

REPORT TO AREA 75 AGENDA PLANNING MEETING

Jan. 23, 2005

My name is Stu. I am an alcoholic and Area 75's incoming CPC Committee Chairman. CPC stands for Cooperation with the Professional Community, and our efforts in this field as a fellowship date from our founding. When Bill W. and Dr. Bob struggled with their own day to day sobriety, they believed that only intensive work with another alcoholic would make that sobriety a fact for them. Page 188 of the Big Book from the story "Alcoholic Anonymous Number Three" relates the story. Their first successful Twelfth Step call was made with the cooperation of staff members at the receiving ward of the hospital where Dr. Bob practiced. Today membership surveys tell us that nearly a third of our membership comes to us through referrals from professionals. Having discussed AA with quite a number of professionals over the years, I am personally in awe of the high opinion many have of our work.

Area 75's CPC Committee met earlier today. Any DCM, GSR, or other interested AA member is welcome to join us at any of our meetings. We meet jointly with the Public Information Committee and use a sharing session format after the committee chairs put out any information that needs dissemination. We hope local members of our service structure will be comfortable bringing their successes, failures, and questions to the table so we can share in them together. Today we spent a part of our time discussing the discounted literature packs GSO makes available to CPC Committees at the area and district levels. We discussed the pamphlets "If You Are A Professional" and "A Member's Eye View of Alcoholics Anonymous". And we covered the GSO information sheet titled "Information on Alcoholics Anonymous".

A quick word about budgeting, which most of us know has been an area of concern to all of us in the recent past. CPC is one of those committees which is especially difficult to budget because that budget is in part dependent on the activity level of district CPC Committees. More local activity can mean more support, e.g. literature and travel, by the Area CPC Chairman. And in each term, it seems one or two very special opportunities to share our message do come up. A case in point was the 2004 Annual Convention of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals. There we made over 600 professional contacts, each of whom see hundreds of potential AA members each year. I had the good fortune to be able to assist our past CPC Chairman in that endeavor. My present budget request represents a \$233.70 DECREASE from the last approved CPC budget. It is heavier on literature; I do plan on your behalf to provide some starter literature to each and every DCM or District CPC Chair who has a need. This plan worked very well when I was this area's TF Chairman two terms ago. My budget is lighter on "administrative" costs. I do pledge to you that I will do my best to invest our membership's dollars wisely and prudently. In return, I do hope this body will be supportive should another opportunity like the NADCP convention arise, thus requiring some unexpected outlay of funds. Such opportunities as these are simply not foreseeable at this time, usually coming with only about a month's notice.

In conclusion thank you for the trust you have placed in me in allowing me to serve you as CPC Chairman. I remain, as always, entirely willing to lend a hand in supporting local workshops and district meetings. I invite any interested AA member to contact me at any time to discuss our mutual efforts at carrying AA's message of experience, strength, and hope forward in the company of our professional friends.

Yours in Recovery and Service,



Stu E., Area 75 CPC Chairman