriate to look at our current policy when considering the proposal from the Trustees Nominating Committee. The current policy reads as follows:

“In the event that any member trustee shall resign, die, retire, be removed, become disqualified, or shall be otherwise unable to serve, the trustees may, at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Trustees, elect a new member trustee to fill such a vacancy, or, alternatively, permit such a vacancy to continue until the next annual meeting of the members of the General Service Conference. A third alternative, with respect to Class B regional trustee vacancies occasioned by resignation, death, retirement, removal, or disqualification, is to permit the vacancy to remain unfilled for the remainder of the four year commitment, and allow regional coverage to be provided by the trustee-at-large or the regional trustee from an adjacent region, unless a region decides that a new regional member trustee should be elected.”

The evolution of the option under consideration was born out of the untimely deaths of two regional trustees in each of our Canadian Regions. These deaths occurred about five years apart from each other. In each occurrence a replacement was not elected. The first vacancy was covered by the Trustee-at-Large/Canada in accordance with the existing policy. The Trustee-at-Large also covered the vacancy on the assigned corporate board. The second occurrence was partially covered by the Trustee-at-Large/Canada including interaction with areas of the region but did not fill the vacated corporate board seat. That seat was filled by extending a current regional trustees term on the corporate operating board for an additional year. Some in that region have expressed that they would have benefited having a replacement regional trustee but found it problematic due to the abbreviated term. In the first vacancy there was more direct instruction given to the Trustee-at-Large to fill the vacancy whereas the second vacancy much of the decision was left with the current delegates of the region. With each case, discussions by both the delegates from each region as well as among the General Service Board were difficult to conclude electing replacements due to the fact the replacement would have an abbreviated term and would not be eligible for reelection to a full term. The recognition of the difficulty of replacement under such circumstances brought about research into alternative policies and ultimately the option under consideration. There have also been numerous other occasions in the past where the current policy was applied when regional vacancies occurred.

So in determining the need to adopt the proposed option one must ponder if the current policy is effective. Its advantages would be the rotation frequency would remain consistent so as not to disrupt the current regional trustee rotation schedule also allowing for consistency of service on their assigned corporate board. It also doesn’t mandate for a replacement trustee being limited to an abbreviated term. A disadvantage to the current policy would be allowing the General Service Board to operate with fewer trustees and some would amend that to be fewer Class B **alcoholic** trustees.

The proposed option shares the same advantage of the current policy with regard to the current regional trustee rotation not being disrupted and consistent service to their assigned corporate board. It also has an added advantage of keeping the total number of trustees at twenty-one rather operating with fewer Class B **alcoholic** trustees. Its disadvantages could be replacement trustees serving an abbreviated three year term or an extended five or six year term as opposed to the regular four year term.

In conclusion, it could be argued neither policy is perfect for all circumstances as each policy has advantages and disadvantages. This bodes the question; “Which of the current or proposed policy best address vacancies of regional trustees?” You decide!

Comments from the floor: Q: what are the qualifications to become a General Service Trustee? A: It is in the Service Manual. Samantha, Q: Could you give a little more detail on the pros and cons? A: The current process could put a lot more duties on the Trustee at Large or the neighboring regional Trustee. This procedure would give more of a directive on this. Roberta, the way they have that worded is really convoluted. Pam, Q: Why is there not an alternate? A: Technically the Trustee at Large is the alternate, David, maybe its not for us to decide, Sue, Q: Is this to make the process more detailed, Bob, A: They felt that the feed back from the fellowship was important, Pete, this is asking a lot of the Trustee at Large, Bryce, Doesn't the board already have the authority to deal with this? A: Yes but they felt that the feed back from the fellowship was important, Gary, Q: One of the reasons for this is that with the current policy is that someone who would fill a term for a short amount of time would not be illegible for another term, A: they have considered that and a longer term could be a problem with rotation, John, why is being brought to the floor, Andrea, concept 1, Norman, lets take a sense, Sense 98% in favor 2% opposed

Confidential A.A. Documents: Carol B.,

From MG-18 A A Guidelines on Internet

POSTING SERVICE MINUTES AND REPORTS

Deciding what contents to post on public websites requires careful consideration. As it is helpful when websites make minutes of meetings, reports and background material readily available to a broad population, it is also paramount to keep in mind that these documents may be posted in a public medium. Each document needs to be reviewed and edited to insure that the full names of A.A. members are not included. Some committees have one version of minutes for A.A. members only, which includes full names and personal phone numbers and email addresses, and a second version of the report that omits names and personal contact information so that minutes can be placed on the committee's public website.

In addition to local A.A. members, please remember that the following individuals are A.A. members and that their full names and photographs should not appear in publicly posted reports or on publicly posted flyers: Class B (alcoholic) General Service Board Trustees, A.A.W.S. and Grapevine Directors, G.S.O. staff members and some Grapevine and La Viña employees. If there is any doubt about placing a person's full name in a report, it would be best to ask permission first.

Some committees may find it perfectly acceptable to post full names and personal contact information on a password-protected website meant for A.A. members only.

We have had this password option to view Area 42 financial reports for three years now. It is the last link on the right hand side of all pages on the nevadaarea42.org website.

report in minutes; From another area.

The Final Conference Report for the 2015 General Service Conference (GSC) was distributed. Remember: this is a confidential A.A. document for A.A. members only, when sharing with your group members please respect the confidential nature of the information in this report.

I spent some time Thursday on the phone with a GSO staff member, discussing this topic. I was reminded that anonymity and confidentiality within many AA Documents are quite different. Not only are we asked to not use the last names and any other personal information when circulating/posting many reports, minutes or documents, which are not already posted on the aa.org website. But we also need to remember that some of the information included in certain reports and also conference agendas are not for public knowledge. The delegates have been reminded to use their discretion when sharing certain documents made available to them.

The Contents page in each of the GSC Annual reports, includes this statement (boxed and highlighted).

Confidential – full names used Since this report is a *confidential* A.A. document, for Members only. It contains members' full names and addresses. This usage – to facilitate communication within the fellowship – was approved by the 1975 Conference. Such confidential use respects our Tradition of anonymity in public communications and with media (press, radio, TV, etc.) from Bill's last message (October 1970)

Anonymity has two attributes essential to our individual and collective survival; the spiritual and the practical.

On the spiritual level, anonymity demands the greatest discipline of which we are capable; on the practical level, anonymity has brought protection for the newcomer, respect and support of the world outside, and security from those of us who would use A.A. for sick and selfish purposes.

CONFIDENTIAL: The documents made available at the A.A.W.S., Area, District, or any A.A. entity level, are background for A.A. business, and as such are confidential A.A. documents. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public online or offline other than the A.A. entity may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses. If you have questions regarding the confidentiality of this material, please contact your GSR, DCM or an Area Trusted Servant.

Agenda Item presentation/discussion from NAGSC/SAGSC roundtables: Jonelle, Hi everyone, The following information is both the North & the South's feedback/ discussion from the March 12, 2016 Roundtable presentations. If a comment/ question was brought up by both North & South, I tried not to repeat it in this report back.

Conference Committee: VI. Literature—Item A

Agenda Topic: Consider developing a plain language version of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous.

- The Spanish 3rd edition big book changed the word HONEST to SINCERE and some had difficulty with that.
- Language is always changing ...it will change again in 10 years.
- We have translations of the Big Book in different languages, such as German. Those countries only have one version of the BB, correct?
- Our language has changed, so a version that would supplement the Big Book but not replace it would be ok.
- There is literature ("The Akron pamphlets") that suggests that even Dr. Bob felt that the language in the text could be too difficult for some members.
- If it helps carry the message than it is worth the effort, we should not be fearful of change.
- If we trust in the AA process and keep it simple we can be assured that the message will not be lost.
- The 12 steps were originally written in the Big Book but Bill W felt a need the supplement with simpler language, which is why he published the 12 X 12. There is already precedence for this.
- Are we making it too difficult for the next generation? It's not replacing, it's just a new tool
- How are we going to afford it?
- If other remote parts are needing it then we should be thinking from their perspective.
- We already have simpler tools like the Grapevine.

- Having a common language book brings unity. If we have a “simpler” version, how will we decide what version a newcomer needs. Survey there intelligence?
- If we are being inclusive shouldn't we consider it worth our time if we save lives?
- If we are trying to address a literacy problem this may not be the right tool.
- It is a positive experience going through the book with a sponsor that should not be missed. However, there are many challenges that other people face that we should be mindful of.
- AA members will support the cost of the book through the purchases.
- This will be a very difficult process to write. Who will decide on the plain language to be used?
- As long as it does not affect the original version than it should be ok.
- It would create a separation between new and old.
- There are now enough people that would value this -that there is now a need.
- What actually will be the format? Length?
- Will the new version include the stories?
- Is this needed only for a specific indigenous group in Canada? Can we just translate it for them? (This is where the original suggestion came from...)
- This could help carry the message especially where there are no sponsors available.
- One bilingual member said he would rather read The Big Book in English than in the Spanish version, and felt the plain language would be very helpful.

Deaf, hearing-impaired & limited vocabulary - this would help them.

How would they break this down to just 164 pages? What's the scope? not sure what they're trying to do.

We are just starting the discussion, details will be worked out later.

Would it replace the current version? No.

Who's plain language? Plain language Association.

The incarcerated population could benefit.

Use a dictionary instead of plain language book.

There is already a simple version of the big book on the market not written by AAWS.

Took seven years to write the daily reflections, this isn't going to happen overnight

Young people would prefer one to be written.

No big deal, just another translation of the big book.

We should make our big book readable and understandable to all.

Interpretation of the big book to come from one-on-one work.

Could see this splitting us up. In Big Book studies, what book do you have? May lose the commonality.

Concern that the new language won't equal or be the same. Don't want it watered down.

One Joy of getting sober was learning those terms and our history.

We all interpret the book differently. It would probably make it easier if it was dummed down.

Comments from the floor: 1. Literature Item A: Mark, when you change a word you change the meaning, Pat, newcomers might not read the original, Lisa, Q: If this already exists by an outside source why don't we use that and have it approved A: Ruth This could have been written by a non-alcoholic, Terry, I am opposed, Pam, this would help rural areas, Samantha, who is going to write it if a person is hurting enough they will go to any length where is the line between helping and enabling, Bryce, we have 3 pamphlets the 12 steps illustrated the 12 traditions illustrated the 12 concepts illustrated, Cherie, wouldn't this help young people, Alejandra, why don't just stay with what we have, Darryl, hearing impaired have very limited vocabularies, Sense 20% in favor 80% opposed

Conference Committee VII: Policy & Admissions - Item B (Item C in the summarized packets)

Agenda Topic: Review report from the Trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference Re: Conference observers from other fellowships.

- Sharing AA info is okay, but what is ACA's purpose? They could benefit by observing our service structure.
- We could have stipulations that they pay their own way and only 1 observer allowed from other 12-Step programs per year/Conference.
- I've seen our delegates return from the GSC and they're different after that experience, perhaps other 12 step delegates would also benefit.
- Would this be adhering to our Traditions/Primary Purpose?
- Sounds harmless, but as an AA member even I cannot attend the GSC.
- The GSC Report is already available to other 12 step groups.
- It will add cost in some form to allow another person to attend.
- Is this the exception we want to allow?
- We're not hasty; it took 6 years to decide whether to allow International AAs to attend the GSC.
- How will we physically squeeze more people in such a limited space? It barely holds the current attendees.
- Closed means closed and reserved for AAs. It's exposing 130 people's anonymity.
- The bottom of this agenda summary states, “Confidential, not for use outside the Fellowship”.
- I'm baffled another - 12-Step program has an item on our General Service agenda.
- Background material mentioned the International AAs didn't get that much out of our GSC.
- Would this open the possibility of organizations filing Freedom of Information Acts?
- If this would serve a purpose, I'm not opposed to anyone attending the GSC.
- It might be worth asking ACOA how we can help, other than allowing them to attend the GSC.
- Our members may change their behaviors with non-AAs present.

Could be considered an endorsement.

Conference is a closed meeting. They will need to come up with guideline changes etc.

Tradition 6 problem.

There are time constraints at the Conference.

Observe only or participate? This is a resentment waiting to happen.

We are a non-profit. Our Report should be available. They can get a feel for it from the report.

The Report is confidential because last names are used.

Conference is a closed business meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Another fellowship wants to watch, we gave them our steps, why can't we let them sit in a meeting ? they can't harm us, they can't vote.

Comments from the floor: 2. Policy/Admissions Item C: Joan, this would be a violation of our Traditions, Sense 2% in favor 98% opposed

Conference Committee: II. Cooperation with the Professional Community- Item B

Agenda Topic: Consider adding text to the pamphlet "Is there an Alcoholic in the Workplace?" regarding A.A. as a resource for small businesses.

- One sentence is not enough - change the whole pamphlet. It needs updating.
- Suggestion would be to address businesses, but not singling out anyone type of business. Like "medical practice". (it gives medical practices, etc. as an example)
- It refers to C.P.C. already in pamphlet. Wouldn't people look it up?
- Either should not include "medical practices" or they should go back and update entire pamphlet.
- Background material says that the person wanting the change wanted it to be inclusive to small /medium business. They should take out reference to a specific profession.

Comments from the floor: 3. Cooperation with the Professional Community Item C: no comments, Sense 60% in favor 40% opposed

Conference Committee IV. Finance – Item D

Agenda Topic: Discuss material from A.A.W.S. Self Support Committee.

- Might be seen more if in pamphlet form than in flyer form.
- Make available in GSR packet.
- Make it easier to read.
- A Flyer might be easier to update.
- Send out when the membership survey is sent out.
- Put flyer in basket when the 7th tradition is passed.
- Read one item from list when the treasurer report is read at the business meeting.
- Keep at the back of the room to point people to when question is asked of where does my dollar go.
- We don't realize how far our services go until we hear the stories of the Loners and Remote Communities.
- We talk about it... We talk about it... We talk about it
- Make flyer easier to access on site.
- You want this information if you're a Treasurer.
- Would be nice to have it condensed like a blue or green card.
- Needs to be on a literature rack.
- Put it in the DCM packet.
- Put it in box 459.
- Show up as a link on a pamphlet that would take you to the flyer.

Flyer is awesome no need to add or take away anything.

Keep talking up contributions - email it out and print it out.

Great pamphlet/flyer. Last sentence of number 7 should be moved to number 8.

New title should be **Give us all your money or we'll die**. There's a difference between an informed group conscience and one that's not.

This flyer will help a lot in informing. Thank you!

Comments from the floor: 4. Finance Item D: Darryl, when it comes to the 7th Tradition all the above, Sense 80% in favor 20 % opposed

Break 2:55 - Resume 3:10

DCM Reports

District 21: Gabriel R., We have 17 groups today, we had the opportunity to assist at PRAASA in Spokane, WA. We discussed the topics, we practice anonymity, we observe the 7th tradition, every Thursday we meet and all of the committees meet every Thursday and we are working to keep alive. Thanks you

District 22: Henry B., Good day alcoholics and non-alcoholics in part of District 22, I would like to thank all of the GSRs that came from Reno. It is my important responsibility for the Groups in the Reno / Sparks area in keeping their doors open with the exception of Grupo Unidad Y Proposito in Carson City they closed their doors about a year ago. Today April 2nd Grupo Nuevo Dia they are celebrating 14 years anniversary in Sparks. Here is a list of groups that are going to celebrate their anniversaries Grupo La Nueva Luz April 9th, Grupo Viviendo Sobrio June 11th, Grupo La Nueva Esperanza August 20th, Grupo Latino September 13th or 16th, Grupo Nueva Vida October 1st, Grupo Accion November 12th, Grupo Fe Y Esperanza November 26th, Grupo Tercera Tradicion TBD. In October we celebrate the 7th regional congress (conference) in Northern Nevada its call "Around the Corner". In June of 2015 groups of Reno participated in unity with the 17th convention Nevada that was in Las Vegas. All the groups together are working on celebrating the 18th annual convention of A.A. on the 26th, 27th, & 28th of August 2016 in the Hotel Ramada in Reno. In Fernley there are 3 people meeting in a garage because they don't have a place to go and they are doing their meeting there until they can find a place to meet. Committees Institutions keep on going to the Warm Springs jail and in Carson City. In Susanville they are going through the application process to be accepted to go in and speak. The telephone service in on 24 hours a day. They have PSAs on Spanish TV and a radio station in English that they pass the message on in Spanish. Thank you, Henry

Standing Committee Reports

NAGSC Corrections: Mike L., Hello everyone my name is Mike L and I am an alcoholic serving as NAGSC Corrections Facilities chair. I am very grateful to be here at the assembly here in Tonopah again. My focus in the beginning of my second year as the Corrections Chair is to continue making my self available to districts and groups to bring how AA members can bring the message to incarcerated alcoholics. The committee was able make presentations with district 12, district 6, the Carson City No BS Men's Stag and the Minden Gardnerville Group during the fall. Though it has been quiet these winter months, spring should see more interest by districts and groups. I am very grateful I was able to attend PRAASA in Spokane. At which I went to the corrections roundtable discussion. The message I got from the roundtable is "...don't leave before the miracle happens". That is so true an example of that I am glad to report the Washoe County jail at Parr Blvd began training of initial set of 13 volunteers both men and women has begun to hold meetings and they are now going final process of being approved. The work to hold meetings at Parr Blvd has been years in the making. At Lockwood state prison I am still working to hear from the warden, I haven't given up hope!!! I really enjoy making myself available to serve. My contact information is on the roster and if your group or district

would like the corrections committee to visit please contact me. Thank you for letting me serve

NAGSC Special Needs / Remote Communities: Lyle gave report for Roberta B., I had a request from the SWACYPAA Committee to provide them with information for their conference in June. I did some research and at their December meeting provided them with several names of ASL Interpreters in the area and approximate prices for those who would be available during their conference dates. I also provided information regarding configuration of the room(s) setup to allow for wheelchairs. I had a request from the Cornerstone Clubhouse regarding dimensions for wheelchair access to the bathroom. I am happy to report they took immediate action and Kathleen W. advises meetings at Cornerstone are wheelchair accessible. The last couple of months have been relatively quiet because of uncertain weather, but I did return to District 12 in January with information I did not have when I visited the first time. As soon as the weather is more certain, I will be contacting the rest of the Districts to visit their business meetings. I am also available to visit any group business meeting. I attended PRAASA in Spokane, WA, and was disappointed that there was not a Special Needs/Remote Communities roundtable. Special Needs was combined with Treatment and Institutions. I did get to meet with Darryl B., the Special Needs Chair in the South and Jon C., Special Needs Chair in Northern California. It was very interesting to hear what other areas are doing with their committee. Getting to meet and exchange ideas with other Chairs is one of the best things about PRAASA. I will be rotating out in December so if anyone is interested in this committee for the next rotation and would like to join me at any meetings in the coming months, let me know. It is not too early to think about your service commitment for the next rotation. Respectfully submitted, Roberta B.

NAGSC Public Information: Lyle C., Like all of A.A., the primary purpose of members involved with public information service is to carry the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Working together, members of local Public Information Committees share A.A. information with the general public, including the media.

I would like to thank NAGSC for allowing me to attend PRAASA this year. I received so much from the experience. Like from participating in the PI roundtable with other like-minded people. Some ideas are:
Building a committee and outreach:

- Who are getting to do PI work at the group, district and area levels? Are we just giving out commitments or are we finding the committed? It is better to get the willing to serve than filling positions just to fill them.
- Outreach is a never ending challenge.
- As always, I am interested in having representation from all districts from the North. DCMs, is there anyone in your district who is doing PI or possibly interested in doing PI? Please have them contact me.

Training & Working with Intergroup:

- Using the Public Information Workbook and the Guidelines from GSO is invaluable.

Joyce Y is the new Northern Nevada Intergroup PI Chair. Joyce and I will be available to help your groups and districts provide Public Information this year. In Fellowship and Service, Lyle C

NAGSC Treatment / Bridging the Gap: Gary S., Hello all, I'm Gary, your alcoholic northern AREA 42 treatment chair. This has been a busy couple of months. I'm happy to report that there has been a marked increase in BTG requests from people coming out of treatment centers and returning or locating to the northern Nevada area, and with thanks to those members of the northern area who have stepped up giving their time and effort to make those locating to our area welcome, we have been very successful in reaching out to, connecting with and bringing them into our fellowship. I was privileged to attend PRAASA again this year. AS always, AREA 42 was well represented by the northern and southern areas, as well as our Spanish speaking Districts. The presenters this year were well prepared and informative. I felt the topics were varied as to appeal to all in attendance. Altho the forecast for the Spokane area was for rain the entire weekend, the rain held off for the most part so between the presentations and roundtables, those who wished were able to enjoy the beautiful and historic sites the area had to offer. I am already looking forward to next year's PRAASA in Sacramento and the short two hour drive as opposed to the 12 hour drive to Spokane. The most exciting news I have to report is that after a near five year absence of men's A.A. meetings into the Washoe County jail, we should soon be able to resume regularly scheduled A.A. meetings for those incarcerated at the jail. Thanks to the efforts of our Northern Nevada Intergroup corrections chair, A.A. members were invited to attend an orientation for those wanting to volunteer at the jail. Again the A.A. community was well represented, 14 out of approximately 40 people in attendance were A.A. members. I am looking forward to my second year as your Northern Area Treatment Chair, and as always, Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

NASGC Secretary: Laura J., Thank you to NAGSC for funding my position to Praasa. I always find that weekend to be the most informative and spiritual of any AA gathering that I attend plus I get the bonus of marvelous fellowship too! I attended the Secretary's workshop on Saturday afternoon along with Paul and Glenn. We were about the same group that got together a year ago in Layton so we basically just picked up our conversation from last year. We talked about minute formats, motions records, and issues on how to be as accurate as possible while respecting time and length restrictions of not only the members but the secretaries as well. One item that was particularly helpful came from our own Paul E who shared a link to a website that easily translates from English to Spanish or vice versus. It had never occurred to me before that like the Area, I too could translate the Nagsc minutes for our linguistic district and recently did so. I will track down our Spanish speaking members here this weekend and ask how well I did. This process was not difficult and after doing the translation and emailing out to the Nagsc body for the 1st time a smile crossed my face. I suddenly realized that by learning and using this simple process I was now reaching out to more members than I had before, our primary purpose in action. Thank you Paul and Praasa for teaching me how to be more useful than before! Some other gems I heard at Praasa were: There is a continued concern for the leveling, even declining numbers in new AA membership. I am in the camp that believes this is due to a rigidity and lack of tolerance among current members and I will try to influence those in my smaller and larger circles to consider our parts in such actions. I heard a speaker implore us to have faith in the collective group conscience of Alcoholics Anonymous, to walk through our obstacles, not around them and that knowledge of the path is not the same as walking the path. I also heard that as General Service participants one of our important jobs is to assist as many members as possible to be as informed as possible and to keep AA available for masses of people, most of whom we will never meet! I also heard a speaker note that the writings of Bill W., all available through the Grapevine, are an invaluable resource because he, more than any other member, through his writings, documented his sobriety and his participation in General Service over then entire expanse of his sober life. Studying these writings might be an insight to how AA has and will continue to change over time. I plan on picking up a copy of Language of the Heart, volume one, at the Grapevine table this weekend. Well that sounds like enough to keep me busy for a while, you all know how it is...there's always something to do. Love and Service, Happy Springtime to all. Laura J

NAGSC Treasure: Will L., Hi my name is Will currently serving as your treasurer. We have a current balance of \$11,321.29 in the checking. We have a balance in a CD of \$1,251.84 we made deposits of \$2715.24. We are doing ok for the start of a new year. PLEASE have your groups send your donations to: P.O. box 2507 Dayton, NV 89403 Any questions contact Will

Area Alternate Registrar (NAGSC Registrar): Julia C., I had the privilege of attending PRAASA (Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly) in Spokane. Besides attending the panels I attended two roundtables; the one for registrars and one on technology. Our fall assembly speaker, Brouck H (outgoing chair of the National AA technology Workshop) was moderating the technology roundtable and told me that he is going to follow-up with our General Service Office regarding the status of issues that Emily and I raised last year. As he cautioned me earlier, changes will take time including getting responses to our issues. Unfortunately the registrar roundtable was not well attended and since this is year two of our rotation, Emily and I had more answers than questions. It was still an opportunity to exchange contact information with other registrars.

The panels were wonderful with a common theme of “are we welcoming to all”. Some ideas I am bringing back to my home group are:

- Unity: When we have conflict we must keep talking – don’t stop talking and walk away.
- We should never use the Big Book as a weapon, it is a tool.
- The last thing a newcomer needs to worry about is safety at a meeting.
- The collective group conscience is always better than our individual ideas.
- Rekindling our original enthusiasm for the steps, traditions and concepts
- Are we taking AA for granted?
- When we put money in the basket, are we doing it out of habit or are we mindfully aware of putting money in with gratitude for what AA is and has done for us? Are we giving out of love?

I sent out reports to all of the DCMs with the current information that the GSO database had for his or her district. Thank you to all who sent your corrections to Emily prior to the assembly. It helps us to streamline the assembly registration process. Please let me know if the reports have all the information you need. Are they readable? Useful?

As always: DCMs: Please continue to send New Group Forms and Group Change Forms to either Emily or me. You can text a picture of the form if you like.

GSRs: Please let us know if you don’t get your packets. We will contact GSO to see what happened and most importantly to get your packets to you as soon as possible.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Alternate Registrar, Julie C

Area Alternate Archivist (NAGSC Archivist): Pat S, It is my honor to serve as your Alternate Archivist, thus the NAGSC Archivist. This has been another busy year.

- We have started to collect “old timer” interviews. This includes one talk by a member on his 50th A.A. anniversary.
- I have attended Archives Workshops at each PRAASA, bringing home ideas to improve our work at the Area level.
- We continue to take Archives displays to various events. Three are on the calendar for the next few months in Northern Nevada.
- We have offered Archives Workshops on several occasions.

Again, it continues to be an honor to serve in this position. I am humbled.

Area Archivist: Rhonda W. (Area Archivist), please bring me all of your information from your Committee, Group etc. Showed an example of the Treasurers binder and would like all the officers and chairs to bring her the same at the end of the year. Thank you

DCM Report

District 15: Randy R., In October 2015 elected a new DCM for District 15 as the result of former DCM stepping down. We have struggled but things are coming together. In December we hosted the annual Alcahons at the TIE Club. We are currently planning an event with District 5 in June Thanks for letting me be of service Randy R

Standing Committee Reports

NAGSC DCM Coordinator: Chris S., My role as DCM coordinator in the north is to sit down 1 hour before the NAGSC meeting and see how the DCM’s and NAGSC chairs are doing in their General Service positions. We discuss problems that the DCM’s are having in their districts, how to better carry the message through workshops and presentations to the groups, and what may be happening at the NAGSC service level. Over the last 6 months every one of the DCM’s has been presenting and the Chairs have been very busy traveling. Some of the items discussed at the last NAGSC meeting were the importance of having an Alt DCM, workshops to promote a healthy group, visiting groups within your district, and helping the GSR’s within your district to understand the fully informed group decision on the agenda items. The wonderful thing that happens in these meetings before meeting is that everyone brings their experience, strength and hope with them to help each other. Thank you for allowing me to be of service. Chris S

CPC / PI (District 21): Alejandro, We have been working very hard in 2015 and Cherie has given us a lot of support. In 2015 we to 34 events we had tables with some pamphlets we gave away about 2000 pamphlets. On March 6th we an event from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM and we gave away 300 pamphlets. We are also preparing for this July 2nd to have Public Information in Las Vegas the topic will be “Testimony in A.A.” from people who have over 15 years of sobriety and we are also inviting people with 40 years and up. Everyone is invited to this event it will be at Freedom Park from 10-12. We have a new group its called Grupo Fe Y Esperanza (Faith and Hope) Thank you

Area Alternate Treasurer (SAGSC Treasure): Edie D., The SAGSC P&L as well as Balance Sheet reports are posted on the wall above the table at the entry. We now have a full Finance Committee with the addition of Joe V. and Sean D. to the committee and the committee had several telephone meetings to reformat and prepare the 2016 budget. My thanks to the committee members, all of whom worked diligently on this project We passed the budget for 2016 after completely reformatting the Budget to make it more “user friendly”. One of the biggest additions to the 2016 budget was to partially fund the SAGSC committee chairs to PRAASA, sharing the expense with Las Vegas Intergroup. We also approved a one-time expenditure to fund our former SAGSC Chair to PRAASA 2016 since he was unable to

attend during his tenure. We also approved an amount of \$1,200.00 to be given to the Area to help with the Delegate's Conference expenses.

We are currently (as of 3-20-16) showing a balance in our checking account of \$16,348.51 (which will change rapidly after this assembly) and \$15,010.34 in our savings. While, our P&L is showing a loss for this quarter, we had quite a few expenses in March. You can see by our bank balance that we are in a healthy financial position. Thanks for the allowing me the opportunity to serve as your SAGSC Treasurer for this panel. Edie D.

Area Alternate Secretary (SAGSC Secretary): Glenn W., Hello everybody my name is Glenn and I'm honored to serve as our area 42 alternate secretary. My primary duties include serving the southern area as the recording secretary, provide a literature display at the area assembly, and assist and coordinate with the area secretary.

It has sure been a learning experience over the last 6 months and I would like to thank everybody who has helped me transition into a position midway through rotation. Most of my time this weekend will be spent at the literature table with my two friends and fellow servants Pam L. - GSR from the Henderson closed group in District #1 and Cog - GSR from Mammoth Lakes in District 8. Please come back and see us. When I was given the cash box for the literature table at the last assembly we had a balance of \$336.25, there was a total of \$183.20 in literature sales from the last area assembly which gave us a total of \$519.45. After writing a check to Erica P for her literature order of \$415.77 leaves us with a balance of \$103.68. I had the privilege of going to this year's PRAASA in Spokane, Washington. I attended the literature round table on Friday night where we discussed many topics including working together with our Grapevine committee's, putting together newcomer packets and we discussed all the literature agenda items for the up-coming conference in New York. I've never heard a livelier discussion when it came to the "plan text big book" on this year's conference agenda items. On Saturday I attended the secretaries Round Table where we discussed how to capture the correct wording/meaning of a conversation, voice recordings, translation, how extensive should minutes be and how are we updating documents handbooks and directories. My report would never be complete without acknowledging all of our trusted who served at this years PRASSA and representing our area so well. Thank you all so very much for allowing me this wonderful opportunity to serve as your alternate secretary for area 42. Respectfully submitted, Glenn W.

SAGSC Chair: Jonelle, Greetings Area 42, A bunch has happened in the Southern Area since our last assembly here in Tonopah. In November, we held our last SAGSC meeting of 2015. We had approved the one time funding of the Alt. Area Chair to PRAASA, had the first reading of the proposed 2016 SAGSC budget and the first reading of funding the appointed DCM Coordinator for supplies and to Area Assemblies. Our first meeting of the New Year was held on January 10, 2016. The second reading of the budget brought up much discussion, so it was decided that the budget would be voted on via email, once corrections were made. I had received the emails of all those who voted by January 31st. The budget passed. The second reading for funding the DCM Coordinator passed as well. This was also the meeting we had all the awesome volunteers sign up to help with the summarizing and presenting of the Agenda Item Topics. From that list, I reached out to four of the volunteers that have never presented before and asked them if they were willing to do so...It is not easy to put together a presentation with one sheet of background material or be a first time GSR with very little experience or knowledge of this whole process and get up in front of a room of, shall we say, passionate folk. They were committed, thoughtful and informative, and I thank you for that... Oh! and they were able to stay unopinionated!!! We had our Roundtables/Agenda Item Presentations on Saturday, March 12th. Some items caused much discussion, while others... did not. I will be reporting to the entire Area this weekend the combined discussion from both the North and the South. Thank you for all that you do and allowing me to do that with you! Jonelle, SAGSC Chair

NAGSC Intergroup Liaison: Michael M., Hello I'm Mike and I'm a alcoholic. There's not a bunch to report I was hoping to make it to PRASA but couldn't make it due to financial reasons. But wanted to touch on the pink can situation at the Triangle Club in Reno. This has been on going since the beginning of this service cycle. The Triangle has asked for 50% of the Pink Can contributions. We voted at the beginning of this cycle to move the Intergroup meeting to the Alono Club in Sparks. There was an Ad-Hoc committee formed and a letter drafted and sent to the board of directors. As you could imagine this topic is a hot one. Subjects like group autonomy and how actions like this taken by clubs could effect AA as a whole. Also elections are coming up in June. That's always a fun experience. Thank you so much for allowing me to be of service.

Delegate: Mike M., How did we do? Phil you did a great job. Thank you for helping me today. Now where do we go from here? Just share with your groups what you have heard today and share your experience. A big Thanks to Jonelle and Carol for all of their work on the agenda items.

Break 4:05 for Dinner and Saturday speaker

Sunday April 3, 2016

Open 8:30 Paul serenity prayer, Phil Declaration of Unity
Phil; I need a host for next Assembly 5B volunteered

Area Officer reports

Area Alternate Delegate (NAGSC Chair) Finance Committee: Carol B., Hello Trusted Servants. It's so gratifying to see so many in attendance this weekend, it's important for us to inform our Delegate through this pre-conference format. The year has been full of exciting events. March Madness (as my GSR refers to it), is going strong, PRAASA was most interesting, informative and as always, the pleasure of visiting old and making new friends who also love service as I do. Claudia B. and Pat S. were given panel topics, and did excellent presentations. Michael was responsible for the PRAASA business meeting being the most lighthearted one I have attended. Because of Area 42's place in line for hosting the 2018 event, he is serving as the Chair of the PRAASA Delegates Advisory Board. Therefore it was his responsibility to facilitate part of the meeting.

NAGSC met for our first 2016 meeting on the 12th last month for the roundtables. Presenters; Nancy W., Merl C., Mary D. and Wayne H. and the Scribes; Monica S., John F., Samantha G. and Chris S. all did their commitments exceptionally. Ray G. has stepped down from his GSR Survival Guide Trainer position for medical reasons.

Pete L. has accepted my request to finish out this panel, so please take advantage of his availability to share his E S & H with your Groups, Districts and Alternates. I also wish to recognize the benefits that have been going on in the north because of the most recent NAGSC position, the addition of DCM Coordinator; the pre-meeting get together of the Standing Chairs and the DCM's is proving to be quite a

benefit for all, in getting more Area 42 information out to the Groups and Districts. Thank you for your generated enthusiasm these last several NAGSC get-togethers. As our Treasurer reported, we are doing as we should be with the Area Budget expectations. The FC met before the assembly began this weekend to go through the Treasurer's 2015 books and found everything in to be in order. The books have been turned over to the Area Archives. I want to acknowledge and thank the Area 42 FC. The composition of this body, has made for an enjoyable stress free environment this last 15 months, and it's a pleasure serving as the Chairperson for this Committee. Thank You for these panel 65 Service Opportunities. Carol B.

Area Chair: Phil W., Hi my name is Phil and I'm an Alcoholic. I am very grateful to be here in Tonopah NV this nice spring weekend. I really am pleased that you all are here. I'm so grateful to have the responsibility and authority of being Chair of Area 42. In concept 10 it says that quote "every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority--- the scope of such authority to be always well defined whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description or by appropriate charters and bylaws." end quotes. I am glad to say this is true here in Area 42. Over the last few months I have been busy with being available to you while I try to do as I understand you would have me do. I have had the opportunity to break bread and enjoy fellowship in Elko at a gratitude dinner just before Thanksgiving. I was able to make it down to Las Vegas to check out a workshop Dist. 7 did and also made it to meetings of Districts 21 & 22, also delivered the conference reports to NAGSC and Dist. 22. I want to thank you for the opportunity to attend PRAASA where I was able to be with Jonelle, and Justin at the workshop for area chairs which was cool as most area only have 2 chairs, but we're different. I always enjoy getting together with our brothers and sisters of the Pacific Region. I did come away from PRAASA with a feeling of Inclusiveness and unity. I did get to do photos for 2 other areas (have camera will travel). Just this month I was able to attend the pre-conference workshop in the South for the first time and as I said at that time I have always attended NAGSC roundtables and as an area officer I felt I should go to SAGSC to see their presentations. I have to say that both in the north and the south we do turn out and participate in the process. As I said at the first of my report I am extremely grateful to have a commitment that I truly enjoy. I love traveling around this area and love coming to your event or group and being part of our fellowship in our great area. Thanks for allowing me the opportunity to serve in the capacity of Chair of Area 42 NV. Gratefully, Phil W.

Area Secretary: Paul E., Hi my name is Paul and I'm an Alcoholic. I would like to thank Area 42 for sending me to PRAASA. The panels were great and very informative. On Friday I attended the Tech roundtable and found out just how little I know, this was all way over my head. On Saturday I attended the secretary's roundtable. The topics were 1 When recording how to capture the correct wording/meaning of conversation? 2 Voice recordings; what do we do with them, are they given out? 3 Translation & How? 4 How extensive should minutes be? 5 How are we updating documents, handbooks, directories? I was able to get some good suggestions / information. For all of those that sent in your reports before you got here thank you, this makes it so much easier for our translator and for me when I do the minutes. Thank you for allowing me to serve, Paul

Area Alternate Chair: Justin, Hi everyone my name is Justin and I'm Alcoholic. Welcome to all. I'm glad to be here in Tonopah. I hope you are too and even if your not that's ok. We need u too. My job as alternate area chair is to assist Phil in the area assembly. Thank you to Phil For making me a part of the assembly. I also have translation equipment if district 21 needs it. I'm great full for being funded to PRAASA. The area chair round table was eye opening. We are very fortunate in our area because of the service structure. We get a lot of experience in service positions as alternates and we have a large number of people active and funded. This helps to carry the message. I'm happy to be of service. Thank u

Area Registrar: Emily C., I am happy to report that our total assembly attendance this weekend was 229 attendees. 128 of which pre-registered online and 100 registered at the door and we had 3 competed registrations. I want to thank you for allowing me to attend PRAASA... It was a great weekend and I was privileged to share my experience and glean strength and hope from a full weekend of service! Lastly, an item that we had discussed several assemblies past. We are almost out of GSR and Alt. GSR tags. We had previously discussed phasing the Ribbons out with online registration as the last run of ribbons ran at a cost of nearly \$300 to the area. With that in mind I know how attached we can be to our lovely titles! I would like to get a sense of the assembly if we would like to re-order the ribbons for future assemblies. A few options: limit the number of titles (GSR DCM and AREA OFFICER), Continue as in past... or phase out and eliminate the added cost as we are a small body and able to add our titles to our own badges. I would like to get a sense of the Assembly; Do you want to phase out ribbons? Discussion: Andrea, Q. How much does it cost per assembly for the ribbons? A. about \$100.00, Joyce, I like the ribbons, Jerry, I like the ribbons if it's a cost issue we could put a can at registration, Sense 60 in favor 50 opposed

Area Newsletter Editor: Anne K., Hello, Area 42. My name is Anne and I am an alcoholic. I also have the great honor of serving as your Newsletter Editor during this service rotation. I would like to thank the area for sending me to PRAASA again this year. The trip experience was filled with all kinds of great experiences. I have found that the Round Table workshops are a particularly beneficial part of PRAASA for me. The Round Tables at PRAASA allow me to engage in meaningful conversations and establish communication with other area newsletter editors so that I can better serve our area. The Winter 2016 Newsletter was published on Feb. 23 according to the Area Guidelines. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the content. I hope everyone enjoyed it. Thank you to the committee members, DCMs, GSRs and anyone else who helps distribute the newsletter to the members of our area. As a reminder, please join me in being mindful of the folks in the area who aren't on our email chains by printing a few copies of the newsletter and taking them with you to your meetings for those who are interested in the area. Right now, I am gathering content for the spring newsletter. The deadline is April 15. It will be distributed on April 30. If you have any feedback on the current issue, need to make any changes to the listings or would like to see something new, please share that information with me. If your district has an event this summer, please send it to me so I can include the information in the events section. If you'd like to contribute any content, please send me a word document or drop the text into an email to me for consideration. The newsletter email is: area_newsletter_editor@nevadaarea42.org. Thank you for allowing me to be of service. And thank you all for my life today, Anne K.

Area Webmaster: Libby G., Hello, my name if Libby G. and I'm the Area 42 Web Servant. As usual, I will keep this short as the job is pretty much administration and honestly who wants a list of what I added to the Area 42 website. If you are curious, stop by and see me and I'll be glad to give your more details than you ever wanted to know. For those who might be new to the Assembly my job is pretty simple. Basically I add or delete information the Area committee members or DCM's send me to the Area 42 website. I did help a little

with doing a summary for the conference agenda items. That's always fun. Taking pages of information and condensing it down to 3 sentences. If anyone has a district or southern/northern area event they want added to the area website just pass it along to me and I'll get it uploaded. Thanks for letting me be of service.

PRAASA: Ruth, Ruth alcoholic I served Nevada as a Delegate on panel 29 which is 1979 & 1980 and as the Pacific Region Trustee from 1986 to 1990. But my first impression on service was in 1973 when PRAASA was in Las Vegas, there were 230 people there. I have no idea what happened or what they were talking about but I like the feeling of the people in the room and it hooked me. I have now been to 43 PRAASAs and I love the process, 2018 will be in Sparks, NV. and people like to come to Nevada it will be a big PRAASA we had about 1300 13 years ago. This is something that only comes to our Area every 14 or 15 years. So this will need a lot of help to be successful so get on a committee and get involved. This is a big project. Next year it will be in Sacramento CA.

PRASSA: Mike, I am the Chair of the PRAASA advisory board. I am selected as the Chair of the 2018 PRAASA and I have asked Pete L. to help me. I look at PRAASA as GSR school. I am looking for Committee Chairs.

Lynn, Q; If we live in Las Vegas how would we work with a committee in the North A: conference calls, email. Carol, Q; If the Committee Chairs are going to meet at the Assembly next year are we going to have to budget for that? A; PRAASA has a budget for that, Nancy, Q; You want us to sign up today, could we get more information on what the positions are? A; yes we will have a list with the sign up sheet, Darryl, could we separate the Treatment and Special Needs roundtable/workshop, Joyce, Q; You had Delegates committee would that be a committee or part of another? A; Yes it would be nice to have a Delegate liaison, Rhonda, Q; Could we break down the committees into smaller committees A; Yes, Cherie, It would be nice to have a PI/CPC room, Accessibilities room, and a Treatment/Corrections/H&I room. I never received any notes/minutes from the roundtables that I attended.

Break 9:30 - Resume 9:45

Carol B., Proposal to Update Area 42 Guidelines

A guidelines change proposal

First reading September, 2015 Second Reading April 2016, From: Carol B.

Background: There are some items that were not addressed during the revisions passed in 2014. This is basically a guideline housecleaning proposal.

Currently: Most of this proposal consists of items that are not being followed, so they need to be changed, eliminated or if you so choose; adhered to, and stay in place. Proposed changes are in a **bold larger** font. Clarification Statements are in *italics*, not to be included in the guidelines.

1.0 AREA ASSEMBLY

This addition is suggested because the Webmaster is not included as a member of the Area Assembly.

1.1 Membership:

The following shall be members of the Area Assembly:

C. Liaisons, NAGSC/SAGSC Committee Chairs, **Area Webmaster**, Area Newsletter Editor, and any other NAGSC/SAGSC officer not already an Area Assembly/Committee member.

Passed

1.4 Area Officer Duties:

B. Duties of the Alternate Chairperson:

These two items were moved last year to the Alt. Chair duties, from a deleted section; titled Interpretation, in the Area 42 Guidelines Area 42 has no Special Needs Service Committee Coordinator. Unless we want to elect a person to that position we should remove this language from these guidelines.

4) The local Special Needs Committee Chairperson shall notify the Alternate Chair and Area Treasurer, ~~and Special Needs Service Committee Coordinator~~ as soon as ~~the interpretation~~ assistance is requested so that any necessary arrangements can be made.

Passed amended do not add interpretation

5) The local Special Needs Committee Chairperson, ~~in coordination with the Special Needs Service Committee Coordinator,~~ shall obtain from the interpreter(s), in writing, a quote for the hourly fee for services to be provided, or for a set fee-for the Assembly or meeting.

Passed

D. Duties of the Alternate Delegate:

Coordinate all agenda item preparations and arrangements necessary for the NAGSC/SAGSC and Area 42 ~~pre-conference roundtables.~~ **pre-conference assembly.**

We have a pre-conference assembly each spring, which is not necessarily in the format of roundtables.

Passed

E. Duties of the Secretary:

3) Publish the Area 42 assembly **preliminary** agenda as prepared by the chairperson. Distribute it to all area officers, DCMs and DCMCs no later than thirty days prior to the assembly.

It is not possible, 30 days in advance to have an agenda finalized for the assembly. It is however, possible to prepare a preliminary (subject to change) agenda.

Passed

J. Duties of the Registrar:

~~1) Maintain a current mailing list and Phone numbers of all members of Area Assembly.~~

Did not pass (leave in)

4) Provide a current mailing list for the Area Newsletter editor.(rev.9/00)

This has not been adhered to for several years, so unless we want to ask to enforce this we should probably remove it from the guidelines.

Passed (remove)

L. Duties of the Newsletter Editor:

The minutes have not been included in the newsletter since 2008, because of the size of the newsletter when they are included. The area secretary currently releases the minutes to the area website and the members when they are finalized.

1) Publish with the assistance of the Area Chairperson and Area Secretary the Area Newsletter. Provide in that document the **Area 42 assembly preliminary agenda and minutes of Area meetings** at appropriate times, contacting the Delegate for information for the Newsletter, and by contacting North and South Area Chairperson for Newsletter items.

The publication dates will be February 23, April 30, August 10, and October 31. Include ~~the~~ revised Area 42 guidelines in the **October 31st** issue of the Area 42 newsletter, **which follows the revision.** (rev. 9/10)

Passed amended to add "Area 42 assembly preliminary"

M. Duties of the Area 42 Webmaster:

2) To keep the website updated ~~monthly~~ **as revisions/updates are submitted.**

The website current events and calendar should be updated more often than monthly.

Passed

2.0 AREA COMMITTEE

This proposal is attempting to add Committee Chairs & Liaisons to the Area Committee. In other words, the area committee (people listed on the 5 Area Rosters) consists of the Area Assembly members, minus the GSR's. Perhaps we could also switch E. with D.

2.1 Membership:

The following shall be members of the Area 42 General Service Committee:

A. Area 42 officers which include: Delegate, Chairperson, Secretary, Archivist, Treasurer, Registrar, and their alternates.

B. The DCM, DCM Chairperson, or alternate DCM from each district.

C. Elected **and appointed** NAGSC/SAGSC officer(s), **liaisons and committee chair** positions. (rev 9/99)

Did not pass, minority opinion, 2nd vote did not pass

D. Each member of Area Committee will have only one vote.

E. Appointed positions of Newsletter Editor and Webmaster.

Passed switch D & E

2.2 Area Committee Meetings:

A. The Area Committee shall meet at least twice a year (normally the Friday evening **before of** each Area Assembly).

Passed

3.0 AREA ELECTIONS

3.1 Area Officer Elections:

B. The appointed election person will record the names, of all those present and eligible **that wish** to stand for the Area offices. **Those who wish to withdraw their names for any of these offices may do so.**

This is the General Service Manual suggested format for elections, Area 42 has not followed this, probably because it is quite time consuming

Passed

Ask It Basket: Ruth J., Not a question just a statement; Is there a concern that we work for diversity, but at our Assemblies, North, South and here are over 90% white. Yes that has been noted before.

Sharon G; past Area 93 Delegate; Q. What kind of incentives or social events do other District do to more to do service in our District?

A. host workshops with a focus on service and have food at them.

Bob; Trustee; Q1, It appears that our pension fund is par with other organizations however would it make more financial sense in the long run to have a strictly employee financed retirement account starting with new hires? A, New hires I believe after Jan. 14th are on a defined contribution plan a typical 401K type of a plan, so new hires after that certain date are on that type of a plan, but we have to honor to past employees what was promised that are vest on the other retirement plan and other benefits are current. Q2, Can you please give a couple of examples of what other countries might find challenging in their service structure? A, Yes, a few things; little or no translated literature, money contributions are low and literature sales are low, and one thing that is consistent in many many countries is a problem with rotation and the lack there of which is sometimes blamed on there are not enough trusted servants.

Joan; Q, When reviewing an agenda item which asks for a change in the language in a pamphlet does that open the whole pamphlet up for change and as so should not the body be informed of the process or have it described as such in the agenda item itself to clarify? A, No, just the changes addressed.

Byron; Q, What do you do to deal with a very disruptive member at a meeting? A, Have someone with a little bit of long term sobriety take (invite) the person outside the meeting and talk to them (males with males and females with females, but if it is a safety issue a male should go also), but there is always the option if there is a threat you can call the authorities.

Roberta; Q1, Is it within A.A.'s structure that allows an individual member to pay for a power bill billed to his or her name? A, I would need more information as to what is the power bill for and the situation, not sure. Q2, A situation has risen that a person has requested that an archery club that they are associated with hold meetings at the meeting hall? A, If that is an A.A. meeting and if that group is paying rent to the facility I don't see any problem with that we rent space for our meetings.

Joyce; Q, Has anyone ever noticed that on the Grapevine and the La Vina subscription mail in form they ask for credit card information, this can be seen by anyone (at the post office or the mailman or anyone else) how can we change this? A, One way is to not put it on a credit card, another is to put it in an envelope, or go online.

Pete; Q1, A 1960 or 70 dollar is worth about 10 cents today coffee, sugar, cream, rent, electric, and insurances went up to an all time high I have a lot of old timers talking about only putting a buck in the basket. How can we say something without sounding bossy or making it sound like we are begging for money and it's the most important thing? A, Help spread the word just where our 7th tradition goes to help for translation around the world to help the still suffering alcoholic and there is also a hand out in the packet. Q2, Is there literature to instruct secretaries of meetings of what to do with the 7th tradition money and how to run a meeting? A2, The AA Group pamphlet is very good at explaining this.

Close 11:30