

2014 Fall Committee Meeting

October 18, 2014

Lord of Life Church, La Fox, IL
(Districts 90 and 91, Host)

Call to Order

Quite Time

Serenity Prayer

New Attendees There were no new attendees

AA Anniversaries

Sarah S, 5 years

Phil G, 39 years

Lisa S, 15 years

Joe L, 13 years

Bob, 3 years

Nicole E, 24 years

Twelve Concepts of World Service Read by Kevin

Announcements for today Eva announced lunch will be provided; if you would like lunch, please place your order by 10AM

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

Treasurer's Report – Janet N

This report is being presented as of September 30, 2014. The following is our financial status as of this date.

	<u>2014</u>
Contributions/Income:	\$51,350.22
Expenses:	<u>\$52,722.62</u>
Excess of Expense over income	(\$ 1,372.40)

Current checking account	\$ 3,303.77
Current prudent reserve	<u>\$17,835.00</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$21,138.77</u>

2014 Primary Purpose Register

The 2014 primary purpose register thru September 30, 2014 is attached to this report. Actual expenses for each PPB and PPM are listed through September.

The Area sent a contribution to GSO of \$1,580.20 to GSO in September. Total contributions to GSO in 2014 are \$20,380.20. Our income tax return has been completed and filed for 2013.

Can Contributions

Pink Can Fund: has received a total of \$6,303.05 YTD in contributions. We have spent \$6,093.80.

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

Mike H, reported PPR report for September projects an excess of \$3,000; not recommending any distribution at this time.

Operating Committee Report

Committee had no report.

Delegate Report – Cheryl V

Life as Delegate continues to be full and rich. Between interesting e-mails and visits to Districts, I'm a very busy and happy camper.

It's rotation time for some of the Districts. If you are having elections in your Districts, please make sure you get updated information to Dawn for Fellowship New Vision (FNV) so that everyone is on the mailing list after the first of the year for

the General Service Office (GSO) and the Area. I'd like to request new DCM and their Alternate's get me their e-mail addresses as soon as they are elected to so I can get them on my list right away. I'm guessing other officers such as Robert would be happy to start including you now in communication also.

Speaking of rotation, I'm getting lots of e-mails from all the Areas that are rotating. What a pleasure to be able to reach out to newly elected Delegates and welcome them to this adventure. I was so amazed at the number of Delegates who reached out to me when I was elected.

I've been trying to place the order for the DVDs and pamphlets with limited success. My hope had been to be able to place the order for all at once so that I could save on the shipping. Hope being the operative word. First the pamphlet *Many Paths to Spirituality* was on back order; plus the Spanish version will not be available until later this month. Then it was available but the DVD was on back order. Fortunately I found that my Home Group needed to place an order and I am hoping that I can combine the orders so I can at least save some money on a partial order.

I've had the opportunity to do two more Conference reports since our last Assembly. District 11 had me do about 20 minutes at their monthly meeting. Districts 90 & 91 hosted a joint service workshop where I presented my full report and Kelly and Marilyn talked about General Service. It was a very well attended event and as always I am grateful for the opportunity to share my experience.

An interesting correspondence that I'm participating in right now is between GSO's Group Records, Area 19 and myself. It seems that some border groups have somehow "migrated" from Area 20's records to Area 19's. We are trying to verify which Area they "belong" to. As with all things AA, there is no hard and fast rules on this subject. A Group that resides on the border of a District or an Area can basically decide for itself where they are best served. So in this case Mark M., Area 19 Delegate, and myself will be contacting the Groups to see if this change was intentional on their part, or a mix-up in paperwork at some point.

I've had multiple e-mails from our sister Area to the south thanking us for our donation of literature for Corrections.

Highlights from AAWS (AA World Services, Inc.); September 12, 2014

Membership surveys are being returned to the General Service Office (GSO) and are in the process of being tallied. The report will be delivered to the trustees' Public Information committee at their November meeting.

There is discussion with the General Service Board (GSB) regarding *La Vigne* and the General Service Conference structure. You may recall from my report that *La Vigne* is a French monthly magazine model on the Grapevine. It is published in Quebec and subscriptions are worldwide.

The inaugural National A.A. Technology Workshop was held August 8-10, 2014 in St. Louis, Missouri.

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

Net sales \$9,347,800

Gross Profit (Literature) \$5,691,100

Contributions \$3,880,800

Total operating expenses \$8,804,100

AAWS (AA World Services, Inc.) outreach

I received a communication from the AAWS board chair, Billy N. The board is taking time to focus on their role in supporting the fellowship. They are also discussing how to best address the long-term business model where they rely on our literature purchases to offset contribution shortfalls. They are looking to enhance communication about money from just dollars and cents to how the money is spent in reaching the alcoholic who still suffers. To this end they are looking for submission of stories on how 7th Tradition money is spent. These will be used in various ways such as in Box 459, the Grapevine, on aa.org, etc. The e-mail also included a sample story from a board member. While the story this person shared may be something beyond where each of us sees our dollars spent, I think many of us can find an example we can share. Please consider writing your thoughts on self-support and sending them to AAWS. The address is 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1100, NY, NY 10115. Contact me if you would like the name of the person to send it to or their e-mail address.

General Service Office (GSO) outreach

Surveys have been sent out to all Area Delegates regarding translation of background material for the General Service Conference (GSC). You may recall from my report, or you've read in the Conference Report, that an Advisory Action came out of the Finance Committee stating: "Because all Conference members are considered equal, all members should have equal access to Conference material and that a plan be created by the General Service Office to translate Conference Material (background material, Conference Manual etc.) into French and Spanish for use during the Conference, with a report being presented to the 2015 General Service Conference. This plan may include coordinating the use of the volunteer network throughout the Fellowship, hiring professional translators or any other facilities that the office deems necessary. The report should include costs and any other considerations deemed necessary to allow timely translations to occur." This survey is the start of that process. It will be interesting to see what is presented at the Conference next year. My hope is that something is presented that will allow translation to begin for the 2016 Conference.

International Convention: July 2-5, 2015, Atlanta, Georgia

Registration for the Convention opened on September 3rd at 9am. Shortly after that time the website was overwhelmed. I have to say that it sounds like they were back up and running much faster than other instances I have heard about in the "real world." To give you an idea of the number of people who were on-line, by midnight there were over 10,000 people registered.

I am serving on an East Central Region ad-hoc committee regarding a hospitality suite for us at the International. If I understand the communication to date, we have a hotel and a suite. However, we have been unable to coordinate a conference call as of yet. So I do not have any information to really relay yet on what hotel it is at or what the terms are for the hotel regarding food and beverages. Regarding this, my hope is that I have information soon so that I may present a motion to the Area for some funds to help provide coffee and/or snacks. My thought is to also see about providing a large number of our "How to Find AA in Illinois" flyers. In this way we can help visitors to NIA a way to find a meeting, along with perhaps give someone an idea on something they could use in their own Areas.

Some of you responded to my e-mail regarding attendance at the Convention. I received a request from Eva for potential leads at meetings. I was asked to submit at least four names of people who I thought might be willing to speak in front of large crowds and who would speak to the message of Alcoholics Anonymous and recovery from alcoholism. I will be contacting each of you whose name I am submitting so that you will be prepared in case you are contacted.

Questions/Comments: Dan – In talking with GSO, I understand rooms are 85 percent full in Atlanta; Cheryl V - I heard 10,000 registered the first day.

Al – any news on 80th Anniversary in Akron in June? Cheryl - Akron isn't part of the General Service Structure but I can reach out to their delegate for more info.

Sharing Session Robert S - if you were at the Fall Assembly, we had discussions on the handbook. We ultimately did not make any decisions nor are there any motions at this time on the handbook. Wanted to get a sense of what you want to do about the handbook. As an introduction, the [abridged] GSR handbook came about and was written by Tex B for the purpose of providing GSRs information. Includes what is on the website now - the GSR handbook, Committee handbook and Service Guidelines. Does not include detailed description of Primary Purpose Financing (PPF) nor the detailed duties and responsibilities of NIA trusted servants or policies for hosting NIA meetings. What is considered the unabridged version on the website is actually the 12 different documents created over the years compiled into one book. There are no guidelines for us concerning the handbook; we will open the floor for discussion and will not time unless it becomes necessary.

Chris, DCM 40 – what is the difference of cost between the two? Robert - GSR \$1/Unabridged \$5; Chris polled her district and the small book [abridged] was fine for GSRs

Mike M, DCM D10 - printed Robert's email for a survey; seemed to be more people wanted unabridged handbook. Some willing to pay, majority wanted for free. Suggestion to put unabridged info on website.

Joe L, D61 DCM – consider one handbook we all could use; omit procedures for conferences and add those to website
Al, GSR – we have issues getting people to step up to service and now they have to pay to know what to do?

Bonny, D10 Secretary – on unique side; this is something I would like to have. I appreciate having something to read.

Michelle, GSR D40 – if changes are made, do we need to pay for a new book? Keep this simple.

Jeff G – have a partial and complete versions. As we've had discussion, have a book similar to abridged but includes duties and responsibility and primary purpose finance. What guidelines do we have on unabridged? Robert, defers to Judd. Judd – there are guidelines about Concepts editor maintaining a summary of guidelines.

John C – I'm a book person, however, being website administrator I'm aware books are being replaced. Need to adapt to newcomers. We can and should separate the content of our publications. We can keep current on the website and we've already separated these sections out. Then individuals can print what they wish. Don't lock into ways that are being replaced. May not carry to that young person who lives on their phone.

Gary, DCM D73 – consensus from three meetings concluded they want printed version of GSR handbook; add PPF detail and committee detail not currently in abridged; want Conference guidelines as a standalone document. Printed at NIA expense and distributed for all who ask for it.

Cheryl V, Delegate Panel 64 – as a new GSR, the handbook was very helpful. This is the stuff that makes coming to the Area a little easier. The GSR handbook was less intimidating than the AA Service Handbook.

Lee, DCM D64 –our district split between dinosaurs who like to read and new people who like phones. I have to agree with Cheryl; surest way to blow a new GSR out of the water with information they can't fathom. Keep it Simple; that works for me. The easier it is for me as a new GSR.

Ernest L –Judd, thank you for writing this; it is invaluable to us. Would like unabridged to be available to everyone for free.

Eva, DCM D91 – I love this [unabridged] book. I use it a lot. We're planning to do the 2016 Conference; to print off all pages for our committee chairs wasn't easy; would have been great to hand them the book. Comments from discussion at my district was it was *good bathroom material*

Larry S – in minority on this conversation. The unabridged versions sell out so somebody is using them. Asked why we wouldn't include conference guidelines; 1) don't really need 2) too expensive 3) I don't know. Now we're giving all our money away and we're concerned about expense. Why wouldn't we provide the information we need for all aspects of service? I don't see any reason not to print the whole thing. Put information in front people.

Judd – I have to agree with Larry; we're all talking about the mythical GSR; we're selling them short. Give them the information and let them determine what they want to read.

Barb, Alt DCM D42 – talking about printing handbook for \$1/\$5; if you printed for more people, cost would go down. You're not that far apart on the cost.

Judd – did get a quote; they would be just over \$4 if we got unabridged printed in 500+ range

Danny M – as past Area 32 Chair, we ran strictly out of the AAWS Manual. There's repetition between the two. NIA service explained the things we did differently. The service part of the service manual is 92 pages. Comfortable going back to it.

Ray M, NIA Archivist – I really don't know the answer to the question. I happen to have been a GSR with the opportunity to ask questions of my sponsor about all of this stuff; to come to an Assembly and Service workshop before I became a GSR. I happen to be a GSR who became Delegate; the spiral bound is exactly what I need but I also needed somebody to show me how I needed it and what parts could be applied to me. How do we show them how to use it? More printed material bothers me; I think we miss the opportunity to turn more GSRs to Delegates. That first GSR handbook was made around 1987. Printed material should reflect our experience and should be presented in all the media.

Greg, GSR for Bunch of Nuts – do we have any background info from Report & Charter committee since our last meeting? Bill – not at this time. Greg - With all of the AA literature I've grown up with; I have a problem with this being a private issued pamphlet; view as a private enterprise against our Traditions because money doesn't go to AA. Important AA stays funded.

Barbara H, DCM D21 – we had discussion at my district meeting; when I asked big v little; met with bafflement and indifference. But observed; we've hosted assemblies and conferences and needed to use those guidelines. Last time we met for a conference committee, I printed copies for volunteers. I can't imagine asking people to look the information up in the handbook.

John C, NIA Past Delegate and member of Report & Charter - I could go on about the printed word in the Area; this in deference to Report & Charter; for the first 6 months we spent debating about adding or changing language. Found we weren't giving everybody the information they possible could use. When we talk about fiscal responsibility; printing a limited amount of copies and possibly losing money. Then we donated \$14,000 to GSO. We want to educate our GRSs today, tomorrow and in the future by being inclusive and giving them everything the Area does.

Michelle – was suggested that I purchase a new book for \$5 each year.

Cheryl V – to make clear, this is Area 20 literature. From the first time we printed to the one handed out today; nobody pays but everybody pays. I printed and sold for \$5. Does that make sense or answer the question? We printed with our own funds, the Area is not printing: Does Area want to print and give away, sell at cost or publish on website?

Joe L, CM D61 – we felt one book for the Area is what we want; redundancy is confusing. They want more information than what is in unabridged version. Want free of cost to the district. More information I can provide the better. If cost is an issue, then review for redundancies. One version only with improved content.

Chuck D, Alt DCM D10 - we were split at our district 50/50; I'm for one large printing. I was handed the BB and told to read it; then I was told first 164. If I'm going to hand this to new GSR; I will hand the large printed book and tell them to read first half.

Harrison, DCM D42 – from a practical standpoint, when we hosted an assembly all people had printed guidelines for hosting an assembly. The size of handbook isn't practical. I would suggest or hope there are guidelines on how long a book was expected to last.

Carmela R – I would prefer to have this in the hands of someone who might decide they're interested in service and we've made a way for that to be possible for them.

Barbara H – how long is this supposed to last; we are reprinting each year throwing away 120 pages to replace one page?

Manus S – sends a message don't overload the new GSR he's too dumb to understand this stuff; what does it say that we were elected by those dumb GSRs. Let's stop this business about the newcomer doesn't know anything. Put it in one book, god knows we got the money.

Ray M – forgot to talk about content of question; when I showed up as GSR, pay attention to what's going on here; how do I do that unless I know what people are supposed to be doing here?

Carol H, D11 DCM – outcome was they felt electronically was best; from an Area and district perspective, we should provide volunteers with what they need to do their job. I prefer people who need it to have it.

Robert S – I would like your permission to ask 2-3 people to take the material we have and put together into a book with part 1) GSR, Committee and Primary Purpose information and, part 2) website policy and service guidelines and bring back to committee and ultimately assembly for approval or rejection

Jeff G – point of order; at last assembly we referred back to Report & Charter committee and that’s where it needs to come from

Judd – no work whatsoever if we can get Report & Charter to do what they want to do

Robert S – so I gather that’s a “no”

John C – I want to address an issue in email from Report & Charter to the committee; stated from last assembly that you pulled a motion from agenda and stopped discussion on it. There were no problems, just not enough information. That’s why assembly accepted tabling of the motion. At this point; I don’t think this body has authority to discard a tabled motion for a committee to do more work.

New Business

Announcement: there will be some elections at the winter assembly; NIA Treatment Chair open as well as newly created BTG Chair and Alternate; Ernest is stepping down and Alt Archives will be open.

Shaun H passed away recently; funeral visitation tomorrow

Tom Swanson has officially provided notice he will not accept reappointment as our web administrator;

Concepts Editor will be appointed in next rotation; Phil officially resigned as he is moving.

1. Motion from Finance Committee; Mike H presented.

It is moved to amend the Primary Purpose Register for 2015. We want our trusted servants to do the same services they did last year. Also sets up operational funding for next year.

Questions/Comments:

Cheryl – Mike, I see numbers are going down. Was consideration taken we have a new BTG committee? Mike H - BTG was included in this.

Ray M - PPB5 was reduced by \$1,000? Mike H – this year we spent \$417; reduction was not from 2014; we have \$2,000 in 2014 and \$2,000 in 2013

John C – was there not a request from GSC to raise expense for Delegate? Cheryl – the suggested donation is \$1,600; Area funds fully to \$6,000. Our \$6000 is above and beyond the original request. I’m grateful we fully fund; actually costs more than \$6,000 to attend

Gary, D73 – we’ve created a new PPB for BTG and what was answer regarding funding? Are we waiting for new committee to give estimates? Judd – for PP there are no line items for individual committees. There are funds for workshops for all service committees to use. This is not a budget, but an estimate to enable activities.

Carol H – would BTG workshop expense be included? Janet – would be under PPB 10 duties and responsibilities of NIA trusted servants. Judd – take a look

Cheryl, provide representation to participate in State Conference – at \$2,800 we were able to fund people to go; dropping to \$750 is not going to go far. Mike H - \$750 is what it’s been for the last 3 years

Robert S – need to keep going back to those figures are an estimate; the activity is what we direct people to do.

Carol H – ask finance committee to consider a line item to attend workshops; Mike H the PPM section would handle that Carol, just as it did for you for the conference in August; If assembly decides we always want people to go we can set up as a PPB; but would be a motion first.

Judd – duties & responsibilities are the 10 Concept delegation of authority; if you want those to be PPBs then revisit guidelines

John C – PPB15; 2015 there is no conference

Official PPR projections will be voted on and approved at the Winter Assembly in December.

2. Bid for the 2015 Big Book Conference –

Ray M - Point of order; page 42 of service handbook states “Schedule Fall Committee meeting...”

Cheryl – if you turn to page 41, it says approval of proposed calendar and area budget; we used to do at committee meeting and now at the assembly

Barbara, DCM D21 - and this is beginning to sound like when AA asks you to do something, you say yes; I will ask the district if they would be willing to take on the Big Book Conference and get back to you.

3. 2015 NIA Calendar was reviewed and proposed as follows:

Event	Date	Location / Host
Winter Committee Meeting	January 24 th	LOL in LaFox / NIA Officers

Spring Conference	March 27 th – 29 th	Pheasant Run Resort / 22, 61 & 20
Spring Assembly	March 28 th	Pheasant Run Resort / D71
Pre-General Service Conference Workshop	April 11 th	Location TBD / D11
Spring Committee Meeting	May 9 th	Location TBD / D10
Summer Assembly	June 13 th	Location TBD / D41
Summer Committee Meeting	Aug 8 th	Location TBD / R&C Committee / Special Needs Committee
Fall Assembly	September 19 th	D90 (in district)
Fall Committee Meeting	October 17 th	LOL in LaFox / D61
Big Book Conference	TBD	Location TBD / D21
Winter Assembly	December 12 th	Location TBD / D51

Old Business:

2014 Big Book Conference Report, Jeff L reported: Our last meeting was on October 5, 2014. Everything has fallen into place; all committees are on the beam. We had on break out chair step down, but Joe S stepped up and will fill in the spot with a panel. Registrations have been slow but are picking up. Our last count was 120+. Our final meeting will be October 19 where we will iron out the final details, including a lunch commitment. Hope to see everyone next week at the event.

2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Report, no report

Officer Reports

Alternate Delegate – Kelly L: I am sorry that I am unable to attend the Fall Committee meeting. This is the first committee meeting I have missed since 2008 when I starting attending as a DCM. I would like to thank all the DCMs that sent me their reports. Many of the districts are very active in service.

October 11th I presented the second Service Orientation workshop combined with the Post-GSC report by Cheryl. Our alternate Area Chair Marilyn also participated with a presentation on GSRs. There were about 24 members in attendance with lots of good questions and discussion.

The PPB5 with the service activity of Service Orientation workshops has an expectation of hosting roughly eight per year. I am looking forward to being able to get to end this year with a total of at least three and using all eight next year. Please let me know what you would like to have presented and I will work on getting the appropriate members there.

Please do not forget to register for the 2014 Big Book conference that is being hosted by district 40 in Glen Ellyn.

Secretary – Nicole E: If you presented a report here today, please turn in a written copy of your report to me at the end of the day or you may send to me via email for inclusion in the minutes. If anyone is in need of a new or replacement name badge, please let me know.

Alternate Treasurer - Judd W: no report

Registrar – Dawn B: AT THE END OF THE YEAR FOR APPROXIMATELY 2 WEEKS, AS SOME DISTRICT POSITIONS ROTATE, I WILL NOT HAVE ACCESS FOR A CERTAIN TIME TO FNV. PLEASE SEND IN ALL CHANGES AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. AS I GET MORE INFORMATION OR CHANGE FORMS, I WILL FORWARD TO THE CHAIR/DELEGATE/DISTRICTS.

Since we will be sending minutes via e-mail, please check with me or your DCM to be sure that your e-mail is correct in FNV.

In FNV the Registrar can search for groups or individuals and do instant updates.

It is no longer necessary to send group information updates to both NIA and GSO. All information update requests can be sent to the area registrar at registrar@aa-nia.org.

The new e-mail address for the Area Registrar is: registrar@aa-nia.org.

PLEASE MAIL ALL CHANGES TO NIA20 REGISTRAR, Box 196, 684 S. Barrington Rd (4B Plaza) STREAMWOOD IL 60107.

All update requests that were received before 10-11-14 have been processed in FNV.

Total Since 09/08/2014	
Group information	17
New groups/Pending Active	18
Folded/Inactive/Unknown	4
Group contact information	7
District/Individual contacts	1
Area contacts	1
Total updates	48

Please make sure when you change positions you provide complete information.

Chair – Robert S: I haven't had much activity since our last assembly. I sent out a request for DCM's to talk to their districts concerning the handbook but only heard back from two. I also sent out requests for DCM's to talk to their districts concerning hosting an area meeting in 2015 but only heard back from two.

I will be talking to DCM's about serving on Administrative Committees for 2015 today and in the weeks to come.
Service Committee Chair Reports

Alternate Chair – Marilyn F: I would like to welcome everyone and thank Districts 90 & 91 for hosting this event! Since the last Committee Meeting that was held on August 9, 2014 I have attended the following:

08/16/2014 – Service Orientation Workshop in Grayslake

08/17/2014 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting

09/07/2014 – 2014 Big Book Conference Planning meeting

09/13/2014 – Area Fall Assembly

09/14/2014 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting (walk-through @ Pheasant Run)

09/21/2014 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting

10/05/2014 – 2014 Big Book Conference Planning meeting

10/11/2014 – Service Orientation Workshop in Kewanee

I am grateful to be able to serve.

Service Committee Reports

Answering Service, Terry B reported: Hello to All. I am sorry that I won't be attending Saturdays Assembly. Robert & I have been working on the new "How to Find A.A." flyer. We have called the Districts and gathered some info. Just to get an idea on how things are going. Our hopes are to have this information to you as soon as possible.

I am not sure how many of you are aware that Robert was in an accident. He broke his leg and had more severe injuries as well. I feel it to be his business to tell you more if he so chooses. You have his number, and a direct line to God. Let's all use the latter.

Archives, Jeff G reported: D43 hosted a workshop that had three with 40+ years of sobriety who talked of the history of AA in DuPage County.

Corrections, Dan L reported:

I had the privilege to attend a SIA 21 Corrections Conference. Upon arriving, I was asked to speak and formally accept a THANK YOU for NIA 20 literature donation. It was delight to do both on behalf of our area. Dave M., SIA 21 Corrections Chair, and I will continue to remain in regular contact and met the incoming Corrections Chair, Dave forgot last name.

I have also had the ability to attend NIA 19, Chicago, Correction Committee meetings. Area 19 Corrections and Area 20 corrections have decided to work together with the Prison system and Cook County Jail. Area 19 is desperate for volunteers that can take meetings into Cook County Jail. If interested, please get in contact with me.

Literature has been purchased and distributed to multiple facilities including Sheridan Prison, DuPage County Jail, and Statesville Prison in Joliet.

I have been working with the four different DuPage County Districts to come together as one united front for the DuPage County Jail. The plan is to have regular meetings and create a common email for the different district Correction Chairs to all have access to for communication between each other.

Corrections Correspondence has been heavily promoted. There has been an increased interest in obtaining security clearance for Illinois Department of Corrections and local county jails. It is my understanding by the new year, AA should be back in Kendall County Jail after an eight year absence!!!

Pat does not have a report at this time.

CPC, no report

Grapevine, Jim H reported: Been in contact with D70 on November 8th; those looking to do Christmas shopping, on November 1st, all GV books will be no shipping charge for Nov/Dec; it's a good way to save money; Gift Subs are \$42 during that time. Sober and Out is one of the books I will have at the Workshop; calendars and pocket planners are available now and I have copies with me.

Literature, no report

PI, no report

Special Needs, no report

Treatment, Weezie reported: On October 12th, I traveled 2 miles to Hillcrest Home Group business meeting for the purpose of discussing and explaining the Bridging The Gap program. I spoke with one district regarding a workshop possibility in their district. I am planning on reaching out to other districts about workshops in the near future. I am here to assist districts with whatever they need.

Archivist, Ray M reported: usually don't have a report because things move slow as archivist; Received donations from Steve C in Rockford; George from D43 and I exchanged some information. Was at D91 in April for Seeds of Recovery workshop; special needs workshop in D22; brought displays to Spring Conference and state conference; and will bring stuff to a Concepts retreat. Moving archives from current location to one more accessible. Reviewed distribution of materials and there are probably 6-8 boxes of duplicates; there are GV that we should pull out and use to carry the message; still valuable in prisons, treatment; and lots of speaker cassettes. If anyone has ideas for this material, let me or Jeff know. My rotation is up and there has been discussion on limitation and rotation.

Concepts, no report

Electronic Equipment, no report

Web Administrator, John reported: Except for the usual posting of events and reports, much the website activity since our last gathering has been behind the scenes. I've made some hosting arrangements for the spring conference website at that committee's request and have updated some hosting details on the area site as well. I have reached out to all the district webmasters and am updating our contact information for them and their alternates. Once that is completed I'm going to establish a forum for peer support so that district webmasters can help each other and share their problems and solutions in a non-public arena.

Plans for 2015 include some restructuring so that the site is easier to see and use on mobile devices such as tablets and smartphones. That will also be an excellent opportunity to look at our site content and determine what might be removed or added. I'd appreciate any feedback along those lines, so please don't hesitate to express your thoughts. For that or any other reason you can reach me at either of the email addresses listed below.

Report and Charter, no report

Conference Advisory Committee, no report

DCM Reports

Dist 10, Mike reported: Our district's elections were held September 28th, all our officers have a representative and most of the service committees.

After announcing that the Area now has a Bridging the gap standing committee there is interest in forming one in the district.

Districts 10 and 12 are holding their shared breakfast for the Fall October 19th at the Ramada Inn on Green bay road in Waukegan.

The annual "A Way Out" anniversary party was held October 11th this year at the Libertyville civic center in Libertyville. It was another great party with good food, a terrific speaker, and a fun raffle. There were 210 in attendance.

The Literature committee is doing a good job of making newcomer packets and Big books available to GSR's

Dist 11, Carol H reported: In district 11 we have seen an upsurge of GSR's at our monthly meetings due to the work of our LCM's. They have been busy reaching out to the groups, making contact with each one in order to invite them to participate in the district activities and identifying a GSR or contact person to update the FNV database for our registrar. As a result our district 11 meeting schedule is the more accurate it has been in years. At the beginning of the year as we rotated in new officers and committee members, we implemented a new structure by having five LCM's to cover the sixteen towns within McHenry County and district 11. This proved to be far more efficient than having one LCM and an alternate and then trying to enlist the help of other volunteers.

Unfortunately we have had the opposite situation when it comes to our officers and committee chairs and alternates. We lost our alternate DCM several months ago and no one has stood for the position to date. This became a problem when I had other commitments for the past two months and was unable to attend our district meetings. A big thank you to Rich H. for sitting in for me and keeping things in order. Recently our PI and CPC chair had to step down due to some personal commitments and the month before our Treatment chair had to resign as well. It seems that everyone I approach about filling a position declines due to not wanting to make a commitment to putting the time in even to attend the monthly meeting. If anyone has suggestions on what has worked for them I would truly appreciate them.

I would also like to thank our delegate Cheryl V. who attended our October district meeting and provided a presentation on her experience at the General Service Conference. Those members who were in attendance thought it very informative and helpful. I only wish that more had been there to share this experience.

We did a survey about our Into Action newsletter to see how members felt about it in the past and whether anyone would step up to revive it as a committee. Since Dave G. decided to step down a several months ago we have not found anyone yet to take his place. There were only six responses to the survey, however we had requests to reopen and distribute it again as there were complaints that the Survey Monkey access was limited so I will do this prior to our November meeting.

I look forward to this learn more about myself in this experience of being a DCM and feel very fortunate to have this opportunity.

Dist 12, Mike reported: Districts 10 & 12 Fall Breakfast is tomorrow at the Ramada Inn in Waukegan. I have a couple of tickets left if anyone is interested.

Day by Day Club of Highland Park has new location. 1803 St. John's Avenue in Highland Park, IL 60035
Our district has new officers for the next two years. Ken Calvert is our new DCM and Dave Hall is our new Treasurer.
Paul P will stay on as Alternate DCM and Ron K will serve as Alternate Treasurer.

Tri-County Mini Conference Planning Sessions have started. They are held on the 1st Sunday of the month at the Kenosha Alano Club.

And don't forget our District 12 Open Speaker Breakfast on the 1st Sunday of every month at Vista East.

And last but certainly not least, join us for the Annual District 12 Christmas Party on December 14th at the Gurnee Community Church on Grand Ave in Gurnee. We'll have great fellowship and presents for all the kids.

Dist 20, no report

Dist 21, Barbara reported: Our district covers Palatine and Rolling Meadows. We currently have 28 registered groups.

Two new GSRs for groups that previously had no representatives have started attending our district meetings, which is great news. A new volunteer has stepped up as Grapevine chair. Our CPC/PI chair is moving to Virginia, and I am trying to find a replacement. We have recently tinkered a little with our standard agenda, in an effort to make sure we cover what we need to in about an hour. We also spent quite a lot of time taking stock of our finances in order to decide how much money, if any, was surplus that we needed to pass along. After much discussion, we decided to send a contribution to GSO. (I don't seem to find a record right now of how much that was.)

The big news from my own, selfish point of view is that we now have an alternate DCM, Ed R. This should be a big help in the ongoing project of verifying contact info for our groups.

The Women's 12/12 hosted a bingo night; the event was self-supporting and fun was had by all.

Dist 22, Manus reported: District 22 is comprised of about 60 meetings which meet weekly.

Our district Special Needs Committee organized and hosted a workshop on Saturday October 11th. Presentations were outstanding but we would have wished for better attendance.

Plans are in place for three more workshops over the next two months:

Women's New Beginnings will present a workshop on October 21st at 6.30 pm at St Hugh of Lincoln Church for women only.

Fellowship of the Spirit Meeting will present a workshop entitled "Relationships in Recovery" on October 24th at 6.00 pm with four well known speakers.

West Dundee Thursday Night Group will present a workshop on November 8th at 10.00 am. The title of their workshop is "Introducing the Newcomer to AA".

As usual, District 22 is not without controversy as members agree to disagree as to the benefit of District Group financed Picnics and Christmas parties. While the prevailing opinion is that these functions constitute 12 step work a contra opinion suggests these functions are parties and celebrations and should be self-supporting entities. This discussion will doubtless continue for many years to come but all involved remain friends and epitomize the Unity of Alcoholics Anonymous!

Our district meetings are held on the first Sunday of each month at 4.30 pm at St Hugh of Lincoln Church unless the first Sunday falls on Super Bowl Sunday or a holiday weekend in which case they are held on the second Sunday. All members are welcome to attend

Dist 23, no report

Dist 28, Bill reported:

1. The Sponsor Workshop on Sept. 6th was a rousing success. Approximately 100 attendees participated in the event. There were several panels that shared their experiences highlighting various aspects of sponsorship. Our Delegate Cheryl V. was a member of the panel that focused on sponsorship questions for women. Questions and comments from

attendees further enhanced the learning experience. The Tuesday Real Time Men's Group is scheduling a repeat for next year and is considering the Sponsor Workshop as an annual event.

2. District 28 will be having elections in December for a rotation of about half its Committees. We are still knocking on doors to find Chairs for several Committees.

3. Our CPC/PI Committee has been very active for several years at the local High School Health Fair. There is always a great deal of interest in the literature handouts and our volunteers field a wide variety of questions by the students.

4. In an effort to stimulate interest and use of the GSR Handbook I have included a question or comment about specific content items in my DCM Report to the monthly District Meetings. Questions like "Did you know...", "How does your group handle..." "Why should your group..." and "What do you think about..." are typical teasers to generate more interest.

5. Finding Committee Chairs is a problem for most Districts. District 28 is no different. We tend to have more luck with a few simple exercises. They include: Be positive in all District activities; never pass an opportunity to recognize and thank those involved in an activity; Ask, face to face, for help; and lastly, show up now and then at other meetings to show that winning smile. We don't fill all Committees, but those that volunteer tend to be more enthusiastic and cheerful

Dist 40, no report

Dist 41, no report

Dist 42, LeRoy reported:

Breakthrough: New copies are in and Position will be open soon.

CPC: Julie, Bob & Team have more "Dr.'s packets" if needed please contact her.

Directories: John proof read and made corrections and sent off, waiting to hear – hopefully no news is good news.

Grapevine: New addition has been issued.

Public Info: Nope.

TSAC: There were 87 calls for directories and 6 calls for help – 5 female and 1 male caller. 93 Total! System will be completely moved to WSFC by October 1st 2014.

Treatment: Nope.

Corrections: Dennis needs to know what his budget is moving forward for the remaining of 2014 & upcoming 2015. Tom from Area 20 Correction chair spoke to the group – All 4 districts funnel up to him and he is working with them to ensure there is no overlap in spending or double purchases. He informed us the "Pink Can" actually started out as a Pink can and how much it helps those behind bars.

NIA supports the Southern part of the area correctional facilities (prison and penitentiaries) do to the higher amount of meetings held along with contributions.

If anyone would like to help, please reach out to a Corrections correspondent.

- How to get in to help
- DuPage needs volunteers
- Flyers are available
- Pen Pals are a good way to give back without being required to go in.

Website: Directories have been updated and sent to Todd by John.

Please send information such as flyers to be posted to the District website at <http://aa-nia-dist42.org/> to this Chair at toddc.aa@gmail.com.

Workshop: August workshop flourished a new committee for District 42 – Max will be the chair for YPG (Young People's Group). Welcome Max and tell me that's not growth...

October – we will be voting for new chair and or to keep the workshop on a quarterly, monthly or not at all.

GSR's suggest to your groups to host a workshop and or bring ideas that can be created into a workshop!

LCM: Works closely to keep all new GSR's information updated and correct attended the assembly and provided LeRoy with a list of names for Area delegates to receive District 42 minutes.

Literature: Any literature needed please contact Kevin the prices will be going up October 1st get em now!

Special Needs: Not present but a flyer had been passed out a few months ago and groups are turning them in, I gave one to Barb to hold onto. The flyer is to ensure your group information is correct if it states handicap accessible etc.

YPG: Max and I talked after the meeting and I asked him to send any information he has (ie events flyers etc.) to the district website. He asked about the breakthrough and I informed him to use that also to get their message out.

Dist 43, Craig reported: We just received our new directories just in the nick of time. Actually we ran out a little prematurely but D40 was kind enough to give us a box to hold us over til the new ones came in.

I am still in search of an alt DCM to help me out but since no one is jumping up and down to take it we removed the suggested 5 year sobriety minimum to see if that helps - so far it has not though I did have the alt treasurer volunteer to help me out. We also dropped the wording that the alt DCM is "expected" to step into the DCM position once my term is up. PI/CPC just mailed out their first round of letters and brochures to area professionals at a cost of approximately \$1700. It was an impressive mailer and much work was put into it but depending on the response we receive we may have to dial it back a little. That is a lot of money to spend and if we only get a 2% response from it then it is probably too expensive (in my opinion). We are taking in less money these days than we have in the past from groups - most notably one of the larger groups has not made a contribution this year which accounts for most of the shortfall. We are still well above our prudent reserve but will have to be careful or that may not be the case for long. The dip into the prudent reserve is a good thing in the sense that the district is more active now than in the past so committees are naturally spending more money. PI/CPC, Corrections, and Treatment are the most active groups. In regard to the question about the need for the NIA Service Handbooks, 4 GSRs responded and they all felt as long as all of the information was available to them online that they did not need to receive a booklet.

Dist 51, no report

Dist 52, no report

Dist 61, Joe L reported:

1. Since the last Committee Meeting on August 9, 2014 I have attended the following NIA events:

a. Aug. 17: 2015 NIA Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting.

b. Sep. 09: NIA Fall Assembly

c. Sep. 14: 2015 NIA Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting walk-through at Pheasant Run Resort.

d. Sep. 21: 2015 NIA Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting

2. Our Literature Committee co-chairs, Judy H. and Al S., are preparing newcomer packets for sale and distribution. The packets will include a copy of the little Big Book.

3. Our Treatment co-chairs, Bill C. and Judy H. participate with other members in The Bridge to Shore Group meeting. As a Bridging the Gap group, it serves those in early recovery's transition to daily life. This meeting continues to prosper.

Julie was a facilitator for Back to Basics at the Thursday Big Book Fourth Step Group at Geneva Lutheran Church.

Bill continues to volunteer at the 10-bed detox ward at Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove.

4. Public Information co-chair Rich. Z distributed cards, schedules, and public information flyers at the St. Charles library. The librarian was extremely happy to see them. He also picked up flyers and flyer rack at the CASO bookstore.

Lois H., Public Information co-chair, provided literature to Lazarus House in St. Charles. She met with drug court personnel and provided information about AA.

5. Special Needs chair Mary K., is working with District GSR's to define requirements for handicap accessible meetings. She wants ensure that every meeting is identified correctly in the district meeting schedule.

Mary and the Saturday 8:00 A.M. Willingness Group have agreed to ensure that an ASL interrupter is available at the meeting.

6. 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.

7. District 61 is hosting the NIA 20 Winter Assembly Meeting at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in December.

8. Average attendance at our monthly District 61 Service Meeting: 35 (Jan-Sep)

Dist 62, no report

Dist 64, no report

Dist 70, no report

Dist 71, no report

Dist 72, Steve reported: Talked about assembly we hosted at Spring Conf a couple of years ago; we only had 5 people attending the meeting and then went up to 8; 5 showed up to the assembly and collectively they didn't have 18 months altogether. We are going to contact D73 to see if they would like to co-host the Big Book Conference.

Dist 73, Gary F reported: District 73 groups continue their efforts to reach out to the still suffering alcoholic, and to sober members to help in spiritual and service growth. We've had at least 4 workshops in recent months around the district, all focused on personal growth in service and recovery. The most recent was just last week, October 11th at the Sauk Valley Group in Rock Falls which aimed at helping understand and developing knowledge related to chairing meetings and the responsibilities and surprises that activity entails.

Our answering service, a #800 number shared with districts 71 and 72, continues at a steady level, around 100 calls per month. The corrections activity in the three county jails and the Dixon, IL prison is steady, but more volunteers are needed, men & women for both service activities.

Cheryl V. our delegate spoke at the Twin City group's annual picnic in September. Everyone is looking forward to our district's two large annual pot luck dinners.

The Black Hawk Group in Oregon has their dinner Tuesday October 21 at 6pm at the Farm Bureau Building on Pines Road. The District #73 "Fall Round-Up" pot luck will be the Thursday before Thanksgiving, November 20th at the Loveland Community Building in Dixon, again starting at 6pm. The Round-Up features 4 volunteer speakers with long term sobriety (decades), drawn "from the hat". Each volunteer will share a short summary of their experience strength and hope.

Dist 79, no report

Dist 80, no report

Dist 90, Jesse reported: Districts 90 and 91 co-hosted a General Service Workshop and Post-GSC Delegate Report in Kewanee on October 11 which was well-attended and very informative. Many thanks to the Area trusted servants who made this event happen! Districts 90 and 91 are also excited that our bid was accepted to host the 2016 Spring Conference. We are planning a big kickoff meeting later this year to set up the various committees. Our District 90 Corrections Committee is also making progress in a new program for AA members to sponsor inmates at the East Moline Correctional Center. We are distributing flyers for volunteers to apply. We are looking for volunteers with at least 2 years of sponsorship experience and schedules that allow for regular, or semi-regular, face-to-face meetings with the inmates. The aim of the program is an in-depth working of steps one through five.

Dist 91, Eva reported: Districts 90 and 91 had a Post-General Conference and Service Orientation Workshop held in Kewanee on October 11th. It did have a good turnout. Thank you to Cheryl, Kelly and Marilyn for taking the journey out west and your presentations.

District 90 and 91 are going to have a preliminary planning meeting on October 19th for the 2016 Spring Conference. Will keep everyone updated on our progress.

Again this year District 91 will be doing our Winter Workshop Series. We are hoping that Jim from Public Information will do a workshop on "Anonymity on the Internet." The other two will be "Working with Others" and "Restraint of Tongue, Pen and Text."

PUBLIC INFORMATION/COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY - The doctors and mid-levels (Physicians assistants, Nurse Practitioners, etc.) have had education and literature made available; also, pamphlets are being placed in common areas such as waiting rooms for patient/family use. We cannot put up a pamphlet rack, unfortunately, but our PI person does drop by every week or so and place them on the coffee and end tables in the waiting rooms. Same thing in ER and main floor waiting areas at the hospital. We don't get much response from the docs, but the literature disappears, so someone is getting a whiff.

CORRECTIONS - We are still waiting to get the drug testing done for 2 people to go into the Henry Hill Correction Center.

BRIDGING THE GAP - We have 1 outpatient facility in our area. A few years ago there was a presentation done there on Bridging the Gap and nothing came of it. Our Bridging the Gap person is trying to get in to do another presentation, so far they have not agreed. There are no inpatient facilities in our area.

SPECIAL NEEDS - The meeting in the nursing home now has 3 residents attending.

We currently have 1 member who is French speaking. Urbano is seeing if he can find a French speaker in the United States for him to speak to on the phone. Cheryl is working on getting us information on the French version of the Grapevine.

Spanish speaking outreach has not really taken off yet. We are going to have a meeting about this on the first Wednesday in November.

Open Mic

Ray M made a motion to close

Carol H, seconds

Adjournment