

**Charting the NIA District Boundaries:  
A Redistricting Time -Line**

---

- 1951-1960 Downstate Illinois AA, established as two combined AA Areas listing nine (9) Districts. In 1954, the Downstate Illinois' map showed twelve (12) Districts, with four (4) in Northern Illinois. Boundaries included the entire state without the Chicago city limits, AA Delegate Area 19. *Refer to the map on page 31.*
- 1960 Downstate Illinois AA Conference (Assembly) increased to sixteen (16) Districts, eight in each Area. The Downstate Assembly approves the new boundary dividing Northern and Southern AA Delegate Areas, following an east-west line on U.S. Route 24 to the Mississippi River. *Refer to the map on page 32.*
- 1965 Annual General Service Conference Final Report first records reporting from Northern Illinois Area 20 containing nine (9) Districts.
- 1968 Downstate Illinois AA approves the inclusion of any independent AA groups willing to support the Illinois AA Conference (the combined Assembly of Northern Illinois Area 20 and Southern Illinois Area 21).
- 1969 Proposal to create a fourth Illinois Delegate Area tabled by the Downstate Assembly. All Downstate Illinois AA Districts are re-numbered to reflect current growth: ten (10) Districts in Area 20 and ten (10) Districts in Area 21.

**Charting the NIA District Boundaries:  
A Redistricting Time -Line**

---

- 1975      Boundaries for NIA Districts 5 and 5A approved by NIA Summer Assembly at Moline. Refer to the first available map preserved from 1975. Located on page 37, it is the earliest existing map of an autonomous Area 20 found through the NIA History Project research.
- 1975      District 1 redrawn as District 1 and District 1A. Reported to the Winter Assembly at Yorktown Auditorium in Lombard.
- 1978      District 2 divided into eight (8) Districts: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, and 2H.
- 1979      NIA Spring Assembly declines to proceed with an Area 20 group directory, as individual District recordkeeping and updating within NIA Districts are favored. Motion to publish Area 20 directory withdrawn.
- 1981      District 4 voting reported its consensus to divide into four (4) new Districts. Approved by the NIA Winter Assembly held in District 7.
- 1982      Reflected in the minutes of the Summer Assembly held in District 9, all Districts were assigned two-digit numbers. The Records Department at the General Service Office in New York would no longer use letters as part of any District designation.

**Charting the NIA District Boundaries:  
A Redistricting Time -Line**

---

- 1982 (cont'd) A unified code was developed for the first computer system used by G.S.O. in 1982. Accordingly, District 9 became District 90. Previous redistricting of District 2 renamed Districts 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28. District 4 divisions were listed as Districts 40, 41, 42, and 43. Districts 1 and 1A were renamed Districts 10 and 11.
- 1982 At the July NIA Committee Meeting held in Batavia, the first professionally printed map of NIA was distributed after a one-year development. 1,000 maps were color-printed in wall sizes of 17 x 22.”
- 1982 Boundaries for District 3 removed from NIA map, reflecting groups aligned with the Chicago Area. Districts 24, 25, 26, and 27 eventually aligned with Chicago Area 19 through 1988.
- 1982 Area 20 service newsletter *NIA Concepts* begins printing the NIA map with updated District boundaries on its front page, continuing the front page charting until 1988.
- 1982 NIA Winter Assembly held in West Dundee approved the division of District 10 along Interstate 94, adding District 12.

**Charting the NIA District Boundaries:  
A Redistricting Time -Line**

---

- 1983      NIA Summer Assembly held in Joliet approved the division of District 90 into Districts 90 and 91. Area 20 now enjoyed the participation of nineteen (19) AA Districts.
- 1984      Boundaries for Districts 51 and 52 were redrawn to its current borders after development and agreement between the two NIA Districts.
- 1985      The original District 6 boundaries divided into two new NIA Districts 61 and 60, with its border between Batavia and North Aurora.
- 1985      NIA Fall Assembly held in Ottawa approves the division of District 70 into Districts 70 and 71.
- 1988      NIA Answering Services Committee first presented Area 20 maps with NIA District answering service telephone numbers, listed by Districts and towns. Printed in black and white with three sizes (17 x 24," 11 x 17," 8 1/2 x 11"), the maps were distributed at the Winter Committee Meeting held at Kishwaukee Hospital in Dekalb.
- 1989      Area 20 service newsletter *NIA Concepts* moved the NIA map to its inside pages and included NIA District answering service numbers.

**Charting the NIA District Boundaries:  
A Redistricting Time -Line**

---

- 1990      After six months of development, District 70 presented its proposed division into two Districts to the NIA Spring Assembly held in Joliet. The NIA Assembly approved the addition of District 72.
- 1992      District 60 presented details of its proposed division into four Districts at the NIA Summer Assembly held in Aurora. District 60 would consist of daytime meetings in its original borders. The NIA Assembly approved the addition of Districts 62, 63, and 64, located south to north in the original District 60 borders.
- 1993      The NIA Fall Assembly held in Joliet approved the addition of District 73 from a division proposed by District 71, with Dekalb County remaining as District 71.
- 1996      District 60 disbands, with its daytime groups integrated into Districts 62, 63, and 64.
- 2002      The 2002 NIA Spring Assembly welcomed and approved a new Spanish-speaking District 20, comprised of all Spanish AA groups within the borders of NIA.

The above dates and information are taken from minutes of Northern Illinois Area 20 Assemblies and NIA Committee Meetings, located in the NIA Archives.

All of the additions of Districts in Area 20 followed the procedure detailed in the *AA Service Manual*. Months of development between the groups of a dividing District preceded the motions to approve new Districts at the NIA Assemblies. The dividing Districts reached full agreement on any boundary changes with all their groups before proposals were carried to the Assemblies.

Updating the maps of Area 20 presented few difficulties over past years, and the NIA Committee actively discussed the accuracy of the *NIA Concepts* maps from 1982 forward. The NIA Answering Services Committee regularly publishes maps with telephone number changes in addition to any new NIA District boundaries.

The earliest found map of an autonomous Northern Illinois Area, presented on page 37, shows the District boundaries as drawn in the 1969 renumbering and redistricting by the Downstate Illinois AA Conference. It included groups from both the South Suburban Intergroup and the West Suburban Intergroup. Approving the 1968 “motion of inclusion” brought many new groups, and later changes to the NIA boundary with the Chicago Area resulted from many of those groups either remaining in NIA or reuniting with the Chicago Area. For example, the boundary of District 3 presented the difficulty of exactly which Area its groups belonged, with alignments to both Area 20 and Area 19 by different groups in its borders. Only the first two 1982 issues of *NIA Concepts* displayed District 3.

NIA Districts will continue to divide when their growth provides the need to redistrict. The original four Area 20 Districts matured into the twenty-five active AA Districts participating in NIA meetings today.