

Northern Illinois Area 20 District 41 Answering Service Report for October, 2010

October 19 will be the one-year anniversary of the District 41 Answering Service Office! What a ride! We've had missteps and glitches. And incredibly rewarding experiences. We've had Office volunteers who have been serving since the beginning. And some who tried it once and didn't like it. People volunteer because they are out of work and have time. Often they are back working in a few weeks. We've survived overheating and no heat, an electrical fire that shut the office down for a weekend, people shutting the computer off (or forgetting to switch the phones to the computer). I find out about these things when I (compulsively) call the office off-hours and don't hear the computer answering. We've learned (for better or worse) how to navigate the Chicago meeting information on-line.

My surgery went very well. I just wish I could say the same for my recovery. It may take the rest of this year to recover. (And I hope that isn't optimistic!) I haven't been IN the office since my morning shift on August 9th. Yet it is still running. Wally K (Ans. Svc. Alt. Chair) has been collecting mail. He is now on the bank signature card! I've been slipping on office staffing. Jamie C. has volunteered to be the "Personnel Director" and keep the office staffed. So please send your volunteers to her. (Since this is being published on the District 41 Web Site, I won't include Jamie's contact information. Please check the District 41 Service Roster or call/e-mail me, Wally, or Linda B. for that information.)

Since I haven't been in the office for more than a month, I have no statistics to report. We still need volunteers for specific shifts, but I have no idea which shifts.

I want to thank all the people who make this a rewarding experience. From the Office Volunteers to those taking calls at home (during office hours and off-hours), to the callers who allow us to serve. One facet of AA that thrills me is the way people notice something needs doing and just do it. Without expectation of any rewards! Thank you all!

Art C
Northern Illinois Area (20)
District 41 Answering Service Chair