# Spring 2018 Area Assembly Minutes March 23 – March 25, 2018

## Tonopah Convention Center, 301 Brougher Ave., Tonopah, NV 89049

#### Friday, March 23, 2018:

Julie C., Alt. Area Chair, opens the Assembly @ 6p.m. with the Serenity Prayer and reads the Anonymity Statement. GSR Preamble read by Greg M. We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of A.A. We realize the ultimate authority is a loving God as he may express Himself in our Group Conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that they can reach an informed group conscience. In passing along this group conscience, we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our fellowship. Let us, therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our group and A.A. as a whole. Julie introduced Greg M. and Joyce P. who will be presenting "GSR: Link to the Conference" at 8p.m.

#### Announcements:

Tonopah Trot and Fun Run – 6 a.m. Saturday

Banquet will be catered by the Tonopah Brewing Co. - booze free! Ribs, chicken, etc. Will is selling tickets.

District 8 is hosting. Thank you!

Contribution jar by the coffee to help off-set cost. Please contribute if you are drinking the coffee.

Ask – It – Basket is on the stage – Ask questions!

Please sign the Big Book being passed around that will be given the the person with the least time by the person with the most time.

There is a Grapevine display, a Bridge the Gap table, and Literature table in the back – we have large print Service Manuals! Please check out the archives display.

Jonelle W., Area Secretary, asked for approval of Fall 2017 Assembly Minutes. Passed.

#### Reports:

Area Secretary: Hi everyone, My name is Jonelle and I am an alcoholic. So... I want to start by thanking the area for sending me to my fifth PRAASA. Great job Area 42 in hosting... My heart could not have been happier with the amount of GSRS in attendance. I hope you took full advantage of every single panel, Roundtables, and fellowship opportunity afforded you. I hope you took tons of note to share with your groups and to assist you in your service positions. The biggest benefit for me, especially as an Area Officer, is the connections I make at the Roundtables. We all share our emails so that we can reach out to each other with questions, suggestions, grievances and the like. I have utilized my connections several times both as SAGSC Chair last rotation and now as Secretary. I hope you all are as well...Thank you everyone who submitted what was requested by the due date... Tony and I are very happy! If you did not submit your report to us, please leave me a copy in the box on the stage and hand a copy to Tony. Please remember that when needing fliers posted to the website... Send to me first so I can scrub for last names, phone #s, and personal emails. You are doing a great at this and it makes my job a bunch easier. Thank you for all you do and allowing me to do it with you.

District 3: Good Morning everyone - My name is Steve McK. and I am an alcoholic and the DCM for District #3. Since our last SAGSC meeting we have a new GSR Susan O. from the Weekend Warriors group. Welcome Susan. At our last District 3 meeting, we had 4 GSRs in attendance. Elizabeth R from the How It Works Group; Dave P. from the Mesquite Group, John C. from the Graduates Group and Jason McE. from the Young Peoples Group. I am pleased to announce that for the first time in 2 years, we have elected officers in District #3. Elizabeth R. has taken on the responsibilities for District 3 Secretary. In addition Jason McE. from the Young People's Group has been elected as the Alternate DCM. Thank you Jason and Elizabeth. District 3 financially is in good condition. We supported some of our GSRs going to PRAASA and Tonopah this weekend. The next meeting for District 3 will be at out Saturday Lunch Break. We will further discuss the possibility of a AA Hotline and 12 Step Volunteer Workshop to be held in 2018 at that meeting. Thank you - Best Regards - Steve McK.

**DCM Coordinator North**: Hi everyone, my name is Ed and I am an Alcoholic and the DCM Coordinator for the North. Last fall I wandered in here to celebrate my AA birthday with friends. Sunday morning Julie caught me walking the door and asked if I would be willing to take over John's position as DCMC for the North and well here I am. I have had a great time with this position meeting all kinds of new friends in the program as well as getting back into service. I would like to let all of the DCM's in the north that I have not met yet know that I am available to help you with any questions or concerns you may have. I'm not sure if all of the DCM's are aware that there is a meeting before every NAGS meeting at noon. In there we discuss anything you may need as far as information on or topics for business meetings and anything else you want to discuss. The committee chairs also attend this meeting and will explain their job to you and set up a time to visit your district to give a presentation. At our Nags meeting in December we met at the Sparks ALANO Club Thank You Barbara. It was hosted by District 22 they did an excellent job and I had a great time making a new friend and working with Luis. The homemade tamales and salsa were amazing and kept everyone coming back in March. This was my first meeting as DCMC we had a decent turn out and a good DCM meeting BUT..... only a

handful of DCM's showed. A lot of great information was passed along by the committee chairs for those in attendance. On March 3<sup>rd</sup> we held our roundtables in South Reno at the Methodist church we have used before. There was a great attendance and we had a good turnout for the DCM meeting. I had the honor of being a presenter for the first time it was very informative and the subjects of remote communities and the military are of a special concern to me as I live in a remote community and my oldest Son is a Veteran. We also managed to have a lot of fun during our discussions. Sober Sue was an awesome scribe and the timers took their job seriously so everything went smoothly as we were on a very tight time crunch with the church we were using. While I think of it if you know or could ask at the meetings in Reno for the name of a church, hall or meeting place that we could use for our NAGs meetings it would be most appreciated. We have had a great deal of trouble finding a suitable meeting site that will accommodate or NAGS group especially with break out rooms for the roundtables. The church we used this year will be too expensive in the future. PRAASA did we "ROCK IT" or what it was an amazing event and went very smoothly. It was such an honor to work with so many great people at the information and registration tables. Pete you did an awesome job and all of the committee chairs put together great teams. Area 42 knows how to hold an event. Edie I hope you got plenty of rest between now and then and Cheryl thank you for calling me. It was great to work side by side with my friend Sandra who contacted me days before PRAASA and asked how she could volunteer. She was a great asset as she is Bi Lingual and she kept things going smoothly at the registration tables. I met so many great people working there not to mention catching up with old friends. The weather did keep some from showing up but those that did had nothing but good things to say. I was able to attend the DCM meeting on Saturday afternoon it was great. The love and amount of information that flowed through the room was amazing. I have notes from that meeting if anyone would like a copy of the let me know. On that note I promised some people a copy of a very simple but effective group inventory but unfortunately I can't remember who. I brought plenty of copies with me and we can always make more if you would like one just let me know. In closing I would like to say it is an honor and privilege to work with everyone in this room I hope that this weekend continues shows you the Miracle that is Alcoholics Anonymous Yours In

**District 5B:** District 5b report. Spring Pre-conference assembly. March 2018. District 5B meets regularly the second Saturday of every month at 1:15 at the KCB. We have good attendance and liaisons that attend committee meetings such as H&I and Grapevine and report back to our district what is going on and how we can be helpful. We are planning a workshop on April 14, from 2-4 at the KCB with a panel discussing the topic of prayer and meditation. Some of us were able to attend 2018 PRAASA in Sparks. At our last district meeting we were able to share our experiences of PRAASA with love and gratitude for the fellowship. I speak for all of us who were able to attend that we all came out of PRAASA understanding more about our purpose as general service participants as well as a greater love for the program that we had to begin. (Which was already a lot of love!) We are preparing for our annual picnic which takes place the second Sunday in October. I am so grateful to be a part of General Service and serve with love from my whole heart. Thank you!

Bridge the Gap/Treatment Facilities North: I am very pleased to report that in 2017 the Northern Area Treatment / Bridging The Gap Committee responded to 127 treatment client Bridging The Gap Temporary Contact requests, meaning we had the opportunity to welcome 127 newcomers to our Fellowship. These requests resulted from the Bridging The Gap presentations we make monthly or bi-monthly to Bristlecone, Renown Behavioral Health, CrossRoads, and West Hills in the greater Reno area and Carson Behavioral Health in Carson City. We currently have 163 Temporary Contact volunteers in the Northern Area Bridging The Gap Committee. We have a way to go in fulfilling our need for additional volunteers in Districts located outside the Reno, Sparks, Carson City areas. When a treatment client requests assistance in getting connected with A.A. in their home community, and we do not have a Bridging The Gap Temporary Contact in that city, we make every effort to find one through phone calls and emails to a variety of people in the Fellowship asking for a lead on some member of our Fellowship in a particular city who might help us find a Temporary Contact. As an example, our Alternate Delegate Rhonda has provided the names of Fellowship members who live in smaller cities in the Northern Area that have helped us Bridge The Gap for treatment clients who live in Austin and Winnemucca. One way our effort in contacting people in remote cities could be easier would be calling the "Group Contact" that is sometimes listed on the Group Information form filed with the G.S.O. and our Area Registrar. However, there are a numbers of listed Groups that do not have a Group Contact listed on their Group Information form. I recently participated in the District 4 General Service Committee meeting and got a great reception and a number of new committee volunteers, Thank you Darrell for that. I also had the chance to discuss Treatment Committee work and Bridging The Gap at a recent RENVPAA Committee meeting. We have an opportunity to explore Treatment / Bridging The Gap cooperation opportunities with the Lassen County Director of Alcohol and Drug Services up in District 20 during a March 16th meeting. I also recently met with the new Bridging The Gap Coordinator in District 12, Fallon. We are in the process of trying to get Bridging The Gap off the ground with New Frontier, the treatment facility located in Fallon. I was most pleased to be able to discuss Treatment / Bridging The Gap success so far in the Northern Area at the recent PRAASA Bridging The Gap Round Table discussions. Many locations throughout the Pacific Region either do not have BTG, or are in the process of starting BTG in their locations and they are looking for help. Respectfully submitted, Pat B. - NAGSC Treatment / Bridging The Gap Chair District 1: Good evening everyone, my name is Joan and I am an alcoholic. It is my honor to serve you as the District One DCM. District One covers the southeast portion of Clark County, Nevada which includes Searchlight, Boulder City, Henderson, and a portion of Las Vegas. Thanks to the generous funding from SAGSC, several GSRs from our district were able to attend PRAASA this year. Marty B. from Boulder Basic Group, Kathleen B. from the Women's Big Book Study Group, Kristy M. from Smell the

Roses, Janey P. from Women in Recovery, and Dean from HUGS. Marty B. gave a presentation entitled "Widening the Doorway: The 'God Word' Pamphlet and Our Secular Members" during *Panel 5: Our Society in Action*. We are also continuing to do outreach and are pleased to welcome new GSRs to our fold: Marty, Dean, Diana from Steps to Freedom, John B. from Beer 30 at the GVG, Paul S. from Tea Time at the Meeting Place, and Joseph from Daily Reflections at the GVG, as well as those new GSRs who are joining us for the first time at Assembly! Our treasurer, Erin F. has moved out of state to pursue a new career opportunity, so our alternate treasurer, Dee H. has stepped up to take on this role. Thank you, Dee for your willingness to serve!Our district also supports the Las Vegas Central Office Hotline with a monthly commitment. Several of our volunteers have never done this type of service before and they say they really enjoy it. What other service commitment can you do in your pajamas? We encourage other groups to try this out. If your group can enlist twelve volunteers, that means each person only has to do the commitment once during the year. Please contact the Hotline Chair for details. District One will cohost its next workshop with District Nine on the theme of Rule 62 and Living Sober. It will be held at the Community Church, 360 E Horizon Drive, Henderson, NV 89015 on April 7, 2018 from 2 pm to 4 pm. Jen R. will be the speaker, and the day will also feature musical performances from our talented membership. We will provide Pizza and water. Bring a snack to share and bring a friend! Please pick up a flyer or two before you leave and share this event with your groups.

District 8: Hi, I'm Peggy, an alcoholic and current DCM of Dist. 8. District 8 is happy to be hosting this assembly and we hope you all enjoy the snacks and the program this weekend. Two new meetings have been added to the District; Mammoth Lakes Group added a 11th step meeting with emphasis on meditation on Tuesday evening at 7:00 p's m. The new Lee Vining meeting is a discussion meeting on Tuesdays @ 5:30.The High Sierra Group's Fun Food and Fellowship Picnic held in Sept. that included a speaker meeting and music by our very own musicians was a success and appealed to our younger membership. The Mammoth Lakes Campout is up and running again for August 24-26 at the Shady Rest Campground. District 8 has three new GSR's representing meetings in Lee Vining, Lone Pine and the Boiled Owls group of Bishop. The Bishop Group held its January White Elephant Event as a General Service fund raiser that included a potluck, speaker meeting and auction. The District formalized its Public Information Committee and are identifying and refining drop locations for literature and meeting schedules. The Corrections and Treatment Committee has revamped the DUI Class panel with a variety of formats for 1st time offenders and multiple offenders format. The committee held an enlightening, interactive clinic to give all members information and experience in bringing the AA message to the DUI classes. C & T continues coordinating panels for the men's and women's Inyo County jail, the Owens Valley Conservation Camp and a local counseling and recovery center. District 8 will be hosting a workshop May 19th on Finding your own Spirituality in AA. A flyer will be posted to the website with details. You're all invited to the infamous District 8 sponsored Chili Cookoff and Pie Contest on June 23 at Millpond Park that will include our Delegates report from his experience at the General Service Conference.

Alt. Area Treasurer: Edie – Thanked PRAASA volunteers! No report.

Area Archivist: I am honored and overjoyed to be your Archivist. I was asked to serve as PRASSA Archivist and am happy to do so. What an awesome experience it has been and will be. There were many hurtles to get over, especially sticking to PRAASA and not focusing on my beloved Area 42. My responsibilities continue and it is my job to make sure that we write our chapter for the ongoing PRAASA History book and pass our experience onto the next PRAASAs. I could not do this alone, so I reached out to Anne K. to be my Co-Chair, then Gabriel and Jake to help on our Archives Committee. Through collaboration between Pat S and Anne, they developed a PowerPoint presentation of all the PRASSA's from 1968 until 2018. We have been showing it in the Archive room over the weekend. I hope you have a chance to see it. This was a first of a kind and had past PRAASA Archivists in awe. Gabriel and Jake put together a beautiful collection of AA books and other important material from our Las Vegas Archives and drove it up to Reno. I was given the Area 42 PRASSA box to work with, which contained the original PRAASA History through 2000. I contacted the other Areas and was able to find a few chapters of the current PRAASA History book. Of course, we have our chapter from Roberta L & Dick H from 2003 PRAASA also held in Reno. We are in the process of straightening out of the archives room at the Las Vegas Central Office. Gabriel is in charge of this huge project and I'm sure he will tell you more in his report. As most of you know, we have a designated room for our archives here. All of the districts archive books that we have are displayed. Please drop by sometime this weekend and don't forget to sign our guest book. Yours in Service, Lyle C.

**H&I:** No Report

Accessibilities South: Hi. My name is Mattie M and I'm happy to be serving as the new SAGSC Accessibilities chair. Darryl will be chairing the Meetings-To-Go subcommittee going forward. I am new to service in Area 42, but have a history of service with Area 36 (Southern Minnesota). I'm grateful and excited to be getting involved. Meetings-To-Go is a new subcommittee that takes meetings to already sober AA members who are unable to get to a meeting (homebound or in a hospital). If you are interested in signing up please see Darryl or add your name to one of the lists on the back table. He is also looking for coordinators for various zip codes. Meetings-To-Go operates by zip code to ensure that requested meetings will be near your area so you won't be traveling far. To ensure good coverage we would like to get more people signed up. I had the pleasure of attending PRAASA in Sparks, NV in the beginning of March. I was able to hear what other areas are doing with Accessibilities and Remote Communities. There were panels that addressed some of the issues that have been found in AA, like geography, language and cultural differences. There were people there from Alaska who talked about areas where there may be no meetings or sober members of AA within 100 miles or more from a newcomer. Did you know that there are 224 languages

other than English spoken in Los Angeles? Another relevant issue is alcoholism in the senior population. Alcoholism may not be diagnosed or members who are no longer able to get to meetings may not have a way to reach us either. These are things that make getting and staying sober difficult for some. Finding ways to make AA accessible to all people is the goal of the Accessibilities Committee. Some of those communities and needs are being addressed by other committees as well like PI / CPC. I will be working with Caroline and Holly with PI / CPC. There is a lot of overlap and we want to make sure we are all doing what we can to reach the still suffering alcoholic. If anyone has thoughts of what needs may exist here in Nevada or if you are interested in joining the Accessibilities Committee please let me know. We can really use support. We meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month and all are welcome to attend. The Meetings-To-Go subcommittee meets at 5:30 and the Accessibilities committee meets at 6pm. If your district does not have an Accessibilities chair we hope you will consider getting one in the future. We hope to see you there.

District 16: Good day all, Since last Assembly, District 16 has had the pleasure of putting on, attending, and making commitments for the future, on a number of fun activities. In December, District 16, along with many many volunteers, hosted our, 26 year plus, annual Christmas Affair. Our Area Delegate, Phil W. was the events featured speaker. Over the last several months, District 16 had been preparing for the local PRAASA event held in the first week of March. Our District worked to provide over 40 volunteers to serve on the Information table to answer the various questions approximately 1400 attendees to PRAASA may need. The most common question was where is such and such meeting, to, if we knew which horse will when the next race. In August...August 18th to be exact, so please put this on your calendar, District 16 is putting on a Traditions workshop. A wonderful speaker from California has agreed to provide her time and program for a day of learning the 12 Traditions. It will be our intention to let all the fellowship know more as the time grows nearer. But for now, we are super excited to have this full day long workshop planned and will be partnering with several other Districts to ensure a large turn out for all who wish to attend. And yes, there will be food. Until next time, Thank you for your time and service also. Nancy W. Intergroup Liaison South: Michal H. gave the Treasurers report to the Las Vegas Intergroup on February 12, 2018. The income and expenses for the month ending January 2018 are as follows: Total Income \$22,671.56; Total Expenses \$15,829.51; Literature income \$16,273.84; Literature Expenses \$8,558.05; Intergroup Bank Balances: General Account \$35,937.75; less Committee Totals (\$7,201.91): Total Central Office \$28,735.84: Payroll Account \$672.62; Prudent Reserve Account \$10,003.00; Literature Account \$7,715.79; Total Bank Accounts \$47,127.25. The Las Vegas Central Office took in 987 information calls, the Hotline received 1,974 information calls. Central Office received 141Twelve-Step calls, while the Hotline received 157 twelve step calls. The Web Site experienced an average of 172 hits per day, and a monthly total of 5,332 visits. The Las Vegas Central Office has several fundraisers during the year. The first annual Men's Night Out will be held May 5, 2018, from 6:00 pm until it's over at the Palace Station, tickets are \$45.00. Founders Day will be Saturday, June 9, 2018, from 7:00am to 4:00pm at Christ Episcopal Church, 2000 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, tickets are \$5.00. The Gratitude Ball will be held September 29, 2018, at Palace Station, more details to follow. There is a new column in the Silver Streak newsletter: "Meeting in the Spotlight". Each month, we will have a half page about a local meeting, its history, its format etc. Check the current issue to see how to submit a group or go to https://www.lvcentraloffice.org/silverstreak. For those of you who may not know, the Silver Streak is a monthly newsletter published by Central Office. The Silver Streak provides current information about new meetings, AA related events, and articles of interest submitted by local members. Intergroup meets every 2nd Monday of the month, next meeting after the Assembly is April 9, 2018, at 6:00PM at Central Office. In service: Kellie M. SAGSC-Intergroup Liaison

**NAGSC Treasurer:** Hi my name is Will currently serving as your treasure. We have a current balance of \$8,198.12 in the checking. We made deposits of \$4,023.92 we have a cd with\$ 1,252.74.We would like it if your groups could provide an email address so we can send your receipts to save NAGS a lot in postage. I will also bring receipt with me each time we meeting before I mail them out. IF there are any G.S.R or D.C.M that need help with there prassa expenses please come see me and when you can we still have some funds to help out some. PLEASE have your groups send your donations to Po box 2507 Dayton NV 8940 Any questions contact Will

#### **Announcement:**

Meetings To Go table in the back of the room.

Grapevine South: Area assembly spring 2018 southern GV chair Justin alcoholic. Greatfull to be of service. We are not book and magazines salesmen! We carry the AA message to the alcoholic through our meeting in print.Our committee meeting is the last Friday of every month at central office 6pm there is pizza! U can always pick up GVs at central office durring regular business hours. Then bring the money back or the magazines back each month. 2 publishing companies AAWS and GV. All liturature is conference approved, GV is born out of our own experiences. Specific topics like steps, sponsorship, ect. There is an online pay version which has lots of articles and archives, and an app to receive the magazine. There is a free daily GV quote and a YouTube channel. There is a subscription challenge this year so please renew or subscribe up here. We have the forms and will send them in monday. We are very fortunate in the south because central office provides thousands of dollars in liturature to bring to events. Let me know if you would like the GV table at your AA event!We participated in several events since last September. I'd like to thank Daryl and Dick for bringing the GV table to events. We had many volunteers at the roundup so thanks to all them. We attended and set up a display at the Sagsc meetings and working with Pat and Tinna from nnig we had a wonderful PRAASA experience. Something exciting to look forward to in April is the GV book about armed services and in September another book about atheist and agnostics. Thanks for letting me be of service!Any questions? Thanks!

Grapevine North: My name is Pat. I am an alcoholic and I am humbled to serve as the Grapevine Chair for Northern Nevada. Grapevine had a major display at the Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Assembly (PRAASA) in Sparks March 2-4. I hope you were there and stopped by our booth. Breaking news: The Grapevine YouTube page is up and running. The easiest way to find it is to Google "AA Grapevine YouTube." Be sure to include "AA" or you'll be directed to something else. Since I last shared here, I've participated in a number of service workshops and panels, and have spoken about Grapevine and LaViña at about a half dozen group and district meetings. Meanwhile, I remain available to talk about Grapevine at any group or district meeting in Area 42 – North. Please stop by our Grapevine-LaViña table here and say "hi" to Justin and me. If you do not currently subscribe to the Grapevine, tsk, tsk! Thank you for allowing me to be of service. Pat

**District 20:** Hello, Area 42! I am still delighted, humbled, and not quite so terrified to be serving as the District 20 District Committee Member during Area 42's 67<sup>th</sup> panel of service. District 20's interest in General Service continues to grow, albeit slowly. One way we can gauge the interest is that our group contributions are up from last year so we are, at least, headed in the right direction. We still have a full panel at the District level and have picked up an additional GSR and group since the Fall Assembly. We have met with most of our Northern Area Chairs for presentations but still have a bout two to connect with this year. We have held two great workshops focusing on Bridging the Gap, Corrections, and a GSR Workshop which were both well-attended. It was great to see everyone at PRAASA recently. It seems like our Area did a great job in hosting it so kudos to all of you who contributed. Have a great Assembly! In loving service, Heidi R. District 20 Committee Member

District 7: Hello Area 42 Happy Spring Assembly! Lisa grateful alcoholic. PRAASA again was such a wonderful experience from a spiritual as well as fellowshipping point of view. A few of the GSR's from our district were able to make it up to sparks, I'm so pleased they had the opportunity to have this experience. It was also great to see old friends from the north as well as those from all around the Pacific Region. Things happening in district 7, we have secured the site for our annual Mt. Charleston picnic, August 19. Jill is our new picnic chair, she's been doing a great job. We have also picked the dates for our other three service events, 4/28, 7/21 & 10/20. The venue for the events has changed from Serenity Club to Lakes Lutheran Church. We have also approved the budget for 2018. The annual Southern Area Chili cook-off took place in February, our friends from District 1 took home the trophy for best chili. Dano, our Alt DCM continues to work tirelessly in visiting unrepresented groups as well as meetings. The number of GSR's has increased a bit as has the number of meetings that have become registered groups. Thank you all for being such a huge part of my continued sobriety and inspiration for general service. Lisa T. DCM District 7 District 17: District 17 Pahrump, Beatty, Sandy Valley, Nevada, Tecopa, CA District 17 is moving right along. Since our last Assembly, we have had two Workshops, the first on Steps 1, 2 & 3 and the second on Steps 4 & 5. Both workshops were a success with an average attendance of 30 people. Our next workshop will be on May 6. Topic still to be decided. On March 18th we had our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Chili-Cook Off and Talent/No Talent Contest. We had five different chilies to taste and we had five sets of performers. We had approximately 50 people in attendance. A fun time was had by all. Our next Event will be The Annual Lovell Canyon Campout on September 27 – 30, 2018. Save the date flyers available on the back table. We formed an Ad Hoc committee and prepared our District Guidelines and will have our first reading at our next District meeting on April 4th. Thank you for letting me be of service. Kim W. DCM

**District 10A:** Grateful recovering alcoholic, Ema, DCM from District 10A. Thank you God for bringing me here to this assembly. I would like to thank Mimi who spoke at our Thanksgiving meeting. I was nervous because I did not know I needed to prepare. We will have a Thanksgiving one again this year. No date as of yet. We have regular meetings in Elko. Thanks again for letting me be of service.

Area Alternate Secretary (NAGSC Secretary): Monica S.: Area Alternate Secretary (NAGSC Secretary): Monica S., Hello friends my name is Monica, grateful Alcoholic. I am full of joy and appreciation to serve as our area 42 alternate secretary. I would like start by saying thank you to the groups and the districts that have given there all for me to be here. My primary duties include serving the Northern area as the recording secretary, provide a literature display at the area assembly, and assist and coordinate with the area secretary. Thank you to everyone for all your help with the literature. Most of my time this weekend will be spent at the literature table. Please stop by and visit, I am looking forward to seeing all of you. The balance at end of last assembly for the literature fund was \$209.31. Wow! We have been a busy Area 42 thank you to all the service you do, Roundtables in the North were amazing, I was able to help in scribing for an agenda topic and loved the feedback. Then quickly after, I had the privilege of going to this year's PRAASA 2018. Hosted by our wonderful Area 42! What an amazing achievement. I am so very blessed to be a part of this Area. I love AA in Area 42! I began my weekend Thursday meeting with Tina and Pat who helped to get the literature to Nugget. Thank you to all who helped with this tall order. On Friday I drove back to Sparks to meet Justin our Literature Chair for PRAASA. Tina and Justin really did a bang up job with the literature. I was so grateful to get to be a part of that experience and learned a lot about pamphlets. I spent most of my time either in literature or getting to help people at the Spanish registration where I was able to assist wherever I could. Tony A in the north really helped in getting us on track over at Spanish Registration as well as many volunteers. Talk about Unity, everywhere I went there were people asking how can I help? I am still so impressed with how everything got done. On Friday night I was able to attend the Roundtable for Secretaries with our loving Area Secretary Jonelle and learned some really terrific things from our fellow secretaries which will help our Area and its members. Saturday mirrored Friday, totally grateful to help where needed and loved the Bob Our Speaker after the Banquet. Sunday Morning I met with Tina to get the literature wrapped up and made my way to finish out the weekend in the main room. There were so many experiences from this service event, but my main take

away was, we never have to be alone again unless we choose to. Thank you again for suiting up and showing up! Love what you do, its most fun if you get to do it with the people you love. Thank you for letting me serve with you. Monica S. **Bridge the Gap (South)**: No Report.

PI Chair North: Hello to our friends of Bill W., First I'd like to thank Sue H. for facilitating such a smooth transition into my new service position. She was very informative and knowledgeable about the committee. Thank you Sue. In February Sue, my service sponcer Barbara and my self; took a presentation to District 22. This was a super exciting experience! To see Big Book thumpers of another language. We delivered a load of literature in the Spanish language as well as PI Workbooks for the GSRs of the District. They had a lot of questions and we had a lot of information. It went splendidly. Earlier this month, I went to Washoe County School District and filled out an application and took my finger prints to be approved to participate in presentations at the highschools. Also in February I got to meet with the NNIG PI committee and review the script to present to the Washoe County School District. The presentation is to be this coming week and I hope to attend. Thank you for letting me be of service in Alcoholics Anonymous. Sincerely, Andrea B. NAGSC PI Chair

**SAGSC Treasurer**: (Taken from CD):Hi everyone, I am Chuck, SAGSC Treasurer and alcoholic. The current bank account balances are for checking: \$21,825.99 savings (reserve): \$7,513.30. I suggest we find ways to spend money. Currently, we have collected 14% of contributions and spent 50% of expenses per projected budget. We had 28 people use funding from the PRAASA project totaling \$4,200.00. Budgets compared to Actual and P&L Statements are by the door if you would like one. Group receipts are being emailed to either groups or DCMs. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

**District 2**: District 2 is financially stable again after issue with treasury last fall. We have a new treasurer (Amber), new checking account, and a new mailing address which is: P.O. Box 12872 Reno, NV 89510. We have about 20% attendance from groups in our district and we are starting to visit these unrepresented groups with the hope of encouraging their involvement in General Service. District 2 would like to partner with other nearby districts to put together a Grapevine writing workshop, traditions/Concepts workshop, and GSR training in 2018. Thanks to all the members of District 2 who make our district great ad thanks for the opportunity to be of service. Joel B. DCM

**District 13**: Hello I am Kim from District 13. So far this year I have an Alt. DCM, Lorri A. We have gone to PRAASA and have new ideas for this year. We have a speaker meeting once a month for the District, which is the second Tuesday of the month. We are working on a workshop about sponsoring, however, no date has been set. Thank you.

**District 4**: (Taken from CD): Darryl, alcoholic, DCM for District 4. We have needed a District Secretary and hoping to fill that in the future. We have had some GSR changes in two of our groups. We are interested in workshops and thank you Pat for a Bridge the Gap presentation. We are just plugging along! Thank you.

**District 12:** District 12 was represented at PRAASA by a few hardy GSRs and fellowship members. Most of us were unable to attend due to weather and road conditions.

The District has struggled to find a permanent chair for our Bridging the Gap Committee, but we have faith that God knows what He is doing and hope that our latest volunteer will be our winner.

Several people have expressed an interest in taking a meeting into the new detention facility in Fallon. The facility is open to the idea, asking us only to wait until June when they are fully operational.

We have a new women's meeting in Fallon, (not yet named), which meets Mondays at 4:15 at the Fallon Recovery Association building. And another member is working towards starting a Spanish-speaking meeting in Fernley. Respectfully submitted, Cate S.

**CPC/PIC South:** Hello, Area 42! Thank you for allowing us to serve you as your Southern Area 42 Cooperation with the Professional Community and Public Information Chairs. It is an honor and a pleasure to serve you. We work closely with the Accessibilities Committee and we have all been very, very busy carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to professionals who work with alcoholics in the raw and to members of the general public – <u>in English and Spanish</u>. We set up information tables at events, and those people who want what we have come to us. We do not promote AA. We are frequently the least popular table at an event, but there's <u>always</u> someone ... Since our report in September, we have attended many events, including a monthly literature table at the Giving Project, which reaches out to our veterans, and the Pop Up Homeless Connect, which provides information to our homeless brothers and sisters who are suffering from this disease. We have staffed tables at the:

- So NV Substance Use & Behavioral Health Summit @ UNLV
- 2 Counseling Skills Conferences
- Clark County Employee Health & Wellness Fair
- Mobile Health Collaborative with UNLV Med School & the Health Department
- Foundation for Recovery Nevada Statewide Recovery Network
- Presentation @ UNLV's Wellness Center
- Project Homeless Connect
- Black Monday TINHIH
- Hope Las Vegas
- Rally for Recovery
- Canon Middle School Open House

- District 9 Workshop on Anonymity @ TIE Club
- Christmas Celebration & Health Fair
- City-Wide Unity Prayer Celebration
- PRAASA
- We attend monthly meetings of the Pact Coalition, Nevada Homeless Alliance, and the Mayor's Faith Initiative
  and attend all SAGSC & Las Vegas Intergroup meetings and Service Festival. We attend any AA event we're
  invited to. Hint, hint!

To help educate our fellowship about what we do, we submit information to the Area 42 Newsletter and the *Las Vegas Silver Streak*. We are very grateful to our enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers. Our busy seasons are spring and fall, and this spring is no exception. We have several events coming up. Please see the flyers on the table for more information about how you and your sponsees can help.

District 6: Hello everyone my name is Mike L and I am an alcoholic serving as DCM for District 6. District 6 encompasses Carson City, South Lake Tahoe in California, Douglas County, and to the east Dayton and Stagecoach in Lyon County. The district has about 39 active registered groups and 21 inactive home groups with about 25 groups participating with the district. It is wonderful to see all our service positions filled and active. We meet every even month on the second Sunday at the Carson City Alano Club. Our treasury remains healthy allow us to contribute to all the entities and allow us to help the GSRs attend the area assemblies and PRAASA. In a effort to be a service of the district the district held a Secretary Safety Workshop and a panel workshop on Safety in AA. On Sunday May 6th there will be a corrections treatment panel discussion meeting at the Carson City Alano Club With March madness upon us our district has gone full speed ahead with active District 6 members participating in the Agenda Rountables, PRAASA, and the assembly. On a personal note for me this PRAASA I was asked to be a greeter in the hotel lobby and I spent 4 hours greeting alcoholics making this most spiritual experience I have spent at PRAASA, my feet were firmly planted on the ground and they were killing me after four hours. I am very grateful to be able to serve.

**SAGSC Secretary:** Hi everybody my name is Glenn and I'm honored to serve as our Southern Area Recording Secretary. We have a lot of new people here and I want to welcome you all.

If there is anything I can do to help you with, please let me know

For those of you that are new, my primary job is to make the minutes from our southern area meetings and to correspond sou thern area business with the fellowship in the south. I work closely with our southern

Area chair, treasurer and finance committee chair and assist themwhen needed. I help maintain a current set of roster's for the southern body. If any of your information changes please let me know so I can do the updates. You can check your information with the rosters in this weekends packet. I communicate mostly through email and love to let others know about our upcoming events. So if your district or committee is having an event please send me the flyer or information and I will be happy to forward it out to my email list. I love going to PRAASA however, do to some health concerns I was not able to attend this year in Sparks. I heard it was great. Thanks to everyone who helped make it such a wonderful event and thank you for allowing me to serve. In love and service, Glenn W. Southern Area 42 Secretary.

GSR Survivor Trainer North: My name is Debbie, your alcoholic Northern Area GSR Survival Trainer. I was offered this service position in early November of 2017 and confirmed at the December Northern Area General Service Committee meeting. At the December Northern Area Committee meeting, I was invited to put on a GSR training session. We went over the "Area 42 GSR Survival Guide". At the February Northern Area Roundtable meeting, we talked about the conference procedures and reporting to our groups. We had quite a few GSR's in attendance. Some were new, some were seasoned. I turned out awesome, more like roundtable discussion with a variety of ideas on getting group feedback and reports on the conference agenda topics. For any of the GSR's from the North that did not get your GSR Survival Guide from the February Northern Area meeting; I apologize again for not being prepared with enough. I have had more copies made and brought them with me this weekend. Your Northern Area Group's donations to NAGSC helps pay for these booklets, so if you still want one, I will be here all weekend. Thank you for this opportunity to serve.

Area Treasurer: Hi my name is Paul and I'm your alcoholic Treasurer. Our Area 42 treasury is in very good shape. You can see a balance sheet and a profit loss statement in your packets. These do not reflect all of PRAASA's expenses, as I had not received all of the receipts and request before these went to the printer. I attended PRAASA and once again got my batteries recharged. This PRAASA was a little different for me as I did a lot more volunteer work and got to see a lot more of the behind the scenes work that goes on to put on a function like this. I would like to thank the PRAASA committee and all of the volunteers that pitched in to help. As treasurer I would like to point out something that has been a little pet peeve of mine for a while even before I became treasurer. In 2006 at the General Service Conference it was recommended that: The word "donation" be replaced with the word "contribution" in A.A.W.S. literature as it comes up for reprint. As an Area including Districts and Groups I believe we should follow suit. I know at when I am speaking I slip up and use the word donation instead of contribution, but I believe when we print flyers or anything else that we should use the word contribution. If you have not received your groups contribution receipts by email I have brought them and given them to your DCM for them to distribute to you. Please have your Group treasurer send a note with an email address for me to send your receipt. A little less than 50% of groups are now doing this. If your treasurer does not have email access someone in your Group probably does and there are plenty of places where you can create a free email account for your Group. This would make it easy for your Group to get

information not only receipts but information like minutes from your DCM, NAGSC/SAGSC, Area 42, and GSO. These are password protected so that only members of your Group will be able to see the information you just give the password to your home Group members. Thanks, Paul, Area 42 Treasurer.

**District 15**: Hi, I'm Dave K. and I'm an alcoholic. I am the D.C.M. for District 15. This report should be short and sweet. Three of the four GSR's still active in District 15 were in attendance with me in Reno at our PRAASA and three of them are in attendance for this assembly. Dick L. couldn't attend PRAASA due to work conflicts and Bob K. couldn't be here at assembly. Bob K., Dick W., and Teresa B. were in attendance in Reno and all sounded satisfied they enjoyed the education presented and the fellowship encountered. I know the weekend was productive and I would like to thank Mike M., Phil W. (who was incognito as Phil V.), and the entire committee for the gratifying experience. We came up on the economy plan, but it worked and all had a rewarding time. Since I had provided transportation in my motorhome, I was somewhat concerned by the snow encountered each of the nights there but the treacherous travel to and from the Nugget hotel turned out to be not too bad and we all returned to Las Vegas without incidence. We are looking forward to the remainder of our commitment. Thank you for letting me be of service.

Intergroup Liaison (North): For the last six months at Central Office in Sparks Nevada they have received 885 phone calls. Those calls are split between information for 12 step calls, meeting schedules, central office business, AA events and calls for the director of Central office. The volunteers have given 512 hours of help also over the last 6 months also. Volunteer positions are always needed so if you have some time, give them a call. The Halloween Bash, Gratitude Dinner, and New Year's Eve Gala all came out on top and did not lose any money at the end of 2017. Good job to all of those individuals that made those events possible. Corned Beef and Cribbage has come and gone but the Reno Spring Festival will be happening the weekend of April 13-15, 2018 at the Nugget Hotel and Casino Sparks Nevada. For more information go to NNIG.org. Leslie S, Executive Director of Central office gave her resignation at the end of 2017, and January was her last month. We were informed at the February Central Office Business meeting that all the officers of the Central Office Business meeting would be in attendance at PRASSA this year and a couple of committee chairs will had tables. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

District 9: Hi everyone my name is Vickie and I'm an alcoholic. I am the DCM for District 9, that sweet bit of strip in Las Vegas from Charleston Boulevard all the way to the border of California, and from the 15 freeway on the west to Eastern Avenue on the east. District 9 has grown in representation since our last area assembly, with a new group becoming active and having representation right away! There are about eight groups with GSRs in our district, give or take. Three of our GSRs were lucky enough to attend PRAASA. One I saw volunteering for hours at registration which was amazing, and the other two I saw getting involved and excited, staying up even for the late panels. I swear it warmed my heart. And honestly thank God something did, because I wore my winter coat the entire time I was there and I didn't even go outside. We were healthy enough to provide some funding to help GSRs attend and I'm really grateful for that. Our District meetings are on the last Sunday of the month at Central Office at 4pm. I make fresh baked chocolate chip cookies every month to bring to the meeting. Usually people are on a diet or are being healthy or whatever so I end up eating them myself and I'm okay with that. We hosted an amazing workshop in October on the Twelve Traditions, anonymity, and social media, led by Past Class B Trustee Billy N. We are working with District 1 to help co-host the Rule 62 Workshop with super awesome speaker Jen R. (She has a pug so you know she's cool, and definitely doesn't take herself too seriously.) We are also in talks with District 3 to co-host a workshop and are excited about that as well. I am so grateful you put up with me. I have so much fun here! I always love coming to Tonopah and seeing all my friends. Thank you for letting me be of service!!

**DCM Coordinator South**: Hi everybody, My name is Claudia and I am the DCM coordinator for the South. My continuing duties in this position are 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 in order to help our current and any new DCMs most effectively serve their districts. My colleague in the north and I also provide a google group available to all of the DCMS and officers to help keep track of other districts' events and keep the communication open between them. I have been open to suggestions as to how to better coordinator the communication between the DCMs and will talk about them with my colleague from the North. In the mean time, if you have any suggestions of ways the DCMs can help each other with their common challenges, please let me know. I will also be interested in any ideas they were introduced to at the DCM round tables at PRAASA. Thank you for letting me be of service.

District 14: Since my last report Dist 14 has had little change although upcoming we will be voting in a new webmaster and intergroup liaison. I am still waiting to hear from our friends up in Blue Canyon on the possibility of an new group. And speaking of new groups, our local YPAA is looking to formally become an AA group registered with GSO. I still haven't come up with answers as to how it would work being a YPAA and an AA group at the same time but I'm sure it will work out the way it's supposed to. Also TITYPAA is bidding for AACYPAA and I wrote a nice letter of support as part of their bid. I hope it works out wonderfully for them. I did attend PRAASA and I must say it was awesome, as always. I finally got up and shared for open mic time about my experience with PRAASA and my personal feelings on the panel topic at hand. In our upcoming district meeting (which will take place before area assembly) we have Anne Y as our guest from Area 42. She will make a presentation on CPC and we are looking forward to that. Lastly, our district will be hosting the next NAGSC meeting on June 2nd at a place to be determined in Truckee or on the Lake. Thanks for letting me be of service.

Alt. Area Archivist: My name is Gabriel and I'm alcoholic. I am very grateful to be serving as the panel 67 Alternate archivist. Being the alternate archivist in Las Vegas has been a very big job. We have a lot of things going on that we are very excited about. As you know at the fall assembly the area approved \$600 as a one time funding to renovate the Las Vegas Cental Office Archives room. We are happy that things are progressing now, they have painted the main archives room and we are looking now at getting a new floor. We have gotten some new shelving and we are organizing the back room. We have been getting a lot of support from Rocco and Leslie the acting central office managers. They have also opened up new space for us in the other back room at the Central Office for more storage. In November we brought an archives display to the the Las Vegas round up. It was a very big event and we got a lot of positive comments. We also set up a archives display at the District One picnic. I have also started bringing a archives display to all of the SAGs meetings. We are always willing to come to your meeting or event. If you have a picnic or an event that you would like us to bring an archives display to please let us know. I was very grateful to serve on the PRAASA archives Committee. We had a very nice display and a great slideshow that was put together by Anne and Pat. I would like to thank Lyle for asking me to be on the committee and thank Anne and Jake and Pat for their help. PRAASA was a great experience for me. I met a lot of new people and got a lot of new information from the archives round table I plan on using this year. We have the archives set up in the back room so please stop by and check it out this weekend. Thank you very much for letting me be of service.

#### Break 7:45 p.m.

#### Resumed @ 8:00p.m.

# **Area Committee Meeting:**

Julie opened @8:00p.m. with the Serenity Prayer. Purpose of the ACM – no voting, no binding decisions – we can recommend actions for the assembly.

Phil – Delegate - Pacific Regional Forum in Las Vegas at the Westgate Hotel, 2020. Would like SAVE THE DATE cards for September 2018 forum. Would like to get a design approval by north/south.

Paul – Area Treasurer – SAVE THE DATE card - English one side, Spanish on the other. Motion made – Area Committee to make decision to fund up to \$500.00 for the 2020 Pacific Regional Forum. Passed.

Julie – Alt. Area Chair – How is the Sunday morning DCM/Standing Chair Committee meeting(s) going? Are they valuable? Discussion: Good turnout. Shared experiences. Able to connect and meet with the north and south. Same things re-hashed without solution to Districts issues. The SCC meeting has low attendance. Maybe do at 1 assembly of rotation? Open them to those who may be thinking they might serve in the position of DCM/SCC. Some have more to share than others. We need to share the time.

H&I Correction Committee's Chair, Alan, requests that the Area hosts in Las Vegas the 2021 Corrections Conference. Discussion and Questions. Is this a GSO thing? They do not finance this conference. What date do they need this by? First come first serve. Is there a financial history? Shared financials from last year and it was profitable. Is this an Area event? Yes. The money is needed upfront and a guarantee is needed. We are not in a position to do this without history. What was the registration fee? \$20.00. Do we want to appoint an Ad-Hoc committee? Yes. To be recommended to the body on Sunday.

Chair update. Non-issue.

Joan – DCM 1 – cell phone app. discussion as to whether or not to make a request to the body to see if groups are interested in making a proposal to GSO. Wants feedback from the groups. 1st reading to be done on Sunday morning. Saturday, March 24, 2018:

Julie, Alt. Area Chair, opens the Assembly @8:00a.m. with the Serenity Prayer and the Anonymity Statement. Why do we need a general service conference? Read by Darryl S. Reading from A.A. Service Manual, page S20 (By Bernard B. Smith, non-alcoholic, Chairman of the General Service Board and Conference 1951-1956). Why do we need a Conference? "We may not need a general service conference to ensure our own recovery. We do need it to ensure the recovery of the alcoholic who still stumbles in the darkness one short block from this room. We need it to ensure the recovery of a child being born tonight, destined for alcoholism. We need it to provide, in keeping with our Twelfth Step, a permanent haven for all alcoholics who, in the ages ahead, can find in A.A. that rebirth that brought us back to life. We need it because we, more than all others, are conscious of the devastating effect of the human urge for power and prestige which we must ensure can never invade A.A. We need it to ensure A.A. against government, while insulating it against anarchy; we need it to protect A.A. against disintegration while preventing over integration. We need it so that Alcoholics Anonymous, and Alcoholics Anonymous alone, is the ultimate repository of its Twelve Steps, its Twelve Traditions, and all of its service. We need it to ensure that changes within A.A. come only as a response to the needs and wants of all A.A., and not of any few. We need it to ensure that the doors of the halls of A.A. never have locks on them, so that all people for all time who have an alcoholic problem may enter these halls unasked and feel welcome. We need it to ensure that Alcoholics Anonymous never asks of anyone who needs us what his or her race is, what his or her creed is, what his or her social position is."

# **Announcements:**

Translation is going on in the back.

No side conversations please.

Coffee donation jar. If you drink it, please donate!

Please sign the Big Book to be presented to attendee with least amount of time.

Delegate's Report: Last year I was able to learn from the panel 66 delegates who helped the first year delegates to understand about the conference in advance of going to the conference. As we finished last year's conference they thanked us for being so loving and having a very peaceful conference. I've come to an understanding that it's up to myself and my fellow second year Delegates to continue to create a loving year in general service. Now as for what I've been up to over the past few months in December we had a great NAGSC meeting in Sparks hosted by Dist.22 and then in January I went down to Las Vegas to a SAGSC meeting At both of these meetings I had asked for some sharing about experience with Sobriety in the Military and Sharing the message with folks in the Military both active and veterans. I have received some very interesting stories. I was able to work with the other delegates Of the PRAASA delegates advisory board to prepare for the business meeting at PRAASA. One of the things I really enjoyed this year was the trip to Maui for a week, which included being part of the Hawaii Area 17's inventory assembly. For a long weekend at the end of January I spent most of my time with Bob H and members of AA enjoying a wonderful assembly full of fellowship and Discovery. I had never been to another Areas Assembly and they made me feel at home as I was asked to help out with every part of their assembly, including the five meals which are all prepared by the hosting district. This area consists of all of the Hawaiian Islands and everyone who was attending was very welcoming as we in AA are. I was invited to lots of meetings and I did some sightseeing. I came home to get ready for the conference agenda time and then our round tables which I felt were very informative and gave us some very good info to take back to our groups. Then on to PRAASA to hear more presentations and sharing from the floor on subjects based on the agenda topics. That same weekend G.S.O. released for the first time the Spanish and French translations of all the background material for the conference agenda. In area 42 we have posted this background material on our password-protected page of the area 42 website so all who wish can read the info and have a more clear idea of what we are discussing. That brings me up to today and our Inform the Delegate Assembly. I now want to share with you an article I've written that will be in The Remote Communities Communicator newsletter. I made a request at the area level for sharing of military experience getting sober staying sober or taking meetings into military facilities. There were some folks that responded A group consisting of a few veterans includes Fred who wrote me a little of his story of being a veteran and being sober for around 22 years and then slipping away and becoming addicted to pain meds, and other opiates. Fred connected with another veteran Bryce who worked with him. and got him involved in helping veterans. He met a retired Marine who was six days sober and all he could think about was helping that gentleman. That was when Bryce started taking Fred to the VA hospital to help out with meetings. There are requirements at the VA like being a vet also being professional, and it helps having a stable demeanor. It's a mixture of patients both psych and detox. Bryce, Fred and another volunteer have been vetted by the psychiatrist in charge of the detox ward. Darrell tells the story and of going to an outpatient VA program for alcohol and drug abuse and getting sober. Back then meetings or sessions were unstructured with the counselors trying to bring conversations back to recovery and solution. Darrell tells a story of getting clean and sober and then trying to take AA meetings back to the VA through it wasn't really successful because they didn't like the order and structure of the AA meetings. Darrell did join the group of guys going to the VA but has since stepped back feeling that the VA wanted veteran only meetings. He felt that separates those trying to get sober from regular folks trying to get sober and gives them a reason to be separate. Gary is another veteran who got sober in the Army. He joined the Army at the age of 17 and found that he could drink anywhere on base. Immediately upon leaving basic training volunteered to go to Germany where he discovered real beer. After a long New Year's Eve party he swore off drinking for the first time ever at the age of 18 that was to last for two or three weeks. Later that year he was referred to the army drug and alcohol people. He did a 10 week out-patient program, after which he was transferred to Fort Carson Colorado. The drinking and wild parties were daily and a lot of the behavior was winked upon by the chain of command. Four years later he was fired from his job as a Sergeant in charge of artillery fire direction station. He attended his first meeting on a Friday night in Colorado Springs after which while outside smoking a cigarette an old gray-haired man told him that he should go to a young people's AA meeting. Gary went to that young people's meeting in the adventure began it wasn't easy as the barracks were a drunk party every night he would get off work at 4:30 shower eat and then head for a meeting he was about three months sober when he headed out to Camp Irwin in the Mojave Desert. Gary asked his spiritual advisor how he could stay sober when he was out in the Mojave Desert surrounded by drinking. He was told hang out around people who don't drink and so that Easter Sunday he found himself singing 'Amazing Grace' with the God squad. Gary had the opportunity and the honor to serve as a Drill Sergeant at Fort Sill in Oklahoma one morning a private asked him if he was in AA he replied he was and asked the private how he knew. The young man replied it's how you talk to us. Then he told Gary that he had used the saying "half measures will avail you people nothing", the young privates mother had been in AA and he knew that saying. A few years ago Gary received a call from a young soldier in the Saudi desert. The young man was calling his sponsor, he was scared and rightfully so, as you are getting ready to invade another country there is a real fear. By the time the 20 minute call was up we were both in tears the next day Gary's Big Book was on its way to the young soldier. That day the young man was walking down the road of tents that the army puts up and he saw a sign which read "friends of Bill come in" he had found another friend of Bill. The young men did come home safe. Don't tell us that there is no God. Gary takes meetings into his old army base at Fort Irwin every week and we are really glad for veterans and others that are serving our military by taking our message to active and veteran members of the military .One last letter that I wanted to share came from a friend named Frank that lives out in the middle of Nevada in a very small town. Frank got sober for a few years back and he was able to do AA in the Navy. He offers a few observations. One about the first rehab he went to in CO the men were loaded up with Xanax type drugs when the issue of drinking was identified. These men and women were valued in skill needed back at their jobs. Issues like PTSD were obvious but not able to be dealt with so they use the anti-anxiety drugs. The message was clear take the drugs to deal with your problems but don't drink, if you drink your career is over. The anti-anxiety drugs are even more true when talking about our vets in the Middle East that come home. The vets Frank has talk to say they hand out Xanax like candy to keep everyone functioning. In the Second rehab which was in San Francisco it was different there were no drugs and a heavy emphasis on AA This was a quasi-military rehab. The doctors there were alcoholics themselves this particular rehab was defunded and eventually closed. Frank found the AA meetings on board ship to be very treacherous anything you say can and will be held against you later because of the hierarchy structure of the military it is hard for different levels to mix as we do in an civilian AA meeting. There is a large amount of pressure to buck up and keep it to yourself after rehab the thought was we sent you to rehab you are cured what more can you want the rest is up to you in listed folks are encouraged to continue to run together and not to enter gate into the wider civilian AA world. One of the largest motivations in the military is if you screw up again you'll be dishonorably discharged which means no veterans benefits fair like that can be a great motivator but seldom for lasting sobriety. Frank has always felt a kinship with the men and women in the arm services not just as a vet himself but with recovery in different situations no meetings for months at a time no one to talk to. Booze all around, it takes a certain commitment, and maybe a more reliant relationship on one's higher power. It sounds like it might be near impossible to get clean and sober in the military, with all the stumbling blocks along the way, but obviously men and women do get sober, and stay sober, pass it on, and thrive, but it definitely is a different set of rules. As your Delegate and Remote Communities Committee member I do feel that there are certain situations geographic and cultural, which create a Remote Community in most Military Bases and VA Facilities. Thanks Phil W

Outgoing Trustee Presentation from Joel C. (highlights from CD): Hi, I'm Joel alcoholic. Thank you for having me here. I am currently serving as your Pacific Regional Trustee on the General Service Board, for five more weeks! The best part has been the people. This has been true with people all over the Pacific Region. For someone who drank alone and cried a lot, to have so many connections. Thank you for PRAASA! It was the best PRAASA ever! And it truly was because it was my last serving in this capacity. Thank you to the committees. Marita did a great job with the program and Mike was a great host. Everyone seemed to have had a great time. I gave a Trustee report at PRAASA and Julie and I agreed not to give the same report, so we decided that I would talk a little bit about General Service work in general. I want to answer a frequently asked question by GSRs... "Why are we here anyway?"

I will talk about why we have General Service and why we have this Inform the Delegate assembly and the theme for this year's conference "A.A. – A Solution for all Generations" and my reflections on this theme. We will have open mic sharing, hopefully on the conference theme. We heard a bit from the reading about why we are we here. It can also be found in the essays for Concept 1, page 4, para. 4... (reads). That is why the Trusteeship and Board was formed. To spread the message through our literature, to make sure the public knew A.A. was here, and to provide services the groups could not provide. So the Trusteeship was set up early, when they were writing the book. In the late 50's, when the founders realized their mortality, they knew they needed something to keep the Trustees in touch with the fellowship. For the first 15 years, the Trustees would just go the founders if they had questions because they were the voice. The idea for the conference was proposed at the 1950 International in Cleveland, Ohio, would try for five years with the first one in 1951, and agreed upon at the the International in Cleveland, Ohio in 1955. This was to be the mechanism in which the Trustees heard from the fellowship about matters that effect our movement such as literature, public relations, etc. The Concepts, like the Traditions were living before Bill wrote them in the 60's. 2nd Concept – how are we going to do this? Let's use Tradition 2... Let's let the groups guide us. So you elected a Delegate, (Phil) not to be a representative, but to be a contribution to a group conscious. On page S49 – the chapter on the Delegate...(reads). To do it well, he needs our experience and viewpoints. That's why we are here this weekend! For us to share with Phil to bring the heart of the Area to the Conference. He will take part in how the Conference moves through the agenda. We have had discussion about agenda items and will have more. Will they make it to the floor of the Conference? Who knows? About nine Delegates will discuss in committees only the agenda item for their committee. They will discuss and form a group conscious. Some of the fellowship may get frustrated because sometimes the items don't get discussed! If the item does not get the conference floor, it still helps the Delegate to hear the discussion. The principles of the the discussion can be used at the Conference. We also have a Conference to promote unity. We get to share with each other. A.A. is local because that is how we most experience, but through Assemblies we realize we are something much greater. When the North and South come together, it works. Most of the region wonders how Nevada/ sliver of California works, but it does! The Conference theme promotes unity. The theme again is "A.A. – A Solution for all Generations". In reflecting on this theme, I think about my friends in A.A. who represent all different generations. (Shared personal experience about friends from different generations)...I was 18 when the judge sent me here. I didn't want it then. I was 24 when I got here and it stuck. I needed hope. My first sponsor gave that to me. I was in a meeting with a guy who was in his 20's and had about 50 days. I asked how it was going and he said it was hard. And it is hard. We can forget that. So we all need to make that A.A. is a Solution for all Generations. So here are some General Service efforts and beyond General Service that I reflected on... to make sure it is the solution. 1. The growth of large print literature! Thank you! We now have the large print pocket Big Book! 2. Improving literature for young people in A.A. Last we decided not get rid of "Too Young", it's a bit dated. A committee member was needed from a bonafide young person to give input. Better to replace pamphlet with a video? YPAA info will be added to a

pamphlet and why that is important. 3. A communications inventory was conducted by an outside firm. Does our perception of A.A. match what we are putting out? 4. Are we immediately welcoming to the newcomer? Are we meeting people where they are at? District level suggestions from me... activate the CPC/PI to senior centers, outreach young people's meetings.

We are at 9:00a.m right now, so let me scan my notes and see what is most important, so I can wrap up. We need to keep the spiritual door open. I hope you take this theme and run with it! Bring it to your groups and we will all be in unity. The whole movement! Thank you! Floor mics are open.

### **Comments/Questions:**

Q. Why do we sometimes not talk about Agenda Items? Who decides?

A. Committee does discuss. They decide if it should go to the floor. Look at the additional Committee Considerations. All must be published.

Experience shared: How A.A. – Solution for all Generations has impacted family life and sobriety.

Q. What is the biggest change in A.A. have you seen?

A. The Strategic Plan.

Experience shared: I am not a young person, but I sponsor millennials. My generation and on discuss drugs. I know we keep hearing no drugs in A.A. but that is not the case with the new younger generation coming in. We need to be open. They are also gender neutral. He/She meaning the same thing is not being bought. Welcome all, they need our help.

Comment: Encourage to use apps. Young people love them!

Q. Thank you for your presentation. Re: the "Too Young" video being created. How are we going to carry a video?

A. The pamphlet will still be available as a version of the video.

Comment: Experience shared about getting sober young. Was told "I spilled more than you drank." There are pure alcoholics that are young.

Q. What is the Trustee process?

A. Election is for Regional Trustee. Delegate informs the body in the Fall. Each Area nominates a Pacific Regional nominee. They put together a specific resume. This is distributed to 14 Delegates (this vote Nevada does not have a nominee). At the Conference on Wednesday, each Delegate shares a 2 minute pitch about their states nominee. Then they vote.

#### Feedback on Agenda Items:

New Ideas Only.

Timer – Lisa H. reads: For participation from the floor, speakers will have two (2) minutes; at one (1) and 1/2 minutes I will raise my hand and at two (2) minutes I will raise the applause sign. For those requiring translation, the time allowed is doubled to four (4) minutes; at three (3) minutes I will raise my hand and at four (4) minutes I will raise the applause sign. If the applause sign is raised, we will all thank the speaker with warm applause. The clock starts after you introduce yourself.

Jay S. - Conference Committee: III. Corrections — Item A

Agenda Topic	Consider request to create a pamphlet for inmates who are to be released after long term incarceration.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	The revised It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell pamphlet gives very little emphasis on Inmates being released concerns. The hope of this new and relatively inexpensive pamphlet is that it would utilized for Inmates in their last 6 months to a year prior to re lease.
What does the Delegate need to know?	What is your group's opinion on the proposed additional new pamphlet?

Feedback from	Bridging the Gap should be handling this.
Roundtables:	It's a waste of time because 76% return to prison.
	They should combine into existing pamphlet.
	What issues are not being addressed in Pamphlet?
	H & I is helping to pass this message to prisons.
	New pamphlet- forward or not.
	It sure beats sitting in a cell.
	AA corrections Pre-Release correspondence program.
	How much to create? \$0 to consider.
	No Background yet: geared to long term/6months before release.
	Great Idea- Pamphlets, more is better, is easy to carry in.
	How to integrate into AA?
	What to do upon release.
	This would be a tool as a seed.
	Input on content? Clarified "no".
	For all inmates? Or inmates in AA on inside?
	Apparently something is missing in prisons as reason for consideration request.
	Concern of not knowing information and involvement.
	Money and time can be better spent to get members involved in taking AA into prisons.
	Money and time can be better spent to get members involved in taking / it into prisons.

You mention Bridge the Gap. This is a necessity to get plugged into A.A.

Being one of the 24% that never returned to prison, I support the pamphlet.

This serves the interest of the inmate. I am all for it.

# Sense of the Assembly: Majority yes to consider.

Paul E. - Conference Committee: IV. Literature — Item C

Agenda Topic	Consider request for the development of a pamphlet for atheist and agnostic members.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	This request comes from District 1, Area 93 (California) and the GSR from We Agnostics, Ventura, CA.  Past Trustees at PRAASA have said that the current pamphlet "Many Paths to Spirituality" is a good start but that it had actually detoured from the original intent. The original intention was a pamphlet for the Atheist/Agnostic members and newcomers who had a big problem with "the God Thing". An AA pamphlet like this would go a long way to making sure that AA would have something to affirm that we are in fact spiritual and not religious.

	Are we doing everything we can to fulfill our primary purpose, to carry the message to ALL alcoholics who suffer when there is no pamphlet addressing the needs of atheists and agnostics in A.A.?
What does the Delegate need to know?	Is it your group's opinion that there is a need for this type of pamphlet? Why or why not?
Feedback from Roundtables:	<ul> <li>Atheist and Agnostics can use 12x12 to lead into the conversation.</li> <li>Sounds like we are watering down how we reach believers or non-believers.</li> <li>Change title of "Many paths to Spirituality"</li> <li>The UK has a Pamphlet "The God Word". "The God Word" sounds religious.</li> <li>Many groups in AA; To the woman, LBGTQ, Why not another?</li> <li>Whatever it takes to reach the next suffering alcoholic.</li> <li>It was mentioned this is not just for the newcomer, "God" can be many forms. Group of drunks or just the fellowship, it was mentioned that someone stayed Sober 23 years by her HP being the fellowship.</li> <li>We Have the Big Book Ch. To Atheist/Agnostic.</li> <li>The Big Book doesn't relate enough, what about the alcoholic who still suffers.</li> <li>When you read pamphlet "Many paths to Spirituality" it seems it is not for The Atheist/Agnostic.</li> <li>Page 9 of Many Paths to Spirituality basically tells you that you will find a God/Higher power.</li> <li>What about the 12 &amp; 12; doesn't it cover this?</li> <li>Do we need another pamphlet?</li> <li>Can we just edit the existing pamphlets?</li> <li>If a pamphlet is made, it would need to have Atheist and Agnostic in title.</li> <li>In Japan there is no word for God; we need to be inclusive.</li> <li>Does this go against Big Book? Does it go against Traditions?</li> <li>My sponsor is an agnostic and I got sober many years later I found a higher power but my story is not everyone's.</li> <li>Many Paths of Spirituality is not enough it does address the non-believer.</li> <li>I have had sponsee where this would have helped them where I couldn't.</li> <li>It would be nice to have others stories included, who then AA's could relate to.</li> </ul>

 $Catholics, Jews, \, Muslims, \, etc. \, It's \, a \, slippery \, slope. \, The \, issue \, has \, already \, been \, addressed.$ 

Never was an atheist or agnostic, but had God issues. A non-denominational issue.

Put atheist and agnostic in the title of the pamphlet. God is everywhere to the newcomer – Lord's Prayer, etc.

A reading from "Many Paths to Spirituality".

Q. Discuss, Review, Consider? Why wouldn't anything be considered?

We are inclusive. The UK has already ok'd us using this. Let's just consider this.

# Sense of the Assembly: Majority yes to consider.

Lisa I - Conference Committee: IV. Literature — Item R

Agenda Topic	Consider request to add a section on anonymity to the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship."
Historical Context: Why	This request originated in Area 29 - Maryland. The request has been approved by both the Area
is it on the Agenda?	29 Area Committee and Area Assembly. In January 2018 the trustees' Literature Committee
	forwarded this request to the Conference Committee on Literature.

What does the Delegate need to know?	The background material for this Agenda Topic includes the following statement from Area 29 supporting documents; "The role of the Sponsor to guide and educate members on anonymity is vital." The background material also indicates that the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" receives a much wider readership than do other anonymity related vehicles such as the "Anonymity Wallet Card".  Does your Group feel adding a section on anonymity to the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" is a good idea? Why or why not?
Feedback from Roundtables:	<ul> <li>How Many? Cards vs. pamphlets229,000 Pamphlets on Sponsorship 29,000 Cards.</li> <li>They talk about the "Understanding anonymity" Pamphlet.</li> <li>Who is doing wording? Not decided today.</li> <li>Useful to have in pamphlet, and then go to the 12 x 12.</li> <li>Financial Impact? We don't know, but not a huge deal though.</li> <li>Looking to add anonymity statement to 9 pieces of literature.</li> <li>Is this about adding to a pamphlet or writing a new pamphlet?</li> <li>Can a sentence about posting pictures of Sobriety celebrations on Facebook be included in the paragraph?</li> <li>Are we trying to prevent anonymity breaks in Social Media?</li> <li>Don't need to make this change, we already have a pamphlet on anonymity.</li> <li>This is not a sponsors job.</li> <li>Anonymity is limited to press, radio, and film. We are overdoing the Anonymity topic.</li> <li>Why "This Pamphlet". This pamphlet gets better readership that many other pamphlets.</li> <li>Need anonymity on Social Media pamphlet.</li> <li>Current Anonymity pamphlet is fine.</li> <li>Person to person is better. It was years before I picked up a pamphlet. We need to talk to younger people about this.</li> <li>If we are already doing all we can do on this topic, why is it not working?</li> </ul>

We already have one discussing this. Anonymity is covered in "Understanding Anonymity".

It does not cost anything to add a line to a pamphlet.

I posted chips on Facebook. My sponsor spoke to me about it. I support this.

We learn best about Traditions by breaking them.

Sense of the Assembly: Majority yes to consider.

## **Announcements:**

No more Banquet tickets available.

Cake Social after the Banquet.

Break 10:15 a.m.

Resumed @ 10:30 a.m.

Alt. Area Delegate, Rhonda F. re-opens the Assembly.

The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions page 130. Read by Elizabeth R. "How," they ask, "can such a crowd of anarchists function at all? How can they possibly place their common welfare first? What in Heaven's name holds them together?" Those who look closely soon have the key to this strange paradox. The A.A. member has to conform to the principles of recovery. His life actually depends upon obedience to spiritual principles. If he deviates too far, the penalty is sure and swift; he sickens and dies. At first he goes along because he must, but later he discovers a way of life he really wants to live. Moreover, he finds he cannot keep this priceless gift unless he gives it away. Neither he nor anybody else can survive unless he carries the A.A. message. The moment this Twelfth Step work forms a group, another discovery is made—that most individuals cannot recover unless there is a group. Realization dawns that he is but a small part of a great whole; that no personal sacrifice is too great for preservation of the Fellowship. He learns that the clamor of desires and ambitions within him must be silenced whenever these could damage the group. It becomes plain that the group must survive or the individual will not. Timer - April J. reads: Each of the presenters will have seven (7) minutes. At six (6) minutes I will raise my hand at seven (7) minutes, I will raise the applause sign. For participation from the floor, speakers will have two (2) minutes; at one (1) and 1/2 minutes I will raise my hand and at two (2) minutes I will raise the applause sign. For those requiring translation, the time allowed is doubled to four (4) minutes; at three (3) minutes I will raise my hand and at four (4) minutes I will raise the applause sign. If the applause sign is raised, we will all thank the speaker with warm applause. The clock starts after you introduce yourself.

#### **Agenda Items:**

Mike L. - Treatment and Accessibility - Item D: Review summary of the Fellowship sharing on the need for additional material to support carrying the A.A. message to Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing A.A. members. My name is Mike L and I am an alcoholic the agenda topic I have been asked to present to assembly is Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities X-- Item D.In July 2017 the committee the committee discussed a request to develop a pamphlet for Deaf A.A. members and asked the staff secretary to gather shared experience from the fellowship regarding the need for a new pamphlet. On September 8, 2017, and again on October 12, 2017, a request for shared experience was distributed. A four question survey was developed in written English, French and Spanish and a video in American Sign Language (ASL). All were sent via email to a communication list. The communication list included accessibilities chairs at the local area, district and intergroup levels as well as to the delegates and several Appointed Committee Members. The deadline set for the receipt of shared experience was December 1, 2017. The following questions were asked; Question 1. Do you feel our current literature, service material and pamphlets are inclusive in reflecting recovery experiences of the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing A.A. member population and those who are still suffering? Yes or No? Please tell us why or why not. Question 2. Do you feel our current literature, service material and pamphlets are effective in carrying the A.A. message to the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing A.A. member population and those who are still suffering? Yes or No? Please tell us why or why not. Question 3. In your experience, is there an expressed need for the development of new literature in the form of service material, pamphlet or some other media for the Deaf and a hard-ofhearing A.A. member population and those who are still suffering? Yes or No? Please tell us more. Question 4. What formats do you believe would be most effective for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing A.A. member population and those who are still suffering? (e.g., written material, streaming video, American Sign Language, etc.) Please tell us. Background exhibits have been developed to capture the nineteen survey responses received as well as the top ideas, issues and concerns. From the responses of the survey the top 9 ideas-issues-concerns were as follows:

1. A.A. as a whole needs to better understand differences between the needs of A.A. members who are Deaf versus Hard-of-Hearing. 2. A.A. could do better at ensuring A.A. members, who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing, have full access to and participation in all three legacies of our program. 3. There is one story from an A.A. member who is Deaf in the pamphlet entitled "Accessibilities for All Alcoholics" however, our book, Alcoholics Anonymous, does not currently include any. 4. Current literature, service material and pamphlets are inclusive but outdated regarding the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Culture.5. Determine how A.A. members who are Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing can gain access to the meeting experience, sponsorship, and the fellowship. It is not just a matter of accessing A.A. literature; but fulfilling the vital access to sharing between A.A. members. 6. Any new literature should be in needed accessible formats. Culturally Deaf A.A. group(s) need help producing and distributing Twelve step materials that are readily understood by an A.A. prospect who is Culturally Deaf. 7. The Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing community is very small, and by providing new updated materials would help so much, it would change the opinion of A.A. within the Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing community. 8. Some Deaf alcoholics do not have home groups, opportunity to do service, access to meetings that study the steps, traditions and Concepts. Why? Because ASL interpreted meetings are few and mostly Speaker meetings, or open meetings on a once a month basis. 9. It is important for A.A. to understand what formats (i.e., simplified English) are needed for access by the diverse Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing population. English is not a first language for many Deaf people. What does the Delegate need to know? Do we need to update literature for Deaf AAs? Do we need more videos in ASL and closed captioning? Do we need materials to help hearing AAs understand the needs of Deaf & HH AAs? Do we need materials to discuss how to get interpreters for meetings?

### Comments:

Add the blind as well. We don't know what it looks like to reach the deaf community. We need to speak with the community and let them know we are here to connect with them.

As a hard- of – hearing person, we need all the help we can get!

ASL introduction. ASL is not English. They cannot get info from pamphlets, they need visuals.

At a Conference and there was lack of communication between deaf and hearing. There is need!

At the same Conference and the newest member was deaf. Seeing the sign for "Applause" from the attendees was amazing! A.A. should consider putting videos on the website.

ASL training programs available at colleges.

I am losing hearing. Anything we can is worth trying!

Sense of the Assembly: Majority yes to review.

Michelle M. - Literature - Item O: Consider request to update the video "Your A.A. General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure". Hi My name is Michelle and I am an alcoholic. I am the new GSR for Slide Mountain Serenity in district 2. We meet Monday and Thursdays at 7 at the South Reno United Methodist Church. I was happy to join this district when I saw all the friendly faces at the meeting that I knew and loved. As a matter of fact, Joel, my DCM, asked me to do this. I knew it would be good for my sobriety, so I said YES. I've nicknamed him my service sponsor because I've followed his footsteps before - into intergroup, on the H and I committee, which led me to one of my most fulfilling service commitments, bringing a meeting into the juvenile detention center in Reno. So, thanks to you Joel. I don't where we're are going next, but I'm in. Having been a GSR for a short time, I knew somewhat the structure of AA, the inverted triangle and how it all starts with the group. And I knew I had an appreciation for how AA "does not govern". Then I found out the topic was a video, and I thought, we have videos? Cool, I'll search You Tube and find it. And when I searched I found quite a few AA video's, but the one I was looking for wasn't there. So, I went back and read the directions, which had the link to the AA website, and that is where I found it. So I was pretty excited about checking it out, and when I told my group what I was doing here at assembly, they had a similar reaction. There's a video? Yes, it can be found on the aa website. It was made in 1992, making it 25 years old and it is 22 minutes long. So I grabbed some coffee early Sunday and watched. Immediately I noticed the age of the video. The clothes, the office and the quality of the video made me giggle a little. They explain in the beginning they will not be breaking anonymity in this video, so there is a lot of shots where people are speaking, and you see them from the nose down. Or blurred out. And a lot of silhouette shots. I understood the importance of this, but by the end, I was questioning the amount of "lap shots". They did some filming in actual meetings, so there is footage of a burning cigarette in someone's hand, instead of their face as they talked. And someone arranging cookies, talking about service. The title of the video is "Your AA general Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure". It's a long title and it length was equaled by the length of the video. I don't know if I was distracted by the age of the video or if it was a lot of information at once, but I did find myself tuned out a few times. To me, there was no real Segway or lead in to the next topic. The information was a great mix of spirituality and business. It explains how the General Service office takes it's lead from the groups. The video went through the approval process for literature changes, really any changes and does give a sense of how hard the GSO tries to keep decisions up to the groups and members. It talked about how they do translations for other languages. There was a piece on the deaf video. It also explains a little about the grapevine and how it's basically a meeting in a magazine. I was not aware that there is one person at GSO responsible to respond to all the Prison letters. And people who can't get to meetings, they were calling them "loaners", are all served by GSO. I was super surprised that there was such and thing and I wonder if that is still the case. I was happy to hear GSO was taking calls from doctors for help on what to do with the alcoholic still suffering. It also explained how the regional forums and international conventions are all the responsibility of GSO. I loved the section on the archives. It showed some video clips from maybe the 40's or 50's. I did picture myself there in the archives; it was very nostalgic. As I was watching the video, a family member walked by and asked a few questions. I paused the video to chat about what I was up to, and, to my surprise I was able to explain the structure of AA, and I thought, WOW, it worked. Overall the video was very informative. I got to hear the serenity prayer in French and Spanish, so that was cool. For me, this video is important to our history, and I have no doubt future AA's will watch this in the archives and feel a sense of history as AA grows with the times. So after I wrote all this, I again, decided to go back and read the directions! So here are a few more facts. This Agenda Item was submitted by Area 79 British Columbia / Yukon after the idea was approved by their Area. In January 2018 the trustees' Literature Committee forwarded this request to the Conference Committee on Literature. The background material indicates this video can be a useful tool in helping Fellowship members further their understanding of the General Service Structure. However, the current version of the video was produced in 1992, (25 years old), contains outdated material, and is rather lengthy at 22 minutes compared to today's standard. The Agenda Item background includes suggestions to use current literature, current General Service Office floor plan, improved sound quality, and an effort to correct some inaccuracies such as a statement that "the GSO carries out the wishes of the Fellowship" rather than "the GSO carries out the wishes of the General Service Board." I just want to say I watched that video twice and I cannot tell you what it said. One of the motions concerning the video was to shorten it to be more consistent with the expectations of today's generation. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

\*Pass Baskets for District 8 reimbursement.

### **Comments:**

Anything digital is great!

At PRAASA, we talked about progression. We should be moving forward.

Attend the Regional Forum for more info. It helped me to learn structure.

### Sense of the Assembly: Majority yes to consider.

Greg M.- Literature - Item N: Consider request for the development of a new book combining Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions with Twelve Concepts for World Service by Bill W.

#### **Background Notes:**

- The 2012 Conference Committee on Literature reviewed a suggestion to produce a book combining the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions with the Twelve Concepts for World by Bill W., and took no action.
- At the 2015 General Service Conference a <u>floor action</u> was <u>moved</u> to produce a book combining the <u>Twelve Steps and The Twelve Traditions</u> and the <u>Twelve Concepts for World Service by Bill W.</u>, which did not result in a Conference Advisory Action.
- On January 27, 2018 the trustees' Literature Committee reviewed and agreed to forward to the 2018 Conference
  Committee on Literature a request for the development of a new book combining Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions
  with the Twelve Concepts for World Service by Bill W.

#### Background:

 The Southern California Area Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous (05) sent a letter, dated October 26, 2017 to the 2018 General Service Conference Coordinator proposing the 68<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference consider creating a new book of 36 Principles by combining the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* with the book *Twelve Concepts for World Service by Bill W.*, to be published in English, Spanish and French.

### Proposal - Area History:

- Presented at Area 05 Area Assembly July 23, 2017
- Approved by Area 05 Area Committee August 20, 2017
- Approved by Area 05 Area Assembly October 22, 2017

#### Relevance:

- Currently Area 05 indicates that participation by A.A. Groups at General Service Assemblies is less than 5%
- An expressed concern that there is a vast amount of groups' wisdom missing from the <u>Conference Process</u>
- A belief there is a great potential for more involvement in the care of our Fellowship by publishing the proposed book

# History and Background

- Proposed by Area 05 and Area 72 at the 65<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference
- Great support for the idea to create a "12x12x12" was expressed at the annual Four-Area (05, 08, 09, 93) DCM Sharing Session in 2014
- The proposed book is already produced and distributed by Central Mexico's' Board and is referred to as the "36 Book"

#### Additional Background from the General Service Office US/Canada

- 1. Annual distribution numbers for the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions book(s) (all formats)
  - 2013 371,661units
  - 2014 466,781 units
  - 2015 282,473 units
- Annual distribution numbers for the Twelve Concepts for World Service by Bill W. combined with the A.A Service Manual
  - 2013 22,128
  - 2014 22,255
  - 2015 22,342
- 3. Annual distribution numbers for the booklet (BM-32) Twelve Concepts for World Service by Bill W.
  - 2013 436
  - 2014 486
  - 2015 698
- 4. Projected sale price based on current pricing? Your thoughts?
  - Twelve Steps and Twelve Tradition \$8.90
  - Twelve Concepts for World Services by Bill W \$3.45

Young People want the Concepts!

Q. Why has NY repeatedly not publish this book?

A. The Conference has said no twice. There was not enough interest. What made it clear again is that it is not a replacement, it is additional.

Ala-non has a 12&12&12.

Homegroups ask what are the Concepts? They are interested, just not sure in what.

What shape is my triangle. What is a PRAASA? Having a 12&12&12 can show the 3<sup>rd</sup> legacy.

The 12 Traditions are read after the 12 Steps sometimes. Maybe now the 12 Concepts will be.

We learn about the Steps and Traditions. When I got into General Service, I learned about the Concepts, not early on.

I love the Service Manual!

The earlier introduced to the Service Manual, the better!

Sense of the Assembly: Majority yes to consider.

#### **Announcements:**

We did good on the basket passing! District 21 made tamales.

# Feedback on Agenda Items:

New Ideas Only.

Sophie K. - Conference Committee: XI. Trustees — Item E

Agenda Topic	Review proposal to censure the General Service Board.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda	Area 65 has requested that the General Service Conference censure the General Service Board for allowing AAWS to pursue a lawsuit without consulting the Conference before moving ahead. It is claimed that this is in violation of the Fifth Warranty of the Twelfth Concept.  On May 18, 2017 AAWS filed a lawsuit against Ken R. of Questroyal Fine Art, LLC and Profiles in History to recover possession of the 1939 original working manuscript or "Printers Copy" of Alcoholics Anonymous (the 'Manuscript').  As a Statement of Fact, they state the commencing litigation is not something that AAWS general does since it focus its energies on service of the Fellowship and the still suffering alcoholics. Also, the AAWS failed to consult the Conference, which could have been done using a new polling method.  It is deemed to be a violation of Warranty Five "the no Conference action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy.  The Right to Censure is presented as an action as suggested the Twelve Concepts. Concept III (Essay, p 13, AA Service Manual) and Concept X (Essay, page 42, AA Service Manual) are both cited to support this action.  A history of censure is cited with supporting materials from a case in 1994. The outcome of this case was the dismissal of the censure.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Whether there is merit to this action and whether there is cause to censure the General Service Board on this matter.
Feedback from Roundtables:	<ul> <li>Discuss not judge, censure opinions belong to the groups</li> <li>Clarification on what to take to group- is it a good idea to censure?</li> <li>How long did they know about it?</li> <li>Both sides in violation.</li> <li>Home group decided no more money to GSO, he will get another home group.</li> <li>Clarification- Warranty 5 applies to conference action not AAWS.</li> <li>Are we just responding to the action the Trustees took? Why did they sue?</li> <li>Warranty V shows us a public lawsuit is public controversy.</li> <li>The GSC should have been consulted. This was a disregard of Warranty V and taking action without consulting GSC.</li> <li>The Trustees did not follow the process already in place.</li> <li>Did Trustees have legal counsel prior to pursuing this lawsuit?</li> <li>It cost us around \$135,000 for expenses and legal fees.</li> <li>This incident seems more dis-unifying than unifying.</li> </ul>

	<ul> <li>If we vote to censure, what happens? What would censure accomplish?</li> <li>Censure is a way for the body to state its opinion. It's a statement of strong disapproval.</li> <li>What happens to the Trustees if we censure them? We can reorganize the Trustees.</li> <li>Delegates may need more input in electing Trustees to avoid situations like this.</li> <li>If GSB is not behaving as we would like, we can elect new delegates or withhold funds.</li> <li>Can AAWS poll Areas before taking action?</li> <li>Warranties and Concepts show how to handle this.</li> <li>Do we trust out trusted servants at GSO to do the right thing and allow them to have the Right of Decision?</li> <li>This is a terrific topic to educate the Fellowship on the process. Overall census of censuring: inconclusive.</li> </ul>
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Legal matters cannot be discussed.

This is a done deal.

Keep this simple. Trust our Trustees.

Occasional mistakes are made. They windup leaders, if not.

Mistake was made. Or was it a mistake? Where is the love and trust?

We do create lawsuits unless absolutely necessary. They cost money and generally we don't win.

Sense of the Assembly: Majority no to review.

Jill G. - Conference Committee: X. Treatment & Accessibilities — Item C

Agenda Topic	Discuss ways that remote communities' concerns might be addressed by the Conference.
Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?	<ul> <li>2009 Trustees' Comm. took no action on a request to establish a Conf. Remote Communities Comm. as a standing committee at the Conference because:</li> <li>Areas can share at pre-Conference Remote Comm. Meeting.</li> <li>GSO staff currently services Remote Communities, Loners &amp; Special Needs</li> <li>What would a Conf. Comm. on Remote Communities do that's not being addressed by GSO: Loners, Internationalists, Treatment, Corrections, CPC, &amp; PI?</li> <li>2017 Trustees' Comm. said sufficient action is being taken to use video conferencing to reach remote communities.</li> <li>2018 Trustees' report suggestion: Consider combining Remote Communities &amp; Accessibilities Committee service under auspices of Accessibilities. This would allow remote communities to be captured under existing trustees' and conference committees. GSO has many pamphlets, workbooks, service materials and webpages with suggestions for working with remote communities. GSO staff currently service Remote Communities, Loners and Special Needs.</li> </ul>
What does the Delegate need to know?	GSO is providing services to remote communities. Do we need a Remote Communities Comm. as a standing committee at the Conference? Should we combine Remote Communities & Accessibilities?
Feedback from Roundtables:	<ul> <li>Doesn't have enough info so we table it – not going to table anymore.</li> <li>Go back to group and see if we want to start a new committee.</li> <li>Accessibilities needs bodies, remote communities has fallen under this committee.</li> <li>1 indigenous meeting in this area.</li> <li>Should be having more bilingual meetings in other languages.</li> <li>GSO acts as liaison. Do they not want to do it?</li> <li>Accessibilities speaks it all maybe they could be incorporated.</li> <li>Discuss a committee at Conference for Remote issues.</li> <li>Remote definition: Anyone who has a barrier to AA, examples are young people, mental health, military, language barriers, sign language and confinement to nursing homes.</li> <li>Have one committee member from each committee become a member on the remote committee.</li> </ul>

- We don't need to be concerned about remote because they can call the AA hotline from anywhere.
- Past Delegate shared there is a mission statement about what a remote community is and the past delegates discuss how to handle this. There's a lot of work.
- The remote committee meeting is held on the first night at the Conference and everyone
  was invited at the Conference.
- Accessibilities has taken all of remote communities responsibilities.
- Travel is a big concern about remote communities.
- The purpose is to discuss the barriers you have come across in AA.
- There are online meetings and phone meetings now for remote situations.

Remote Communities are not represented at the Conference.

How does the Conference help? What are the needs?

How many Remote Community Committees? Unsure if Remote Community Committees at the Conference is the request. Can it be put with Treatment and Accessibilities?

Please clarify. This is too much for Treatment and Accessibilities. The need and want is there.

Broad issue. Can it be defines and are there resources?

Are we doing enough? Do we want to do more?

Sense of the Assembly: Majority yes to have a Remote Communities Committee.

#### **Announcements:**

If you did not get to speak today, we will have a What's On Your Mind session/Ask – It – Basket questions tomorrow. You can utilize either one for your comments and questions.

Thank you to those who served and commented this morning.

Lunch 12:00 p.m.

#### Resumed @1:30 p.m.

Julie C., Alt. Area Chair, re-opens the Assembly.

Family Afterwards. Read by Dave P.: Alcoholics Anonymous, Big Book page 132.

We have been speaking to you of serious, sometimes tragic things. We have been dealing with alcohol in its worst aspect. But we aren't a glum lot. If newcomers could see no joy or fun in our existence, they wouldn't want it. We absolutely insist on enjoying life. We try not to indulge in cynicism over the state of the nations, nor do we carry the world's troubles on our shoulders. When we see a man sinking into the mire that is alcoholism, we give him first aid and place what we have at his disposal. For his sake, we do recount and almost relive the horrors of our past. But those of us who have tried to shoulder the entire burden and trouble of others find we are soon overcome by them. So we think cheerfulness and laughter make for usefulness. Outsiders are sometimes shocked when we burst into merriment over a seemingly tragic experience out of the past. But why shouldn't we laugh? We have recovered, and have been given the power to help others.

Timer – Nancy W. reads: Each of the presenters will have seven (7) minutes. At six (6) minutes I will raise my hand at seven (7) minutes, I will raise the applause sign. For participation from the floor, speakers will have two (2) minutes; at one (1) and 1/2 minutes I will raise my hand and at two (2) minutes I will raise the applause sign. For those requiring translation, the time allowed is doubled to four (4) minutes; at three (3) minutes I will raise my hand and at four (4) minutes I will raise the applause sign. If the applause sign is raised, we will all thank the speaker with warm applause. The clock starts after you introduce yourself.

### **Agenda Items:**

Samantha G. – Item A-6 - Report & Charter: **The A.A. Service Manual, 2018-2020 Edition: Consider removing the following statement from the section Area Newsletters or Bulletins: "Any group or district of the Fellowship is free to use the symbol of a circle and triangle on newsletters, meeting schedules or other A.A.** material."

At the January 2018 AAWS Board meeting, the Board moved that this item be forwarded to the Conference Committee on Report and Charter. In the Service Manual on page S41 it states, "Any group or district of the Fellowship is free to use the symbol of a circle and triangle on newsletters, meeting schedules or other A.A. material". Area 88 South-East-Quebec brought to our attention that this statement contradicts the information found in the Service Manual on page S77 under Trademark,

Logos and Copyrights, which states "In 1993, Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. announced that official use of all of the several circle/triangle trademarks and service marks was being discontinued." This Action is identified in the booklet, Advisory Actions of the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous 1951-2009; under 1994 it states "The circle and triangle logo be discontinued on all Conference approved literature". Also on our aa.org website you can download a flyer which includes language explaining AAWS phased out use of the circle and triangle symbol on its literature and other materials, and its services. What we are discussing is whether we want this statement deleted from the Service Manual so we are consistent with our practices as well as the rest of the Service Manual.

#### **Comments:**

Our group discussed and it conflicts. However, we all know what it means. We are afraid that if it goes away. We may loose something, when we travel.

Q. Does anyone own the trademark?

Traveled to Brazil. Looked in the Yellow Pages for a meeting, had no clue where to go, looked up and saw the circle and the triangle.

I served on WACYPAA in Baja, Mexico. Group used the trademark. Could be a cultural disconnect???

Take this out of the Service Manual and everyone should follow suite.

Once trademarked, it was endorsed with outside entities. We were showing affiliation.

Look at pg. 76 of the Service Manual.

#### Sense of the Assembly: Majority yes to consider.

Jake S. - Item A - Grapevine: Review social media report regarding Instagram, Facebook, and Google for non profits. My name is Jake, I am alcoholic. I am currently serving as your panel 67 alternate registrar. I was also very grateful to have served as your panel 65 Grapevine chair. I would like to thank Rhonda and Julie for asking me to give this presentation and to all the people I bugged over the last 2 weeks for their feedback. I was asked to share a presentation with you today on the general Service conference agenda topic Grapevine A. Review social media repot regarding Instagram, Facebook, and Google for non profits. The AA Grapevine, Inc. is publisher of the International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous. Its primary purpose is to carry the AA message to everyone interested in alcoholism through its magazines, websites, and related items, which reflect the experience, strength, and hope of its members and friends on topics related to recovery, unity and service. It strives in all its activities to operate in accordance with the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts of AA, without soliciting monetary contributions from AA members or groups to fund operating expenses. As Bill W. expressed it in 1946, "The Grapevine will be the voice of the Alcoholics Anonymous movement. Its editors and staff will be primarily accountable to the AA movement as a whole. . . . Within the bounds of friendliness and good taste, the Grapevine will enjoy perfect freedom of speech on all matters directly pertaining to Alcoholics Anonymous... Like the Alcoholics Anonymous movement it is to mirror, there will be but one central purpose: The Grapevine will try to carry the AA message to alcoholics and practice the AA principles in all its affairs. Facebook is an online social media and social networking service. Facebook may be accessed by a large range of devices via the Internet and mobile networks. There are multiple types of Facebook pages. Instagram is an online mobile photo sharing site that allows its users to share pictures and videos either publicly or privately on the app, as well as through a variety of other social networking platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr, and Flickr. Instagram is a visual social network. It is graphic in nature and offers options to draw attention to a particular message. It offers a visual means to publish short announcements with visual images, animated GIFs, and news updates. Google for nonprofits is a program offering of google granting, a menu of ala cart free services to all eligible nonprofit customers as an effort to increase the success of their humanitarian missions. Non-Profits may use one or all of the services as they see fit. The AA Grapevine is committed to creating a viable plan to develop, design, and implement a social media strategy to increase engagement and sales of it magazine subscriptions, online app, related books, and products. The Grapevine board and staff are currently working on a comprehensive three year strategic plan. An approach to the use of additional social media relative to the resources that would be needed to implement and maintain such platforms will be included in the strategic plan. As we continue the conversation started in the general service boards strategic plan and potential tools discussed in the trustees public information Grapevine has identified three main tools of focus they are suggesting we look at in 2017 and 2018 for potential future recommendations. For Grapevine the 3 tools in the google for non profits are G suite for non profits, Youtube for non profits, and google ad grants. At the 2017 General service conference there was a floor action where it was recommended that the grapevine create a Google for nonprofits account limited to the YouTube for nonprofit program. As a result the AA Grapevine now has a live YouTube channel. If you go to YouTube type in AA Grapevine you can find the channel. There is currently 4 videos on our channel. You cannot make comments on these videos. G suite for nonprofits is a set of business apps and tools offered by google like Google docs or video conferencing. They are a set of collaboration tools that could be useful to board work and beyond to communicate more efficiently. Google ad grants is in essence a \$10,000 grant of bids towards keywords that might trigger Aagrapevine.org to appear in the search results at the top of the page in the paid category. As a part of ad words it allows organizations to bid on key search words. Ad words is a paid alternative to organic searches allowing for a guarantee that links to Aagrapevine.org would appear in the paid box at the top of the page should select keywords we were to bid on be used. The theme for the 2018 general Service Conference is AA a solution for all generations. And the responsibility pledge talks about us being responsible for anyone anywhere that reaches out for help. When I was new in AA I heard a joke that said Alcoholics

Anonymous had to have both of our founders. If we would have had just Dr. Bob you would still have to go to Akron Ohio to get to a meeting. If Bill Wilson was our only founder he would have sold AA in 1941. I think it is important for us to remember that most of the worst anonymity breaks through history have been made with the best intentions in mind. With a focus of helping the newcomer. Bill says in the 12 and 12 that our growth made it plain that we couldn't be a secret society, but it was equally plain that we couldn't be a vaudeville circuit either. Anonymity and social media has been one of the biggest issues we have had for the last 10 years. For our early members the social stigma of alcoholism was great and still can be today. Anonymity at the personal level provides protection for all members from identification as alcoholics, a safeguard often of special importance to newcomers. At the public level anonymity stresses the equality in the fellowship of all members by putting the brakes on those who might otherwise exploit their AA affiliation to achieve recognition, power, or personal gain. When using digital media AA members are responsible for their own anonymity and that of others. When we post, text, or blog we are publishing at the public level. When we break our anonymity in these forums we may inadvertently break the anonymity of others. Over the years anonymity has proved to be one of the greatest gifts that A.A. offers to the suffering alcoholic. Without it many newcomers may never attend their first meeting. Alcoholics Anonymous has saved my life so I certainly want to do everything in our power to carry the message of AA. I also certainly would never want to do anything to hurt AA. My question is; is it possible for the AA Grapevine to have a presence on social media at the same time protecting our traditions. Can we carry our message to the widest possible demographic and help the AA grapevine become self supporting through the sale of its items while at the same time being mindful of the spiritual foundation of all of our traditions? What suggestions do you have? Thank you all very much for letting me share!

#### **Comments:**

Unless we can figure a way to create our own A.A. media, we run the risk of anonymity breaks.

I am in favor of using G Suite and Google Ads. We have gotten a bit too afraid as a fellowship.

Done with buying and selling online. A.A. is losing money.

I work in the treatment field. We want the info out there.

Who is on Facebook? Secret groups do not break anonymity. Facebook does not open them and make them public.

We need to be cautious on how we move into social media. Face to face is dropping. I worry.

Facebook is password protected. These programs are just office tools.

Online scares me. Grapevine on Youtube is good. I am concerned about anonymity.

Are we talking about Facebook? I hear about anonymity fears. I have a choice whether I want to partake or not.

We have a presence on G Suite.

#### Sense of the Assembly: Majority yes to review.

Vickie M. - Literature: Hi, my name is Vickie and I am an alcoholic. Consider request for the development of a new pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women alcoholics. My topic is Agenda Item Q from the Conference Committee on Literature: Consider request for the development of a new pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women alcoholics. The proposal is "That Southern California Area 05 ask the Conference to consider creating a new pamphlet for the Spanish-speaking Woman Alcoholic."Here is the background: The Spanish-speaking woman alcoholic has been identified as an underrepresented group in our fellowship. There are many Spanish-speaking groups without female alcoholic members for newcomers to identify with. The pamphlet's purpose would be to extend the hand of A.A. to the Spanish-speaking woman alcoholic by letting her know she belongs in A.A. and she is not alone. We do have a pamphlet titled "A.A. for the Woman." This pamphlet addresses women alcoholics, but there are issues specific to Spanish-speaking women that "A.A. for the Woman" does not address. Some of these issues include:

There is often a deep rooted cultural shame associated with being a female alcoholic in the Spanish community;

- Because there are so few women in Spanish-speaking A.A. groups, these women often find themselves alone in the rooms;
- Many Spanish-speaking women alcoholics are first generation immigrants and do not have access to the same resources available to others. As a result, they may not have anyone outside of the fellowship to help them realize the gravity of their disease; and,
- There are many Spanish-speaking female alcoholics with little or no family here in the US and Canada, having had to leave most or all of their families in their countries of origin.

This pamphlet would be in line with other pamphlets referred to as "Third Tradition literature." The Third Tradition states "The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking." The purpose of Third Tradition literature is to reach out to specific groups of people to let them know they have a special place in our fellowship. Third Tradition literature currently includes:

- A.A. for the Black & African American Alcoholic
- A.A. for the Native North American
- A.A. for the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic
- A.A. and the Armed Services
- A.A. for the Alcoholic with Special Needs
- A.A. for the Older Alcoholic-Never Too Late

- A.A. for the Woman
- Too Young
- Young People and A.A.

Often, the alcoholics that these pamphlets were written for do not readily find people like themselves when they first walk into our rooms, which is why these pamphlets can help them to see that they belong, and that we do not have to be exactly alike to share in our common problem and common solution. A pamphlet specifically for the Spanish-speaking female newcomer would help us greatly in carrying the message to them, especially when no other women are present to welcome them. The hope is that this pamphlet would help them to stay.

#### **Comments:**

Shame, fear, etc. kept me out of A.A. for 40 years. I am now a member of the only Spanish speaking women's meeting in Las Vegas.

There are cultural differences similar to Native American. These cultures are close knit.

"A.A for the Woman" translated does not address Spanish women.

The Spanish speaking women's meeting is 6 p.m. at the Las Vegas Central Office on Wednesday nights. You do not have to speak Spanish to attend. Show up and show your support for this community!

The Spanish women face challenges to get here. Once they do, the challenges do not stop. District 21 supports the meeting. I am in favor of the pamphlet. Some women come to the men's meeting but do not stay. There male counterparts may not allow them to attend because most attendees are men.

Sometimes women are treated with disrespect, culturally. Is this the right time or the wrong time?

Happy to see this topic. We are a world wide fellowship. There are more people out there than just us.

Sense of the Assembly: Majority yes to consider.

Roberta L. Why we should go to a Forum? (highlights from CD): Hi, I am Roberta and I am an alcoholic and a past everything! I am here to talk about why we should go to a forum. We have one coming up in September and it is in San Jose, CA. When I began in service in the 1980's, I had no idea what a forum could offer. At that time, forum's were not funded. They didn't sound to exciting. I did not start going until 2006 when I was elected to the AAWS Board. It was part of my responsibility to go. I got to meet GSO workers. I like that we have it close in California, I can hope on 80 and get there, and I plan too! The -forum is sponsored by the General Service Board and will be held September 7-9. Take advantage of it because it will be awhile before it comes back to our region. They have been held for over 40 years, and offer A.A. members an education in service, a chance to interact with A.A. Board members, GSO staff, and other A.A. Sign up for the final report before you leave. You will be sent one from GSO. I think that is all I have to say. I hope to see you there!

# Comments:

Experience shared. I went to one in Boise, Idaho due to needing medication and it was the closest to where I was visiting. They were discussing dual diagnosis in A. A. I expressed that we needed a pamphlet on dual diagnosis and was informed that there is one in the works. That's why I go to a forum.

### **Announcements:**

Please sign the Big Book.

If you are drinking coffee, please put money in the contribution jar.

Break 3:00 p.m.

Resume @ 3:15 p.m.

Tinna O., Area Finance Committee Chair – Motion made to approve up to \$1,000.00 for a new laptop for the Area Registrar. Seconded.No Discussion. Two minority opinions: Up to \$1,000.00 is too much. You give that much, they will spend that much. \$700.00 should be enough.

Motion passed.

### Reports:

Alt. Delegate/ SAGSC Chair: Rhonda –Thank You PRAASA committee for a wonderful service assembly. I know that there were some problems behind the scene, what I saw on the floor was amazing and beautiful. Thank You Phil for representing our Area with such love and dignity and for always being available for us throughout the weekend. The program was phenomenal. It moved through the theme "AA- A Solution for all generation with ease and grace and a bit of controversy. It was the perfect combination. It unified our Region, brought us to tears and filled our hearts with laughter. I am always amazed at what I learn at PRAASA, The Spirit of sacrifice made me question myself. Do I consider my service a sacrifice? I didn't until I heard Bob W. talk about the sacrifices his family makes for him to do service. I thought about my family and the sacrifices they make so that I can serve AA. I was filled with a new found gratitude for my family and a new sense of responsibility to them and AA. Anonymity Real Humility at work. Social Media was a hot topic and I have to admit my mind opened just a little bit to finding new ways to reach the next generation of digital users. I also realized that I have been on Social Media sites for about 10 years, fighting the tradition battle with hardly any success. What I have seen is a vast amount of ego (including my own). And I am yet to hear a story of a newcomer coming to AA because they say a picture of an AA Chip on Facebook. Filling the still empty chairs. The talks and comments about remote communities really stirred something inside of me. We have remote communities in the middle of

our cities. Society in action was a great panel and it filled my heart with joy to see the secular AA community come out in droves. The "God" word pamphlet gave me hope and the AA Hispanic women are killing it in Southern California and are helping Hispanic women from all over the US to stand tall and speak out. Young people in AA were represented and passionate about who they are and how they serve AA. It wasn't until after the conference while having lunch that Laura from Area 06 approached me and told me about her dismay with the conference. I realized the young people in AA need to be given more responsibility. When she spoke to the PRAASA 2019 committee chair and asked that young people have a more visible presence from the stage, she was told. "Oh, don't worry we are going to have a dance for you guys". This nearly brought me to tears. These young people are smart, kind, and willing. They are our future and we need to utilize what they have to offer. Joel's report was flawless, He played a part of the Navajo Translation of the Big Book to the conference, it brought us all to tears, and then during the sharing session A Navajo women got up the mic and spoke in Navajo with a shaking voice full of gratitude, the whole place lost it. It was amazing to be a part of something so great. I found myself very sad that he will be rotating out. Joel has always been kind, considerate and loving. He speaks with a clarity and at a level that even I can understand. I think he could reprimand me and I would thank him for it. He is the kind of person I want to be and he has great hair. I met with 10 other Alternate delegates for Lunch and at the round tables. I love the bonds we are creating and we are planning an Alternate Delegate Luncheon for the Forum in September. It was amazing to see the panel 66 alternates that moved into Delegate this year and we were able to cheer them on knowing they are scared to death and yet excited to be of service to their areas. We also welcomed the panel 68 Alternate Delegates to the team. We talked about praying for our delegates but more importantly being prepared to go to the conference if our delegates are unable. Then a fear came over me like none other. Am I prepared? Have I been paying attention? Have a read all the documents. Do I know how our Area feels about all of the agenda items? Now I am praying like I have never prayed before and you have my attention. The business meeting was interesting and we might get some new translation equipment for PRAASA. It could take 10 years or so, at this rate. Bob W was our Saturday Night speaker and he was amazing as always. He is so animated and nerdy, he could talk about Mars and I would be captivated. I moderated the panel moving forward in Unity. The topics were controversial and the first person to come to the mic after the presentation was livid. He accused us of bashing the trustees and board members behind their backs. He stated they were not there to defend themselves. Then the guy behind him tapped him on the shoulder and said, "I am a board member" It was a great discussion after that and I had the support of the Area 42 members (right up front) to keep me focused. Thank You! During the past trustee sharing session I heard the quote; "How we do things is more important than what we do" PRAASA 2018 was a great example of how we do things. I believe we have a solution for all generations. 15 dancing delegates on the stage was the perfect example. This is just a tid bit of my 2018 PRAASA experience. Thank you for letting me be of service. LVYPAA: Hi all, not much to report. We recently had elections and are planning our first event, a workshop on 12 step calls "what not to do". We are looking for volunteers to sit on a panel. If you are interested please reach out to our events chair, Taylor H. or myself. Other than that we have an awesome meeting at Central Office that meets Thursday nights, 7 p.m. Thank you for letting me be of service! Jason M.

**Corrections North:** Samantha G, I'm an alcoholic, and currently serving as your Northern Corrections Chair. **Taking Meeting into Correctional Facilities:** This committee basically does these things:

• work with AAs who want to take AA meetings into correctional facilities

- work with 70 to wait to take 70 time ethigs into correction
- connect AA members with correctional facilities
- cooperates with correctional facilities
- keeps a database of meetings going into correctional facilities

#### **Corrections Correspondence Service:**

This service allows inmates to correspond with outside AAs on an individual basis. Your Corrections Committee can:

- offer suggested guidelines to help when writing to members inside the walls
- inform AA members **how to** set up pre-release contacts (Bridging the Gap)
- provide samples of letters

Most recent happenings: I want to thank District 20 for inviting us to give a presentation in Susanville. Thank you District 20! There is talk that District 22 is also interested in receiving a presentation. And we received a couple emails about AAs carrying the message into correctional facilities. DCMs and GSRs, if your District or Group would like a presentation or workshop, all you need to do is invite us. We'd be glad to come! If you're interested in helping AAs get meetings into correctional facilities or contacting AA who are already taking meetings in, please join this committee! And please let me know if you are already taking meetings into correctional facilities or are interested in participating on the Corrections Committee. I'd like to thank the Northern Area General Service Committee for allowing me to be of service. It is an honor and a privilege to serve Alcoholics Anonymous in a fun and informative way. New email: mustangsavvy7@gmail.com

Accessibilities North: This past few months have added dialogue about service animals to individual requests. We've also had more interest in outreach to the deaf community. Speaking with past delegate, Joyce P, I am thinking of having a workshop to discover some basic signing for members. Let me know your thoughts on the topic and other thoughts about Accessibilities and your group. In service Mary.

District 22: (Taken from CD): Greetings from District 22. District 22 has been busy with the Spanish speaking groups in our District. PIC came to our meeting Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> to infor GSRs about PI and form a committee within our District. First Friday of each  $month\ at\ 6:30p.m.\ Study\ sessions\ 2^{nd}\ \&\ 3^{rd}\ Fridays\ of\ each\ month,\ same\ time.\ We\ have\ 80\%/90\%\ of\ our\ groups\ represented.$ We helped out at Registration for PRAASA to assist Spanish speaking attendees. We shared with our groups the topics discussed for this assembly. March 11th, District 22 had a discussion of the topics for this assembly. Thank you! Alt. Area Registrar: My name is Jake-I am alcoholic. I am very grateful to be serving as you alternate area registrar. 2018 has been a very busy year so far and I am so proud to be a member of area 42 the greatest area in the history of the universe. As I am sure you have all heard by now our area hosted the 2018 Pacific region Alcoholics Anonymous Service assembly. This was my 8th PRAASA but my First PRAASA where we were the host area. For me it was a completely different experience. Usually I register go to every panel and business meeting; go to my round tables and maybe do a 2 hour shift helping volunteer where ever I can. This year I learned so much more about PRAASA and what it takes to host one. I was so busy running around I didn't make it to my first panel until Saturday morning. I was on the archives Committee for the 2018 PRAASA and I was able to help out doing things for a few other of the committees as well. I would like to thank Lyle for asking me to be on the archives committee and Gabriel Anne and Pat for all of their help. I also got to go to the airport to pick up our speaker and work as a bell man bringing luggage down from the rooms. I would like to thank all of the committee chairs and volunteers that made PRAASA 2018 such a great time. I especially want to thank Mike our PRAASA chair Marita our program chair and Pete the hotel chair for all of their hard work and putting on such a great event. It was an absolutely awesome experience and I already cannot wait until 2034 when area 42 will host PRAASA again. Friday night I went to the registrars round table. It was a great round table and I got to hear how area registration is handled in other areas in the Pacific region. Some of the areas were bigger some were smaller, but I am very grateful to be a part of area 42. Our area registrar Laura really does an amazing job. As soon as we get a new group or new GSR form they are processed immediately. We never have a stack of forms waiting to be handled, within 48 hours of receiving a form it is input into our FNV system. If you are a new GSR or if you need any group change forms please see Laura or I this weekend. If you have registered with GSO but have not received your welcome packet please let us know. Alcoholics Anonymous has saved my life and General Service has become a huge part of my program of recovery. At my very first PRAASA our then trustee Madelyn P said something that I have tried to remember and keep with me in my general Service career she said nothing that we accomplished this week will ever be as important as how we all treat each other this week. Thank you all very much for being here this weekend and thank you for giving me a life worth living. I love you all. Newsletter Editor: Hello and happy 2018 everyone. I am thrilled to report that the Feb. 23 Area 42 Newsletter went out to the body on Feb. 21. It included all the usual content from our area officers which included a terrific PRAASA preview along with excerpts from the AAWS Service Manual on why we need a General Service Conference and a little bit from Alcoholics Anonymous Chapter 2 'There is a Solution.' Thank you to everyone involved with the Area 42 Newsletter. It takes a village. During the first weekend of March, I attended my fourth Pacific Regional AA Service Assembly in Sparks. This year, I was able to help out as a member of the host committee because I served as the PRAASA business meeting secretary and a member of the archives team. As always, I was inspired by the assembly itself along with the hard work and dedication of those who served around me with love and tolerance. I know it is no simple task to put on a three-day conference for roughly 1,500 AAs. Thank you to everyone who made this year's PRAASA look so easy. It was the best of the bunch. The next Area 42 Newsletter is set to come out on April 30. In the meantime, if you are looking for an issue of the newsletter, they live on the Area 42 website at nevadaarea42.org. Thank you for allowing me to serve as Newsletter Editor for Editor 42. It is a great honor. I am looking forward to an incredible 2018. Yours in love and continued service, Anne K. Area\_newsletter\_editor@nevadaarea42.org Area Registrar: Greetings to all from the Area Registrar. What a privilege it was to participate in Praasa as a host Area. I thoroughly enjoyed being of service to the Praasa committee and to all of the attendees. In the end I realized that because of my volunteer duties I heard almost none of the panels so I purchased the MP3 flash drive and have now been able to enjoy the panel presentations and discussion from the comfort of my living room. The topics this year were especially interesting to me. Well done Area 42, I can hardly wait for our turn again in 15 years! You may have noticed that I used a new online registration company for this Assembly. The previous company, called Eventbrite, raised their fees so that each ticket purchased would cost the buyer almost \$3. That cost is absorbed by each member for the banquet ticket and by the area for the Assembly ticket. This new company, Brown Paper Tickets, is actually less expensive per ticket than we have paid in the past. The online registration is a service provided to the body by the Area. As Area Registrar I will continue to look for ways to keep this service as cost effective as possible. We have used online registration since the Spring Assembly of 2014, making this our 9th time. Members seem to like having this option but feedback about this process would be helpful to determine how we continue for future Assemblies. Please let Jake or I know how we are doing. This Assembly we had \_\_\_\_\_ pre-register for our event and we pre-sold banquet tickets. Our final Assembly registration is \_\_\_\_\_, with \_\_\_\_\_ voting members. We had \_ weekend and \_\_\_\_\_ DCMS. I have these numbers broken down by district if the DCMs want this information, see me. I have group information spreadsheets for each DCM. If you haven't received yours yet, come find Jake or myself. Please look these over when you get them and help us update our group records. We, of course, also have forms for changes or additions to our Area's groups and representatives. I want to thank the Alternate Registrar, Jake for his help, not just for the fancy footwork he does but for his constant support and upbeat attitude. Jake, you always make the registration dance floor a fun place to be! Yours in service, Laura.

\*\*\* Numbers given at the assembly: \* 97 pre-registered. 118 on-site. 215 total registered. 172 voting members. 127 GSRs or Alt. GSRs. 26 DCMs or Alt. DCMs.

RENVYPAA: Hello, my name is Anthony, and I am an alcoholic and your current Reno Nevada Young People's in Alcoholics Anonymous (RENVYPAA) General Service Liaison. We service the greater Reno/Sparks area in helping the newcomer find their place in AA and help carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. We've had an amazing year since we last reported here. Elections have come and gone, new positions have been created, and a few positions are available to be filled. We've had a few events with the last one being AA's Got Talent show that was a huge success. Our next events going to be a Murder/Mystery night with tacos, it will be April 21st from 5pm-11pm. The location has yet to be determined but if your interested in this event you can go to RENVYPAA.com and as soon as it's determined it will be on the website. Our campout is also coming up, it's going to be in Taylorsville, CA again, where last year we had an awesome turn out and an amazing weekend of fellowshipping. It's going to be the weekend of June 22nd through the 24th. You can pre-register for \$20, which includes your campsite and two meals. There will be speakers Friday and Saturday night, and Sunday morning, along with countless events and a resentment bonfire. As a committee we are bidding to bring the Western Area Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous (WACYPAA) to Reno. Our hope is that this will unify the western area as well as help fledgling committees start in smaller cities in Nevada. Young people in Nevada will get to experience a conference where thousands of young people come together to carry the message of AA while showing each other that it is possible to have fun in sobriety. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month upstairs in the Triangle Club, at 4pm in Reno, NV. Anyone is welcome to come and attend our meetings and there are no requirements to join our committee other than being a member of AA. Thank you for allowing us to be of service. Anthony M., RENVYPAA

**District 21** (Taken from CD): My name is Jose and thank you for allowing me to be DCM of District 21. We go to all the the meetings and talk about general service. Samuel, our PIC rep, is on a radio show and discusses A.A. On April 7<sup>th</sup>, we will have visitors from California at one of our groups. On May 6<sup>th</sup>, we have our own forum. Please join us, we have translation equipment available. Thank you.

**Web Servant:** Hello, my name is Libby G. and I'm the Area 42 Web Master or in AA language the Area 42 Web Servant. I'd like to thank you all for the opportunity to be of service. For those who might be new to Area 42, my job is pretty simple, I maintain the information on the Area 42 website. If anyone has a district or southern/northern area event they want added to the area website just pass it along to Jonelle and she will scrub it for last names and personal emails and then I'll uploaded to the website. The area website is www.nevadaarea42.org. For those that need to look at the Area Member Info page the login password is Area42member. Thanks for letting me be of service, Libby G.

**CPC North:** Went to District 14 and presented on CPC. They now have a representative for their District. All is going well. Looking forward to going to more district meetings. Please let me know if you would like me to come to your meeting. Thank you, Anne.

**GSR Survivor Trainer South** (Taken from CD): Hello, I'm Alan and I am an alcoholic. Five new GSRs at last SAGSC. I see two of them here. I make myself available to groups. No one has asked yet. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

#### **Announcements:**

The Navajo translation of the 12 Steps is on the Arizona Area 03 website.

DCM meeting is @ 7:30 a.m. on Sunday with Ed and Claudia, DCM Coordinator for the North and South. Standing Committee Chair meeting is @7:30 a.m. on Sunday with Rhonda, Alt. Area Delegate/ SAGSC Chair.

## Reports:

Alt. Area Chair/NAGSC Chair: My name is Julie, I'm an alcoholic and I currently serve as your alternate area chair. One of my primary ongoing responsibilities is to serve as the chair of the northern area. On February 15<sup>th</sup>, our delegate, Phil received all the background information in English for the agenda topics that will be discussed during the General Service Conference next month. Rhonda, your alternate delegate, and I coordinated with many of you to create the summaries that were emailed out prior to the roundtables last month. I want to thank everyone involved in the roundtables and most of all the participants. In the north we broke into five groups; one Spanish speaking and four English speaking. The presenters and scribes rotated from room to room. We spent 20 minutes on each topic. It takes a village to put on these roundtables, from the summarizers, who painstakingly go through the background information and write short summaries on all the topics; to the presenters who also go through the background information, perhaps call the General Service Office for more information and write and deliver a concise presentation; to the scribes, who try to capture the essence of your comments; to the long-timers who help support the presenters with history; to the first-timers who bring the innocence and enthusiasm needed to create an informed group conscience; to the translators. I am filled with gratitude for your service and love for alcoholics anonymous. Even though I was fully aware that I should be ready and prepared to fill in for our area chair, should something happen that she could not be here this weekend. Let me confess that I was not prepared. I found out on Saturday morning of PRAASA that she might have surgery prior to the assembly and I might need to chair this weekend. That's when I saw the love and service that all of you have for Nevada Area. I was surrounded by so many of you offering to help, asking, "what can I do to help?" and calling me over the past couple of weeks. There are many people involved in putting this assembly on this weekend; so many people behind the scenes. Thank you to the many of you who help throughout the weekend. You are the ones who quietly without fan fare fill the void when something is missed. Most of all, thank you to all who have spent your weekend here serving Alcoholics

Anonymous, who gave your full attention to the presenters and actively participated in providing our delegate with a sense of our area assembly. I am filled with joy and gratitude for all the love and support you have given to me to help make this assembly a success.

Area Chair: No Report.

### Announcements:

If you are drinking coffee, please put money in the contribution jar.

Who wants to clean-up after the Banquet? (Many volunteered). Assembly closes to prepare for Banquet @ 4:30 p.m.

#### Sunday, March 25, 2018:

# DCM meeting minutes(scribe - Monica S.):

Meeting opened @ 7:35 a.m. with the Serenity Prayer.

Introductions.

Purpose of the meeting stated: Information and sharing on the DCM position with questions and answers.

Discussion of GSR funding:

Idea brought up for making signs for the Area Treasurer, NAGSC Treasurer, and SAGSC Treasurer to understand where they go.

Clarification: please, at next District meeting, let your GSRs know the order they request funds for reimbursement.

Ed brought a form to help groups do a group inventory.

Claudia is going to update Google Groups for emails and events. Email update list being passed.

Discussion: How do we make a different website for events?

Connecticut has a website that has all their Area's events. A committee is the only way to sustain this. The website took them five years.

Q. Could you find out the info?

A. Yes.

I went to Ireland and they have us beat.

My presentation will be in six months to DCMs. I will have a budget request because it won't be cheap! The purpose will be for unity to collaborate events across the Area.

Discussion: GSRs – their groups won't send them to assemblies or they don't want GSRs. Suggestion – start sending emails to one member of the group. Provide a service workshop. Has to be attraction rather than promotion.

Q. Can we kick people out?

A. Yes. We can kick out of our groups but not out of A.A. If in regards to safety. Take a group conscience.

Ad – hoc on mapping the Area – understanding what's the purpose. Member of the committee gave detailed description of the districting.

### Standing Committee Chairs meeting minutes: (scribe – Tinna O.)

Introductions. This meeting facilitates communication between North and South committees.

Mattie Accessibility – starting Meetings to Go in the tradition of the Sunshine Committee in the North

A convention is coming to town and they want someone to come facilitate an open meeting at the convention so employees could attend without having to set up the actual meeting.

Darrell will chair the medical arm of the Meetings to Go and Claudia will chair the Hospitality arm.

Tony (translator) there is a proposal to start an ad hoc committee for translators that met this weekend. Edie & Monica are facilitating. Translators from the North & South are wanted for the Forum. There is a Spanish Forum May 6<sup>th</sup> in Las Vegas, English translation is provided using our Area 42 equipment. Our Delegate Phil has been asked to speak there. \$5 donation requested and they will have home cooked food.

Spanish national convention is August 31 – Sept 2, English speaker are encouraged to attend.

Pat – Bridging the Gap North. Building up volunteers. He personally sends an email to thank all volunteers for signing up. He has 189 volunteers ow. Pat tries to clearly and concisely point out the need for volunteers by making an announcement at meetings and asking others to announce clearly and concisely. Pat is seeking an alternate. Suggests treating volunteers well Kelly – wants to work on translating Silver Streak newsletter into Spanish. Maybe North Tony could look into the Bracer in the North.

CPC-PI- Accessibilities workshop on building committees. What would be good topics? Want to get ideas on how to get people involved and get co-chairs.

Archives – Julie gave binders to the chair people to record ideas for posterity to help incoming servants.

When we take a position, it is suggested to "Make it Yours" with passion.

Grapevine – the good thing about the Grapevine is that we are somewhat autonomous and could make a book about almost anything without approval from PRAASA's or Convention. Something to think about. North needs committee members. NAGSC – maybe get La Vina Rep as well as Grapevine Rep??

Julie C. Alt. Area Chair, opens the Assembly @ 8:30 a.m. with the Serenity Prayer and Anonymity Statement.

A Labor of Love. Read by Libby G.: A Labor of Love – a past trustee looks back over a term on the General Service Board (September 1991 Grapevine magazine). The work of AA's General Service Conference concludes on a Friday afternoon. On

Saturday morning, the Conference members meet for a farewell brunch, exhausted and emotional yet relaxed and happy as they look back on the trials and accomplishments of the Conference week. The agenda consists of farewell talks by rotating trustee members of the General Service Board. At my first such brunch as a new trustee, a rotating trustee described the job as "no big deal," a comment that puzzled me for years. It seemed to me that certainly the tremendous amount of activity required, the decisions that had to be made, the size and importance of the Fellowship we tried to serve did, indeed, amount to a big deal. As time passed, however, I came to understand what was meant. The process in which we were participating is a big deal. We who do it are not. We are only anonymous, ultimately nameless and faceless members of a vast Fellowship who have been fortunate enough to have the opportunity to serve AA for a time in a particular way. In that sense, service as a trustee differs not a whit from every opportunity that AA has given me to practice my own Twelfth Step. Whether as a coffee maker, group secretary, GSR, intergroup rep, hospital & institutions coordinator, sponsor, Twelfth-stepper, any chance that I've had to try to help the suffering alcoholic has been a big deal. At the same time, I have to understand that in doing it I am no big deal.

#### **Announcements:**

Thank you Lisa I. DCM from 5b for the cake after the Banquet.

We still need \$135.00 for coffee.

Thank you to District 8 for hosting!

**Proposal:** Tinna O., Finance Chair – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:

ADDENDUM to Area 42 Guidelines (approved 3/15)

AREA 42 GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY FINANCE GUIDELINES (approved 9/12)

#### 2.0 Responsibilities of the Area Treasurer

(Add the below after K.)

L. Maintain a binder with current copies of the following documents for the Nevada State Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous:

- IRS Tax Exempt Status Letter
- Nevada Secretary of State Annual List of Officers (See section 2.0 I)
- Articles of Incorporation
- Nevada Department of Taxation Tax Exempt Status Letter (This will need to be renewed every 5 years with the Nevada Department of Taxation)
- Las Vegas PO Box information
- Finance Committee Minutes for the two years of treasurers' service commitment

Identical copies of this binder shall be provided to the Area 42 Archivist, NAGSC Treasurer, and SAGSC Treasurer. The Treasurer shall provide all binder holders with copies of the Finance Committee minutes and updates to or copies of any included documents in a timely manner, not to exceed six months.

Joan M. – "Value and Purpose of Ad-hoc Committees" (highlights from CD): I am going to give an overview about the committees. Ad – hoc means " for this". We have three that were to be formed – Translation Equipment, Communication, and District Boundaries and Mapping. The minutes from last assembly did not show members of the committees, who was going to chair, and the purpose of those committees. When an Ad-hoc committee is approved, the Chair (or DCM if it is at the District level) is to appoint members and a chair of the Ad-hoc as part of their job. There was no members or chairs appointed in the minutes. An Ad-hoc is only supposed to last as long as it needs to get the work done appointed by the Chair. The Translation Equipment Committee was to come up with problems, discuss, and what the outcomes were. The Communication Ad-hoc is a bit vague. Maybe the Chair can say what is desired from that committee. When a chairperson is appointed, the committee can decide what to do and give a report. The Nevada Area Maps Districts is to come up with a new map of the Nevada Area showing where the districts are now. That's a big job! Back in the day, we had no idea where they started, where they ended, and who was in them! Now there is some identification, but that committee has some job to do, but there was no members or chair appointed. So at this point, if there is a report to give, the person who decided to be the chair can give it and tell us who the members were – and that's what probably needs to happen. So the Chairperson can appoint and have the committees comeback and report at the next assembly.

Clarification given that the Chair did some behind the scenes appointing that were not in the minutes. The Ad-hocs do have chairs and some members.

#### Translation/Interpretation Ad-hoc report back:

Edie D. – Chair – Committee met on March 24<sup>th</sup> and consists of: Edie D., Chairperson; Monica S., Secretary; Tony S., Translator; Tony A., Translator, Luis C., DCM Dist. 22 & Jose G., DCM Dist. 21. Our goal is to form a permanent Interpretation and Translation Committee for Area 42. This will require a guideline change and we plan to present that at the September Assembly. We are researching cost of professional translators for comparison purposes in order to prepare a budget. Looking at hourly rate vs full expenses plus. Also looking at what vehicle to use for translation (software vs volunteers to do a few pages

each). Most of the software programs do not really suit us as AA has a language all its own. At this time, we are only looking at English to Spanish and vice versa. Our current translation equipment (hardware) is in good shape so no need to upgrade at this time. We will have conference calls as required between now and September in order to prepare a Guideline change proposal.

#### Communication Ad-hoc report back:

Ed L. - co-chair - reported on the Ad - Hoc - Hi everyone my name is Ed. L and I am an alcoholic. I am the co - chair for this committee. First of all, Anne K. would like you all to know how sorry she is to have missed the assembly. She had a family situation come up at the last minute as she was leaving town and had to change her plans. The communications Ad – Hoc committee consists of Anne K. and Gary W. from the south and Paul E. and myself from the north hopefully Sandra S. from the north and one other person from the south will join us soon. The four of us met for the first time via a 40 minute conference call last Sunday to discuss what our objective is. Our major concern is anonymity breaks that have happened in the past by first and last names being put into email reports and other documents. There was a serious break not too long ago that started us on the path towards repairing this type of situation from happening again. We discussed items we need to work on and a strategy towards our final goal. This report today is to inform you that we are working hard on this particular item as it is near and dear to all of us in A.A. As time goes on, we will be looking for feedback but for right now, we are trying to decide the best approach. Our group is the second group to start work on this committee so we have some notes to review as to not overlap what was already what has already been established. I had the great fortune of running into a person affected by the anonymity break. I was given some great insight as to what happened. This information, along with what has been discussed, will be a great asset in determining where we go from here. Our main goal is to have a full report an a set of guidelines for lack of a better word, to report back to the body at our Fall assembly. Jonelle has reported on the website and what needs to be discussed by the Secretary as it stated in our current guidelines. The main goal is to form a permanent communications committee that will oversee items such as the website and any other areas of communication needing oversite. We also want to try and improve communication between the north and south with ( and this is just a thought) calendar with dates and times of important events such as PRAASA, Forums, the Assembly, and north and south events all in one place that can be constantly updated and emailed out to the DCMs. This information can be obtained by calling Central Offices. But if it is all in one place those visiting the south from the north or vice versa can maybe plan on attending a Chef Bud event. I would like to finish by saying we are in the very beginning stages of this task and will report as we go along. I personally like to thank Julie for calling me and asking that I join this committee and that all of us are committed to serving the body to the best of our ability.

Clarification given re: what was the purpose of the Ad-hoc committees. According to the last assembly's minutes, it was to create a proposal to form a permanent committee for Translation/Interpretation and Communication. A nod "yes" given by committee chairs in response that this will happen next assembly.

### District Boundaries (Mapping) Ad – hoc report back:

Julie C. - Chair – The District Mapping Ad-hoc committee was formed just before the assembly, so we were not able to meet until the Friday evening of the assembly. Our next steps are to ask for volunteers at the assembly who have experience with mapping software. After we have a new map, we will review the current District descriptions and revise where needed. The maps and descriptions will be based upon most, if not all, of the groups which lie within the boundaries. But as always, we honor each group's right to choose which district they reside in, within reason. It is the committee's intention to create a current map, update district boundaries descriptions and design a future mapping maintenance plan for the assembly to approve. We appreciate the opportunity to be of service. Julie C, Jake S and Libby G. Looking for additional members with mapping skills. Lorinda, Kirk, and Kevin volunteered.

District 9 to host Fall 2018 Assembly. Young Peoples to host Ice Cream Social after the Banquet.

Chair asked for clarification about two topics to be bought to the body. They are requesting feedback, not guideline changes. These are presentations only.

Presentation: Is there a need for a Nevada Area Conference of Young People in A.A.? Read by Noel.(highlights from CD): Young people in A.A. does not necessarily mean age. It is for anyone with room to grow. We are presenting to see if there is a need for a Nevada Area Conference of Young People in A.A. This is presented as an Area Conference rather than state in order to include the entire Area 42. This allows maximum outreach to all communities. RENVYPAA and LVYPAA have been approach about starting YP meetings in outlying communities. Wed wanted to see if this is needed Area wide before moving forward with a Conference. RENVYPAA and LVYPAA can bid on ICYPAA, WACYPAA, and SWACYPAA. Due to the size of these Conferences, it is unlikely that a smaller community would be able to host or even attend. Having an Area wide Conference would allow smaller communities to host and outreach young people. RENVYPAA and LVYPAA are the only active YPAA committees within the Nevada Area. This has come up several times. (Shared history of YPAA's in A.A.). Principles shared about YPAA's would be the ones used to create NACYPAA (Nevada Area Conference of Young People in A.A.). We would like support from the Area 42 groups and hear the feedback from GSR's in the Fall. We will take steps needed to have a Conference no earlier than Fall 2020.

### **Questions/Comments:**

- Q. What will the Conference be called?
- A. Nevada Area Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous. NACYPAA.
- Q. UNABLE TO HEAR ON RECORDINGS.
- A. There is ICYPAA, WACYPAA, SWACYPAA. WACYPAA is the Western Area Conference of Young People in Nevada. Most of these Conference spaces hold up to 2-3,000 attendees which would not serve our smaller communities in the Nevada Area. Area Secretary announced that a copy of the presentation will be emailed to the body.
- Q. Could you please explain how the young people benefit from having their own Conference so that someone as closed-minded as myself can understand and talk you up?
- A. I'll keep it brief and please talk to me after. Personal experience shared about being sober young and surrounded by older members. Came to the conclusion that either I would not have a peer group in A.A. or I would relapse. I attended WACYPAA and then joined RENVYPAA. I did not know that young peoples existed. These people saved my life! I have friends older and my same age. I also got into service because of it. I hope that answered the question.

Experience shared from the WACYPAA Chair when it was held in Las Vegas. The enthusiasm and energy in the rrom made my hair stand up. In the Conferences we attend, yeah there is excitement, but not like those Conferences. We had 1,800 sober young kids there tearing up the place!

I participate in RENVYPAA and I am 69 years old. You don't have to be young, just young at heart.

Q. I am all for young people's stuff. I just wonder how will that fit into Area 42. Are we just talking about having another YP Conference? It is not a service assembly, I don't think we are talking about that, so how will that fit in so I have the info to share with Winnemucca.

A. We just want feedback from the groups before we go ahead and form a Conference. If there is a need, we will move forward. If not, then we won't, but we want the Area's feedback because it will be serving this Area. We want cooperation.

Q. Anyone in the room ever been on a YP committee? Show of hands. Anyone in the room ever sponsor young people? Show of hands. Experience shared. Being part of young people is what kept me here. This has been kicked around since WACYPAA in 2009 in Reno. We finally got it together enough to move forward with this. The suggestion given to me by someone who has started several YPAA Conferences was go to the Area and use the resources to spread the word that we want to do this. Remote communities within Nevada need to be informed. GSRs – please bring this to your groups and bring young people to the Fall Assembly so that we can start this thing. Nevada is the only one with no YP Conference. We need to show that we have a yp community.

I have to give my hand up to the young people. We need to spread the message any way we can.

Experience shared about going into juvenile detention centers. There are blackout drinkers, they relate to the loneliness. I went to my first meeting at 14 and did not relate. I spent the next 20 years trying to get back. I am reformed and will support anyway I can.

Q. I think a Nevada Area Conference is a great idea. My question is my GSRs will ask so when will this get voted on, do I need to take this to my group and is this part of the Area 42 structure?

A. We are just looking for feedback. I will have Kirk answer. We are just looking for feedback. Gave a breakdown of how it will be structured. It would be its own autonomous entity.

I have experience on a Trustee level and as Delegate in California. The simplest way to answer the question re: structure is that the connection is spiritual rather than structural.

### Sense of the Assembly: Majority yes to get feedback from groups.

**Presentation**: District 1: Read by John B. Area 42, District 1 proposes that the General Service Office (GSO) investigate the costs and feasibility of creating a smartphone app that uses GPS functionality to show the location and times of AA meetings wherever a member may go. Groups registered with GSO would have their meeting location and time included in the app, which would encourage more groups to register with GSO and would enhance members' awareness of the groups, what it means to be a group, and how AA groups support AA as a whole.

Sense of the Assembly: Are the groups interested in this to be a proposal to the Conference? Majority yes to bring to their groups. Area Secretary will send this request to the body.

#### **Questions/Comments:**

Cost is not gong to be part of proposal. What we are looking for is to see if groups are interested.

The reason I think this is a great idea is because I used to travel for work, I would carry the Regional Directories. This would be a way for A.A. to all have access all over.

Sense of the Assembly: Majority yes to get feedback from the groups.

**PRAASA Report**: Phil W.,Area Delegate, shared PRASAA experience. My first one gave me the feeling of being part of. Hosting it gave me the same feeling. In the Delegate meeting, the 66's were telling the 67's explain the process of the Conference. Julie C., PRASAA Treasurer, thanked all those who volunteered at PRASAA.

Regional Forum Announcement: SAVE THE DATE cards will be made with a budget up to \$500.00. Will be available at the Forum in September. The design will be shown to both NAGSC and SAGSC.

#### Break 10:05 a.m.

#### Resumed @ 10:20 a.m.

#### WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?: JULIE C.

The theme of this session is "What's On Your Mind?" It is intended to give all assembly attendees an additional opportunity to share on any of the topics that have been discussed this weekend or on any pertinent aspect of A.A. that wasn't part of the assembly. The floor mics are now open for sharing from the floor. In order to allow as many people as possible the opportunity to participate, please do not come to the mic a second time until everyone else in line has had a chance to share first. Please keep your comments to the current topic and speak directly into the microphone.

I support the Spanish Women's pamphlet request.

Thoughts shared on the Atheist and Agnostic pamphlet. "Language of the Heart" reading from page 251.

Comment shared about having a voice reader PDFs on websites would be awesome! Could be something for the

Communications Committee to consider???

Concepts should be addressed in groups to show newcomers service from the start.

Q. How would we go about funding for any interested A.A. members to attend assemblies? Up to \$75.00.

A. We set a budget every year and we try to stick to it. This would be a proposal and a guideline change. It would take at least six months.

Comment made re: above question. We need to try to get more into service.

Comment made for the Atheist and Agnostic issue. Has the spiritual malady changed its face? Is self-sufficiency taking the place of the Higher Power?

District 22 thanked the Assembly for inclusivity.

Comment made in reference to funding A.A. members to assemblies. How many peope were thrown in a car, shared a room, etc. to get here?

Re: Consider request to update the video "Your A.A. General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure". I just wanted to say that the video needs to be updated. I voted wrong.

Comment shared about not all praying the same way. I pray inward. At this event, we open and close with the Serenity Prayer. I suggest either I am Responsible or the Declaration of Unity.

Experience shared in support of the Spanish Women in A.A. pamphlet.

Gratitude shared from a GSR.

Correction made re: YPAA's hosting the assemblies. The guidelines do not state that a District must host, so maybe sometime, they can!

Comment made that a town will host a Spanish speaking meeting. We are making stuff happen now!

Comment made about receiving Spanish material.

I love Spanish speaking women in A.A. It is discerning - we are here to support newcomers, not be exclusive.

It is not YPAA's "Conference", more of a "Convention".

Grapevine thanked the body. Subscriptions and Literature sold approximately \$300.00 each.

Could we read the 12 Concepts?

New Business: Do we want to create an Ad – hoc to look into hosting the Corrections Conference in 2021?

Motion made – to create an Ad – hoc committee to come back to the Fall Assembly on what would be involved to host a Corrections Conference in 2021?.

Seconded.

Discussion:

Q.Is it appropriate to have this brought up with so few people in attendance right now?

A. This is the body.

NNIG Corrections Chair would support.

Motion passed.

Julie, Alt. Area Chair, appointed Lisa I. as Chair of the committee. Members will be Alan V., Samantha G., Jason M., Becca, Debbie. The committee will report back in the Fall.

#### Ask - It - Basket:

Q. I signed up to a Bridge the Gap contact. They have no food, money, home, etc. Just taking them to meetings and leaving them seems heartless.

A. We are not banks, employers, etc. There are places who can assist them, like the Salvation Army. Taking them to a meeting is the most important thing we can do. The innate for survival is in all of us.

Q. Can we add new meetings into our group?

A. Each group is autonomous. Take it to your Business Meeting.

Q. Who will be the Northern and Southern Area Grapevine Chairs in the next rotation?

A. The perspective Northern and Southern Chairs.

Q. Did you ever bring a floor action at the GSC?

A. My committee was Public Information and we never did. They are difficult to pass.

- Q. What happened to green, yellow, and red light timer?
- A. It got lost.
- Q. The time between Roundtables and Area Assembly is not enough. I am new to service. Can we have more time?
- A. Explanation given of the process and why there is a time crunch.
- Q. Do the Trustees carry out the wishes of GSO or the fellowship?
- A. Both.
- Q. Did you ever lock yourself out of your hotel room during the Conference?
- A. No.
- Q. What does Central Office do and what is their responsibility?
- A. They provide literature, provide listings of all meetings, and information about the Area they serve. They provide a service to the fellowship.
- Q. We already have websites, why do we need app.?
- A. I have a 25 five year old phone, so I won't be using apps.
- Q. Can reports be made ahead of time for the hard of hearing?
- A. Bring that to the ACM (Area Committee Meeting).
- Q. Is there literature on one voice, one group?
- A Yes. "The A.A. Group" pamphlet.
- Q. What is YPAA's relationship to the structure?
- A. A.A. is a movement that has a structure. The structure does not define us. YPAA groups have GSRs. YPAA committees can have a formal or informal relationship. Board members are invited to participate. I have attended ICYPAA and WACYPAA in the spirit of unity. Be present when asked!

Meeting adjourned @ 11:45 a.m. Respectfully submitted by, Jonelle W. Area 42 Secretary

Sunday, March 25, 2018:
DCM Meeting: 7:30-8:30a.m.
Standing Committee Chairs Meeting: 7:30a.m - 8:30a.m.
Announcements:
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Standing Committee Chair Reports: (con't)
Officer Reports:
Area Chair:
New Business:

Ask -It-Basket:

Regional Forum September 7-9, 2018. Fall Assembly September 14-16, 2018. Motion to Close. Seconded. Closed @ 11:36 a.m with I am Responsible.

Respectfully Submitted by, Jonelle W. Area 42 Secretary