

**Minutes March 2015**  
**Area 42 Pre-Conference Assembly**

**March 27, 2015**

**6:00 PM Phil:** opened with serenity prayer and read Declaration of unity (gave a little history)

Cog: read public anonymity statement

**Welcome – Phil W.** opening announcements; glad we are all here, this weekend we will be hearing presentations on agenda items that Mike has thought will be helpful to him at the General Service Conference. We will have discussion time where you can come to the microphone and express your or your group's opinion on what you have heard and we will take a sense of the Assembly on some of the items. We are very honored to have Joel C. our Pacific Region Trustee this weekend. Please help yourselves by being loving and understanding thank you in advance. There is a copy of the "Chairs Rules" in your packet these have been included so that we can be on the same page and have an understanding of how we will conduct our discussions with love and tolerance please. When you come to the microphone please keep your comments focused on the topic being discussed, we will have a what's on your mind time on Sunday. Service manuals are available at the literature table.

\*Secretary minutes to be approved from fall 2014; John moved to accept and Edie 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimous

**Secretary: Paul**

Hi I am Paul and I'm an alcoholic. Welcome, I would like to thank all of those that sent in their reports early. There is a lot of preparation work that goes on to putting on this assembly and getting your reports in early helps with the translation. With all of the Area 42 officers, NAGSC, SAGSC, and DCMs there are 57 reports. This does not count all of the agenda presentations, Ad-Hoc committees, or proposals. This is a very heavy task to translate all of this material and Tony I thank you for all of your hard work and service to the fellowship. If you did not send me your report early Tony has asked for a copy of your report before you get up to the microphone and give it (the sooner the better), I can make a copy up here if you bring it to me, also there is a box down in front marked reports please put a copy in the box when you are done. If possible I would appreciate it if you would email your report to me. I have something to ask of you; please when you go to the microphone, state your first name and service position or past service position. If you do not have a service position (member or visitor) state that, there are many committees that need help, come see me during the break and I can help you find one. I attended PRAASA in Layton, Utah; the panels were great with a wealth of information and at the secretary's roundtable there were secretaries from other Areas and Districts, topics discussed were on recording assemblies / meetings, technology (web site, email), editing, motions, archiving minutes, and hot button topics (loving discussion). Thank you for allowing me to serve, Paul

**Treasurer: Vince**

The financial statements in your packet are as of February 28, 2015. Since our last area assembly I was fortunate to attend PRAASA, as always it was a very educational experience. While at PRAASA I was also able to be of service by moderating the Treasurer's round table on Friday night where I was able to gather information from other area treasurers. As of February Area 42 has received \$3,739 of 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions and have expended \$4,003 which leaves us with a deficit \$264 at the end of February. The majority of the \$4,003 was for our contribution to GSO for our delegate's attendance at the annual General Service Conference. As of February 28, 2015 Area 42 has \$21,902 in our checking account and \$5,567 in our Savings/CD account. This gives Area 42 a total balance of cash on hand of 26,659. When your group or district makes a 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contribution to Area 42 please make sure the check or money order is clearly marked with the correct group number and correct group name. If you have any questions for me please feel free to visit with me. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Tinna moved to accept and John 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimous

**Alternate Delegate (NAGSC Chair): Carol**

I hope everyone utilized the summaries of the Panel 65 GSC Agenda Items, I'm very pleased with the outcome of the work done getting those completed, and I want to thank everyone who volunteered to dig in and put the many pages of this year's background information given for the many GSC Agenda Items into just a few sentences. Once we had them completed, Paul E. and I joined District 22 and briefly went over some of the items with them. Area 06 translated summaries into Spanish and shared them with us, so we were able to distribute them here in Nevada. Mike requested of Jonelle and I, to have the Agenda Items presentations prepared and presented by members who have not done it in the past (with the exception of the one item relating to policy). I think we were not disappointed by any of the 8 SAGSC and NAGSC presentations on the 14<sup>th</sup>. this month. They did an excellent job. Didn't they? My duties as your Alt. Delegate include serving as the Northern Area Chairperson. We had our first Committee Meeting this month, it consisted of the agenda items in the format of roundtables, therefore there was little time for

Committee business and reports, but all reports sent in to Laura our Secretary shall be recorded in the minutes. Our June 6<sup>th</sup>. Meeting shall be hosted by District 16 and held in Sparks (Cathy tells me it's going to be a "Pot Luck" meeting), and Mike M. shall be joining us to present his Delegate Report on the GSC being held in April. We are looking forward to holding our August 1, NAGSC Meeting in one of our outlying Districts, so please talk to your groups in advance of the committee meetings to see if you are willing to host and have space available for us. It's a pleasure to serve you in any capacity you so choose to utilize me, so please let me know if you have something for me to do. Thank you, Carol B.

**Area Chair: Phil**

Hi to all of you, I'm very happy to be able to be here and am very happy you were able to be here this weekend. In the past few months I have been working on becoming the Area Chair. I really enjoyed the past rotation and having lots of friends to work with. I think it's really nice to have friends to throw ideas around with. Friends that allow me to pick those ideas up and run with them if I like. I am now in a different position and I get to be here to be of assistance to you when you have ideas and or concerns. It's been brought to my attention that now I am a servant of servant's. I enjoy the opportunity to be helpful to the Area as we work on coming to Informed Group Decision's. I am having fun at trying to put together agendas that are going to help us all become more informed and better able to carry out our 12th step work. I was able to attend PRAASA in Layton and went to both of the Workshops for chairs. This is a place where I get to listen to other chairs as they talk about their areas and how they do things. I do believe that PRAASA is one of the best learning tools I have come to know in my General Service experience. I really would love to come out to your group or district to have fun at your home groups meetings, I love traveling around Nevada. Communication is the backbone of General Service I love it when anyone emails me or calls or texts (just let me know who you are) I hope you enjoy your life as we trudge down the happy road to serenity. Phil W. Panel 65 Area 42 Chair

**Alternate Chair: Justin**

My name is Justin and I'm alcoholic. If there are any mistakes in the minutes from September it's not Paul's fault. I was the secretary then so blame me. My duties as Alternate Area Chair this far have been to assist the area chair in the assembly, and take care of the translation equipment in the south. Another duty was to appoint a Grapevine Chair for the South, which I chose Jake S. for that position. Thank you to Phil for including me in his planning of the assembly. He has done a great job and is very well prepared for his position. The translation equipment was used at the H&I workshop held February 28th in Las Vegas. I'm thankful that the H&I committee showed me how to use it. The equipment was also at the Roundtables in Las Vegas March 14. I was not able to attend PRAASA or the southern Roundtables. Which bummed me out but I'm looking forward to next years PRAASA and to being involved with our area 42s PRAASA in 2018. Yours in service, Justin

**Alternate Secretary (SAGSC Secretary): Erica**

Thanks to SAGSC for sending me to PRAASA where I learned a lot. I have the literature table set up for everyone separated by English & Spanish tables. There is also a table by the wall with free material. Please take it away. Some of it is old & some of it is just free stuff from AAWS in New York, including birthday contribution envelopes. I look forward to serving the Area & SAGSC. Thank you.

**Alternate Treasurer (NAGSC Treasurer): Tinna**

I want to thank our outgoing Treasurer Julie C. for all her guidance, input and help. It was very exciting to attend my first PRAASA last weekend. The entire weekend was full of learning new things. One new bit of information was especially helpful. The huge box of NAGSC Treasurer Documentation, with documents as old as 15 years, will be turned over to our Archivist, Pat, for safe keeping. I will keep the records from 2013 to the present. A copy of the financial records for 2014 has been sent to Area 42 Treasurer, Vince, for tax purposes. We have written checks for \$200 to Area 42 for tax preparation, and for \$1250 to offset the cost of the General Service Conference. We have begun to reimburse Officers, Committee Chairs, DCM's, and GSR's for PRAASA expenses; I expect more requests for reimbursement. Our checking account balance is \$11,783.59 this morning. Group Contributions for the first Quarter of 2015 total \$2,851.36, down almost 24% from the first quarter of 2014. Please feel free to contact me with any question you have. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving.

**Archivist: Rhonda**

Hello my name is Rhonda and I am an Alcoholic. I am your Current Area 42 Archivist.

Archives is in full swing! We have been attending picnics and workshops. Pat and I both attended PRAASA and were again uplifted with the spirit of AA. In the South we have been working on organizing the archives space, figuring out what is area archives and what is memorabilia. We are currently interviewing old timers and have started the "if these walls could talk" binder. Cheri and LC have taken on the finance project. Getting all of our Area finance paperwork in sheet protectors and binders. This summer we are planning to attend workshops and picnics as well as get all of our loose paper into sheet protectors. Just a reminder that we would like all of you to create a binder of your position and turn it in at the end of your

commitment. Thank You to all of you who have turned in your past paperwork!!! The response has been great and I am convinced that our area records are intact and current. If you have any events and would like Archives to set up a tale please let me know we would love to come. Thanks you for letting me be of service, and remember "Don't throw anything away"

**Alternate Archivist (NAGSC Archivist): Pat**

My name is Pat S. and I serve as your Area 42 Alternate Archivist and NAGSC Archivist. We continue to have displays and participate in AA workshops, festivals and other events throughout Northern Nevada and North-eastern California within Area 42. If you would like a display or presentation, please contact me. My email address and a link are listed on the contact page of the Area 42 Website ([nevadaarea42.org](http://nevadaarea42.org)). I attended PRAASA in Utah and went to all of the Archives roundtables. One thing was made quite clear: although it is fun to collect memorabilia, the primary purpose of archives is to act as the repository for all District meeting and financial reports and records. If you are a DCM in the NAGSC area, please send those (including any old ones) to me. I'm happy to report that DCMs have already started to do this. Yours in service, Pat S.

**Area Webmaster: Libby**

My name is Libby G. and I'm an alcoholic and the Area 42 Webmaster. I've only been in the job for three months and I've come to see that there is a lot to be learned. Scott, the previous webmaster has been most kind in teaching me how to make the changes necessary to the website. I appreciate his patience with me. I'm still learning the job and probably will continue to do so until my term has been served. I've updated the email addresses for the Area committee members, the SAGSC and NAGSC members and the DCM's. Other types of tasks I've done are updating the area calendar with upcoming events. I've added financial information to the website in the confidential page. I've added various types of workshops to the NAGSC and SAGSC pages. I've removed out of date items as well as adding the Area Newsletter. I've added links to the Assembly page for the Assembly registration. Like many tasks in Alcoholics Anonymous, at first it took me forever to get anything done because I had a hard time finding where to make the changes. Now I have a somewhat better handle on things and it is going much faster. I was pretty afraid to take the job because I'm not really a geek. I can do a little website building but I've only ever done my own sites and was afraid I wouldn't be technically able to do the work. So far though I'm getting the work done, or at least haven't broken the website yet, knock on wood. I'd like to thank Mike and the Area for this opportunity to be of service. Yours in Service, Libby G.

**Area Newsletter: Anne**

Hi my name is Anne and I am your alcoholic Area 42 Newsletter Editor. The Spring 2015 Area 42 Newsletter deadline was met on Feb. 23 and a seven page newsletter was sent and distributed to the Area Chair and Area Secretary who distributed it to his contacts in the area along with the webmaster who loaded it onto the website where it currently lives. It was also emailed to about 120 additional email contacts from the newsletter editor gmail account that I now monitor as part of the ongoing duties of the newsletter editor. If anyone would like to be added to that email list, I have a sign-up sheet with me here at the assembly along with some printed copies of the newsletter. Earlier this month, it was my honor to attend my first PRAASA in Layton, Utah where I attended the Newsletter and Websites roundtables which were filled with other area newsletter editors and website types. It was extremely informative. It helped me tremendously to meet with other communications people from the different areas and hear about their challenges and solutions to the variety of issues that arise from time to time with newsletters and websites. It is my hope that the Area 42 Newsletter remains a meaningful line of communication between the Area 42 members regarding general service and general service related issues. The next newsletter is set to come out on April 30. If you have any suggestions or ideas for content, please take some time to visit with me here or contact me at [area\\_newsletter\\_editor@nevadaarea42.org](mailto:area_newsletter_editor@nevadaarea42.org). I am open to suggestions and ideas for content. Together, we can continue to make it a success. In closing, I'd like to acknowledge the former editor, Irene, who made the newsletter what it is today and made the transition into this commitment relatively simple. And I'd like to thank the area for entrusting me with this honor. I am looking forward to the next two years. Sincerely yours in service, Anne K.

**Q:** Joyce Y. Can you get the newsletter in the regular mail? **A:** This might be possible but the budget is very small for this position. It is emailed out to all DCMs, maybe it could be gotten from them.

**SAGSC Chair: Jonelle**

Hello Area 42! My name is Jonelle and I am an alcoholic. I am excited, a bit petrified, a little confused, and extremely humbled to be serving as this rotation's Southern Area General Service Committee Chair. Our first SAGSC meeting of 2015 was on Sunday, January 12th at the TIE Club in Las Vegas. We heard from our new batch of Area Officers who reside in the south, our elected and appointed Standing Committee Chairs, and our super brave DCMs. We also had our second reading of a proposal asking SAGSC to provide half the funding for our most of our Standing Committee Chairs to attend PRAASA beginning 2016. This was a guideline change which meant I had to

learn a bunch of stuff. Like what a 2/3 vote was, what happens when someone calls the question, and all the other fun Robert's Rules that applied. The proposal passed. Speaking of PRAASA, thank you to the Southern Area for funding me. This was my second experience with this Service Assembly and I felt that I followed along much better this time. The presentations were informative and thought provoking. The open mic time after was my favorite! I was moved to tears by some of the experiences that were shared. Upon my return from PRAASA, which was an awesome 7 hr. drive followed by a 2 hr. nap, I switched gears to focus on the Roundtables. Which I have renamed "the Agenda Item Presentations". As with anything, there were a few minor hiccups. I am stating this in hind sight. While going through it, they were major catastrophes that we're going to have me thrown from my position and end my life as I knew it. The presentations were given by four wonderful volunteers who were more than willing to serve. Followed by a bunch of passionate discussion / comments on each topic. I will have the opportunity to share the highlights with you all at this assembly. Thank you for doing all that you do and allowing me to do it with you.

**NAGSC Secretary: Laura**

Northern Area met for its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the current rotation for our roundtable discussion on Sat, March 14. This was my 1<sup>st</sup> meeting as recording secretary and was prepared to take minutes and assist the Northern Area committee in any way needed. We had a successful event. I attended PRAASA in Layton Utah where I took part in the Recording Secretary's workshop. It was a pleasure to meet those with this same commitment in the region. We discussed and helped each other on several common issues, I found the entire weekend to be informative and helpful in a friendly and spiritual way.

I'm looking forward to serving AA and The Area over the next 2 years! Laura J.

**SAGSC Treasurer: Edie**

The P&L as well as Balance Sheet reports are posted on the wall above the table at the entry. We are currently showing a loss for this year through February, however it is worth noting that contributions are down almost 42% over this period last year. I have printed out contribution receipts (in the interest of saving on postage) and have put them on the back table - they are in alphabetical order by Group name. Please pick them up and return to your group's treasurer.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve as your SAGSC Treasurer for this panel. Edie D.

**SAGSC Grapevine: Jake**

Hello area 42 my name is Jake and I'm an alcoholic. I am very excited to be serving as your southern area 42 Grapevine chair. I have been serving in this position for three months and I still have a lot to learn. The southern area 42 Grapevine committee used to meet on the second Friday of the month. We have moved our committee meeting to the fourth Friday of the month 6PM at the central office. So if you could please announce this at your groups we would really appreciate it. This year I was able to attend my third Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly in Layton Utah. It was an absolutely amazing experience. There were four members of the GSO grapevine staff in attendance there including the executive editor and publisher. On Saturday evening we had a roundtable discussion for two hours all about the grapevine. We got a lot of great information and it was awesome getting to speak with these people as well as past and present area grapevine chairs from all over the pacific region. For me the best thing about PRAASA was getting a chance to talk to Laura from the district 8. She gave me the suggestion of holding a workshop with the topic of writing and submitting stories, jokes, and pictures to the grapevine magazine. We are working to put this workshop together and hope to be having it sometime in the summer. I would also like to thank Paul past grapevine chair from the north for all of his time and help. The southern area 42 Grapevine committee is also accepting donations of old grapevine magazines. We are trying to collect as many old issues as we can so we can donate them to the other area committees such as CPC-PI H&I and special needs. If you have any old issues sitting in your closet we would really appreciate your donation. I have been invited by District seven to set up a grapevine table at their workshop on April 11th. They told me there would be a lunch there by Chef Bud and I told them that they could count me in. I have also been invited by the Tri state round up to attend their 31st annual event and set up a literature table on May 14th-17th in Laughlin Nevada. This year the grapevine is holding a state, province, and territory wide challenge to increase new Grapevine subscriptions in 2015. Any new paid subscription between January 26, 2015 and December 20, 2015 qualifies, including subscriptions for the grapevine or la vina in print, grapevine digital, Grapevine complete, or any redeemed subscription gift certificates. The winner will get a special section in a 2016 issue of the grapevine featuring member stories from that state, province, or territory with the greatest percentage of growth in new paid subscriptions. What qualifies as a new subscription is any subscription that has not been active for the last six months or any new subscription. So if you used to have a subscription or if you never have had one now would be a great time to renew or subscribe to the grapevine. We have new subscription forms or anything else you might need- please come and see us back at the grapevine table. The grapevines website is [aagrapevine.org](http://aagrapevine.org). If you have never been there or have not been there for a while please check it out. There is a lot of new features including the AA grapevine quote of the day where you can sign up to get a daily inspirational passage from our founders and members as

published in the grapevine magazine and books delivered to your inbox every day. Alcoholics Anonymous has saved my life and general service has become a big part of my program of recovery. Thank you all very much for being here this weekend. I always say I want AA to be here for my kids and I believe that the work we do here is a very important part of that. I was told to always remember that any work that we get done here this weekend will never be as important as how we treat each other this weekend. Thank you for making my life a life worth living for. Jake

**NAGSC Grapevine: Debbie**

My name is Debbie, serving as your alcoholic Northern Area Grapevine Chair. I have received the Northern Area's books, various stock and literature from the proceeding Chair, Paul. Thank you Paul for being thorough in wrapping up your term with a fully stocked inventory to pass on. I am looking forward to a fun and exciting two years as the Northern Area's Grapevine Chair. In 1978 the General Service Conference recommended "that a Grapevine information table be made a regular feature at all conferences, conventions, and assemblies." It is the turn of the Northern Area to set up a Grapevine table for the Spring Assembly. I look forward to your visit over the course of this weekend. The Grapevine and La Vina Magazine subscriptions, being our meeting in print, make useful gifts for correctional facilities, friends, and sponsee's. Grapevine is always looking for stories, photographs, and illustrations, visit [aagrapevine.org/share](http://aagrapevine.org/share) to learn about how you can participate. Visit La Vina website, [aagrapevine.org/espanol](http://aagrapevine.org/espanol), to upload group photos, listen to or read a free story, and more. La Vina is asking that you write your story and submit it by mail to the office in New York. I have nothing to report from PRAASA, as I was unable to attend this year. The Saturday Grapevine Group in Fallon is my home group, so I have and will continue to announce the Grapevine's website and how to get one's own subscription delivered to their home. Thank you for your support and allowing me to serve.

**NAGSC Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC): Cheryl**

I rotated in as the NAGSC CPC chairperson in January of this year. In an effort to avoid duplication as well as maintain unity between local AA services and AA general services in Northern Area 42, I also serve as the co-chair for the Northern Nevada Intergroup (NNIG) CPC committee. Joyce Y, the chairperson for NNIG CPC, serves as my co-chair for NAGSC CPC. We meet on a regular basis and have been engaged in CPC activities. Below is a report on these activities:

- **University of Nevada Medical School, Reno:** Joyce and I, along with other CPC committee members meet with Dr. DeKay and 4-5 third year medical students. We provide the students with some appropriate pamphlets and central office meeting schedules and a short presentation on CPC. The students get an assignment from Dr. DeKay to attend a 12 step meeting and then they report back on their experience in about 6 weeks. We also attend the report backs. We meet with a new rotation of students every 6 weeks. This continues throughout the year. To date in 2015 we met on Jan. 14, Feb. 2, Feb. 23, and will meet on Mar. 16<sup>th</sup>.
- **University of Nevada, Sanford Center for Aging, Reno:** Met with Dr. Peter Reed, director of the center, back in Nov. 2014. He got us in contact with Dr. Sina Ward, director of Senior Outreach Services. Dr. Ward inviting us to attend education talks that are held in the Laxalt Auditorium, Nelson Building of UNR, about 5 times per year. At these talks, we bring an AA literature rack an hour before the talk and are available to answer questions and provide information on AA. It also allows us to network with other providers and learn how we may reach the suffering alcoholic through their services. We attended talks on Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> and Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>. The next talk will be on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Ward will also be introducing us to the appropriate contact person for the curriculum committee of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute to develop the possibility of adding a CPC presentation to the next semester curriculum.
- **Washoe County School District (WCSD), Reno:** Joyce and I, along with another CPC member met with Laura Thurston, the Wellness Coordinator for WCSD. She is interested in having us do a CPC presentation to WCSD employees and retirees and the Health and Wellness department. We sent an outline of a proposed presentation. Laura is scheduling a date for Spring 2015.
- **Center for Spiritual Living, Reno:** Joyce and I met with Karen Neuweiler, a reverend at the center, on Mar. 12<sup>th</sup>. Karen would like 3-4 CPC members to come and provide a presentation to 30 volunteer prayer practitioners at the center. The volunteers are assigned to attend one or more AA meetings during their volunteer time. They want to learn more about the alcoholic. The presentation is scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **CPC Presentation:** We are working on a basic presentation that can be used as a starting point for any CPC presentation. We are modifying the CPC presentation that GSO provided to accomplish this.

- **PRAASA:** I attended PRAASA in Utah March 6-8. I participated in the CPC roundtable there. There was sharing on 4 topics: Guidelines and Appropriate Information; CPC vs PI; How to gain interest in and guide CPC work; Examples of overcoming resistance from professionals. This sharing session provided me with some good ideas for CPC work in our geographically challenged area. For example: Put together packets for different professionals, i.e.: doctors, clergy, law, education, and take to meetings for members to take to their personal doctor, clergy, etc.
- **Committee Members:** I would like to have NAGSC CPC committee members represent each of the larger populated areas in Northern Nevada and Eastern California. The goal would be to have these members know the CPC guidelines and be able to meet with professionals in their respective locations. I distributed a flyer at the Orientation meeting on Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> and sent an email to NAGSC DCMs and Officers on Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> asking for help in identifying potential members from their districts. I will continue these efforts to broaden the CPC activities within the larger Northern Area.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be of service. Cheryl E.

#### **NAGSC Corrections: Mike**

Hello everyone my name is Mike L and I am an alcoholic serving as NAGSC Corrections Chair. During my first three months the committee has managed to form a real committee. In the spirit of cooperation my co-chair is Helen G the Northern Nevada Intergroup corrections chair and I have become her co-chair for the Northern Nevada Intergroup corrections committee. Last month we visited district 16 answered questions about and the need to bring the AA message to the alcoholics in the corrections facilities. We hope to be able to visit every district in the North during this panel and bring more members on board to the committee from all over the North to be a more effective committee. Earlier this month I was very grateful to be able to attend PRAASA in Layton. The correction roundtable was so informative and helpful. For me attending PRASSA is so spiritual and really motivates me to better serve. My contact information is on the roster and if your group or district would like the corrections committee come visit please contact me.

Thank you for letting me serve.

#### **SAGSC GSR Survival Manual: Lisa**

Hi, Lisa Grateful Alcoholic, I am the new Southern Area GSR Orientation trainer. I am honored to be of service in this capacity. I wish to thank David for all the help he has given me during this transition. I do hope I will be able to serve the area as well as he has. In January at our SAGSC meeting there were approximately 14 new GSR, s who attended. As we have in the past we will continue to hold training before each SAGSC meeting.

#### **NAGSC GSR Survival Manual: Ray**

I am happy to hold this service commitment and am really looking forward to meeting new GSRs. A prescheduled training for District 6 was very well attended for Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> at the Carson City Alano club so I got my feet wet with the help of John F. and Carol B. I think I learned more than anyone there. Again I was very impressed by the, more than 20 there to participate. I also am freshly home from a fabulous weekend at PRAASA where I attended two GSR roundtables witch were also very well attended. It felt extra good to be able to share information about our, Area 42s, GSR Survival Guide. It seems a majority of Areas do not have a tool like ours. I was able to talk with a few DCMs and will be contacting each District with an offer to be of service. Please feel free to contact me at any time and thank you for allowing me to be of service.

#### **SAGSC Hospitals & Institutions (H&I): Matt**

I'm an alcoholic my name is Matt. I've been clean and sober since August 31 of 98. I am the H&I chair for southern Nevada area 42. First of I would like to say THANK YOU to the individuals and groups that give of there time, efforts and there contributions. Your love and support to H&I has helped the suffering alcoholic find a way out. I was nominated by the committee in December as the new H&I chair. Our committee is full of loving trusted servants. We are committed to the service of the next suffering alcoholic and how we can best serve there needs. We have around 20 hospital facilities that we are active in and around 60 panels a week that we go into and if it wasn't for the loving and committed service of our A.A. community that diligently shows up to brings in these panels. An alcoholic might not get the opportunity of sobriety and a new way of life that was given to us so freely. So we encourage you to bring back to your groups and the A.A. community that H&I is looking for volunteers to go into hospital and treatment facilities. The process to get on a hospital panel is very simple. The majority of them will not need a background check and some will only need a minimum amount of sobriety. On the corrections side. We have around 10 prisons and jails that we are active in and around 20 panels a week that we are going into.

Right now we are in dire need of volunteers to go into the prisons and jails. So at our last business meeting we nominated a steering committee that's going to help any alcoholic that is interested in going into the prisons and jails. They will help you thru process from start to finish and even help you get on a panel. We've been in communication with district 21 to see how we can bring in more Spanish panels into hospitals and correction facilities and we have started to work with the grapevine committee to see how we can more unified. So we can help the next suffering alcoholics. H&I has around 80 panels a week that we are accountable for and in all these panels we try to bring in A.A. literature. Our committee does not have a financial budget. It is all done by the loving contributions of the groups and the A.A. community. So we ask you to keep donating to the pink can. Your financial support helps to get a big book into a newcomer's hands. If your group does not have a pink can or an H&I rep you can come to the H&I business meeting on the third Tuesday of the month at central office at 6pm. Thank you.

#### **SAGSC Intergroup Liaison: Dean**

Last month **Central Office** reported **832** Information Calls, **91-12<sup>th</sup> Step Calls-Hotline** received **2,462** info calls, **199-12<sup>th</sup> Step Calls**. We had average of **182** website visits per day for a total of **5,096** for the month. Central Office bank balance was \$12,008. Literature Account \$11,471.50. Total of all accounts \$44,025.24 Intergroup voted last year and the year before to have a year's prudent reserve for Central Office. We are far from that goal, it takes \$11,000 a month to operate Central Office, times that by 12 and that's what our prudent reserve should be. **Treasurer (Billy) Reported** Beginning balance \$15,981.20, Group contributions \$5,997.11, Expenses- some of the large ones rent -\$1,700, Employees- \$5,028.50, H & I- \$1,250.00 New Balance \$16,913.95 with a Net Gain of \$932.75. In 2014 we had annual contributions of \$131,401.11, which is one of our healthiest years. **Hotline** has several open slots right now and needs support. Please get the word out to your groups. Claudia is now chair and can be contacted at. Please announce to groups & friends Hotline always needs volunteers. **12th Step Committee** Billy K now chair. The 12 Step Committee will create a flyer for you to take back to your groups explaining the function of 12 Step commitments and distribute it next month. Billy K. Let groups know it's a great way to get connected & be involved in old-time A.A. work with strangers. **Unity** Cliff reporting: AA is based on attraction rather than promotion. Suggested reading "AA Comes of Age. Contact Information Cliff. Silver Streak comes out monthly & supports Central Office. Contains info on events, meeting updates, etc. For subscriptions or to contribute info, articles or stories, submit online at <http://www.lvcentraloffice.org> email [lvsilverstreak@gmail.com](mailto:lvsilverstreak@gmail.com), or contact Central Office. **Silver Streak** is always looking for local articles to print. Districts and groups are encouraged to submit information regarding upcoming events. **Gratitude Ball** Chuck S. reporting: Gratitude Ball April 18, 2015 at the Westgate Hotel the old LVH, we are in the process of selling tickets, \$40 each. The Gratitude Ball is a fund raiser for Central Office. Raffle is a 60 inch TV. There is also a golf tournament @ Las Vegas Golf Club Chuck. **Intergroup** meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 6pm, at Central Office and we encourage all reps. from your Districts and groups to attend. Thank You for letting me be of service. Respectfully submitted, Dean S (all phone #'s were deleted contact Dean)

#### **NAGSC Intergroup (NNIG) Liaison: Mike**

Hello everyone my name is Mike M and I'm an alcoholic. And this your NAGSC LIAISON report. I attended PRAASA in Layton Utah it was my 1<sup>st</sup> PRAASA and it was as exciting as it was intimidating. Unfortunately I come down with a bug Friday night. But had the opportunity to attend an intergroup round table. Which was interesting, we are very blessed in Area 42 that Central Office and intergroup are one and work hand in hand. I also attended Northern Area Agenda Roundtables also another first. It was a great experience for me. The unity of my fellows is so inspiring. On the following Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> my group the wonderful MINDEN GARDNERVILLE GROUP had a sharing session on the agenda items hosted by our GSR Drew H. Again the unity on the group level is awesome. It's been such a gift to attend the monthly Northern Intergroup business meetings every first Tuesday of the month, and share about how Northern Area 42 is carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. I would also like to thank Mike L my predecessor, as he's been a great help, as have the multitude of service sponsors I have in hornswoggling me into this journey of service. Thanks for allowing me to be of service.

#### **NAGSC Public Information (PI): Lyle**

Here is a quote from the PI Workbook: "What is Public Information Work and Why Should A.A.s Do It? Public Information (P.I.) in Alcoholics Anonymous means carrying the message of recovery to the still-suffering alcoholic by informing the general public about the A.A. program." The Northern Area PI Committee had a brief introductory meeting at the NAGSC Round Tables and a short conference call. The members are Amelita T from District 10a, Rick B from District 8, Jose B from District 6 and Julie C from



District 20. I would love to have all Northern districts represented on the committee. If your district or group has a PI Chair or is interested in electing one, please let me know. I was able to attend PRAASA and participate in the PI Roundtables. Here are some ideas I heard which may be helpful to your district or group: 1) Ways to setup and man information booths at health fairs. 2) Spotlighting the use of Grapevines/LaVina for senior centers. 3) Volunteering to speak at DUI classes. In District 20 we provide a phone service as part of public information, since we believe people in NE California will not think to call Reno for help. Last week I received a twelfth step call when I was in a deep sleep. As I woke up, I was inspired by the messages I heard at PRAASA. It is my job to be welcoming, inclusive and respectful; I may well be his first contact with AA. As we talked, I suggested that he go to a meeting, but he wouldn't tell me his name, where he lived or any identifying information, so I couldn't tell him where to go for a meeting. But because of the new technologies, I was able to give him the website for Intergroup. He asked me if he was an alcoholic because he craves beer rather than wine. I told him that I didn't know and that was his decision (but I did think to myself that he might have a problem with alcohol because he was calling me drunk in the middle in the night). In the end it didn't matter that he was drunk or that he wasn't cooperative, what mattered was that I made every effort to help him feel welcome to come and find out for himself. In Fellowship and Service, Lyle C

**SAGSC Public Information (PI): Russ (very ill) report given by Cherie (SAGSC CPC Chair)**

Attended Mayor's Faith Initiative workshop meetings, table with CPC @ Foundation for Recovery Rally, helped staff exhibit space @ Cardiometabolic Risk Society Convention @ Caesars Palace, table with CPC @ District 1 picnic, District 1 workshop brief overview, Clark County Health Fair table with CPC, Convoy of Hope table with CPC, table @ Black Monday (TINH) with CPC, Roundup literature table up for duration of event, interview with Zappos (to appear as an article in their in-house magazine in April), PTA annual convention table upcoming 4/25, Clark County School District literature to High & Middle schools, libraries working on Big Books, 12 & 12s and Grapevines, senior centers literature.

**SAGSC Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC): Cherie**

We meet with PI @ 4:30 PM, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month @ central office (before Intergroup), Since last fall assembly, we've been visiting as many District meetings as possible, we now have active liaisons in Districts 1, 5B, 7, & 17. We have been attending monthly meetings for the Mayor's Faith Initiative addictions workshop. We will have a table @ the 7/11 event. Anticipated over 100 members of the clergy of all faiths. In District 17, in Sept. we had a table @ the Walk for Hope (Pahrump), table @ Foundation for Recovery Rally, table @ District 1 picnic. GSO funded our exhibitor space @ the Cardiometabolic Risk Society Convention @ Caesar's Palace from 10/10-10/12, table @ Vet Standdown in Pahrump, District 3 workshop (short overview of CPC), District 1 service workshop (table & short overview), table @ Clark County Health Fair 11/19-11/20, Convoy of Hope 11/22 table in community services area (10,000 people attended), table @ Service Festival @ TIE club 2/15 short overview of CPC, literature rack with upcoming presentation to Pro-Health, table @ Chili Cookoff District 7, table @ H&I workshop 2/28, presentation @ UNLV Student Organization for addiction professionals 3/3 used DVD 8 min. segment for Health Care Professionals plus a speaker with literature support, PRAASA roundtables lots of great helpful ideas which we'll be implementing many of, table @ American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Walk 3/21, literature racks with upcoming presentations to 7 locations in Southern Nevada for Adult Mental Health Services, upcoming presentation to HR & employees @ Valley Electric in Pahrump the CEO is passionate about recovery / support from all dependencies this year. We work closely with PI @ tables we have professionals & organizations approach us requesting presentations and literature. We'd like to encourage every District to have liaisons & groups to have a PI/CPC rep. Any questions or input please contact me anytime. Thank you for allowing me to be of service!

**SAGSC Special Needs / Accessibility: Darryl**

March was a very productive month. Starting off with PRAASA, four wonderful days in Layton, Utah. I actually sat thorough and enjoyed every panel. I especially appreciated Panel 7's Scott M. On agenda item VI D. Which I had to talk about at our Pre-Conference Round Table discussion at the T.I.E. Club March 14th. Verna gave our Intergroup report March 9th. And finally I attended the Mayors " Faith Initiative Group " on March 19th and were given a date July 11th for a City conference for the community at East Las Vegas Community Center which we will participate in. Title is yet to be determined. Our main mission at present is to continue to coordinate with the Hot Line and get our combined Volunteer membership up. We just got a call from a member in a wheelchair to be picked up at the Airport on April 15th and this is what we need Volunteers for. Thank You Darryl B.



### **NAGSC Treatment Facilities / Bridging the Gap: Gary**

Good afternoon everyone, my name is Gary S. and I am an alcoholic. I am also your incoming NAGSC Treatment Chair. My home group is the ALOHA group, my sobriety date is April 1<sup>st</sup> 2008. First I would like to say that I feel honored, not to mention a bit overwhelmed, to be your standing treatment chair. I would also like to thank Carol B for nominating me and you all for confirming me as your treatment chair. I hope I will be able to live up to and fulfill the duties you have given me. In keeping with Carol's wishes to foster unity with our NNIG counterparts, I have met several times and corresponded through e-mail with Joel B our NNIG treatment chair. Joel has been very active in meeting with several local treatment facilities as well as making presentations to the director and department heads at Renown hospital with follow up meetings planned in the near future. He also has a meeting planned for later this week at the Vitality center in Gardnerville that he has invited me to attend. Joel has also started a program of local A.A. groups adopting meetings at the local treatment facilities to allow members of the groups to be able to get involved in treatment work, with the members of the groups sharing the responsibilities of taking the meetings into the facilities, this allows members not able to commit to a meeting full time to still get involved. I have presented this idea at the district meetings that I have attended and hope to get the outlying districts involved when attending their district meetings in the near future. I do understand the amount of time and level of commitment involved in taking on a weekly meeting as I have had the privilege of taking a weekly meeting into the Willow Springs Adolescent treatment facility for the last two years, it has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my time in sobriety. Not to mention what I have learned from them, and opening my eyes to what life is like and the problems facing our younger generation. Joel and I have also started compiling a list of people interested in chairing meetings in the facilities. If anyone would like to volunteer for this please see me on our next break. Since I became your treatment chair I have been contacted by other areas with BTG requests. Unfortunately our NNIG BTG chair is at this time vacant, and when reading through the general service treatment chair committee workbook I found out it is one of my duties to form an area BTG committee. So at this time I am looking for anyone interested in volunteering so serve on the BTG committee. As a member of this committee we are a temporary contact for those being released from treatment setting and helping them connect with local A.A. in our communities. It would be great if I could have members from each district represented on the committee for BTG requests in your area. If you're interested in volunteering or for more information on this committee please see me on our next break. Last but not least, I am looking for a treatment co-chair as well as committee members. As members of this committee we try to bring A.A. meetings into and facilitate meetings in treatment facilities in our local areas. If anyone has the time and desire to get involved in treatment work, or even if you have any ideas of ways I can further serve you as your treatment chair, please see me on our next break or after the meeting. Thank you for letting me be of service. Gary S.

### **NAGSC DCM Coordinator: Chris**

At the March NAGSC meeting we had a good turn out. The topics we discussed included scheduling a NAGSC Chair to come and speak at your District meeting for 10 minutes to stir interest. Remember committees cannot be formed if we are not presenting information. NAGSC Chairs make contact with your intergroup counterparts especially if speaking at a District or holding a workshop. What ways can we help the GSR's hold meetings for their groups so they can be as fully informed to make a decision on the agenda topics? (Sharing sessions, presentations at business meetings, email list so all of the home group members have the info that you have). These are some of the suggestions presented. We also had a DCM who was contacted about a group not following traditions. We discussed possible solutions from past experience to help guide that DCM to a possible solution. All in all it was a wonderful meeting and hopefully we helped each other find some solutions through experience, strength and hope. Chris S.

### **SAGSC DCM Coordinator: Glenn**

Hi my name is Glenn and I am the DCM Coordinator for the south and I apologize to you guys, because I was unaware that I was supposed to give a report. So I have nothing written, but I can tell you that in the south I have been in contact with our previous DCM Coordinator Rhonda and she has given me a disc with a bunch of files on it that I was able to present to our southern Area DCMs before our SAGSC meeting in January. We had 4 DCMs attend that where we were also able to put together some packets and share some of our experience, strength, and hope with those DCMs that came aboard. I did bring the packets that were left over, up here so that we will have those packets available at the DCM training/sharing session on Sunday morning and to let the people know that the DCMs we will be having a meeting on Sunday morning back in the blue room from 7:30 to 8:30 to discuss the things and areas that you might be having

trouble with and/or we might be able to share some experience together to be able to get through some of the difficulties that I experienced and that Chris had experienced also as DCMs it was a very taxing experience from my standpoint when I was DCM. Thank you for allowing me to be of service and thanks Jonelle for asking me to do this.

Break: 7:47 PM

End Break 8:00 PM

### **GSR orientation: Ruth J.**

Roberta L. General Service and what it is.

Ruth J. The Assembly and Chair rules.

Julian General Service Conference.

Joel C. Agenda Items and how they become agenda items.

### **Blue room: Area Committee Meeting**

47 in attendance

Mike will give report tomorrow and ask everyone to show the love & kindness we all deserve. Encourage people to ask questions & go to the microphone. Paul questioned where the Area guidelines state that the secretary send out a copy of the agenda 30 days prior to the Assembly (discussion) the sense of the room was substantially in favor of continuing this process. Finance Committee: recommends to give Spanish Translator (Tony) \$380.00 for spring assembly expenses (discussion on what expenses include; travel, room, meals, etc.) the sense of room almost all in favor with 1 opposed. Finance Committee: has learned that Lyle C. (our NAGSC P.I. Chair) was selected as the Area 42 2015 Pacific Region Hospitality Coordinator at the International Convention in Atlanta this year. The Pacific Region is requesting that the 15 Pacific Areas contribute \$75.00 each towards purchasing souvenir pins and postcard type handouts for visitors to the site. (discussion, a one time event) sense of room unanimously in favor. How we are doing with the Area inventory. This will be one of the items of focus at the Sept. Assembly.

March 28, 2015

8:05 AM open with serenity prayer (Javier)

Anonymity statement (Anne)

Service manual Chapter 6 (Phil)

**Delegates Report: Mike M.** Phil gave me 25 min and gave Joel 30 min, I may run over about 2 ½ min.

Last week I was corresponding with our Trustee Joel and was explaining the logistics of our weekend and what we do and where we were at and at the end of the conversation I began to tell Joel how I feel about you and what you mean to me. It is just a real honor and privilege to have this position for you and I am really touched that you have asked me to do this for you. I really buried my head in the reading material that's been given to me and I really want to learn it and I have to be honest with you at this point I have questions than I have answers and the ones that have gone before me say that's quite normal. I'm very hungry for the information, I want to learn it, but most importantly I want to relay it to you. As I'm telling Joel about you and how much you mean to me I ended my correspondence with saying that I am really glad you get to meet them, but I don't know if you have noticed this but I got a kind of little cocky arrogance way about me, this is not new to me I'm aware and I know, but before I hit the send button I just didn't like the way that sounded and I entered that I'm really glad that we get to share our time with Area 42 so thank you. I walked through this door the fall of 2000 my first Area Assembly here and I wasn't a bad GSR but I was a poor GSR. My first experience at the Area Assembly was very unpleasant, I did not have a good time here and I can tell you why my experience was so poor it was because it felt like there was a language that the people were speaking here that I didn't understand and it felt like there was a train going about 15 to 18 miles an hour that I could see the people and I could hear them but the train was going so fast, just fast enough that I couldn't get on it and I wanted to understand what the people were saying but I couldn't get it and I felt like I was watching a debate in Japanese it was going back and forth and I just couldn't understand what the people were saying and I had such an awful experience that I didn't come back Sunday morning and I left pissed off, but I keep coming back. My next experience my worst fear happened the worst possible thing that could happen, happened I was in a meeting in the south and there was a gentleman there giving a Committee report and this back when the web pages were brand new when each Committee would give a report and say we have a web page and the web sites were so new that people couldn't remember if there was 2, 3 or 4 W's in front of the domain name. So I'm a brand new GSR and I got a question, so I raise my hand and ask why does all of you have a different web address why can't you just have 1 web address and then share the information or have a link off of it. The guy rolled his eyes at me and said that he had already answered that question and wasn't going to answer it again and the people in the room kind of snickered and I snuck down in my chair, I was embarrassed, but I kept coming back. The

leverage that kept me coming back was that there was a man that came into my life, I guess around June of 1993 and he was involved in this General Service, he was pretty active and there was something that was so attractive about that man to me and I couldn't put my finger on what it was or what he was doing but I really wanted what he had. I wanted things to come out of my mouth the way they came out of his mouth and I wanted to love people the way he loved them, I really wanted what he had on the inside and I know that he got it here. He got it by being of service to others and learning the Traditions and learning the Concepts and communicating General Service to his Group, that's what he did and I really wanted it. The other thing that I wanted from this man was for him to give me an atta boy a real pat on the back, way to go Mike and what is that 22 years later and I still haven't got that atta boy, but I keep coming back, so that's how I got here. In a corporate structure there is a president, then a board of directors, then down below the board there is executive staff, then the management, then the supervisors, then at the very bottom are the workers. Well in A.A. we have that same structure but it's the exact opposite. Your role is to educate me for the General Service Conference. From everything that I'm reading about why the GSR is so important is two significant reasons. One is that 5<sup>th</sup> Tradition that everything we do is our primary purpose to carry the message to the alcoholic that still suffers and I got to tell you that has served me a lot of good anytime that I'm making a decision if I'm confused, if I'm uncertain of what my roll is I always ask myself what is my primary purpose, what am I to be doing right now this very minute or if there is a discussion on the table about spending money how will this effect the newcomer that comes in meeting. You the GSR are on the front line and second your group is financing this whole thing, its paying for this Assembly, its sending me to the General Service Conference. So today we are going to discuss 10 agenda items (4 from roundtables on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March at NAGSC & SAGSC meetings) (6 to be presented today) I am going to ask you to teach me about these today and I want to here how not only your group felt about these but how you feel and why, you may here something here today that changes how you feel about an item, that's OK you have the right of decision.

**Pacific Region Trustee: Joel C.** I'm so glad that Phil read that little bit about the Delegate right before Mike gave his talk and that Mike is not a representative in the usual sense. He brings your point of view with him but he acts on behalf of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. So some of you may be asking yourselves, what are we doing here, so whats the point in us being here and sharing all of this information with our groups and here. If he just gets to go and vote how he wants to. I will tell you that as a past Delegate that listening to the group conscience that been gathered by the GSRs is absolutely vital. Share from your heart so that he can take that to the Conference with him. The Conference needs the heartbeat of A.A. that's what it needs most of all. I am your Pacific Region Trustee that means that my primary responsibility is to serve on the General Service Board which has custodial over site of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, which is our publishing and General Service Office and the A.A. Grapevine, but I also have a responsibility to the 15 Areas in the Pacific Region, to come out and visit you and to share regularly with your delegate to keep them informed at the Board level and our office in New York. I am not only a representative of the Pacific Region but of AA as a whole, but I am supposed to bring a regional point of view to the Conference and our Board meetings. So it is great for me to come to the Areas and here your point of view and I especially grateful that you asked me to come to your Pre-Conference Assembly, most of the Areas ask me to come to there election Assembly and that is a joyful thing to get to conduct the election and to welcome the new delegate the moment they get elected, but I am going to here more of the Regional point of view here at your Pre-Conference Assembly than I here when I'm at those election Assemblies. Phil asked me to share about some of my activities as Pacific Region Trustee so far. I have a couple of objectives; one is that because I know that so many people are here at their very first Area Assembly or maybe their second Assembly. I want to share what I would call kind of orientation type things and some things that I hope will help you with this part of your job as a GSR. In our Service Manual at the end of chapter 1, there is a section called stimulating interest General Service and it says most A.A. members are primarily interested in their groups and in their own sobriety and in helping other drunks one on one and that is as it should be. While the work of General Service has precisely the same objective carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers the connection is not always direct or obvious some stimulators are usually needed to get the attention of A.A. members, so that's one of your challenges as a GSR. Take something away from this Assembly this weekend that you think will stimulate an interest in General Service when you go to report to your Group about this weekend. There is no way you can share everything that happened this weekend, so try to hone in on the things that will help your Group get an interest, know your Group. Being elected Pacific Region Trustee, that happened during the Conference last year in April and when your a nominee you don't go to the General Service Conference, so the day of the election I knew it was going to happen and it was on my mind and I knew that there was a custom that when the election has been decided the Delegate from the Area who has been elected goes out in the hall and they make a phone call, so I there at work and the phones not ringing and I'm working just trying to stay focused on my work and the day goes on and it gets to be kind of late afternoon in California which I

know is early evening in New York and I figure by now the elections over and somebody else has been elected, that's fine Dean my Area Delegate will call me at some point and let me know who our new Pacific Regional Trustee is. The phone rings, I see that it is Dean, I answer the phone and I hear this big cheer and Dean says Joel I will welcome you as our new Pacific Region Trustee and the first words out of my mouth was your kidding and then after a pause I said I'm going to need a lot of help. Don't forget to ask somebody for help. So my very first responsibility was to chair the Pacific Region Form, I was elected in late April and had to chair the Form in early July of 2014 in Boise ID. They told me that I had to give a talk about the role of a Regional Trustee well at that time I had not been to a Board weekend, visited an Area Assembly or done anything else. So I was going to be giving a talk about something of which I had no experience and I thought how could they do this to me? So I asked my Trustee buddy, they give you a Trustee buddy, my Trustee buddy is the N.E.R.T. (North East Regional Trustee) Jay Gary L. so I told him my tales of woe and he said get over it I had to do that 2 weeks after I was elected. So I have been to 3 board weekends so far, we meet in committees and look at submitted agenda items and decide whether to forward the item to the conference, each of us are encouraged of our own interpretation. On the 1<sup>st</sup> board weekend I went for a walk to look for an A.A. meeting and didn't find one and as I was walking through Central Park and all of a sudden there are these little glimmers out of the corner of my eye and I don't understand what's going on and I look over and I realize that they are fire flies I had only seen fire flies once before so this was like magic. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> board weekend we were in Rye NY. And we were sharing the hotel with a bunch of "Dead Heads" because a former member of the Grateful Dead was having a concert near by, so when I would leave the Conference to go back to my room in the halls on the hotel there would be that pungent odor of marijuana and when I would get up in the morning and go down to get my breakfast at 6:30 or 7:00 in the morning there would be people sitting on the patio smoking cigarettes and drinking beer, that beautiful reminder of myself, at 2:00 AM Saturday night/morning the fire alarms went off in the Hotel. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> board weekend there was a bad storm and it took me 32 hours from the time I left my Hotel the first time to go to the airport to the time I got home. The whole time my Area delegate Dean was with me and Dean had contacted me and said why don't we fly together and I'm not a fan of that airplane time is where I just like to chill, but I said to Dean this is my flight that I'm going to take and if you want to book on the same flight that would be great and he did and I'm so grateful that he did. Because when I was going through that horrendous travel ordeal of sitting on a tarmac for 3 hours, a 3:00 AM in the morning no name shuttle van ride that reeked of marijuana with a driver that couldn't even find Time Square without my help and more, in the midst of that nightmare I had Dean with me I had a friend with me it was a good deal we don't do this stuff alone. Our General Office welcomed 1942 visitors in 2014, some of those being international visitors, had total gross sales in 2014 were about 17.1 million that's about 2.1 million over budget the main reason for that was that we raised prices in October and right before we raised prices a large outside purchaser bought about 1.8 million of literature, contributions were about 6.9 million which is about 102,000 below budget but operating expenses were 3.8% under budget, so the bottom line is that we took in more than expected and we spent less than we expected and we are in good shape. We don't take any outside contribution and we don't do anything on credit. 1,140,000 print copies of the Big Book were distributed in 2014 plus 20,000 in eBook format. La Vina has a short fall but that's OK we've said we are going to do it that way, it was re-confirmed to be a service to the fellowship. Grapevine subscriptions are on a decline of about 6% per year. Serve on 3 committees (1) CPCTSNA, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Treatment, Special Needs, Accessibilities (2) International, (3) Literature. Please take Box 459 to your group to share and use it. In the early 1980's Lance Corporal Jay O. wrote to the General Service for a Big Book and some literature. He was stationed in Beirut Lebanon and they sent him some, what happened was that he found some other A.A. members and they started a meeting together and they called it the "Peace Keepers Group" and a meeting of A.A. got rolling. What ended up happening is a little while later a letter was sent to the U.S. state department, which eventually found its way to the A.A. Archives and that letter was from a local person who had found that Peace Keepers Group that those A.A. service members had started. He wanted the folks here in the U.S. to know how grateful he was that those men had started that A.A. group. They had all been killed in a barracks bombing, so Lance Corporal Jay O. is gone, but his effort and the fact that our General Service Office was there to send him some literature lives on because the Peace Keepers Group is still there today. Those are the types of things the General Service makes possible, so thanks for being part of it and thanks for my sobriety.

**Finance Committee report: Carol B.** The FC met before the Assembly began on Friday afternoon. We; as the guidelines suggest: Performed an annual review of income and expenses for previous year at each Spring Assembly. All was found to be in order. The committee is making a recommendation to pay our translator \$380.00. We are aware that he should be receiving a much larger amount, but Tony does this for the area as a service commitment. In the past Tony was a GSR, this year he is not, so we want to cover all the expenses involved in his commitment to us. Also, the FC has learned that Lyle C. (our NAGSC P.I.

Chair) has been selected to represent Area 42 in the PRAASA Hospitality Room at the International Convention in Atlanta this year. The Pacific Region is requesting 15 Pacific Areas to contribute \$75.00 towards purchasing souvenir pins and postcard type handouts for visitors to the site. This is not an Area 42 event and we don't want to set a precedent of spending area funds on non area events, but we feel that Area 42 should join the Region in contributing a 1/15<sup>th</sup> share of this 2015 International Convention expense, so we also are recommending that the area cover this one-time expense. It's an A.A.W.S. event not a local roundup, campout or convention event. SAGSC and NAGSC are sharing 1/3 each in the tax Prep and filing expenses this year. We are using Tech Soup, a website which sells to non-profits; to upgrade the three treasuries QuickBooks for \$99 every two years.

\*John S. moved to contribute \$75.00 to Hospitality Room at International Convention in Atlanta. 2<sup>nd</sup> from floor. Passed unanimously.

**Agenda E: Roberta L.** Hi everyone, my name is Roberta and I am an alcoholic. My topic is: **Discuss Report on the Conference Agenda Process from the Trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference.**

I am going to provide an explanation on Conference agenda items and their travels once they are received at the General Service Office. To add a bit of clarity to the committees that work with agenda items, I may be repeating what many of you already understand, but I think it is important to view the role of the trustees and delegates in this process. The trustees committees are made up of trustees, non-trustee directors and appointed committee members as well as the GSO staff person assigned to that committee who serves as secretary to the committee. The delegate committees are made up of four or five first-year delegates and four or five second-year delegates. Their secretary is the same as the secretary on the corresponding trustees committee which helps in communication and continuity.

If I am on the trustees' Literature Committee and we receive a proposed agenda item from the Conference Coordinator, we consider its relevance, whether or not we already have it covered in existing literature, has this very item been considered by a recent Conference and no action was taken or is the consideration of this agenda item relevant and important for the current Conference committee to consider. You can readily see that the Conference agenda item request has been considered by the Conference Coordinator and then by the Trustees Literature Committee and it might even be sent to the Trustees' Conference Committee before it even gets to the Trustees' Literature Committee. This would mean that this suggested agenda item has been vetted by 18-20 or more knowledgeable and dedicated alcoholics and non-alcoholics before it gets on the Conference agenda.

The possible sources of agenda items are individual AA members, groups, delegates, trustees, area assemblies, area committee members, and directors and staff members of AAWS and AAGV.

Many of these items are sent to the Conference Coordinator who considers the best disposition of the agenda request and assigns them to a trustees committee, or sends it to the Trustees' Conference committee to decide where it should land. On-going projects of trustees' committees automatically continue in the committee to which they belong at the Conference until the project is completed. Recently, it took several years of consideration by the Conference in the development of the Spirituality pamphlet. Some agenda items are routinely included.

Those agenda items that land with the Conference Coordinator are acknowledged by the coordinator and a communication is provided to the sender that lets him or her know how the agenda item is being directed.

The following options are available:

1. Forwarding to a trustees' committee
2. Forwarding to GSO's Publication Director or Group Services Staff person.
3. Forwarding to AAWS, Inc.\*
4. Forwarding to the Chair of the General Service Board
5. Forwarding to the AAGV Corporate Board\*

\*The AAWS or AAGV Boards can forward proposed items directly to a Conference Committee if they wish Conference advice, guidance or direction.

When it is not clear to which entity an item should be sent, it is most frequently sent to the Trustees' Committee on the Conference for committee assignment.

Background for agenda items is gathered by the staff person assigned to whichever committee is the final recipient of the agenda item and this background includes the material supplied by the person who submitted the item.

If we were to vote this week-end to send an agenda item for the 2016 Conference (it is too late for this year's Conference) we would send it to the appropriate desk at GSO to be routed to the appropriate Trustee's committee for consideration for next year's agenda. If our agenda item didn't clearly belong to any specific Trustee's Committee, it would go to the Trustee's Conference Committee and they would decide its relevance and its location on the agenda. Let's say that we asked for a pamphlet on the agenda

process to clarify the issues we are currently considering here. Most likely this request would be routed to the Trustees' Conference Committee rather than the Trustees Literature Committee where its merit would be determined and ultimately placed on the 2016 Conference Agenda in the appropriate conference committee—most likely Report and Charter. It seems probable that the information requested would end up as an entry in the Service Manual, rather than as a pamphlet and so Report and Charter would consider this request.

Due to the importance of an agenda item ending up on the best committee to consider it, Agenda items that are submitted can bounce around from entity to entity before they finally land on a particular Conference committee agenda. The item might be considered by the Trustees' Conference Committee, sent to the Trustee's Literature Committee and then the AAWS Board and then back to the Trustees' Conference Committee before the item finds a permanent home. Our request might be sent directly to the AAWS Board requesting a service piece to be developed outlining this whole procedure. You can easily see that there are several points in the travels of the agenda item that decisions need to be made on how best to handle the item. Whatever happens, we will receive a very nice letter from GSO explaining the disposition of the submission we sent.

I am going to provide you with a small AA history lesson here to illustrate how the Conference Committee ended up with oversight of the agenda items.

When Bill wrote the Concepts, Concept Eleven included a description of the five Trustees' Committees: Nominating Committee, Finance and Budgetary Committee, Public Information Committee, Literature Committee and General Policy Committee. The Trustees' Policy Committee conferred with the Conference Agenda/Admissions Committee as to which agenda items would be presented to the various Conference committees for discussion and vote and recommendation to the entire Conference if indicated. The development of the Conference Agenda was shared between the Trustees Committee and the Conference Committee, a joint effort between trustees and delegates. The agenda was just one of the responsibilities of the Policy Committee. See Page 50 of the Concepts for a complete description of the responsibilities of the Policy Committee.

In 1973 the Trustees' Policy Committee formed a subcommittee and, guess what, the next year this subcommittee became the Trustees' Conference Committee and the Policy Committee disappeared to be replaced by a sharing session where issues of interest were discussed, but no action taken. The new Trustees' Conference Committee was then in charge of final conference agenda development. In the background for this year's Conference, Michelle Mirza, our archivist at GSO explores the available history and explains the present practice for the selection of agenda topics which has since evolved.

The Trustees' Conference Committee has responsibility for selecting final agenda items but shares this responsibility with all other Trustees' Committees, the corporate boards and the General Service Board. In regard to why the Trustees Policy Committee disappeared, I will confess to you that I have been trying for at least the last four years to determine why this particular committee was discontinued. Several old-timers have suggested that the Policy Committee had become too powerful. I haven't been able to locate confirmation of that in any of our literature or in the background information. That is not to say this confirmation doesn't exist somewhere, but I haven't found it. The first line of the explanation for the General Policy Committee in our Service Manual hints at this concern, "Perhaps this is the most important of all General Service Board Committees, and it is regarded as the senior one." A statement like this might cause an alcoholic's hair to stand on end and lead to the elimination of some thing appearing so powerful. (Page 50 of the Concepts with related footnotes in that section). It makes sense to me that this would have given that particular trustees' committee much power in controlling the Conference agenda whereas it is now split among various entities

In recent years there has been some discussion regarding the role of the Conference Agenda Committee and giving it a more active role in collaborating with the Trustees Conference Committee on the development of the Conference Agenda. This effort has not gained a lot of traction and the Conference Agenda Committee continues to "review and approve the overall format and content of the agenda for the annual conference meeting; consider proposed Conference themes and presentation/discussion topics." The roles of Trustees and Delegates in Conference Agenda development seems pretty clear-cut and works pretty well. Our AA way though is to keep considering and discussing until we are thoroughly satisfied with the procedure. A future Conference may have a great new idea for Agenda item selection, or not!

There is one final way to get an item on the Conference Agenda and that is through a floor action. Floor actions may be submitted throughout the Conference at designated times. Usually these actions are not looked upon favorably as there is no background information, areas and groups have not been able to consider and discuss the issue. Since floor actions are considered after all other business is completed, Conference participants are not eager to take on something else. In most cases the floor action proposed are quickly defeated.

What an exciting, interesting week at the General Service Conference. We have all had an opportunity to participate from our home group to the pre-conference assembly! Thank you for your time and attention!

\*Comments from the floor; Rhonda; it's a good process, trust our trusted servants, Sue; Q. why do we have secondary committees? Roberta; A. The secondary committee is to pick up the 2 committees that don't require a full on approach that the other committees do, so 2 Delegates are assigned a second committee. We need international but that only happens every 5 years so we don't need a full on committee.

### **Corrections Item A: Matt P. Discuss the Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.)**

#### Background Notes:

At the January 2015 meeting, the Trustees Corrections Committee agreed to forward to the conference corrections committee the discussion topic on the Corrections correspondence Service. (C.C.S.). The Trustees Corrections Committee has noted that there continues to be an increasing need for male A.A. members on the "outside" to volunteer to write to male alcoholic inmates that are behind the walls who have request the Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.) to share the A.A. program of recovery with them. General Service Office (G.S.O.) matches up men with men and women with women. As of right now General Service Office (G.S.O.) has a greater amount of female volunteers on the outside then female alcoholic inmates that are behind the walls that are requesting Corrections Correspondences Service (C.C.S.). It is the male requests from the alcoholic inmates that are behind the walls that far exceed the number of available male volunteers on the outside who are willing to carry the message thru Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.). For the male alcoholic inmate who is behind the walls it could take up to three months for them to receive a response from a male alcoholic on the outside. While there are male alcoholics on the outside that are writing to more them one male alcoholic inmate that is behind the walls, this has not reduced the wait time for the male alcoholic inmate who is behind the walls to receive a response from a male alcoholic from the outside. In 2014 General Service Office (G.S.O.) Was able to link up over 2,398 male an female alcohol inmates that are behind the walls, To a male or female alcoholics on the outside who signed up to participate in the Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.)

#### Corrections Correspondence Pamphlet:

In the pamphlet it reminds you that when writing to an inmate that is behind the walls that you will have to use your last name on the envelope or it will not be accepted by most Institutions. The General Service Office (G.S.O.) does not forward mail from the Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.). So most alcoholic volunteers on the outside correspond by using there own home address. Some alcoholic volunteer on the outside do (ASK PERMISSION) of there A.A. group or intergroup/central office to use there p.o.box for receiving correspondence.

#### Some suggested guidelines from G.S.O.

1. We share sobriety an only sobriety.
2. This is not a pen-pal service. It's a way of sharing experience, strength and hope with an alcoholic inmate that are behind the walls.
3. Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.) is available to alcoholics that are incarcerated and still have at least six months or more to serve.
4. General Service Office (G.S.O.) randomly matches alcoholic volunteers with alcoholic inmates that are behind the walls that are several states/provinces apart from each other.
5. When corresponding with an inmate that is behind the walls, You find that there main problem is with drugs, we suggest that thy write to narcotics anonymous for help.
6. We encourage alcoholic inmates with less then six mouth of incarceration left to notify General Service Office (G.S.O.) to set up a prerelease contact. Using Pamphlet F-163. (A.A. Corrections Prerelease Contact Information)

#### How southern Nevada area 42 is utilizing this service.

The Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.) is receiving as little as 15 letters a month and as many as 30 letters a mouth from alcoholic inmates that are behind the walls. All correspondence has been going thru (bridge the gap). Who has asked for permission of inter group to receive the Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.) mail at central office. We have eight alcoholics woman on the outside and three alcoholic men on the out side that have been writing alcoholic inmates that are behind the walls. We only receive two to four new Correction Correspondence Service (C.C.S.) letters from the General Service Office (G.S.O.) a year. It is suggested by (bridge the gap) that you have at lest over one year of sobriety and a sponsor before you start correspondence with an alcoholic inmate who is behind the walls.

#### Why this is a unique opportunity to be of service.

This is not a pen-pal service. It's an opportunity to do twelve step work. Most correspondence is with newcomers that are incarcerated. Who are looking for sponsorship and a new way of life? There not looking for alcoholics on the outside who know how to get convicted and incarcerated. Thy want to know how to stay sober inside and outside of incarceration. So you don't need to be a convict or have had to be



looked up to correspond with an alcoholic that is incarcerated. IT'S ALL ABOUT ONE ALCOHOLIC HELPING ANOTHER ALCOHOLIC.

#### How to get involved.

You can call General Service Office (G.S.O.) at (212) 870-3400 or you can write them at P.O.Box 459 Grande Central Station New York, NY 10163 or you can e-mail them at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) and request pamphlet on CORRECTIONS CORRESPONDECE-A Special kind of A.A. Service (F-26/CCS-3) On the local level you my contact (bridge the gap) an thy can help you get started on the process or your local intergroup/central office may be of service to get you in contact with General Service Office (G.S.O.) or committee that can best help you get started on this special kind of aa service.

#### In Closing.

This story came from (SHARING FROM BEHIND THE WALLS). It's a newsletter that General Service Office (G.S.O.) puts out quarterly. That is made for alcoholics that are incarcerated and have no way of getting to a meeting on the outside. This story came from the summer of 2012 issue.

#### TITLED. CCS

"Hi-I'm the former drug and alcohol counselor, who relapsed, was arrested, and incarcerated for grand theft. I have drinking-related health issues and the six year sentence I received may be a little more then I can live through. I wrote last year asking for correctional correspondence Service. The first link proved unfortunate because he was only mouths sober. I wrote you again and another link contacted me, and after our initial sharing(s). I asked for his sponsorship. He has me working the twelve steps of recovery in a very clear, simple, and detailed way. Amazing! Today, I'm cleaning house and if I die before my 2015 release, I'll be able to rest in peace; Sober and recovering thanks to Alcoholics Anonymous and the corrections correspondence service. THANK YOU.

\*Comments from the floor; Barbara M; a lot of members did not know what this was all about, I told them I would find out, thank you, John S; there has been some workshops in the south, this shows how this is a desperate need, Dan; suggested this mail go to a PO Box or a Central Office, Erica: I only a couple of pamphlets left and Sophie says you can do it on line, Paul; we can make some copies, Andrea; was pleased to find out that it could be possible to send this through Central Office, Ozzy; What are some suggestions to help ex-cons to over come the obstacles interfering with people getting into institutions that's one of the things we face? Paula; have pamphlet at your group and announce them, Debbie; once you fill this out you are matched with someone from a different region, not close to your state, Darryl; most Central Office have these forms and I encourage everyone to go and get some and have them in your meetings, Darryl; I was involved with this a long time ago and had some bad experiences with it (1 you defiantly don't want to give your address) I got a letter and I don't know they mixed it up and I got a letter from a pedophile, I politely wrote him back and said I don't know how this happened but I can't help you and the second gentleman sent some beautiful art work on the envelope and I was investigated by the prison they thought he was sending a subliminal message to me, also the gentleman was asking about convicts going in to prisons, most prisons don't allow this, Mike; a response to Ozzy if you are a felon it is illegal to communicate with another felon. Angela; Q. why the turn around of three months? A. When you send your form to the GSO they match you with an inmate that is at least 2 states away, these are computer generated and usually take 6 to 8 weeks but can take up to 3 months, Gary; we are not in violation of violating someone's parole as a support group, Laura; we could have a writing workshop, Sue; we need this it is just one more to carry our message, Kendal; Q. why is there a gender limitation A: this is not a pen pal service this is a 12 step writing service, Terry; whatever we can do to help,

Break: 10:12 AM

End Break: 10:30 AM

\*More comments from the floor; Maria; the fear of inmates might be a little exaggerated, Whitney; this is suggested to be sent a Central Office or PO Box, Cog; we don't 12 step alone we could get a few guys together and write several letters, Dick; people who spend the time to write are serious

#### **Literature Item E: Laura J. Consider producing a book combining the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions with the Twelve Concepts for World Service.**

#### **Early publication of the 3 sets of principles:**

In the early years of AA Bill W and Dr. Bob wrote done the principles that helped them to achieve sobriety, limited at 1st to 6, later expanded to 12, these principles where 1<sup>st</sup> published as our 12 Steps in the text of Chapter 5 in the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous in 1939.

With the publication of the Big Book came the expansion of AA and a flood of letters to AA headquarters in New York asking for guidance on group issues such as publicity, finances, religion and who should or shouldn't be considered a member. Bill formulated a set of 12 principles on how groups might interact with

each other, the public and AA as a whole. The 12 traditions were 1<sup>st</sup> published in a Grapevine article in April of 1946 and formally adopted at AA's 1<sup>st</sup> International Convention in 1950.

As AA continued to grow and the fellowship demographics changed, Bill felt a need to expand his ideas, creating the book "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions" which included essays on both sets of principles. 1<sup>st</sup> published in 1953, Bill described the work in this way, "This small volume is strictly a textbook which explains AA's 24 basic principles and their application, in detail and with great care."

In 1957, 6 years after the formation of the General Service Conference Bill began developing his principles and essays for the structure of the Third Legacy of service, announced this endeavor 3 years later at the 1960 conference and the 12 Concepts for World Service were 1<sup>st</sup> published in a booklet in 1962.

### **Current Request**

While requests for some form of AA literature combining the 12 Concepts with current publications of the 12 steps and 12 traditions date back to 1999 the 2 most recent requests came from (1<sup>st</sup>) Western Washington, Area 72 in a letter dated October 11, 2013 requesting that AA World Services, Inc. consider producing a special edition book that combines the 36 principles of Recovery: the 12 Steps, the 12 Traditions, and the 12 Concepts as written by Bill W.

The following points were included in the letter.

The importance of combining all 36 principles in one book for easy access.

That the cost could be minimized by combining 2 pieces already in production, the 12 & 12 and the 12 Concepts booklet. (hold up)

That to prevent recurring costs, a special edition could be printed for release at a future International Convention or perhaps for the anniversary of the acceptance of the Responsibility Statement.

There would be great value in the general membership's understanding of important concepts such as the "Right of Decision" and others.

Bill wrote the 12 & 12 because of the struggle that occurred to convince the membership of the importance of the Traditions, setting a precedent that worked and may possibly do the same for the 12 Concepts.

AAWS has considered a box set for the 2 separate editions but unless the 12 Concepts are part of the same book they will likely continue to be ignored by the membership.

A 2nd request came from Southern California, Area 5 in a letter dated October 18, 2014 requesting AAWS to consider adding the existing Twelve Concepts section contained in the back of the 'A.A. Service Manual' to the current 'Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions' book to form a separate book of thirty-six principles citing these points:

At present many members do not understand the Concepts and would benefit from knowledge of such ideas as the Rights of Decision, Participation, and Appeal as well as the Warranties of Article 12.

A "12 & 12 & 12 book" would expose everyone in the rooms to "the rest of AA", presently the 12 Concepts are a mystery to most of our fellowship.

While recovery and unity are conscious elements of our program, the Concepts seem to remain in the domain of the trusted servants in our general service structure. Many members are curious about the Concepts and are ready to add this leg of the triangle to their program.

By affording greater exposure of the 12 Concepts we may create greater support and understanding of our general service structure.

### **Timeline of Trustees' Literature Committee on this agenda item**

**July 1999 trustees' Literature Committee:** Decided that combining the "12 & 12" with the text of the pamphlet "The 12 Concepts Illustrated" would be inappropriate because the pamphlet was not written by Bill.

**October 1999 trustees' Literature Committee, October 1999:** Decided that there is not sufficient need to develop a publication combining the Steps, Traditions and Concepts at this time

**.2009 January trustees' Literature Committee:** The committee discussed and took no action on an area's request to add the short form of the Twelve Concepts to *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*. The committee noted 2 past literature committee actions that the short form of the Twelve Concepts be added to service literature where feasible.

**January 2010 trustees' Literature Committee:** Reviewed a request for an edition combining the 12 & 12 with the service manual to include the 12 concepts. The committee forwarded request to AAWS for consideration. AAWS discussed pairing the 2 in a slipcase (boxed) format took no action.

**October 2011 trustees Literature Committee:** Discussed an area request to add the 12 Concepts with essays to the current 12 X 12. Matter was tabled but staff was asked to prepare background information of both a boxed set and a new volume combining all 36 principles with essays.

**January 2012 trustees' Literature Committees:** After considering a wide variety of options and prices for new volumes, the committee tabled further discussion on this item so they can obtain additional information on pricing options and possible impact on existing publications.

**July 2012 trustees' Literature Committee:** Continued to discuss but took no action. But staff will continue to look for alternative ways to make the Concepts available to the Fellowship

**February 2014 trustees' Literature Committee:** Discussed a proposal to produce a special edition book combining the 12 & 12 with the 12 Concepts (Area 72 Western Washington) and table the discussion for the August meeting.

**August 2014 trustees' Literature Committee:** Agreed to forward to the 2015 Conference Committee on Literature the request to produce a book combining the 12 & 12 with the 12 Concepts of World Service.

**Current Conference Actions** (That applies to this agenda item)

**2002 Conference Advisory Action:**

"The text in the book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, written by Bill Wilson remain as is recognizing the Fellowship's feelings that Bill W.'s writings be retained as originally published." Thank you for your attention. Laura J

\*Comments from the floor; John; Q. is this going to change like the Service Manual does, Phil; A. no they are just talking about the 12 Concepts, Ted; you could add the 12 & 12 to the service manual, Anne; opposed may be too much to read for the new comer, keep it simple, Rhonda; likes the idea, convenient, but would still like the Concepts to also stay in the Service Manual, Barbara; we already have it in the service manual, Cherie; I need to study the 12 concepts, we could use this in 12 & 12 study workshops, Mary Ann; would like to see just an abbreviated version as an appendix to the 12 & 12, Pam; we should find a way, Joyce; concepts are not changed, we do not have a 12 X 12 we have 12 & 12, Erica; should not be a limited run should be a permanent run, Brian; I'm new and I don't know a single concept that we do have so to have at least a short form of the concepts would be very helpful, Joanie; have it all in one book would be helpful with the whole essay, Kendal; I'm all in favor of this, Janelle; where is sponsorship in all of this, opposed, James; the short form are in the Big Book, leave the 12 & 12 alone, Taylor; sponsorship is a very important part for learning the 12 Concepts, Fred; see the Big Book, opposed, Bud; would like to see the short form added, Andrea; opposed if its not broke did fix it, sponsorship, Libby; like the short form better, if its in the book its available, Darryl; does not see a newcomer wanting to know about the 12 concepts, David; group generally supports this, there is already a Spanish version, Ron; had trouble reading when I came in, it is easier to take things a small piece at a time, Dale; it would be nice but could be confusion to the newcomer, should keep it separated, Bob; sober since 1975 and last year was first year I heard of the concepts, Claudia; they should be all together, Leticia; there is more than just the 12 steps combining them would be great, Tony; Spanish book is only in Mexico, Nancy; hold the concepts as equal to the 12 steps and 12 traditions, Mike; keep it the same, Ozzy; sponsor went over concepts with me, Drew; would cause newcomers to ask questions, Carry; concepts are an advanced topic, keep it as is, Jacque; would be overwhelming for newcomers, sponsorship, keep it the same, Mack; should move along, Ming; if I don't ask I can't learn

\*Sense 50 /50

**DCM reports**

**District 1: Claudia B.** Hi, my name is Claudia and I am an alcoholic. I am also the DCM for District 1. First, I want to welcome all of the new GSRs to their first area assembly in Tonopah. We have a very busy weekend ahead so I will not take up to much of your time. District 1 hosted its first workshop focusing on the first legacy of recovery. The topic was sponsorship and I want to thank our workshop chair for her hard work. In terms of our plans for the rest of the year, we will be having two more workshops on the two remaining legacies, one on June 13 or 20 and one on October 11. We are also planning our District 1 picnic to be held at Broadbent Park on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October. The intention is lots of activities for children, good food and a great speaker. With regards to my position as DCM, I will be using our district list to pinpoint those meetings without representation and Ted, our alternate DCM, and I will be looking at ways to encourage their participation. I had the good fortune of attending PRAASA this March, thank you District 1, and met with DCMs from all around the Pacific Region specifically addressing this topic. Another topic that emerged at these sessions was ways that we as a district and I as a DCM can better serve our committee, our groups, our area and AA as a whole. Thank you for letting me be of service.

**District 2: Mary D.** The first quarter of 2015 found District 2 expanding with new GSRs and alt GSRs in attendance each monthly meeting. We have new groups represented and welcomed back our long time participants. GSRs enjoyed the orientation in January and we continue the registration process; some are still looking forward to receiving their kits. February we invited Gary, Area Committee chair for treatment to share information about this committee. March PRAASA was attended by both DCM and alt DCM this year; we enthusiastically shared our experience at the event. The district discussed the round table topics and encouraged GSRs to involve their groups either by inviting them to attend and/or adding a special meeting to gather group conscience on topics. Examples of presenting GSR reports were provided. We are ready for Area Assembly at the end of the month; most GSRs and district officers will be in Tonopah. Looking ahead: We will be co-facilitating the Unity Day in May with other districts and intergroup.

Joyfully yours in service, Mary D. [dist2area42DCM@gmail.com](mailto:dist2area42DCM@gmail.com)

**District 3: Jerry B.** District 3 has 37 listed groups with service numbers. Of these 13 are considered active, 2 have merged, 6 are unknown and 14 are inactive. Of the 14 active groups there are 5 groups with current GSRs. Graduates Group: GSR Steve M one of the oldest meeting in Las Vegas How it Works Group: GSR Debbie T a group with a long history of AA service in Las Vegas Straight Pepper Diet YP Group: GSR Leah B one of the largest Young Peoples groups in Las Vegas Weekend Warriors Group: GSR David N this group meets in the oldest men's half way house in Las Vegas. Sharing and Caring Group: alternate GSR Gwen R this Mesquite Group has grown to 3 meetings a day 7 days a week. We have 2 groups in the Las Vegas meeting in the Vet Center and rural groups in Overton, Caliente, Moapa, and Pioche (correction facility) We have contacts in several of the groups where we send pertinent correspondence to be shared with their groups. Thanks to the diligent work of our Area Officers All GSR's were able to receive conference agenda items in plenty of time to share with their groups and get a group conscience where needed. As you can see we're a rather diverse District. After this assembly more time will be spend visiting groups to encourage participation and planning a district function. District 3 has its regular district meetings on the 2nd Sunday in January, July, and November and on the 3rd Sunday in May just prior to the SAGSAC meetings. We also have a district meeting at the Spring and Fall Area Assemblies in Tonopah. Respectfully submitted by Jerry B.

**District 4: Drew (alt) report for Wayne H.** Hello from District 4. I would like to thank my district for giving me this opportunity to serve in my new position as DCM. We have a great mix of new and experienced GSRs actively participating in district events. I was fortunate enough to participate at this year's PRAASA along with having great representation from the GSRs from District 4. PRAASA was a great learning experience, as well as a time to meet new friends from across the west and to catch up with some old ones. The district has been off to a good start to the New Year. We have been busy on several events already. We have been involved with the Unity Day event, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to encourage better communication, fellowship and general unity between the inter-group and general service members. We are also in the planning stages an event to help inform groups on the topic of meeting safety. It is still in the planning stages, but we will pass along information once the planning stage is complete. I would also like to thank Kathleen W., the previous DCM, for all her help in getting me off to a great start in my new position. Thank you for letting me be of service. Wayne H.

**District 5A: "dark" (currently inactive)**

**District 5B: Bryce B.** Our business meeting was held on Sat Feb 15 at the KCB club. There was no old business so we moved right into our committee reports. Christine F presented the District with calendars for Feb, March and April we also added 2 new GSR's; Gary & Heather both from Groups at the Stairway Two Club. There was a brief discussion about our up coming picnic in Oct. We discussed the possibility of changing locations due to the city raising the rent to \$50 an hour. Sharleen P and Bob G both volunteered to compete in the chili cook off which was held on Feb 21. There was a brief Concept/Tradition of the month presentation by our DCM followed by a short pitch from our Area 42 CPC/PI Chair Cherie M. I was able to attend the service festival on Sunday Feb 15. There was a lot of good information, but sadly it seemed like the people who attended were not the ones that really needed to be there. In the future I am going to make it a priority when announcing these types of events to go into a little more detail about what goes on. One idea is to have a small table set up at our workshops featuring our Grapevine and possibly H&I and CPC/PI liaisons. There was discussion about our next workshop which will be held on the 9th of May. It is going to be on sponsorship both for the Steps and Service. We may also add a brief talk about the importance of our 7th Tradition of self support; a discussion about where our money goes and why. At this time we have not worked out the details such as panelists, etc. but that info will be available by our next meeting. At the beginning of the month I was able to attend PRAASA in Layton, Utah. We covered topics like "Carrying the Message"; our Traditions, our Legacy of Service and the fellowship taking an inventory. There were intensive roundtable discussions for both the GSR's and DCM's. We talked about how we can be more effective with our communication. A couple of the more discussed topics were, "Are we being inclusive rather than exclusive? (Tradition 3); "Is there a need for new literature targeting alcoholics with mental illness? And are we making non-traditional religious or spiritual persons feel welcomed in our society? As usual there were plenty of people with plenty to say on these and the other topics. A highlight of our weekend was a talk given by our new Pacific Regional Trustee, Joel C. after the Saturday night banquet. After a brief review of announcements, we closed our District meeting with the responsibility statement. In Service, Bryce B.

**District 6: John F.** Things have kicked off very well for District 6. I am surrounded by amazingly committed and enthused group of AA members. In January we started the year off right by having the GS R trainer come and do a training for our incoming GSR's. This event was very well attended and I am pretty sure we didn't even scare anyone away from general service that day. Our District meets every other month on the even months at the Alano Club in Carson City. District 6 stretches all the way form South

Lake Tahoe, down to Gardnerville, and out to Carson City and Dayton. We had our first District meeting last month. We filled the last of our officer positions, passed an annual budget and discussed all the upcoming General Service events. I was fortunate enough to attend my very first PRAASA as a District 6 representative. It was a surprise to me that the earth actually did not end after Reno and there is a highway all the way to Salt Lake City! I learned many things from other members on a wide variety of topics and I also attended a corrections and DCM roundtable. It was eye opening and refreshing to hear that members from Hawaii to Alaska have the same challenges ...like... "How do we get to those dark groups?" "or "What is our role as a District in regards to helping with home group Tradition challenges?" "I plan on sharing the information and experience with my District and try further engaging our members in the wonderful world of General Service. Thank you for allowing District 6 to host this weekend and be of service. Respectfully submitted –John F (collected \$602 in 7<sup>th</sup> for host district snacks covered expenses)

**District 7: Bud L.** Hello everyone my name is Bud L. and I am your DCM for District 7. First I would like to say that is an honor and privilege to serve as DCM for District 7 and Area 42. As we started the New Year off we have accomplished many things to get us rolling into service for the District and the Southern area. We have set up our 4 service events for the year with first being April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Serenity Club From 11am to 1:30pm. The event is called "Being of Service; What Does It Take?" Dan and Sherri are the chairs for this event. Flyers are on table by the door. We also hosted the Annual Southern Area District Chili Cook-off on February 21<sup>st</sup> and it was a great success and many attended while District 1 was the victor this year. We will get you next year!!! Alfredo did a fantastic job chairing this event. We look forward to the next years Cook-off as District 1 will be hosting. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> event is scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup> with a topic on Tradition 6. Jimmy will chair this event. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> event is a big one as this is our 30<sup>th</sup> year for the Annual district 7 Mt. Charleston Picnic. We have secured the Foxtail picnic grounds for this year's event and should prove to be spectacular. It will be August 16<sup>th</sup> and Gene L. is our picnic chair again this year. I know he has a great time planned for all. Ticket prices will \$10.00 for this year! More information to come and flyers for all. Our 4<sup>th</sup> event will be held on November 7<sup>th</sup> and the topic will be on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Tradition with Michael being the chair. So we have quite a year planned for the District and the Southern Area and to see many of you at these events. We also have many new GSR's and Alt's that have been coming to our District meeting which is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month at 6:30pm at the Serenity Club. It is very exciting to see everyone so eager to get involved. Thank you again for allowing me to be of service and have a great weekend. In Service: Bud L.

Lunch 11:45 AM

End Lunch 1:30 PM

**District 8: Carry (alt) report for Scott B.** I am privileged to be allowed to serve as the DCM for District 8. So far in this rotation the district has held two business meetings. Myself, along with some of our members attended PRAASA in Utah March 6 - 8, it was a wonderful event and provided a lot of information about how AA as a whole works. A little general information about our district, District 8 is located in Eastern California. It is bordered to the west by the Sierra Nevada crest and the Nevada border to the east. It extends from Lone Pine to the south to Bridgeport in the north. The two largest groups in the district are the Mammoth Lakes group in Mammoth Lakes, and the High Sierra Group in Bishop. There are numerous smaller groups which are located in Lone Pine Big Pine, Benton, June Lake, and Bridgeport. The district sponsors a Unity Ride that sees members from the larger population centers of Bishop and Mammoth Lakes carpool to meetings in the more remote, less populated areas. This event is appreciated by all those who participate. The district also hosts an ongoing 12 Concepts study group that meets monthly and rotates between Bishop and Mammoth Lakes. The District holds its business meetings on the first Sunday of odd numbered months at 3:30 pm at the Crowley Lakes Community Center. Thank you for letting me be of service, Scott B

**Grapevine Item B: Jerry B.** Hello my name is Jerry B. and I am the current DCM for District 3. I was asked to be a presenter for the agenda topic under the Grapevine **"Review new business plan for LA Vina"** During PRAASA a few weeks ago Raymundo L. Delegate for California Northern Coastal Area 06 made such a thorough presentation I asked if I could share it with you today and he loving assisted me. This is Raymundo's presentation, after I will read a few statistics.

The information begins with an advisory action, "In 1991 because of an expressed need the Grapevine commenced as soon as possible to include at least one article in Spanish in each month's issue".

- In 1995, the General Service Conference addressed the need within the U.S. and Canada for a Spanish language edition of the Grapevine and gave their approval to the idea. Funding for the magazine will come from the General Service Board reserve fund, for a period up to five years, after which if the publication is still viable, it will be absorbed into the Grapevines operating budget. In June of 1996 the first issue was distributed

throughout the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Central and South America and Europe as well as correctional and treatment facilities.

1997: It was recommended that information about La Viña from 1995 be included in the 1997-98 edition of the AA Service Manual (chapter XI: "The AA Grapevine").

1999: Being mindful of the demonstrated effectiveness of La Viña and the need for it expressed by the Hispanic community, and considering its spiritual benefits as a Twelfth Step tool, the committee wishes to express strong support for its continued publication.

2001: It was recommended that La Viña continue to be published by the AA. Grapevine and supported by the General Service Board as a service to the Fellowship.

From 2010 Advisory Action: After thoughtful and lengthy discussion, the Committee recommended that La Viña achieve spiritual parity with the A.A. Grapevine, beginning in the following manner: Publishing La Viña as a bimonthly, perfect-bound, black-and-white, 68-page issue at an additional estimated cost of \$21,400 per year for one year beginning in 2011 followed by a year of review and assessment in 2012. The results of this review and assessment will be brought to the 2013 Conference Committee on the AA Grapevine.

- 2013 La Viña Conference Advisory Action: The Committee recognized that funding La Viña as a service, through the general fund is an issue affecting the overall fellowship.

Following the GV Boards continued exploration of scenarios to "significantly reduce" the La Viña deficit including decreased frequency, fewer pages, lesser paper quality, alternate binding, black and white vs. color, volunteer staffing, publication with Grapevine and so on, AAGV Board concluded, that none of these changes deliver significant cost reduction they simultaneously concluded that the net effect of these scenarios could reduce the existing subscriber base.

It had been determined that La Viña is published as cost effectively as possible given the existing parameters and conditions.

- La Viña expenses rose 29k in 2012 due to salary adjustments and proportionate share of AA Grapevine, Inc's. Retirement related expenses.

La Viña is a, hybrid entity, anomalous in our organization, that it is at once a service to the Fellowship in accordance with the Conference that is also required to strive to become self-supporting.

The Subcommittee made 6 recommendations to the Trustees' Committee on Finance to be adopted as the policy of the GSB regarding narrative to the Fellowship on the financial results of La Viña

To make things clear, there isn't a new plan for La Viña, at the 2010 Pacific Regional Forum in Torrance Ca, the idea was born for supporting to increase subscriptions, articles and whatever was necessary for our meeting in print to reach its objective to become self supported through its own subscriptions. Following the Forum in 2010, Anniversaries and various events throughout our fellowship where registrations began to sell along with subscriptions have begun to take an increase, but like I mentioned before so has the cost of production.

From Queens New York, Georgia, Denver Colorado to Las Vegas Nevada where in Las Vegas alone 820 subscriptions were raised. These events continue to make an impact within the fellowship *Area 93 hosted 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary (806), Area 92 16<sup>th</sup> (604), Area 09 17<sup>th</sup> (895), Area 42 18<sup>th</sup> (820) Total 3,125 subscriptions.* This year area 06 will host the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary for La Viña held in July 18-19. To date the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee has raised over 400 registrations that include a year Subscription for the magazine. With these events, La Viña has given the opportunity to foster unity not only in Pacific Regional Areas but with other Areas as well.

La Viña continues in our community. Because of the support, interest and need. La Viña will continue to be used as a service tool to our fellowship and no longer use the term deficit but use short fall between cost & expenses. I would like to thank every single individual who serves in the AA Grapevine and La Viña for their untiring efforts to serve the best they can to the Alcoholic who still suffers.

#### **Statistics:**

I do not have financial figures for 2014

In 2013 La Vina had an average circulation of 10,145 per issue. From 1997 circulation had increased till 2008 with a circulation decrease through 2010. In 2011 circulation increased and continues through today. Current circulation is over 10,000 issues bimonthly, with a target of 30,000 issues bimonthly to be self-supporting. The financial shortfall for 2013 was \$142,545.00 less than 1% of GSO operating budget of \$14,984,663.00. La Vina net cost since inception 1995 through 2013 is approximately \$1,668,645.00 again less the 1% of GSO operating costs. Thank You

\*Comments from the floor; Cherie; I'm getting La Vina and the southern Area has a huge Spanish population and a huge population that are incarcerated, Dave; support as long as they come up with a plan, John; the deficit be looked as an investment and go only as an online subscription and try to reach out to

South and Central America (they have their own), Ray; contacted AAGV to get an English print form for subscribing to La Vina, Catherine; have more La Vina representatives going to non Spanish speaking meetings, Mary Ann; this is a necessary expense for A.A. to carry the message, Fred; Q. what is the new business plan, A. there is no real plan the main objective is to raise subscriptions, Robert; the hard part is to get people to buy it (subscribe to it), Angela; try to get Central & South America to get together with La Vina, Chris; our group ought a subscription and we just give it away, Darryl; I subscribed to La Vina and I give them to our Grapevine representative and when a Spanish speaking person comes in he gives it to them, Carry; when books are sold BB or a 12 & 12 or any to have a GV and or LV sub card sent with it, Tony; Mexico does there own thing and there own literature, Erica: stories come from all around the world, Kendal; subscribe to corrections facilities and treatment

**Literature Item C: Consider Updating the Recovery Pamphlet – “A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian**

**Alcoholic.”** Background: In 1982, the Trustees’ Literature Committee appointed a subcommittee to develop a draft of a pamphlet for the gay and lesbian alcoholic to be presented at the 1983 General Service Conference. In 1983, the General Service Conference recommended that the 1983 draft of the pamphlet for the homosexual alcoholic be approved for circulation, so the 1984 General Service Conference may make an informed policy decision to whether or not the fellowship would publish and distribute a pamphlet for the homosexual alcoholic. In 1988, the Trustees’ Literature Committee considered the request to publish a pamphlet of recovery stories of gay and lesbian alcoholics and recommended this be forwarded to the Conference Literature Committee. In 1989, the General Service Conference recommended that the manuscript for a pamphlet for gay and lesbian alcoholics be approved with specific editorial changes which would be reviewed by the Conference Literature Committee before publication and that the title be “ A.A. and the Gay and Lesbian Alcoholic.” The result of the 1989 conference action produced the pamphlet P-32, A.A. and the Gay / Lesbian Alcoholic. The pamphlet has remained unchanged for the last 26 years which brings us to the agenda item presented to us this year. Since 1989 the gay and lesbian movement has become known as the Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual, and Transgendered community (G.L.B.T.). It is estimated that 0.5% to 1% of the United States population are bi-sexual or transgendered. Based on 2012 estimates, there are between 156,000 and 312,000 transgender and bi-sexual adults in the United States. On October 11, 2013, Area 72, Western Washington submitted a request to the A.A. Conference Coordinator (Literature Item C Doc. 1) to develop literature for transgendered and gender nonconforming alcoholic. In August 2014, the Trustees’ Literature Committee agreed to forward to the 2015 Conference Literature Committee a request to develop literature directed to the transgender and gender nonconforming alcoholics. On October 18, 2014, Area 05, Southern California submitted a proposal to the General Service Conference Coordinator ( Literature Item C Doc 2) a request to update the pamphlet - Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic, P-32 to include the perspective of the entire GLBT community and information on the GLBT online intergroup. In January 2015, the Trustees’ Literature Committee agreed to forward a request to update the recovery pamphlet, A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic, to include the perspective of the entire Gay/Lesbian/Bi-Sexual/Transgender (GLBT) community and to possibly include information on the GLBT online intergroup as additional background to an agenda item previously forwarded to the 2015 Conference Committee on Literature.

How do we as an Area feel about?

The Area 72 request to develop literature for the Transgender and Gender non-conforming alcoholics. The Area 05 request to updating the current pamphlet A.A and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic to include the perspective of the entire GLBT community ,and to possibility include information on the GLBT online intergroup.

**THINGS TO CONSIDER:**

Is this the same as being Gay or Lesbian? Doesn’t the “A.A. and the Gay & Lesbian Alcoholic” pamphlet cover this issue? The pamphlet that exists relates the experiences of being a gay or lesbian alcoholic and some of the hurdles that being a sexual minority brings. Trans and GNC people face different hurdles which come with medical change to physical appearance and living daily as a gender that may differ from the physical features they were born with. These hurdles differ from the ones experienced as a sexual minority. How much would the literature cost? Many variables exist in the creation and printing costs of A.A. books and pamphlets, such as length, illustration, copy editing, proofing, printing, shipping, distribution, etc. It is not possible to provide definitive answers to the cost of literature? Consider that the Big Book currently costs approximately \$1.77 per copy. The cost of a single pamphlet varies widely and maintaining those in print now ranges from \$.08 for a Tri-fold to \$.50 for others. In other words, a single copy of some pamphlets can cost over 25% of the cost to print one Big Book. What do we mean by “Literature”? Traditionally, A.A. literature includes books, e-books, pamphlets, A.A. guide lines, the service manual as examples. This motion originally specified a pamphlet as the media of choice; however, this was later amended to ‘literature’, thus broadening the potential scope. Leaving it to the Conference to decide what form of literature would be most effective. Could the Trans and GNC experiences be



incorporated into the Gay/Lesbian pamphlet? Yes, they could. Should the information be included with the Gay/Lesbian pamphlet? Should the Native American and the Black/African American pamphlets be merged? They are both racial identities, and may have similar experiences, but may have different experiences accessing A.A. In keeping with Tradition 1, shouldn't literature be printed for the whole rather than for the individual? Is this how Bill W. intended Tradition 1 to be applied? For some, the answer comes from Tradition 5; "Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

A.A. actions over the years include other special interest pamphlets:

1. A.A. for the Women
2. A.A. for the Native North American
3. A.A. and the Armed Services
4. A Message to Teenagers
5. Young People and A.A.

Is this an outside issue? Like all literature that targets a sub group of A.A., the pamphlets purpose is to extend a hand and say "you are welcome here ". This targeted welcoming provides that sense of all important identification to those in the GLBT community who wish to recover, and may be what brings a newcomer back to another meeting. Through the years A.A. has developed a "peculiar mental twist" of reaching out to ALL alcoholics who still suffer. For example, this statement that was adopted by A.A.WS following the 1965 A.A. International Convention in Toronto, Ontario; "I am responsible. When ANYONE, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible." I will leave you with one final thought, printed in *Pass It On* found on page 317. "In 1945, Barry was doing desk duty at a club house on 41<sup>st</sup> Street. A man came in needing help. He was black, and we had no black members than. He was an ex-convict. He had all his earthly belongings on his back. His hair was bleached blond; he had on makeup; and he told us he was a dope fiend. We didn't know what to do about the guy. I got together with some of the older members, and we talked to the man, and about him. What could we do? When no satisfactory group-conscience decision was forthcoming, Barry did what many another A.A. would have done; He called Bill, to whom he described the prospective member. After a silence, Bill asked Barry to run over the list again. Barry did so. Now, 'said Bill, did you say he was a drunk?' 'Oh yes' Barry replied. 'There's no question about that, He's certainly a drunk.' 'Well, I think that's all we can ask,' said Bill.' The prospect was invited to attend meetings, and although he soon disappeared, his presence created a precedent for the Third Tradition." Thank You for letting me be of Service.

\*Comments from the floor; Cherie; strongly feel there should be an update, Janelle; a literature list in the back of the BB, Bridget; where does it all end, if we follow the Steps and the Traditions, Joyce Y; I am for any form of pamphlet that helps, Joan; should not lump transgender into the gay and lesbian pamphlet, Joe; when I saw the gay and lesbian pamphlet and it made me feel like I was welcome, Dave; when any pamphlet becomes outdated we should update them automatically, Marin; language matters update with current language, Larry; my District is for this, a minority opinion pamphlets tend to emphasizes differences, Cathy; yes update or create a new one, Ted; we already have this pamphlet "Do you think your different", Bryce; do you think your different pamphlet we are all different, Claudia; last updated in 1989 the world changes make it current, Brian; gay and lesbian are totally different than transgender, Angela; suggest to make a different pamphlet for transgender, Paula; a good idea to update literature will also educate the fellowship, Samantha; mixed when we talk about alcoholism we always find that common ground,

\*Sense 90% in favor 10% not

**Report and Charter Item A6; Pamela Consider request to add text regarding reactivating districts or groups to the section "Stimulating Interest in General Service" on page S23.**

In December 2013, Area 29 submitted a request for the 64th General Service Conference to consider: *To add text to the section in Chapter 1 of The A.A. Service Manual entitled 'STIMULATING INTEREST IN GENERAL SERVICE' (on page S23 of the 2013-2014 edition) to address the recurring need to reactivate districts or groups which have been inactive or underrepresented due to lack of participation in general service.*

This is the background:

On May 23rd, 2013 the motion originated in the meeting of Area 29's Regional Panel 1 in Easton, Maryland. It was again discussed at the wrap up meeting on June 19th. On October 16, 2013, after much discussion of several DCM's, an initial proposal was drafted and circulated among all individuals who had participated in Regional Panel 1. On November 16th, 2013, the proposal was presented as a motion at Area 29 Committee in District 32, Ocean City, Maryland. After amendment, the motion was approved with substantial unanimity. On December 14th, 2013 at the Area 29 Assembly in District 37, Easton, Maryland, the suggested agenda item was approved with substantial unanimity and forwarded to the GSO Conference Desk. Area 29 created three suggestions for input into the service manual but ultimately left the wording to GSO. Due to an oversight, this item was not placed on the agenda for 2014 and is on the agenda for the

65th Conference Committee on Report and Charter as originally submitted along with draft text developed by G.S.O.'s Publishing Department.

This is the DRAFT text on reactivating districts developed by G.S.O.'s Publishing Department for a new subsection at the end of the section on page S23 **STIMULATING INTEREST IN GENERAL SERVICE**

*Reactivating districts:* (Which is in italics) Frequently, there is a need within an Area to attempt to reactivate districts or groups that have become inactive or are unrepresented. Areas encourage participation in general service in many ways, especially by direct outreach to groups by district officers, specifically the D.C.M., to provide information about service events and opportunities to carry the message beyond the group level. Sometimes there is district-to-district sponsorship in which an active district shares its experience and suggestions to "jump start" activity among groups within the inactive neighboring district. This ends the draft text. How does Area 42 feel about this agenda item?

\*Comments from the floor, Samantha; came from Area 10 Colorado had dark Districts there also, this text is very useful, Dave; if it was in there it would help, Rhonda; was in a dark district 5A (stairway club) went to all meeting in district, Dale; need contact with remote cities/meetings, Jerry; a lot of the groups/meetings are small, Erica; have workshops and invite the delegate, have unity rides, Ed; if you live in rural America this is important, ? as a DCM I would show up to your group if you did not send a GSR to district meetings, \*Sense unanimous in favor

Break 2:55 PM

End Break 3:12 PM

### **Roundtable report backs**

#### **Finance A & Literature D:**

Hello, my name is Jonelle and I am an alcoholic... My presentation is on the Agenda Items Presentation Feedback... Carol and I each took two of the four items to report on... I will be reading the comments on Agenda Item Finance A and Agenda Item Literature D...

#### **Finance A: Discuss a request to increase the maximum annual contribution that the General Service Board can receive from an AA member from \$3,000.00 to \$5,000.00.**

Comments from the floor... (SAGSC & NAGSC roundtables)

Question... Why do they put a cap on the maximum amount?

The answer given from the presenter... they do this so that prestige isn't assumed with the donation.

GSO needs more financial support...there is a lack of funding for events for Standing Committees... Out of 93 areas, only 24 are receiving funding to support presentations at events... If everyone would contribute \$6.00 or \$7.00, there would be no shortage of funding... The wealthy can afford to give more.

US Government allows up to \$5,000 non-penalized contributions to any non-profit 501(c) (3) organization. A \$5,000.00 cap would make it consistent with government regulations... \$5,000 would not be an issue with prestige, especially if most contributions are done posthumously. AA spends a lot of time writing checks back to donors who did not know they could not contribute as much...

It's a big jump. It's clearly a benefit to AA as a whole. Concerned about the concentration of people contributing. Flexibility. \$5000 is not a big enough number to "gain control" of AA. Inflation.

Support should be from the groups rather than individuals. We don't accept funds from outside sources. It's tax deductible I have a responsibility; it's the spirit of participation... Discussion surrounding the "Birthday Plan"...Give members a medallion and a Birthday envelope...

\*Comments from floor at assembly; Alex; Q. where did they come up with the number \$5000 Bud; A. the increases have gone pretty regularly every 8 years and the one time bequest contribution was raised from \$3,000 to \$5,000 and that why they came up with \$5,000

#### **Literature D: Consider developing literature for the alcoholic with mental health issues.**

Comments from the floor... (SAGSC & NAGSC roundtables)

If it is part of How it Works, then it is part of AA. "There are those too who suffer from grave emotional and mental disorders..." This literature would be incredibly useful to PIC/CPC... CPC chair attended the National Psych Convention... Commented that there is a reason GSO wanted them to be there. People in AA have told people to get off meds and they have killed themselves...People with serious problems need attention from their doctors... We are not doctors... We can't tell people what they can and can't do. If they do write the pamphlet, they should get input from doctors and people who have this problem. Hopefully, they will have stories in the pamphlet to let people who are dually-diagnosed understand and feel a part of AA. We should all wear t-shirts stating "I am not a doctor"... Unless you are, then you don't get one...There is a lot of legality for an issue like this and it will be difficult for alcoholics to write. This is more than just being an alcoholic woman or an alcoholic and black. Alcoholics Anonymous is an all inclusive program... At UNLV, they offer students support if they have depression or suicidal thoughts... If we have a pamphlet

that they could give out to students, maybe it would help. There's a big stigma. Some sponsors say that if you are taking medication, then I can't sponsor you... This pamphlet bothers me because of traditions. Anyone who has a problem with alcohol is welcome in AA—whether you're bipolar or tripolar. This is an outside issue that will have AA's name on it. 150 years ago, the Washingtonian society tried to be all things to all people....My view is that people who have those kinds of problems need doctors. If we are going to be putting our AA name on it, we may be lending our name to an outside issue. Maybe we need a pamphlet on "AA and Your Doctor". Stick to advice from your doctor over your sponsor's advice. I have been fired by a sponsor because he didn't know how to help anymore... Sponsors will tell people you are not really sober if you are on meds... Everyone in AA suffers from a mental disorder... It's called substance abuse disorder according to the DSMV... You may just be in remission. Question... When it says "Consider" developing literature, we are just talking about considering developing literature, right?

Answer from the floor. [Yes.] One of the most powerful pamphlets is "Alcoholics and Other Medication"—it's very useful for those on medication or sponsoring people on medication. Alcoholic insanity is different from psychiatric insanity...We might want to look at the difference for a pamphlet... I try to focus on the insanity of alcoholism, and not the other mental illness. If a pamphlet is written, I would like to see in it the difference between treating alcoholism with the steps--and coming in, getting medical help, and then working the steps when you feel like getting around to it... We don't want to veer too far from recovery from alcoholism, but as we get braver about mental illness and we talk about it, it will become less of a stigma. We are still a long way from a decision about the pamphlet... Page 64 of How it Works: "...From it stem all forms of spiritual disease, for we had been not only mentally and physically ill, we had been spiritually sick This population is disenfranchised. Outside issue-our relationship is with the alcoholic. At the meeting level, keep it on alcohol not other... Important to discuss co-occurring disorders. Inclusive with AA member w/mental issues. One home group is against. Concerned about outcome of pamphlet... is it created by Physicians or AA's? Message is in two pamphlets - AA Member- Medications & other Drugs by 4 members and Special Needs pamphlet has 1 story. Counselors could use at time of treatment. 20% of general populace is clinically depressed. 19% of people suffer from mental illness some time in their lives. Singleness of purpose is lost on this. Suicide is consistent with lack of identification. Members feel less crazy, user specific pamphlet. Help to mental hospitals...sober members are here through identification. This can address members who give medical advice. If we cross the line this could be dangerous...stick to singleness of purpose. This is an outside issue. Another tool for those of us in AA. Help people feel included & create more fellowship. This does say "Consider"...we should consider what the content should be. This will help ensure the individual that prescribed meds doesn't break sobriety...\*\*\*I just wanted to note that members not only commented on this topic they also shared personal experience as well...Thank you. Jonelle

\*Comments from floor at assembly; Cherie; from a CPC point of view there is a need for this type of literature, Pat; I am responsible, there is a need, Ozzy; when an alcoholic needs help we are going to help them but there are other things available and maybe we could bring literature that is available, Audrey; we have a pamphlet "Medications and other drugs" use what we have, Vienna; should discuss this,

**Grapevine Item D 1, 2, & 3: Carol B. Discuss ways to increase organization-wide support for Grapevine and La Viña, such as:**

1. How to recognize and support the International Journals of Alcoholics Anonymous, Grapevine and La Viña, as fully integrated parts of A.A. and its service structure.
2. How to provide concrete support for Grapevine and La Viña throughout the Fellowship and service structure, including the use and purchase of Grapevine and La Viña subscriptions, books and other items.
3. How to put the many recommendations from the General Service Conference that encourage organization-wide support of the International Journals of Alcoholics Anonymous into practice Fellowship wide.

Fred at the SAGSC and Larry in the North gave informative displays which acknowledged the need for the fellowship at large to become and then stay involved in insuring the continuation and safeguarding of these effective publications.

Highlights from both the North and South were:

Suggested reasons to purchase subscriptions:

- Raffle prizes,
- part of sponsorship duty,
- group purchased as gift to members celebrating one year sobriety,
- Include in newcomer packet.
- Send out to Libraries, Hospitals, Clinics, Dr. Offices, Jails,

Suggestions on how to attract:

- Grapevine rep. announce at meetings along with a joke/ item from the publication.
- Hold Grapevine meetings, story writing/photo/& joke submitting workshops,

- Give out to Libraries, Hospitals, Clinics, Dr. Offices, and Jails.
- Purchase La Vina so they have a copy available should they have a Spanish-speaking member come into the room.
- Have past issues available for members take home. Have a discounted price during Holidays.

Nothing that the AAWS or Grapevine Board has done has helped - with the current atmosphere of publishing.

Area 42 is currently utilizing many of the suggested GSC recommendations, i.e.

- Website link to the Grapevine
- Area assembly grapevine reports & display,
- Grapevine workshops which include writing and submitting stories.
- Budgets include some Grapevine funding. As I recall, When WACYPA was held in Las Vegas in 2012, after convention expenses were paid, the excess was used to purchase several Grapevine subscriptions, which were sent to various institutions.

Discussion included.

- Have our Group GVRs registered with AAGV Inc. for the AA Grapevine and the Your Group, and are they receiving the quarterly email?
- Some groups purchase several and have available for members to purchase at \$2.50 per month rather than the \$28.97 cost of a 12 month subscription
- Get a subscription to La Vina, and try to read it. It's fun.
- Emphasize and publicize the web.
- It would be a great disservice if La Vina were not available to those Spanish-speakers in the US and around the world.
- Talk it up; talk about how great it is; talk about the terrific helpful parts about it, It might be a good idea for the High Schools.

LV is a service piece with spiritual parity with the GV. Support comes through us, as individuals.

\*Comments from floor at assembly; Tom; every BB or 12 and 12 sold have a coupon enclosed, Cherie; send Grapevine and La Vina to periodical section of local library, Larry; what could the Grapevine staff do with content to make it more appealing to the members, Barry; when announcing the Grapevine at groups we should let people what it is,

#### **Literature Item F: Carol Consider updating the pamphlet "A.A. for the Woman"**

Marianne from NAGSC and Claudia in the South, did the two presentations on the requested consideration for updating the 1986 revision of "AA for the Woman" pamphlet. Area 75 voted with substantial unanimity to support the request for revision of this pamphlet.

Proposal: To revise the current "AA for the Woman" (P-5) pamphlet to:

- Correct alignment of page numbers of the start of Grapevine stories in the pamphlet.
- Update some of the stories to be more relevant for a woman coming into A.A. today.
- The pamphlet was last revised in 1986 and many of the stories do not reflect the
- Woman coming into A.A. today.

Discussion:

- Respect and preserve the history of AA while looking into the future with bright eyes.
- It's outdated. Use "\*" next to story to reference or define outdated language – leaving stories intact.
- Update the "Where to Find A.A." information.
- If it's not a big cost thing to AA, it's not a big deal.
- Stories may be outdated but the connectivity is still relevant.
- Pamphlet makes me want to bring home the bacon, fry it up in a pan, and never let you forget that you are a man. It's outdated. If it's not a big cost thing to AA, it's not a big deal. We should change the title to Fallen Women.
- Relevance comes from us, to bring it up to date. We must do the change.
- It's interesting that we are considering all these new and updated pamphlets and we're not sure if we are going to support La Vina.

\*Comments from floor at assembly; Bob; read the BB and read the stories,

**Brian: announcement RENVYPAA:** Reno has re-formed a young peoples committee know as RENVYPAA formally know as ANNYPAA we are currently looking forward to supporting this Assembly and looking for your guys support. We are currently putting together a bid packet to bring SWCYPAA (South West Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous) to the Reno area. We will be having a lot of events and doing a lot of out reach within the state of Nevada and parts of California. We will be working with Las Vegas quite a bit too. Thank you very much

### DCM reports

**District 9: read by Paula (GSR/Treasurer) for John F.** Hi everyone my name is John F. I'm the DCM for District nine in Las Vegas. I am currently on vacation that was planned many months in advance. District 9 is alive and well. We had an event on January 17 where we did a step study on steps eight and nine and it was well attended. Our district officers are as follows. Our treasurer is Paula S. Secretary is Vickie M. Events Coordinator is Randy W. And Robert S is GSR at large. We plan on completing our step study this year. And also developing an out reach program to get more general service representation in the district. I'll see you in September. Yours in service, John F.

**District 10A: given by Amelita, the DCM stepped down** Hi everybody, my name is Amelita, GSR for the Elko Group. I am giving a report for District 10A because Carol asked me. Our DCM stepped down & were currently looking for our Alternate to fill the position. As of yesterday we still haven't found him! Our District meets 6 times a year, on the odd months. At the last meeting, I gave my GSR report of attending the NAGSC roundtables in Reno & my second PRAASA in Utah. I shared the General Service Committee Roster with members and asked them to review & give suggestions at our next meeting in May what workshops they want in our District. So we will be inviting Committee Chairs to Elko to share information. We are looking for ways to increase interest in service in our District, so if anyone has any ideas, please see me. We have two Native American groups in our District. However they do not have service structures (I hope to see that change someday). One is located on the Duck Valley Reservation. They are called "Native American A.A.", and meet 7:00 PM every Tuesday night at the Tribal Wellness Center. The other Native American Group meets Thursday noon at Elko Indian Colony. Other groups in our District include; Elko Group – 9:00 AM, noon & 5:15 PM daily, Men's Group – 6:00 PM Monday, Carlin Crystal Light – 7:00 PM Tuesday, Spring Creek Squad – 7:00 PM Wednesday, & Friday Speaker Group – hosts a speaker meeting every Friday at 8:00 PM. Anyone interested in carrying the message to Elko, please see Julie Alternate GSR for the group. Wave your hand Julie, this is her first Assembly. Serenity in the Rubies Campout is July 24 - 26, flyers are on the table.

**District 10B: Samantha G.** District 10B has \_\_\_ GSR(s) in attendance today. District 10B has four registered Groups and one not registered yet and we currently have active Groups in Battle Mountain and Winnemucca. We had gotten off our schedule with our district meetings, but we are back on track now. Also, we were able to fund some awesome workshops last year which drew our account balance down to \$360.00 so we've been discussing the principle of Tradition 7. I was requested as by one of the Groups to attend one of their business meetings to explain how the DCM is funded, what our district account balance is, PRAASA, and which service events is the DCM funded for. One Group has already increased their monthly contributions. We hope informing the Groups will encourage them to want to participate more. GSRs voted to contribute the 7th Tradition basket passed during District meetings to the district account, not the hosting Group. We had elected a district Secretary last fall, but they never showed up again. So we still need a secretary, treasurer and alternate DCM. At our last District meeting we discussed 3 of the agenda items with lively conversations. District 10B is planning a workshop on the "12 Concepts" on April 25<sup>th</sup> and Joyce Y. and Merl C. will be the presenters; flyers are on the table by the door and it's on our Area 42 website. I would encourage districts or groups in the planning stages of an event to email all DCMs to ask if there is already an event scheduled for that date. Maybe we could even put it on the Area website as "planning" to see if there's something on that date. This will decrease the chances of double-booking and therefore members won't have to choose between events planned on the same date and each event may have more participation. We're also trying to get Madeline P. to present on "How to keep the rooms safe" sometime this summer. Thank you for allowing me to serve, Samantha

**District 11: Debra R.** District 11 is alive & well. We are having our annual Kingston Campout July 24 – 26, looking forward to another great time. The bookshelf group has morning meetings 7 days a week & 3 night meetings. We have 2 active meetings in District 11 & 1 unknown. District 11 is privileged to work the soda booth, as a result my sent me to PRAASA. It was great in an over-whelming way and I was thrilled to attend. Thank you all so much for helping us to participate, Debra R.

**District 12: Ed L.** Hi everybody my name is Ed L. DCM for District 12 and I am an Alcoholic. It is great to be here as a DCM for our district I believe ours is the largest area wise district in Nevada. It can take upwards of six hours or so just to drive the entire district. I had a great teacher the past two years as an alternate DCM and we have a great group of GSRs and Committee members dedicated to making AA a great place in District 12. For the first time in recent memory we actually have alternates for every position. The district struggled the last year or so with participation but that seems to have changed recently as people are stepping up and taking more commitments. I look forward to working with this great group of people and will strive to make our district a better place. I have some big shoes to fill as Roberta did so much in two short years and I can't thank her enough for all she has and still teaches me. We as a district will strive to bring all we can to our members in the form of information, training, and activities.

This month in AA is always crazy but so rewarding and fun. I attended my first PRAASA ever a few weeks

ago. It was both informational and a lot of fun. Then there were the Round Tables two weeks ago and our district business meeting and Birthday speaker meeting all on the same day. Now we are here with all of our family enjoying yet another fun event. It is said in AA if you aren't having fun you are doing it wrong for we insist on having fun. I have also been told that if you talk more than three minutes you are more than likely lying so I will sit down and listen thank you for allowing me to be of service. Sincerely, Ed L.

**District 13: Alison S.** Hi, my name is Alison and I'm an alcoholic. I'm honored to serve as the DCM for District 13 where all of our meetings are held at the Triangle Club, in Las Vegas. While meeting attendance seems to be down slightly, our district is doing well. We have between 7-10 members who regularly attend our district business meetings. Our committee reps continue going to their respective committee meetings and bring us their monthly reports. Everyone is very excited to get involved and they all have great ideas on how to make the district more productive. I'm grateful to have been able to attend my 2<sup>nd</sup> PRASSA earlier this month and look forward to sharing with our members the idea's that I learned at the round-table presentations. Wow what an exciting and emotional weekend! Our District speaker meeting is doing very well. Our GSR's run the meeting and are doing a wonderful job at getting speakers that have good solid recovery and experience with general service. The meeting is held on the second Tuesday of every month and starts at 6:30 pm at the Triangle Club. We have a workshop coming up titled, "What to do when you're new" that will be held on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> between 2 - 3:30pm. Our goal is to educate newcomers on what's important to focus on at the very beginning. I look forward to going on a, "DCM Date" with a couple of the DCM's from nearby districts so we can share our ideas and experience with each other and maybe even host a service event together! Thanks for allowing me to serve. Respectfully submitted, Alison

**District 14: Anne Y.** Everything is going well we only have one group without a GSR. We still need several district positions filled. We will be having our quarterly speaker meeting on April 18th at 7pm at Village Church in Incline Village NV. With a desert potluck. Our District Jamboree will be August 9th at the Truckee Regional Park in the lower pavilion. One of our groups has been having an issue with signing court cards so they got a stamp to use instead of people signing their names and phone numbers.

**District 15: Tim S. no report**

**District 16: Cathy H.** I am Cathy, and I am an alcoholic. I am so very honored to be the new elected DCM for District 16. I was elected to this position in the January elections, Andrea B. is now the alternate DCM, Our treasurer is still Sharon G. and in the course of this year after her long time of service she wishes to step down and find a replacement. Barbara M. has stepped up and volunteered herself as alternate chair, Nate is now the district recording secretary, Stacy P. was voted in as the new Christmas Affair chair. Stacy has also stepped up to be the District's liaison for NNIG. On December 6, 2014 the district held their 29<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas Affair. The Affair was, as always, a good turnout. There were several panels that were very informative. Another wonderful Turkey dinner with all the trimmings was served by Julie C. With such a beautiful, well-planned and organized day I was impressed that the deficit for the whole Affair was only \$50.02. I share this with all of you due to the fact that I know most of Northern Area 42 the last few years have been unable to attend due to the Christmas Affair is on the same day as the NAGSC meeting. This coming year will be the 30<sup>th</sup> year District 16 has put this Affair on, and knowing of the conflict of scheduling for the Christmas Affair will be held on December 19, 2015. You are all welcome to come join us, so set the day aside! At January's meeting Merl C. explained a little about Unity day. Barbara M. stepped up to attend the upcoming Unity day meetings to keep us informed. While Merl C. was there he gathered all the emails to include our district in the next concept study. There are already flyers out for the Upcoming Unity day this May. 16 Unity day will be an event of having fun and fellowship for all. Several districts in the Reno area along with NNIG will be hosting this event. "Looking back and looking forward: 80 years of AA Unity". There is going to be a few panels, and the topics of these panels will include unity and anonymity followed by a potluck dinner. At February's District 16 meeting Helen from NNIG along with Mike L. the Corrections Facilities chair for Northern Area 42 attended. Both Helen and Mike were happy to answer any and all questions we had about our local jail to carry the AA message into the facility. On March 6-8 I was able to attend PRAASA in Layton Utah courtesy of the district fully funding me. Worried that the trip cost over what I was allotted due to last-minute planning, and no ride. I would like to thank the people in the northern area that got me there under budget. Merl C, Joyce B, and Cyndy, to name a few. On a personal note this trip took me way out of my comfort zone. A 10 Hour road trip with people I've never met before, and I will never forget. The same goes with one of my roommates Brittney. I attended two DCM workshops and met people from Hawaii and Alaska and one from right here in Tonopah. I can go on and on about my trip and all of the information but what stands out in my trip is how willing to help me out to make the start of this experience as DCM so much easier. I have never felt so excepted and comfortable. Julie C, Emily, Tinna, thank you so very much. March 14, I was able to attend the roundtables with several GSR's and some alternates from the district. Also was able to attend the DCM meeting prior to this given me lots of good information to pass along to the GSR's. Last but not least our District stepped up to host the next NAGSC meeting in June. After the Roundtables, Carol attended our District meeting on March 17,

2015. Carol B. the Alternate Delegate of Area 42, and NAGSC chair, came with Paul E., Area 42's Sec. and my service sponsor to answered questions about the Roundtables, the agenda items, and the Area 42 assembly. Carol told me during one of our conversations that "We can't say yes the last were asked." I would just like to say thanks again to Carol and Paul for helping us be better prepared for this Assembly.

**District 17: James S.** Hi I'm James and I'm an alcoholic I'm the new DCM for District 17. I'm going to keep this short. District 17 is spread out from Death Valley, Sand Valley, Beatty, & Pahrump, it is a big area. As DCM I'm working on getting more members into service work. I plan on putting on a service workshop. We have a lot of open positions in the District. I hope to teach our groups and people about service work and how important it is. Thank you

**District 18 "dark" (currently inactive) (groups are now part of District 6 & District 12)**

**District 19 Damon G. no report**

**District 20: Larry B.** The District remains largely stable in both attendance and donations. Service commitments at the district level have improved slightly with a strong showing from Susanville Fellowship and Sunday Serenity. Chester group also continues an enduring commitment to service. Our outreach efforts are in the early stages but we see some positive responses. We have several active committees and some future events in the planning stage. Yours in service.

**District 21: Gabriel translated by Tony** We have 18 groups in Las Vegas, Nevada, we visit most of the groups but we meet every Monday and we have District meetings with the GSRs every Thursday during the month. We have an H&I group and we go to hospitals, West Care, psychiatric hospitals, and the jails in Henderson Nevada. We pass out literature to all the Hispanic clinics. We are working with Public Information. We have a form that is going to be August 9<sup>th</sup> 2015. We are still working on La Vina with subscriptions. Archives we are looking for articles about A.A. in our Area, we are trying to get all of our old archives and get them together. Thank you, Gabriel

**District 22: reported by Tony (translator) for Henry (went home sick)** 1. District 22

Just a little information from District 22 from the City of Reno: We approximately have 150 members including Reno, Carson City, South Tahoe and Incline Village. 22nd district is pushing our Nevada State Convention, which will be held this year, and supporting our Convention of the State of Nevada that will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada the weekend of June 20-22.

District wants to formulate a Committee for the support of the La Vina

2. La Vina Committee report: Chair – Apolinar, Secretary – Antonio, Treasurer - Martin

Report: The Committee meets once a month. We go once a week to the groups and make presentations. We present La Vina at all group anniversaries and we have a table with La Vina and subscription applications  
Thank you for letting me serve - Apolinar

**Lyle C Area 42 Hospitality chair for PRAASA at International Convention:** Anyone that is going to the convention that would like to volunteer please come see me or email me.

**Spanish Translator: Tony** Thank you all who have sent your reports in ahead of time. This makes my service so much easier.

**Area Registrar: Emily C.** Online registration is working bear with us. Thank you all who took the time to pre-register for this assembly, we had a great turn out! Julie and I are currently working to get all groups updated. GSO has sent out an email requesting that as many groups as possible are updated by the 8th of May so that the GSO directory is as up to date as possible. In order for this directory to be as accurate as possible please make sure that if your meeting has recently moved (or not so recently) that the address I have listed for the meeting place is correct. If you are not sure feel free to stop by and see me, I can quickly take a look. Additionally, I have learned that if a group is listed without any contact for the group they become unknown and that meeting is not listed in the directory. If you are a DCM and notice that you have unknown groups in your district, my suggestion would be to encourage them to at least list a contact so that the group might be listed whether they want to have a GSR or not. Finally, I was able to attend PRAASA in Salt Lake City and as always had some wonderful take-a-ways. I also had some wonderful support! Julie was able to step in during our Registrar Roundtable while I was very ill and sent to my room to recuperate. She went over some of the questions we had and was able to glean ideas for us to implement, some of which you may have noticed this weekend! Thank you Julie, and thank you all for allowing me to be of service! Emily C. Total Count 220 total 178 voting

**Alt Registrar (NAGSC): Julie C.** As a result of the many questions, concerns and confusion generated at the January GSR training, Roberta L (past trustee) recommended that I contact Group Services at GSO. Tracy O, the Group Service Coordinator, provided answers to most of your concerns. Emily and I sent an email to all the DCMs documenting the process as we know it today. We are working diligently to get updated contact information from all the new GSRs. Emily and I send out a heartfelt thanks to all the DCMs and GSRs who called and emailed us letting us know when they received their packets. Please know that we are here to support you, but we continue to need your help. GSRs: Please let us know if you don't get your packets. We will contact GSO to see what happened and most importantly to get your packets to



you as soon as possible. DCMs: Please follow-up with your GSRs and encourage them to complete the Group Change Forms. Let us know if there is anything we can do to help you get your groups information updated. I am grateful that I was able to attend PRAASA. At the registrar roundtable I learned that when GSO reports the % of groups contributing for our area, if we have inactive groups that are still listed as active that it skews our % downward. The percentage of groups contributing is actually higher than reported because we *do* have inactive groups still listed as active. I also learned that in other areas many districts have their own registrars who help the DCMs keep up with group contact changes. I was very moved at PRAASA; the presentations were well thought out and touched my heart. I was brought to tears during the Past Trustee panel. My covers were blown with regard to rigidity. Have I perpetuated rigidity through sponsorship? Just because I was taught something doesn't make it so. Am I being inclusive to all, or just to those that I think about? Am I using my experience as an excuse to exclude people who are different? "It's not been my experience..." But I was also given hope; hope that I am not alone. Lately I have been struggling with my spiritual connection and my concept of a higher power. It has been a quiet struggle that I have been sharing with only my sponsor and a few close friends. I have had shame and questioned why and how this could happen after all these years. The past trustees and all the panelists showed courage in their convictions and willingness to tell the truth. Am I willing to be true to myself? Am I willing to share my vulnerabilities even at the risk of being hurt? Am I only thinking of myself and my own safety or am I thinking about the still suffering alcoholic who may have the same struggles, but hasn't yet learned our coping skills? I have much to digest. It was a profound PRAASA. Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Alternate Registrar, Julie C.

#### **SAGSC Bridging the GAP: no report**

**NAGSC Special Needs / Remote Communities: Roberta B.** As Chair of the Special Needs and Remote Communities Committee I am gratified by the number of members who are willing to participate by keeping me apprised of what is happening in all corners of the Northern Area. Committee members are from South Lake Tahoe, Elko, Austin, Hawthorne, Reno, Stagecoach and Chester. I am still looking for volunteers from the Bishop/Mammoth area, Fallon/Fernley and Gardnerville. Please contact me if you are interested. I sent a short survey to all the DCMs and Committee Chairs to try to determine the needs of the Northern Area so the committee can focus its efforts on the areas with the most special needs or may need support because of the remoteness of the community. I went to Elko and spent some time with Amelita who is the Elko committee member and I look forward to visiting all of the other areas during this rotation. I spoke with the Special Needs desk at GSO prior to sending out the survey and learned that GSO sent out a survey and received less than a dozen replies. I have already received several replies and hope to get more at this Assembly, so yea Northern Nevada. If you have a completed survey, please give it to me before the end of the Assembly. At the end of March, I will tabulate the replies and then take a group conscious of the Committee to determine where to put our efforts for the rest of the rotation. Because of the distances involved, there will not be any regular committee meetings at this time. We will communicate by e-mail and telephone. I welcome e-mails or phone calls from any AA member or group that has special needs or has problems because of the remoteness of the community. My contact information is on the Roster. Thank you for allowing me to serve. Roberta B.

#### **Break 4:27 PM for Dinner and Saturday night speaker Joel C.**

March 29, 2015

8:35 AM Open with Serenity prayer (Erica)

Anonymity statement (Libby)

Tradition 9 (Phil)

**PRAASA: committee report Byron:** no PRAASA committee has been formed yet, PRAASA is held first full weekend in March, (now a rotation process within the 15 Areas) Area 42 will be the first in this process in 2018, Area 42 has hosted PRAASA the most. When Sophie contacted me back about 6 or 8 months ago, she asked me to explore alternative potential sites for hosting PRAASA in the Las Vegas area. I could not do this on my own so I asked for help from Justin P & Alan V both of whom have had some experience at site selection both in Las Vegas and in California. I also was fortunate enough to have the input from a gal by the name of Christen who is the vice president of a company in Chicago that her sole job is to run convention/conferences in the Las Vegas market and I also had the help and input of a neighbor who schedules conferences/conventions at her facility both of whom are very knowledgeable about all the people in Las Vegas that could be of help to me. Christen was very helpful because she took the 2014 PRAASA and created a flow chart, that all of the space requirements and time requirements. The major part of PRAASA that is a challenge is the space requirement, we need 16 to 18 break out rooms simultaneously on Friday evening and Saturday afternoon, in addition to needing a main meeting room and then also to host the Saturday night banquet. I talked to about 13 facilities in the Las Vegas market, so here is my report

the room price for Friday and Saturday night was between \$175.00 and \$225.00, they also require between \$40,000 and \$50,000 in minimum food comment and also asking for a minimum of 700 room comment and that went up as high as 1500. So all of those things make PRAASA in the Las Vegas market potentially very expensive. Sophie; This is an event for the region, this event is for hopefully a GSR in Wallace Idaho will come or be able to come as well as a big group in Phoenix Arizona lets say and thinking of the region as a whole and wanting to foster our unity. The other thing is that Area42 is really unusual that we fund our officers, we will help support DCMs, and GSRs to a certain extent we are very generous with our 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions in order to support members in service to participate in PRAASA that's very unusual there are lots of Areas that don't do that. Yes this is Las Vegas "turn" but we as Area 42 are putting on this event for the region, we need something to compare this to. So I'm just going to throw this out to the Reno Convention Bureau, which I did and I used the same flow chart that Byron had. This is a very good tool because it is in the language of the industry. What I found is that looking at Reno could be half the cost. So we need your feed back on moving this from Las Vegas to Reno.

\*Comments from the floor; Cherie; would be logical, Sue; Q. are they considering coffee in the price? Byron; A. no, Rhonda; should consider Reno, Amelita; yes in favor of Reno, Rick; get more in Las Vegas, but would still like to see in Reno, John; Q. how do cost compare to Boise? Byron; A. I don't have that information but the room cost for San Diego and Layton were \$115.00 to \$125.00, Erica; Q. did we go to the Las Vegas convention board? Did we say we were non-profit? Is there anything else that is going on that weekend that would jack up the prices? Byron; A. yes, yes, it is nascar weekend and it is peak season in Las Vegas, but we got dispensation from the Delegate committee to consider the first and second weekends in March and this seem to make no difference, Vince; Q. when was the last time it was held in Area 42 and where? What resources were used to research airfare prices? I feel we should keep with the rotation, Byron; A. 2003 in Reno, Sophie; A used kayak, Gary; Reno is in the middle of every thing, Roberta; I was privileged to serve PRAASA in Reno in 2003 we were asked to try to keep the price low, Janell; keep unity in mind and try to reach as many people as possible, John; Reno would be more affordable, Q. did you consider off site rooms and outlying areas (Henderson etc.), Byron; A. yes, Leticia; in 2012 LVYPAA held young peoples convention WACYPA in Las Vegas, Whitney; Reno is half the cost would the funding be different, Sophie; A. no, Tony; Q. Spanish district could we hold it in alternate weekends? Byron; A. yes, but it would not make a difference, Darryl; Q. has Tahoe or Laughlin been considered? Byron; A. no, Don; 2003 attendance was about 1300,

\*Sense 20% Las Vegas 80% Reno

#### **Old Business:**

**Ad-Hoc projector committee report Cathy H.** The committee consisted of Mike L. Area 42 corrections facilities chair, Vincent C. area 42 panels 65 Treasurer, Cathy H. District 16 DCM, and Phil W. Area 42's new chair. All the communications from October till mid-January were focused on the cost of a good projector. Cost of a good projector that would suit our needs were in \$350 range. On January 15 it was brought up that for \$100 a day you can rent a projector for the whole weekend Friday, Saturday, and Sunday if return on time by Monday or \$100 a day \$300 total for the weekend the price of the projector. With the feeling that if the bulb went bad it would cost half the price of the total projector. This ideal was quickly shot down due to traveling with of rented piece of equipment you are responsible for damages, and that a bulb for this kind of projector last about 10,000 hours. It was quickly found out that there was a projector available at this convention center. Phil W. on his own time took the long trip to check it out. He found that it would suit the areas needs for our assemblies. There was a few communications between several of the people on the committee at the Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly a few weeks ago. The projector in question is available to area 42 assembly with the rental of the building.

\*Comments from the floor; Phil; one of the reasons why I did the little slide show last night was to check out the projector that we already rent we have just never used it, Vince; the one we used for voting was hard to see, Phil; A. that was a different projector,

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> reading of proposal: Proposal**

To integrate the Finance Guidelines, approved at Assembly 09/08/12 with the Area Guidelines approved at Assembly 03/29/14, creating one document .This will be done by placing the entire document called the Finance Guidelines into the back of the Area 42 Guidelines as an addendum The process to amend **any** part of the integrated document will remain as currently stated in the Area 42 Guidelines, page 12: Section 7.0 (1st reading at Assembly, 2nd reading with discussion at the next Assembly, vote to follow) Proposal will become effective immediately upon passage.

**History:** Up until the recent revision of the Area Guidelines our financial policies were scattered throughout the document. To create the finance Guidelines, all mention of finances were pulled out of the Area Guidelines, organized, updated and re-formatted. The body approved the updated and re-formatted policies on 9/8/12. When the financial policies were scattered throughout the document they were subject to the amendment process stated on page 12 of the Area Guidelines. I propose returning the re-formatted

policies, now called “the Finance Guidelines” to the original Area Guidelines document where they will again be subject to the same agreed-upon process for amendments.

**Definition-** Addendum-an item of additional material, typically omissions, added at the end of a book or other publication. Roberta B, Paul E, Phil W

**Paul E. read Historical Data on Proposal from Past Assembly Minuets**

Sept. 2014 minuets;

Motion from Claudia “To Read previous assembly minutes on a topic, in order to clarify issue up for vote.” 95% in favor 5% against, minority asked how are we going to implement this? What if its not the previous assembly? Isn’t it our responsibility to read the minutes before hand? Anyone want to change vote? Will be voting again, Claudia reread, then re voted 70% in favor 30% oppose. **Motion passes**

Sept. 2013 minuets;

**Joan reading second reading of amended guidelines, 3:30pm**

David K. Moved to adopt proposed guidelines as read. Seconded and now discussion;

Some corrections to correct redundancy consider adding Finance guidelines to this as addendum, need a separate motion.

March 2014 minuets;

Paul motion, “I would like to make a motion to add the Area 42 General Service Assembly Finance Guidelines to the Delegate Area 42 General Service Assembly as an appendix, so that both are one document. Paul E.” Seconded, Discussion, Cindy, would this affect each document as a whole. Cherie explained an appendix is something that can be modified separately. Ruth stated these are two documents traveling together. Phil, we should take care not to change these on a whim. Called question, voted to finish discussion 99%, one minority talk, Now voting to accept motion, 95% in favor to adopt motion, minority opinion, these finance guidelines should be treated as important as area guidelines, this may cause confusion in the future as to changes in the process. Maybe we are rushing into this and need more time to understand the implications, Sophie agrees. Mike asked if anyone in majority wants to change vote, several people raise hand. Going to vote again. Reread motion. 65% in favor 35% not in favor, Mike explained voting members to stand up 121 voting members need 66% to approve which is 80 votes we got 70 votes to approve . now counting not in favor 45. **does not pass**

Sept. 2014 minuets;

1<sup>st</sup> reading of Proposal

This brings us to where we are now. Thank you, Paul, Dale 2<sup>nd</sup> proposal.

**\*No discussion; unanimously approved**

**New Business:**

Erica; Q. BCC when emailing why do we do this? Paul; A. I was told the reason we use BCC in for anonymity purposes, Carol; the DCMs are probably going to get things at least twice from Paul and their North or South Secretary, but its really important that the GSRs receive that, I will tell you what happened about 4 or 5 years ago there was somebody that had an address that was Las Vegas something and they changed it and we didn’t know it and the email went to somebody in Los Angeles who was really upset about the stuff he was getting in his email, I mean it was real nasty I privy was to the email he was sending back and then when he figured out that it was Alcoholics Anonymous he became apologetic, so this can become a big anonymity break, if we knew it was just everyone here there would be no problem but sometimes weird things happen, Mike; it also protects us from spammers they love mass emailing, Rhonda; 1. in the Archives in Las Vegas there are email addresses because before we BCC there was no, everybody just emailed everybody and I don’t think its appropriate and it’s a lot of work for me whenever I scan those documents I have to black all of that out, so keep me in mind 2. BCC me on everything I don’t care if I get it 10 times, Fred; we already have the Area 42 web site with a NAGSC/SAGSC link, Q.Would it be just as simple to put information on those links and just send out an email saying that its updated and the link to where its located? Phil A. not everything goes on that web site and some of our stuff is confidential, Rick; there is an alternative way to do this and that is Google documents, Sue; spammers can get them if not BCC, \*Sense; unanimous to use BCC and have DCMs forward

**What’s on your Mind?**

Tom; send a agenda item to GSC to have a committee to revise and update pamphlets on a regular basis, Claudia; this is my 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> Assembly and would like to say that this was one of the nicest assemblies that I have been to, Samantha; Q. Do we know where we are with the inventory we took last year? Phil; A. We are going to go over some this at the Sept. Assembly, Jacque; her group wants to expel a member and would like some input, Phil; did you put that in the ask in basket, Janell; if that person is there to gets sober, love and tolerance of others is our code, John; clubs can expel a person, we don’t want to disturb the meeting but we want to be reasonable to the person, Debbie; thank you for the yummy coffee and all of the snacks in the morning, David; the person with the dilemma about expelling a person Joel addressed that last night in his talk, Gary; just in the last 2 months we had to ask a secretary to step down as a secretary.

**Delegate: Mike:** You all changed my perception on the agenda items yesterday, on the Report & Charter committee, thank you for educating me.

Break 10 mins.

**Ask it Basket:**

Roberta L; (stump the stars)

Joel C: Q. We recently had a member go from a verbal aggressive to now a physical assault on the secretary, we made an incident report at the police station and sent an email to the aggressor, was it ok to make a police report? A. Yes, our Traditions of anonymity don't shield us from criminal acts; we are not above the law.

Marita R; Q. Can we move the literature table into the other room? A. I think it sounds like a great idea. Q. In the spirit of rotation could we have assigned tables by District as we always have the same groups on the floor and others are always in the back, rather than first come first serve? A. You ask the Chair to take a sense of the Assembly and have a group conscience.

Julian R; Q. Why do we not pass the "pink can" at the Assembly? A. That would be the Assemblies choice. Collections are made by the group and it is there decision of where the money goes. (green cans for ASL)

Sophie K; Q. How the delegate decides what items we discuss and which ones we take a sense of the Assembly on? A. The Delegate serves A.A. as a whole, when the Delegate goes to the Conference they bring a sense of their Area not an instructed vote, the other part of the question is how we decide, the focus is usually on what committee the Delegate serves on and then what they might think are hot topics.

Joyce Y; Q. My group wants to expel a member because they are unfriendly, sometimes rude, and sometimes cross talks and I think it's wrong it violates the Traditions? A. Tradition 3, we can't deny you A.A. I would suggest that you try to take the person aside with a couple of members and to see if things could be worked out, always remember we are sick people and love and tolerance is our code.

Byron F; Q. Giving the fact that the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions are in both the Service Manual and in the Big Book why don't we suggest canceling publication of the 12 & 12, that would save a great deal of money and eliminate some redundancy? A. That is a perfect suggested Conference agenda item and as an individual you can send that forward or your Group or your District or as an Area. Q. Has location round up been decided on? A. Not yet.

Joyce Y; Q. When the Area 42 GSR survival guide is updated should we consider adding dark district to the glossary of terms? A. I think this is an incredible idea, but maybe we just do away with the language of dark district and should call them what they are "inactive".

Roberta L; Q. What would be an example of a floor action at the GSC and why would it be done as a floor action? A. Well there are several reasons; lets say that I'm at the Conference and I'm a participant and something that I want to be discussed that I felt was of immanent importance I would introduce it at one of the allocated times as a floor action, there are only certain times during the Conference that you rush to the microphone and introduce a floor action. Sometimes a committee takes no action on an item and I wanted it to come to a vote so I bring it up as a floor action.

**Phil W:** Gave thank you's to all.

Asked for a District from the South to volunteer to host in Sept., Bud L. DCM from District 7 volunteered.