

Area 42 Pre-Conference Assembly

March 23 - 25, 2001

Tonopah Convention Center

Tonopah, NV

Friday, March 23, 2001

Kathy S., Area Chair, opened the Assembly at 6:30 PM., with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. She introduced the distinguished guests, including the visiting delegate, past delegates, current delegate, and past trustees in attendance, and reminded everyone to ask them questions. She then read the Service Preamble. Debbie read Concept 3 for us, explaining the Right of Decision.

Area Officer Reports

Delegate – Joan M.: She introduced herself as Panel 51, Area 42 delegate. She remembered when she first came to an Assembly as a GSR. She is very happy that we elected her to do this job, and humbled by it. She said she had a large stack of paper from GSO, including a letter thanking Area 42 for our donation of \$200 beyond the \$800 suggested. There are 456 groups in our area, 38.4 % of which gave contributions in 2000, versus 38.3% in 1999. She received a letter telling interested parties how to correspond with inmates, and how to join an international phone meeting group. In January 2001, there were 122,000 hits on the AA website. Joan hopes that she can do for us, what we expect her to do, and wants us to vote our groups' conscience.

Alternate Delegate – John S.: He mentioned that at the Alternate Delegate round table at PRAASA, they determined that praying for the Delegate's health is their main job. He also mentioned that he now is on the Las Vegas Roundup board for two more years, as he is the chair of SAGSC. John thanked John F. for helping with the Service Festival back in February. He added that he and Kathy S. had spoken the following the week at the Spanish Service Festival. He announced that on May 20, Joan will speak in Las Vegas, giving a delegates' report.

Area Chair – Kathy S. : Kathy spoke of how honored she was to serve as Chair, and how good PRAASA was in Spokane. She mentioned that there are things coming up in the South that we will be hearing about from others here tonight.

Alternate Chair- Joyce P.: Joyce said that she is grateful to be here. She reminded GSRs to ask questions. She thanked everyone for allowing her to go to PRAASA. Joyce is happy that they now have a Special Needs Committee in NAGSC. The next NAGSC meeting will be in Winnemucca.

Area Treasurer- John G.: He mentioned how hard it was to get the paperwork done at the bank, in order to turn over the checkbook. He thanked John S. for his help. Our Area 42 checking account balance, as of 3/21/01 is \$11,698.38, the savings balance is \$7,295.79 (of that \$1,295.79 is the PRAASA 2003 deposit), and we have a prudent reserve of \$1,000. This gives us an overall total of \$19,994.17. John mentioned that he enjoyed PRAASA, especially the treasurer's folder he saw at the round tables there. He encouraged groups to make their contributions to Area 42 and GSO.

Area Secretary - Steve H.: Steve mentioned that he was happy to be here, and he had enjoyed the round tables at PRAASA. He learned that most of the Secretaries there took minutes on laptop during meetings, and he is trying it now.

Alternate Secretary – Barbara M.: Barbara mentioned that when she ran for this job she did not know what the duties were. She was surprised when she found out that a big box and a lot of literature went with the job. She reminded the Assembly that registration will reopen at 0730 tomorrow.

Alternate Treasurer Byron F. was absent (in Tasmania). John S. had the SAGSC checkbook, for those from the south needing checks.

Area Registrar- Sam H.: Sam thanked the body for funding to PRAASA. He is looking forward to PRAASA 2003 in Reno. He mentioned that at the Registrars' round table, one area used color cards for voting. He was impressed with what some of the other registrars did. The biggest problem is keeping current information. Each DCM has been given a packet to update. He pointed out how out of date the Western Directory is and that is why we need the updates before May, so that they will be in next edition. Sam asked the new GSRs to come and get the forms from him.

Alternate Registrar – David W.: David welcomed all the new GSRs and DCMs, and thanked all the past folks who are here. He will soon celebrate 10 yrs, and mentioned that Spokane was his first PRAASA. He has sent packets out to all DCMs.

Area Archivist – Roger R.: He is an archivist, not an artifact. Roger pointed out that we are going to discuss an archivist pamphlet tomorrow. He stated that Spokane was his sixth PRAASA. His thrust has been to get group histories together. He asked people to provide their group's history. Charlie K. then gave a report on his group's history: Alive at Five in Incline Village, which started in February 1998.

Alternate Archivist – Jack F.: Jack said that it has been an honor to be an Alternate Archivist. He let us know that they will have an archive display tomorrow in the blue room, with group history forms available. They are getting a complete collection of grapevines, from a late member, which goes all the way back to Volume 1, number 1. Our archives will need a new storage place, as the one we had been using is closing. He mentioned that he enjoyed PRAASA.

DCM Reports

Dist. 1 Lloyd H.: Mentioned that this was one of the most organized assemblies he has seen. He had his district stand up. They are putting together workshops, as they have some good experience.

Dist. 2 Eric S.: Mentioned that he has been traveling around to the 36 groups in his District, but only about 5 or 6 have active GSRs. They are thinking about their Spaghetti feed. He mentioned he is back after 2 years out.

Dist. 3 Bruce T.: Introduced his staff. In January he found out that his district was host for this Assembly. He didn't know that Mike D. leaving would affect his life so much. He thanks to John F.. Their next Dist. meeting is April 8.

Dist. 4 Ed dP.: He asked his district to stand up. Meeting attendance and participation are improved. They now have 8 to 10 out of 30 groups showing up. Now have alternates at their service positions. Contributions are up, as he was funded 100% to PRAASA by his Dist. First that he had been to. They are excited about GSR survival training, and are setting that up. Founders Day film will be shown June 16 at the Reno Triangle club.

Dist. 5B David B.: He was privileged to go to PRAASA. He introduced his GSRs. He has talked to Dist 3 about some kind of joint function. He got some good ideas about approaching groups not active. They are still planning their annual picnic in Sept or Oct.

Dist. 5A John R.: He just became DCM in the last 6 weeks. They have had 6 at their district meetings. They have not had good support from the groups yet. He is trying to get it organized.

Dist. 6 Ray G.: He had his District stand. He mentioned that he and his alternate will be trying to hit all the meetings in his dist. Now planning a Founders Day picnic. He wants to get Charlie K. to do GSR survival training.

Dist. 7 Al T.: He is no longer the DCM, he moved to a new district. He introduced the new DCM, Pat G.: Pat thanked Al. The picnic will be back at Mt. Charleston, August 19, with a live band. Advance tickets will be \$6.

Dist. 8 Sophie K.: She is honored to be the DCM from a district with a long tradition of service. At their last district meeting they discussed financing mileage expenses of DCMs, asking how others do it. They had discussion about remote communities, realized that they are remote. They are doing PI work by putting up signs in glittle towns. Their next meeting is the last Sunday in April, in Gardnerville.

Dist. 9 John K.: John was absent, so Deborah M. filled in. They will be having the April Fools day Massacre, with several speakers. They are also having their annual picnic in Sunset park in June, with a dunk-your-sponsor booth. The district meets monthly.

Dist. 10A Barbara B.: They had their 5 district members stand, who came in from Elko. They are working on making service “recovery friendly”, and making it fun at district meetings. They are also working on ways to fund people to travel to more service functions. Their GSRs are learning about 7th tradition.

Dist. 10B Bob O.: He is a newly elected DCM, even though he has been giving the report as a GSR at the Assembly for the last year. They have 3 active groups in the district, 2 in Winnemucca, and 1 in Battle Mountain. Their annual Unity Days event will be held May 12, 13 at the Humboldt County fairgrounds.

Dist. 12 Crystal K.: Her district is the Fallon area. She went to PRAASA, thanks to NAGSC for funding her there, along with 3 gsr. She learned a lot at the round tables. She is working on a schedule to get to her district’s meeting.

Dist. 13 Mike McM.: He had all of his GSRs stand and introduced his district staff. They are hosting the SAGSC meeting on May 20.

Dist. 14 Bill F.: He said his district was in N. Lake Tahoe, Truckee, out to Sierra City. He said they had 7 GSRs there. In January, they started a District H&I committee, which is going well. He attended PRAASA, along with 3 GSRs. On May 15, they will hold a GSR Survival workshop, in Incline Village-Lake Tahoe. They formed an ad hoc committee to get guidelines for their district officers.

Dist. 15 Ralph M.: He stated that his district is at the TIE club in downtown Las Vegas. Out of 8 groups, they had 6 GSRs at their last district meeting. On April 29, they are having a workshop on Men Sponsoring Men. In June or July they will be having Women Sponsoring Women.

Dist. 16 Judy A.: The district is in Sparks. They now have 9 GSRs, and numerous committee positions. They had 9 at PRAASA.

Dist. 17 Pete C.: Scarlett P. filled in, as Pete was unable to attend due to his new work schedule. This district includes Pahrump, Beatty, and Amargosa Valley. They now have a literature person who travels around to meetings. The district will be running the hot line again soon. They will be having a spiritual meeting at Lovell Canyon in June.

Dist. 18 Don S.: He is GSR for the Sagebrush group in Hawthorne, NV. He attended his first NAGSC meeting in December. He asked who the DCM was, and was railroaded. He is looking for people from his district.

Dist. 20 Bill P.: He has 4 GSRs there tonight. District is NE Calif, including Alturas and Lake Almondor. Candace is speaking for Bill. Founder's Day is coming up June 4, in Lake Almondor, flyers are pending. In June, they will hold the Eagle Lake campout, flyers are pending.

Dist. 21 Julio A.: He thanked Kathy S. and John S. for attending the Spanish Service Festival.

Dist. 22 Julio G.: He was absent.

Standing Committee Chair Reports

Intergroup Liaison South John F.: He was happy he was able to attend PRAASA. He went to the treasurer's round table there. On Feb. 18, the Service Festival was held in Las Vegas, which he chaired. He thanked all who helped for the great turnout. April is Gratitude month, some groups are passing basket second time for Central office. The Gratitude ball will be May 12. Founders Day celebration will be June 23 at First Christian Church.

Intergroup Liaison North Joe R.: He is brand new at this job, he will watch John F. for this weekend and learn. He is trying to get Intergroup and NAGSC to work together.

Las Vegas Roundup Kerri DeR.: Kerri was not present, so John F. filled in. The first meeting will be this Sunday at TIE, at 1 pm. They will continue the 4th Sunday of every month.

Grapevine North Mark C.: He welcomed the newcomers and pointed out the display he brought down. The Grapevine is redoing its catalog in NY, so they might be a little behind. They have 5 on the committee. They will have a booth April 6,7,8 at the Nugget at Spring festival. They are trying to update their records.

PIC South Rick B.: He thanked Deanna, who worked to get big books in all libraries in southern NV. They are now working on replacing the ones that disappeared. He is now working with Angel to get Spanish big books in all libraries. They are working on a website, now looking for a server. They are getting phone numbers in racks in supermarkets.

Treatment Facility North Karen R.: She is working with Jerry S, the former chair. She went to her first PRAASA, and learned a lot about what to do.

CPC North Ralph C.: He is still trying to figure out what he is doing. He has communicated with TJ, the CPC South chair. There will be an Aerospace medical conference on May 8 & 9 in Reno, and he is looking for volunteers. He is still studying the workbook.

CPC South TJ: At their last meeting they had 3 in attendance, which is a new record. They meet the 1st Wednesday of each month, and the new co-chair is Marion S.

They recently did a construction supervisor convention. She thanked the previous chair. She liked the PRAASA round tables, where they discussed the “sponsor a professional” program. She is going to district meetings, and is excited about service.

Corrections North Rick W.: He is still learning the job. He got 20 names and addresses at NAGSC, but forgot why. He is trying to contact DCMs, to see what he can do. His district supported him to PRAASA.

Grapevine South Ray W.: He was elected in January, and he has a committee of 21. They are putting out books at area events. He was glad to meet Mark, the Northern chair.

Special Needs North Sue K.: Their committee was finally approved in December, and they are looking for more help. The NAGSC meeting schedule is being updated to show if meetings are wheel chair accessible. They are trying to put together a special needs workbook, and are now contacting Renie, regarding this. She moderated the round table on special needs on the second night at PRAASA. We are all only temporarily able-bodied people, and we never know when we will have special needs.

Accessibility South Renie S.: Her committee now has 11 members. They had 2 canes donated to the committee. They helped get the Steps Club to put in a wheelchair ramp at the back door. There are now 4 meetings with ASL interpretation. Their pamphlet is complete, and was available on the table. They now have a loan library of audio tapes, which were donated by Las Vegas Audio Taping. They were donated a Braille version of the Big Book and 12 by 12. They also now have “walkmans” in loan library for people to hear tapes. They are still working on an access needs workbooks. She was the round table moderator first night at PRAASA. They are thinking about holding a workshop.

PI north Bob O.: He is newly elected as PI chair, just took over. He will help any way possible.

GSR survival south Phil DeS.: They will have a workshop in Bishop sometime in May.

GSR survival north Charlie K.: He has seen tremendous interest in this manual. They will have a workshop May 15 in Incline Village.

Kathy then adjourned the meeting for the night. She asked the Area Committee to meet in the blue room, while panel presentations were held in the big room.

Area Committee Meeting:

Kathy opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer at 9:30 pm. She announced that we make no decisions in this room, we just have discussions. We have an open format.

Kathy had one item of discussion. Tomorrow’s presentations will be timed by the old system. The existing speaker timing system was put together from a sprinkler timing system, around ten years ago. She has priced standard light systems with built in timers in the \$300 to \$400 range. After some discussion it was decided that a proposal will be written up for presentation at the September assembly.

John G. wanted to discuss the policy of writing checks to cover GSR expenses. John S., who was filling in for Byron F. as SAGSC treasurer, also helped to clarify the

policy. It must be with DCM approval. Pat G. asked for clarification: the GSR should go to his group, district, SAGSC or NAGSC, then to Area 42.

Joan brought up that the Trustees meeting was January 31. The final agenda got to her Feb 19, so she didn't get background information until after PRAASA. Some of the issues are non-controversial. The items to be talked about tomorrow, will be of those which are of most interest to her. Since complete information was not available to give their groups, the GSRs must use right of decision. This will help Joan with a sense of the assembly, because the GSRs have a clue as to how their groups will feel.

John S. mentioned that the south hosts both meetings in odd years, north in even years. Kathy S. said she will discuss which district will host the Fall Assembly at the next SAGSC meeting.

Joan has a print out of all our groups, from a week and a half ago, and will make it available to Sam or anyone.

Barbara mentioned all the literature that we have here, so that people from remote areas should take advantage of this opportunity to buy literature.

Kathy thanked us all for being here, and helping put this thing together.

There was a motion to adjourn, it was seconded, and approved, and the meeting adjourned at 9:49 PM.

Saturday, March 24, 2001

Kathy brought the assembly to order, starting with announcements at 0900. Then she opened with Serenity prayer, and read Concept 1. Steve asked for approval of the September 2000 minutes. They were accepted as printed.

Roberta L. and Dick H. came forward to speak about the hosting of PRAASA 2003 in Reno. Roberta spoke about how PRAASA was near and dear to her heart. The purpose is to develop greater unity between the areas in the pacific region, and prepare the delegates for the conference. They have the contract with the Reno Hilton, special rates from SW airlines, and cooperation with the Reno Convention authority. Things are on track. Many of us will be asked to do a lot of work.

Dick gave a short history of PRAASA and spoke on what it means. Area 42 began bidding to have one when Kevin D. was delegate. It was awarded to us during Dick H.'s term. Next year it will be in Fresno, then Reno after that. Typical attendance is 700 to 800. Roberta and Dick will be looking for volunteers between now and September. We have already received \$2700 from PRAASA 2000, and we will also be getting additional seed money this year from PRAASA 2001. We will make it a fun event.

Old Business:

None was brought up.

New Business:

There was a proposal from Karen R. regarding the Bridging the Gap pamphlet. The proposal reads "That the literature committee at AAWS revise the *Bridging the Gap* pamphlet to reflect the fact that *Bridging the Gap* works with those coming from treatment centers and correctional facilities." This came up at a recent NAGSC meeting.

Currently the pamphlet only addresses treatment centers; the motion asks that it be revised to add that the program is also used with correctional facilities. There was considerable discussion. Locally they are using the same program in both treatment and corrections. Although some heard at PRAASA that there is a separate Bridge program for correctional facilities. A vote was taken, with one opposed and everyone else in favor. When the minority spoke, Scarlett suggested that it might be less expensive to do a whole new pamphlet. However, no one wanted to change their vote, so the proposal passed.

The Secretary stated that 142 voting members were present. Since there was no further new business, a break was taken.

Agenda Item Presentations

Cooperation With The Professional Community

Presentation 1 by Sherry S. was in reference to CPC agenda item 2, which reads **“Discuss ways CPC Committees can help when it comes to individuals referred to AA who focus on problems other than alcohol at AA meetings.”** Sherry spoke on how CPC committees help when individuals referred to AA focus on problems other than alcohol at AA meetings. She suggested mentoring, also suggested that we could get professionals to go to some AA meetings. Kathy then asked for a sense of the assembly. Bob P. said he wanted to change the wording on the open meeting blue cards. Joe R. suggested that CPC study the traditions. David B. suggested that we relate to anything needed to recover from alcoholism, that we be inclusive not exclusive. Lloyd H. suggested that we redirect someone that is not an alcoholic to the appropriate organization. Warren P. says that AA is watered down enough. Joan made a clarification; The issue is that the committee will be discussing this. So she is looking for how we feel on these ways. Amos stated that most of the newcomers to his meeting are dually addicted. Rick B. suggested that any way that CPC can help is good, talking to doctors will help, but probably won't help at meetings. Joan feels she has a sense of the assembly, that it is clear how we feel.

Finance

1. Consider material forwarded from trustees' Finance Committee in response to 2000 Conference Finance Committee request to prepare examples of a “floating cap plan” to help study alternatives to price reductions, which apparently send a mixed message to the Fellowship.
2. Discuss the way many areas separate and account for local convention activities and how these practices may apply to International Conventions.
3. Discuss self-support (a) Area sharing on self-support (b) Discuss a suggestion “That the 2001 Conference appoint an ad hoc Ways and Means committee to discuss and present to the 2002 Conference their ideas and suggestions on how our GSO may become fully self-supporting through AA member and group contributions.” (c) AAWS sharing on self-support.

Ray G. gave the presentation. He started by discussing self-support and an ad hoc committee. Some of the things needed to be discussed are: Paying rent, how to send out money, use the pie to send support, have special meetings to discuss where money and spirituality. How can we help GSO become fully self-supporting? Most of the ideas are already in the three existing pamphlets about self-support. GSO is an extension of our local groups to do things we can't do locally. In 1960 GSO needed \$200k to operate, in 1999 \$8.5M was needed. \$5M of this came from profits from literature sales. Maybe we need an ad-hoc ways and means committee. Ray then talked about question 1 about floating cap. There was \$9.3M was in the fund at the end of 99, but it is now up to \$11M because of success of 2000 International Convention. There is still only \$4.3M from the

groups, so we are still getting too much from literature sales. Only 42% of the groups have donated. This plan should contain Confidence and Trust, a mechanism to review and project levels of the GSO Reserve Fund, and Sharing of this information. We must change our method of adjusting these literature prices, because we expect a large influx of sales when the 4th edition of the Big Book becomes available. Then we could sell literature at cost.

Joan is looking for a yes or no on issue 1, the floating cap plan, and on item 3, the ad hoc committee. Discussion began:

John S. agrees with floating cap plan, item 3 we have studied forever.

Rick addressed item 3. He learned at PRAASA that the avg. contribution per group is \$80 per year. He was in favor of the Canadian system. It would not take much per group increase to make GSO self-supporting. When the sense of the assembly was taken, Question 1 was substantially yes.

Question 3 mostly yes.

Grapevine

Next presentation was by Ray W. on the Grapevine.

1. Consider a request to develop an announcement card about the AA Grapevine that could be distributed to AA groups and read at meetings.
2. Not discussed
3. Consider the suggestion that the AA Grapevine, Inc., refrain from sponsoring or hosting online meetings. This includes meetings of any format, including but not limited to real-time meetings, email meetings, bulletin boards, and forums.
4. Review the following two items forwarded by the General Service Board: (a) that La Vina continue to be published by the AA Grapevine and supported by the General Service Board as a service to the Fellowship; (b) that La Vina continue to be published utilizing AA Grapevine resources in order to achieve efficiencies in production and distribution.

Ray stressed that we need to continue publication of La Vina. It is a service to the Spanish community. At some point the Committee would like to fold into GV, but GV is not self supporting either. They have investigated reducing the size of the magazine to save costs. Committee wants it to continue. 50 bimonthly copies are being sent to Cuba. A CA H&I committee purchases 1000 copies of La Vina per month.

Discussion began with John G., who talked about being a GV rep. Still a lot of people don't know about the GV. He thinks the card is a good thing. Joan M. talked about an online meeting that is run by the GV. Karen R. stated that GV has a website. They have added a section called the "I Say" section, where people put up a topic. Larry spoke about the card for meetings. He doesn't think they should read so much at meetings anyway, against new card. The website is not realtime, so that is not what concerned with.

Sue spoke against Q3, because internet meetings are good. Dave is thinks they already have enough literature, don't need card.

Q1 Develop a card : No by a slim majority

Q3 refrain from online meetings: No by a slim majority.

Called for minority opinion. Rick, Rick, Tina, & Don spoke, then a re-vote.

Changed to yes by a large majority.

Q4 La Vina continue to yes part a, yes part b.

Literature

1. Discuss suggested changes to the 4th edition of the Big Book, 2001 General Service Conference Procedure: (a) “that prior to being asked to approve the 4th Edition of the Big Book, all Conference members be allowed to review a draft copy. This draft copy would include both the proposed new stories and those carried forward from the 3rd Edition.”
2. Not discussed
3. Discuss whether to include a new Preface in the 4th Edition of the Big Book to replace the Preface on page xi of the 3rd Edition of the Big Book which was not written by Bill W, keeping in mind the 1995 Conference Advisory Action which reads, “The first 164 pages of the Big Book Alcoholics Anonymous, the Preface, the Forewords, ‘The Doctor’s Opinion’, ‘Dr. Bob’s Nightmare’ and the Appendices remain as is.”
4. Not discussed
5. Discuss the following requests for additions to future printings of the Big Book, keeping in mind the 1995 Conference Advisory Action quoted above: (a) The 12 Concepts (short form) (b) GSO’s AA website address to the section “How to Get in Touch with AA.”
6. Review proposed draft pamphlet for Black/African American alcoholics.
7. Pamphlet to replace “Time to Start Living.” (a) Review proposed draft pamphlet (b) Discuss publishing in 14 point type large-print format only, as this format would fit our current literature racks.
8. Review trustees’ Literature Committee’s proposal for a new pamphlet that includes a variety of spiritual experience.
9. Discuss request that in the future no draft copy of any literature be submitted for approval by the General Service Conference without all Conference members having the opportunity to review that literature.

Barbara B. covered the following points:

1a : The draft copy has only been seen by the committee so far. In 1995 the conference passed the action that kept things as is as covered above. Now they want to send this to all Conference members. This would delay it for a number of years, if not indefinitely.

3. On the question of whether to include a new preface to replace the page xi preface, Barbara felt that it was covered in the 1995 action which has been reaffirmed almost every year, that we should not replace the preface. She felt the wording was not precise enough in this proposal to get a new preface without replacing the previous one.

5. a. Add the 12 concepts to future printings of the Big Book. Barbara pointed out that people in favor of this think it would stir interest in the concepts. Those against, say it would overwhelm the newcomer.

6. Review proposed draft for pamphlet Black/African American

On item 1a, Joan would like yes or no on allowing concerning letting the delegates to be allowed to review a draft copy. Joan clarified. Voted no on that one.

On item 3: voted no on that one. Joan M. clarified. Jack F. suggested that each edition have its own preface, not replace the old one. Everyone in general is in favor of keeping the old prefaces, and adding a new one.

On item 5a add the 12 concepts short form to the big book: yes by a small majority

Item 5b add website address to how to get in touch with AA: yes by a small majority

On item 6 yes review it by a small majority

We broke for lunch at 11:20, asked to return at 12:45.

Started again at 1 PM with serenity prayer

Bill L. then did a presentation on these items:

7: Publishing the replacement pamphlet to “Time to Start Living”, new version with new title in large print only. This would be in 14-point type. The people he asked look forward to a draft, and also have asked for it to be available in both large print and regular.

Item 8 Bill stated that the literature committee forwarded to conference for further development.

Item 9 Bill said it was another request that no future draft copy could be created without all conference members seeing it.

Discussion began when Pat G. mentioned that item 9 is a repeat of what we talked about earlier. John S. mentioned, regarding item 7 that he thought they wanted to change the name of the pamphlet. Joan said she didn’t know about that.

Voting on the items:

Item 7A Almost everyone in favor of 14 point only.

Item 9 Unanimous NO on making whole conference see all drafts

Policy and Admissions

1. Not discussed
2. Not discussed
3. Not discussed
4. Consider developing guidelines for the possible use of personal computers by Conference members during sessions of the General Service Conference.
5. Consider recommendation of the trustees’ Nominating Committee, October 2000, that Bill W.’s “Memorandum on New Delegates,” published in the 1961 Final Conference Report, continue to stand as the foundation for the Fellowship’s philosophical guidepost regarding any future growth of the Conference.
6. Consider the use of electronic voting systems during the General Service Conference.

Jason C. presented on these items:

Item 4 PCs are limited to laptops and PDAs at the Conference. This includes all sessions. Users are responsible to arrive early and setup. If problems develop they are to turn off, also turn off all sounds, and if requested will shut off. The Conference coordinator is in favor of written guidelines. Those opposed say noise and space problems should end computer use, and also they are a threat to confidentiality.

Item 5. Keep Bill W’s memo as the philosophical guidepost regarding growth of the conference. Population growth and geography are some reasons for adding delegates. On the other side is additional expenses. We need to have enough delegates for a reliable cross section, also to handle local needs.

Item 6. Consider electronic voting systems during GSC. This would save time, no counting of hands, increase accuracy, alleviate peer pressure, and provide new options due to time saving due to no recounting. The down side is the expense, especially during first few days. It would require increased planning, and a substantial expenditure.

Discussion began with David B. Item 4. He feels this needs to be thought out. Especially things like power sources.

Sue on Item 4 was in favor of guidelines. Bob on Item 4 Thinks that it could lead to cost, in that maybe we would be required to buy laptops for our trusted servants.

Item 4 voting: One opposed to Item 4, all others yes.

Item 5 Keep Bill w guideline for new delegates Unanimous yes

Item 6 Electronic voting at GSC Substantially no.

Public Information

1. Consider that the 2001 AA Membership Survey be conducted by area on a random basis as was done in the 1998 AA Membership Survey.
2. Not discussed.
3. Consider request for production of a TV PSA specific to the Holiday Season be produced.
4. Not discussed.
5. Discuss draft of the proposed trustees' PI Committee's policy on the co-founders' posthumous anonymity.

Bruce T presented on the following:

Item 1 That the 2001 membership survey be on a random basis as it was last time in 1998. Bruce mentioned that it has been on a random basis since 1983.

Item 3 A PSA specific to the holiday season would cost around \$30K. It would be less cost effective, since could only be used part of the year. Fourth quarter PSAs don't do very well in getting played, as less time is available and many other organizations put out their new PSAs during 4Q.

Item 5 Co-founders posthumous anonymity.

Discussion on Item 1 began when Pat G. wondered if the membership was happy with how it was conducted last time. Roberta clarified that the random selection is done by a polling firm.

Voting on Item 1 was unanimous in favor.

Discussion on Item 3 began with Renie who said that we might spend \$30K, and not even have the PSA hit the air. Duncan said that if we have one specific it might get aired, versus not aired at all now. Rick thinks it is a waste of money. There are many beer ads during holiday season, and broadcasters want to carry PSAs that their clients won't object to. Dave remembers what drinking during the holidays is like. There is a possibility it might help someone. Eric asked about attraction not promotion. TJ says regular PSAs are shown year round.

Voting on Item 3 substantially NO.

Item 5 posthumous anonymity. David B. said it was to not to change the policy.

Barbara M. says that in the pamphlet Understanding Anonymity, it says that the final decision must rest with the family. Warren P pointed out that it says nothing on Bill W's grave stone about AA.

Voting on Item 3 was nearly unanimous to stay the same.

Ten minute break.

Report & Charter

1. Review the AA Service Manual 2000-2001 Edition, (d) Consider suggestion to restore Appendix A “Original Conference Charter – 1955”, Appendix B “1955 Resolution” and Appendix C “ Current Conference Charter” to the front of the manual to reflect its placement as it was in the 1999 AA Service Manual, and reinstate the section titled “What is the Conference Plan” to its original placement as in the 1999 AA Service Manual.
2. Discuss AA Directories (a) Discuss request to list a “phone meeting” in the AA Directories. (b) Consider suggestion that a column be added to the group listings in AA Directories showing the date group information was last updated.

Lori S. discussed items 2a and 2b. Adding a column showing last update in AA directory could show that a group might be more active.

Discussion on 2a began when Leeann asked if only the bridged international 30-caller meetings were being listed. It was stated that the question was whether to list phone meetings in general.

Voting on 2A Substantial Yes to listing them.

Discussion on 2b began with Terry saying that the information is already available. So should put in directory. Scarlett says she updated and never got any feedback. John had his number changed, but it never got updated. Thinks it is good idea. Charlie K. says when updating, be sure to go through the registrar.

Voting on 2A was substantially yes, a few opposed.

Joanne F. then discussed Item 1D. The people that she spoke to appreciate the changes in the 2000 version, but want these things back where they were. Sequence was better before.

Discussion began with Barbara M., who thought it looked like a housekeeping change. Joan M. thinks it is an important change. Scarlett asked if the change did go through the conference. Dick H. pointed out that there was a committee to make the service manual more user-friendly. Things were moved around. Might be OK to move around some more. He explained the difference between conference approved versus service material. Sunny S. thinks we should look at it, because this group really must have studied the Service Manual. Sam H. pointed out that it is the minority opinion.

Voting on Item 1d Yes by substantial unanimity.

John S. pointed out that the previous item 1c, which was not presented was something he thought should be reinstated. This is in reference to the group structure chart, which in previous editions of the Service Manual, was in Chapter two. John F. pointed out how much better the service manual is now, than in the past. Dave thought changing the service manual was a lot of effort for the conference. Dick pointed out that it was. There was a re-vote, but still voted yes.

Treatment Facilities

Item 2 Talks about formats for institutional meetings.

1. Not discussed
2. Review collected sharing on formats used for institutional meetings for possible inclusion in Treatment Facilities material.

3. Consider including the two-paragraph statement “Why We Are Here” in the Treatment Facilities kit.
4. Share Treatment Facilities Committee activities: (a) Carrying the message to alcoholics in short-term or outpatient facilities (b) Bridging the Gap/Temporary Contact efforts (c) Cooperation among TFs, H&I, Bridging the Gap/Temporary Contact, Correctional Facilities, and CPC Committees in order to better carry the AA message.
5. Discuss ways TF Committees can help when it comes to individuals referred to AA who focus on problems other than alcohol at AA meetings.

Jason C. presented on these items. He noted that item 3 is a statement that is read before meetings, so the proposal is to add this to the TF kit. For item 4a he suggested the use of a beginners’ meeting format, and to emphasize sponsorship. For item 4b he pointed that these programs are designed to make a contact with clients while they are still in a TF, and try to take them to a meeting. On item 4c he suggested overall cooperation to better carry the AA message. On item 5 he stated that AA meetings within a facility cannot be substance abuse meetings. We need the spirit of cooperation, but can’t forget our singleness of purpose.

For Item 3 there was no discussion. We voted yes to consider.

Archives

1. No discussion
2. Consider a request to produce a pamphlet about how archives carry the message of AA.

Larry L. presented on item 2. He felt that this was an additional means to communicate with members on how archives could be helpful. He stated that Bill W talked about how we need to keep our history.

Discussion began with Pat G. who stated that each group has but one primary purpose. He doesn’t see how this will help the alcoholic who still suffers. Rick was fascinated by history when he came in. He reminded us that right now we are becoming part of the history of AA. Roger R. suggested that what it was like, what happened, and what it is like now is our own personal archives.

Vote on Item 2 Archives pamphlet mostly in favor, few opposed.

International Conventions/ Regional Forums

1. Discuss selection of three cities to be considered as a site for the International Convention in 2010.

Don S. did a presentation on this item. Seven cities met the minimum criteria, and will present their bids on April 21. Atlanta, Denver, Detroit, Honolulu, Indianapolis, Phoenix, and San Antonio are the remaining members on long list. There must be a demonstrated desire and at least 3000 volunteers within the area. It must have a 60,000-seat stadium and an international airport. After the presentations on April 21, the list will be cut to 3 finalists.

Discussion began when TJ, a travel agent, stated that Honolulu is not likely to be gotten to easily during the summer. John F. asked if the stadium had to be domed. It was not known. There was no vote taken on this issue. Joan M. thanked us for helping her be of service at the Conference. She thought some of it was important for us to hear, even on things we don’t have a choice on. We need to move forward, but sometimes slowly.

Kathy thanked all the presenters, and all of us. The meeting was adjourned for the evening.

Sunday, March 25, 2001

Kathy opened the meeting with serenity prayer at 9 AM.

Barbara M. said that she believed in the 1999 minutes, there was a typographical error. This error inadvertently deleted the standing committee chairs from the assembly in the Area 42 Guidelines, under 1.1.c. After confirmation, they will be reinserted by the Secretary prior to the September assembly.

Kathy then asked for any further business.

Sunny S. then brought up some things that she has noticed in the GSR survival guide. She wanted to propose an ad hoc committee from NAGSC and SAGSC to pick up on changes. She also suggested the addition of an acronym list. Roberta mentioned that she was on the original committee. The whole point was to point things out to the new GSRs. The trainings in the north have always been well received. Roberta pointed out to Sunny some of the stuff that she knew was wrong in there. Kathy asked for volunteers. Phil DeS. and Crystal K. were volunteers from NAGSC, while Rhonda M. and Robin M. volunteered from SAGSC. Sunny did not intend to chair the committee, but she will. Report back will happen in September. John S. stated that he had knew some stuff that needed to be changed too. He thinks all who have a chance should mark it up. Kathy suggested that if you find problems, forward them to Sunny. Barbara M. said that in NAGSC they only used it as a guide, then they tell people to look things up in the AA service manual. Kathy said that it is used as an addition to the GSO AA service material. Kathy then asked the Ask-it Basket panel to take their place on the dais.

The Panel was chaired by Ruth J., and consisted of Joan M., Dick H., Julian R., Nick M., Al P., and Roberta L. After the panel was adjourned, Kathy had some announcements. Dates for upcoming assemblies were announced. The Fall Assembly will be in Tonopah on September 7, 8, 9, 2001. PRAASA 2002 will be in Fresno, March 1, 2, 3, 2002. The next Pacific Regional Forum will be July 12-14, 2002, in Phoenix. Kathy explained what a Forum is. She also made us aware that if you want to make a proposal for the Fall Assembly, it must be sent to Kathy S. , Steve H. and Joan M. by June 1 for September Assembly. She then asked John S. to come up and address the assembly. John thanked District 3 for the great job that they have done. He reminded everyone that May 20, the next SAGSC meeting will be at the TIE club, and Joan will give us a Delegate report. Sunny will do GSR training at 12:30 PM. The meeting itself will start at 1:15 PM. July 8 and November 11 are the other two dates for SAGSC meetings in 2001. John thanked Kathy for doing a great job. He thanked the presenters for doing a great job. He thanked Joan M. for doing a great job. He thanked the great speakers we had last night, and Dick, Ruth and Julian. He says this continues to be a humbling affair. Kathy thanked the Area Committee. She also thanked Jim and Kathleen M. for helping us out. For tapes on this Assembly call Las Vegas Audio taping.

The Assembly closed with the Lord's Prayer at 10:30 AM.