

# **Secretary Minutes from September 9, 10 & 11, 2011**

## **Fall Area 42 Assembly**

### **Tonopah, Nevada**

#### **Friday September 9, 2011**

Assembly Opened with the Serenity Prayer at 6:30 PM. District 7 is hosting the Assembly with District 11 managing the sodas. Ruth J. (past delegate and Regional Trustee) is our guest Speaker this weekend. Banquet tickets are on sale @ \$15.00. The meal is being provided by the Tonopah Elks and will be the same as the last assembly. Carol introduced the table with past delegates, Joan M., Ruth J., Roberta L. and Kevin D. Carol recognized Diane and Manny from the Tonopah Convention Center, Ralph C. our recorder and we are now wireless. There will be an artifacts meeting at noon on Saturday. The missing Big Book from the last assembly has been found, if you haven't signed it please do, if you signed it last assembly then you are already in there. Greg M. was in a motorcycle accident on the way home from the forum. He is now home and recovering.

#### **Emily F. Alt. DCM District 1**

District One has been keeping busy hosting a workshop in May and a workshop in July that were both terrific and well attended. Our next workshop will be held in November with the date and location to be determined this weekend. We will be holding our annual District One Picnic on Saturday October 1st in Boulder City. Flyers will be available for those wishing to attend. For all District One GSR's - our district meeting will be held tomorrow at lunch in the blue room out front and around the corner. The meeting should wrap up quickly and pizza will be provided. Please see me if you are a new GSR and require any additional information or assistance.

Thank you.

#### **Tom E. DCM District 2**

Hello everyone I am Tom E. District 2 DCM. We are still reaching out to groups without GSRs. Carol B was a special guest at our last meeting. We have a solid and consistent group of GSRs and our service positions are filled. I was funded to attend the additional regional forum. Thank you.

#### **Rick S. DCM District 4**

District 4 has been trudging along quite well. Although district meeting attendance has not grown significantly, we are blessed with a core of 4 or 5 dedicated GSR's who suit up and show up every month to get the job done. We will be hosting The November 12th speaker meeting in Reno, and we are Hosting the NAGSC meeting on December 4th. **John C.**

#### **Rhonda W. District 5B**

District 5b has been working on contacting the groups in our district. We have compiled a list of all the active groups and a plan to visit new groups and groups with no GSR representation. We currently have 44 contributing groups in our district and about 30 active GSR's. Our Alternate DCM was able to attend the special Forum in California. Our annual picnic will take place on October 9th Cherie Nichols has tickets. I have dropped the ball on the Chili cook off challenge and could use some motivation to get back on track, maybe the spring would be a better time.

#### **Chris S. Alt. DCM District 6**

In June District 6 had a wonderful experience to host the founder's day picnic and the NAGSC meeting at the Genoa park. We had a very good turn out and we got to hear from our area 42 delegate regarding the conference items and his experience, strength and hope. In July District 6 hosted a round table discussion at the Carson City Alano club on A.A. and the digital age, the home group and being a GSR. The turnout was small but the questions and frustrations brought up by the individuals that did attend made up for it. I also had the opportunity to attend the additional regional forum on the weekend of August 19-21 it was my first time and the learning experience was incredible. Thank you to district 6 for allowing me to attend. I went with my home group GSR, which helped cut the cost down. While there at the forum I attended 2 workshops. The first workshop was a district inventory workshop and the second was carrying the message to the elder community. One of the things that the presenter from Hawaii impressed upon is that we call the community elder and not elderly. Elder is a more respectable term. Hawaii was the first to have this chair position and Washington state actually has a Cooperation with the Elder Community or called CEC. If you would like to go to [www.area17aa.org](http://www.area17aa.org) they have a workbook that you can download. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

#### **Edie D. Alt. DCM District 7**

District 7 has approximately 24 active groups (out of 42 registered groups) that attend our District meeting, as well as several committee chairs and guests. Average attendance at our meetings this year has been around 20 to 25 people. We meet the third Friday of every month at 6:30pm at the Serenity Club on Schiff Drive in Las Vegas.

We had our second service event on June 25th with the topic being the 12 Concepts. We were honored to have past-Trustee, Julian R, as our main speaker and he helped us work our way through the Twelve Concepts in an enlightening and often humorous manner. Lunch was served, and while attendance was lower than anticipated, it was a very enjoyable afternoon.

Our 26th Annual Mt. Charleston Picnic will be held on September 18th (a departure from our normal August date) and we are all really looking forward to another successful picnic. Tickets are sold out and there has been a lot of hard work put into the preparations for this event by our picnic Chair, Dave B, and co-Chair, Jody H, along with several other committee members who have been assisting with getting tickets and flyers printed and distributed, t-shirts printed, coordinating with Archives and Grapevine chairs for their tables and presentations at this year's picnic and all the other details that go into making a successful picnic.

We have our third service event scheduled for October 29th on the topic "A.A. Comes of Age". There will be a speaker panel and an Ask-It Basket, as well as lunch (Halloween themed). Flyers will be distributed shortly.

We are continuing to work toward increased participation in the District by visiting groups that are inactive as well as checking with groups that have GSRs but have not been actively participating in the District to see what assistance we can offer.

The District is financially solvent and we have been able to fund GSRs to Tonopah, as well as finance District participation at PRAASA in March and at the Additional Regional Forum this past month.

Respectfully submitted

#### **Tim F. DCM District 8**

District 8 is active, regular district meetings are held with average participation. Like any other districts we have our challenges, I've ascertained that our districts challenges are geographic. District 8 spans over 200 miles along US 395 from Lone Pine in the south to Walker, CA in the north, it certainly takes a special DCM to be able to cover this district in its entirety, we've had a few in the past but I can only do my best.

Mammoth had its 35th annual High Sierra Campout with much success. Back in July we had the privilege to host Joan M. Ruth J. And Eddie from Las Vegas who put on a great 7th tradition Workshop for us, thank you, we got to settle our district self support issues based on experience from the panel.

Also Mammoth and Bishop have two great CPC,PI committees that are very active in putting panel presentations on for various professionals, I was able to in on one Mammoth put on for the entire police Dept. I understand that Bishop also has a semi regular panel that speaks to the health and human services and a DUI class, these two committees cooperate together and feed off each other in carrying their message which I've seen bases itself in the traditions and guidelines set out in their specific workbooks....Thanks for allowing me to serve

#### **Dennis W. DCM District 10A**

I am very happy to report that our PI and CPC have been working together to get our message out to the professional community. They have been meeting with a local doctor and clinic coordinator for Carlin and Elko, and a Judge in Elko as well. They are supplying literature, and are working on putting ads on the local radio stations to help get the message out.

We are still working on the list of groups in the district to get them up to date with Area and GSO, we are far spread and a change in my working hours has slowed the process but soon I will be back to regular hours and will be more available to help out getting to outlying area meetings.

The groups are doing well, our Friday night Speaker group has been bringing in out of town speakers, if anyone is interested in speaking let me know and I'll pass it on to the speaker Chair, Sherry C. so she can get you on the roster, by the way, they supply a room and gas money so come on over and share your story.

Once again, thanks for letting me share and serve

#### **Chip H. DCM District 11**

Sobriety is alive and well in district 11. We have a district meeting every other month. The Tonopah group takes a meeting into the Tonopah Jail, and the Smokey valley group takes a meeting into the conservation camp. We have a yearly campout in Kingston every July. We are very rural, but have an excellent AA fellowship. Thank you for letting me be of service.

#### **Deb S. DCM District 12**

District 12 covers Yerington, Hawthorne, Silver Springs, Fernley, Fallon, Lovelock, Nixon, Wadsworth and Austin. The District business meetings are growing. We have 11 GSR's, a couple of Alternates, a Secretary, a Treasurer, Intergroup Rep. and a few members in attendance. The GSR's would like to schedule a GSR training workshop, so I will be getting with Lonnie. One of our District's groups have been chosen for the 2011 Survey, we had quite a turnout! In support of our District, the first Saturday of each month, directly following our business meeting, we have a Birthday Speaker Meeting in Fallon. Groups in the district take turns hosting it. Our district partially funded me to the "Additional Forum" in L.A. What a great learning experience! Let me slip in a

blurb about the “Oasis Festival in Fallon”, a one day Round-up on Oct 15th. Flyers are on the table, last day to register is September 31st, 2011.

#### **Justin P. DCM District 13**

Alt. DCM and I are slowly getting around to the different meetings speaking about service. There is a district fund raiser Oct. 22 with a car wash from 9am to 2pm while you are in a meeting we will wash and dry your car. \$7.00, raffle and auction, face painting and balloons, speaker meeting in the big room 3pm speaker TBA. Confirming the status of districts groups listed as inactive. Many thanks to the GSRs that make it possible.

#### **Ron W. DCM District 14**

District 14 includes groups in Truckee, Tahoe City, Kings Beach, Incline Village, Sierraville, and now Downieville. We are currently working on contacting groups in our more outlying area to encourage participation in general service. At this year's district jamboree, an event more geared to fellowship and social gathering we were able to contact members interested in general service from some of our groups historically been inactive. This serves as a reminder to me that these so called social events are still a great opportunity to carry the message not just of sobriety but also involvement at the general service level. Currently all of our service positions are filled, and business meetings as well as regular meetings have been well attended. Thank you for letting me be of service.

#### **Dave A. DCM District 15**

District 15 is alive and well and sound financially. We held one event, a speaker meeting and fish fry. Our district is holding our annual Halloween dance at eh TIE club Friday October 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30p. picnic to be announced. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our GSRs and attendees for their awesome participation. Also some time tomorrow I've been asked to participate in carrying the AA message panel presentation and want to thank Laurie S. typing it for me.

#### **Juan . DCM District 17**

Verbal report at the assembly – meeting schedules updated, activities planned. Full report available for review on the Assembly recorded CD.

#### **Julie C . DCM District 20**

Corrections: We have three large prisons in our district so H&I has a special place in the hearts of many of our members. We are fortunate to have the NAGSC Corrections/BTG Chair in our district. He has been working with the district H&I Liaison as we try to expand the service we are able to provide to the inmates.

PI/CPC: Our first sharing day will be held on October 15th, with the help of the NAGSC PI and CPC chairs. It is our hope that we will be able to address some emotional questions that have been brought to the district. Such as:

1. How do we change misconceptions in our communities about what AA is and what AA isn't?
2. Is signing court cards breaking the traditions?
3. Is there anything we can do to help the still suffering alcoholic who is too afraid to attend a meeting?

Campout: The annual Sierra Cascade campout was a great success. We had a number of people from Area 42 join us this year. We were able to host the NAGSC meeting on the Sunday just after the campout. We hope to be able to get the same weekend next year.

GSR Training: Lonnie, the GSR Survival Trainer, is scheduled to provide training at our next district meeting on Oct 1st.

Archives: The Area 42 Archives Chair and our Alt DCM are coordinating the updating of all the District 20 binders as well as making sure both the North and South have duplicates of all documents. We have been delayed but hope to have it completed by the next assembly.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

### **Area Officer and Area Committee Reports**

#### **Justin P. SAGSC ~ Chairperson**

SAGSC Statement of Purpose

To facilitate General Service work in Southern Area 42 by:

- Providing information from the Area Committee, GSO, and AA as a whole to all Southern Area 42 groups through their General Service Representatives.
- Provide a forum for Groups and Districts to share their experience, strength, and hope on service problems with each other.
- Provide any other assistance needed by those in General Service in Southern Area 42.

Our meetings also provide a forum for GSRs to hear reports from, The Districts in the south, as well as Area 42 officers, Southern area standing committees, and upcoming events.

Our Southern Area is comprised of odd numbered Districts. There are 11 active geographic Districts including one lingual District, District 21. We meet at the TIE Club (329 north 11th st Las Vegas) 4 times a year. Those meetings are the second Sunday at

1:15pm of January, May, July, and November. Our GSR Survival Training (for new or returning GSR's or anyone interested in more GSR info) meets at 12:30pm before the regular meeting. We have a special meeting in February for General Service Agenda Items.

At our May meeting we had around 100 in attendance including 10 new GSRs. Byron gave an in depth account of the General Service Conference even though he had only one day to prepare. Thank you Byron

Dist 1 Hosted that meeting

At our July meeting there were around 85 in attendance with 13 new GSRs. Thanks to Dist 7 for hosting.

We are grateful to have had Karla a Spanish interpreter at both meetings.

Our Next Meeting is November 13 at the TIE Club. 1:15pm and 12:30 for GSR training. Correct me if I'm wrong but I believe budgets for 2012 committee chairs will be due to turn in at that meeting.

We also have a several upcoming events in the South;

The Intertribal Convention in October, The Las Vegas Roundup in November, WACYPAA in January, and the Men's International in April

Thanks for allowing me to be of service. AND. Welcome to those that have made it up here and are new in General Service!

### **Sophie K. - Area 42 Alt. Delegate Report**

Since we last met the Delegate has been handling matters quite well on his own. So, I have been thinking about stuff. After the pre-conference roundtable project, thank you for allowing me to sit quietly and pay attention.

I'd like to mention service sponsorship. I consider my service sponsor as my guide in General Service just as I consider my sobriety sponsor to be my guide in my daily walk. I wouldn't be without either one. Please ask one of the rusted servants for more information.

One year from now, at the Fall Assembly 2012, we will hold the election for Panel 63 area officers. (That's the 2013-2014 rotation.) Please reflect on the positions that our new trusted servants will hold. I suggest that you observe the current officers in action, talk with them about the tasks required and about their growth in sobriety through their commitment. Check the Area guidelines for the basic qualifications and confer with your service sponsor about standing for any or many of the positions that are coming open. If you aren't ready for an area position, please think about those who would be good trusted servants – and nominate them!

Good leadership is essential to A.A.'s future; you just might make a great delegate some day, so please keep coming back! Thank you for allowing me to serve.

### **Sophie K. – NAGSC Chair Report**

The Northern Area Committee has met twice since the Area's pre-conference assembly. We met in June at a Founders' Day picnic and heard the Delegate's report from the 2011 General Service Conference.

In August we met in the NW corner of the Northern Area in Chester, CA. Many had just come from the Dist. 20 4-day campout and were pretty mellowed out therefore non-argumentative.

Topics:

1. Mileage reimbursement rate for attendance at scheduled NAGSC meetings. The NAGSC finance committee was asked to review and make a recommendation at the Dec. meeting.
2. Funding a committee chair to a general service event outside of Area 42. Approved as a one-time, non precedent-setting approval.

Thank you for being of service and for allowing me to do the same.

### **Carol B. - Area 42 Chairperson**

It's been a great summer. First off, I want to thank you for allowing me to attend the Pacific "Additional" Forum. The toughest part of the trip was deciding on which workshops to go to. Two out of twelve, it was terrible knowing I could only be able to go to two. I did send a friend into 2 others with my recorder, so that is a bonus. I was invited to join 10 other Area Chairs for lunch on Saturday and hear highlights of their area assemblies and other service events in the region.

Some of you folks from the North have been keeping me grateful and busy, by allowing me to attend your District Meetings and seeing some of you there, while also meeting GSRs not able to attend the assembly, and by allowing me the privilege of participating in some very special events.

I was invited to the Serenity in the Rubies Camp-out this July 22-24 to serve on the General Service Panel with Ed DeP. and current DCM Dennis White. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Gene L (past DCM from district 10A) for opening his lovely home which is located just outside of Lamoille Canyon, to Ed and I the entire time we were there. We were treated like royalty all weekend. The visit with Gene and his family was truly a loving, budding spiritual encounter for me. I treasure the memory.

I have been going to some A.A. meetings that I have not attended before. Byron sent me the 3 Surveys in the North to distribute. Debbie S, in district 12 saw to it that the Tuesday Book Study Group in Fallon took the survey and then sent them to Byron, and I had the privilege of attending a There is a Solution Group meeting at the Alano Club in Sparks, and the Young and Reckless Group

in Carson City while they participated in their surveys, then sent them on to Byron also. I have some extra blank copies here for you to check out. We were told at the Forum that the 2011 Membership Surveys would be out for us to see in 2-3 months. Next week I have been asked to join Sophie and another trusted servant to participate on a Traditions panel, and I have been assigned Tradition 5. It just doesn't get any better than this. It is a pleasure, serving you in this position.

#### **Paul E. ~ Area 42 Archivist**

Since our last assembly, Julie C. the DCM from district 20 contacted me and asked if I would bring her the District 20 binders to the June NAGSC meeting, so that she could bring them back to her district and put them in order and take them around to the different groups to maybe spark some interest in writing up some group histories or updating the ones that are already in the binders. At that meeting Laura from District 8 said that she would be willing to do the same for District 8, so I brought those binders to August NAGSC meeting. Any other district that would be willing to take on this project please let me know. This is a good way for the District to get involved in their history and the Archives.

I talked with the Northern Nevada Inter-Group steering committee about putting a small display and creating a reading area in the Central Office. This would be so that A. A. members could come in and look through and read from the District binders, old copies of the Bracer (NNIG newsletter) and other interesting Archives material. I believe this could also spark some interest in the Archives and maybe get some more group histories.

Here on Saturday during lunch there will be an Archives presentation group interaction, Caroline and I would like to have a group discussion about the history of the oldest groups in our Area – which group started first? Who was there, what other groups started from that one? How did our program spread across the Area? This will be a group participation forum – not a panel discussion. Please join us and let us know your questions and comments. Thank you for allowing me to serve,

#### **Caroline T. - Alt. Archivist**

- ☐ Please come visit the Archives. These are your records, please come enjoy them. We have been busy putting the Area records in order and could use some help with sorting and filing, laughing and crying. It would be greatly appreciated if each Committee & District would elect or appoint an Archivist to help with that particular section of the records. Breaking them down and working together makes the project manageable & FUN. Our Area history is rich & interesting & we want to put it in order so that it can be shared with our fellowship.
- ☐ While you're in the Archives room, please pay close attention to the information in your District binder. We will have an Artifacts meeting tomorrow in this room – rather than having a panel, we will have an interactive discussion about the history of AA in Area 42 – specifically, the groups – which group is the oldest? How has AA grown in Area 42 over the years? We need your help with this one. Please come join us for a lively discussion & a FREE LUNCH! We would appreciate it if the DCMs would please come to the Artifacts room to pick up their District binder so we can go through them at the meeting.
- ☐ September is a busy month for the Archives. Our next Artifacts meeting is next weekend, Sunday, September 18th at the District 7 Picnic at Lee Canyon. That Artifacts meeting is about the history of the District 7 picnic. We're looking for display items, panelists & your ideas for future Artifacts & Archives presentations.
- ☐ We won't be slowing down in October. District 1 has a picnic in Boulder City on October 1st & I believe District 5B also has an October picnic. Plus, we'll probably have an Artifacts meeting in October.
- ☐ If you are hosting a District meeting, workshop, picnic or other event, please invite us. We would love to bring an Archives display to your AA-related events.
- ☐ If you wish to donate historical articles, photos, meeting schedules or items specifically related to our Area, or volunteer your time & talent to create Area 42 Archives for everyone to enjoy, please call me: Caroline -- 702-592-0890 We look forward to your participation & assistance with this major project of bringing local AA history to everyone.
- ☐ Why are we doing this? Because Bill said so:

“We are trying to build up extensive records which will be of value to a future historian... It is highly important that the factual material be placed in our files in such a way that there can be no substantial distortion... We want to keep enlarging on this idea for the sake of the full length history to come... Every one of the new and unexpected developments in A.A. has, lying just underneath, an enormous amount of dramatic incident and experience—stories galore.... It isn't hard to prepare a fact sheet of what happened—that is, dates when people came in, groups started and so forth. The hard thing to lay hold of is the atmosphere of the whole proceedings and anecdotal material that will make the early experience alive.” Bill W. 1957

#### **Pat S. - Newsletter editor –**

I hope everyone got a copy of the current edition knowing that some wouldn't have it I brought several dozen and left them by the table by the door but those were gone several hours ago. You can always get the newsletter by going on line to the area website [www.nevadaarea42.org](http://www.nevadaarea42.org) on the right side under links. DCMs please relay to your GSRs and GSRs please pass to your group members. We are always looking for articles that are service related we cannot use personal information as this is a confidential. You can send them in to [area42newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:area42newsletter@gmail.com) .

**Michelle B. - Registrar**

Hi, I'm Michele your Registrar. I have distributed all groups and their numbers to the DCM's in the past weeks. My position is to update group information to GSO. If you are a new GSR or an established one with any information to change like your address or phone number and have not submitted the information to your DCM or New York, please see me before you leave. I would like to let you know, if you are a new GSR for an existing group, once the information has been added to FNV (Future New Vision), GSR kit should arrive to you within 7-10 days. I do update information weekly. If you are a new group, GSO holds onto the information for 30 days and GSR kits are then mailed out after the 30 day holding period. They are mailed from two separate desks at GSO and this is their system. When I am given new group information, I have been trying to give this information to the DCM's so they are aware of the new group. Please feel free to call me at 702-716-7607 or email me anytime at [enjoythemoment1@aol.com](mailto:enjoythemoment1@aol.com)

**Andy K. - Alt Chair**

No report – Announcement – selling banquet tickets at breaks only.

**Jeannette B. - NAGSC – Area Alt Registrar**

I am Michelle's counterpart in the north, if you are in the north and need to update your information please see me this weekend. Since our last assembly I have only received about 4 updates and I know we have more than 4 new people in our entire northern area. If you are new and you are not sure see Michelle and I and we'll look it up and make sure you're in there and then you'll be able to get your packet from New York thanks.

**Kevin B. - Recording secretary**

Please give me your report, electronic, hand written, chiseled in stone, I can't read Sanskrit so I will transcribe what you write the best I can. If I can't read it I'll make something up. Baskets are upfront one for the translator and one for me so please make sure I get a copy of your report.

**Phil W – NAGSC Secretary**

In the past few months I've been busy with those things we do to keep our fellowship informed. We've had our 2 main NAGSC meetings. As the NAGSC secretary I became part of the communications committee which is working on Interpretation and Translation. I'm very privileged to be a part of that. In August I went to the Forum in Woodland hills this was not a funded Forum but we decided to go on our own, what a great weekend it was I was able to meet many folks from all over our Region who are living this life, sharing experiences and love for alcoholics anonymous. I would like to thank you all for the patience and love you show in allowing me to serve in this capacity.

**Vince C. - SAGSC Treasurer**

Copy of the statements are printed out on the table, if you have questions see me.

**Lonnie GSR survival Trainer (North – North)**

I was really enjoying people coming to the microphone because everyone is afraid to touch it so Sophie is up here on her toes and then Justin is standing down here on this step, it was really kind of funny. Anyway Oct 1<sup>st</sup> I will be with District doing GSR survival and I will be there I also just found out I am going to be doing something with district 12 and still working with Elko to come out there this weekend I am going to be working on some new ideas with Ruth and Joan, Joan just found this out just this second, on different ideas for helping GSRs different kinds of situations that come up. Tim's district is doing great and if anybody needs any help with the south, which would be district 8 and Tim takes care of that.

**Tim F – GSR survival trainer (North - South)**

Yeah what he said. No really, I am available for my district to do the GSR survival.

**Glen W. - SAGSC intergroup Liaison**

Last month central office reported  
 980 information calls - 70 12 step calls  
 1380 hotline calls - 92 12 step calls  
 We had 186 website visits per day for a total of 5766 for the month  
 Treasurer reported  
 Check book balance of 28,428.81  
 Prudent reserve of 20,539.26  
 Literature account balance of 6,071.02  
 Hotline has all shifts covered  
 The by-laws committee has finished their review of the inter group by-laws. We will be voting on these proposed changes four items at the time at our next upcoming intergroup meetings.

Silver streak is looking for local AA articles to print. Need to be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, please contact Lorraine at the silver streak or Jack at central office. Subscriptions are \$10 per year or \$7 for the electronic version.

Unity committee is doing fine with nothing to report.

The southern area intergroup festival will be held in late February or early march, date has not yet been determined.

The gratitude ball will be April 14<sup>th</sup> 2012 at the Salvation Army, on Palomino lane.

Native American Indian Alcoholics Anonymous Convention is on October 6-9<sup>th</sup> 2011 Palace Station Hotel and Casino.

Las Vegas Round Up November 24 – 27 2011 Riviera Hotel

Our Inter Group meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 6pm, at central office.

For more information on any of our events or to contact any of our intergroup committee's please go to the Las Vegas central office website [www.lvcentraloffice.org](http://www.lvcentraloffice.org). thanks for letting me be of service.

#### **Regina P. - ANYPAA Liaison**

Regina Powers is the GSL and Dan Melick co GSL

Dan Melick is now the Events chair for Intergroup. WE are exited about Annpypaa Co Hosting the Halloween Event called Zombie Prom which will be held Oct.29th at the Oddfellows. Annpypaa is a service committee and this our endeavor to continue to support Intergroup and get the events rockin and a rollin!

Invasion continues and we are currently in Incline.

Our next Panel meeting is Sept. 17 from 2 to 4 pm at The Triangle on Traditions 4,5 and 6.

We attended the Icpypaa ,International Conference Of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous, in San Francisco and it was EXTRAORDINARY! AA's future is in capable hands.

The next Icpypaa will be St. Louis.

The next Big Conference is WACYPAA in Las Vegas in Jan.2012 We , of course are going to support and be in service for our southerners.

We continue to support in service at Willow Springs Wednesdays at 6:00pm.

Also, West Hills on Tuesdays at 7:30pm.

Thank you for embracing Annpypaa One Day at a Time!

Please visit our website for more information at [www.annypaa.org](http://www.annypaa.org)

#### **Robin R. - Grapevine Rep- South**

We meet monthly, on the 2nd Friday, 6:00 p.m. at Las Vegas Central Office. For more info on the committee or having a Grapevine rep for your home group, please email [sagscgrapevine@nevadaarea42.org](mailto:sagscgrapevine@nevadaarea42.org) or send someone down to the meeting. Current active participation is about 25 reps for the Southern Area which is up from the last report and we're very grateful to have some new representatives. We'll have literature tables at the District 1 and 7 picnics, and have been invited back to the Native American International AA Conference in October & the Las Vegas Roundup in November. We're also looking forward to being at WACYPAA 15 at the end of January! We still have members attending the End of the Month Speaker Meeting whenever possible, with books, pamphlets, and information on the literature and service opportunities with the committee. If anyone in the Southern Area has an event coming up and would like to have the Grapevine there, we're available to carry the message.

#### **Candis J. (for Leslie D.) - Accessibility/Special Needs Chair – south**

Special Needs is responding to calls from central office needing our services. We now have 2 wheel chairs at central office to take to events for those needing wheel chair assistance. Special needs is now working with H&I by bringing a meeting to the Freemont assisted living home located at 14<sup>th</sup> and Freemont every Tuesday 0930am to 1030am. On the 6<sup>th</sup> of June special needs set up a booth at with PI/CPC for the returning Home Vets event at the Palace Station Hotel and Casino. On the 11<sup>th</sup> of June we had a booth set up at founders day located at the Salvation Army here in Las Vegas NV. There we were able to sign on 3 special needs volunteers. We are still visiting a member that is awaiting a liver transplant Special Needs visits this member once (1) a week and has been for the past 9 mos. For comments or questions regarding Accessibilities / Special Needs I can be reached at (phone available on the area roster) [chapter5@embarqmail.com](mailto:chapter5@embarqmail.com) thanks for allowing me to be of service.

#### **Chuck G.- WACYPAA**

Wacypaa will be held January 26-29 in Las Vegas, Nevada. For information and to register, please visit [wacypaa15.org](http://wacypaa15.org) or contact Lorie at (phone numbers available in the files).

If your group would be interested in sponsoring a newcomer, there is a scholarship box that can be checked on the registration form, and will be given to a newcomer who enters the convention. Pre Registration is 25 dollars, and will be going up shortly.

WACYPAA is hosting an AA Jeopardy and Spaghetti Dinner at the Tie Club Friday, September 23rd, 2011 at 7pm. Tickets are available for 5 dollars. For more information please contact Carianne at (phone numbers available in the files).

#### **Kyle H. (for Lyle C.) – Corrections and BTG Chair**

I want to thank NAGSC for allowing me to attend the BTG workshop in Sacramento this weekend. I am sorry to miss y'all, but I have spoken to the committee members and our report follows.



District 20 (Kyle H and Emory B):

High Desert in Susanville has cleared me to go in, I have been in B yard 3 times and bringing in Big Books, 12 & 12's and Grapevines. We are waiting for more clearances. B yard has not seen an outside member for years.

We have outside members attending all AA meetings for the first time in a long time at California Correctional Center (CCC). We are still trying to start BTG and the inmates have shown a strong interest.

The Federal Prison in Herlong continues to have active participation.

Plumas County jail and Lassen County Women's jail and are being visited.

District 8 (Scott B): The jails continue to have strong participation and literature is made available. However, new members have been having trouble getting clearances.

District 6 (Chuck M):

The Tahoe area is doing great; all volunteer slots are full. Literature is available.

Nevada State Prison in Carson City has some meetings.

Intergroup:

The Corrections Committee and Intergroup continue to work together. The Intergroup Corrections Chair, Steve W, is overseeing the facilities in Reno and Sparks.

I'm continuing to work with Darlene, the Executive Director of Central Office, with BTG until they get the committee up and running.

Spanish speaking Volunteers: I have contact information from District 22. They have some members attending some Spanish speaking meetings.

We are still looking for information from other districts. We still have an open request for Spanish speaking volunteers to go into the larger facilities. If anyone is interested in either participating on the committee or has information, please contact me. I want to thank all the members of the committee.

#### **Rosemarie DeS. – H&I Chair SAGSC.**

(Requested to place totals only in the minutes)

Items given to Hospitals and Institutions

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Big Books             | 75 Cases +11 Books |
| 12X12                 | 55 Cases + 1 Book  |
| Pamphlets             | 1450 ea            |
| Meeting Schedules     | 1519 ea            |
| Pocket Big Books      | 6 Cases +9 Books   |
| Spanish Big Books     | 2 Cases + 2 Books  |
| Spanish 12X12         | 3 Cases            |
| Spanish Pamphlets     | 40 ea              |
| Wallet Cards          | 245 ea             |
| Large Print Big Books | 8 Books            |
| Inmate to Inmate      | 4 Cases            |
| Pocket 12X12          | 3 Cases + 20 books |
| Large Print 12X12     | 1 Book             |

Please contact me for more information or the report in its entirety.

#### **Tim W. – CPC north**

We conducted conference calls on May 12th and September 8th. In attendance were: SAGSC CPC Chair, NNIG CPC Chair, CPC representatives for Districts 6, 20 and 10A, and Area 42 Chair. Each of us discussed recent CPC activities we have been doing, such as:

Contacting and meeting with judges and parole officers

Dealing with court cards and mandating sponsors

Hosting medical students and judges at open AA meetings

Contacting high school "health coaches" and making presentations to high school students

Hosting information tables at local Veterans Affairs and Human Resources conferences

Literature being left at schools, hospitals and courts

District 6 CPC rep. wrote a letter to funeral parlors after an obituary appeared in a newspaper asking for donations to AA.

The International Community Corrections Association cancelled their conference in Reno during July but we will look to participate when it is rescheduled. The conference attendees will include judges, treatment providers, halfway house operators, probation and parole officers. The GSO referred the conference to us to consider participating in.

District 20 is holding a workshop on October 15th to discuss PI and CPC issues which I will attend. Let us know if your district would be interested in a similar workshop, or if you would like me to attend one of your monthly district meetings to explain what CPC is all about.



Please let me know if you would like to participate with the NAGSC CPC Committee. If you have any needs that we can help with, please let me know. We have lots of literature I can help you with, or I can join you in meetings or presentations. Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.

#### **Laura PI/CPC south**

##### **Recent Events**

4/26—We presented to the 9th grade health classes at Bishop Gormon High School. Our presentation format is a Power Point on Alcoholics Anonymous followed by several young speakers sharing their stories and then a question and answer period.

5/17—We presented to the 9th grade health classes at Palo Verde High School.

6/6 We had a manned information table at the VA Welcome Home Celebration at Palace Station

6/11—We had a manned literature table at the Human Resource Convention at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

6/11-- We had a manned literature table at Founders Day

6/22—With special thanks to Glen W., we created a new recruitment flyer for our committees.

6/27—Through an inquiry to Central Office, we were asked to participate in a radio interview on a talk show, Conversations with Cogee. Cindy M. did the interview, and was able to provide questions for him to ask. They covered things like meetings, website addresses, and the phone number to our Central Office. It went well, and they have asked us back for when they do a follow up show on alcoholism.

##### **Current Events**

--10/18 and 10/19—We will be presenting to the 9th grade health classes at Bishop Gormon high school.

--11/9—We will have a manned literature table at Project Homeless Connect

--12/7—We will be presenting to the 9th grade health classes at Palo Verde High School

-- We are making progress generating new contacts at the courts, the nursing board and with social workers. We have also made progress in recruiting new committee members.

--We continue to keep our literature rack at Parole and Probation stocked, which (based on the number of pamphlets being taken) seems successful.

#### **Carri C. - PI Chair North**

Hi, Carri Alcoholic Grateful to be serving as Area 42 NAGS Public Information Chair. The Goal is to get a Big Book in very public library in Area 42. This goal is on its way and is becoming very successful. Have been in contact with inter group and other PI committees in the Area. The PI Committee was asked to be part of Sharing Day in Susanville Oct 15th his will be the first workshop all year very excited to be part of this. PI will be contacting all the DCMs to see what we can do to help in their district. All the books so far have been funded by the individual districts and their committees. One last lot of why we do Public Information. By getting schedules out in to the public, members are able to find meeting this makes us available not invisible.

#### **Cheri N. Area 42 Treasurer –**

I just wanted to say this so you guys can be working on it, there is a list over there that is not alphabetical unfortunately of all the groups that have contributed anything to the area since January through august 31<sup>st</sup> if you see any discrepancies in their names or whatever, there are a lot of corrections that need to e made please let me know or make a correction on those sheets their taped to the table. and also on the right hand side of those reports are all the group receipts in order to save postage, either, if I had your email address I can email it to you or you can pick it up here. And the same thing applies, a lot of people send us money in their personal name with no group name or just the number or they'll send it Wednesday night book study and the actual name is Sumerlin book study so we have receipts that don't exactly match what the name of the group is if you could just look through them all please and pick out the ones that belong to you and if you find any errors or corrections please let me know, thanks.

#### **GSR orientation (Past Delegates) Available on CDs**

#### **Area Committee Meeting in the Blue Room**

##### **8:10pm Meeting Called to Order**

##### **In attendance:**

Rodger H.; Julie C.; Kyle H.; Dennis W.; Carri C.; Juan G.; Doreen H.; Richard S.; David A.; Vincent C.; Emly F.; Justin P.; Michele B.; Andrew K.; Carol B.; Kevin B.; Paul E.; Lee H.; Chris S.; Frank D.; Tim W.; Jeannette B.; Don H.; Ron W.; Tim F.; Scott B. Don S.; Regina P.; Sophie K.; Rich B.; Rhonda W.; Cherie N.; Byron F.; Glenn W.; Lonnie M.; Pat S.; Edie DeS.; Phil W.; Roger R.; Rich W.; Robin R.; Caroline T.; JD B.; Laura M.; Debbie S.; Chip M.; Tom E.;

Carol led the Serenity Prayer

Carol passed Greg M. address for anyone to copy off of it and send a card if they wish.

Carol B. - Mention the tele-conference proposal – I was hoping to fit it in during the extra time tomorrow but I have received an email from bob who is going to be the reader of that proposal and he is not going to be here until late tomorrow so it will be done on Sunday as it says on the agenda. Now what I want to let you know is this is officially a guide line changing proposal and should probably be considered a first read. That means after it has been read to the assembly on Sunday there will be no discussion. But there will be the only reason for anyone to go to the microphone is for a point of information or questions for clarification so if you have any questions about the proposal you ask them in the format of a question because if discussion begins from the microphones I will stop it immediately and remind them that this is a first reading and we don't discuss but we may have many questions please do remember that.

[Question from someone?]

Carol B.- the first reading and you ask your questions and I will be looking for a sense of the assembly and we may very well decide that we don't want to entertain bringing it back for a second reading but that will be up to the body on Sunday and we'll see how that going I understand that this proposal It was brought in a little different format to SAGSC already denied and it has been rewritten and we are looking at it as a first read and we don't do discussion on a first reading.

Byron F. – I don't have any report tonight other than to tell you that my report tomorrow I apologize some of you may have heard parts of it either at NAGSC or SAGSC but I try to put it all together for the general assembly here as I figure there are people who haven't heard it yet. I tried to update some of the topics from the additional forum we had and from the latest board meeting AAWS in New York so I hopefully brought it up to date or as up to date as I can get it if you have heard some of it don't Boo and Hiss just go along with it.

Sophie K – at this moment your Alt Delegate – thank you very much. The report I will save for everybody if that's alright, Carol?

Carol B. – UmHum

Sophie K. and the preview of Saturdays topics what I would like, there is this, when I talk to carol about wanting to have a discussion from the floor that was some months ago and it kind of got, I put a name on this think and your really not going to believe the name on this thing, I put our primary purpose in area 42, it is about carrying the message at the level of the assembly and where it's going to start, out primary purpose at area 42, what I really want to do is ask the GSRs how can we improve what we do here to better serve them you know and my perspective is that the only reason were here is because they're here. Ok they are the critical link; you know the story the upside down triangle, so hopefully they will have heard that a few times I won't belabor that point but in as much as they are the critical link here I feel in experience in service here is that the focus has been very much more at the podium and to me that's my experience. Let me try this, what if we turned the whole assembly over to the GSRs in December? In the sense of, they set the agendas they tell us what they want to have happen here. Now that's not what I am going to say, I hope that will come out of...so another piece of that I want to touch on service sponsor ship. Because you can't just suggest to somebody that you'll have all this power but they have no experience, you know, I don't know I'll assume a lot authority with no experience I am cool with that but I think in the way of running an area that service sponsor ship is huge and it has been huge in my service experience to guide me through the service manual to help me understand what this is about and it's taken me years so somehow in there these are the topics that I want to tie together but very briefly so we can open the mics to GSRs and any other members, DCMs anybody in this room who has an idea about how we, what can we do here in Tonopah how can we best use this time to best serve the GSRs and the rest of us too. Is this making any sense? (Group "yes") so that's what that is. How many people in this room have a service sponsor? How many people are willing to be a service sponsor? OK, so I will ask those questions tomorrow because I am sure, the first time I heard the term service sponsor I wasn't sure I heard correctly. So hopefully that will get a little buzz going and I'll just refer anyone with questions to members of the committee to the rusted's, just grab, you know how do you say, were not readily identifiable to a new comer here, you know Like "oh - I'm a committee member". But I am going to direct them toward the rusted's. And then if you hear any talk grab somebody, is that a good way to handle it, I don't know how, just talk to somebody about being a service sponsor look around see whose raising their hand and something like that. So that's what on this piece is referred to as a Saturday topic floor discussion regarding getting/keeping the groups engaged, I think it going to come out more like I just talked about. The finance guidelines Cherie's going to talk about them when she gets to her part.

Carol B. – I want to remind you guys that the sign in sheet please sign it

Cherie N. - finance committee report – because I noticed that the treasurers report is not on the agenda until Sunday not to throw Caro under the bus or anything but I am wondering if we have the money talks on Saturday when everybody is here rather than Sunday and people are not here. Only because I think it's important that everybody gets to hear what we are doing with the money. I think that's one thing. This assembly we are going to elect two new members at large. One from the north and one from the south to the finance committee. We meet twice a year in Tonopah here and twice a year on conference calls and we discuss budget and the finance guidelines and this and that. It needs to be somebody who has two years of service and who is not a – let me just read this exactly – at large finance committee members may not hold other positions at the area level that are subject to area budget

considerations, which means it can't be another officer it can't be somebody who is funded at some point, but, you do get paid (reimbursed) for your expenses. If you're not otherwise funded like at the SAGSC level or some other place. The finance committee member is reimbursed for costs associated with the attendance at the finance committee meetings. So let's say that you're a GSR or some other person who is not funded anywhere to come here and be part of the finance committee we do pay your expenses. Are we all clear on that? So it doesn't cost you anything to be on it. So just be thinking about how you want to volunteer. It's a very fun committee I have to say because all the people on it are so much fun. And we are presently working on merging the guidelines, the finance guidelines that were approved last year and the area guidelines that were revised in September of 2010, we are working on merging anything to do with finance taking it out of the area guidelines and adhering to the finance guidelines that everybody approved. Because there are some conflicts and discrepancies, and some what about this and what about that, a lot of references in the regular area guidelines that pertain to finance so we now have a new document that is only finance and we are merging the two, we are in the process of doing that. Any questions? Thanks?

Carol B. – we can fit you in tomorrow, thinking in my head, we went through so many reports tonight that we are just picking up the people who aren't her tomorrow and whatever extra time...

Cherie N. – I'll be quick in fact I'll just give it to you...

Carol B. just bring it to me tomorrow...

Byron F. – tomorrows good...

(Group laughter)

Cherie N. – the only thing that I do want to say something in this body is last year when we were approving the budget, we were all so concerned how PRAASA was going to be so expensive, you know and are we going to have enough money, and we had this, anyway, we spent \$6000.00 on PRAASA and yet the only difference in our finances worked out to be like \$900.00, difference. From where we were last year and where we are this year. \$900.00.

Carol B. – Just out of curiosity, how are our 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions to the area coming in this year,

Cherie N. – By Mail...

(Group laughter)

Carol B. – I walked into that one...how are they coming in as compared to last year...

Cherie N. - So you do want my report -

Carol B. – I am just guessing that you might get a question like “as compared to this time last year...”

Cherie N. – it's about \$1045.00 less from last year at this point. I mean I can do the math here ...

Carol B. – At this point it's September so ...

Cherie N. – no n o n o ...we are in September but the contributions are through August, I've seen some contributions in September, \$673, but these reports are august. ..

Carol B. – OK thank you very much, so we'll move into old business...

Phil W. – Communications committee – the communications committee is moving right along I got to go to the forum and I this video of a delegates report done with American sign language. Ok, we've been talking about you know, translation in Spanish, and other things and this another way that other areas are already dealing with getting out the message. I talked with a gentleman this evening who's hard of hearing and a lot of people wouldn't understand it and he was interested in this along with having a ribbon on the bottom that is feasible and I am going to talk to these guys and ask them about costs and that kind of stuff. Also down south we has, we've been talking about mostly the translation and interpretation on our website of all of our documents and stuff and at the last assembly we had Sophie and I, I think Scott was there, met with the two Hispanic districts and they said that they are really interested in working on the translation amongst themselves to be self supporting. That is what's going to happen tomorrow. And there has been a new lady that kind of joining that situation and she's really in to it. What we really wanted to do is, they wanted to

edit the Spanish GSR survival guide because when it got translated it came out different in their language and some of the words don't make sense to them. And so we didn't have a copy in word, so Byron gave me a CD with a PDF on it so we split up the PDF and changed it back into word. And we are going to get that to them and let them play with it. and find out if they can't make it read the same way the English version reads, because then we built that thing, we built it in the English version and so now were going to work it on getting the Spanish version to read exactly the same. And that's where we are at. This kind of stuff kind of blends across the thing in to special needs and remote communities. And I really feel that, with the new thing of anonymity in a digital age discussions next year well hearing a lot more about all kinds of stuff like this.

Carol B. – we have a lady from the south who has volunteered to do our translating and transcribing and she was going to try and be up here tonight but I don't think she made it so she'll be up her tomorrow. I am sure well have a couple of people, she won't be doing it all by herself, she will be doing the translating so remember we will have translators tomorrow so the people who are giving presentations and stuff you know, don't go too fast. So that she can keep up with you. That's why I asked that everybody bring another copy for the translator and that way she can, hopefully before the presentation being given, she can be given with the report, she will be able to see what it is rather than wait for each word to come out of your mouth. As you're doing it. Like you see the translators doing at the mics at the forum and at PRAASA. Anyway that's real nice to know that we have somebody who wants to be in service with us in that capacity because we really need that. It's nice to be able to have a packet where when they open it their packet everything that we have in our packet is in their packet in a language that they can understand most of it.

Byron F. – on the translation stuff, virtually 100% of everything that comes out of New York is now in English, Spanish and French. So that really helps us. I've been pretty good about picking the stuff up that I get and emailing to D21 and D22 in the Spanish language, so hopefully their getting more and more involved when I gave a presentation at district 21 in the south that was one of the things they were really anxious about is getting to be involved and in the fellowship and the language issue is really a big thing and GSO has done a great job.

Carol B. – thanks Byron, OK...New Business...

Michelle B. – I am the registrar and I am standing up because I am short. I wanted to talk to everybody here tonight about FNV, which is Future New Vision, it's the program that GSO has given the registrars to update information when we were at forum Phyllis Haladay was stating that FNV was created actually for GSO staff to update the meetings, update the GSRs things like that. It was not constructed for the registrars to be able to pull information out of. It was made for us to assist them and that's what we are basically doing. There are some points I want to go over. Anybody who is a new GSR once the information is entered into the system, which I can do and I usually do it about once a week, once information is entered into the system then GSO takes it. And they send it down to a desk and they send out a new GSR packet within 7 to 10 days. So the new GSR should get it within 7 to 10 days, but, if it's a new group, a completely new group, then GSO is going to hold on to it for 30 days. After the 30 day period then they will send out the new GSR packet and new group information. So I don't know if everybody knew that or not.

(unknown) – is that new Michelle?

Michelle B. – no it's not, it's actually very old because I forget what year it is but they decided that for any new group to have they wanted any new group to have a 30 day waiting period to make sure the group survived for 30 days.

Cheri C. – then do they get a hold of them again to see if they are still there?

Michelle B. – No –no what we are trying to do is, GSO then, people who bypass, when I enter in a new group information into FNV I try to contact the DCM and let them know you got a new group. People who bypass us though, bypass me and Jeannette, they send it straight to New York, New York then sends it to Byron and Byron then sends it to me then I can hopefully get a hold of the DCM and so it's a very, so it takes a lot of time. So, those ones aren't as easily, I can get them to you as I can get ones that deliver directly to us, me or Jeannette.

Byron F. – Excuse me Michelle, I hope everyone understands what Michelle's said there is a big difference in the time it takes for an old group to get information to a new GSR vs. a new group to get information to the new GSR. There is a big time GAP and a lot of people are complaining that GSR didn't get the information right away, if it's a new group there are not going to get it right away. It is a big deal.

Michelle B. – anybody have any questions on that? Like I was saying out there in front of the whole assembly, FNV does not have a query system where I can put in some information and say where I want to find out every meeting in that goes on at 705 post road in Las Vegas. I cannot pull up things by addresses, I cannot pull up things by email addresses, I cannot pull up things in that fashion. I cannot even pull up things by the date. Because, say a group was established 20 years ago, and for some reason the information was not kept up to date and the group was made inactive for a short time, then that new date is what shows on there it

wouldn't be accurate for me to look up this information and if you wanted to have me look up the information it would mean looking through 1060 records to find that information so its not as easily accessible to me as I think some people think it is. FNV was created again for GSO, for them to be able to look up what the information they wanted. It was not created for us to look up the information we wanted. Because I think it would be very convenient for me to say I want the email addresses for everybody in district 1. It doesn't happen. I don't have access to that. I told you about it doesn't, it's not really good for historical purposes either because once I add in a new GSR then it wipes out the old persons GSR information. So I could not tell you, if you asked me, Rhonda called me and asked me "Michelle, who was the GSR two terms ago?" I have no idea. I can't tell you because it does not keep that information. GSO has different screens that they have access to, I don't know if they have it or if the GSR could call. Justin was just telling me something that I'd never heard before that he called and found put something about his home group but he called GSO directly to find out that information. FNV is extremely word sensitive also, so that why it's also very helpful when you can send in any forms are filled out if you can get the group number and that's why I've sent all the information to the DCMs I do it every 6 months and the registrar that's I've sent everybody email this time because everybody said that would be more convenient from last time so I hope you received that. If you haven't I've brought extra hard copies just for in case anybody didn't get it. As far as the word sensitive thin, and Kevin had it last time too so he understands this, if something is added as like my, I used to be the GSR for beer 30, and if beer and a dash, and hen 30 and then somebody sent it in as beer space 30, you're going to have a whole new group, so that is why the group number is so important for us to have. And Rhonda just got something with step sisters that sent to New York directly they already have step sisters so I am not really sure what New York did with that. And that's why it gets kind of confusing at this point when we have people who bypass us too. We have been trying, the registrars have been trying, since I was with Kevin as the alternate registrar, so that was three years ago. We have had meetings at PRAASA, forums that we like to have the system more accessible for us and for our needs, we have been trying to talk to GSO nothing has been done it hasn't worked. they say they are trying to improve it and I don't doubt that they are trying to improve it but it has not happened yet. When I got, I did get the computer so that's good news.

Byron F. – at the board meeting, AAWS board meeting at the end of July beginning of August the board agreed to scrap their computer system and they are going to get all new hardware, I think probably all new software. They are only a century behind. They have no interactive system, you can't interact with it. It's just horrible, so their finally come to grips with the problem.

Michelle B. – oh good, nice to hear...

Byron F. – this doesn't solve our problem today for sure but...doesn't help you at all...

Michelle B. – no, but maybe a couple down the road...trying to get things changed on here is basically impossible and that's really all I can say. You know I had to get the computer certificate taken off my home computer switched on to the laptop computer and that took 4 months to get it done so I was back logged up from then but it's all caught up now. But I mean it not an easy system to work with so I guess I just trying to say is we are doing the best we can and thanks

Carol B. – Is Debbie S. in here? (yes) Debbie did you ever hear anything from that new group that notified New York that they started a meeting in Austin?

Debbie S. – Yes and its actually registered. I talked to the GSR there and Frank and it's also in the NNIG deal schedule and it's also in the thing that Michelle emailed out.

Carol B. – Ok, that great because I remember they contacted Byron and said that there is a new group in Austin and what District are they in ,because New York didn't know what district to put them in. And we really quickly moved a district line because we didn't want to give them to a dark district. So they are now in 12, Austin is in district 12.

Jeannette B. – Carol do you mind if I say something?

Carol B. – Sure

Jeannette B. – just so you guys know if anybody in the north needs to update their stuff, please send me your stuff. My name and address and email are al in here and I just got a stack of stuff that went to Byron that needed to come to me because its incomplete. So anyways please send me your information. Since I've been alternate I only received 4, 4 forms that's it. So people in your areas are sending this stuff directly to New York an it needs to go through proper channels if they want it done right the first time.

Carol B. – Does New York still print their address across the bottom of the form and tell you to send it to them?

Jeannette B. – well there are all kinds of notes on here from New York, where things are highlighted and things are missing and...

(Unknown) but the form on line I think does that...

Carol B. – but we are talking about the form itself that says to send it to us it doesn't say give it to your registrar...

Michelle B. – we could communicate that from the DCMs down, I think that would just help...

Jeannette B. – if all the DCMs were saying that at their district meetings “here is your form Jane,, your new fill this out, please give it to me, I will deliver it to the registrar”. You know what I mean, it has to be that simple so that Jane doesn't go “I'll fill it out later and I'll send it to New York”. No Jane please don't do that...

Carol B. – it is just a shame they are still printing that across the bottom...

Paul E. – its available online for us to do online and send it to you...email you.

Michelle B. – Yes, it is actually on the area42 the website they have all our email addresses. The problem with that is I have to tell you that there were some emails that were sent to me and they couldn't be opened so they told me I needed a new program and I sent the email and requested it, it was very confusing for me I didn't really understand, I ended up calling them and talked to a person, it just so I mean if you want to scan it and send it to me my email address has been the same its just the easiest way. I forgot to ask if there are any questions on what all this stuff is...

Dennis – it still says in the pamphlet the group to send it o GSO, it doesn't say to send it to your local. So somebody picks u p that pamphlet from our meeting house and takes it home and they decide they want to start their own group they look in there that's what it tells them to do.

Michelle B. – right, it's not a perfect system – were not saying that anybody's doing anything wrong we are just saying the best way to we can do it is through us so we can make sure that everything is updated correctly.

Carol B. – Sophie...

Sophie K. – I think we all agree that the pre conference, our pre conference process, we have come up with in area 42 is pretty amazing and from what I hear the GSRs really appreciate it. what I am referring to is the whole thing of getting the agenda items from our delegate, getting the summaries done, organizing round tables, picking the groups topics they want as agenda items, we do the round tables in the north and the south, we organize and do the round tables here in Tonopah I think that's major winner and a very satisfying thing to have been able to help put together. I need, we need to come up with some ideas here the way, what am I trying to say here, the thing is that we just kind of made it up, and I am totally cool with it. And this is a good job for the alternate delegate as the alternate delegate doesn't really have any other jobs. and that's really true other than praying for Bryon's health. (Group laughter) But what I am thinking, the thing I am looking at is if it just goes with the alternate delegate than there is no kind of training going on then as soon as there is a rotation, this is a big process, I mean this is a committee size thing to pull off. It doesn't mean we have to make a committee but what I am saying is that we have had a lot of practice, there is a lot of notes, however we got to plan ahead if we want to be able to continue to offer this to the group in a way that we have been. I don't know what to do, what I am, what makes sense to me anyway is that somebody, some bodies, would be great to have a practice run or their initiation next spring, right so I could work with this new person or whoever is going to coordinate, or, I don't know how this is going to work, but I think before that new team is completely responsible for it they need to have had one shot at it you know, so to kind of on the off years somebody is always in training to pick it up that second year, does that make any sense so it is kind of weird it wouldn't happen exactly on, I am not saying it got to be a guideline change or an elected position, I am not going anywhere with that but just saying that we have to get a different rhythm going here if we want to be able to provide this service, and we need to talk about what to do and how to deal with that.

Cherie N. – what if Carol appointed an adhoc committee to do that, to set up some “here's how we do it in area 42, here's what's needed here's how the different, the time frames of when the delegate has to get the stuff to us and the , because I think it's a great job for the alternate delegate who typically doesn't have to do anything except pray for the delegates health seriously I was joking but that's the truth, the alternate delegate has to be ready to step in if necessary so if we had some job description if you will of the conference topic workshop process then...

Carol B. – got it

Cherie N. – good then we don't need anything else – never mind...

Carol B. – I just know by from past discussions on this since I've been around coming here, each , our guidelines say that we have the pre conference assembly it is our delegate who decides how many items we do from all of the agenda items that there are. In the

past we've been down, I have been to some where there are 5 people who came up and read a report and people came up to the microphone after each report and the delegate got a sense of the assembly on those. The next delegate could very well say I don't want you guys to have to do all this just these are the 10 or 6 or whatever that I've picked that I want feedback from you on and that's that. So to start building something that could very well stop immediately is, you know, I think we ought to take it as we go, but I can see what Sophie what's to do is, we have got the same hand full of people and we all rotate out and we can't keep depending on the same people every time to do these, and last time we had a lot of volunteers for these summaries we had a lot of volunteers for doing the north and the south workshops and let's hope, as long as the interest is like it was last year, fall, spring when we had our regional trustee and we had our general service trustee, Roberta, it was like, we were really lucky to have those people here and then we had all the old past delegates doing the , it was really beautiful and it got a lot of people excited and if we can do that, just one general service conference , pre assemble conference at a time then that's what we do.

Byron F. - how many people, it's my impression that the process is really well in place thanks to the people who have been doing it process is pretty well identified the people issue is a thing, who's next? How many people do you need?

Sophie K. – Boy – I would say...

Byron F. – I mean approximately...

Sophie K. – I would think maybe 3 people as coordinators, one in the north, one in the south and then another one to coordinate the whole show I think there are numerous volunteers that come into, I mean there might have been 50 people members involved in the summaries in doing presentations in the north and south, you know, I mean it's a wonderful way that people have jumped in to do service and to find kind of your niche in how to do this, so yeah

Byron F. – so 6 spear heads

Sophie K. – Sure – I'd say minimum 3

Byron F. – ok, cause maybe, my suggestion is maybe this could be something that could be brought up at the SAGSC and NAGSC meetings and try to get three from each and they'll be apprentices at the march operation, does that make any sense, I am just trying to move the ball on, I am not trying to dictate, just trying to zero it down

Sophie K. – I think it is going to be in as much as it is the GSRs who are participating, they are participating more, they're participating more as we've been doing this and when we ask "do you want us to continue doing this" its yes. And there is also the piece that this year the groups chose the items that they wanted or were interested in. Byron had different items so we covered Byron's items here, the groups still wanted to know what they wanted to know. They wanted to know what's going on. so I don't see this going away very soon but I also don't see it not practical unless we know right now "alright who's going to be our next alternate delegate "you know, that's not going to happen so yes spreading it out over more people is I think important, it seems like a small group of people could just start kicking around ideas "we can try this, we can try this, we can try that..." with an idea of what's required.

Cherie N. – see, the way that the delegate process is as I understand it is , once the new delegate gets elected as the delegate he is told what his assignment is going to be, what committees he is going to be on. So I think it would be a great idea in December if the new DCMs coming in or even the existing DCMs were give that same thing, I mean we could coordinate it through the structure that we presently have. Each of the DCMs is responsible for "X". They have to get the message to their GSRs and those GSRs have to get the message to their groups. If you don't stand up and get counted you're not going to have your vote, you are not going to be able to say what you want to be discussed. It will go back to the old way where the delegate gets to pick and we review all the things that the 800 pages and all that, and we sort of start over, but I thought it was wonderful and we heard so much good feedback from all the GSRs, they really felt like they were involved, they knew what was going on. Everybody was having discussions about all the different topics. It wasn't just limited to a few and the year before people were disgruntled because there wasn't enough time and they didn't get the information and they couldn't discuss it with their groups or come back with any sort of group conscience. This is the best I think that I've seen it. The best

Lonnie M. – I really believe that what Byron and Sophie kind of said is the key even if the, we have 3 from the north and 3 from the south which I think is a great idea even if those 6 people really aren't in general service they can still work with the alternate and bring him or her up to speed so that they can be more efficient and the first time we did this it was a train wreck because we didn't know what we were doing. I mean we were trying to figure it out on the phone, we were doing this, we were doing that, and everybody is reading stuff and it we did it, considering what we didn't know we did a pretty good job. This time was much, much better and I think if we had a small committee it's even going to get better and I think if the delegate doesn't want to do then we just won't elect him (laughter) ok really simple (laughter) the AA way is the railroad way...



(Multiple comments over each other and Laughter)

Dave A. – excuse me Carol, question, is it possible or is it feasible for example our southern area chair Justin could somehow have a hand in seeing that took place at the SAGSC level as well as that person in the north. And that would be where the branch root of it, where the meat of it comes from. Rather than higher or lower up the pyramid. You know perhaps that would be a duty for the southern area chair or northern area chair to handle that at SAGSC. I remember when Mike was doing it and the round tables first came up he seemed to have a great hand in organizing and facilitating that so why couldn't that continue to coordinate with the in the coming alternate delegate.

Sophie K. – maybe that's why Justin and I worked on this thing – cause I am also the northern area chair

Dave A. – gotcha – just food for thought. Thank you.

Carol B. – any more questions for Sophie?

Sophie K. – All I can say is, Boy - we had better come up with something because we don't meet again until this whole dog and pony show is in place I mean its going to roll the next time we see each other, so yeah, an adhoc committee would be great

Carol B. – you want to do that? I was going to say we can set up a conference call. I know you got that ball rolling really with the DCMs on that conference call having them decide “did you want to have 10 did you want to have 6 did you want to be more thorough” because we knew we were going to do way more items than we ever had in the past.

Sophie K. – can I ask right now, anyone who is interested in this would you raise your hand and we'll try and find some time here before we all disappear ok wait, most of us are from the north, (laughter) (Sophie takes names) ok from the north – Scott, Carrie, Julie, Lonnie, were there others? Dennis, Edie, Frank south Emily south - alright SAGSC...and Debbie from the north. I get the whole thing scheduled and announced, we'll try to figure it out, without putting a bullet through each of our own heads from sting here to long tomorrow, is there willingness to meet on Sunday? (Some agreement from the named individuals) Ok never mind I'll get your phone numbers; let's start with phone numbers because we can always do a conference call. Ill make an announcement of a time we when we can meet maybe tomorrow afternoon if those that can make it would be awesome maybe this room if its free, OK alright from the south Cherie, Edie, Rhonda, Frank, Emily, did I miss anybody? OK thank you

Carol B. – ok, so that's your service positions and service commitments are wrapped in this...

Sophie K. – no- that's different, sorry you guys, just a reminder that we have elections coming up and a year from this weekend. There are, I think it's probably it's just historic that and I'm certainly part of that pattern. You know I get all excited at the time of an election and “yeah oh yeah I'll do it I'll do it I'll stand for it” and the vibe in the room is great and everything and then a few months go by and it's kind of like you know you never hear from me again. So, I think the best, what would be helpful, as a committee chair person would be or rather I know I'm not going to be able to do something to do a commitment if I know if I just really got too excited and it was not a real realistic thing to do or you know, I have 16, and now I have a dog Kennel in my house, for the rest of my life and stuff happens in life but please in communication please just call somebody and say “you know what, I need to step back”, or just let us know or otherwise people just disappear I mean “cool I got too excited” ok it was a really great but I really not serious I can't do this anymore”. Hey we are alcoholics. But also to consider that as the next as we are going into the next rotation to take this opportunity, you know lets look around at each other let's look around at what we do, we are going to elect a whole new slate of officers there Is going to be more appointed positions. I am going to pray about it, I am going to go to my service sponsor, I am going to read the service manual about these positions, I am going to talk to people in our area that have held these positions I am going to ask myself what are my motives. Nobody will ever do it now, cause I just got too heavy about it. Just to keep this stuff in mind because the stakes get higher and higher, that's all, the stakes get higher and higher and its just wonderful to be a part of this thing and to feel freaked out and overwhelmed and go “God we did it” cause we do it, we do it. Oh and the other thing is if yall want to stand for something keep an eye out for people you want to nominate. Look with an eye for who would be good at what kind of position and well put them up there. That's all, thank you.

Carol B.- OK, let's set, Ok in the past couple of years we have had area committee conference calls. Those of you who've been around are familiar with them, you all call the same number and punch in the same code and then you go from there. The last one due to lack of interest didn't happen. Nobody had any topics they wanted to talk about, nobody, so we just canceled it. Because there want anything to talk about. Do we want to put this baby to bed or do we want to continue? Show of hands please? Who wants to continue the area committee conference calls between our two assemblies?

Glen – first, it was my understand that the conference calls were to be originated to be able to keep us in with the guide lines that we meet 4 times a year, is that not true?

(Group) – No...

Carol B – yeah, because the guidelines were written way before we started those conference calls, it just if we don't, how many hands did I see, 5? That wants to continue? Counting...

(Group) – If there is something going on, to discuss...as needed...

Carol B. – it is a free, it's a good opportunity to do it if you got a cell phone, and we do it on Sundays and you and you got free minutes on the weekend its not going to cost you anything to participate in it, but any way...

Lonnie M. – Carol I think really the key is we should do it as needed, I have been on conference calls where it's not a moment of silence its like 5 minutes of silence and nobody says anything and we are not quiet people. But it seem to me that if we have something that we need to discuss then we should schedule a call, that's all...

Carol B. – well I don't see anything that, Sophie, do you see anything that we might want to do that, and I can always email everybody in plenty time in advance we don't have to set the date tonight...

Lonnie M. – that why I said as needed...if something is important and then email everybody ...

Carol B. – if one of the officers decides that you want to have on and we start getting emails with...well take it from there...

Carrie C. – I just want to say I've used the conference call for the PI chair with the committee members and that's worked out really good. Just by using it to keep in touch and see what's going on, it's available to all of us.

Unknown – that is a great service...I've used it...it is really something really probably uses a little wider but it works great and the clarity is fine...

Carol B. – Do I hear a motion to Adjourn...

Julie C. – Carol, wait...wait...wait...I just want to ask if you as the chair would still remind us quarterly, just send out the email "do you have any topics", and then we can cancel if we have nothing but as a reminder because we may have something and forget to tell you

Carol B. – Don't wait for an email from me, if you have something...

Caroline T. – if the DCMs would come pick up the archives room come pick up the binders for their districts and kind of get familiar with what s in there and so preparing for the artifacts meeting tomorrow, you can pick them up tonight or tomorrow morning...

Meeting Adjourned at 9:05pm.

## **Saturday September 10, 2011**

Carol B – Good Morning – opened the assembly with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer. Carol passed the big book around for the members to sign. The People last night in the blue room who volunteered to be on the pre conference planning committee with Sophie, please come to the blue room at our first break. We have the ask it basket down here today were going to have quite a variety today and I am sure you're going to have questions. Questions that your DCM can't answer for you, can be answered tomorrow morning at the ask it basket so please put them in there today as needed we have already got some in there and its right down here right next to the boxes where the reports go. And we are going to have workshops today after lunch, were going to have DCM, and GSR and standing chair workshops and therefore there are going to be some people who don't fit into one of those three categories. I know we got Bruce and he fits into two of them so he's going to have to flip a coin. But anybody else who's not a GSR, DCM or standing chair just go to whatever one you would like to go and join that. GSRs are going to be here in

the main room, DCMs are going to be in the blue room and the standing chairs are going to be we are going to close those off and make a separate room back there and the standing chairs are going to meet back there. Alright, I am going to introduce, I am not going to introduce; Byron's going to come up and give you his report. And while Byron's coming up I want to remind you that District 1 is going to be in the blue room for their district meeting during the lunch break.

### **Byron F. – Area 42 Delegate**

Before I start my report I have had a resentment and a question for 14 years since I've been coming to this assembly and why do most of the former delegates and trustees sit over in this area over here, I mean the food and the coffee is back here, this is more private back here they can see better and I've often wondered and I discovered last night why. Exactly it is near the bathroom...so my burning desire has been answered...

The registrar gave me this information

In the state of Nevada we have 1026 registered groups – 99 in California, 925 in Nevada if you add those two together you come up 2 short of 1026 and I've been told those are merged groups – you can ask her what merged group is.

A couple of disclaimers before I give my report first is as I was looking at it I was absolutely shocked to realize how many acronyms we use in the fellowship, I mean it looks like the new deal thing, abbreviations and things, so a couple I want to clarify before I start, GSC is the general service conference, AAWS is Alcoholics Anonymous World Service, because I will use those throughout my report. And the only other I want to clarify is I will talk about the grapevine in here and to clarify there are kind of two parts there is the grapevine corporation and there is the Grapevine magazine. The grapevine corporation obviously is responsible for publishing the Grapevine magazine along with la Vina and La Vine and our French magazine as well as some other materials. With that I've been given special dispensation from Carol to go a little bit past my time so don't get mad. Please. I have also written out my remarks for the benefit of the secretary and given him a copy and for the benefit of the Hispanics for translation I think it's a little bit better. I would prefer to read from notes but so forgive me for reading this but I think it best for all other people considered.

My journey as your Delegate continued in a big way as I attended the General Service Conference held the first week of May in New York City. The GSC originated as a result of Bill W and Dr. Bob turning the business of AA over to the members. Bill announced at the 1954 Texas State Convention –“... here is the remainder of your Third Legacy. The Conference shall become our successor. To you we hand the last torch. Carry on. Face your destiny with surety and courage and God love you.” So what goes on at the Conference you ask! The following description was approved at this year's GSC and will become part of our Service Manual:

A typical Conference lasts a full week, with sessions running from morning to evening. The opening day features roll call, keynote address, an opening dinner and a five speaker AA meeting. Business sessions from Sunday to Friday include committee meetings, presentations, workshops, and new trustee elections. Each Delegate serves on one of the standing Conference committees, which meet early in the week and do the principal work of the Conference. (Some delegates also have a secondary committee assignment.) The committees bring recommendations to the full Conference for consideration as possible Advisory Actions (see Chapter Eight for more on the committee system), and generally the last two days (or more) are devoted to discussion and voting on the committee recommendations.

Although outside the Conference, a delegates-only meeting is often held prior to the opening day of the Conference. On Saturday, following the last day of Conference business, a closing breakfast provides an opportunity for goodbyes, and for rotating trustees to say their farewells. On alternate years, a visit to G.S.O./Grapevine office or a visit to the home of Bill W. and Lois in Westchester County is scheduled.

I thought you might be interested in the composition of the GSC—who all was there. This year there were 135 voting members of the GSC. These people act together as guardians of A.A.'s World Services and guardians of the Steps and Traditions. Of the 135 voting members, 93 were Delegates like myself, 27 were Trustees, A.A.W.S. Directors or Grapevine Directors, and 15 were General Service Office and Grapevine Staff. The average age of the voting members was 57, oldest was 74 (not me!!), youngest was 33, average length of sobriety was 21 years, longest sobriety was 40 years, shortest sobriety was 8 years, average length of service was 16 years, longest years of service was 29 years and shortest years of service was 6 years.

Much has been published by AA on the actions taken at the GSC. Actions taken are called Advisory Actions which come about following unlimited open discussion and debate among the attendees, an open voting process and then a call for minority opinion---the same format as we use at our Area Assemblies. You may recall that back in March summaries of all the agenda items being considered were available in English and Spanish at this Assembly and we held in depth roundtable discussions on many of these items. After the GSC, I posted a summary in both English and Spanish of the Advisory Actions on the Area 42 Website. Results have also been published in the recent edition of Box 459 and a complete report on all GSC activity, including the Advisory Actions, is published and available in both English and Spanish here at the Area 42 Assembly. So.....to spare you and not repeat all this information here this morning, I thought I would cover my impression and summaries of the most intense “loving discussions” that took place during the GSC, some behind the scenes stuff if you will. I will also take the liberty of updating these

selected topics based first on input from the “additional” Forum in Woodland Hills, CA which I attended on behalf of Area 42 and secondly the AAWS Board meeting in NYC---both held just last month.

First, the English Grapevine, our Spanish La Vina and our French La Vigne magazines. As you may know, these publications are directed by a totally separate business corporation with their own Board of Directors. This business and its Directors report to the A.A.W.S. Board. At the GSC the A.A.W.S. Board declined to approve two new Grapevine Corporation Directors who had been nominated by the Grapevine Board because of concern about large financial losses for the Grapevine Corporation over the last several years. In 2010, the most recent reporting year, the Grapevine lost \$394,000. I should remind you that our magazines cannot accept ads or direct contributions—their charter provides “outside” support from subscription revenue only (and of course subsidies from general funds). Average monthly subscriptions are running about 93M and the average subscriber is a 50 year old white male with 20 years sobriety. Beyond the magazines, Grapevine also has a catalog of items available including calendars, pocket planners, books, CD’s, etc. I must add that Spanish La Vina and our French La Vigne Magazine are both better supported through subscriptions than is the Grapevine Magazine. Going forward, there are many changes being considered for our magazines. We have a new Executive Editor and she has 25 years of publishing experience. One of the major changes we are seeing is availability of both magazines in digital form and some price changes that have just been announced. Be rest assured---there are no plans to discontinue the printed versions of our magazines. Things are more positive for the Grapevine so far in 2011---Revenue is \$142,000 ahead of plan and year-to-date loss is \$22,563 vs. budgeted loss of \$157,718 mostly reflecting good cost control. The Grapevine Board has concerns and will continue to discuss how social media may or may not constitute affiliation and how it affects personal anonymity. This discussion would include a working definition on promotion, advertising, affiliation and social media. It is projected that additional funding from the reserve may be required in 2011. Bottom line, the Grapevine continues to struggle from the standpoint of being a stand-alone financial operation but we have a good handle on the issues and a bunch of smart, dedicated and focused minds working on resolutions of the issues.

One of the most controversial topics at the GSC centered in the Literature Committee around the consideration of publishing a pamphlet on spirituality which would include stories from atheists and agnostics who are sober in AA. I served on this committee this past year and will be alternate chair of this committee at next year’s GSC. A minority, but a very vocal minority, expressed concern that stories from atheists and agnostics might be a violation of Traditions. However, a draft introduction to the proposed pamphlet was made available to the Conference members only clearly underscoring that the pamphlet was on spirituality and in keeping with our Traditions. This overall project including review of the 201 stories submitted to date and the development of the pamphlet was approved by floor action at the GSC and is going forward. After returning from the GSC I received a series of emails from Delegates in two other Areas indicating that AA meetings of Atheists/Agnostics were being challenged about their compatibility with and acceptance in the AA Fellowship. It would seem that this “loving discussion” can be expected to continue. One final Literature item--- At the AAWS Board meeting last month it was announced that “The AA member—Medication and other drugs” pamphlet is now available on the GSO’s website and hard copies are available.

E-books are coming to AA. E-books are things like Amazon’s Kindle, Barnes & Noble’s Nook, Apple Ipad, etc. The technical details for making these materials available in digital form appear to be close to resolution and The Big Book and The 12 X 12 are expected to be made available for digital/e-reader purchase and use this November. . One of the big issues has been how to insure that AA gets the revenue from the digital sale of these items rather than a third party. A solution is in hand and we have been successful in maintaining all digital rights to this material.

Another intense discussion centered on copyright issues. It turns out that while AA owns many copyrights on materials it publishes and makes available to the public, it turns out that we have lost the copyrights to some materials. Specifically, the U.S. 1st and 2nd editions of our Big Book and our 12 Concepts are now in the public domain. A big project is underway to catalogue exactly what copyrights we have and on what material and when they are up for expiration. An inventory and progress report was presented by a working committee to the AAWS Board in August. This will now allow us to develop a detailed plan so we do a better job of protecting our material. I have had some personal experience in this whole general area and we have to keep in mind that a copyright is only as strong as the owner is willing to defend it. We need to ask ourselves if we want to be spending a lot of money on legal fees to prevent someone from technically violating one of our copyrights when they use a piece of our literature that then helps someone get and stay sober.

Financial topics always create a great deal of discussion and this GSC was no exception. The overall A.A.W.S. financial position is healthy. We have a well funded prudent reserve, our revenues exceed our expenses which remain tightly controlled and were reduced 1.2% in 2010 vs. 2009. All of these results reflect having absorbed the Grapevine losses through 2010. Group contributions are pretty flat—For Area 42 for example, the percent of groups contributing to GSO annually has steadily declined and for the first four months of 2011, 17.6% of Area 42 groups contributed vs. 19.3% over the same time last year. Publication revenue is driven by prices we set for the Big Book and 12 X 12. So.... We must assume that inflation will increase our expenses each year and if group contributions remain flat, we could be forced to increase publication prices. Again, there is no concern right now but we all need a general awareness of the situation going forward.

A caution was expressed about the future, however, and this future perspective was addressed by Ward Ewing, Chair of the General Service Board and a Class A Trustee, in his closing remarks at the Woodland Hills Forum. While estimates of annual AA membership levels are like trying to grab a cloud, it is fair to say based on all the information we have that growth in our membership is pretty flat—maybe +4% cumulatively over the past 4 years. Why???? God knows the world isn't running out of drunks. Ward hypothesized that maybe membership levels are reflecting the fact that there are more 12 step program options or insurance coverage for funding treatment is more restrictive or the societal secular trend is fighting with the AA as a religion perception. Maybe service involvement is diminishing so recovered folk are leaving the Fellowship or maybe there are some unintentional ways we exclude people—e.g., dually addicted people, atheists, agnostics. No....no one is suggesting a big PR recruiting campaign to replace attraction with promotion. Facts are facts, however, and the fact is our Fellowship is not growing. What I heard Ward saying is that it's reasonable, no it's important, to ask and talk about why.

Let me now pass along some announcements that came out of the 2011 GSC. The panel topics and workshop topics that will be covered at next year's GSC were announced. Some of these topics will all be discussed here this weekend so you can get a good feel for these items.

The schedule of PRAASA's and Forum's for 2012 and beyond is as follows: Our Pacific Region Forum will be September in Fairbanks, Alaska and PRAASA will be in March in Bellevue, WA. There is no Forum in 2013 but our PRAASA will be in Boise, ID. Looking out to 2014, Our Forum will be in Boise, ID and PRAASA will be in San Diego, CA.

The 2012 GSC will be held in Rye, NY rather than in NYC. This is a normal alternate year location and saves AA about \$150,000 although it is more isolated and harder to get to. On a personal note, this location, the Rye Town Hilton in Rye NY is just 1 mile from my home for the 22 years I lived and worked in the NYC area. I will have lots of special memories when I travel there for next year's GSC.

Two new Trustees were elected to replace Trustees rotating out. Clayton Vandivort was elected to represent the Northeast Region and Barb Kelly was elected to represent Eastern Canada. Just to remind you, our current Pacific Region Trustee is Rod Betonney who began his four year term just last year. Rod was born and raised on the Navajo Reservation in Utah and is the first Native American to serve as an AA Trustee.

A countrywide membership survey was conducted this year as it was last in 2007. Responses to this year's survey were due to GSO by Sept. 1. Groups chosen to participate were selected at random. Area 42 had 6 groups selected. Four groups met the deadline for submission, one group selected is "dark" and therefore did not participate and one group's response was unaccounted for.

As for the "personality" or atmosphere of the GSC---it's almost impossible to describe. One really has to be privileged enough to be there as I most certainly was. To me, it was the super bowl of sobriety—every attendee was steeped in the history, procedures, process, quirks, etc. of the AA fellowship. I would liken this to having the pleasure of being in a room for five days with 135 Ruth J's. One big difference than being in a room full of Ruth J's however-- never have I experienced so many talking for so long about so much... but all the time with love, dignity and respect for each other. I came away with a lot of knowledge but with two important lessons. First, my patience and tolerance (and lack thereof) were taxed to the max. Being challenged on this personal character defect was indeed a growth experience. Second, the Fellowship of AA is safe, even from me. I am indeed but one voice in a very special and in many ways mysterious dis-organized organization. The whole of the AA Fellowship is greater than any one part and in fact greater than the sum of all the individual members.

Over the past several months, I have, of course, represented Area 42 at the GSC in New York. I have also attended the SAGSC Meeting May 8 where I gave a Delegate report on the GSC activities, another SAGSC Meeting July 10, spoke at the District 13 Speaker Meeting May 10, attended a wedding of one of my sponsees in Buffalo, New York May 22, attended Las Vegas Roundup Board Meetings in May and August, spoke at the District 6 picnic in Genoa, Nevada June 12 and gave my Delegate report at the NAGSC meeting later that same day. Happily, I was also able to continue my AA service work at the Henderson jail, squeeze in a quick trip to Costa Rica to visit our son's family including two of our grandkids, a trip to Norway to visit our Daughter's family including two of our grandkids and get a quick trip in to Colorado to see our Daughter's family and four of our grandchildren. And of course it is a pleasure to be here at our Assembly.

Let me know if I can represent Area 42 at one of your functions—Over just the next few months, I have future obligations for SAGSC Meetings, a presentation in Parhump, an invitation to speak at the Boulder picnic Oct. 1, the Native American International AA Conference in October, and the AA Young People's Convention in January, 2012. I will also get to my 15th annual reunion at my treatment center in Minnesota in October.

Being your Area 42 Delegate is a dream come true—pinch me when I wake up and please, never let me forget what an honor and privilege it is.

Again, I want to thank Carol for her scheduling flexibility this morning. I don't want to take any more time on the formal agenda but I would be more than happy to answer any questions you might have. Feel free to grab me during the day, tonight or tomorrow morning. Most of all, thanks for your attention.

Carol B. – district 11 in the back is recycling their cans and plastics so please take your empties back there and throw them in their big can that they have. We are going to now do the report that weren't done last night so the people who weren't here that are now please get ready and we are going to start with Phil

**Phil W. - Alternate Area 42 Treasurer**

As the Alternate Treasurer I wish there was more to report. I have served as the NAGSC Treasurer and Rich B is doing that but I do stand willing to do whatever comes to me In any way I can be of service Thanks for allowing me the opportunity to serve

**Phil W. – Communications Committee**

Hi everyone I am really happy to be here. In these 6 months we were able to start on talking about translating some of our documents I was able to change the Spanish GSR Survival Guide into a word Doc. So it can be looked at and possibly have some editing done to become a little easier for those using it to understand what is being said in that document

**JD B. – Area 42 Web master**

1. I have posted all documents I have received for the last 6 months on the web site.
2. I have translated all those documents and some of the older minutes into Spanish using a computer program and posted them on the Spanish pages of the web site.
3. I have been un able to translate the area newsletter due to its format being incompatible with any of the translation programs I have found.
4. Thank you

**Rich W – Alt Secretary**

No report

**Bruce A. – NAGSC Treatment Chair**

I am now NAGSC treatment chair, I am working with Craig and Joel at NNIG – we are going to go to current meetings and see what needs are there and what we can do to help. I have to create a budget. NNIG needs an office manager ASAP.

**Andres S.. - DCM District 21**

We have a roll of visits to the groups every Monday. We have a total of 18 groups of Spanish speaking. We have a meeting every Saturday from 4:30 to 6:00 pm at the 51 club in Henderson NV. The 9<sup>th</sup> local forum of general services was celebrated at the walnut community center on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. PI committee conducted a public information at the freedom park on June 12<sup>th</sup> and will carry information on the radio 1340 am on September 19<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 5pm. H&I committee continues to work in clinics and hospitals and jails like Clark county detention center the 13<sup>th</sup> Hispanic convention took place this past July on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> at the east side cannery hotel Las Vegas NV. We supported the celebration of the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of La Vina on July 30<sup>th</sup> at Bakersfield CA. we are working to carry out the 10<sup>th</sup> local forum of general services to be held in May 2012. Thank you very much for your support.

**Leon L. - DCM District 22**

No Report Given

**Frank D. - DCM District 3**

Groups are down from 13 to 6, good GSR attendance and an alternate. Workshop on the traditions coming up.

**Michael B. DCM District 9**

District Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 2pm at the Camel Club. Contact information [mbware1981@yahoo.com](mailto:mbware1981@yahoo.com)  
[mbware1981@gmail.com](mailto:mbware1981@gmail.com)

**Doreen F. – Grapevine chair**

Hi my name is Doreen and I am your Grapevine Chair for Northern Area 42... Laura attended the Mammoth Lakes campout she sold one book and 2 subscriptions. She was also able to attend the Grapevine workshop at the Pacific Regional Forum. There she met the editors of the Grapevine and of La Vina. Some highlights from that workshop were:

1. The new [aagrapevine.org](http://aagrapevine.org) website is up and offers many ways to interact with GV and AA members. There, you can read members stories, share with members online, research the GV archives, participate and read results of online surveys, use the sobriety calculator, submit a cartoon caption for possible publication and of course subscribe either to the print issue, or the digital or audio versions. There's lots more on the website and new things being added we encouraging everyone to check it out.
2. Even though GV was asked to reduce their staff by 30% the remaining staff are managing well with their newly reorganized duties that this year did include setting up this new website. The GV staff is doing a fantastic job with limited resources.

3. As always GV staff are looking for readers contributions including stories but they are also in great need of artwork. Members can submit pictures or paintings or other forms of art that the GV can use in the publications rather than depending on stock photos. Go to [aagrapevine.org](http://aagrapevine.org) for info on how to submit stories or artwork.

4. There were lots of suggestions from the workshop attendees about how to increase subscriptions including changes to the look of the magazine but discussion seemed to indicate that the best thing we can do individually is to create interest in the GV in our home groups and sell those subscriptions! The idea of holding workshops to help members write and submit stories is gaining interest and the editors want to get more info out about how to do that.

Laura also heard about GV meetings, where a story is read from the current issue and then used as a topic of discussion at the meeting. She approached her home group about the idea and we will be starting this type of meeting in Mammoth Lakes next month. We have this type of meeting in Fallon and we believe this will generate interest in the magazine in Mammoth Lakes also!!

I am looking forward to setting up for the First Oasis festival in Fallon on October 15th I will be bringing my laptop with internet access instead of handing out subscription forms i will be able to sign anyone up for a subscription on the spot!! Thank you for allowing me to serve!!

#### **Bruce A. - DCM District 16**

Sharon is our new treasurer, Rich is chair of the 11<sup>th</sup> step retreat, and Cindy is the co-chair. Chapin is the chair of the Christmas affair. New email is [dist16area42@gmail.com](mailto:dist16area42@gmail.com). We have too much money and will distribute soon.

#### **Rich B. - NAGSC Treasurer**

NAGSC's we have an ending balance as of 9/9/2011 of \$11,700.64. A reserve of \$1,250.50. The north is looking at increasing the mileage reimbursement to \$0.40 from \$0.20.

#### **Roger H. – Area 42 NAGSC Liaison**

Thank you for this opportunity to serve you in this capacity as your NAGSC intergroup Liaison for area 42. Welcome to Tonopah and the panel 61 conference of alcoholics anonymous. To start out with, there are changes in our general office in Reno. Our new office manager, Darlene, from Texas has to resign due to obligations back in Texas with her father. So this position is open and I have a job description of duties and responsibilities of the executive director of central office manager in Reno. 5 year sobriety, knowledge of quick books, computer skills, compliance with the twelve traditions ect. Central office has phone lines open 24-7 for your benefit, hence, when you can't reach your sponsor or someone else you can always speak with someone in AA. You can always speak to someone at central. Attendance is back up with the meetings at intergroup, and more people are stepping up and filling positions. Our magazine, The Bracer, is up and running smoothly, our activities are all doing well, and the Halloween event and dance is coming up and the annual gratitude dinner is at Circus Circus Nov 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:30. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Carol B. – I believe that wraps it up for the reports, if I am wrong please tell me that you have a report that I did not call you and I want to thank everybody who was I can't believe the turn out Alan didn't come because he is in Sacramento at the BTG thing and then Kyle gave Lyles report but it's just wonderful to see everyone come and be here to give their reports. I want to ask you to go into your packets and get out the financial sheets that are in there. Cherie is going to come up and do her treasurers report and the budget today instead of tomorrow.

#### **Cherie N. – Area 42 treasurer**

I could give this in a whisper and then you'd all wonder what happened...Does anyone care about the treasurer's report? (Yes from the Floor). Did everyone find your paper work in your packet? Has everybody got their balance sheet and profit and loss. Is that a yes? Is anybody going to say yes? (Yes from the floor) ok, then here we go. I just wanted to give you a tiny little comparison in-between this year and last year because you guys can read the numbers. But it's interesting because I like numbers so here is what I came up with. Our income this year so far through August 31<sup>st</sup> has been \$11,055.57 in group contributions. Last year at this time it was \$12193.35 which is a difference a lesser amount of \$1037.78 which is not too bad. Last year our expenses up to this point were \$20469.27 this year, I mean last year our expenses were \$20564.89 so the net difference between the two is \$1565; we have a greater loss this year of \$1565 compared to last year. Yall good with that so far?

(Unknown) question from the floor (un-auditable)

Cherie N. – What? Ok then I am giving you a more up to date one...you guys have January through July? I have January through September 9<sup>th</sup>. Sorry...but anyway the numbers are the same, the concept is the same. Our income is slightly less our expenses are



\$100 less and the difference between the two is \$1565. So we are going along pretty good at this point. I just want to throw out there one other thing, we paid for PRAASA we paid right around \$6000 for PRAASA expenses and we had that amount budgeted which was good. so even though we spent \$3000 more in PRAASA travel this last year than the year before that. We still only have a difference of \$861 in cash. it is amazing isn't it? The fellowship comes through. We had you know a few less budget considerations last year, but the groups have come through and supported us so we could afford PRAASA. I mean they didn't do it so we could afford PRAASA but that is the net result. Right now through September 9<sup>th</sup> the cash in the bank in all accounts is \$19684, last year at this same time it was \$20545 we have \$861 less this year than we had last year at the same time. So now that's the extent of my report. You can look at the numbers and you can ask me questions about some things if you want to know "what was that?" And "what was that?" Do we have any of those kinds of questions? Amazing and yet usually the discussion about money is the biggest thing.

Tim W. – so what is our prudent reserve? For the cash balance?

Cherie N. – Well our prudent reserve according to the guidelines is a four month number, whatever we spend in four months that is our prudent reserve.

Tim W. – So approximately what would that be?

Cherie N. – It fluctuates, we have, I don't think I have anything designated that specifically that says prudent reserve. But it should be right around \$10, 000.

Tim W. – Ok, so we are operating quite a bit still above our prudent reserve. Is that right?

Cherie N. – what do you mean "operating"? You mean our income is above our prudent reserve?

Tim W. – we have \$18,702 on this balance sheet and so your saying prudent reserve is, were operating, we have in our bank accounts about \$8000 more than our prudent reserve. Is that correct?

Cherie N. – yes...

Tim W. – OK

Cherie N. – Based on that – yes.

Tim W. – I just wanted that clarified...thank you...

Cherie N. – good, me too. Any other questions? OK should I move on to the finance committee report? Carol? OK moving on to the finance committee report.

#### **Cherie N. – Finance committee**

The finance committee report is that, today at this assembly, we have to elect two members at large. And the qualifications for members at large, which I understand we aren't going to be doing the elections until unless we have time, so I am going to hurry. The qualifications for members at large, it is to be held in the fall assembly which this is. odd numbered years which this is. Eligible candidates have two years experience in area 42 service prior to the election. At large finance committee members may not hold other positions at the area level that are subject to area budget considerations. Which basically means officers, DCMs anybody who is, you know appointed positions, anyone who is funded at the area level is not eligible to stand for a member at large on the finance committee. That's that. That being said the next item on the finance committee agenda is that we are working on merging the area 42 guidelines with the finance guidelines that were approved last assembly. What that basically means is that it is our intention to remove references to finance and funding and receipt and all that kind of thing from the area guidelines so that the finance guidelines will stand on its own. So where ever you see references to finances in the area guidelines those sections will be removed and it will say refer to the finance guidelines, that's what we are working on and hopefully we will have it for presentation at the

march assembly. Any questions about that? Ok good. And if you do come up with a question later I am sitting right over there. We are deciding on your fate...budget... here comes the budget

**Sophie K. - Finance chair –**

So before I start this let me just say that I have to make one correction this was an absolute oversight and I really apologize for our area archivist the amount proposed for 2012 says \$100 that should have been \$500 so that would change the bottom line to negative \$7400. It needs to be increased by 400 and I missed that completely. So as we consider this please consider that as a piece of the proposed budget. So this document is the recommendation of your area finance committee. This is your to question, to approve with or without amendments. It needs to be approved by a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority. If you instruct the finance committee to make any modifications, those modifications also have to be approved by 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of the members here. This is a very conservative look at our finances for the next year. I ask that, if you're going to ask a question or make a comment, please refer to your question, refer to the number on the line that corresponds to your question. So that we can all find that more quickly and I also ask that you speak slowly so that we have a better chance of the translation come across clearly.

John – un-auditable

Sophie K – to 5, sorry I may not have said that clearly - Ok...can you come to a mic please? Anyone who is going to have questions can you please line up at a microphone

Joan M. – I have a couple of concerns, item 17, the Banquet costs – banquets take care of themselves and they should take care of themselves. We should not have to budget money for banquet costs that are not covered by the banquet receipts. And so having a \$5000banquet cost should be covered by income from banquet receipts. How is that going to show up?

Sophie K – Ok I am going to address your questions one at a time. Thank you the banquet are the same as the receipts, we did not itemize and I apologize for that because above I the income section the assembly income includes \$5000 in, for the banquet tickets...

Joan M. – it doesn't say that...

Sophie K – your right it does not say that,

Joan M – so that sheet should be added in for that? As income.

Sophie K – I'm sorry?

Joan M. – the banquet tickets should come in at \$5000 income

Sophie K – that's very true, on line...7...ok

Joan M. – on line 7, that would deduce, deduct from the total expense.

Sophie K – no because is offset from income to expense...

Joan M. – but it isn't included in the up above, and therefore ...

Sophie K – it is included it just wasn't specified, I apologize, it is included in line 8, so ...

Joan M. – so that's part of the \$26,500?

Sophie K – yes it is.

Joan M. – alright. Than how does that add up? You have contributions \$16000 you have total assembly income at \$10,000, and then it adds up to \$26,500 but you don't have the extra \$5000 in there.

Sophie K – the total assembly income is a subtotal, so total assembly income including that 5, so for example seventh and beverages might be \$300, ok, assembly registration, I am just ball parking here, you know whatever it is, \$2500, banquet tickets would be \$5000, whatever each of those totaled would be, I mean, whatever each of those going to be, the sum. Is \$10,000.

Joan M. – OK. Down under item 47. You have delegate expense \$500 we always give to the delegate to go to New York as incidental. We also ask that the delegate give reports for NAGSC, SAGSC and Area assembly. Now the delegate usually lives in either the north or the south so the cost would be very minimal. The always funds the delegate to the assembly so that is a non-issue. And so the only expense for the delegate to give report to the other committee would be covered under reports. Why is it \$750?

Sophie K – I need...

Joan M. - ... They pay for him to come to Pahrump...

Sophie K – excuse me...excuse me... my I address your question? In the past, the style of each delegate is different. In the recent past we have had delegates that have by request, take their report to Ely. We have delegates that take their reports to, you know they could take it upon request to Chester, they could take it to searchlight, I don't know, in the north there is more of a history of taking it further afield. This would give the delegate that option if the delegate, if our current delegate who will continue to serve next year. You know will respond to request to travel. a bit further. He doesn't have to but the moneys' there.

Joan M. – I don't think that's a responsibility of the area assembly. I think that's the responsibility of the requesting district or group and that they should pay his cost to come. Because that's the way it has been before.

Sophie K – OK...that's to you folks...

Joan M. – the district that ass for him to give his report should pay for his expenses to come there and give the report.

Sophie K – Are you asking for something to happen here...?

Joan M. – I am asking that reduce the \$750 to the amount that it takes him to make the report to the opposite area committee.

Sophie K – so we need to have 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of those present, actually that happens after the budget is approved right, sure...would you like to address that?

Cherie N. – so what your are saying is that, well, my impression of what the delegate is suppose to do is to give the report, his conference report to anyone who requests it...

Joan M. – that's right

Cherie N. - and I don't...

Joan M. - and they should pay for him to come and do that...

Cherie N. – ok...

Joan M. – except for the northern area...

Cherie N. – and I believe...I believe that whatever it cost him to do that the area should pay for it...

Joan M. – No...

Cherie N. – well, I am allowed to speak? He's the area delegate so I believe and the finance committee, we believe that we should pay for his expenses to go give report no matter where that is. I as a district treasurer have never paid to have the delegate come and give his report. And we haven't at SAGSC as far as I know, so it seems like historically its been the area who has paid for the delegates travel.

Joan M. – I, being a delegate once, in the north gave the delegate reports to District 13, I gave Delegate reports to District 3, I gave Delegate reports in Elko, I gave Delegate reports in Winnemucca, they paid and what they couldn't pay I paid. Because it is not the areas responsibility, outside of the committees and the area assembly, to give the report.

Sophie K. – thank you – I'd like to take a sense of the assembly. If we'd like to continue this discussion. Are there...right...is there concern on this item that we reduce the amount...would you please go to a mic...while I am saying this if I could just see a show of hands of people that would like to continue this discussion and if you are concerned that we should reduce this amount. Ok, those who feel \$750 is fine... ok the sense of the assembly is that this amount would remain.

(unknown) can I just ask a question, was it brought up before or the body, for the finances because that's where we should have done that at.

Sophie K. – I am sorry I don't quite understand that...

(unknown) – well, all the budgeting when it was last time we were here, and that should have, if we were going to make a change it should have come before us. And it shouldn't be just changed, indiscriminately. I mean that what all the groups are suppose to do.

Sophie K. – I'm mixing, I am really sorry, I am mixing up between an approved budget from last year and what we are requesting for this year.

(unknown) – oh...oh...OK...we still have to...

Sophie K. – right...this hasn't been approved...

Joan M. – I have one more issue...

Sophie K. – can I address on thing out of the service manual...

Joan M. – sure...

Sophie K. – S49, “many areas also provide funds to cover travel and incidental expenses the delegate incurs in reporting back to groups and districts within the area. “ that in many areas also provide...

Joan M. – on line 31...I am really concerned that we are allowing other areas to cover the cost of our delegate to go to the conference. Because we know that it costs approximately \$6000 per person to attend the conference and we always have a budget that does not allow for us to pay the full amount for the delegate to go to the conference. I see you have raised it from \$2500 to \$3000 it still only half. There are areas that are paying more than \$6000 and I believe we should pay our part. And so I would like to see that raised to \$6000.

Sophie K. – any comment? Are you ready to address line 31...

Vince – SAGSC treasurer – SAGSC also provides funding to GSO, I think it was \$1000 or \$1500 last year...\$1000. SAGSC also supplies funding to send the delegate to New York, last year it was \$1000 and I believe we will budget at least that much this year so it helps off set that \$6000.

Sophie K. – Line 31 are we still on general service conference...thank you...

Kay –we have a general idea of \$6000, how much does it cost to send him, how do we know that...

Sophie K. – “A” we can ask our delegate for a ball park figure, “B” we can look again at S49 in the service manual . Which gives us a very different amount, “A delegate’s expenses to the Conference are covered in this way: The area contributes at least \$1200.00 (U.S.) toward Conference expenses (and many areas are able to send additional funds). The General Fund of the General Service Board pays the balance,” but this doesn’t take care of the incidental expenses for which we have already budgeted, that Byron could incur while he is in New York. So I think the answer to your question is, is in the general service manual there asking that each area contribute at least \$1200. That may not be the full amount that it costs, it is not the full amount that it costs to support the delegate attending the conference. But that’s the amount they would like in the minimum. I think maybe Byron will address your question...

(unknown) Good... cause how much...

Sophie K. – was that just too insane...that was too...ok...

Byron F. – it is my impression, my understanding the total cost to fund a delegate to the conference is \$6000 understand that some of those dollars come from you know Alaska, the Caribbean you name it. So...there is quite a variation. Second thing I can add is interesting there was a delegate who asked a question of all the other delegates “how much their area was providing.” Because they were having a discussion at their assembly and she got the answers back and it let us all know that the average of all the areas she got responses from this is not all areas, this is all areas she got responses from, was a little over \$2800. And the other this that was interesting in her response was that areas amount that they contributed varies from year to year depending on the condition of their general treasury. So there wasn’t a fixed dollar amount. That was allowed for that. On the subject of the \$750 dollar report travel expense budget, I am not aware that I have used any amount of money for that purpose this year beyond NAGSC and the assemblies so I am not aware that expense occurred this year or that I incurred any of that expense this year. One of the things to keep in mind is as far as I am concerned is we have a very, very, very, very, very competent alternate delegate, and there is no reason in the work that Sophie can’t be available to give a “delegate” report in the north which would certainly make the logistics of the travel really easy and I know she’s readily available to do that. That’s one of the advantages that we have of having the split area, there are a lot of disadvantages but certainly that is one of them. Thank you.

John, - I am in favor of what Joan said the increasing the amount on the other hand before we do that the only problem is that it takes that bottom line from \$7400 up to \$10,400. And therefore I would think that in any resolution here that we would come closer and not try to enlarge that for the 2012 budget, so if you want to squeeze other things down that’s fine, I know in my past treasurer duties san Diego and, always would pay the full amounts and like that. And there are, I like what Byron said that the average contribution being \$2800, we are seeming in line with \$300 SAGSC and \$1000....thank you...

Sandra – it is my understanding that general service budgets for this additional money to bring delegates to New York and that money essentially comes from all of us as well. Do you think, it make up the extra costs...?

Sophie K. – I am not qualified to say for sure, but I think in my opinion – yes.

Sandra – yes, that what my understanding is that part of what our money goes towards. Is to bring the delegates to New York, when we send it to general service.

Sophie K. – we are getting a nod from the rusted over here...yes...there is no one at the mic right now...can I take a sense of the assembly if we would like to increase this amount to \$5000. All those in favor of increasing this to \$5000 please raise your hand.

This is a sense of the assembly...ok... 5, to increase it by \$2000, the delegate costs to the general service conference which is , I'm sorry...line 31...ok those in favor of increasing this to \$5000 please raise your hand. This is a sense of the assembly. Ok, those who feel that \$3000 is fine...ok we'll move on. Sense of the assembly to increase line 31 to 5K

Sophie K. – any other questions on a different line....

Julie C. –so, we have a net loss, proposed net loss of \$7000 ...

Sophie K. actually \$7400 because of a mistake I made

JULIE C. – Oh.. \$7400– do we have a plan on how we are not going to go more into debt or is just, I am a little concerned that it is not coming down to zero.

Cherie N. – We definitely don't go into debt, budgets are either, negative budgets based on projected income or 0 budget based on projected income. At least in this venue. Other budgets that I've done which have nothing to do with this, are closer to reality, but since we can't really depend upon how much income we get. What we do is like what Byron said, I love that, we try to capture the clouds. We try to figure out wither or not we are going to get the same amount. If you notice the expenses projected between last year and this year and the income projected between last year and this year we are pretty much the same. And our Bottom line works out to be pretty much the same. In my report earlier let you know we have \$861 less than we did last year at this time in spite of the fact that PRAASA was \$6000 and not \$3000. so the groups are supporting us, we are floating along just fine, this number within, that's why the finance committee came up with this number. Did that answer your question Julie?

Julie C. – Just to throw this in, possibly, that really this may have to do with the fact that we have \$8000 more than our prudent reserve, so we are not in jeopardy of using our prudent reserve. Dose that kind of flow into it? Just for a comfort zone for people that we are not actually using money that need to keep.

Cherie N. – no, we are not. Is that good. Is everyone ok with that? Does anyone have any other questions...

Joseph – I understand that we have a prudent reserve, and we don't touch that but this figure that you have on line 65, minus \$7000. I am stumped at that. I don't know why but if someone can talk to me either after or during this time I would like it explained some more.

Sophie K. – I'm sorry Joseph...was that, you're talking line 65 net income?

Joseph – Yes...

Cherie N. – so, to answer your question let's just say for the sake of the discussion that we started out with zero. We would receive or we are projecting to receive \$26,500, and we are projecting to spend \$7000 more than that, that is where the negative \$7400 comes in. in actuality we don't do that, because we have nearly \$20,000. Periodically we might dip below \$20,000 but the contributions come in and we go back up. That number has remained pretty much static no matter how much money we spend and we seem to have the same amount of money. I know its...I don't know exactly how that works from an accountants point of view it really sort of mystified me always but seems to work, ive been doing this for a long time...

Joseph – thank you, I am more comforted now. Thank you.

Sophie K. – Paul Please....

Paul E. –on line 51on officers it is \$458 times 9, didn't we add a couple more people that are funded to PRAASA at the last assemble, like finance committee or something like that. I though there was a couple more people added to get funding to PRASSA other than officers?

Sophie K. – No, none of the alternates officers are funded; if the principal officer attends PRAASA the alternate do not attend. An alternate can attend in the absence of the principal officer and in that case they're covered. But their...

Paul E. – but I thought there were a couple of people like were on the finance committee or something like that.

Sophie K. – you might be thinking of the newsletter editor and webmaster are funded but no committee chairs.

Paul E. – but those are included in the nine...OK...

Ben F. – my question is that I see that we have 2011 approved for last year I am kind of wondering what our actual is to see if we fell short or came above any proposed for last year because I see that hes not spending anywhere that \$750 but we are putting that in there as a budgeted expense. Just to see if we have like an actual and see if we fell short last year.

Sophie K. – so, I'm sorry, to reiterate your looking for the actual this year, if Byron has spent, if the delegate has spent any money in that...

Ben F. – no, it was an actual for everything that was approved. to see if we fell short on anything total for last year, because this is an approved budget in total. But I just seeing if there like an actual to see if we fell short in any areas because, then that negative \$7000 is just a budgeted or \$7400 excuse me...

Sophie K. – Ok so what I would ask you to do is to go through, I can't answer your question off the top of my head, but I believe you have the data. So if you go through the budget that was approved for last year and look at the budgeted amount next to you know the total expense at least we can do it through September, we can't, I can give you the information if you are willing to look it over and then report back, would you be willing to do that?

Ben F. – yeah...

Sophie K. – ok...thank you...anymore questions on the budget...

Michelle – it is not a question it is basically a statement. Whoever purchased a service manual from me today or yesterday I over charged you. Please come back to the table there is for of you. It is an honest program...thank you...

Sophie K. – Ok folks...stay with us we have one more question...

Tim W. – I think to get to Ben's point we have comparison actual to actual this year to last year and then we got comparison of budget to budget – basically last year's budget, this year's proposed budget. in the future it might make sense for our treasurer to prepare a statement that compares this year's actual to this year's budget year to date, you know, how were spending are we over, under spending. Because we can't tell that now, I think that is what Ben is getting at.

Sophie K. – I believe this document is year; this is our year to date spending. But the budget cannot reflect year to date.

Tim W. – yeah, what I am saying is a budget year to date, that's what I am saying. that would be helpful to compare so we know if last year's budget, if we've overspent that or under spent that. Right now we can't tell that.

Sophie K. – Ok, as I offered I do have a year to date comparison from 2010 and 2009 if you are interested, where you can look at the budgeted amount and the year to date. Anyway if you would like to look at this I'll make this available. But it is not for this year. It for back when I was the treasurer, sorry that was bad...

Cherie N. – I am not sure what was in your packet, I gave my packet away, but I do have a January through July this year and last year comparison. Ah ha. But you're going to have to do a little foot work and get last year's budget out if you compare it to this.



This is the actual income and expenses for January to July 2010 and January through July 2011. When we were doing the budget, excuse me I am addressing this to you and you're speaking. When we were doing the budget we were doing it in the month of August so we were using July numbers and we had the same period of time to reflect on it. The budget was approved at the same time last year so we were using the same set of numbers.

Tim W. – let me just say one other thing. If you pull out PRAASA which is kind of a onetime shot, right?

Cherie N. – No, It is an annual shot, last year it happened to be a little more expensive than usual...

Tim W. – but it happens to be in a kind of a concentrated time of the year. Ok, then this year we would be operating close to break even without PRAASA next year we are budgeting about \$4000 for PRAASA so I think what we are running at is about a \$4000 deficit rather than \$7400. I am not taking, I am not quibbling with you r proposed budget all I am saying is that it is probably very conservative.

Cherie N. –we are conservative, we need to be conservative, I mean, and we have financial guidelines that allow us to limit the contribution that we give to the spending in order to ensure that people share rooms and share costs where ever possible so that we are not spending the groups contributions frivolously. We may be looking at a future treasurer folks...

Sophie K. – Paul...

Paul E. – I move that we approve the budget as presented and amended.

Sophie K. – do I hear a second....

Many from the floor – Second....

Carol B. – ok we have some extra time now... (Sidebar conversation between Sophie and Carol) It's been moved and seconded. All in favor of this budget...opposed...minority opinion.

Passed by 2/3 with no minority opinion.

Carol B. – could I please see or would anyone who's interested in standing for being the at large member for, one from the north and one from the south, is what we are going to elect, I was wondering how many people total would like to stand to be the at large member of the area 42 finance committee. John, Ok, we have Don and we have John from the north and the south, and we have Edie from the south. OK, I just was wondering how, and we have Lonnie from the north. Ok, I just was wondering if we were going to have twenty people standing up for that or. So this looks real, this looks good. It looks like you will be able to elect from each end on this. Would the people who are interested in standing for those positions please come up here. OK folks. We are having a little as it say on the top all times are approximate and schedule of events are subject to change. We are going to move the reports from the additional regional forum that were supposed to happen at 11:15. We are going to move them up to tomorrow where we had the budget going on tomorrow. I hope that is ok with john and mike. Otherwise I don't see mike and I see John is that OK with you John? OK, thank you. Alright. Is there anyone else who would like to come for this. As we just had one of the people from the south, and one of the people from the north withdraw. So we are standing here with two people right now. Ben has offered to stand from the north. Do we have anyone from the south? Ok Ben would you go to the mic and give a little pitch of your general service, 2 years in your general service.

Ben F. – and I am real grateful to be here in Tonopah, this is my 5<sup>th</sup> Tonopah. I have been an alternate GSR for the golden group in kings beach California for district 14. I'm currently a GSR in district 2 right now and I am an alternate DCM for them as well. I am also the chair of ANNYPAA which is a service for the north for young people. My sobriety date is July 1<sup>st</sup> 2008. And I love service, I am a service geek, and I have a service sponsor and I've worked through the steps and I've worked through traditions. Thank you.

Carol B. – ok, Ben you have been in general service either as a GSR or alternate for 2 years? OK Lonnie...would you come up and tell us about your two years in general service...

Lonnie M. – General Service, let's see. I have been a GSR 2 different times, I've been in general service this particular round, GSR, DCM, I am now the GSR survival trainer for the north, and, whatever that's enough. Plus I'm Ben's service sponsor.

Carol B. – and you have no funding that comes from area, you are funded right now by the northern area. Alright then...so we have these two that we are going to decide who we are going to have, be the at large member of the area finance committee from the north. Lonnie or Ben. And we are going to do this with a show of hands. Cause we have to move on. Ben from district 2 you said, ok; let's see a show of hands who would like to see Lonnie from District 2, I am sorry, Ben from District 2...boy this is going to be close...alright...thank you, and Lonnie...do you agree with me that its Ben, ok, thank you very much, thank you very much. OK and we only have John S from the south who has volunteered. John S from the south from district 17 is going to be our at large member of the area trustee committee. Thank you very very much Cherie's going to do our concepts and then we are going to do go from there Again I want to remind you about the ask it basket questions.

Cherie N. – One last thing about the budget you guys, just one last thing I promise, we have passed negative budgets for the last I don't know how many years, 5 years, anyway...

11:15 Cherie N – written presentation not provided, please refer to the assembly audio CD.

Carol B. – OK, I really feel bad flip flopping with you guys like this but, if John and Mike, can, you know we ended up with more time. I thought Cherie was going to, I gave her 35 minutes. John and Mike are going to come up and do theirs and everything going to work out just fine. Thank you. Ok we have John F. from the Minden Gardnerville group up in district 6,

11:25 John F. - written presentation not provided, please refer to the assembly audio CD.

Carol B. – thank you John, boy, the Minden Gardnerville group sure got their monies worth for funding him to go there. I was worried I saw them the first day and I ok were going to listen to some presentations, no it was Saturday and looked at them and had been walking in from the swimming pool and they were thinking about going and applying for a job doing bikini security that day. But they ended up coming in the main room and enjoying the forum and I am so glad. Now I want to Introduce Mike M. who has held so many different positions for this area and area 17 also. right... anyway he is a guest this weekend with us and he's going to tell us a, his last position with us was alternate delegate and he is going to tell us about his forum experience. Mike M.

Mike M. - written presentation not provided, please refer to the assembly audio CD.

Carol B. – we have a couple of minutes before lunch and I want to pitch PRAASA 2012, you can go on line to PRAASA 2012 .org and you can either download and print this and send it in or you can register on line. Unfortunately you can't do that yet. They aren't set up to click right in and register on line, but the address is [www.praasa2012.org](http://www.praasa2012.org) . PRAASA - Pacific region, (inaudible from the floor) oh I am sorry, PRAASA I'm sorry, thank you John. He does, Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly, umm, yeah its right in front of me. OK umm, I happen to go on line and look and see from Las Vegas to Seattle its \$305 round trip tickets, and from Reno to Seattle its \$258 to \$270 round trip on Alaska Air. \$205 from Las Vegas both airlines, Alaska and south west I looked at both of them they were both \$205. I'm sorry, there \$305 from Las Vegas. And \$258 to \$270, that's round trip, \$305 from Vegas to Seattle and then um Alaska air from Reno to Seattle was \$258 and south west was \$270. So you've got over 6 months to go to your groups and see if they will fund you to do that because it's really, you know the guys just told us about the forum and this is, that's, new York coming to us, the other 14 areas in the Pacific that all get together and its really neat. I've been going for a while now and it started out as a GSR and they had their big round table and then they had the DCMs and now I go and I sit with the other, the 14 other area chairs and, its, and Sophie sits with the 14 other alternate delegates and Byron sits with, it just really, really, a learning experience about general service. So anyway I wanted to tell you some numbers, the registration is officially closed, and we have including our 24 guests, 214 people in attendance. It really something, I am really surprised because this isn't an election assembly, it's not a round table assembly, and we didn't think there were going to be that many people. So we didn't order as many, we should have had more banquet tickets, I feel really bad about that, but you can't guess we can look at past

numbers and go by that, but you know, it's just really great that everybody, almost everybody that was suppose to give a report was here to do I, and that was great and thank you guys very much and have a wonderful lunch...

Carol B. – Alright, Sophie is going to come up and you're going to have a "what's on your mind", for a few minutes and then were going to separate out into DCMs in the blue room, GSRs in here and standing chairs in the room on the other side, we are going to close those and make it a little skinny room back there. We are going to do that after you guys are done with Sophie and here is Sophie.

Sophie K. – guess what...my name is Sophie. Hi you guys I'm alcoholic, I get to serve you as the Alternate delegate I think at this moment, at this time to the mic. The way that, the way this thing is billed is "our primary purpose in area 42 assemblies" so I'll launch it from there. But actually I want to talk; I want you to talk about something completely different. Alright? So umm, the primary purpose at an area assembly I've learned is that, I mean our job here, back in the beginning and I'll tell you what it says here, "in the beginning general service assemblies were held only to elect committee officers and the delegate to the conference meeting," so that was the primary purpose back in the day, that's what we came here to do. And then going on, "Now, assembly meetings consider a variety of issues, from General Service Conference business to area problems and solutions to financial affairs, while sharing sessions, public information programs, workshops, and video programs keep A.A. strong and participation in service growing" so obviously even in area 42 we've added quite a bit to just electing, electing the grunts, the grunts are in my opinion, the grunts are the officers, and the committee chairs because we are here to serve the GSRs. Without the GSRs without you there would be no assembly. There'd be no reason to be here. So what I'd like to throw out there, for "what's on your mind" and the format for "what's on your mind" if you've never been anywhere where this has happened is well line up at the mics and well rotate through, and its just kind of in the context of the question I'm going to throw out there. Whatever, whatever's on your mind about that topic? And um, I'd like to take some notes because the "what's on your mind" about this is very important to me and I think you'll see that it is to you too. So my question is "how can we improve what we do here at area assembly, to better serve the GSRs." "What can we do here to better serve the GSRs?" I realize that some brand new GSRs have no idea because they have never done this before so I hope to hear also from more seasoned folks, you know, committee chairs, or how can we better serve committee chairs, how can we better serve DCMs, um, so what's on your mind about what can we do better here to be of more service. At the assemblies.

Justin – Southern Area Chair – what I liked about this assembly was that we had some informational, we had the forum discussion, and we had Cherie do the 12 concepts and after this we are going to have workshops for GSRs. So, this happens a lot at SAGSC too, we hear just reports from DCMs and committee members and chairs and officers which I think is important to hear those reports, but I also think it is very important to have those forum reports and workshops and things that can give us information about what's going on not just the DCM and standing committee reports but hands on experience reports.

Sophie K. – thanks Justin.

Joseph – GSR district 1

Sophie k. – Joseph, excuse me, could you pull the microphone down to your mouth thank you.

Joseph – GSR district 1 – I just thought we could get more information or maybe it could be repeated concerning the, the world, um, group service conference, I believe... GSC I am not sure how it is but it's something... New York and the world conference think those are two big issues I'd like to address and get more information about.

Sophie K. – thank you.

Sue – I am from district 6 and this is the second time I've been here and I am almost as confused as I was the first time I am here, was here. And part of the reason is, is that there is an awful lot of acronyms that are used here and I know that there is the upside down triangle so to speak with the different, different levels, uh, and when people like, well that was yesterday, time goes fast, or was that this morning, anyway, where people were giving their reports and we went back and forth from it seemed like area to group to committee reports, and to me it's like all over the wall, I had no idea who was talking about what. And I didn't know as soon as they said who they were its like I am loosing track of who they are what are they talking about, and it just seems it would make it a lot easier for me if there as a list of the acronyms if there was a thing up there that had the upside down triangle, and if

somebody would be up there saying “oh...well...you know...your...somebody at this level is talking... and then the person at this level is talking about people here and here and here” you know it’s like and I’ve talked to a couple of people and they’ve said “well you know about the time I rotated out I finally was getting the hang of it.” And I just don’t think it should take me that long to get the hang of it. So I think that there could be a hand out there could be some graphics up there that would help the new people like myself before I rotate out. Thank you –

Sophie K. – thank you. Can I ask you a question? Excuse me...Sue...which district are you from?

Sue – 6

Sophie K. – thank you.

Sue – but I am not a reflection of my district. (Laughter)

Sophie K. – that’s ok...

Howard – GSR district 1 – the, uh, this is my first time here, uh, you know there is something I did notice, I got given this packet this big yellow book with all this information and a bunch of different papers, you I had all these questions about what all these acronyms were and I’ll be darned, this last week before I came up here I decided to look through that and uh, there was a lot of answers in there. And so I did come to a conclusion though that uh, most of those acronyms if they had anything to do with me I’d kind of figure it out what they meant and what they stood for. And uh, anyway, I am glad to be here there is something that I was concerned about and at a GSR level uh it’s about the fellowship, it’s about learning how to help another alcoholic, and uh, you know I did see something in the packet I was handed out yesterday about doing some tele-conferencing and uh for me you know I think that would be extremely detrimental because we don’t get the one on one, shaking each other’s hand and looking in the eyes of the other people who’ve been here before. How do we learn how to do it, if we are doing it over a TV? Uh, just a suggestion. Thank you.

Sophie K. – thank you very much.

Byron F. – I just wanted to respond to a couple of the things that people were raising, I believe in the GSR survival manual, if my memory serves me right, there is a list of definitions, acronyms, uh you might want to take a look at that. We could even maybe, Sophie, put that on the, in the newsletter for that matter too. And Joseph, to talk to your point on the New York conference, uh, this booklet which is available over here in the boxes down here, this is almost a verbatim of the conference for the whole week. I mean if uh, if it’s in here it happened, if it ain’t in there it probably didn’t happen. This is really all there, you could possibly want to know about the New York conference. So you should pick up a copy of this and make it available to your group.

Sophie K. – thanks Byron.

Lonnie – uh, something that we might do that may help the new GSRs and new DCMs is everybody doesn’t know that odd numbers are south and even numbers are north. What we may do as GSRs and or DCMs when we do our reports, “I’m from District 14, which is north lake Tahoe, my home group is incline group number 1, I am the GSR of that group.” That might help us give a little distinction of where the heck you are, like we got a GSR from “I am from group 1” ; “where in the hell is group 1?” you know, I mean, when your new you don’t know, I still don’t know where group 1 is, I know it’s in the south, you know, but “I am from district 10”, you know that’s, “A or B”, you know “where is that”, it might help people get a little more feel of kind of where we’re from, what we are and what we do. It might just clarify a little bit, thanks.

Sophie K. – Julie.

Julie – DCM for district 20, which is in the north. Um, and I am, I absolutely did not do this with my DCM report but what I thought might be helpful would be rather than me putting in the administrative things that I’ve done in my district in my report, is to talk about the challenges, and success on a more personal level. And I know that for me when I was a GSR , especially when I was

new, all the administrative stuff just went way over my head and I'd get board and I might miss something really important because I was bored. And um, maybe in, in, that not just me, but I think that we could do the written ones with all the administrative stuff we've done and you know the campouts and the whatever, and uh, but from a personal level I learn better when people talk about their successes and challenges, and that is just a thought. Thanks.

Sophie K. – thank you Julie.

Kyle – from district 20, Chester. You know I don't know if there is anything you can do about the comfort level as coming in as GSR, I wasn't comfortable until I was ready to phase out. But I know one thing that was important to me was that, that, uh, I brought back that was interesting to my group, I know our delegate is hamstrung by what he can discuss in New York, uh, but I also know that my group wasn't totally interested, or only interested in literature or PI or whatever it was that I had to take back to them...it did spur an interest in my group and it revitalized it and also in me because they're very, very passionate subjects here that go through the group and I know there is nothing that we can do about what our delegate takes back to New York but it was important to me to take something back interesting to my group.

Sophie K. – Thanks Kyle.

Caroline – I serve you as the southern area archivist which is the alternate area archivist. Um, when I first came to Tonopah I was a GSR and I did, I was very uncomfortable here, I didn't understand what was going on. I didn't understand everything that was going on, I didn't hardly understand anything that was going on and I remember that Sophie was the chair and Carol was the secretary and they were both so kind to me. They took a moment to say hello, and to smile, and you know, Carol's laugh is just infectious, and it gave me a little bit of encouragement. And I remember that it was the first time I was here, or maybe it was the second time, and on Sunday morning we were talking about the budget and we went around and around and around and around and around and around and after gobs of discussion we decided that there weren't enough people there to make a decision so we held it for the next assembly. And I was the first person out of the room at that assembly and swearing that I was never going to come back, but what I, what I did and what really made a difference to me was that I got a service sponsor. I got Kathy Smith who was one of our past delegates to be my service sponsor and to help me and to answer those questions and to hold my hand and I don't know about you but the last thing that I want to do is ask for help. Even though I've been sober and I understand that you ask for help and you get help and you take some direction and it like "ok, now I got it" and so I want to be independent. But when I asked her for help and then she started introducing me to people and I started just hanging very close to her. And it made a huge difference. So on the part of the GSRs I would suggest that perhaps you reach out a little bit to somebody that's been around for a while and on the part of the people who have been around for a little while I would suggest that you put smiles on your faces and reach out and say hello to the people that are new and let them know that they are welcome here and that they are needed here because Bill Wilson says in the pamphlet about GSRs, is that the GSR is the most important job in Alcoholics Anonymous, that is the person who is the Liaison between the group and New York and the international organization, so, that's it, thank you

Sophie K. – thanks Caroline. Ed, Please...

Ed DeP. – I am a slowly recovering Alcoholic. And I remember when I first came to the assembly a few years back, uh, one of the things that struck me is being new, is just like being at a new AA meeting for the first time. And those meetings used to have greeters. And I was wondering what would be wrong with having certain members of the, uh, committee, upper committee, chair person and so on greet people at the door, and shake their hands. Let them know who they are so they can, you know, kind of get a sense of friendliness from the very beginning. Oh, that's all I got.

(Applause from the floor)

Sophie K. – we've gotta a couple of more minutes only is there a second time GSR who would like to tell us why they came back...I mean a GSR that's come here, that's this is their second assembly. OK, we got two volunteers one at each mic and then we will call it a wrap.

Corrine – I came back because it's fun, really that's why. And now that I am knowing a little bit better what I do is I looking for groups that need a GSR. Or I suggest that they get a GSR so I can come back to Tonopah.

Sophie K. – Thank you.

Kay – this is my second time here, I was here in March and, uh, the reason I came back couldn't wait, uh, was I feel um, involved, I feel Involved, and I am recognizing people and faces and sometimes I can put the name to the face but I'll sometimes I'll have to work on that. But for me I have to stay involved, I have to stay involved in AA because if I, my past history, you know, I have to go to meetings and I have to stay involved. So that's why I am back.

Sophie K. – thanks very much.

Chuck – I can be real quick...

Sophie K. – Alright,

Chuck – I was reading a book, some of you may have read it, AA comes of Age, page 276, there is a definition of fellowship I recommend reading, it rocked my boat, it's the reason I am here now it's the reason I am going to be here for a long time.

Sophie K. – thanks Chuck. 30 seconds...

Tony – I am from New York, as you can tell, um, basically you know what I got in service the first 6 months that I've came in and all those questions I had about who was sitting in the front and who was doing this and who was doing that that was all answered . And you know what; it kept me sober 18 years, that's what matters. Thanks.

Sophie K. – great... thanks everybody for indulging me I hope that was of value to you. It was to me, thank you.

Carol B. – OK everyone we are going to ask you now to separate into the three groups. And if you're not a member of those three groups please feel free to join anyone that you would like to sit in on. And the DCMs can go to the blue room, the standing chairs can go back here with Sophie and we are going to shut that off, and the GSRs are all out here.

Individual workshop minutes were recorded and distributed separately by the three facilitators.

Speaker Meeting is available on the Assembly recording or MP3

## **Sunday September 11, 2011**

Carol B. - Would you please take your seats. Kevin is going to open the meeting

Kevin B. – we're going to start this morning with a moment of silence. Today I am going to ask you to think about the alcoholic who still suffers, for the families today in Manhattan who were impacted by the events ten years ago, for the families of all the Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen who have fallen from then till today. God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, to change the things I can and the willingness to know the difference. Thank you.

Carol B. – good morning. Hopefully we'll get out of here a little earlier that the agenda calls for since we already did the finance. OK, again I am going to ask in case any DCMs weren't here earlier when I requested that if you have any binders still out that have not been returned to the archives room, please take them back there so they can get them packed up and loaded. Also Doreen is going to leave at 10AM but she is here to take, uh, where is she; she's wait, right back there at the end of that table. She's here to take any subscriptions to the grapevine that you would like to do with here this morning. Um. Here is a pair of sunglasses that someone left behind, so, are those Phil's? ah ha. Let see what else have we got here? Our next assembly in the spring is going to be March 30<sup>th</sup>, 31st, and then we will all go home on April fool's day. Also on your way out the door return your badges in the box on

the registration table there so we can recycle those for next time. And, we have already had District 6 volunteer to host in the spring, so, we have look forward to that. And I wanted to give you some numbers; um, we had 214 registered and every one of you paid because it balanced out just perfect. Our guests, we had 24 guests, we had 64 DCM and GSR north and we had 98 DCMs and GSRs from the south. 162 total District 6 had 18 people and district 1 had 25 people registered. And that's great. And Jeannette going to come up and make an announcement.

Jeannette B. – Area 42 Alt. Registrar – I kind of want to get a sense, I am thinking about trying to do some changes with registration and I want to know how many of you, like, bring laptops and would want to have your packet available in CD-Rom rather than on paper? Just a show of hands? Anybody? OK. Alright so there goes that question. Um, number two, how many of you would be in doing pre-registration? That would come in the format of mailing your stuff in ahead of time to me. That way when you come to the door you just pick it up. If you do pre registration, since we don't the ability yet to do anything like debit cards it would be have to check or money order. I would put that all out in a email. Um, and make that very clear. So, everybody's good with that? OK. (Inaudible question from the floor), I don't see why we couldn't do that. OK? Sounds good.

Carol B. – OK, everyone have you had the opportunity to look at the minutes that were in your packets? (Long Pause) Yes? I already told them. Every single person in here is going to through their bade in that box. Do I hear a motion to pass the minutes as recorded?

Body – Yea

Carol B. – Second?

Numerous seconds from the floor – Yea.

Carol B. - All in favor? (Majority from the floor) Opposed? No amendments? Thank you very much. OK, we have already done the finance, so um we are not going to take a fifteen minute break. Is Bob here from the south? With his proposal? OK Bob come up here please. While Bobs coming up I want to, uh, no I don't, never mind. I would like to tell you that this is a proposal that you all have a copy of in you packets. Please bring them out. This is a first reading of a guide line changing proposal. When we have a guideline changing proposal; the person w ho is bringing it up is going to read it to you and explain it to you, you know, what he's doing. And then there will be no discussion during the first reading; but, we will make, uh, point of information and we will accept questions for clarification. So if you have any questions after Bob is all finished with his reading of the presentation, of the proposal, I'm sorry. Then you may go to the mics with your question. Thank you.

Bob DeP – this is a proposal from My home group, the Tuesday grapevine group in uh, district 9 in Las Vegas. And I'll read it:

**Motion:** Create 4 teleconference places as an option for participating in Area Assemblies. The Assemblies would still be held in Tonopah as scheduled. But for those who would prefer less travel time and cost, they could participate via teleconference. These points would be in Las Vegas, Reno, Elko and somewhere in the Sierras(selected by the Area). Those wishing to go to Tonopah would still do so.

**Why?** 1. Greater participation in Assemblies. Teleconference points would open up our Assemblies to those who presently can't afford to go or can't leave town to go. 2. Big cost savings. At present, it costs at least \$60,000 per year to send 150 people to the twice-yearly Tonopah Assemblies. If one-third of the people stayed home for the teleconferences, this would save some \$20,000 per year.

**Cost:** Spend approximately \$2,000 for 4 big-screen TVs(\$500 each); approximately \$2,000 for 4 laptops(\$500 each); approximately \$100 for a cell phone used by the Area Chair; and approximately \$84 a year for a teleconference service such as Skype or go to meeting. Rent for the four teleconference buildings would be about \$250 per year or \$1,000 total. Total implementation cost about \$7,000. Yearly cost about \$1,500 for building rent, cell phone and teleconference service.



The need: Our Primary Purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety. Greater participation in our Area Assemblies would strengthen our fellowship. Group savings on travel costs would allow these groups more money to give the AA service structure.

**Guideline changes:** To implement this, changes must be made to our Area 42 Guidelines.

Section 1.2 Meetings:

A. The Area Assembly shall meet semi-annually, at the end of March and September. The time and place of each meeting will be selected, by the Area Assembly, far enough in advance to guarantee the scheduling of the appropriate facility(add) plus the 4 teleconference facilities.

1.4 Area Officer Duties:

H. The duties of the Registrar shall be:

3. Coordinate efforts at the (add) 4 facilities holding the teleconference assemblies, (continue) Area Assembly and Committee meetings to accomplish responsibilities of the Area Registrar.

2.2 Area Committee Meetings:

A. The Area Committee shall meet at least twice a year at the Area Assembly (add) and at each of the 4 teleconference facilities holding the Area Assemblies at a time and place to be determined by the Area Assembly at the last meeting.

**Effective Date:** This motion will take effect for the March, 2013 Area Assembly.

Please let us increase Assembly participation and decrease Assembly costs. This motion will achieve both of these aims.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob D.

GSR Tues Grapevine Group, District 9

Carol B. – Are there any questions for clarification?

Joseph - Ok, I noticed that it says here, uh, teleconference service; by the way my name is Joseph district 1. Teleconference service such as Skype or go to meeting, do these teleconference services provide, uh, feedback like live, where you can actually participate on a vote or address a speaker concerning an issue?

Bob DeP – Yes they do. And if anyone is interested I got about 50 pages of technical information from Skype as to how they operate and I'd be happy to share that with anyone who would like to get with me and um, when we break, but, uh, yes these uh, these things would be available.

Joseph – Thank you for answering my question.

Carol B. – OK...over here...there's a switch on the back of it...

Roger – District 12 GSR - anonymity thoughts (actual comment was inaudible).

Bob DeP – OK, these are very secure operations, and they got a series of codes. They, you have to use to participate. They are used by congress right for a lot of their secret proceedings; uh they are used by major corporations that are far more secretive than AA ever thought of being. And again if anybody wants to look at some of the nuts and bolts I have that available in this technical information provided by Skype.

(Inaudible question)

Bob DeP – Yes, uh, no, no, no, I, I, can get you connected with, with that, no problem.

Carol B. – Asha...

Asha – I was just wondering with our appropriate facilities and all this equipment and rooms, three days, um, how does this fit in with our, uh, keeping it simple, um, if we're going to times four organizing this assembly twice a year, uh, and how do , you know, all of the feedback from 5 different centers, um, and you know if it works maybe we can just teleconference meetings and we don't have to go to meetings just switch on your laptop and have a meeting...

Carol B. – OK. Asha, just questions thank you...

Bob DeP – Well the the...the main idea is to be able to expand participation in the assemblies; the assemblies are not like meetings, you know, we have meetings all over the state of Nevada. There's some in Tonopah, you know, etcetera, etcetera. Um, but, this is something, you know, would enable a lot of people to participate in the assemblies that aren't doing so now. I, we have a unique situation in this area because we have such a large geographical, you know, spot. The whole state of Nevada and the mountains, and um eastern California, so this would uh, really bring people together more because people could participate.

Claudia – Las Vegas Nevada district 7, um, stark raving sober, yea, OK, um, I'm curious and um I'm sure my group would want to know, um, first off, who would be the custodians of the equipment and all that kind of stuff on the off seasons? And then also, um, how would we reconcile voting members and things like that remotely, as far as registration and making sure that, um, people have a say, were talking about the minority opinion and things like that. Um, if were truly going to be doing this from remote locations; for the purpose of having more voices be heard. How are we going to get those voices heard? Thanks.

Bob DeP – Well, the voting we would need to have a monitor in charge of each of the four facilities and uh we could do it like we do now when you pay to register as a GSR you'd get, you know, a blue um color or a green color or whatever is appropriate that identifies you as a voting member of the assembly, dose that answer your question ?

Claudia – inaudible response.

Bob DeP – how do you register them remotely? You count em. At the four places. OK...thank you.

Carol B. – she had another question, who's going to house the equipment?

Bob DeP – that would be up to the area to determine.

Joe – District 7, Las Vegas, and uh my daughter lives in Reno and I Skype with her on a regular basis and I've never had an entire conversation without it dropping or having other problems. What would you do to adjust to that?

Bob DeP – well, again, this is used by corporations, and the government and their quite satisfied with it, so, uh, However, to properly address your question I will research that more thoroughly and the next time we talk about it I can give a more detailed answer, fair enough?

Joe – uh, well yea. And the other question, or more on it, have you tested skyping from Tonopah? What's the strength? You know my smart phone isn't being too smart here, you know, uh, I don't know if that's part of it or not...that's all I got,

Carol B. – thank you ...Roberta...

Roberta B. – I'm the alternate GSR for the primary purpose group in Yerington Nevada. District 12. I have a couple of questions. What happens if one or more sites loses power or their connection? I've dealt with these systems before and had to reschedule meetings several times because one or more sites would lose power.

Bob DeP – OK, again ,this is something that I don't have any direct experience with but I will research it and get you a detailed answer when we talk about it again.

Roberta B. – OK, and I have one other question. Is, um, I know personally for me whenever I base a decision on money y it doesn't work out well for me...

Carol B. – Question...Question...

Roberta B. – and my question is, uh, is it worth the extra dollars to give up the fellowship that we have with the north and south.

Carol B. – thank you Roberta. Vicky

Vicky – District 13 the misfits, I just have a question right here it says it cost at least \$60,000 per year to send 150 people to the twice year Tonopah assembly, are you getting that figure from the area, or per group, how did you come up with that figure right there?

Bob DeP – OK, we're using a conservative figure of \$200 per person to attend here, gas, motel, meals. Different groups allocate different amounts of money. No, this is not all money being spent by the area by any means but its money being spent by people that if they weren't spending it here it could go to the AA service structure. to our district, to southern area to our intergroup and our area.

Vicky – OK, and they wanted me to ask you one more question. How do we discuss and vote at the tele conference. Is it going to be like live time like we are talking right here? Is that possible?

Bob DeP – Yes.

Carol B. – Joan. ..

Joan M. – a past delegate that used to live in the north and now live in the south. We have an area assembly that starts at 9 in the morning and goes until 5 in the afternoon each day and we have a lot of breaks; and w have a lot of uh, personal one on one communications with people, we have eye to eye contact with people here. We meet people we'd never meet otherwise. How are we going to resolve all of those extras that come without business attached when we are sitting at computers for eight hours watching a screen and taking breaks and nothing is happening?

Bob DeP – Well, again, this is purely an option, uh, if everybody, if everybody whose here right now wants to come to Tonopah in the future there is no reason you can't. OK, this is simply an option to allow more people to participate in our assemblies who couldn't do so either for cost reasons of coming here or scheduling reasons for leaving town for two, two and a half days. It is simply an option.

Corrine – I apologize if this was in the literature, but, are we going to have a big screen up here so we could kind of interact? Like we do here? And how much more time, don't, you may not know this. But, wouldn't that be a lot more time involved in trying to organize, ok" it's your turn to speak", OK, you know, and will we have a big screen up here is really my major question.

Bob DeP – Yes there would be.

Corrine – there would be a big screen up here...

Bob DeP – correct...

Corrine – OK...thank you.

Michelle – Registrar – I was just curious how you came up with the registrar being in charge of logistically setting up four big screen TVs in different parts of the state and how that would work out, and I am just thinking for future registrars. Because that's...

Carol B. – I'm sorry, would you repeat the question again... I'm sorry

Michelle – of how you, how you came up with the registrar being in charge logistically with organizing four different sites across the state with these big screen TVs. Um, the position is to register groups with GSO and to make sure everything is up to date. Renting halls and things like that I am not real familiar with and I'm just saying this for future registrars so that they would be requested of them. How did you come up with that?

Carol B. – the duties of the registrar shall to be coordinate efforts at the, and it would add, at the 4 facilities holding the teleconference assemblies and here at the area assembly; and as it continues to read now and at committee meetings and to accomplish responsibilities area registrar. I'm, I'm imagining that should this proposal pass that there would be two or three more alternate or co-registrars one at each of the, um remote sites.

Bruce – so right now there's 200 of us registered, and we take up all this time. So if you're going to add in video conferencing and were going to add 300 more people to the microphone, how many extra days are you going to allow for the conference?

Bob DeP – Well, I was involved in area work up in the state of Washington before this, and they meet once a year not twice a year and they manage to do all their business in one day so I, I really don't see as it would be all that big a problem, I really don't.

Carol B. – Roberta...

Roberta L. – um, I am thinking of our third legacy procedure, and I am imagining an election, and I've participated in those over the years and have also been a part of the group that counted the vote. And I am trying to imagine how that's going to work with this site and four other sites compiling votes and sending them down here I guess to Tonopah to total it up. You know often those votes are very close so it's really important that we have accuracy and everyone's vote is counted. So I'm just thinking of specific situations that we will run into with these outlying areas trying to coordinate with what's going on here. Has that been addressed? Like how would that work?

Bob DeP – well, Pretty simple, just, the four teleconference points would report their votes and they be added up here at the central location.

Roberta L. – OK, I am thinking somebody else mentioned a time element. And you know it's very time consuming to count those ballots. Sometimes we have to recount. We have to vote again, you know, we vote maybe three times on one office. Maybe all the offices. And I just, it just seems like it's just terribly complicated, but I guess you've figured out a way to make that run smoothly.

Bob DeP – Well, I'll repeat what said to the last question. This doesn't have to be that time consuming a thing. I've seen assemblies do a year's worth of business in a day. And we take a weekend twice a year to do it and, so I don't see that big a problem at all.

Mark – I am concerned about the time constraints as well. I have had experience professionally using net meeting and I've never had dropped situation you just have to make sure that that there's like a hard wired internet connection. I don't think we'd want to operate off a cell phone or something like that. Um, there's a chat box so counting votes that would be very easy. There's just a little chat box, you just say yea or nay, you know da da da ....and then the person in that remote meeting counts and then someone here is counting, the, it's very, very simple. I wouldn't worry about that. But I would be concerned about the time constraints. Um, I think I suggest we start with one location...

Carol B. – I'm not looking for suggestion. We're looking for questions...

Mark – Oh...Ok...Um, would you consider just starting with just one location?

Bob DeP – How about two. One in Reno and one in Las Vegas?

Curtis – District 1 Las Vegas; I have a couple of questions, one, your saying well still have this facility that weekend, doesn't that eliminate the, or doesn't that defeat the purpose we are still going to have the cost of the renting and what not. And also isn't our job as GSRs to represent our groups? If we're going to have it open to everybody at four different sites, what's the purpose of a GSR?

Bob DeP – well, when I was talking about greater participation I was talking about more GSRs being able to participate because right now most groups can't afford to send somebody to Tonopah. That's why we have such poor participation.

Gail – My concern is that our home group business meetings are very small and so are our area meetings and I had a heck of a time just finding an alternate GSR who can, you know, learn now and then take over my position in two years and know kind of what's going on. My concern is that will this, right now we share the cost because the alternates not paid for, will this make the groups say stand down and say you don't need to go either, just watch it on TV.

Carol B. – He can't really answer that, is the group going to say we're not going to fund you, that question, he can't really answer that.

Paul E. – I am looking here and says rent for four teleconference buildings whatever, average \$250 per year. You're going to rent a building Friday night, all day Saturday and Sunday for half a day for \$125.

Bo DeP – yes...

Background comments concerning the amount...

Paul E. – no, \$250 a year half of that would be \$125 because its half a year and yeah, four different places around the state. You ain't going to rent a building in Reno. For that price. OK, that's my first concern I think that number is totally off as far as the cost. My second concern is at times at this assembly we divide into different groups, like Friday night we had all the GSRs in here and all the committee members in the blue room, so now your splitting the assembly, who's going to be on the teleconference? The GSRs or the people in the blue room? And then, yeah, you would need an extra TV for that. Also yesterday we divided into three groups; you had DCMs, GSRs and standing committee members in three different groups. Now you need another TV for that. You know at times we do divide up into groups and round tables and everything like that, so you know, how would that be resolved.

Bob DeP – Well, in terms of the cost, I am familiar with Las Vegas we use the TIE club for large meetings and we would probably use that for the teleconferencing. We could easily get that for a weekend for \$125. I am pretty sure you could do similar things elsewhere around the state. As for what you were saying about breaking into smaller groups, well, yesterday these were workshops, ok. There was no area business discussed no votes on area business and you wouldn't need additional TVs to break into workshops. You could just do that at each of the locations.

Carol B. – OK, number, a couple of things, Please don't tell us what your concerns are because that's telling us what your opinion are. We want to hear your questions. There are six of you still there I am, we're going receive your questions from the six of you and then I think I am going to ask for a sense of the assembly to see if we want to go forward with this. Pat

Pat S. – since we in AA operate on the experience, strength and hope with each other has this been tried in any other area in the Unites States or Canada? And if so what were the problems and what worked?

Bob DeP – there are moves under way to get this going in Alaska but to my knowledge, and also in Oregon, but to my knowledge no it hasn't actually been done anywhere at the area level. To my knowledge.

Kyle – So I've listened to people all weekend so how much they love Tonopah and being here, so I think these same people would be willing to go to the same length to come back. So I would suggest that the same people would come back I doubt that we'd gain more but it would be an additional cost instead of, you know, and you can't just divide \$60,000 into third and say we're going to save that, because we're going to have an expenditure there. Also I've never seen a \$500 big screen TV but I couldn't see it here I

know that. I would assume that you would have to divide that into four which would, I don't know. I question all these costs, that they don't seem right to me.

Bob DeP- well as for the \$500 big screen TVs I just look at the Ads in the newspaper, Fry's, Best Buy, RC Willey, 50 inch big screen TVs if you look you can get em at that price. In terms of people choosing to come to Tonopah or not again should be an option and not force groups be burdened with the expense of sending people here if there is another option.

Carol B. – we can't here you...

Mike – like last spring we broke up into the round table and delegates go around the rooms how is that going to be worked out, are delegates going to have to stay behind at the different locations and go around to their tables? How's that going to be done?

Carol B. – He can't possibly answer that, the delegate (inaudible) placement...thank you...we understand what you are expressing.

Brice – Just two quick questions, I am a district 13 mustard group, never been here before. My first question is, if this was implemented, right, what would be the incentive for somebody to drive up here to Tonopah? And the second question is, shouldn't we be more concentrated on getting more participation at the district and group level rather than getting people up here? It seems to me that we should be getting what we need from our individual groups and districts and then coming up here with it. Rather than getting more people here to participate.

Bob DeP – well, a lot of, in terms of the incentive to come to Tonopah, a lot of people feel strongly about the value of the fellowship that you have by being here. Being able to meet new people talk face to face with a lot of people, so that's really the incentive to come to Tonopah. As for involving new people that what the teleconference want to do that's the main purpose is to allow people who either can't afford to come or can't take the time to come as GSRs to get involved in the process.

Don L. – I am just curious what area in Washington does all their business once a year in one day?

Bob DeP – The western Washington area.

Don L.- Seattle?

Bob DeP- Excuse me?

Don L. – the Seattle, that...

Bob DeP- Well, the west side of the mountains...that half of the state.

Don L. – They have one have one area assembly one day a year?

Bob DeP- Yeah..Well they get together on Friday afternoon Friday night but all of the business is conducted on Saturday.

Don L. – Once a year?

Bob DeP- Yes sir.

Carol B. – Alright...I would like to see a show of hands on who feels, one hand each, on who feels that we should come back and forward this to the spring for a final reading? Who feels that we should not? Thank you very much.

Sense of the assembly to not forward this proposal to the spring assembly for a second reading.

Carol B. – Oh...I'm sorry, I'm sorry, minority opinion? Thank you.. Yeah I'm sorry, this is a sense of the assembly I just want to, OK. Thank you. We are now going to have the ask-it basket.

Ask-it Basket Questions and Answers are available on the Assembly recording CD and MP3.

Respectfully Submitted  
Kevin M Brun  
Area 42 Recording Secretary