

# Area 42 Newsletter

## Summer 2010

Confidential Alcoholic Anonymous Document

### Inside This Issue

- Alcoholic Anonymous and Service
- Proposed Finance Committee Guidelines
- Proposed Newsletter Guideline Change
- Archives Corner
- Tonopah Hotel Info

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

**S.A.G.S.C Meeting**  
Sunday July 11, 2010

1:15 pm @ the T.I.E. Club  
329 N 11th St.  
Las Vegas  
GSR Training @ 12:30 pm

**N.A.G.S.C. Meeting**  
Sunday August 1, 2010

Standing Chairs Meet at  
12:00  
NAGSC Meeting at 1:00  
Carson City Alano Club  
1800 Hwy 50 E # 5  
Carson City, NV

**Area 42 2010**  
**Fall Election Assembly**  
**Tonopah Convention**  
**Center**  
Sept 10-12, 2010

**Pacific Region Forum**  
.Torrance Marriott  
Torrance , CA  
August 27-29, 2010

**April 10, 2010**

**@ Spring Festival**

**Reno, NV**

**Jason C Area 42 delegate Panel 59**

### **Alcoholic Anonymous and Service**

Good afternoon everyone. My name is Jason and I am an alcoholic. Thank you Danielle and the Committee for asking me to share on the topic of service.

As I reflected on this topic, my mind raced all over, so many service opportunities and experiences, so many benefits from service and, so many liabilities without service.

Due to the glaring fact that I am an alcoholic, I must do and act in many ways. I have noticed with my normie friends that resting on their laurels could have painful results. The alcoholic, however, who suffers from a disease that infiltrates body mind and spirit, has something else to lose. Sobriety.

We of Alcoholics Anonymous are so very fortunate. Many organizations, including the Washingtonians, the Emmanuel Movement and the Oxford Group, came before us in pursuit of abstinence and some level of spiritual conditioning. The Washingtonians even reached 500,000 members. In the end, each organization failed to grasp singleness of purpose.

AA's primary purpose is to stay sober and help the newcomer to achieve sobriety. Service is one of the pillars in AA that allows this to happen. Unity, Recovery and Service, the topic of this panel, all have great importance in this alcoholic's life. Experience has shown that all are required to stay sober, to fulfill AAs primary purpose and to ensure I am doing my part to keep AA alive and well for years to come.

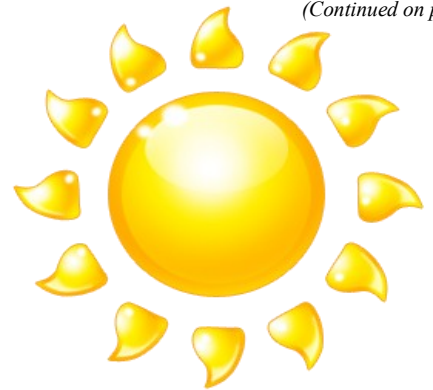
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(Continued from page 1) Alcoholic Anonymous and Service

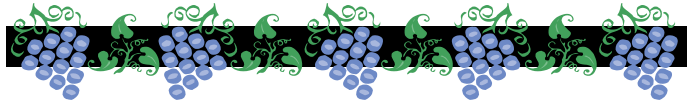
Sobriety found me one winter afternoon in March of 1993 on a pig farm in upstate NY. I can assure you, I was not looking for it, but it did indeed find me. For those of you in the audience that are new to AA, welcome. I realized that fine day in March what a battle it would be to live without alcohol and face my fears. There is hope.

Against my best thinking, I was asked to stay at this pig farm/ rehab for 1 year. So I did to avoid spending 2 years in jail. I first learned of service in this rehab. Once upon a time and sometimes present day, when I am asked to do something, I consider what I will get out of it. When I arrived in sobriety, I was selfish and self-centered to the extreme. The idea of giving without any expectation of something, anything, in return

(Continued on page 3)



*Ed D is back in  
service and is very  
busy chairing NNIG  
Sunshine committee .*



*Bring the Grapevine to  
your home group or  
speaker event.*

*Just email to arrange date  
& time.*

*Jeannette B. No. Area 42  
Grapevine Chair*

### Can You Help?

There are cases where sober AAs are unable to make it to meetings. They are in the hospital or physical rehabilitation hospitals or are home-bound while they recuperate.

When you cannot attend meetings do you get 'squirrely' or on edge? Be a part of carrying the message to those shut-ins by joining us as we trudge the road of happy destiny on the

Sunshine Committee!!  
Sobriety requirement – 1 year  
We will work to your schedule  
Call NIIG Central office@775-335-1151

*(Continued from page 2) Alcoholic Anonymous and Service*

was stupid. It was horrible, it did not make sense and quite frankly I chose to ignore anyone with this mentality. After all, who gives without want?

It was easy for me to leave that pig farm and dive into AA service. If I chose not to, I went to jail.

I followed the typical AA protocol and got a home group, the hope academy group, a sponsor named Marty and a service position in my home group, coffee maker. I so needed this AA job. Not sure how you guys are when you first get sober, but I was nuts. A lot of energy, a lot of fear and very few entries in my schedule of importance. I showed up early for my coffee commitment, made the coffee, arranged the literature perfectly, twice...ok three times. And when all was set up, I scrubbed cabinets and brought coffee to the custodian of the building. If I was lucky, Terry would show up early too. Terry looked and smelled like someone who lived on streets. He carried newspapers that were days and weeks old. But, Terry knew something about AA service. One evening, at the first opportunity possible, I commenced talking feverishly to Terry about the hundreds of issues I had. Homeless guy or not, he was about to get a head full. After 20 minutes of talking without interruption, I stopped, took a breath and with all earnest said to Terry, "do you know what I mean." Terry, very calmly and politely, stated, "No I do not....but keep talking, this may go somewhere." I showed up to make coffee. I did not know, as highly intelligence as I thought I looked, that Terry and I were two guys in service, buying time to stay sober and trying to achieve some as semblance of sanity.

After a year of AA, Nora approached me. Nora talked to me about prison work. Although fearful, I was also curious. She stated that she takes a meeting into the local prison. I started the journey with an orientation to

*(Continued on page 4)*

Please all interested SAGSC candidates e-mail resumes to Edie, [sagscsecretary@nevadaarea42.org](mailto:sagscsecretary@nevadaarea42.org), (South) and NAGSC candidates email resumes to Carol, [nagsc42secretary@gmail.com](mailto:nagsc42secretary@gmail.com) (North). The resumes will be distributed through e-mails and hard copies will be available at both the SAGSC July 11<sup>th</sup>. & NAGSC August 1<sup>st</sup>. meetings.

*(Continued from page 3) Alcoholic Anonymous and Service*

the facility and getting fingerprinted. The person taking the prints commented on how well I rolled my fingers and what great prints that produced. I did not share that I had some practice in a previous life.

So many lessons, I learned to share appropriately, share in a general way and not to share personal information. I learned how to be one among many without judgment in prison meetings. My very first sponsee was an inmate. We were given a room to work the steps in. It was a little eerie getting the door locked behind us and being alone, but I kept faith in a Higher Power. I shared with this gentleman just like my sponsor shared with me and we read the Big Book. After Antwon completed his fifth step, I asked if he was fearless and thorough. He said yes, I suspected no. A great joy of mine was to meet Antwon at the bus station and see him off when he was released. We remained in touch by writing. He finally in a letter shared the one thing he did not share the day he completed his fifth step. Although it was not a part of the fifth step, it made me swallow a few times. Apparently he was highly attracted to me. And so the story goes. I thanked him for his honesty and wished him well. When I leave judgment and fear to the side while being of service, relationship with another human being can and will occur.

One more thought. I heard over and over individuals sharing what a relief it was to hear the doors slam behind them as they left the prison meeting and went on with their life. I heard this many times and then something occurred to me. I do not have that experience. Maybe if I lived in fear I would. A sense of freedom came over me each and every time I entered the prison. When I give up my busy life to be of service, to attend a meeting I am committed to, I experience the promises of AA. I never once felt relieved to leave after the first time going. Relief and peace came to me from doing the work.

Let's touch on the important service positions in AA. I think I should be clear about which ones they are. With a higher power by my side, I have served in many, many positions. I believe that the most important service position is the one we need. I spend a great deal of time asking for help from my wife Rachel, my sponsor Tim, many friends and my Higher Power. I can only hope to find where I should serve. That for me is based on working the steps. I may find that I am selfish with my time, so I then become the coffee maker and show up early. I may find great joy in helping others work the steps, so I raise my hand when asked if anyone is willing to be a sponsor. I may need to just get in the car and take a drunk and rowdy Biker to

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Continued from page 4) Alcoholic Anonymous and Service*

detox, serve as the General Service Representative for my group, as DCM, as Public Information Chairperson for NAGSC or Intergroup or Intergroup Chairperson. There is no position like the one we need.

There is one other area of service I will share about. That is General Service. General Service encompasses GSRs, DCM, Area Officers, Area Standing Chairpersons, Delegates, Trustees and the General Service Conference. Some have no interest in General Service. I am not one of those people. My wife Rachel says it best; she wants nothing to do with General Service but is grateful for those who enjoy it. Although, she cannot see why anyone would enjoy it.

My current service position aside from being a sponsor is Area 42 Delegate. Essentially I serve NV and the Eastern Sierras of CA in AA service. I attend area meetings, visit districts and groups when asked and attend the GSC. I leave Tuesday for NY to visit family for 2 days and spend 9 days in Rye NY, just outside of NYC. The Delegates, trustees, GSO Staff, Grapevine Staff and AAWS directors, will discuss and vote on many topics in AA.

Present day, I am humbled by serving in this position. Like any other service position, I must work a program to be most effective. I must eat well, sleep as much as possible and practice these principles in service. As I sit at the conference, I pray that I am centered, that I am at peace, refraining from judgment, and that my character defects are left at the door, so that I may serve Alcoholics Anonymous and not serve a personality.

Now, I shall take our inventory. Who is interested? I believe each and every one of us, needs a service position. End of inventory. Miss-guided self will drives my alcoholism, whether drunk or sober, and so I must

## Editor's Note:

The Area 42 Newsletter is comprised of service oriented articles submitted by its members. We welcome submissions and suggestions. The deadline for the next newsletter is October 23, 2010. Please submit to: [area42newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:area42newsletter@gmail.com)

*The creation of an Area 42 Finance Committee was approved by the Area 42 Assembly in September of 2007. Part of the proposal that was passed required the new Finance Committee to create a set of guidelines. Here they are for your review before they are presented to the Area Assembly in September. This committee of diligent goofs thank you for the opportunity to be of service. Rich B., J.D. B., Marion de P., Sophie K., and Cherie N.*

## **AREA 42 GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY FINANCE GUIDELINES**

6.18.2010

### **Membership**

The current area treasurer, NAGSC and SAGSC treasurers, and immediate past area treasurer shall automatically be members of the committee. In addition, two at-large members will be elected, one residing in the north and one residing in the south. The immediate past area treasurer shall be a non-voting member.

### **Elections**

Election of at-large members shall be held at the fall area assembly on odd numbered (non-election) years. Eligible candidates shall have 2 years experience in Area 42 service prior to election. At-large finance committee members may not hold other positions at the area level that are subject to area budget considerations.

### **Officers of the Committee**

The finance committee will elect a chairperson and recording secretary.

### **Replacement**

If a member of the finance committee is unable to complete the rotation, the treasurer and finance committee chair will select a replacement to be confirmed by the finance committee. The replacement assumes duties immediately.

### **Meetings**

Finance committee meetings shall be held at least 4 times per year: twice per year at area assemblies and at least twice per year by teleconference.

### **Funding**

If not otherwise funded, finance committee members shall be reimbursed for costs associated with attendance at finance committee meetings.

*(Continued from page 6) AREA 42 GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY FINANCE GUIDELINES*

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE AREA TREASURER**

- Carries out all banking responsibilities;
- Records and deposits all funds received;
- Prepares and records all payments for expenses;
- Maintains financial and bookkeeping records;
- Ensures that the accounting for the area is performed in QuickBooks, or similar accounting program;
- Prepares and presents financial statements to the area committee and then the area assembly;
- Assembles documentation for tax preparer of federal and state filings;
- At the end of the rotation, and after review by the finance committee, turns over the original financial documentation to the Area 42 Archives;
- Files annual list of officers with the State of Nevada.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

### **Finance Committee**

- Gathers budget requests from funded area positions as a part of the budget process;
- Reviews financial statements prepared by the area treasurer;
- Drafts financial guidelines policy/amendments for consideration by the Area 42 Committee and the Area 42 Assembly;
- Reviews requests for additional funding;
- Maintains an inventory of assets owned by Area 42. Inventory items include software, translation equipment, archives and trailer;
- Publishes minutes of meetings in area newsletter.

## **PRUDENT RESERVE**

The prudent reserve is to ensure that, after all obligations are paid, enough funds are held to conduct Area 42 business. Experience has shown that, for any given year, a reserve equal to 1/3 of the previous year's expenses will ensure that the Assembly will be able to meet its financial obligations. A  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority vote of the area officers is necessary to tap into our prudent reserve.

*(Continued on page 8)*

(Continued from page 7) AREA 42 GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY FINANCE GUIDELINES

## THE BUDGET PROCESS

Prior to July 1 of each year, each area officer, alternates, and those persons appointed to positions are responsible for preparing a budget for his/her position. The Area chairperson will prepare the budget(s) for any vacant position(s). Each budget is submitted to the Finance Committee chairperson.

- A. The Finance Committee receives budget requests, compiles them into a single Assembly-wide budget, and presents it to the Area Committee.
- B. The Area Committee reviews the budget, approves it as submitted, or recommends revisions.
- C. The Assembly reviews the budget at the fall assembly and
  1. Adopts the budget by a 2/3 majority vote with or without amendments or
  2. Rejects the budget with specific instructions to the Finance Committee for modification, also approved by a 2/3 majority vote.

No officer / chairperson is to exceed their approved budget without prior approval. If additional funds are needed that exceed the budgeted amount, the officer/chairperson must submit a request to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee may approve any such request that does not exceed 20% of the approved budget for that position. If such request is in excess of that, it will be submitted to the Area Committee for a decision.

## REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES

### I. EXPENSE AUTHORIZATION AND SUBMISSION

If available funds will be insufficient to cover the full costs of travel, the Finance Committee may recommend allotting a fixed sum for each funded individual, and/or provide per diem funding in accordance with the following hierarchy:

- Delegate
- Alternate delegate
- Area chair
- Other officers
- Appointed positions

The treasurer is responsible for the reimbursement of all expenses properly incurred on behalf of the Assembly submitted with receipts within 45 days of occurrence.

(Continued on page 9)



(Continued from page 8) AREA 42 GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY FINANCE GUIDELINES

#### **A. AREA COMMITTEE AND ASSEMBLY MEETINGS**

The Area officers, alternates, and those persons appointed to Area positions by the delegate or Area chairperson are eligible for reimbursement for travel expenses to these meetings. The Finance Committee is responsible for establishing a maximum per diem rate for lodging, meals, and incidentals, to be reviewed annually.

#### **B. PRAASA/FORUM**

1. The Area officers or their alternates and those persons appointed to Area positions by the delegate or Area chair are eligible for reimbursement for travel expenses to PRAASA.

2. The delegate, alternate delegate and Area chair or alternate are funded to attend the biannual Pacific Regional Forum.

3. Per diem rates for hotels, meals & incidentals will be reviewed annually based on federal travel guidelines. All airfare will be reimbursed at coach rate. The delegate will receive full funding for the banquet and delegates' luncheon.

#### **II. REIMBURSEMENT FOR USE OF PERSONAL AUTO**

Mileage reimbursements for eligible travel are based on receipts for gasoline.

#### **III. ADVANCES / PREPAYMENTS**

There may be occasions when it will be necessary to issue payment in advance of receiving a bill/invoice/receipt. In those cases, the person requesting the payment will be responsible for submitting the bill/invoice/receipt, as stated above, with a request for payment of the balance due or a refund for the amount that the advance exceeded the actual expenses. Advances payable to individuals must be signed for and will be made only to the limit of that position's approved budgeted expenses.

You can find the  
minutes for the  
Area 42 Assemblies  
@  
[www.nevadaarea42.org](http://www.nevadaarea42.org)

June 23, 2010

## **Proposed Amendments to the Delegate Area 42 General Service Assembly Guidelines Area Officer Duties/Amendment Procedures**

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### **Proposed Amendment:**

Change in Area 42 General Service Committee Guidelines.

Article 1.4 E. 3. Page 5 Area Officer Duties: The duties of the Secretary

Article 1.4 J. 1. Page 7 Area Officer Duties: The duties of the Newsletter Editor

Article 7.1 Page 15 Submission of Proposed Amendments

Article 7.2 Page 15 Notification to Area Newsletter

### ***The objective for this proposal:***

Is to have the four editions of the Area 42 Newsletter better conform with covering the two Area 42 Assembly activities, by moving the summer edition (June 23) to mid-summer (August 10).

As it now stands, submitted proposals are not sent to the Newsletter Editor for inclusion until after the summer edition and therefore they don't get published until after the September assembly, and the Chairperson is required to submit the Fall assembly agenda 11 weeks prior to that assembly

### ***Background: Intent-Purpose***

3 of the 4 The current publications of the Area 42 Newsletter editions are in accordance with the Spring and Fall Area assemblies. February 23, is 4 weeks prior to the March assembly, with April 30<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 6 weeks following. June 23 is over 11 weeks prior to the September assembly, while October 31 is 6 weeks following the assembly. Moving the June Newsletter to August will bring to order the opportunity for the Chairperson, SAGSC, (which meets in July) and NAGSC (which meets in August) to submit in a timely manner any additions to the Newsletter prior to the assembly. Rather than after the newsletter has been published.

### **1.4 Area Officer Duties**

E. The duties of the Secretary shall be:

- 3) Publish and mail by January 31 and **July 1, July 31**, to all Area Officers, DCMs and DCMCs the agenda as prepared by the Chairperson.

J. The duties of the Newsletter Editor shall be: (section J. 1-6 added 9/00)

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

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10) Proposed Amendments

and South Area Chairperson for Newsletter items. The publication dates will be February 23, April 30, **June 23, August 10**, and October 31. Include the revised Area 42 guidelines in the October 31 issue of the Area 42 newsletter.

## 7.0 AMENDMENT PROCEDURES

### 7.1 Submission of Proposed Amendments

Any proposed amendment to these guidelines shall be submitted in writing to the Area Chairperson, with a copy to the Delegate and Area Secretary by February 23, Newsletter and by **June 1, July 15**, for the **June 23, August 10**, Newsletter. The effective date of the amendment shall be included in the amendment. (rev. 3/00)

### 7.2 Submission of Proposed Amendments

The Area Secretary shall mail copies of the proposed amendments by **July 1, July 31**, to the Area Newsletter Editor for publication in the Area Newsletter (rev. 9/00).

For your ease in reading the proposed **Area Officer Duties** changes, New proposed wording is *in Bold italic*

**Expense to Area 42:** No additional expense will be incurred by the passing of this proposal.

**To become effective:** upon adoption

**Thank you for your consideration of this matter.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Michael L.**

**Serving as Panel 57 & 59**

**Newsletter Editor**



## The Archives Corner

### Service Opportunities!

*Are you interested in local AA history? Do you want to know how it all began? Where have we been? Where are we going?*

Being a member of the Area 42 Archives Committee is the **best** service job in AA – and **you** are invited to join us! You can:



**Put together a history of your home group;**



**Serve your District as its Archives Liaison;**



**Have you ever served on an AA committee:**



**H & I, Las Vegas Roundup, CPC, Founders' Day, etc.? We need those histories, too.**



Interview Long-Timers;



Come to Las Vegas Central Office to help sort, catalogue & present Area, District; Group, & Individual stories;



Use your construction & design skills to develop the Area Archives display space at Central Office; or



??? – we're open to suggestions!

## Tonopah Motels

**Spring Assembly is March 26, 27, & 28th 2010**

**Hi-Desert Best Western (775-482-3511)  
\$95.99 single/\$115.99 double (plus tax)**

**Ramada Tonopah Station (775-482-9777)  
\$64.86 all rooms single and double (includes Tax)**

**Jim Butler Motel (775-482-3577)  
\$48.14 single / \$56.14 double (plus tax)**

**Silver Queen Hotel (775-482-6291)  
\$54.49 single/\$65.39 double (includes tax)  
\$52.31 Senior Sgl./\$63.21 Senior Dbl. (includes tax)**

**Economy Inn (775-482-6238)  
\$39.00 all rooms single double (plus tax)**

**The Clown Hotel (775-482-5920)  
\$37.61 single/\$39.79 double (includes tax)**

**Prices are subject to change.**

**Prices were updated January 2010**

### **Area 42 Current 7th Tradition Contribution Addresses:**

General Services Office (GSO)  
PO Box 459  
New York, NY 10163  
(Make Checks to General Fund)

Area 42 (All Nevada)  
PO Box 70171  
Las Vegas, NV. 89170-0171  
(Checks to Area 42 Treasury)

Northern Area General Service Committee (NAGSC)  
C/O Phil W.  
P.O. Box 9080  
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546  
(Checks to Northern Area 42 Treasury)

Southern Area General Service Committee (SAGSC)  
Southern Area Treasurer  
PO Box 71804-1804  
Las Vegas, NV. 89170-1804  
(Checks to GSR Fund of S. Nevada)

Las Vegas Central Office  
1431 E. Charleston Blvd. Suite 15  
Las Vegas, NV. 89104  
(Checks to Las Vegas Intergroup)

Northern Area Intergroup  
436 South Rock Blvd.  
Sparks, NV 89431  
(Make Checks to N. Nevada Intergroup)