

2015 Summer Committee Meeting

August 8, 2015

Lord of Life Church, La Fox, IL

(Report & Charter/Special Needs, Host)

Call to Order Robert called the meeting to order at 9:01AM

Quite Time

Serenity Prayer

New Attendees

Byron W

AA Anniversaries

Frank, 3 years

Carmela, 15 years

Tom B, 38 years

Weezie, 8 years

Eva, 26 years

Chris V, 6 years

Judd, 18 years

Jesse, 9 years

Larry, 29 years

Twelve Concepts of World Service Read by Bonnie

Announcements John C announced lunch orders are being taken; if you haven't already ordered, please do so

Approval of 2015 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, 2015. The following is our financial status as of this date.

	<u>2015</u>
Contributions/Income:	\$38,039.33
Expenses:	<u>\$29,536.47</u>
Excess of Income over expense	\$ 8,502.86

Current checking account	\$12,086.05
Current prudent reserve	<u>\$17,100.00</u>
Net Assets	\$29,186.05

2015 Primary Purpose Register

The 2015 primary purpose register thru July 31, 2015 is attached to this report. Actual expenses for each PPB and PPM are listed through July, 2015.

Can Contributions

Pink Can Fund: has received a total of \$6,288.51 YTD in contributions. We have spent \$6,314.20.

Green Can Fund: no activity

It is important that all trusted servants submit expense reimbursement requests timely.

Finance Committee Report

Steve reported; met via conference call August 2 at 7:30pm. There were 4 members present. We had a quorum because it was decided in a previous meeting that if we had 2 DCM's and one area officer present, it was enough. We met that requirement so we opened the meeting.

We discussed a required from Report and Charter relating to the Primary Purpose Financing section of the NIA Service Handbook pages 34-39. They requested that the section be rewritten and asked for a draft by August 8th. After some discussion we voted that there was not enough information to complete a rewrite as requested. Judd offered to contact Larry S and Steve offered to contact Bill E to find out more information.

We discussed the excess money as shown on the Primary Purpose Register. The PPR showed we, as of July 31st, had an excess of \$12,086.05. Our Area guidelines state that excess funds should be passed on to the General Service Board. When we looked at what our projected amount would be at the end of August, we decided to recommend a donation to GSO of \$9,000. Our Area Chair was notified as well as all the remaining Area 20 Trusted servants by email. Questions/Discussion: none

Operating Committee Report

Chuck D no report

Delegate Report – Cheryl V Thank you for allowing me to serve. It seems to me that reports are getting harder to start... Then I did the math... Since my start on this wondrous journey at NIA I have been asked to write 8 reports per year, 16 per rotation. So 16 as Area Chair, 16 as Alternate Delegate, and it will be 16 more before year end. That means when I finish this report today it will be 45 down and 3 to go. For those of you who are just starting the journey into service... Don't think about ;-)

Our Summer Committee Meeting falls again this year one week after Board Weekend. Which means what little news I have is from June, and I won't get the Board reports in time to convey here.

I have been busy with General Service Conference reports (GSC), putting over 700 miles on my car in July. Some of you may recall that my Conference Buddy last year was from Area 79, British Columbia/Yukon. She had 900,000 square miles of area to cover. I can't complain about a mere 700 miles in one month. I have 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. There's something humbling about giving a report to people sitting around in bathing suits. I'm sure the Delegates in Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Florida and others are used to it. I still have open space on my calendar if anyone else would like to invite me out. I've managed to compress a week's worth of conference into about 20 minutes. Haven't really hit the 15 minute mark yet, but I keep trying.

Speaking of the GSC, you'll find on the table printed requests for sharing. A memo from Mary Clare L., secretary to the trustees' Literature Committee stating submittals are requested for the three pieces of literature that are being updated as a result of Advisory Actions. If you have experience to share for the following topics, please consider sending them.

- The pamphlet AA for the Woman
 - The pamphlet AA for the Gay and Lesbian Alcoholic
 - Recovery experience form members with mental health issues and from those who sponsor such members
- Deadline for contributions is October 15, 2015. The memo contains all the information on length of piece, format, etc. If they are all gone, please contact me and I will forward them electronically.

Highlights from AAWS (AA World Services, Inc.); June 13, 2014 I will be forwarding on this full report after this meeting. Some highlights:

Jim M. has announced that he will be leaving to seek new opportunities. Some may remember he was the GSO staffer who was at our 2014 Spring Conference.

On the International desk, it has been a busy spring with world communications and preparations and travel to the 7th Sub-Saharan Africa Services Meeting in Johannesburg, South on June 5-7, 2015.

The Navajo translation of Alcoholics Anonymous has slowed to a nearly complete halt for the moment. A working committee of delegates (Panel 64s) has continued to monitor the situation "from the field," and remains in communication with the Publishing Department.

The new ASL translation of Alcoholics Anonymous and Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions is progressing.

The unaudited G.S.O. financial update for the period January 1, 2015 - March 31, 2015 reflected:

Net sales	\$3,350,239
Gross Profit (Literature)	\$2,183,469
Contributions	\$1,598,622
Total operating expenses	\$3,651,441

General Service Office (GSO) The General Service Office (GSO) is currently under construction. The Grapevine office will be moved from the 13th floor to join GSO on the 11th floor. During this time visitors will not be able to visit the offices. Construction is scheduled to be finished in November.

The search for a new General Manager continues. The trustees were not able to come to a decision during the Board Weekend.

Hopeful resolution has been made regarding the licensing of AA World Services (AAWS) literature in Russia. A recent visit influenced the AAWS board to conclude the Russian Service Office (RSO) is firmly supported by groups in Russia and therefore should receive the licensing. They hold out hope that the two offices can also agree on such and bring unity to AA in Russia.

The Remote Communities Communicator has been completed. This is generated from the event held on Saturday directly before each General Service Conference. This year Cathi C. from Area 23 Southern Indian was chair of the event and I was the co-chair. I will be forwarding this out to all after I get home.

2015 International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia I was lucky enough to attend the International Convention held in Atlanta, Georgia over the July 4th weekend. Preregistration numbers exceeded 50,000 attendees. Final count of the walk in registration numbers is still not complete. I hope to have some better information by our Fall Assembly.

For those who remembered, the flag ceremony was available on the internet. It was delayed to insure anonymity, but given the distance of the camera, I don't think they had to worry too much. There were flags from 94 nations. Some of the people dressed in their national garb to present. It was quite moving for me to see countries where I know our politicians are failing to make headway. It shows that AA and its members can be diplomats of

I was lucky enough to get to "work" two booths at the event. I spent about 4 hours in the Old Timers booth. The intent was to sign up people to sit on the main floor and 12 of the names would be pulled to speak. However, that's not how I spent most of my time. I spent most of the time telling people they weren't really old timers yet. In 2010 the sobriety limit was 40 years, which garnered over 300 names. This time they set the minimum at 50 years. This still created a list of over 100 people. The "oldest" member had either 65 or 66 years.

I also spent plenty of time in the Anonymity Booth. I was signed up to only work the booth on Thursday night. However our bus ride down took longer than expected, so I didn't get my hours in and I felt a bit guilty so I went back after I finished in the Old Timers Booth. While the intent was to be a place for people to learn about anonymity, it turned into much more of a general information booth. This was a wonderful opportunity for me to get out of myself. By the end of the weekend I had met people from 20 different countries. Not all of them spoke English, but all smiled and shook hands. Even the two guys from Mongolia!

Working in this booth though did give me many opportunities to talk about anonymity with people from all over. A reoccurring concern is with what anonymity means on social media. There were many concerns about people taking pictures and the possibility of photos being posted on Facebook. At the booth some signs were made up from graphics in the article written for the Spring issue of Box 459. The graphic shows a picture of a cell phone and the text reads "*Anonymity is so FRAGILE, you can break it with one finger!*" Person after person came up asking where they could get a

poster like that. This feedback has been given to various people at GSO in the hopes that they take heed and create this poster. If not, I won't be surprised if a motion comes to the Conference at a future date regarding this.

I also received many questions regarding the Anonymity Statement read at the opening of all the meetings. Generally speaking something specific is written at each International, enhancing what is currently available. I've included a copy of this in my report. It's large font so it's easy to read.

Upcoming Events The Illinois State Conference is literally just around the corner at three weeks away. Hosted this year by Southern Illinois Area 21. I've filled the panel and Alcahion requests that I received and am grateful for all who are willing to serve I hope to see many of you there. Keep in mind that we will be hosting next year's State Conference and that it will be held in conjunction with the East Central Regional Conference.

Online registration for all of the 2015 Regional Forums is available at www.aa.org where the Regional Forum Flyers and Registration Forms can also be viewed and printed. The East central Regional Conference will be held this year, November 13 – 15, in Milwaukee, WI at the Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport Hotel. This is a wonderful opportunity to get as close to the people who work for "us" in the General Service Office as you can without going to New York. The event opens at 2pm on Friday for registration and orientation for first timers is at 6:45pm. There will be reports, workshops, general sharing sessions and much more. Milwaukee is a short car ride for many of us, and compared to Ohio and Michigan, where it can also be held, it's just a hop, skip and a jump away. Load up the car and make the trip. There is no registration fee for attending.

New Business:

1. Robert S, announced Debbie P is stepping down as PI Chair; Terry W, past NIA Delegate has accepted and will be taking that position

2. At the Fall Assembly, we will finalize the 2016 NIA Calendar; Lord of Life has approved the proposed dates

3. Bid for 2016 Big Book Conference; Jason, District 41 has submitted a bid
Planning meeting held July 23; voted to proceed with submitting a bid filled various positions
Do not have a facility locked but exploring options
Proposed theme: Design For Living
Proposed date: October 15 or 22, 2016
Formal bid will need to be presented at next assembly for approval

4. Motion by the Website Administrator to attend the second annual National AA Technology Workshop
John C presented

Questions/Comments:

Susan - do you have an alternate attending? John C – no

Bob P - Alt DCM, D10, if I were in a position to vote for this I would vote yes

Barbara H - it would be helpful if there were a breakdown of the costs; \$900 seems like a lot to go to St Louis

John C – cost includes mileage, 3 nights of hotel, registration of \$65, plus meals; Barbara - would it be possible to include in background detail so I have it when I take to my GSR meeting? John C - yes

Mike M - are you thinking about upgrading the website? John – the primary goal is to help the District webmasters as well. There have been questions and concerns; goal is to talk with as many district webmasters and get information on what they are doing.

Ed -will we be able to have definitive information at the district level? John C - would be delighted and it would be my duty to report back to you

Bob P – I was in St Louis two months ago and 2 nights was more than \$600

Phil, Alt DCM D62; I was district webmaster. I think 50% or more of people come to AA through the website; John C, please let me know what concerns you would like me to address at that convention; any technology issues, not just websites.

5. Sharing session on posting items to the website – John C

We recently had a request to post something on the NIA website that was questionable; eventually it was modified so we could post it. Purpose of this sharing session is to share ideas on what event flyers should be posted to the NIA website (ie fundraising event versus carry the message event).

Discussion: John C, NIA web administrator, I reached out for direction after receiving a flyer for an event that didn't have a meeting or speaker; original flyer mentioned cash prizes. I reviewed published guidelines for posting flyers to the NIA website which state an AA group must be registered by GSO and any reference to gambling is prohibited.

Barbara, D42 - I had a similar issue; I'm part of a women's retreat that is not sponsored or connected with an AA meeting or district, we understand our flyer will not go on a website. We need to understand guidelines; related events don't belong on the website.

Chris V - feel same as Barb, unless sponsored or hosted by area, district or meeting not allowed to be announced at meeting; can put them out. D40 has had a raffle; thought is that if 50% would be donated to district or area, it would be appropriate

Barbara H - this is going to be a confusing topic. A group in my district has a bingo night; they are a registered group and send their GSR to our district meeting. Grand prize was First Edition Big Book. They intend this event purely as a fellowship event and no money is exchanged. Maybe the money thing has to do with whether participants will pay money?

Carmela R, Alt Registrar - guidelines are thorough; public information focus and member focus. I think it details types of content. Seems guidelines are directive and inclusive enough. Important question to ask: what do we want our website to say about what we do or don't do? Is it a tool for members of AA or the community to understand what we do?

Cheryl V, Panel 64 Delegate - John C and I have had a lot of opportunity to discuss. What do we want to be our public face? Where does NIA spend our money, and I think what we post is a reflection of that. Also want alcoholics to know that being sober is fun; and yet speak to our traditions (ie spiritual anonymity). Like most things in AA, it's a gray area. Paying for your lunch is about self-support. Encourage you to share your thoughts at the mic. Need to help John decide which direction to go.

Terry W, Past Delegate panel 54 - I agree with Carmela. I think guidelines are fine but we are putting John C in unqualified authority to determine what the guidelines are. Need an oversight committee; there's always going to be questions. A group should have that authority. John did the right thing by reaching out to someone else. Answer does not lie in guidelines but how they are administered.

Kelly L, Alt Delegate - I think about outside enterprises and Concept 10; what do we want the outside world to think about AA?

Rich H, Past Delegate - it is not money; its things. Tradition 6, money, property, prestige. When done with an event, remove the flyer from the website.

Tina R, Alt Secretary - webmaster should be able to know what flyers can be posted to NIA website.

Joe S, NIA CPC - in trusting our servants to serve, we should trust them to say *I don't know*. Possibly adding the phrase "held in the spirit of self-support"

John C - my comments were not meant to put down that event or cause misunderstanding. We do not publish flyers put out by clubs; only groups registered by GSO. I do try to remove in a timely fashion flyers posted to the NIA website.

Thank you for your consideration. I think the guidelines are fine and I'm going to continue to ask for your help.

Old Business:

2015 State Conference, Stacey reported to Robert, going well and should be ready for us in 3 weeks

2015 Big Book Conference, Ed R reported, as of yesterday, committee has met 10 times with the program committee meeting separately. Speakers are locked and all panel members confirmed. Flyers have been delivered to various districts. Finalizing food service menu items. Online registration using PayPal is up and running; total of 15 registrations to date. We have a walkthrough in next few weeks. Will begin meeting twice per month until event date.

2016 Spring Conference, Jesse reported, hotel contract signed; speakers and entertainment selected. Website up and running. www.NIASpringConference.com

2016 State Conference, Carl T reported, the last planning meeting was held July 19th at the Lake Zurich police station. Attendance is good but we need volunteers to fill a few available chair and alternate positions. The event will be held at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles August 5-7, 2016. Our program committee has confirmed the speaker for the Saturday evening banquet. A "Save the Date" flier should be available by the time of the State Conference later this month with a final flier schedule to be completed prior to the Delegate's Conference in February, 2016. The committee will not meet in August. Next planning committee meeting will be held September 12, 1:00-3:00 pm at the Lake Zurich Police Station, 200 Mohawk Trail, Lake Zurich. All future meetings are tentatively planned at this location and will be held at 1:00 pm on the 2nd Sunday of each month except for May 2016 which will be the 3rd Sunday.

Officer Reports

Alternate Delegate Kelly L reported I still checking my e-mails and phone messages for the districts that said they would like to have a Service Orientation workshop in their district. I hope that all of you don't want it on the same weekend. The same month would work a little better. If I was the only one presenting a presentation then it would be easier to set a date. A good thing is that I would not be the only one presenting. There could be anywhere from two to five people if I know in advance. Since many districts are having elections with new committee chairs, this is the best time to be having a workshop on the service structure and the committees within the structure. And included at no cost I am sure we could get Cheryl to present a post GSC report if you district hasn't had a chance to hear what went on at the last General Service Conference in New York. When I sent out the Contributions quarterly reports from GSO back in March there were 13 meetings that had group numbers but no districts attached to them. I had sent all of them to the DCMs to see if they belonged to their districts. The quarterly reports I sent out last month July there were 11 meetings that were still on that list. I called our Registrar Dawn and inquired about these meetings. She was able to find the meetings and see if there was a contact person or GSR linked to them. All the meetings except one did, so Dawn was able to assign the appropriate district number to each of the meetings. It was good hearing that some districts sent the reports out to all the GSRs and others had them available at the district meeting. Hopefully the next quarterly contribution report from GSO will have only one meeting that was assigned to a district.

Alternate Chair Marilyn F would like to welcome everyone and thank the Report and Charter Committee and Special Needs Committee for hosting today's meeting.

Since the last Committee Meeting held on May 9, 2015 I have attended the following:

- 05/09/2015 – 2015 Spring Committee meeting at Lord of Life Church
- 05/17/2015 – 2015 Big Book Conference Planning meeting at Palatine Alano Club
- 05/30/2015 – 2016 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting and hotel walk-thru at the Holiday Inn in Rock Island
- 06/13/2015 – Summer Assembly at Lord of Life
- 06/14/2015 – 2015 Big Book Conference planning meeting at Palatine Alano Club
- 07/12/2015 – 2016 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting in Milan
- 07/12/2015 – *Bob P. attended the 2015 Big Book Conference planning meeting on my behalf because I was in Milan for the 2016 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting – thank you Bob.*
- 08/02/2015 – 2016 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting in Galesburg

Alternate Treasurer Judd W reported the address for the NIA Treasurer for the Panel 64 rotation is: Northern Illinois Area, Ltd., P.O. Box 51, Lake Bluff, IL 60044. Contribution envelopes are available at every NIA Assembly and committee meeting. Please complete the form on the envelope when making contributions to NIA so we can correctly account for your contributions. Summary of contributions received from 1/14/2015 through 7/31/2015:

Date deposited	(All)
Row Labels	Sum of Contribution amount
Group contribution	\$29,731.37
Pink Can contribution	\$6,288.51
District contribution	\$8,300.66
Remember November contribution	\$819.07
Conference contribution	\$2,687.88
Grand Total	\$47,827.49

Secretary Nicole E had no report

Alternate Secretary Tina R reported, I printed 50 copies of the GSR meeting schedule. Please look over and let me know if any corrections are required.

Registrar Dawn B reported 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.

THANK YOU TO ALL DISTRICTS THAT SENT IN THEIR INFORMATION CHANGES

Information updates since 06/01/15

Total Since 06/01/2015	
Group information	26
New groups/Pending Active	4
Folded/Inactive/Unknown	4
Group contact information	10
District/Individual contacts	1
Area contacts	0
Total updates	45

Alternate Registrar Carmela had no report

Chair Robert S reported, I really haven't been asked to do much since our last meeting. So, other than going to Atlanta and passing out 150 NIA 20, I Am Responsible pins I have nothing to report.

I am preparing the 2016 Calendar which is to be presented at the Fall Committee meeting. I have sent, expected, dates to Lord of Life for their approval and have asked DCM's to talk to their districts about hosting a meeting. The 2016 Spring Conference has been set and we will be taking bids for the 2016 Big Book Conference during this Committee meeting.

Today we will be having a discussion about website policy due to a request to post a flyer that was questionable. The flyer was ultimately posted, with some modification, but we want to get a sense of the area as to what is acceptable and what isn't.

There will be a side discussion on our guidelines for reimbursement for hosting a workshop as preparation to bring a motion to the assembly. This is not an attempt to have a discussion apart from the assembly just a preparation to bring a discussion to the assembly with some forethought.

I anticipate that the business part of the meeting will not take a lot of time, so if you have a report to give you will be able to provide a full report. If that changes, at least you will have a good report for the minutes and website (did you know that you can post reports on the website, you just need to make them anonymity friendly).

I hope that you will be talking up our elections for the Fall Assembly, it would be nice to have several people standing for each position.

Cheryl announced that she has two open positions for panel participants at the 2015 State Conference.

Ed, our Electronics Equipment Chair, has an opportunity to move out of state; if someone is interested in filling this position, this is a great opportunity for service and to learn about sound equipment; does require a vehicle that can be used to transport equipment and space for storage .

Standing Committee Reports

Answering Service, no report

Archives, no report

Archivist, no report

BTG, Rich reported, I have had recent contact with our local DCMs, asking if they have a Bridging the Gap Committee, and asking for their help in getting volunteers locally, to help us with our database of volunteers, to promptly answer requests as they come in.

At our Summer Assembly, BTG Breakout Session, we were joined by a gentleman that I have met before. He has been in AA a while now, and wanted to get involved because he felt this is the closest thing he has seen lately to what a 12 Step call used to look like.

On July 11th, we had a Bridging the Gap Workshop in Kankakee. We got started off by our BTG Alternate Chair, and resident long timer Mike. And he did a great job of comparing the 12 Step call from his early days to what this committee is doing now. Other presenters were Corrections Chair Dan, Treatment Chair Weezie and Bridging the Gap Weekend Workshop Coordinator Carol.

On August 22nd, I will be involved in a District 42 Workshop in Oakbrook titled "Bridging the Gap Between Treatment and Correctional Facilities."

Jessica, a local BTG Volunteer recently let me know, that the local District 13 Hospital and Treatment Facilities Chair and Co-Chair from Area 19 will be joining their Committee at Share in Hoffman Estates. Looking forward to a bright future of this new Committee.

Corrections, no report

Concepts, no report

CPC, no report

Electronics Equipment, no report

Grapevine, no report

Literature, no report

PI, no report

Report and Charter, no report

Special Needs, no report

Treatment, Weezie reported I attended the International in Atlanta. I was also a volunteer for the corrections booth. It was an honor and a privilege to be of service for AA. On July 11th, I was in Kankakee along with Dan (NIA Corrections Chair), Rich (NIA BTG Chair) and Mike (NIA Alt BTG Chair), and Carol (National BTG Coordinator). As a group we presented a very informative BTG presentation. I am doing 3 workshops in coordination with Rich and Dan. I am interested in visiting your district if I haven't done so yet.

Web Administrator, John reported, first I have a request for all NIA service committees to help keep our website as current as possible. Please examine the portions of our website that pertain to your committee and check whether the information and forms, if any, are accurate and up to date. I'm asking because I noticed that a few documents and links were seriously out of date. If you see anything else that needs correcting please let me know. Your website feedback is always welcome and is definitely crucial to achieving its purpose.

The only recent website issue of significance was the interpretation and application of the guidelines for submitting event flyers. There was some question whether a particular flyer met the guidelines so I asked the opinions of Robert S. and Cheryl V. After a minor revision of the flyer I decided to go ahead and post it. Robert said he would initiate a sharing session to discuss the guidelines. To facilitate that discussion I quoted the germane section below:

"Flyers for events sponsored by NIA Standing and Special Committees, NIA Conference Committees, Districts within NIA and Groups registered in NIA may be posted at the request of the sponsor. Only NIA entities and NIA Groups registered with the General Service Office may post information to this site. Anyone submitting information to be posted to the NIA website must affirm to the NIA Web Administrator that the information is accurate and does not contain anything that could result in an anonymity break. The individual submitting the information is responsible for removing restricted

material. Any reference to gambling is prohibited, e.g. 50/50 drawings, raffles, bingo, however references to door prizes or non-monetary awards for participation are permitted. Flyers that do not meet the guidelines will be returned to the submitter for revision with and explanation of the needed changes." —http://www.aan-ia.org/pdf/guide/2013/Website_Guidelines_2013.pdf

Conference Advisory Committee, no report

DCM Reports

Dist 10, Chuck D, reported, September 13, planning meeting for the 2016 State Conference. (2nd Sunday of the Month except this month) Being held at the Lake Zurich Police Department, 200 Mohawk Dr. Lake Zurich which is being hosted by District's 10, 11, & 28

October 4th is our Annual Fall Breakfast. It's being held at the Holiday Inn Gurnee. Doors open @ 8:30 am

Sunday October 25th, GSR Workshop @ St. Gilberts Church In Grayslake. Our Very own Marilyn will be the presenter

Dist 11, no report

Dist 12, no report

Dist 20, no report

Dist 21, Barbara H reported, District 21 (Palatine/Rolling Meadows) has twelve to fifteen attendees at its monthly district meeting. We have been discussing how to incorporate Bridging the Gap into our district service structure. Our Treatment chair, Michael V, has been taking the most active role in learning how BTG works and bringing information about it to the district. We have not yet decided whether to create a new committee or to combine BTG with another committee.

Planning for the Big Book Conference on October 24 continues apace. We expect an engaging and inspirational program, and we hope to see many fellow AAs at this event.

It is with great dismay that we have learned that Ed R, our alternate DCM, will be moving to Ohio in early October. Ed is currently not only alternate DCM but also alternate chair for the Big Book Conference, area chair of Electronic Equipment, and member of the board of the Palatine Club. So his departure will leave quite a few holes to be filled. We are trying to regard this as an exciting change for Ed and as many new opportunities for service for other AAs.

Dist 22, Manus reported, District 22 hosted a Bridging the Gap Workshop at the end of May that was very well attended and which has resulted in The District unanimously voting at our district meeting in July to form a BTG Service Committee at the district level. A chair and co –chair will be elected at the district elections in October and will be seated on January First 2016. Our service chairs have been busily going about their duties as the year has progressed. Our summer picnic will be held next Saturday August 15th at Wing Park in Elgin from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

Dist 23, no report

Dist 28, no report

Dist 40, Chris reported our annual picnic was a success. Our PI Chair stepped down and I wanted to bring some excitement to the position. I had NIA PI Chair, Jim W, come to our district meeting 3 months ago. Unfortunately, the position is still open. I had NIA Delegate, Cheryl V come to our district meeting to share her experience about the general service conference. Upcoming, Weezie will be sharing what is going on at the NIA level for Treatment. We are looking to host an assembly or committee meeting in 2016. We sent a current meeting list to the NIA webmaster.

Dist 41, no report

Dist 42, no report

Dist 43, Craig reported PI/CPC very alive and well - did a mass mailing campaign and sent letters to all professionals in the area, ran PSA,s in local papers, TV ads, and radios spots.

- recently added a position for Bridging the Gap and have chair and co-chair positions filled. Chair is interested in going to Bridging the Gap workshop in Utah in Sept (will be voted on at next district meeting).
- having our district picnic on 8/16 and August district meeting will be that day and location as well.
- treatment, corrections, and archives committees alive and well also.

Dist 51, no report

Dist 52, no report

Dist 61, Joe L reported,

1. District 61 GSR's continue to discuss Bridging the Gap at home groups to understand if a district committee is needed.
2. Our Corrections co-chairs, Bee and Chip continue to carry the AA message of recovery into women and men's meetings at the Kane County Adult Justice Center and Adult Transition Center for Women in Aurora.
3. The district Special Need committee chairperson and alternate have resigned. We are seeking new candidates to fill these positions.
4. Cheryl B. reported that approximately 206 people attended the Fox Valley Open on June 20. Attendance was down about 30% from previous years.
5. News from the Home Groups:
 - a. Jerry C. from the Tuesday B.Y.O.B.B. & B.B. Group stated that there seems to be quite a few new people coming into the group, but due to summer, attendance seems to be fluctuating week to week.
 - b. Rich A. from the Tuesday Elburn Countryside Group stated this a good group with good attendance and he will be stepping into the role of GSR rather than Alt. GSR.
 - c. Cheryl B. from the Wednesday Primary Purpose Group reported that the Primary Purpose Group still seems to struggle with attendance, but is still hanging in there.
 - d. Brett O. from the Tuesday One Step At A Time Group explained that this meeting is a meditation meeting, one week doing a step and the next week using the "special chairs" have a guided meditation on that step. Seems to have a good amount of participants, some weeks it has been standing room only. It has a good representation of older and newer sobriety. If you've never been to a meditation meeting before, you should check it out.
 - e. Jim J. from the Saturday 8 a.m. Willingness Group is a large meeting which breaks into 3 separate groups . . . and seems to have quite a lot of "old timers", but would like to also attract more newcomers.
 - f. Carol Ann M. (New GSR) reported that the Monday Big Book 164 has solid attendance. Its strength is that it focuses on the first 164 pages of the Big Book and includes the prefaces - so it's good to learn a lot of the history.
 - g. Al S. stated that the morning meetings on Mon., Tues., and Thurs. have good attendance, and is starting to get quite a few younger members, which is also good.

Dist 64, Matt reported District 64 has been busy carrying the message. We have a lot of new people to general service. Our answering service chair is keeping on volunteers making sure they answer the phone. Corrections is busy getting members to sign up to carry the message behind the walls. As well as fill out correspondence information. Unfortunately our CPC chair and alternator not filled at this time. Our treatment chair has locked in groups to carry the message to gateway in Aurora.

GSR attendance has been consistent. Everyone seems pretty excited about carrying the message. Our district also added large representation at International. We were about 20 deep down there it was an awesome experience and everyone loved it.

Dist 70, no report

Dist 71, no report

Dist 72, Steve reported on August 23rd we will be having our Delegate report at panel in Elizabeth. Holding our elections at our October meeting. Will be hosting the Spring Assembly 2016; planning is going to start in September. Have received a new printing of our meeting list with all updates. We've been getting 2-3 GSRs at our district meeting with reports from their groups.

Dist 73, Gary reported, Federal Prison Thomson, IL: currently bringing in a couple hundred minimum security inmates; main population in 2016. Administrative staff has been working out division of their responsibilities. There was

confusion as different administrators who thought they would be AA or Volunteer top administrators were contacted by various outside AA representatives. It was resolved at the prison that all AA volunteers will be coordinated through District 73 Corrections Committee with Don S as Volunteer Coordinator. Don will work with Iowa Volunteer Coordinator. An application was designed by the prison. Meeting schedule had not been set as of 7/19.

Events: Conventions and Forums Sharing 8/15 1:30-4:00PM Gratitude Group – Dixon; open sharing of experience and photos from International, forums and conferences

Twin City Group picnic 9/26 at Larson Shelter, Centennial Park, Rock Falls, IL 11:00AM-2:30PM

MtCarroll Group Family Picnic 9/12 11:30AM-2:30PM

Treatment Workshop by Area 20 Treatment and District 73, 10/10, Twin City Group, Sterling 2:00-5:00PM; open speaker meeting 7:00PM – Weezie speaking.

Dist 79, no report

Dist 80, no report

Dist 90, Jesse reported Districts 90 and 91 co-hosted a Post-General Service Conference Workshop with our Delegate Cheryl V on August 2nd in Galesburg. Many thanks to Cheryl for making the long drive, and thanks to District 91 for organizing the event and providing pizza and soft drinks. Planning continues with District 91 for the 2016 Spring Conference. The contract with the Rock Island Holiday Inn has been signed, speakers and entertainment have been selected, and we have flyers ready for distribution. District 90 will also host the NIA Fall Assembly in September. The location will be the Faith Walk World Outreach Center, 1450 Avenue of the Cities, East Moline. Lunch will be a taco bar. The website our district shares with the Quad Cities Intergroup and District 9 in Iowa was recently revamped with a new look and new content. There is a monthly campfire meeting coming up on August 22nd in Blackhawk State Park in Rock Island.

Dist 91, Eva reported,

SUMMPER ROUND-UP that was held on July 24th & July 25th. It was a success.

2016 SPRING CONFERENCE: Still working with District 90.

CORRECTIONS: The drug testing has been done for 2 more AA members so they can go into the Henry Hill Correctional facility. Now waiting for word from Springfield about when orientation will be held. That will make a total of 4 people going into the facility from AA.

Cheryl V. came down to Galesburg and gave a post-general service conference workshop for District 91 and 90.

The District will have elections in September. We will start announcing the elections at meetings hoping to get people willing to step up.

Open Mic

Robert discussed the Fall Assembly; all members of the area committee are eligible to become Delegate. If you are a member of the area committee and you wish to disqualify yourself from standing for the Delegate position, please let Rich H know between now and the Fall Assembly, in an effort to save time.

Meeting adjourned at 12:35PM