

DELEGATE REPORT
SPRING COMMITTEE
MAY 11th, 2013

Hello Area 20 Committee

It is good to be back from the General Service Conference here with all of you today. Prior to getting to the Conference, I had concerns on some of the discussions we were about to have, but being able to trust God and the process, I knew what ever we did was going to be right. And I do have to say, that I believe, everything we did throughout the week was all perfect and in the best interests of Alcoholics Anonymous.

I was very mindful of my own behavior throughout the week, because of some experiences last year in regards to some second year Delegates words and actions at the microphone. It seemed the tone got set right this year at the Delegates only meeting Saturday night prior to the Conference. We second year Delegates got up by Region and shared some short thoughts of experience from last year, and one of us said we only have one more week of Conference experience than the Panel 63 Delegates in the room and we all will play an equal roll throughout the week ahead. PERFECT.

I look forward to reporting back to all of you at our Summer Assembly, or at other Districts and Groups as I get asked. Or just to talk to some of you on the phone as some of you have already done, welcoming me back, thanking me and asking how the week was.

Friday night at the Conference, we second year Delegates gave 90 second going away talks. I said that I thought that I was the most unlikely person to be in the room, because four years ago, I was not even considering standing for the position of Delegate. I wasn't even sure I was going to stand for an Area position in the upcoming election in 2009. My sponsor was talking to me, and letting me know that because of something within me, and because I owe Alcoholics Anonymous a lot more than that, that a lot of people had a lot of time invested in me, I really should consider standing for something at the upcoming elections. It wasn't until shortly before the election that I made the decision to stand for Delegate, and was actually elected Alternate Delegate, as the only person standing for the position.

So I'm saying to all of you here in the room today, I know that there is something within all of you, and I truly hope that all of you take a look at yourselves and truly consider giving a little more to this program that has saved all of our lives. And stand for something that might just be a little out of your comfort zone at the upcoming elections in September. That is what I did, and I have to say, this last four years has been the most rewarding of my experiences in Alcoholics Anonymous, other than watching life grow in people that had thought that they no longer had hope. I hope that all of you give this some serious consideration over the next four months, and I will see all of you at our election Assembly in September.

EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE-- FLYER ATTACHED
July 19-21, 2013, Appleton Wisconsin. Friday Night Speaker new East Central Regional Trustee, Bill Farnsworth, Saturday Night Speaker, Past Trustee and Past General Service Office Manager, George Dorsey, and closing the Conference on Sunday

morning will be our newly elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the General Service Board, Terry Bedian. There will also be a Saturday afternoon Al-Anon speaker.

I have been invited to be a panelist, with the topic, "What more can be done to insure the General Service Board remains transparent and thorough in their reporting to the fellowship?" But I am very excited to be bringing some youthful energy to the Conference. I was asked to extend two invitations to Area 20 members, and they have both accepted. Michelle H. District 62 DCM, will be a moderator on a panel, with the topic, "How can we improve the manner in which the Conference background material is developed and distributed?" and Matt J. Area 20 Answering Service Chair is a presenter on a panel, with the topic, "How can we better communicate that the Conference process is more than one spring week in New York?" Thank you to both of you for representing Area 20, the East Central Region and Alcoholics Anonymous.

EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL FORUM—FLYER ATTACHED November 15-17, 2013, Fort Wayne Indiana. Typically, but never always, present at Forums are Chairman of the General Service Board, General Service Office Manager, someone from staff at the General Service Office, Grapevine Executive Editor/Publisher, LaVina Editor, A Class A, Non-Alcoholic Trustee, Trustee-at-Large, and Regional Trustee. This is a great time to meet and talk to all of these individuals. November is to far away to make plans, but the last Forum, we rented a 15 passenger van, that fit 11 and luggage. It would be fun to do that again, and I encourage others to do the same.

ACTIVITIES SINCE THE SPRING CONFERENCE/ASSEMBLY:

Mach 14- Grapevine Conference Call with Grapevine Conference Committee and Grapevine Corporate Board.
March 17- Attend by invitation, Area 75, Southern Wisconsin Pre-Conference Delegates Workshop.
March 20- Concepts Group, Waukegan, Pre-Conference Discussion
March 30-Attend initial 2014 Spring Conference Planning Committee Meeting
April 4- District 11, Pre-Conference discussion
April 7- District 23, Pre-Conference Discussion
April 10- Concepts Group, Waukegan, Pre-Conference Discussion
April 13-Area 20 Pre-Conference Workshop
April 14- Hope Factory, my Home Group, Pre-Conference Discussion
April 20-27, General Service Conference
May 1- Concepts Group, Waukegan, Conference Report
May 2- District 11, Conference Report

SCHEDULED GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE REPORTS:

May 21- District 21
May 25- Hispanic State Conference, shared report with Area 19 Delegate
June 15- Area 20 Summer Assembly

June 23- District 72
June 30- District 10
August 10-Woman to Woman Group, Bourbonnais
I also expect to hear from Districts 90-91

THANK YOU
Rich

Rich H.
Panel 62/Area 20
Delegate
Northern Illinois