

2014 Summer Committee Meeting

August 9, 2014

Lord of Life Church, La Fox, IL

(District 62, Host)

Call to Order The meeting was call to order at 9:00am

Quite Time

Serenity Prayer

New Attendees

Ray GSR District 22

Karen Visitor District 43

AA Anniversaries

Lisa 7yrs

Carmella R. 14yrs

Alex H 2yrs

Eva 25 yrs

Jesse N. 8yrs

Judd W. 17yrs

Twelve Concepts of World Service Read by Urbano S in Spanish

Announcements for today Amy L- Lunch will be coming at 12:30. We are having fried chicken, fettuccine alfredo, salad and potato salad.

Approval of 2014 Spring Committee Minutes Robert S called for comments or corrections; there were none. Spring Committee Minutes approved as written.

Treasurer's Report – Janet N

This report is being presented as of July 31, 2014. The following is our financial status as of this date:

| | 2014 |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Contributions/Income | \$41,188.68 |
| Expenses | <u>\$39,243.53</u> |
| Excess of Income over expense | \$ 1,945.15 |
| | |
| Current checking account | \$6,621.32 |
| Current prudent reserve | <u>\$17,835.00</u> |
| Net Assets | \$24,456.32 |

2014 Primary Purpose Register

The 2014 primary purpose register thru July 31, 2014 is attached to this report. Actual expenses for each PPB and PPM are listed through July.

The Area sent a contribution of \$14,000 to GSO in June. Our annual insurance policy of \$3,128 for the year ending June 15, 2015 was also paid.

Can Contributions

Pink Can Fund: has received a total of \$4,376.57 YTD in contributions. We have spent \$5,641.80.

Green Can Fund: no activity

Expense Reimbursement

Please remember to turn in all receipts with your reimbursement requests.

If you have any questions regarding this information or the attached financial reports please call or send me an email.

Finance Committee Report - Given by Mike. By next assembly we will have an excess of funds between \$7,000 - \$8,000.

Operating Committee Report- Steve reported the committee had a request from the Corrections Chair in a motion to attend the Bridging the Gap weekend workshop. The workshop is before the next assembly. The Treatment Chair asked for the same motion and it was approved at the last assembly. The dollar amount was \$500. Because of the time frame, we had to approve it and send it to the Finance committee for final approval. We did the approval by email.

Delegate Report – Cheryl V

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

I got a call that Jeanne is in the hospital and had a stroke. Please keep her in your thoughts.

I want to welcome Tom the state conference chair and John are here for participation in the state conference.

It has been a full schedule since our Assembly in June. I am out and about, hither and yon. I have delivered various Post General Service Conference (GSC) Reports to date, with another one scheduled after this meeting. If you think I'm sneaking out early, I'm not. I simply am leaving so that I can be in Clifton (District 52) by 4 pm. Districts 10 and 73 have given me time on their agenda to report; along with a very abbreviated version at District 71's Workshop last weekend. In addition I was asked to speak at the 12, 12 & More meeting in Elgin where I spoke on what a Delegate does.

I am actively attempting to help administer the 2014 Membership Survey, a somewhat up hill road. Only one meeting so far has not been interested in participating, and so far one meeting is no longer active. At least half of them have been difficult to contact. Some of the primary contacts either didn't return my phone call, or no longer attended the meeting. There was also at least one meeting that is at a club, with no contact information for an individual. For those DCMs reading this, it points out how vitally important it is for you to work within your District to try and encourage meeting contact information to be kept up to date. I know how challenging this work can be, but please keep at it. Next time it might not be a Delegate looking to do a membership survey, it might be an AA member looking for a meeting to attend.

I attended the East Central Regional Conference in Perrysburg, Ohio on July 25th through 27th. As you may recall, the Area funded an additional 6 people to attend and participate in the round table discussions that centered on sharing how each Area does service. I believe each of the people attending will be providing a report on what they heard. In addition, I've requested that each of them forward me their information. My hope is to combine these reports and submit them to Phil G. for a Concepts piece. So far three of the people have submitted their expenses against PPM51 for a total of \$1,295.12 but I'm sure there will be more submissions today. For myself, I attended the Delegate's only breakfast, along with a meeting for current and past Delegates in which we discussed two items. One item is the intent of the Region to have a hospitality room at the International Convention in Atlanta, July 2-5 next year. We've placed our request and are awaiting additional information. First, if we can have a room, second, what the cost of the room will be, and finally can we make coffee and provide snacks. This final one is the real kicker. If we are limited to only using hotel coffee the price could be anywhere from say \$35 a gallon to over \$100 per gallon. I hope to have an idea of costs and a motion to present for the Winter Assembly. The second discussion was a regarding the idea of changes to the Conference of Delegate Past & Present, along with the ECR Convention. The presented idea is that we combine these two events, move it to late February, and have it include presentation on the GSC agenda items. I believe there is still a lot of discussion on this topic.

At our last Assembly I spoke with the DCMs regarding an issue that seems to be happening in Ohio and was reported to from our Regional Correspondent to our Regional Trustee and then to Delegates. It seems that there are people who are attending AA meetings and announcing retreats that have little or nothing to do with AA. These events seem to be targeted to newly sober members, and since they are announced at AA meetings are perceived to be AA events. Some of the descriptions remind me of my days of hazing in a sorority. The point that was made in Mary Clare's e-mail is that we should all be aware of what announcements are being read at our meetings. If we are unsure of what the event is,

we should not be afraid to ask. We all bear the responsibility to keep our Traditions insight and do our best to make AA a safe place for people to come and to find sobriety.

Dialog with members at GSO

I'd like to share a couple dialogs I have had with staff members at the General Service Office.

Early this spring Don S came to me about the challenges he was facing ordering Spanish Literature in the on-line store. He had to keep bouncing back and forth between pages comparing the covers to figure out if he was ordering the correct book/pamphlet he wanted. He asked me to convey to GSO this challenge, and suggested that they add the English translation to the site. (Having done the same thing, I know how challenging this can be.)

More recently, District 41 found a challenge in adding information to the back of various pamphlets when they use them for CPC and PI. This stamp has their local contact information so that people would have a way to get in touch with AA.

I sent both these suggestions to Greg T., Publishing Director at AAWS. He will be taking both topics up with the publishing department and they will see what can be done. I don't know what the timeline on this type of discussion is, but the voice of NIA has been delivered. When I hear additional information, I will be sure to relay it.

Additionally I was "talking" with Michelle M., Archivist. I wanted to learn more about how information can be obtained. The trustees' Archives Committee has oversight of the collection. Any member of Alcoholics Anonymous, non-member, writer, student, film producer etc. may have access to the Archives collection of unpublished letters or other unpublished material. They do need to become familiar with the research policies and submit a signed application form. They also have to abide by the US Copyright laws. Generally speaking, few requests are denied. My particular interest was regarding a letter that Bill references in As Bill Sees It. It seems that this wasn't an easy request, in part because excerpts were sometimes taken out of their original context; Bill rewrote some of them to fit the situation. In addition, much of his writing is owned by Stepping Stones, not GSO. Ah well....

Highlights from AAWS (AA World Services, Inc.); June 13, 2014

I will be forwarding on this full report after this meeting. Some highlights:

Newly elected Chair of the A.A.W.S. Board, Billy N. opened the meeting. Attendance included new director Beau B. and new trustee directors Chet P., Southeast Regional Trustee, and Joe D.

A new aspect to the on-line contributions portion of aa.org is the ability to make reoccurring contributions. The option allows the user to set-up regular contributions, but still limits how much a member can contribute during the year.

Following Mary D.'s retirement in August 2014, Mary Clare L. will move from Regional Forums to the Literature assignment. Clay R. will take over the Regional Forums responsibilities and continue to oversee the Nominating assignment, as well.

Recruitment for the newly-created position for an A.A.W.S. Information Technology Manager is well underway. The position has been posted internally and on external websites. We anticipate a September 2014 hire date.

The unaudited G.S.O. financial update for the period January 1, 2014 - March 31, 2014 reflected:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Net sales | \$3,262,530 |
| Gross Profit (Literature) | \$2,079,433 |
| Contributions | \$1,671,562 |
| Total operating expenses | \$3,692,983 |
| Net Income | \$ 58,121 |

General Service Office (GSO)

Notice has been sent out regarding a price increase to literature effective October 1st. Discounts for shipping and handling will be changing slightly, but it will be to lower costs on larger orders. The last increase to literature prices was in July 2009. (As I reported in my GSC report, literature prices are set to help offset the difference between contributions from members, groups, etc. and the cost of doing the business of AA at the office. One estimate is that if each and every member of AA were to participate each year in the birthday plan, one dollar for each year of sobriety, literature could be sold at cost. This would reduce the price of literature to what it costs to print and ship only.) I received the communication on the increase this week, and will be forwarding it out. Generally prices will change somewhere between one and two dollars. For instance, the Big Book will go from \$8 to \$9.50 each, but Daily Reflections will go from \$8.25 to \$10.25 per book. The changes to shipping and handling are in those middle bands: \$51 - \$250 going from 19% to 15% and the \$251 - \$500 down to 12%. The communication did not mention what happens on the price per book on larger orders.

I know that there is often discussion on why we “pay more” when we buy the smaller orders than places that can purchase larger orders. One thing to keep in mind is that it takes more time to package 10 single copies individually than it does to package a larger box with 10 copies in it. An idea that Districts can consider is to have groups come together and create a larger combined order. There’s always been the question of storage, but if an order was placed say a week after the District meeting, then by the time they are delivered they would only be stored in someone’s house (or car) for a little more than a week. With the shipping a single Big Book costs \$19.50, but 6 Big Books it would be more like \$11.31 each. If you can combine groups to an order of 27 Big Books, the price goes down to about \$10.64 each.

Delegate’s Sharing

I had several requests for Delegate’s Sharing’s these past couple months. This is where an e-mail is sent out to all the Delegates asking how each Area handles a particular subject. I am finding this a very interesting effort as it allows me to see into how different and the same each Area is. It brings a greater depth of understanding to autonomy.

One was regarding whether Areas fund their Delegate to attend the International Conference, held every 5 years around the US and Canada. While the full responses haven’t been reported yet, initial indications are that about half of the Areas do support attendance. Another was a request for information regarding the Young People’s groups such as ISCYPAA which I have not yet received back information on. A big “Thank You Marcia!” for helping me answer those questions. Another request that I have not heard back yet on is regarding Special Needs and how sign language interpreters are paid for by meetings. In talking with Urbano we realized that our web site had not been updated in several years, so he’s going to be looking into that soon.

The Delegate in Colorado made an interesting request recently. There was a need for someone who spoke Karen, a rare language spoken by a small minority in Burma /Myanmar. In this case, the problem drinkers are part of a fairly isolated refugee community living in Denver. Several of them have been court-ordered to AA meetings. GSO does not have any literature translated into Karen, although there are three pamphlets available in Burmese. Regardless, the clients are illiterate so they wouldn't be able to read any literature even if we did have translations available. The Delegate had contact with the group in Myanmar whose members created the existing pamphlets in Burmese, and they are asking their own networks for Karen speakers who might be able to assist. None of the other Delegates had any help to offer specific to the request. It did however help us to understand another aspect of what is referred to in AA as Remote Communities. While most people would never think that Denver, Colorado would experience anything akin to a remote community, here is a prime example of exactly that same thing. In this case it is not physical distance that removes the member from meetings but the barrier of language.

A request was sent along in early spring regarding whether the Areas helped fund DCMs and other District members to attend Area meetings. In general most of the Areas were like ours where Groups are suggested to reimburse GSRs and Districts elect to reimburse DCMs and/or District Chairs. Two Areas in specific have funding for this type of effort (Area 28 Maine and Area 79 British Columbia / Yukon). This funding is strictly for the DCMs or their Alternates. Each Area has a form that is filled out to request this funding; a limit on how much can be requested per District and for the year total. Each one also attempts to provide the funds in a rotational manner and does ask that the District provide information to indicate that there is a need for the funding.

A final request came from Area 67, South East Texas where groups are being asked to pay a portion of the property tax when they rent space in strip malls. One Delegate shared what sounded more like a landlord had to come up with their taxes and “squeezed” the meeting to help pay those by coughing up some cash (my words). Another shared how a landlord wanted the group to pay for a new roof (they moved) and several mentioned challenges with landlords asking for insurance. The majority mentioned that it is the landlord’s responsibility and how they use the rent is their business, not AAs. It all helps bring new meaning and perspective to the Tradition’s; especially Tradition Six in its long form.

Upcoming Events

The Illinois State Conference is just around the corner. Hosted this year by Chicago’s Area 19. I’ve filled the panel requests that I received, but I still need to fill some Alcahons. If any of you are planning n attending, please see me and take a slot. I need to do that today so that I can let them know tomorrow what we are unable to fill.

Sharing Session – Primary Purpose Given by Judd W. If you look at the primary purpose register you should also find these items in the NIA 20 handbook. This primary purpose register is all about our 7th tradition. This is all about service and not money, though we argued about money at the last assembly. It is all about the Service, though GSO has said not to keep any money around. If the NIA handbook or the primary purpose register says to do it, then do it. Also Janet has the authority to reimburse the person. The person just has to send in the reimbursement sheet. The handbook and the primary purpose register gets changed at the same time. Cheryl read the responsibilities and duties under the PPB in the handbook. What she read was for the CPC. Cheryl wants to do a workshop on I got the money honey, do you have the time. Rich H - it’s the wording that you said that we argued about money at the last assembly, but really we had a discussion about the money. Were we really tired of the arguing about money or about the method we get there. Carol - the Bridging The Gap was under the correction chair, but now it is under the treatment chair. How can you tell which newest handbook you got? Judd W is the custodian for the service manual and there has been no changes to it. Carol was looking at the GSR handbook and not the service manual. The abridged one is the Service manual and the unbridged one is the GSR handbook, and that one has not been changed for a long time. The service manual is the rights and financial for the area trusted servants.

New Business:

1. Motion to amend procedures for planning Spring Conference - Ray W stated that this was not a motion that they were going to discuss this during lunch. Cheryl is making a motion to amend procedures for planning spring conference. Cheryl read the original motion and John C seconds it.

Questions/Comments: Joe M - current chair of the next spring conference that this should just be done. I liked the motion about it. Rich - every time we have a problem the handbook gets bigger. Don’t we have these procedures in place to correct little problems? Tom B thinks the word coordinate is a bad word. Ray W another point of order that we will be voting here, then Ray does have discussion on this. We will be voting on this today. Ray -I have the opportunity to be on a lot of committees. I appreciate the 3 districts coming together for the Spring Conference in a short period of time. There is already language in the handbook for this. Bill R - this comes more out our experience. Tom B - a friendly amendment that it says that the location should be an agreeable one. John C is flustered; the conference advisory board should be doing this. Cheryl sent the information to the four people on the conference advisory board, but no one responded to her. Manus S - I feel we are back to delegating instead of the co-chairs of the conference on assisting and advising the committee chairs for the conference. Cheryl, are you willing to change the word *should* to *must*? She said no.

We need 2/3rd of the vote to pass. 21 for it and 18 against it- it did not pass.

2. Motion to create a Bridge the Gap Standing Service Committee in Area 20 - Dan L gave the motion and background on it.

Questions/Comments: Rob this is to get a new committee? Dan to create a new standing service committee for Bridging The Gap committee and also an adhoc committee to advise them. Joe S - what are the pitfalls having too many standing committees and if we don’t follow the GSO standing committees? Cheryl - was just thinking about that we would not

have the conscious contact with the group and we would not be mirroring the GSO. Kelly - have you talked to the DCMs and the treatment and correction chair? Dan has spoken to about a dozen DCMs. Also 4 districts have a BTG standing committee. Jeff - it says they would be comprised by CPC? Dan - the standing committee would be comprised by the treatment and PI. Tina - would it be up to other area chair to pick the adhoc committee for this?

3. Motion to clarify Guidelines for Primary Purpose Motions Bill is giving the motion and background on the motion. The old motion was pulled and presented after lunch. Bill read the rewritten motion.

Questions/Comments: Mike - would the GSRs get the unabridged book free? Bill stated that they have not decided yet. Jeff asked how the GSR handbook got started. Phil stated the mark was the person that put the GSR handbook for the report ad charter committee. It was designed for GSRs only. Judd - we only print the service manual for service and not for the assemblies. Judd put the first unabridged together for the area. Cheryl - what are we going to give the GSRs? Bill - with the service manual goes into the discussion of the primary purpose regisrer. Judd - in the cost section adding a few pages of the service manual would cost about 20 cents. Would the wording be changed from the abridged cost \$1.00 and the unbridged version cost \$5.00? John C - GSRs where confused about which document they should be looking at. That's why this motion was put on the table. Tracy - when he sees new GSRs don't know what they are doing. He feels that the handbook is directions for them. Jeff - what do we give the GSR when their book goes away? Bill - that unabridged book would be available to everyone. Bill stated we could redraft the motion during lunch and bring back after lunch. Area agrees to let them do it. John - we will print it once every service rotation. Mike - it would be giving free to the trusted servents.

4. Motion to amend Duties and Responsibilities of Finance Committee This motion would be voting on by this committee. Mike is presenting the motion and background of it.

Questions/Comments: Judd - when we always come in with a PPMS approved by a substantially unanimous (2/3 majority) of the assembly.

5. Motion to purchase DVD's and Pamphlets Cheryl presented the motion and background for it

Questions/Comments: Rich - district or dcms asked for this? Cheryl none. Rob - why wasn't this brought up by PI? Cheryl brought this to archivist and got no response about this.

6. Motion to Print and Distribute Unabridged NIA Service Handbook Judd presented the motion and background for it.

Questions/Comments: Judd stated that GSRs could download the unabridged from NIA Area 20 website. Manus stated the GSRs gets them free. Judd stated that we have to get the unabridged printed and out to everybody. Jeff - how do we get this out to the GSRs free? Judd said it wouldn't be free. Ray M - I would suggest that *how to host area events* be in the handbook when it is printed. Manus S - we are in danger; seems to me courtesy for the previous speaker. It seems that we are becoming elite when we say that and that shouldn't be in the book. Please don't restrict the information. Carol - why do we have 2 different things and combing it? Cheryl - it's the report and charter to make sure what is one and should be in the other one word for word. What do we give the GSRs? I think we should keep the smaller one. Betty - I was told I wouldn't get reinbursement for the unabridged book. I think we should combine them.

7. Motion to amend the "Primary Purpose Basic Expenses" subsection of the NIA Service Handbook Judd presented the motion and the background for it.

Questions/Comments: None

8. Bid for the 2015 Big Book Conference Anyone interested in bidding for next years big book conference? No one raised there hands. Robert will be making calls to DCMs.

Questions/Comments: None

9. Motion to eliminate of the Abridged Version of the Northern Illinois Area 20 Service Handbook

Questions/Comments: None

Old Business

2014 Big Book Conference Report Jeff presented the report. The committee is moving along doing there parts. The budget is almost complete. On line registration is up and running. Test deposits were made on Pay Pal. We will be using the facilities sound system and screens for the main speakers. The speakers will be staying at the Holiday Inn in Carol Stream. The P.I. committee is visiting Districts and Area Service events. Lunch will be from Rosati's and include salad, mostaccioli, sausage and chicken. Registrations are low but there is still two and half more months until the event so all the DCMs please push the event at your district meetings and if you need more fliers please let me know.

2015 Spring Conference Report Joe presented the report. Joe has some flyers, but not the finished flyers. All of the 40 positions has been filled. Ray, Marcia and Bob, thank you for advising us. Also Marilyn has been doing a great job. The walk through for the Pheasant Run will be September 14th at 10am.

Officer Reports:

Alternate Delegate – Kelly L

July 25th to the 27th I attended the East Central Regional Conference which was held within the Ohio State Conference. There were a lot of NIA 20 members in attendance. I was able to attend the Secretary, Recording Secretary's and Registrar's panel. Dawn B. our registrar and Judd W. our alternate treasurer and a past registrar of our Area were participates of the panel. It was educational to hear how other Areas handle business in their Area.

I then attended the panel for Area chairs and alternate delegates. Rich H. was the moderator and Robert, I and a few Area 20 members were in attendance. I might have gotten a little excited about how we conduct business in our area, as a matter of fact later when I was being introduced to someone she mentioned that she meet me in the panel and that I liked to talk. A few were interested in the contact program where we are using the Area Officers with the DCMs and the Area standing committees. I was able to share more about our Area after the panel especially regarding our Primary purpose register.

Our own Cheryl was the Saturday afternoon speaker and she did great. I am pretty sure it was the first time I heard her share her experience, strength and hope.

Saturday night there was a magic show; if anyone missed that they missed a good a funny show. The guy did the magic using situations that were program related.

I am like a broken record when it comes to asking the districts about having a few of them get together and have a Service Orientation workshop in the districts. I don't understand how the title "Service Orientation Workshop" turns members off that are being of service to their groups, districts and the Area.

Next week districts 10, 11 and 12 will be hosting such a workshop. If there are members outside of those districts that show up I am hoping they would like a similar workshop. The agenda can be changed to add different items of concern. All I need to know is what you would like. There seems to be some confusion on what is meant by a Service Orientation workshop. The agenda would cover topics that deal with the service structure. If any districts would like a workshop that deals with BTG, corrections, grapevine or other standing committee, they should ask that Area standing committee members for one and I am sure they would be more than happy to have one. If you want a combination of both, also let me know. The Area committees are here to help the districts with any type of service they need or want

Alternate Chair – Marilyn F

I would like to welcome everyone and a special thanks to Amy and District 62 for hosting this Committee Meeting.

Since the last Committee meeting held on May 10, 2014 I have attended the following:
05/18/2014 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting

06/01/2014 – 2014 Big Book Conference Planning meeting
 06/08/2014 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting
 06/14/2014 – Area Summer Assembly (Districts 21 & 28, Palatine)
 07/06/2014 – 2014 Big Book Conference Planning meeting
 07/20/2014 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting
 08/03/2014 – 2014 Big Book Conference Planning meeting

I am looking forward to the Service Orientation Workshop on August 16th in Grayslake.

Secretary – Tina R, Alternate

Please turn in your written reports. If you need a new name badge, please let me know.

Alternate Treasurer - Judd W

Since the NIA Spring Committee meeting on May 10, I have been privileged to attend and participate in the following events:

- 6/1/2014: NIA Officers’ meeting in Antioch
- 6/12/2014: NIA Finance Committee meeting, via conference call
 - Presented/discussed PPR Current Working View
- 6/14/2014: NIA Summer Assembly in Palatine
- 6/26/2014: ECRC Coordination meeting, via conference call
- 7/19/2014: NIA Finance Committee meeting in Des Plaines
 - Presented/discussed two FC motions which are now on the agenda for the NIA Summer 2014 committee meeting
- 7/25-7/27/2014: Ohio State Conference, East Central Regional Conference
 - Participated in round-table discussion with ECR Area Secretaries and Registrars. Shared experience regarding Fellowship New Vision, procedures for using/updating FNV, much discussion about mailings, costs, etc. NIA procedures are in line with those of other areas in the ECR.
 - Participated in round-table discussion with ECR Treasurers and Finance Committee chairpersons. Shared experience regarding taxes (mostly Ohio State issues), prudent reserves, reimbursement authority, cost tracking and reporting. Shared some detailed information about Primary Purpose Finance; one other area, Area 33 in Southern Michigan has considered something similar already and other areas were eager to learn more about it and how it is working well and what problems have been faced by Area 20.
- I have also enjoyed several calls and conference calls with others to develop two additional motions which are on the agenda for the NIA Summer 2014 Committee Meeting.

These activities are in addition to the day-to-day activities of my service position: mailed 202 thank you letters for contributions (since 5/10) and maintained the register of individual, group, district, and pink can contributions.

Registrar – Dawn B

Information updates since 06/14/2014

All update requests that were received before 07-25-14 have been processed in FNV.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Total Since 06/7/2014 | |
| Group information | |
| New groups/Pending Active | 5 |
| Folded/Inactive | |
| Group contact information | 13 |
| District/Individual contacts | 32 |
| Area contacts | 1 |
| Total updates | 51 |

Chair – Robert S

This is going to be an important committee meeting and I hope that all of you are making it a priority to attend.

We will be having a sharing session on Primary Purpose Financing. This will be an important opportunity to better understand the basic in's and out's of how we treat our finances. I would ask that you read the section on PPF in the handbook prior to the meeting and be prepared to ask questions on anything you don't understand.

Since sending out the preliminary agenda I have received a number of emails regarding the motions that had been submitted. As these motions were reviewed by related committees and conversations have taken place several of the motions have been withdrawn or revised. We will have motions from the Finance Committee, the Delegate, a combined motion from Corrections, Treatment, PI and CPC and a couple of others. These relate to changing the guidelines for the Finance Committee, Hosting the Spring Assembly/Conference, creating a new Standing Service Committee as well as some motions that don't effect guidelines but are just as important.

I am sure that all of these will provoke a lot of thought and discussion.

I am going to be reminding everyone, throughout the meeting, that we will not be voting on any of these motions at the committee meeting. They are being presented so that everyone has an opportunity to ask questions and make sure that they completely understand what the motion is in order to have a discussion with your district, group, committee and/or sponsor. We will NOT be taking any more time than is necessary to fully understand the intent of the motion, why it is being presented and offering suggestions to improve the motion if there are any. Please don't ask that the motion be changed right there and then. If you can't support the motion as written and have a suggestion that would allow you to support it, then offer the suggestion but don't ask them to change it right then. Comments about the motion will be kept to a minimum. There will be plenty of time for that at the next assembly when they come up for a vote.

I will be timing all reports, questions and comments during the meeting and cutting people off if they go beyond the allotted time. Therefore, have your questions thought out ahead of time and be succinct in your delivery. Reports will have 3 minutes each and questions/comments, concerning the motions, will have 2 minutes each. Service Committee Chairs, please pay attention to any Primary Purpose Motions you are responsible for and include those into you report.

As you know, several of us (6 to be exact) attended the East Central Regional Conference and will be reporting on our experience.

Above all, come prepared to have some fun and fellowship with the other service minded people in northern Illinois.

Service Committee Chair Reports

Answering Service – Terry B, reported: It has been a busy time for both myself and Robert. However we are still working on how to improve our "How To Find AA in Illinois", which was revised in June 2013. We have been asked to include zip codes by Bridging The Gap. Robert attended the district 44 service workshop on 7/12. I got to attend the East Central Region Conference from 7/25 to the 7/27.

Archives – Jeff G, no report

Corrections – Dan L, reported: The last couple of months have been low key. Pat and I have been working with the CPC, Treatment, and PI committees to develop a motion to have a standing service committee at the area level for the Bridging the Gap program. Books have been distributed to many facilities including Sheridan Prison, Aurora Transitional Center for Women, and Rock Island County Jail.

This afternoon I will be attending a Corrections Workshop in Bartlett, IL. There are going to be a number of speakers and I am fortunate enough to be able to be one of those. My plan is to talk about the need to take meetings into the prisons and review how to gain security clearance to be able to attend those meetings.

CPC, no report

Grapevine, Jim reported: I was invited to attend a service workshop that district 41 held on Saturday July 12th at Anona East. I brought the Area's Grapevine display. Karen, our area Alt. GV, also attended that workshop. We were given time to relate how the GV can be a useful tool for most committees in their effort to carry the AA message. We were well received and answered a few questions. Attendees helped themselves to the handouts and subscription forms we brought with.

I took the area display to district 22's district meeting in June. That month I also brought the display to the Wednesday Grapevine group in Elgin. I have talked with a few district GV chairs about their duties and have seen interest in holding a GV workshop but still no commitments by anyone to do so.

Literature, Francisco reported: Alt. Literature Jeff was able to attend the ECRC and it was very informative.

PI, Jim W reported: Was not here and Jean is in the hospital had a stroke. Let's keep her in our prayers.

Special Needs, Urbano S, no report

Treatment, Betty G reported: On June 28th, we held a Treatment/BTG workshop at Christ Church of Oak Brook. Weezie provided the main focus, BTG, and there was considerable interest and many questions. As a result we got a BTG coordinator for District 42. It is unfortunate that I was trying to fill that need in Area in addition to doing the Treatment position.

Two cases of Large Print Big Books have been ordered and received. We carry the message by sharing our solutions which are in the book!

As area chair, I have had family members and others contact me. One was for suggested AI-Anon. I offered to meet with the person they were concerned about and for one gal, suggested Serenity House in Addison.

I believe that SAMSHA listings are for district treatment chairs, to see where our message can be carried not for us to affiliate. I hope psych units will not be ignored.

A sponsee I was working the steps with when I first was gung ho about BTG had called three gals from her IOP and none had gone to AA. Yesterday (8-8-14) she called to thank me because one of the gals, who is struggling called her for help! So it really does work!

After the Area assembly and BTG workshop, I will be stepping down. We now have a message board, literature rack and literature if nothing else. Thank You so much for the opportunity to serve.

Archivist, Ray M, no Report

Concepts, Phil G reported: DCMs remind your secretaries to send me your minutes for that district. Also the deadline will be September 10th.

Electronic Equipment, no report

Web Administrator, Tom S, no report

Report and Charter, Lisa S, no report

Conference Advisory Committee no report

DCM Reports

Dist 10, Mike M reported:

- Serenity House held its summer BBQ and Cook-off Sunday July 13th at Serenity House in Libertyville.

- Districts 10 and 12 are holding their shared breakfast for the Fall October 19th at the Ramada Inn on Green bay road in Waukegan.
- Our archive person Steve is going to digitize our archives onto removable flash drives.
- Districts 10, 11 and 12 are working together again to host the Area's Service orientation workshop August 16th at Crossroads church in Grayslake.
- The annual "A Way out" anniversary party has been scheduled for October 11th this year at the Libertyville civic center in Libertyville.
- At the last meeting the district finally voted to send off \$800.00 in additional funds from the beginning of the year to the Area.
- The Literature committee is doing a good job of making newcomer packets and Big books available to GSR's

Dist 11, Carol reported: In last couple of months District 11 has had some changes in our officers and committee members. Doug W. had to step down as the alternate DCM as he had a career change that keeps him out of the state a lot, and we lost our alternate web administrator and grapevine chair. We also have felt the loss of having our Into Action newsletter as Dave G. decided to step down a couple months ago and we have not found anyone yet to take his place. However we are holding a newsletter information night on Monday August 25th to hopefully form a committee to take on this huge endeavor. After Francisco B attended our July meeting to share his experience as the NIA Literature Chair, we did have someone step up to fill the position after it had been vacant for several months. Many thanks to Francisco and Dawn our NIA Registrar for following up with our new literature chair to get him registered and connected with GSO. Another volunteer stepped up to fill the vacant Grapevine position and he has already connected with myself and the previous Grapevine chair to get started. It is like helping someone coming out of a treatment facility when you take a new volunteer connected to the area and GSO, they feel they have a purpose so all the time spent was greatly appreciated.

Next weekend on Saturday August 16, 2014, districts 10, 11 and 12 are hosting a service orientation workshop at the Crossroads Church, 1350 State Route 137 in Grayslake from 10:00- 2:00. We are looking forward to this opportunity to learn more about how the district and area business works, about self-support, GSR roles, motions, primary purpose register, importance of registering your groups, what is beyond your home groups and our Delegate's post report. We will also hear the Delegate's post report at our September 4th district meeting as I invited Cheryl to share it with us at that time.

For me the highlight of this month was attending the East Central Regional Conference in Perrysburg, OH on July 25-27. There were several NIA 20 members in attendance. I was able to attend one breakout session on the newsletter, website and literature and a second one on Treatment where I was able to share my experience with Bridge the Gap (BTG) and the Annual Workshop Weekend and learn how the BTG activities are handled in other parts of the five state region. Our own delegate Cheryl V. shared her story as the Saturday afternoon speaker and a team of past delegates including Rich H and John C presented a motion that may impact the future regional Delegate Past and Present meetings. We should be very proud of the amount of efforts that are born within the Northern Illinois Area 20. The sobriety countdown on Saturday night was amazing with the longest old timer at 65 years of sobriety, followed by 55 and then almost one person from every year below them.

I apologize for having to leave early today but my dad is in the hospital and my family is rallying at his bedside today for support. I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve, Thank you.

Dist 12, Mike reported:

- Tomorrow, August 10th, is the date for the Waukegan Alano Club picnic from 12:00 AM to 8:00 PM at Bowen Park in Waukegan
- Next Saturday, August 16th, with Districts 10 & 11 we're sponsoring the NIA 20 Service Workshop from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Crossroads Church in Grayslake.
- Also next Saturday, August 16th, there's a women's meeting, from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM "Life's a Beach" on the beach in Winthrop Harbor
- The 1st & 3rd Saturdays we have the ATP Sponsor Panel at 12:45 PM

In September, we'll have the 1st planning meeting for the Tri-County Conference, the 1st planning meeting for the District 12 Christmas Party, and the NIA 20 Fall Assembly

Dist 20, no report

Dist 21, Barbara H reported: District 21, in Palatine and Rolling Meadows, has 28 active groups according to GSO. We are working to contact all these groups. About 10 groups regularly send GSRs to the monthly district meeting. We have filled all of our positions for service chairs and only one position for an alternate chair. There is significant overlap between service chairs and GSRs.

In June we and District 28 hosted the NIA summer assembly, with the help of about 2 dozen local volunteers. Our other big news is that Chuck S, our Answering Service chair, recently revamped our system. The old system used a phone number from AT&T, a message and call-forwarding service from Answercall 24, two cell phones, and a group of volunteers. The new system uses one cell phone and a group of volunteers. The new system has the same phone number as the old system. We believe that the new system meets all our needs, and it save us about \$150 a month.

Dist 22, Manus reported: We celebrated summer with our annual picnic. As designed, this was a "family" picnic as opposed to the rock concerts of previous years! The peace and quiet led to much socializing among the fellowship attending. Several of our service chairs are planning district workshops in the second half of the year, including Special needs and Answering service. District 22 in conjunction with districts 61 and 20 are meeting every month as plans for the 2015 Spring Conference move forward.

Dist 23, no report

Dist 28, Bill reported: District 28 has rescheduled all its monthly meetings to the first Monday of every month. The location remains the same: St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 647 Dundee Ave, Barrington, IL at 6:45 pm.

Our Tuesday Night Real Time Men's meeting and Thursday Night Usual Suspects Men's meeting have been providing inspirational leadership in service by hosting successful annual retreats. This year the Real Time meeting is adding a Sponsorship Workshop to their schedule of events. The workshop will take place at St. Michael's Episcopal Church on Saturday, September 6 from 10 am to 1 pm. It is open to all interested in needing, finding, keeping, or being a sponsor. They anticipate it will become an annual workshop.

Our District lists 24 A.A. meetings in various meeting locations, and 40 A.A. meetings at the Stillwaters Alano Club. We are aware of the oft times antagonistic relationship between non-club meetings and club meetings. The problem is usually one of monetary support. Clubs generally require the 7th Tradition basket proceeds to fund club operations and rarely have excess funds to pass on. We have not been immune to this phenomenon.

We are trying to awaken a different mind-set. Most of us in the District view the Alano club as a positive resource, especially for beginners because there are just so many meetings at unusual times. We are trying to alleviate the negative attitude surrounding the lack of financial support for the printing of schedules which includes the club's entire schedule of meetings. The club is as good a resource as any CPC/PI opportunity to "carry the message".

I will be visiting the club's next Board Meeting to suggest we look for avenues for a stronger and mutually beneficial non-monetary relationship that will better serve all our Groups.

Dist 40, no report

Dist 41, no report

Dist 42, no report

Dist 43, no report

Dist 51, no report

Dist 52, no report

Dist 61, Joe L reported:

1. Judy H. and Al S. were elected Literature Committee co-chairs for the newly formed District Literature Committee.
2. Lois H. has prepared a revised Answering Service roster with increased numbers of member volunteer participants. She has ensured that the district Answering Service is receiving a current volunteer roster and district meeting schedule.
3. Our Corrections Committee co-chairs Bee U. and Chip F. remain active leading meetings at the Kane County Adult Justice Center (KCAJC). In addition, Bee is taking meetings to the Adult Transitional Center (ATC) for Women in Aurora. Both are active seeking member volunteers to participate in the Pen Pals correspondence program coordinated by GSO.
4. After holding a Back to Basics (B2B) focus group meeting to consider the feasibility for a B2B meeting in our district, Bill C. and Julie H., our Treatment Committee chairs, are now active and participating in B2B meetings in District 61. In addition, Bill, Julie, and Betty G, the Area 20 Treatment Chair, are coordinating a BTG workshop for our district.
5. Rich Z. and Lois H., our Public Information chairs and the Geneva Saturday Night Open Speaker Meeting group have agreed to provide PI literature, information, and member representatives to meet with health care students and professionals attending the Open meeting. This meeting takes place on the first Saturday of the month.
6. Ben M., the District Webmaster, has launched the new District 61 website. He will continue to make subtle changes and tweaks to the site. Comments and suggestions for the website are welcome and should be sent via the PI contact link on the District 61 website.
7. Brenda E. and Kay S., our Grapevine committee chairs hosted a writer's workshop. Turnout was light, however members enjoyed the fellowship and the opportunity to submit their personal story of recovery to the Grapevine for consideration and use. I am certain that this event will grow.
8. Two hundred forty seven people attended the 22nd annual Fox Valley Open on Saturday, July 12, 2014 at Lord of Life Church. Three local AA members shared their inspirational stories of hope and recovery.
9. More than two hundred fifty members, families and friends attended the District 61 pig roast and family picnic held on Sunday August 3 at Fabyan Forest Preserve. We enjoyed a perfect day of fellowship, service, food, and fun.
10. Districts 61, 20, and 22 will host the 2015 NIA 20 Spring Assembly Conference at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles. District 61 members are active and serving on most of the event planning committees. We really do enjoy the joint collaboration and planning meetings.
11. Average attendance at our monthly District 61 Service Meeting: 34 (Jan-July)
12. District 61 has contributed \$4,000.00 to NIA 20, YTD 2014. Our treasury balance, after reserve, for the period ending July 25, 2014 is \$1929.65.

Dist 62, no report

Dist 64, no report

Dist 70, no report

Dist 71, no report

Dist 72, no report

Dist 73, Gary reported: Members in our district have had their attention focused on trying to strengthen the commitment of persons to the participation in their individual recoveries by increasing participation in attendance at meetings and activities. From this participation we try to grow our commitment to carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. This participation had slipped, possibly due to 'seasonal' considerations with a subsequent result in a few more serious 'slips' occurring.

At the district level GSR'S primary focus has been monitoring and maintaining support of our answering service and corrections activities at our jails and the Dixon Correctional Facility.

We continue to have weekly meetings available in 3 of our 4 county jails. Retaining an adequate number of lady volunteers is a continual problem at the Whiteside county jail but we have had volunteers at least 13 of the past 15 weeks. The most apparent excuse for the shortage of ladies is the distance most volunteers would have to travel.

Attendance at the monthly district business meeting has been consistent. A motion to form a committee to study pro's and cons of rotating at least some of the business meetings to other locations than Polo, IL was soundly defeated. Area 20 delegate Cheryl V. attended our July 18th business meeting, and after approval the June district 73 business meeting

minutes and the current treasurer's report the meeting was turned over to Cheryl for a report on this year's general service conference. Over 26 GSR'S and guests attended.

Trying to develop a commitment for a Service Orientation workshop is ongoing. One location and available time has been determined, so our next step is talking to our workshop chair and then the area alternate chair to set a date.

I am sorry I have not prepared a list of upcoming events. Then only one I can mention is the Twin City Group Fall picnic September 20th, at the Larsen Shelter in Centennial Park, 511 E. 11th St., Rock Falls IL 61071. Delegate Cheryl V. is guest speaker. Lunch at 11:30 am speaker at 1pm.

Dist 79, Jaime reported:

Dist 80, no report

Dist 90, Jesse reported: District 90 hosted a Campfire Meeting at Blackhawk State Park in Rock Island on June 28th, with a potluck dinner and an open meeting focused on the subject of AA service. The event was well-attended, and response to the service message was positive. Our Corrections Committee is setting up a program for AA members to sponsor local inmates. Inmates will write to a post office box requesting an AA contact, who will then meet individually with them at the facility. The program is just getting started, and we're eager to see the results. Districts 90 and 91 are also working on a bid for the NIA 2016 Spring Conference which we will be presenting at the Fall Assembly in September.

Dist 91, Eva reported: CORRECTIONS: We currently have 2 AA people carrying a meeting into Henry Hill Correctional Center. There are 2 people that are waiting for the State to give them drug tests, we do not know when that will happen, all else has been approved. 1 other person is waiting for their paperwork to be approved.

There are 25 inmates allowed to go to the AA meeting. Have been told that the waiting list is over 100 inmates.

CPC: Our AA literature is waiting for Administration approval to go into the Doctor's offices in 2 clinics in Galesburg.

PUBLIC INFORMATION: Out PI Committee Chair was asked to present to a group of local business people and social agencies what AA does. He presented what AA does and what AA does not do.

We have supplied the Galesburg and Monmouth libraries with Spanish and French big books. They were very happy to have the books. We do have a growing French speaking community.

SPECIAL NEEDS: We are going to be trying to reach out to the Spanish speaking community in our District. We are short on Spanish speaking members, so this is difficult. Urbano from Special Needs Committee has supplied us with Spanish Literature and I will be asking him and Jim W. from Public Information how best to reach out.

The meeting that is being held in the Nursing Home is still going with a few residents attending. Our District does not have a Treatment Center so many people end up in the nursing home or jail.

GROUP INFORMATION: Oquawka Group is having their annual Fish Fry on September 28th. If you like fresh fish, it is the place to be, more information to follow.

Following open mic;

Ernest L made a motion to close

Bill seconds the motion

Adjournment