

Alcoholics Anonymous – Area 75

Pre-Conference Assembly

Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2015 • Madison Senior Center • 330 West Mifflin Street • Madison, WI 53703

Officers Present:

Drew A. – Delegate, Barb W. – Alt. Delegate/Literature, Kris K. – Chair, Katherine G. – Alt. Chair, Bob S. – Secretary, Vanessa L. – Alt. Secretary, Peter W. – Treasurer,

Standing Committee Chairpersons Present:

Brent H. – Archives, Nancy S. – Archivist, Bart V. – CPC, Randy R. – Grapevine, Mike G. – PI, Sean M. – Treatment, Chris D. – Registrar, Al B. – Webmaster, Nancy H. - Conference Advisory Committee Chair, Chris S. – 2015 Conference, Tom R. – 2016 Fall Conference, Fred K. – 2017 Conference Chair Chris D. - Registrar

DCMs Present:

D01 – Rosalie H.T.; D02 – Camela S.; D03 – Alt. Tom R.; D10 – Noe V.; D12 – Diana K.; D13 – Terry H.; D14 – Frank S.; D15 – Steve G.; D16 – Alt. John L.; D17 – Rebecca B.; D20 – Alt. Sunshine S.; D25 – Zach L. Alt. Thomas B.; D27 – Jay R.; D29 – Connie S., Alt. Tim M.; D30 - David A.; D31 – Thomas W.; D32 – Steve E.; D34 – Alt. E. J. P.; D35 – Anne S.; D36 – Pam See

GSRs, Alternate GSRs, District Committee Chairs, and Others Present:

D1 – Jennifer B.; D2 – Fred K.; D13 – Jess G.; D – 14 Les C. Wade H.; D15 – Veronica O.; D16 – Mike B.; D17 – Steve N.; D20 – Patrick S., Chad H., Billy G., Charlie D., Billy S., Justin P., Travis E., Luis H., Bonnie N., Travis G., Terri N., Paul S., Sid R., Kimmer L., Barb C., Jack K., Rick B., Zack O., Mike D., Mike M., D25 – George B., Jeff Z., Jennifer H., Marion B., Mike M., Sandy M., Stephanie M., D27 – Bobbie M.; D28 – Terry R.; D29 – Pat B.; D32 – Chad A., Mark S.; Charlie M., Daniel P., Jacob R., Jerome S., Patrick J., Glen M.

Past Delegates Present:

John B., George P., Nancy H., Randy R.

Kris C., Area Chairperson, opened the meeting with a moment of silence, followed by the serenity prayer on Sunday, , 2014.

Barb W.. read the Twelve Concepts.

Bob S., Area Secretary, took Ro

Secretary's Report – Bob S.

Treasurer's Report – Peter W.

Income and Expenses	
01/01/2015 -03/31/2015	
Account	2015
INCOME	
Conference Proceeds	\$0.00
Corrections Literature Fund - In	\$698.33
General Contributions	\$6,064.44
INCOME - TOTAL	\$6,762.77
EXPENSES	
Alternate Chair - TOTAL	\$0.00
Alternate Delegate - TOTAL	\$299.99
Alternate Secretary - TOTAL	\$66.43
Alternate Treasurer - TOTAL	\$124.08
Archives Chair - TOTAL	\$0.00
Archivist - TOTAL	\$1,200.00
Area Chair - TOTAL	\$0.00
CPC Chair - TOTAL	\$0.00
Conference Advisory Chair - TOTAL	\$0.00
Corrections Chair - TOTAL	\$427.18
Delegate - TOTAL	\$887.84
General Service Conference - TOTAL	\$1,600.00
Grapevine Chair - TOTAL	\$544.55
Overhead - TOTAL	\$990.00
PI Chair - TOTAL	\$0.00
Secretary - TOTAL	\$227.01

Income and Expenses	
01/01/2014 - 03/31/2014	
Account	2014
INCOME	
Conference Proceeds	\$0.00
Corrections Literature Fund - In	\$950.12
General Contributions	\$5,881.62
INCOME - TOTAL	\$6,831.74
EXPENSES	
Alternate Chair - TOTAL	\$0.00
Alternate Delegate - TOTAL	\$515.12
Alternate Secretary - TOTAL	\$0.00
Alternate Treasurer - TOTAL	\$0.00
Archives Chair - TOTAL	\$530.19
Archivist - TOTAL	\$1,200.00
Area Chair - TOTAL	\$263.94
CPC Chair - TOTAL	\$447.35
Conference Advisory Chair - TOTAL	\$0.00
Corrections Chair - TOTAL	\$0.00
Delegate - TOTAL	\$973.87
General Service Conference - TOTAL	\$1,600.00
Grapevine Chair - TOTAL	\$0.00
Overhead - TOTAL	\$939.75
PI Chair - TOTAL	\$0.00
Secretary - TOTAL	\$224.13

Special Needs Chair - TOTAL	\$0.00
Treasurer - TOTAL	\$311.06
Treatment - TOTAL	\$0.00
Corrections Literature Fund Out	\$934.60
EXPENSES - TOTAL	\$7,612.74
TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES	(\$849.97)

Special Needs Chair - TOTAL	\$0.00
Treasurer - TOTAL	\$322.13
Treatment - TOTAL	\$0.00
Corrections Literature Fund Out	\$530.72
EXPENSES - TOTAL	\$7,547.20
TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES	(\$715.46)

Budget To Actual Condensed

<u>Category</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>-</u>
Alternate Chair	\$980.00	\$0.00	\$980.00	0%	
Alternate Delegate	\$2,791.70	\$299.99	\$2,491.71	11%	
Alternate Secretary	\$452.50	\$66.43	\$386.07	15%	
Alternate Treasurer	\$467.00	\$124.08	\$342.92	27%	
Archives Chair	\$1,400.00	\$0.00	\$1,400.00	0%	
Archivist	\$3,240.00	\$1,200.00	\$2,040.00	37%	
Area Chair	\$3,047.00	\$0.00	\$3,047.00	0%	
CPC Chair	\$3,115.00	\$0.00	\$3,115.00	0%	
Conference Advisory Chair	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	0%	
Corrections Chair	\$3,660.00	\$427.18	\$3,232.82	12%	
Delegate	\$3,955.00	\$887.84	\$3,067.16	22%	
General Service Conference	\$5,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$4,000.00	29%	
Grapevine Chair	\$1,915.00	\$544.55	\$1,370.45	28%	
Overhead	\$5,231.50	\$990.00	\$4,241.50	19%	
PI Chair	\$1,620.00	\$0.00	\$1,620.00	0%	
Secretary	\$2,227.00	\$227.01	\$1,999.99	10%	
Special Needs Chair	\$1,419.01	\$0.00	\$1,419.01	0%	
Treasurer	\$1,735.45	\$311.06	\$1,424.39	18%	
Treatment	\$1,014.00	\$0.00	\$1,014.00	0%	
<u>Total</u>	\$44,370.16	\$6,678.14	\$37,692.02	15.05%	

Account Balances		Account Balances	
As of: 03/31/2015		As of: 03/31/2014	
Account	Current Balance	Account	Current Balance
Bank Accounts		Bank Accounts	
Conference Funds	\$8,500.00	Conference Funds	\$9,246.31
Operations Account		Operations Account	
Corrections Literature	\$816.99	Corrections Literature	\$2,433.43
General Funds	\$2,452.46	General Funds	\$243.79
Prudent Reserve	\$3,000.00	Prudent Reserve	\$4,750.00
Operations Account - Total	\$6,269.45	Operations Account - Total	\$7,427.22
Bank Accounts - Total	\$14,769.45	Bank Accounts - Total	\$16,673.53
Assets		Assets	
Area Conferences		Area Conferences	
2015 Conference	\$1,500.00		
2016 Conference	\$2,000.00	2014 Conference	\$2,500.00
2016 Fall Conference	\$500.00	2015 Conference	\$500.00
Area Conferences - Total	\$4,000.00	2016 Conference	\$1,000.00
Assets - Total	\$4,000.00	Area Conferences - Total	\$4,000.00
		Assets - Total	\$4,000.00
Total	\$18,769.45		
		Total	\$20,673.53

Delegate's Report – Drew A.

First I want to thank everyone that showed up for the Delegate's Workshop. By my count, we had approximately 110 people in attendance. Your comments and concerns regarding the agenda items were extremely valuable. Your final reports and notes have been transcribed to a master copy that will travel with me to the General Service Conference in New York this coming week.

Many of my activities have centered on preparing for the General Service Conference including: filling out required conference forms, making travel arrangements, distribution of the Final Conference Agenda and background materials, reading all of the background material and concentrating on my assigned committee (Trustees).

As part of my preparation for the General Service Conference, I attended the Conference of Delegates Past and Present in Bay City, Michigan. It gave me an opportunity to meet all of the other Delegates and alternates from the East Central Region. Area 75 was well represented by past Delegates and other interested members. I was able to practice the 2 minute area highlights that I will present at the Conference in May. I also had the opportunity to experience what happens at a committee meeting and a conference general session.

Since we last met, I also had the opportunity to attend District 11's district meeting and spoke about the service structure and the role of the delegate within the structure. I had the honor of being the A.A. speaker at Group 48's Open Meeting. I met with District 1 and went over the full agenda for the General Service Conference providing some context to the agenda items and emphasizing the importance of the Delegate's Workshop. I had the opportunity to attend District 2 district meeting and spoke about the service structure and the role of the delegate within the structure. I attended the 39th Annual Badger Intergroup.

I have been forwarding all the electronic mail I receive regarding the GSO, AAWS, Grapevine and the General Service Board to all the people listed in the Area Directory as well as those that have made a special request to receive the material. If you are not receiving my emails and wish to, please send me an email and I will update my contact list. During the past three months, I have forwarded a number of documents that are of interest:

- January Highlights from A.A.W.S.
- An update on the sales of the 75th Anniversary Book sales in 2014
- General Service Board Meeting minutes for January 31 – Feb 2, 2015
- Grapevine News Letters

It would be impossible for me to summarize these documents adequately in my report today but there are a few items I wanted to highlight.

For the 12 months of 2014, through December 31, total gross sales (including digital book sales) were \$17,128,000 which was \$2,152,100 (14.37%) over budget for the year. The price increase for book titles went into effect on October 1, 2014. (As expected, sales in the month prior to the price increase spiked—with a substantial non-A.A. purchase—and this helped drive a record level of total sales for the corporation for the year.)

Regarding a request that the Trustees Committee on the General Service Conference review A.A.W.S. literature pricing, the minutes from the committee meeting read:

The committee discussed a request that “The GSC Literature Committee to review all proposed literature pricing by AAWS. After review the Literature Committee would then send the proposal to the General Service Conference for disapproval if any,” and agreed to take no action. The committee noted that review of proposed pricing is not in the scope of the Conference Literature Committee and that pricing of literature published by A.A.W.S. falls under the purview of the A.A.W.S. Board.”

Within the minutes for the Trustees Finance Committee, the following reference to discussions regarding the price increase can be found:

In response to a request from an Area that the Trustees Finance and the entire GSB consider whether the October 1, 2014 literature price increase was adequately considered and discussed, it was pointed out by the Treasurer that the increase was explicitly discussed at the February 2014 meetings when the 2014 budget was approved and then again at the July 2014 meetings when the amounts were actually determined and agreed upon. After considerable discussion, the Trustees Finance Committee decided to take no action. The Trustees Finance Committee did however request that information be prepared by the AAWS Self-Support Committee describing their efforts to date and sent as a discussion item to the Conference Committee on Finance.

A.A.W.S provided the following update regarding the sales of the 75th Anniversary Book in 2014:

- 177,888 books sold during 2014, yielding a gross profit of \$984,848.
- An early reorder created an overstock situation and required an accounting write-off of 125,000 books in the amount of \$823,152.
- Net profit was \$161,696 (\$984,848 less \$823,152).
- 40,000 books on hand are budgeted and expected to sell in 2015.
- An additional 125,000 books remain in inventory; available to sale.
- Efforts will continue beyond 2015 to sell the remaining 75th Anniversary Books.
- The printing of the 75th Anniversary Commemorative Edition reflects the group conscience and Advisory Action of the 63rd General Service Conference and celebrates the history and message in our Big Book.
- The 75th Anniversary Commemorative Edition has most importantly provided us with the opportunity to share our history and excitement for the message of A.A. as was experienced and shared by our founding members.

- The write-off in 2014 of the 75th Anniversary Commemorative Edition was done in accordance with good accounting practices and is being reported to the Fellowship.

The International Conference will be held in Atlanta GA July 2-5, 2015. The East Central Region will be hosting a hospitality room at the International Conference. The hospitality committee has asked each Area to contribute \$300 towards the purchase of bottled water. This request was made after we set the Area budget for the year and the finance committee feels we lack sufficient funds to cover the cost. We are hoping individuals, groups and districts would be willing to donate some money so that Area 75 can monetarily contribute towards the cost of the hospitality room.

The trustees' Committee on Literature of the General Service Board has an opening for a nontrustee appointed committee member. If you would like more information, please contact me.

The East Central Regional Forum is scheduled for November 13-15 at the Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport Hotel in Milwaukee WI. Registration forms will be mailed out in the near future and online registration is available at http://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/regional-and-local-forums.

From aa.org:

Regional Forums, which originated in 1975, are weekend-long sharing and informational sessions which provide unique opportunities to share and exchange valuable experience, ask questions and spark new ideas. They are also designed to help the General Service Board, A.A. World Services, the Grapevine Board; and G.S.O. and Grapevine staff members stay in touch with A.A. members, trusted servants and newcomers throughout the A.A. service structure. G.S.O.'s staff member on the Regional Forums assignment coordinates details for the Forum and works closely with the volunteer host chair who recruits volunteers to assist staff with hospitality, set-up and registration during the Forum. Forums are held on a rotating basis, at the request of each region. There is no registration fee for Regional Forums. The General Service Board covers the expenses of meeting rooms. As all Forums are intended to be sharing sessions, no formal actions result. Sharing is captured in Forum Final Reports, which are distributed to all attendees, and are available on G.S.O.'s website. Regional Forums carry A.A.'s message of love and service by improving communication at all levels of our Fellowship.

Chairperson's Report – Kristy C.

Good morning Area 75. My name is Kris C. and I will always be an alcoholic.

Thanks for allowing me to serve as your area Chairperson. Since our last assembly on January 16th, I have had the opportunity to meet more of you and share your enthusiasm for service in Alcoholics Anonymous.

On Jan 30 I spoke at a meeting in Montello, where I had recently moved about 6 months prior. It was a good opportunity to introduce myself and to share with them the many benefits I have experienced as an active member of this fellowship.

February 10 I was invited to attend the District 6 business meeting in Delevan. I gave a short talk on what we do and how we do it at Area 75 Assemblies-topics such as who votes, how a proposal is brought up, what is "calling the question" and how is that done, the difference between a simple majority and a quorum. In preparing for this talk, I know I learned a few things and got a better understanding of our procedures and I hope those attending that night did too.

The East Central Regional Workshop of Delegates Past and Present was Feb 13-15 in Bay City MI and I chose to attend. I went on my own accord, simply as a member of Alcoholics Anonymous and the experience was inspiring. I have never met such a large group of people so completely, unselfishly, dedicated to the betterment of A.A. If you have an opportunity to attend this event I certainly encourage you to do so.

March 13th I was invited to speak at the Monticello Green Day celebration. I met some wonderful people and had a delicious St. Patrick's Day feast of corn beef and cabbage with all the fixings.

Our Area 75 Delegates Workshop was March 15th. I did the best I could to facilitate the discussion on the proposals relating to the Report and Charter Committee and the Policy and Admissions Committee. With Bob's help and the six others at the table, we had a very interesting discussion. Once again, I learned a lot about things I hadn't even thought about before and thanks to all who participated in that workshop.

I was pleased to receive an invitation to the Badger Group Anniversary Celebration

on March 21st. I was honored to be asked to read How It Works from the podium. After a wonderful dinner, Clancy gave an amazing talk, full of AA history and his personal experiences with many of the legends of our fellowship.

Yesterday(April 11) I attended the MAICO reps workshop in Madison where I heard two excellent panels-one on Service in AA and another one comprised of District 20 standing chairpersons sharing their experience with AA service. Both panels were inspiring and encouraging. From there I traveled to Cuba City and spent a few hours at the District 9 workshop. That event offered numerous panels as well as Al-anon participation and really good food too. It was a full day that left me smiling.

On April 24th I will be speaking in Delafield and this morning I received an invitation to speak at a Group 7 meeting in Milwaukee on June 26th. I look forward to these events and please feel free to contact me to attend your meetings or future events. I am willing.

There were three or four other events in the past 5 weeks that I had hoped to attend but could not because life happens. And sometimes that life includes loss. On March 3rd I lost my 34 yr old daughter in a tragic car accident, leaving behind a fiancée and an 8 yr old son. I want to thank-you all for your cards, your loving thoughts, and your care and concern. I am absolutely convinced that the power of prayer, regardless of what form that may be, is alive and well in this fellowship. We have been surrounded by love and support that has given me a sense of peace and comfort for which I will be eternally grateful. Thank you so much from the bottom of my heart.

In Sincere Gratitude,

Kristi C.

Area 75 Chairperson

Alternate Chair/Dark District Report – Katherine G.

April 2015

As I stated during the last assembly, my first job as the Area Alternate Chair/Dark District Chair is to update the assembly actions. I have updated the actions and they should be published on the website shortly if they are not already published. I will provide paper copies to any chairs or DCMs who request a copy.

My next job is to take the updated directory information from this Assembly and begin contacting Area DCMs to find where I can be of service in helping districts who are not currently attending Area Assembly meetings. It appears that the only dark district is District 37, which is in Juneau County. If anyone has information on any contact people in that area, please see me.

Last time I reported District 15 just voted to become a dark district, but then they held another vote shortly thereafter and now have an active district. Thank you.

Archive Report – Brent H.

April 12, 2015

Pre-Conference Assembly

Archives Chair Report

I'm an alcoholic, your Area 75 Archives Chair and my name is Brent. It has been very enjoyable and a great learning experience so far.

On March 21st the Archives display traveled to Lomira for their 23rd annual open speaker-potluck anniversary. As usual the people were very friendly and helpful. The archives display was busy and I had some really good conversations about some of the items that were displayed. The food was really good and the desserts were great. The speaker was awesome and I can't wait to go again next year.

We are currently gearing up District 29's Fun-day on May 2nd at the Pass it on club. And of course Area 75's Spring Conference in May on the 15th through the 17th out in Fond Du Lac. We also have the VA Conference coming up in October.

I'm looking for places to take the Archives display. Or should I say waiting for invitations to take the Archives display out to share with you at functions in Area 75.

We are asking Districts to send their minutes and District functions to either myself or Nancy so that they can be preserved. If your District is one that is not sending minutes please start sending them now. If your District is sending them, thank you. It is important for your Districts history. If documentation is not kept in the future people will not know what their District has accomplished in the past. Don't be afraid to use full names. We have two binders. One is confidential with last names, phone numbers, and addresses. Then they are edited for the display binders. Please also send any District flyers, letters, meeting listings, or other materials that involve your District.

We really have a neat Archives room which does not see as many visitors as you would think. There are flyers on the back table with the schedule and times that the Archives room is open. Please take some back to your District.

I look forward to continuing to serve you.

Brent H.

CPC Report – Bart V.

Since the Winter Service Assembly, I have had the opportunity to meet with the District 1 CPC/PI committee. The meeting was well attended by an enthusiastic group. Many members have committed to making contact with organizations in the La Crosse Area. The focus of District 1 is going to be the health care professionals. Two presentations have been scheduled for April.

I also attended the Delegates workshop, and co-chaired the committee assigned to review CPC/PI agenda items.

I have begun reaching out to Colleges and Universities in La Crosse to meet with HR and EAP. I also am attempting to determine dates and locations of health fairs in the area.

Finally, I have been in contact with the CPC chair from District 32 and we plan on meeting at the Area 75 conference in May.

Yours in AA Service,

Bart V

Corrections Report – Tara H.

Hi My name is Tara and I am an alcoholic-

Since our last area assembly I was able to attend an orientation at Racine Correctional Institution-after I submitted a back ground check and emergency contact form. Also we had two more people from District#17 attend and as a result of that we have a few more volunteers at RCI., which we always need. I put out a letter in District#17 which I can forward to other chairs, or other chairs can wish to express to their own Districts their need for inside volunteers and outside volunteers.. This is a result of one of our discussions that we had at the delegates workshop, and how to better serve the AA's inside. Correspondence is needed always-In AA we have several different forms to use that people can utilize -One of these forms is in red and white-"Outside AA's" and is for the person outside who is willing to communicate with someone inside that is looking at 6 months or less and would lie to start a conversation Or a plan of action once they get out and find outside sponsorship .These forms can be filled out at a district level and given to your correction chair or send them to the Area#75 Corrections PO Box. If there are concerns about revealing your phone # or address to inside AA's, usually a district would probably be glad to let you use their PO Box or you can use the Area#75 Corrections PO Box-which I will gladly then utilize that info- once I get someone who will be released into your district. Then we have the forms from GSO which you can send to New York and that is usually for longer term stays and they will hook you up with someone from a few states away. You can always make sure that your institution that you already volunteer at, has these forms and that more are available. There is always a need.

February 12th, I attended a Career and Transition Faire at Oakhill Institution in Oregon. We were one of the booths that were present and one of our inside volunteers who brings meeting was there to help. I was able to pick up a few more requests for correspondence and pass them on to the appropriate districts. One of the main things that I do is to receive requests from inside AA's and pass them on to the appropriate district chairs Also I love travelling to the different districts and workshops and will come when invited. .I am looking forward to the Area #75 conference in Fondulac and have been invited to share on a correction panel. Hope to see you there. Just got a corrections activity update from Gso, letting us know that all of us are working on a common solution . Also right now there is a workshop in the making in District#1 and I have been asked to participate on that. There are flyers available for the Area#74/Area#75Corrections Conference that will be taking place June 6th-an all-day event in Lake Tomahawk

Thankyou

For your service and letting me be a small part of the big picture.

PI Report – Mike G.

See additional reports

Special Needs Report – Wendy B.

1. Since the Winter Assembly I was contacted by Lynn P. the District 34 Special Needs Chairperson regarding a special needs display for their monthly District 34 open meeting. I e-mailed her a picture of the special needs banner I have, and offered my assistance in helping her to create the banner for her district.
2. I sent an e-mail to the Special Needs desk at the General Service Office asking where to locate information on the Wisconsin guidelines and laws for individuals with special needs. I was advised to do an internet search for the information.
3. An AA member contacted me stating that a family member was on the staff of a nursing home in West Salem WI which is in District 1, she was requesting five large print big books. I contacted the special needs chairperson in District 1 who verified that there is an AA meeting held at the facility on Monday evenings. I spoke with the staff person at the facility and she stated that a resident had requested the five big books. After several calls I learned that the Monday night meeting is an open meeting and no residents from the nursing home attend the AA meeting. The nursing home staff member and I agreed that one big book would be sufficient, & this was mailed to her.
4. I sent an e-mail to all the DCM's in Area 75 asking them to provide the contact information for their Districts Special Needs Chairperson, I did receive several e-mail responses and will follow up with the DCM's who did not respond.
5. I received a call from an AA member who was approached at a meeting by a women asking for help in getting interpreters so that her hearing impaired Mother can attend AA meeting. I contacted the outgoing Special Needs Chairperson from District 13 because he had done research regarding interpreters and had organized an ad hoc committee at his home group, he provided contact information for a several interpreters, some who volunteer their services. I also spoke with a hearing impaired AA member who verified there is no state funding for interpreters and stressed the importance of using a qualified interpreter or advanced students of interpreting at meetings. I believe there is a real need to provide interpreters at at least one meeting a week, every week and will explore ideas on what steps can be taken be to make this a reality. I have reached out the AA member whose Mother is hearing impaired.

6. I was asked to attend the District 3 meeting on April 15th in Sheboygan. They want me to talk about the Special Needs/Assessibility committee and some activities. They are hoping to get some interest, they have not had a special Needs Committee Chair in a few years .
7. Service Office, they were looking for Area Special Needs Chairs to volunteer their time at the Special Needs booth at the AA International Convention in July 2015. I sent back a form agreed to volunteer my time. I will look forward to seeing if I selected to volunteer.
8. I received a call from the Special Needs Chair Russ from District 19 and we discussed his district covering the cost of the Special Needs Assessibilities workbook and provided him with a copy of the Area 75 directory.

Treatment Report – Sean M.

Since this rotation started, I've met with the Treatment committee while attending the Winter Assembly, and Delegates workshop. The MAICO “spring into action” event took place on the 11th of April, where I was able to share on “carrying the message” with several other presenters.

A list of facilities throughout southern Wisconsin has been compiled, in doing so, the hope is to better serve individuals within Area 75. While the real boots on the ground should come from within each District, I am excited to walk beside the local committees. I will need contact information for both Bridging the Gap and Treatment chairs from each District in order to start the dissemination of information. I have previously emailed the districts, but plan on resending the request.

I am registered for our Spring Conference (as well as the International), where I was fortunately asked to speak on a panel about service in regards to Treatment committees. While in Fond du Lac I will be showing off a newly refurbished Treatment display that we've been working on. The very same display can be made available to groups upon request, as well as any business meetings/ or workshops that I am invited to.

In Service,

Sean M.

Area 75 Treatment chair

Grapevine Report – Randy R.

And the Challenge is on Area 75 Members! Grapevine is sponsoring a Grapevine Challenge for our states, regions and territories. Sign up new Grapevine subscriptions for online or hard copy magazines to be counted in the sign up challenge. Currently Wisconsin is 12th in the United States in number of subscriptions. We are less than our neighbor Minnesota! "LETS GET SUBSCRIBING". This is a great way to inspire and create thought for recovery when not at a meeting. The winning Area, Province or Territory will have featured member's stories in a 2016 edition of the Grapevine.

What else is new at Grapevine you ask! New Pocket Planner and Wall Calendar 2016. Language of the Heart in Audio, starting April 1st. Over 18 hours of listening time in two formats downloadable in MP3 or CD.

What's New in Print and Online?

Grapevine current issue spotlights double digit sobriety, AA members with 10 or more years of continuous sobriety. If you are interested send your stories to www.aagrapevine.org/contribute to see our 2015 issue themes and writers guidelines.

LaVina current issue spotlight! This current issue's special section features stories on AA around the world. Visit www.aagrapevine.org/Calendario-de-Eventos to see upcoming events in the new online calendar.

AA Grapevine.org allows you to make your plans and add your events to our online www.aagrapevine.org/calendar.

Grapevine is always looking for stories, photographs and illustrations. Please visit www.aagrapevine.org/share.

To listen to two free audio stories, visit www.aagrapevine.org/audio-portal.

Grapevine is looking for Volunteers to help out at the International in Atlanta starting in May.

Did you know: *In 1976 the GSC recommended "that groups be encouraged to increase their subscriptions as their membership increases".*

I have been asked whether or not we should be selling Grapevine book's as they are not "Conference Approved" literature. As you know, the magazine is monthly and the General Service Conference cannot approve the monthly writings, and it has been embraced as AA member submissions to be printed and distributed. Also, at the 1978 General Service Conference it was recommended: " that a Grapevine information table be made a regular feature at all conferences, conventions and assemblies".

So in that light we will look forward to seeing you in May at the Spring Conference.

Please feel free to invite me to your district meeting, workshops, mini-conference or any other event you would like the display to be shown.

Thank You

Randy R.

Area 75 Grapevine Chair

Alternate Delegate/Literature Report – Barb W.

Since the Winter Service Assembly I have attended the Delegates Past and Present Conference. I have met with the Delegate to plan the Delegate's Workshop. I chaired the Literature Committee at the Delegate's workshop. I have spoken with a couple of District Literature Chairs (3 & 4/22) concerning possible literature committee activities in their districts. Thanks for calling!

I have 2 events on my schedule, besides the Area sponsored events, so am available to come to your event.

For my own information, I traveled to Norfolk, NE for the West Central Regional Service Conference, which was their version of our Delegate's Workshop. It was a very good experience of how other regions do things differently. I even met a few new people.

Finance Committee – Pete W.

The 2015 Area 75 Finance Committee is made up of the following individuals, Nancy G. (past treasurer/delegate), George P. (past delegate), Ted B. (alt treasurer), Les M. (past DCM), Rebecca B. (DCM Dist 17), Pete W. (treasurer).

Over the last 3 months, the committee has communicated several times via email and was able to all meet at the Delegate's Workshop on March 15th. Most of our discussions have been concerning an ongoing issue with the BMO Harris Bank with whom we have our 2 checking accounts. In January we switched the signers on the checking

accounts to the new officers. During that process the personal banker at the BMO branch closest to my home informed me that our "Operations Account" was a personal checking account, whereas the "Conference Checking Account" is a nonprofit small business account. She said we could not continue to use the personal account and asked that we switch it to a nonprofit small business account. There would be no cost to the Area for making the change. I conferred with the committee and it was agreed to go forward with the change. That sounded easy enough.

Unfortunately, opening that account brought up some questions as to what it is we do, and if we are a nonprofit organization. I spent a considerable amount of time researching online at the IRS, WI Dept. of Revenue and other AA Areas that have posted information online. The bottom line is that we fall into a very gray area. Some Areas are registered nonprofits, some are not; everybody looks at it differently. To register with the IRS involves filing a 1023 form which also has a \$400.00 fee attached, and requires yearly filing of a 990 form. I met with the BMO Harris banker in Paddock Lake several times and discussed the situation. She forwarded me some forms to register with the State of WI as a charitable organization.

After reading through that information, I again was not very comfortable with us being a charitable organization. This also involved some financial reporting and a \$15.00 fee. In studying the FAQ's sheet that accompanied the online application, I found that there were groups that are exempt from registering. State Statute 202.12 Section 5 (Exemptions from Registration) 3m reads: A fraternal, civic, benevolent, patriotic, or social organization that solicits contributions solely from its membership. That was the closest description to what we are that I had seen yet. I presented this information to BMO and they finally agreed that we would not have to register.

While this process was taking place, I also found that our Federal EIN (Employee Identification Number) was no longer valid. Fortunately that was an easy fix and we have a new number attached to our accounts. At this time, I believe these issues are resolved.

Other matters that the Finance Committee has addressed:

1. Based on a discussion via email to resolve a reimbursement issue, we request that Committee Chairs, Area Officers and other Trusted Servants please familiarize yourself with the Reimbursement Policy. A Past Committee wrote this Policy to make clear what constitutes reimbursable expenses. The Reimbursement Policy is available on the Area website. If you are not sure of an expense, please call or email, myself or a committee member.
2. We also discussed a request from the East Central Region to contribute \$300.00 for a Hospitality Suite at the 2015 International Convention in Atlanta. The result of our discussion was that the Finance Committee Agreed that a motion should be put forward later today, as emergency business, that the Area takes a special voluntary collection to raise the suggested contribution. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Pete W. Area 75 Treasurer, Finance Committee Member

DCM Reports

District 1 Report April 2015

DCM Rosalie T.

District 1 covers the counties of La Crosse, Monroe, Jackson, Vernon, and Trempeleau

We have a very active committee and committee chairs. Corrections is making contact with all county jails and will hold a workshop in May. CPC/PI is contacting the area hospitals to set up educational opportunities. Special Needs, Archives and Literature positions are filled and active.

Workshops in our district are: April 18 - Intergroup Service Workshop, May 30 - Corrections Workshop, October 17 - Fall Service Workshop: "Enrichment through Service" (Nancy G & Ken G & Barb W will be our panel, and February 13, 2016 - Big Book Study.

DCM has begun visiting the district meetings encouraging participation of the area GSRs in the district meeting and increased service opportunities in the district as a significant part of recovery.

--

Rosalie T.

District 3 DCM Report Pre-Conference Assembly April 21, 2015

District 3 is made up of Sheboygan and Manitowoc Counties in eastern Wisconsin, right along Lake Michigan. There are 80 registered Groups in District 3; 45 of which are active in nine different cities.

District 3 meets once a month on the third Wednesday starting at 6:30 pm alternating between the 1907 Club in Sheboygan in the even months and at the Alano Club in Manitowoc in the odd months.

We look forward to having Wendy Balles, Area 75 Special Needs/Accessibility Chair at our next meeting which is Wednesday, April 15th, in Sheboygan.

District 3 is fortunate to have active Committee Chairs for Archives, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Corrections, Grapevine, Literature and Public Information. We are still working on getting Chairs for Special Needs and Bridging the Gap.

We will be having a Spring Workshop in May. More information will be coming on that event. And we hope to have another event in the Fall of 2015.

District 3 is hosting the Fall 2016 Area 75 Conference in Manitowoc at the Holiday Inn, October 21-23, 2016.

My thanks to Tom for presenting this report in my absence.

Yours in service,

Mary M.
District 3 DCM

DCM Report for District 4 & 22

As of March, all of our chair positions have been filled. Our CPC/PI chair is working to connect with the university in our district to see if they are interested in working together.

We have our annual picnic coming up on June 13th at Estabrook Park spot #5. Food and games will be provided. The picnic starts at noon, and speaker is at two. There will be childcare available during the meeting.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Mark M.
District 4 & 22

District 14

April 10th 2015

It is my pleasure to report district 14 is still active and working hard to keep the groups in our district informed and up to date of A.A. activities from the group level on through to GSO. We are located in the north central part of the city of Milwaukee. Currently our chair positions are filled with a mix of new GSR's and older experienced members' which makes for good continuity at the district. We welcomed a few more GSR's this year.

Our groups continue to support our bridging the gap/treatment outreach at the Aurora treatment facility. It's called the "Rap Sessions" and held every Tuesday evening. Currently all the time slots are filled for the rest of the year. This past year the district had a picnic at the facility and was well received by the groups that use that facility

and the facility itself. We are always looking for other out-reach opportunities in and outside of our district boundaries.

We are now in the process of putting together another Tri-District Round-up with districts 16 and 27. We have conferred with the other two districts and held our first planning meeting to discover ways it could be improved. We are looking to be hosting it in September with concurrence with the Area Archivist to have it at the same location as 2013. Details to follow.

Respectfully Submitted

Frank S.

DCM District 14

State of District 15

AAArea 75

April 12, 2015

Officers

District Committee Member: Steve G

District Secretary: Sam R

District Treasurer: Stephen E.

Committee Chairs

Archives: Steve T

CPC/PI Chair: Daniel D

Literature: Katherine S.

Grapevine: Eelisa

Panel/Workshop/Speaker: Ken V

Corrections Chair: Open

Special Needs: Open

Treatment: Open

Group Service Representatives

Milwaukee Group GSR: Veronica O

Quaker House GSR: Roxanne S.

Group 43 GSR Friendship Club: Ron G

- After nearly going dark at the end of 2014 we have a solid committee. We have a planed monthly meeting.
- The long standing Monthly D 15 open speaker meeting has resumed with great success yesterday evening.
- Most committee chairs have written their own Job Description, mostly taken from the AA Service Manual.

- Although we are lacking a Corrections and Treatment chairs there are meetings going into prisons, a detox and treatment facilities in the district.
- As the DCM I have plans to visit all of the meetings in our district and continue to put the word out to build our district by attrition.

District 17 Report

In Racine, my goal has been to visit each of our over 100 meetings regularly scheduled in our district. At these meetings I discuss the difference between a group and a meeting, encourage groups to appoint a GSR so that they have contact with Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, or, if they do not have a GSR I ask for a contact person so that they may at least receive emails from me including information from the district and area meetings. I recently attended a secretaries meeting at the Grove club where I gave a brief talk on service structure at the group and district level. These activities seem to be helping as attendance at our district meeting has improved. We now have chair people for each of our district committees and we look forward to increasing the effectiveness of our service work in Racine. We are encouraging registration for the Spring conference in Fond du Lac and I am beginning to hear announcements for the Forum in November in Milwaukee.

Yours in service,
Rebecca Burchi
DCM
District 17, Area 75

District 20 Pre-Conference Assembly Report

Currently we have about 50 people attending our district meetings, about half of them are GSRs. We have all committee chair positions filled, and many of the committees have members beyond just the chairperson. Our district has had 2 service fairs (the most recent was held yesterday), with more to come.

Fairs and other District 20 sponsored events have helped to increase attendance and participation within the district. But with 200+ meetings in our district, we are hoping to continue to grow. We are in our 4th month of the new rotation of service for District 20. All of the Chairs are looking to fill more service commitments within their committees, as well as getting involved in some new projects.

- Archives:
 - Preparing to digitize the District Archives to prevent loss or damage of historical materials.
- CPC
 - Working on establishing and maintaining a relationship with DUI court, including providing names of temporary contact to judges.
 - Making contacts with the University of Wisconsin faculty and the management at the VA.
- Grapevine
 - Started a new Men's Grapevine Meeting on Saturday mornings at 10:30 at the 511 Alano Club on North Carroll Street.
 - Looking to hold a Grapevine Mini-Conference/Workshop for the district.
- Public Information
 - Working towards getting six local radio stations to run Public Service Announcements for Alcoholics Anonymous.
 - A sub-committee has begun designing the District 20 website which will provide fixed email addresses for each committee to make service rotations less eventful. Also, each committee will post information for the district on what they are currently doing and what types of service opportunities are available. This should help us expand committee membership well beyond a single chairperson.
- Special Needs
 - Terri is working on starting a meeting for the Community Development Authority Triangle in coordination with a Mental Health Agency.
- Treatment
 - Assisted in starting a new open treatment meeting with a facility in Madison on Wednesdays at 5:00 pm.
 - Continuing the work with Mendota Mental Health on expanding and maintain meetings for the patients.

Other District 20 Activities:

- We held a Spring Service Recruitment Fair in coordination with the MAICO Rep's Annual Spring Workshop on April 11th.
- We are in the beginning planning stages for the District 20 Fall Mini-Conference.

- WICYPAA XXII (22) is being held in Madison next year and look forward to the upcoming events and conference.

District 25 Report Zachary L.

Our district is excited for the Area 75 conference coming up.

District meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at the Gratitude Club in Fond du Lac.

We have had good attendance at the district meetings. On average 13 GSRs in attendance, all committee positions filled except for special needs, and majority of chairs present for all meetings so far.

Participation on the committees has been comprised of mostly people new to service, which is an exciting change for the district. Some new people getting involved is exciting.

Our district Intergroup mini conference is scheduled for October 10th in Fond du Lac.

District 27 DCM Report

District 27 is located in the northwest corner of Milwaukee County. It is boarded on the east by 35th street, the west by 124th street, Lisbon Street on the south and County Line road to the north. We meet on the third Saturday of the month at 9:00am at the Twelve Step Club on 4th & Townsend. Of the 17 currently active meetings we have only 5 or 6 GSRs that attend on a regular basis. At this time we have all of our chairs filled with the exception of Corrections and Literature. I am planning on visiting all of the meetings in our District this summer with the hope of getting more involvement at the district level. We have decided that at our next meeting we will begin taking a district inventory to see where our strengths and our weaknesses are. We are also very pleased to once again be working with Districts 14 and 16 on a Tri-District workshop to be held later this summer. We do not have all of the details worked out at this time but as we get things finalized we will post the information to the Area 75 website.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.
Jay R.

District 34 DCM report

Hello Everyone,

District 34 is doing very well ! We currently have one open committee chair for archives. The rest of the committee is very energetic and hard working. We regularly have 10 to 15 GSR's attend the monthly district committee meetings and encourage other groups to get involved. Most of us are also a part of the 2016 Area 75 planning committee and are excited for this opportunity.

Your friend in recovery,
Jim F.

District 36 Report

The District 36 meeting is the second Tues of the month at 6pm. We rent space for our meeting from the 12 and 12 club in Burlington. We have several new and motivated GSRs, which is great!

We voted to offer a workshop in late August or early Sept. We took two months to ask the GSRs to bring back workshop topic suggestions from their groups, and we received several excellent suggestions from AA members, so good that we couldn't decide upon a single best topic and so we will be offering three of them. Once we have the date confirmed we will be asking for participation from Area 75, including Archives and those here who are so eloquent describing the value of service work.

MAICO –

- MAICO is currently operating in the black thanks to group & individual support. We are very grateful for their ongoing contributions allowing us to maintain our hotline and carry the message.
- MAICO is in the process of switching accounting system over to facilitate the future installation of a point of sale system. Diane is in the process of entering historical information into QuickBooks.

MAICO's event calendar is filling up for the warmer months. This year we have participated in 3 conferences.

- MAICO's new website went live on April 15th. Please visit the website at aamadisonwi.org
- If your group wishes a visit by a maico steering committee member, please call Diane B. at 608-222-8989 and we would be happy to schedule a visit. District visit are being scheduled with DCM's.
- MAICO is always looking for volunteers to help in the office and accept 12-step calls. Please contact MAICO if you wish to be of service.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick S., Maico steering committee member

Winnebago Land Central Office –

No written report

Milwaukee Central Office –

Milwaukee Central Office Report

April 12, 2015

Mark Your Calendar:

As stated earlier, the Jamboree will not be held due to the fundraiser event losing money. The BOD has decided to hold smaller dinners in its place. We are considering holding them in the different counties.

The 1st smaller, 100 person, dinner will be Sept. 26, 2015 at the Italian Community Center. The menu, speaker and ticket price will be coming soon.

Strategic Planning Committee Items:

Milwaukee Central Office now has a mission statement!!

“Welcoming Newcomers and Aiding AA Groups in Our Community” Watch for it on the website, Between Us, Directory, etc.

Milwaukee Central Office will be hosting the 1st Annual Open House on Saturday, June 6, 2015 from 10am-2pm. Come meet the BOD, CO staff, enjoy fellowship.

Secretary Meetings- The BOD is discussing strategies to improve attendance-guest speakers, DCMs (to discuss what is going on in their districts), BOD members, etc. A reminder, the secretary’s meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm at the CO.

Yours in Service

Bobbie M.

Racine Area Central Office –

No written report

La Cross Intergroup

No written report

Conference Advisory Report - Nancy H.

Pre-Conference Assembly

April 12, 2015

Conference Advisory Committee Report

The Conference Advisory Committee met on April 11th at St. Aidan's Church in Hartford and reviewed the current Conference Advisory Committee guidelines and the Conference guidelines. Several updates were identified and the updated documents will be reviewed by the committee at the Summer Service Assembly prior to posting on the Area 75 website.

A host district, or districts, is needed for the 2018 conference. Districts interested in submitting a bid can find bid forms on the area website. Please contact me if you are interested.

Nancy H.

Conference Advisory Committee Chair

Spring 2015 Conference Report – Chris S.

Everything is on schedule. All speakers are confirmed, all panels are set. The program will be going to the printer at the end of this month. We are ready for the conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Schroeder

Fall 2016 Conference Report – Tom R.

See additional reports

2017 Conference Report Charles M. Co-Chair

Hello I'm Charlie, I am an alcoholic and co-chair of the 2017 area 75 conference being held on Oct. 27-29 2017 at the Heidel House in Green Lake, hosted by District 31 and hopefully get support from our neighboring districts. We held an organizational meeting on Jan. 25 and we got a start filling almost all our chair positions. We have filled all sub-committee chairs except Al-Anon/Alateen and Alkathon. We are looking into setting up a committee meeting to go over the guidelines sometime this summer with the time, date, and place yet to be determined. If anyone has any information that could be useful to us you can contact me Charlie M. Ph. No. (608) 712-3705 email chucktuna5@gmail.com or Fred K. email flkrueger@yahoo.com. I want to thank all area 75 trusted servants for their commitment to service.

Charles M.

District 31

New Business:

Emergency Business:

Passed by substantial unanimity.

Emergency Business Motion

The East Central Region has agreed to host a hospitality room at the International Convention in Atlanta. The hospitality committee has asked each Area in the region to contribute \$350 towards bottled water. As with all things A.A., it is a suggested contribution. Unfortunately, the request was made after we set the Area budget for the year. The Finance Committee took up the matter at the Delegate's Workshop and recommended we make a special collection towards this cause as opposed to depleting our general funds.

Whereas the East Central Region has agreed to host a hospitality room at the International Convention in Atlanta, GA, and furthermore, the ECR Hospitality Committee has suggested each Area support the hospitality room with a monetary donation of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00), I hereby move that we hear as emergency business a motion to establish a one-time special account, funded by voluntary contributions, to support the ECR Hospitality Room at the International Convention.

Original Motion to Establish Fund to Support ECR Hospitality Room

I hereby move that the Area establish a one-time account, funded by voluntary contributions, to support the East Central Regional Hospitality Room at the 2015 International Convention. Any money donated to the Region not spent on the hospitality room will go back to the Region treasury. Individuals, groups and districts in Area 75 can support the fund by forwarding contributions to the Area Treasurer and marking them for the "ECR Hospitality Room". In addition, a special collection will be taken at the Spring Conference Assembly and if needed, the

Summer Service Assembly. The Area Treasurer will manage donations to this fund. Proceeds from this collection, up and to the amount of three hundred dollars (\$300), will be sent to the ECR Hospitality Room Committee.

Any amount collected by the Area over three hundred fifty dollars (\$350) will be deposited in the general funds account.

Amended Motion to Establish Fund to Support ECR Hospitality Room

I hereby move that the Area establish a one-time account, funded by voluntary contributions, to support the East Central Regional Hospitality Room at the 2015 International Convention. Any money donated to the Region not spent on the hospitality room will go back to the Region treasury. Individuals, groups and districts in Area 75 can support the fund by forwarding contributions to the Area Treasurer and marking them for the "ECR Hospitality Room". In addition, a special collection will be taken at the Spring Conference Assembly and if needed, the Summer Service Assembly.

1. Announcements: Volunteers are needed for the ECR Forum to be held in Milwaukee in November.
2. Coffee volunteers for the summer assembly will be from Dist 2.
3. Bobbie M. and others volunteered to greet at the summer assembly.

Upcoming dates:

Area 75 Conference – May 15 – 17, 2015, at Holiday Inn Holidome, Fon du Lac

Summer Service Assembly – June 21, 2015, at Madison Senior Center

International Convention – July 3 – 5, 2015, Atlanta, Georgia

Fall Service Assembly – Oct. 18, 2015, at Madison Senior Center

East Central Regional Forum – Nov. 13 – 15, 2015

Conference of Delegates Past & Present, Feb. 12-14, 2016, Pleasant Prairie, Wi.

Area 75 Conference, Spring – May 20 – 22, 2016, Olympia Resort, Oconomowoc

Area 75 Conference, Fall – Oct 21 – 23, 2016, Holiday Inn, Sheboygan

Area 75 Conference, Oct. 27 – 29, 2017, Heidel House, Green Lake

Closed with the Responsibility Declaration at 12:10 PM.