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## **NAGSC Business Meeting**

**Date** February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Location: Sparks Christian Fellowship  
510 Greenbrae Drive, Sparks, NV. 89431

**Meeting Opens: Julie C** opened the meeting at 1:00 pm with the Serenity Prayer.

**Reading of Preamble:** Preamble

**Reading of Concept 3**

**Review Minutes:** Minutes of previous meeting (December 3, 2016) reviewed,

Corrections: None

No Corrections:

Motions to Accept:

1<sup>st</sup>: Yes

2<sup>nd</sup>: Yes

Vote: Yes

## **Treasurer's Report: Will L**

March 2017 NAGSC

Hi my name is Will currently serving as your treasure. We have a current balance of \$7,944.67 in the checking. We made deposits of \$2,676.64 we have a cd with\$ 1,252.44. We would like it if your groups could provide an email address so we can send your receipts to save NAGS a lot in postage. Last year we spent \$150.00 in stamps. I will also bring receipt with me each time we meet before I mail them out. PLEASE have your groups send your donations to

Po box 2507 Dayton NV 8940

Any questions contact Will L

Thanks

Will L

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** Passed/Collected \$151.00

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** none

**Chairperson, Julie C:** First let me say a huge thank you to all 26 people who helped summarize the Panel 67 (2017) General Service Conference agenda items. We summarized 101 agenda items, including the sub-agenda items. There were a number of people who participated for the first time. The thoughtfulness with which all of you summarized the information touches my heart. I have always been on the other side of the process and I have a newfound appreciation for the entire process. Rhonda, our Alternate Delegate, used a translation program to translate into Spanish. It is our hope that the translation is close and understandable for our Spanish-speaking members.

Today we will discuss the five agenda items that our Delegate, Phil, chose. We have five presenters and five recorders. Again, heartfelt thanks in advance for all the work that is involved in preparing and capturing the significance of the agenda items and the participation from Northern Area 42.

On January 28<sup>th</sup> many of us met in Reno for an orientation. Past delegate, Joyce Y., past delegate/trustee, Roberta L. and current delegate, Phil W, gave presentations. Additionally, the DCMs (District Committee Members) and Standing Committee Chairs met together for the first time. There were over 80 people in attendance. I am humbled by the enthusiasm and love that I am fortunate to see and feel as your Northern Area Chair. We are off to a great start and I am anticipating great things for us over the next two years. It is an honor and privilege to serve you.

**Roundtable explanation Julie C.:** Goes over process of roundtables for group. On the how it works, consider, discuss and opens to any questions? None. Then counts off into groups to start Roundtables.

**Delegate Phil:** Asks if there are items you hear today or if you think would be good to have at our assemblies in Tonopah. If you think we should talk about it please email him. Would love to hear feed back will do his best to have topics we want to hear. Thanks group.

**Julie C.** goes over message from our AREA 42 SECRETARY JONELLE about minutes, announcing that please print your own minutes there will be limited copies at assembly (as per cost of printing.)

**Roundtable Discussions** held on Agenda Items Correction B; Grapevine G; Literature J, Public information B, 1,2, & 3; Treatment & Accessibilities B. Minutes of each of these discussions held in each individual session.

### **Roundtable Presentations and Roundtable Discussion Notes**

#### **Presenter Laura & Recorder Joel:**

#### **PRESENTATION:**

**Agenda Item B:** Discuss carrying the A.A. message to incarcerated Native American/First Nations/Inuit People.

In the January 2017 meeting of the trustees' Committee on Corrections, the committee discussed improving access to meetings in facilities run by Tribal Authorities as well as the more general question of how to more effectively carry the

A.A. message of recovery to incarcerated Native Americans/First Nations/Inuit People. The committee agreed to forward this agenda item to the 2017 Conference Committee on Corrections which is why we are discussing this topic today. This topic began as a discussion about the challenges of carrying the message to Correctional facilities within what the U.S. government terms "Indian Country." This includes all lands within an Indian reservation, dependent Indian communities, and Indian trust allotments. U.S. Tribal law enforcement agencies act as first responders to both felony and misdemeanor crimes. Tribal authority to imprison American Indian offenders was expanded in 2010 to up to 3 years in Indian Country correctional facilities. At the Eastern Canada Regional Forum in July of 2016 there was also a discussion about the disproportionately large number of First Nations People in Federal and Provincial Facilities in Canada and the need to establish more trust between the A.A. community and incarcerated First Nations People. The following is the background material attached to this agenda item:

[Background documents attached:](#)

1. Sharing from members with experience carrying the A.A. message to incarcerated Native Americans in the U.S. and Canada.

**A presentation "Native Americans and A.A." by Rod B., Class B Regional Trustee, At the West Central "Additional" Regional Forum in 2010.**

Highlights of member sharing:

Establishing an AA meeting in any correctional facility is challenging; but when trying to establish a meeting in a facility on tribal lands, there are several extra layers of challenges. Still it appears that the efforts are being made by local area corrections committees and intergroup committees.

Common issues mentioned by members with shared experience are

1. Mistrust of non-native persons by native persons.
2. Tribal customs and spiritual beliefs which are not just outside of many non-natives understanding but vary greatly within tribal groups
3. Language barriers and the fact that dialects widely vary between tribal groups
4. The need for native members willing to participate in correctional work
5. Lack of literature

Many mentioned that Alcohons, Round-ups and Pow-Wows help to break down barriers.

Whitey & Betsy

"I'd say that if a non-native is attempting to do Corrections "service" in a native facility, building relationships outside that facility is a big Plus! In other words we don't just "do our jail service" and leave it at that. We have done our best to be a consistent presence in the community--not just at "jail". We eat lunch in the community, attend local AA meetings and visit with lots of folks, in the program and not. To build lasting sobriety and AA connections, we are and must be willing to be in service in those communities in every aspect. Trust is the biggest barrier to effective AA service in any community.

Dave A New Brunswick

The challenging part has been the cultural barriers and my inability to fully comprehend what is involved. The greatest division seems to be that of religious backgrounds verses aboriginal heritage and practices. Many of our incarcerated First Nations members have had terrible experiences with sexual and violent abuses and misconduct by some church influences in the past.

Many of the First Nations offenders have great support from their community elders. Many are involved with the sweat ceremonies on and off the correctional property. This allows them to participate in A.A. and maintain and grow with their true heritage identity. All of the Atlantic penitentiaries provide this opportunity and support for those who want to support it."

Fran O Northern Minnesota

Fran (male) has volunteered for more than a decade at two facilities run by the Minnesota Sex Offender Program. Fran said he encounters many of the usual barriers to recovery among the Native Americans, but there are other barriers, many due to the reservation schools which, from the late 1800s to mid-1900s pulled children out of family situations and forbade the tradition language and customs.

Don C

Don is a longtime member of A.A. who has spent many years exploring what the 12 Steps and A.A. recovery have in common with traditional native ways and the teachings of elders. Don sees that there are still barriers to Native Americans getting involved with A.A. but fewer than there used to be. The damage done by a century of forced assimilation in boarding schools and the outlawing of cultural practices is still being felt. So is the effect of sexual abuse in the boarding schools. He has heard estimates from those who work with Indian men and women in recovery that up to 90% of them have been victims of sexual abuse.

Highlights from Rod B's presentation:

He spoke of a Native gentleman who struggled to stay sober and sought help from a medicine man who told him that alcoholism is a white man's disease and requires a *white man's cure*. *Years later he came to believe that the medicine man was talking about A.A.*

*When Rod was a delegate in 1997, he was assigned to the Literature Committee, and one agenda item addressed whether there should be a new edition of the big Book, including suggestions to include new Native American stories. In 2001 the 4<sup>th</sup> edition came out with 2 new stories from Natives,*

"Listening to the Wind" and "A Vision of Recovery." Rod has also been involved in the translation of the Big Book into Navajo.

He closed his presentation with this: I work at a treatment program and when natives graduate, I tell them, "You now have an obligation and a responsibility to go back to your people, live sober and help others to be sober. It is a heavy obligation and duty, not to be taken lightly. Indian people are suffering and dying from alcoholism, and it is time to give back this gift to the people.

**A. III. Corrections: B. Discuss carrying message to incarcerated Native American/First Nations/Inuit /People.**

**Round Table Notes**

**Presenter-Laura / Recorder-Joel**

**NOTES:**

**Group 1**

- There is an extra layer of protocol for bringing a meeting into a facility on Native American/ First Nations/ Inuit (NA/FN/I) lands.
- Tribal elders could help with developing a pamphlet.
- Have health facilities on a NA/FN/I reservation sanction/support A.A. meeting.
- Motivate tribal members to facilitate A.A. in tribal areas.

**Group 2**

- Cultural Trauma is major barrier to building trusting relationships with NA/FN/I peoples.
- Need to find similarities among cultures/spiritual practices (i.e. higher power).
- There are many subcultures among NA/FN/I peoples which makes literature a less practical method of spreading the message.
- Pow Wows are a good way for spreading the message.
- There is a lack of support/ A.A. meetings on reservations for people returning from treatment centers and correctional centers.
- A.A./12 step recovery needs to be handed down, generationally, to help it become acceptable in the culture.

**Group 3**

- There needs to be more NA/FN/I members active in A.A./ facilitating meetings.
- Learn from the experience of integration of A.A. in other countries and apply to Native American peoples/culture.
- Make sure that NA/FN/I members know that god/higher power is anonymous.
- Be respectful of the culture.
- Become more culturally competent.
- Have tribal elders get involved to help build acceptance of A.A./12 step recovery.
- Use data related to the efficacy of A.A./12 step recovery in other countries which could show A.A.'s ability to transcend cultural boundaries.

**Group 4**

- Use the "Responsibility Pledge" in place of the "Lord's Prayer" to neutralize any presumed religious affiliation.
- Recovery from alcohol and other drugs carries a negative stigma and people may experience harassment when they are known to participate in the A.A. program.
- Need the help of tribal elders to build cultural competence and, subsequently, acceptance of the A.A. program.
- These tribal elders carry a lot of influence in their community.

**Group 5**

- There is a lack of cultural competence which limits ability to communicate effectively.
- Need tribal members in A.A. to help carry the message of recovery.

- There are many different languages within the NA/FN/I population which makes it difficult to carry the message. Additionally, the many different languages make carrying the message via literature difficult due to restraints on production.

**Summary of discussions:** Some common themes throughout the groups were: 1.) there appears to be a barrier to carrying the A.A. message to Native American/First Nations/Intuit people due to mistrust and a lack of cultural competence. 2.) tribal members need to become more involved in carrying the A.A. message because there needs to be experience with which NA/FN/I can identify, and 3.) working with tribal elders can help build successful relations because they are respected in their communities and they are a good source of cultural knowledge.

### **Roundtable Agenda Topic: Grapevine**

**Presenter: Drew Recorder: Pat S.**

### **PRESENTATION/NOTES:**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

February 8, 2017, the Grapevine office reported there were

- 93 Grapevine Area Chairs
- 5,421 Group Grapevine Representatives
- 1,078 District Grapevine Representatives
- 519 Group La Viña Representatives
- And 21 District La Viña Representatives

#### **COMMENTS:**

- Many participants reported their groups have copies of the Grapevine at their meetings, but they need copies of La Viña for when they have Spanish-speaking visitors.
- About a third of those we heard from said their groups have Grapevine subscriptions but no Grapevine representative.
- One group orders a Grapevine subscription for their county jail.
- Another commented they have a Grapevine display at all functions.
- A half dozen GSRs reported they hold Grapevine meetings during which an article is read then discussed.
- One group has five to 10 copies of the current Grapevine donated anonymously every month.
- One person reported many newcomers are not aware of the Grapevine.
- Another group introduces all newcomers to the Grapevine.
- It was noted the Grapevine is available online. One person said they have an online subscription and share the password (which is probably frowned upon by the Grapevine staff!).
- One person said Grapevine needs to better address the needs of our Native American AA members.
- One group has a tradition that a person celebrating his/her AA birthday purchase a subscription for a newcomer.
- Another group has a raffle with a Grapevine subscription as the prize.
- Several groups start their meetings on a positive note by reading a Grapevine joke.

- A group donates old editions to newcomers at no cost, while another donates all their old copies to the local jail. It was noted past editions can be purchased from the Grapevine office in bulk at a lower cost.
- It was suggested that Grapevine workshops help gain more interest.
- It was pointed out the Grapevine Representative position is yet another way to be of service.
- Literature stands have Grapevines and subscription forms.
- One person said "everybody wants it in digital form...AA is way behind on this." (It was pointed out that it is available online).
- Several at the Spanish Speaking District said La Viña does not meet the needs of their community and they stopped reading it, but another at the same session said it is "vital" to his recovery. Asked how to make it better fit their needs, there was no reply.

**Agenda Item J: Request for Literature and/or Language regarding safety 140 pages of background**

**Presenter: Sue & Recorder: Carri**

**PRESENTATION:**

Sue H. NAGSC P.I. Chair Presenter of Agenda Item J at Roundtables Sparks NV on Feb 25, 2017  
 Letters received by General Service Office: Many of the letters were written and sent to the General Service Office were inspired by AA members previously attending PRAASA (Pacific Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly). They were also inspired by the upcoming Theme and Topics that will be presented at the 2017 General service conference. Reason for letters: Unity and Safety in AA are being threaten by: • Disruptive Individuals and Aggressive Behavior • Persons who are confrontational and unwilling to put the needs of the group first • Behavior that hijacks the focus of a meeting or causes fear in others Letters were focused on: • Concerns regarding recent and continuing media coverage on safety issues in AA • That AA is not above the law and anonymity does not provide legal protection • Individuals who act out and injurious to others are legally accountable • Concerned about serious legal issues and recent lawsuits against: • Gen. Service Board of alcoholics anonymous, • Alcoholics Anonymous world service Inc., AAWS • Persons sponsoring in AA Letters are requesting GSO or the Conference for: • Information, clarity, guidance and suggestions regarding safety • Create a new piece of AA literature on safety • Review and Change sections of the "AA Group" pamphlet and inventory questions • Utilize other countries guidelines on safety for reference and a starting point Suggested Changes: Recommended wording: "Individual safety is something each person attending an AA meeting should be individually mindful of. Groups should endeavor to provide a safe meeting Place and encourage one another especially new attendees do not engage in any behavior it's may place themselves or others in fear for any reason. The tradition of anonymity should never be used as a shield to conceal wrongdoing should've situation arise where person safety is in jeopardy or criminal behavior is occurring the appropriate authority should be consulted and cooperated with." Suggested questions for creating literature could include: • What can we do about another's attempt to attract romantic interest of newcomers? • What should the group do about members who return to drinking? • How can we boost lagging attendance at meetings? • How can we get more people to help with group chores? • What can we do about members Breaking anonymity? • How can we get out from under those old-timers who insist they know what's best for the group? • How we get more old timers to share their experience in resolving group dilemmas? Developing literature may: • Tend to provide a more attractive and safe environment for all looking to recover • Provide information to our professional friends who refer alcoholics to AA • Provide information for AA groups seeking solutions for: • Address ahead of time Incidences of violence

- Concerns about bullying • Harassment both sexual and non-sexual • Offensive behavior within meetings Suggestions for Groups and Meetings: • Have a plan for emergencies and don't hesitate to call 911 - safety should be paramount • Create meeting guidelines and formats that state expectations for behavior during meeting • Provide Secretaries and chairmen with their responsibilities to maintain order during meetings, (see AA Service Manual – Concepts) • Meeting Formats

include statements such as "illegal and disruptive behavior is not tolerated" • Hold workshops at the Area or District level to share ideas • Hold group inventory using the Questions from the AA Group pamphlet Pg: 29-30 • Meet face to face with a predator and encourage them to get a sponsor • Support in Calling the authorities when necessary • Advise females sponsees about not bringing their old habits into a meeting place • Share with sponsees about privacy, good Judgment, common sense and responsibility • Older members need to keep an eye out for newer members & treat them with respect and dignity

**B. VI. Literature: J. Consider requests for literature and/ or language regarding safety.**

**Literature Item "J"**

**Presenter: Sue & Recorder: Carri**

**NOTES:**

- What about safety being discussed in all the AA pamphlets?
- We should ask for a "New" one- but what should we ask?
- Groups pay attention to your members get involved
- Better communication within the groups.
- Make the messages in these pamphlets have details "do we call 911, when do we call 911 ... etc."
- Let's see how the new "Safety in AA Our Common Welfare" pamphlet works out first.
- "New" pamphlet -AA is getting a bad image.
- "New" pamphlet with very specific information on how we act in a meeting.
- "New" include the first tradition in the pamphlet
- "New" discuss how mental illness is not an excuse for your bad behavior
- Tell stories in the pamphlets with examples of different situations and how they were resolved
- "New" in this case "more is better"
- Group members be pro-active-inform new comers how to act in groups
- Address these issues right away
- Book says we stay out of peoples sex lives
- Put in group format
- Don't want to scare off the newcomer/do not put in group format
- Workshops on this topic- group inventory-inform group
- Secretary workshops
- Recommend to have a plan that the "group" agrees to about predators-who does "what and when"
- Easier to change old pamphlets
- "Don't" go down the road of exclusion -principals before personalities
- One sentence phrase about safety something like "what you see here, stays here" but about safety
- Set group rules - have the secretary be pro-active in that one hour in keeping group safe-
- If we do change or get a new pamphlet make sure that the writing is more "gender" detailed especially the part that speaks of women only -include all genders
- Each group is autonomous .....But it also says except in matters affecting AA as a whole -do something.

**2017 Treatment and Accessibilities B Presentation**

**Presenter-Gary & Scribe-Anne**

**PRESENTATION:**

Agenda item B: Discuss the accessibility of the A.A, message for Armed Services veterans.

Background notes: 2016 trustees report, The 2016 trustee's committee on the general Service Conference took no action on a request to consider the development of an Armed Services Conference Committee or a Armed Services staff position. But noted great interest in the subject and requested a report back on the issue.

December 10, 2016 District 20 in Area 57 (Oklahoma) They requested the conference consider the special needs of Veterans in A.A. and to generate more Discussion to determine how A.A. can better serve alcoholics with military experience. District 20 put together an Ad Hoc committee to look into the issue, not asking for new literature as they are aware that there are members of A.A. that feel that we already have enough pamphlets and also those who are opposed to any type of "specialty" meetings. But rather look into how A.A. could better carry the message to alcoholics currently active and even after discharge from the military.

The Ad Hoc committee pointed out

\*In the last decade over 40 million people have served in United States Armed Forces, 2.8 million Americans have served in Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan and there are currently over 2 million troops in uniform.

\*Military personnel suffering from alcoholism are limited in their ability to access help from A.A. while overseas, on military bases in the United States and abroad, as well as within the military "subculture" even after discharge.

\*Members of our Armed Forces sometimes go to great lengths just to find A.A.

Since the International Convention in Atlanta, the Ad Hoc members investigated how veterans with alcohol problems are being served by A.A.

\*That many local A.A. groups are taking meetings into VA Hospitals.

\*That many of those meetings are not listed in meeting directories.

\*That if there are any "specialty" meetings for A.A. members with post traumatic stress, they are very hard to find.

\*That while not wanting to be seen as different or special, some would like to see more groups focused on their needs.

\*That many veterans are very open to A.A. and appreciate any help provided by A.A. members connected to them by our Armed Forces.

Ad Hoc committee conclusions:

The grapevine was originally created as "our meeting in print" for our troops in World War II, yet aa.org has no link and no directory of meetings on line these men and women can use to find meetings, Do we need such a link?

We have a desk at GSO that serves 400 loners and internationalists, but no way to serve between 4 and 20 million veterans. Do we need such a desk?

It should be noted that the 2011 GSC decided to up date the stories in the pamphlet "AA and the Armed Forces" to include more modern experience.

Note: District 20 attempted to get Area 57's support for this request at the Area Committee Meeting on Dec 4<sup>th</sup> 2016 But it got bogged down in confusion that they were requesting a special desk at GSO for this and that "we don't need any more literature"

Do we need to do more in this area? If so what ?

**C. VIII. Public Information: B. Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan:**





1. **Review the trustees' Public Information Committee report on the public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.**
2. **Review 2017 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.**
3. **Discuss suggestion to update the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity."**

**Presenter-Gary & Scribe-Anne**

**NOTES:**

PI online items B. 1,  
2 & 3

- Maybe we/ AA should look at how NA is using Social Media
- Like the idea of an online meeting, but private on private page, does not want things posted publicly.
- Pamphlet needs to be updated (number of people that think pamphlet needs to be updated was 12 total out of all five group discussions.)
- Global matter needs to be thought out and updated.
- There is a fine line and what should we do?
- Keep AA off social media.
- Fellowship already has private pages.
- It needs to be out there for discussion.
- We can do PSA'S on social media sights.
- We should not have a web access that is linked on Google.
- Need to make other media sites.
- Anonymity Pamphlet needs to be all inclusive.
- We need to be active in how we use the internet with all changes.

If there is a social media site would it be monitored?

**D. X. Treatment and Accessibilities: B. Discuss the accessibility of the A.A. message for Armed Services Veterans.**

**Presenter: Pat & Recorder:**

**Mary PRESENTATION/NOTES:**

**X. Treatment/ Special Needs-Accessibilities Item B**

Discuss the accessibility of the A.A. message for Armed Services veterans.

At first the overall sense of the discussion seemed evenly divided as to the question: does AA do enough for the Armed Services veteran. When we gathered a sense of the round tables following the presentation, most felt AA does enough. Here are the talking points:

Some discussion pointed out that communication is always a problem; getting our message to the alcoholic who still suffers is our primary purpose. Different thoughts included that there should be a link on the aa.org website to link veterans to local meetings. Others added even local meeting schedules do not have AA meetings specific to veterans listed. Still others added, this is the groups responsibility: to tell people (veterans) where there is a meeting (through intergroup).

Is this a CPC/ PI/ H&I/ Treatment issue? Don't we already have outreach committees involved in this work? Is this a tradition five problem of primary purpose? If you want a special group, then have one. We are not professionals; this would deviate. We need more understanding of the problem: who are we not reaching? What do the veterans think of this? Any way we can reach out to the suffering alcoholic, let's do it. Get our AA literature to the VA, bring a meeting into the VA. We need people at committee level; we have plenty of committees, we need committee members for CPC, PI, and Treatment. We can register a group; it creates a link. How difficult is it for a vet to find a meeting in the US? Other countries may punish people for alcohol. AA Grapevine online is available to those overseas. Other meetings that go to institutions, jails, and prisons make sure their populations know of the meetings. Central Offices' may not be able to

pint you to a vet only meeting. AA's role to access vet: the pamphlet. We can't address PTSD. The vet will find another vet at a meeting. There is something missing that links a vet with AA. People are not truly satisfied with out literature. In the past the veterans wanted "no one left behind" added to the literature; it did not pass as it was too military. Veterans seem to have a different experience that only an AA in military can relate to. It is a valid concern. . When vets reach out to vets, AAs get help. Would having a veteran's hotline for AA be helpful? Lack of coordination between CPC and the VA; our responsibility is to link up. Should we be publishing closed meetings? If we start labeling people through different lenses, we will be losing our message. Even some vets don't feel that the VA understands the alcohol problem for the vet. Their PTSD may keep them from treatment. Locally the VA had a meeting brought in but they stopped and now is a process group. Last two years Accessibilities committee tried to get into VA to discuss bringing in an AA meeting and they could not reach anyone at the VA. There are multiple places where we find service people so there should be multiple solutions: overseas, in the US, the VA in general. Let's go through the delegate. Should we approach this on a district level; if district add a veteran or armed service meeting weekly (like we do with young people or LGBT), it could be a start. Is this a don't ask, don't tell military issue? From a vet: we need to share from the heart.

## **Break**

## **DCM Reports**

### **District 2, Tom M**

Starting out the new year the district adopted a new set of guidelines. District 2 had been operating without guidelines prior to this.

In our January meeting we discussed the upcoming items:

- o Panel 67
  - o Roundtables
  - o PRAASA
  - o The assembly/ which we will be hosting
- We decided to visit non participating district 2 groups to try to improve General Service participation.

We also came up with a few ideas for our district GSR are to participate in for fun.

- o Group invasion- we will all pick a meeting and go en-masse/ also as a district we will sponsor a monthly speaker meeting.

In February, we elected a new secretary, Sabrina S

We also decided to fund GSRs to attend PRAASA, This is beyond normal additional funding to give as many GSRs as possible to get the PRAASA experience in anticipation of Reno hosting the event next year.

We set up a speaker Sue H. of PI committee to address our meeting in March  
Very happy to be working with such an enthusiastic district.

### **District 4, Darrell S**

The district met on 2 March, 2017. There was a short discussion about visiting groups in the district and ways to create interest in participating in the district meeting. I am looking forward to visiting groups in the district and getting acquainted with them. This will begin in April. Tom B. was elected as the district intergroup Rep. At this time, we are still in need of a Grape Vine Rep. The first few weeks as DCM in preparation for the round table and PRAASA has proven to be challenging and exciting. I am looking forward to meeting and working with the officers and GSR's in the district. As it stands now district 4 needs to fill the Grapevine Rep. and Intergroup Rep. positions. I hope accomplish this in the near future. Grateful to be of service Darrell S DCM, District 4

**District 6, Michael L**

District 6 DCM Report  
February 25, 2017

Hello everyone my is Mike L I am an alcoholic serving as the new District 6 DCM. District 6 encompasses Douglas County, Carson City, South Lake Tahoe in California, and east to Stage Coach in Lyon County. We have about 20 home groups participating and we hope by reaching out we can grow that number. All our chair positions are filled which include Pi/CPC, Corrections/ Treatment, Grapevine, Intergroup Liaison and our new position, district Archivist . At our first meeting this rotation Sue H made her first PI presentation as NAGSC PI chair and gave a presentation where we all learned a lot how PI works. Thank you Sue and we hope to have all the NAGSC chairs to visit us so we can all learn how we all can better serve. We are even of getting the beginning of a Bridging the Gap Committee. Because of the encouragement of the NNIG Bridging the Gap chair Pat B who invited myself and other District 6 members to a staff meeting of BHS treatment facility. Where we made a presentation of the Bridging Gap program which was well received by the staff. I am very grateful for as a district we are so blessed with so many active members willing to serve. Thank you letting me to be of service.

**District 8, Peggy H - No Report**

**District 10a, Ema E - No Report**

**District 12, Cate S - No Report**

**District 14, Mark P – No Report**

**District 16, Nancy W – No Report**

**District 20, Heidi R- No Report**

**District 22, Luis C – No Report**

**Secretary, Monica S** – Thank you everyone for the opportunity to serve as your Northern Secretary. I am looking forward to seeing you at P.R.A.A.S.A. 2017 and Spring Conference. If there is anything that I can do please do not hesitate to contact me. My E-mail is [moservice42@yahoo.com](mailto:moservice42@yahoo.com). Thank you again for everything you do, to make out Area great.

**Registrar, Laura J**

Area Registrar report to Nagsc -  
Saturday February 25, 2017

I have to say that the learning curve involved with this, my newest commitment in Alcoholics Anonymous, has been substantial, mainly due to the fact there is a software program provided by GSO in which we record and store the current information about registered groups, their locations, meeting times and contact persons. Like a lot of the computer science in our beloved fellowship the program is about 10 years behind the current technology and is cumbersome to learn and use. I will say that I am now feeling confident and competent with the system, having read the manual, yes, all 190 pages, and having had much practice inputting all of the new rotation assignments. My job going

forward will be to continue to update the records, to help those who would like to access the data, and to prepare for registration for Area Assembly.

The online registration for Assembly is available. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/area-42-spring-assembly-tickets-31608770684>

Please continue to update your group and district information with me and contact me with any questions on this or on Area Assembly registration.

## **Archivist, Lyle C**

Area 42 Archivist

As the Archivist, I maintain and add to our Archives. Also, I am available to provide presentations of our archives at your functions. Here is a quote from the Archives Workbook: "we ensure that our original message of recovery, unity and service remains the same in a changing, growing, expanding Fellowship that constantly renews itself."

On January 28<sup>th</sup> our past Alternate Archivist, Pat S., and I showed the DVD "Markings on the Journey" after the Minden-Gardnerville Saturday night birthday celebration. AA.org describes the DVD as "This newly revised DVD depicts nearly 80 years of A.A.'s history using rare material from the General Service Office Archives. It explores A.A.'s pioneering days and growth in the United States and Canada, as well as around the world." It was very well attended, and we had a great time. If you are interested in our history please come talk to me. Please come say hi to Dawn, Charlie and I at the archives display at the Reno Spring Festival on March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

Yours in Service, Lyle C

## **Cooperation with Professional Community, Anne Y- No Report**

### **Public Information, Sue H**

Northern Area #42 General Service Committee (NAGSC)

Standing Committee Report

Date: February 12, 2017

Committee: Public Information Report

Chairperson: Sue H

**PURPOSE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE:** To create a greater understanding of Alcoholics Anonymous and address misunderstandings of the AA program.

#### **METHOD:**

1. Speaking to DCM to find committee members for P.I.
2. Speaking with GSR to find committee members for P.I.
3. By Making presentations at District meetings about P.I.
4. Working with current District P.I.'s chairs to assist in forming committees

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

1. Presented P.I. info at the NAGSC welcome meeting in Sparks 1-28-2017
2. Created Contact sign up sheet and followed up with each person on list
3. Presented P.I. info at District 6 meeting on 2-12-2017.
4. Contacted NNIG Website regarding meeting listing. Now local meetings are going to be listed under it's city and under Nevada heading. It wasn't under NV before - Voted on at IG - Pass and will be changed
5. Met with the manager, Alex, of the Carson City Alano Club to understand his requests regarding rehabs and of the persons coming to the Fish thrift store.
6. Provided a big book and 12 and 12 in the library of the Silver Springs senior center
7. Speaking at the following upcoming District meetings: District, 4, 10a and 16

8. Spoke on Panel For Victim Impact Panel at Tahoe Justice Court - providing Information to Judges and Audience

**REQUEST RECEIVED:**

9. Research sheriff websites and departments for contact information to provide public information on Alcoholics Anonymous
10. To meet with the district attorney and judges in Alpine County and provide information on Alcoholics Anonymous
11. To help David D regarding meetings in his area, refer to Mike L and Phil W
12. contacted each DCM and made myself available for our workshop in their district on public information and anonymity
13. asked for volunteers to become the committee members for public information in each district.

**PROJECTS:**

1. An AA sign or symbol outside of meetings for visitors and new persons to locate meetings easier
2. To provide big books and 12 and 12's two senior centers, Schools libraries along with the AA at a glance pamphlet and meeting information
3. To contact Radio station 105.7. They are offering free PSA available airtime on Sundays

**NEXT STEPS:**

1. to Contact GSO for information on the latest letters sent to newspapers and radio stations regarding PSA's and anonymity
2. To discuss with the DCM the request received in Alpine County, District 8 - refer to DCM

**Grapevine, Pat S**

From: Pat S. (NAGSC Grapevine Chair)

Date: 25 February 2017 Topic:

Grapevine Chair report

I am humbled to have been asked to serve as your Grapevine Committee chair. High on my priority list is to form a committee with representatives from every District within NAGSC. It would be great if individual groups would also name GVR (Grapevine Representatives). On the horizon: A fun, potluck Grapevine workshop to be held (tentatively) April 29 at a location and time to be announced (probably in the Reno-Sparks area). In addition to fellowship and learning about the Grapevine, participants will be asked to bring laptops and actually write articles to be submitted to the Grapevine. We'll have all the details on how to do this at the workshop. We may also have a trivia contest with fun prizes. I look forward to a great two years spreading the word about our beloved "Meeting in Print" - the Grapevine.

Our committee will also serve Spanish-speaking AA members and their monthly newsletter, La Viña.

Yours in service, Pat S.

**Corrections Facilities, Samantha G**

**Accessibilities/ Remote Communities, Mary D**

**Treatment Facilities/Bridging The Gap, Pat B - Treatment / Bridging The Gap Committee Report**

I am looking forward to working with the NAGSC Districts in furthering the development of A.A.'s relationship with the Treatment Community, the implementation of Bridging The Gap, and building Treatment Committees where appropriate within the Districts throughout the Northern Area. In some Districts, there are teams in place that are taking meetings into Treatment Facilities. In some cases, these Fellowship teams are not necessarily connected with General Service. For example, in the greater Reno, Sparks, Carson City area, Treatment Facility meetings are coordinated by Intergroup. In other cities, we find there are Corrections and Treatment Committees. Whatever the alignment, my goal is to share A.A. resources with Fellowship members to further our ability to carry the message to clients in Treatment Facilities. The DCM's can help in this area by providing the contact information for Fellowship members who are involved in taking meetings into Treatment Facilities, more specifically the Chair of such a committee if one does exist in their Districts. I am pleased to report that following the initial Bridging The Gap Management presentation at Carson Behavioral Health Services, this Treatment Facility has decided to support Bridging The Gap and wants to begin BTG presentations to their clients as soon as possible. The initial BTG Management presentation at Carson BHS was attended by three District 6 BTG Committee members and six of the management staff from Carson BHS. Well prior to our initial presentation, the Fellowship team in District 6, (Carson City), sought and found volunteers to start a Bridging The Gap Committee for the greater Carson City area. Well done in Carson! The New Frontier Treatment Facility in Fallon has requested that the Bridging The Gap Committee assembled in District 12, (Fallon), begin making presentations to their clients as soon as possible. Following a BTG presentation at the District 12 Committee meeting, the District members have assembled a Bridging The Gap Committee that will plan and carry out the Bridging The Gap program at New Frontier and in District

12. Congratulations to District 12! In the greater Reno area, (Districts 2 & 4), the Treatment Facility and Bridging The Gap functions are under the organization of the Intergroup Chairs for these service functions. Many members of the General Service Committees in these Districts are participating members in the Intergroup Treatment and Bridging The Gap committees. Within these Districts, Renown Behavioral Health Services recently entertained the BTG Management presentation and requested that BTG presentations to their clients begin immediately. We are now making BTG client presentations on a five week cycle at Renown. The CrossRoads Treatment Facility in Reno has fully accepted our Bridging The Gap proposal. Presentations are being made monthly at both the women's and men's facilities at CrossRoads. The BTG Management presentation has been delivered to the West Hills Treatment Facility in Reno. We are awaiting a program start date. The BTG Management presentation has been delivered to the State of Nevada Department of Health & Human Services, Behavioral Health Division. This organization operates an outpatient treatment program and a special class called "continuing care". We are awaiting a response as to the start up timing for BTG at this facility. We have a number of facilities targeted for future BTG Management presentations. Throughout the Northern Nevada General Service area, we have an on-going need for Bridging The Gap Temporary Contact Volunteers, fondly referred to as "Gappers". These are Fellowship members who have agreed to take a newcomer to their first A.A. meeting once the client departs a Treatment Facility. Clients leaving treatment may reside anywhere within the geographical boundaries of our Northern Service Area, thus the need for volunteers in every zip code in NAGSC. While we have 91 Temporary Contact Volunteers throughout NAGSC to date, we still have voids in several zip codes. It may be enlightening to point out that Service work within the Treatment Facility community may include facilities such as psychiatric hospitals, nursing homes, youth noncorrectional facilities, shelters, halfway houses, and others. Facilities such as these may exist within some Districts and provide an opportunity to carry our message through the formation of a Treatment

Committee if a committee is not already in place. I look forward to exploring the opportunities with each District as we go forward.

Pat Brennan NAGSC Treatment / Bridging The Gap

**Intergroup Liaison, Chris S**

**GSR Survival Manual/Trainer, Carol B**

NAGSC  
GSR  
Survival  
Training  
Report

Panel 67 has begun with some long awaited winter weather, which we have been in need of for several years, and I'm sure it has affected some of our travels the last several weeks.

I haven't had any GSR Workshops as of yet, but I'm hopeful to possibly set something up today. I'm truly looking forward to meeting with the Northern Area GSRs to support and assistance in any and all ways that I can be of service.

It's been a wonderful experience continually serving in Area 42 General Service for 16 years. In 2001, with nine years of sobriety, my district and therefore, my group came out of the dark (a district is considered dark when there is no DCM representation), and I was selected to become a GSR, what a blessing to receive this growing and learning opportunity the GSR position has created for me to continue to serve Alcoholics Anonymous in a manor I didn't know existed for me.

Thank you for allowing me to continue serving in General Service, this is a commitment which has been fulfilling to and for me.

Carol B.

**DCM Standing Committee Facilitator, John F**

DCM coordinator report  
Feb 25 2017

January 28<sup>th</sup> Service panel orientation was a great success with up to 30 members attending. We had new and past DCM's in attendance along with standing committee chairs sharing information and asking question about their upcoming service commitments. I have touched base with my southern friend Claudia B., DCMC from the Las Vegas area, as we prepare for our DCM workshop at the Area Assembly. I will be attending PRAASA in Sacramento and as previously mentioned the Area Assembly in Tonopah. It is my goal this year to visit every District this year and attend one of their District meetings. Thank you for the service opportunity, John 😊

**Next Meeting: June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017**

**Close with the Responsibility Statement**