

2013 NIA **Summer Assembly/Post-GSC**

June 15, 2013
Lake Forest, (District 12, Host)

Call to Order, Kelly L, Chair

Quiet Time

New Attendees

Stacy w, Alt GSR for way out
Kevin S, alt sec Dst 70
Lawrence B, D22 GSR
Adam W, GSR D40
Les, GSR Spritual Kind
David GSR 10 Seren House Tues AM
Lavonne, Dist 12, Alt Chair Corr
Bonnie, Dist 12, Anser Serv
Shannon B, D22
Ron, Gsr Tues Dist 40
Steve, Alt GSR Dist 22
Dan R Dist 43, Thu BB
Dave, Dist 11, Grapevine Group Alden Terr
Ellen L, new member of A Way Out

AA Anniversaries

Jeff G, 30 years
Mike F, 23 years
Randy F, 6 years
Dorsey, 7 years
Chris, 27 years
Michelle, 7 years
Wally, 11 years
Lisa B, 8 years
Larry S, 27 years
Jim H, 27 years
Lawrence, 26 years
Curt B, 21 years
Nate, 4 years
Scott W, 6 years
Stacy, 2 years
Rich H, 25 years

Twelve Concepts of World Service , Mike H

Announcements, Paul

Approval of 2013 Spring Assembly Minutes, Approval: Doug, Seconded Robert S
Treasurer Report , Mike F.

This report is being presented as of June 9th. The following is our financial status as of this date.
2013 2012

Contributions/Income: \$46,032.91 \$31,704.30

Expenses: \$25,882.01 \$38,993.49

Net Contributions/Expenses: \$20,150.90 (\$7,289.19)

Can Contributions

Pink Can Fund: has received a total of \$2,842.59 YTD in contributions. We have spent \$3,563.26 on literature.

Green Can Fund: has collected \$18.57 YTD. We have spent \$165.65 on literature.

2013 Primary Purpose Register (Basic)

The 2013 PPR Basic Budget to date is attached to this report.

With the recommendation of the Finance Committee, I am going to send a contribution to GSO for \$5,000. We sent \$0 to GSO last year.

If you have any questions regarding this information or the attached financial reports, just give me a call or send me an email.

Question Michelle H, are we adding 30% to the Prudent Reserve? Yes

Maxine- Do we need to take back to our meeting whether the 5k goes to GSO? No, finance committee

Michelle Approval, Carmela seconded

DELEGATE REPORT
OF THE 63rd GENERAL SERVICE
CONFERENCE
TO THE AREA 20 SUMMER ASSEMBLY
JUNE 15TH, 2013

Hello Area 20

I want to start out by thanking all of you for the opportunities I have had as Area 20's Delegate since the beginning of 2012. I have been able to learn, understand and appreciate a little bit of what it takes to keep Alcoholics Anonymous functioning today and into the future. I shall be forever grateful for this experience.

I arrived in New York City on Thursday at about noon, with the intentions of hooking up with the Delegate from Chicago and two Wisconsin Delegates. That was the day that Chicago saw 5" of rain, and Mark and I were both lucky to get out of O'Hare. Randy had no problems, and Marty got to New York much later in the afternoon after getting about a foot of snow in Northern Wisconsin. So the three of us, that got in, spent the afternoon walking along Time Square, like a few Midwestern tourists.

Later in the afternoon I met a friend at Penn Station and took the Long Island Railroad to his home on Long Island where I met and had dinner with his beautiful family. After which, we went to a small island community called Long Beach, where his Home Group meets. This is an area that was hit particularly hard by Hurricane Sandy, and their Group was still displaced because of the damage. Members explained to me what the area used to look like, including a boardwalk, which only a support structure remained. To what it looked like after the storm, with water, debris and relocated beach sand everywhere. The members all credit the storm and the Group's efforts to keep together in the aftermath with making their Group stronger than ever. I was helping Jim with his current commitment as Greeter, and I guess he didn't think about the fact that I was on the Grapevine Committee, because out of a car came one of their members that was at the time a Non-Trustee Director on the Grapevine Board. A man that I had become very good friends with since we first met. And who about one week later would become a General Service Trustee on the General Service Board, serving on the Grapevine Board. Congratulations Albin. He lives directly in this little community, and in the first weeks after the storm, their Group met in his home, with sand, water and candles, along with members of the local Young Peoples Group, who just recently were able to return to the building that hosts their Group.

On Friday a lot of us from the East Central Region, and a few others went to the General Service Office. My friend Kenny, Western Michigan, and I left the office early together, walked through a portion of Central Park, took a subway to southern Manhattan, and spent the day walking through many neighborhoods on our way to Ground Zero. Along the way we went through Greenwich Village, and Washington Square Park, where we saw this arch that really grabbed my attention. I was particularly taken by the words inscribed on the arch, which I felt were very fitting, considering that in a couple of days we would be doing AA's business with the help of God. The words are "LET US RAISE A STANDARD TO WHICH THE WISE AND THE HONEST CAN REPAIR. THE EVENT IS IN THE HAND OF GOD. WASHINGTON. At home I googled the park and

the arch to verify the wording and was to find these words. “In 1934, Bill Wilson, co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous, became sober while attending Oxford Group Meetings at 246 East 23rd Street, located approximately one mile from Washington Square Park. In his “Big Book” of Alcoholics Anonymous, Wilson referred repeatedly to a triumphal arch matching the unique features of the Washington Square Arch in every detail.” These can be found on pages 12, 17, 21, 47, 62, 75, 97. Examples-“that upon this simple cornerstone a wonderfully effective spiritual structure can be built” – “new and triumphant arch through which we passed to freedom” – “for we are building an arch through which we shall walk a free man at last”. Along with references to cornerstone, footing, foundation, powerful cement. This all made me feel both that day at the park and at my home very close to Bill, his efforts, and our early history.

Business starts at the Conference for most of us on Sunday. I say that because the Committee for International Conventions and Regional Forums met on Saturday, with the possible host cities for the 2025 International Convention, and narrowed the number of cities down to three. Those three are, Montreal, St. Louis and Vancouver. The rest of the Committees meet on Sunday with their respective Trustees’ Committees. Being on the Grapevine Committee, there is no Trustees Committee, we meet with the Grapevine Board. And I want to start out by apologizing to all that were at our Pre-General Service Workshop in Galesburg. I had said that the agenda item related to the below additional consideration was a simple piece of housekeeping to give the Grapevine and LaVina Editors some editorial freedom. This is not what I initially thought, but someone I trusted put it that way to me and I believed him. This was actually an agenda item by the General Service Board, initiated by an ad-hoc report on LaVina that you all my have seen in the Board Minutes I sent out in February. None of which was in the background information.

Conference Committee on Grapevine

- The committee reviewed the results of the 2012 assessment of La Viña as a bimonthly, perfect bound, black and white, 68-page magazine and concluded:
 - The committee recognized that funding La Viña as a service, through the General Fund, is an issue affecting the overall Fellowship.
 - The committee acknowledged the increase in circulation by 8.6% from January 2011 to December 2012 may be tied to the changes in format and additional content.
 - The committee acknowledged that the 2012 increase in La Viña deficit results in large part from allocation of pension funding expense.
 - The committee expressed concern that funding La Viña through the General Fund of the General Service Board, while AA Grapevine Inc. has responsibility for the production of La Viña, may suggest an imbalance between responsibility and authority.
 - The committee requested that the GV board submit a proposal to the 2014 Conference Committee on the Grapevine that would significantly reduce the La Viña deficit.

The committee considered discontinuing the requirement for the current format of the La Viña print magazine (i.e., 68 pages, perfect bound) and took no action. The committee needed more background regarding La Viña's financial history and information regarding what a new format would be.

- The committee agreed to forward to the A.A. Grapevine Corporate Board the suggestion that Grapevine produce in the year 2014 or later:

1. Making Amends (working title)

Members share their experience about making Ninth Step amends from stories previously published in Grapevine magazine and/or AAGrapevine.org.

2. How I Found My Higher Power (working title)

A collection of stories by AA members sharing their experience with their personal journeys with Step Two, previously published in Grapevine magazine and/or AAGrapevine.org.

- The committee reviewed the 2013 Grapevine Office Report on Audio Strategy and made the following requests:
 - That Grapevine communications regarding the Grapevine Audio Project specify that GV is not recording meeting speakers at A.A. events.

That an updated status and financial report on the project, including practices, financials, metrics and plans for the future, be provided to the 2014 Conference Committee on the Grapevine.

Conference Committee on Literature

I was able to actually see the final draft pamphlet titled “AA-Spiritual not Religious”. I received it the night before we were to vote on it, and finished reading it soon before voting the next day. I knew there was some fear and discomfort in the past in Area 20 in regards to the possible content of this piece of literature, and I tried to look at it in all ways possible. Quite honestly, the stories I read in there would cause no harm to the integrity of Alcoholics Anonymous. But it did not achieve what I believe to be the original intent of being a very broad based piece of literature covering all angles in spirituality and beliefs and non-beliefs. Unfortunately it was very heavy toward non-belief. Some people thought it was good piece of work. Some were more concerned with the title than with the content. If it would have been more broad based I might have been in favor of it, because the stories in it were good. In the end, after about two hours of discussion,

The draft pamphlet “A.A—Spiritual not Religious” be recommitted to the trustees’ Literature Committee for additional discussion and brought back to the 2014 Conference Committee on Literature.

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE CONSIDERATIONS

- The committee reviewed the draft pamphlet of “Circles of Love and Service” and offered additional suggestions for the trustees’ Literature Committee to consider. The committee looks forward to reviewing an updated draft pamphlet that includes their considerations at the 2014 Conference Committee on Literature meeting.
- The committee discussed a suggestion to add an index to *Alcoholics Anonymous* and took no action, noting that our Big Book is spiritual in nature rather than academic and that an index might discourage a full reading of the material.
- The committee thoroughly discussed a request to add the subtitle ‘None Left Behind’ to the newly revised “A.A. and the Armed Services” pamphlet and took no action. The committee agreed that this request was fully and appropriately addressed by both the Conference Committee on Literature and Conference members at the 62nd General Service Conference.

RECOMMENDATIONS THAT DID NOT RESULT IN CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS

Conference Committee on Literature

- The committee recommended that the second paragraph on the inside front flap of the dust jacket which currently states:

At the time of the third edition, in March 1976, the worldwide membership of A.A. was estimated at 1,000,000 or more. Copies of *Alcoholics Anonymous* in circulation exceeded 1,450,000. In 1995, the General Service Conference approved the recommendation: “The first 164 pages of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the Preface, the Forewords, ‘The Doctor’s Opinion,’ ‘Doctor Bob’s Nightmare’ and the Appendices remain as is.”

be replaced with the following language:

At the time of the third edition, in March 1976, the worldwide membership of A.A. was estimated at 1,000,000 or more. Copies of *Alcoholics Anonymous* in circulation exceeded 1,450,000. The basic text (pages 1 through 164) remains largely unchanged. This is the A.A. message, just as it was introduced in the 1939 edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the book that gave the young fellowship its name.

NOTE: This change will also be made to all formats of the dust jacket of *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

I VOTED FOR THIS- MOTION FAILED
75 AGAINST- 45 FOR

- The committee recommended that “Nonalcoholics may attend open meetings as observers” be added to the open meeting side of the Primary Purpose (Blue) Card (F-17) in all three languages when the inventory of the English version is depleted.

The statement will read as follows:

“THIS IS AN OPEN MEETING
OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

This is an open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. We are glad you are all here – especially newcomers. In keeping with our singleness of purpose and our Third Tradition which states that ‘The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking,’ we ask that all who participate confine their discussion to their problems with alcohol. **Nonalcoholics may attend open meetings as observers.**” (Bold text reflects addition)

I VOTED AGAINST THIS- MOTION FAILED

61 FOR- 63 OPPOSED

Conference Committee on Public Information

What the PI Committee recommended was:

The committee discussed the Fellowship sharing on the effectiveness of the language of the Short Form of Tradition Eleven and recommended that the delegates explain at the local level that Internet, social media and all forms of public communications are implicit in the last phrase of the Tradition, which reads: “...at the level of press, radio and films.”

I did not like this recommendation because it was giving direction to the Delegates only. But I did like the intent because there is a need to do something in regards to this issue. And I am happy this Committee had what it takes to get this started.

Someone stood and said, in reference to the way some people are using social networking “People are running hog wild for fame at AA’s expense.” I liked that statement.

There was a lot of discussion, a vote that failed, a motion to reconsider, an amendment that did not pass. To this, which we passed unanimously:

It was recommended that:

The 63rd General Service Conference affirm that the Internet, social media and all forms of public communications are implicit in the last phrase of the Short Form of Tradition Eleven, which reads: “...at the level of press, radio and films.”

A.A. World Services be permitted to utilize digital channels and current (commissionable) support and distribution technologies, such as, but not limited to, smart phones, tablets, e-readers, applications and commissioned online stores for the sale and distribution of digital A.A. literature. The committee requested that the board ensure that all contracts protect our Traditions, with the option to discontinue any and all contracts at any time. The committee requested that a status and financial report be submitted to the appropriate 2014 Conference Committee.

WHEN THIS WAS PRESENTED, I HAD NOT MADE MY DECISION YET, AND WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO FLOOR DISCUSSION TO HELP WITH MY DECISION. THERE WAS LESS THAN 5 MINUTES OF DISCUSSION AND WE WERE VOTING. MOTION PASSED WITH ONLY 3 OR 4 NOT IN FAVOR. I WAS ONE OF THOSE NOT IN FAVOR, I DIDN'T FEEL WE GAVE THIS ENOUGH CONSIDERATION.

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE CONSIDERATIONS

The committee reviewed the report from the trustees' Public Information Committee on establishing a Public Information Social Media Page and agrees with the trustees' conclusion that A.A. World Services, the General Service Office, and the A.A. Grapevine and La Vía cannot establish a presence on Facebook in a manner which would be consistent with A.A. Traditions.

The committee suggested the General Service Board encourage the trustees' committees to review existing literature that discusses how A.A. members apply the Eleventh Tradition, e.g., "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" and "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated," and suggest updates to the literature that reflect current experience with anonymity in a digital age, with an eye towards reaffirming the importance of the Eleventh Tradition to the Fellowship.

Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions

The deadline for the submission of Conference Agenda Items be changed from January 15 to December 15, beginning in December 2014 for the 65th General Service Conference.

International Conventions/Regional Forums¹

It was recommended that:

The under noted three cities, expressed here in alphabetical order, be considered as possible sites for the International Convention in 2025:

Montreal, Quebec
St. Louis, Missouri
Vancouver, British Columbia

Up to 21 non-A.A. speakers be invited to attend the 2015 International Convention at A.A.'s expense.

Archives

It was recommended that:

The Archives video *Markings on the Journey* be revised and updated with the proposed changes (estimated cost \$5,000) and brought back to the 2014 Conference Archives Committee.

A commemorative 75th Anniversary Edition of the first edition, first printing of *Alcoholics Anonymous* be published in April 2014.

THERE WAS A LOT OF DISCUSSION ON THIS, MOSTLY AGAINST. WITH IT BEING CALLED A TRINKET AND A NOVELTY ITEM. TALK OF PROFIT MOTIVATION. WE HAVE NEVER COMPETED WITH ANY OTHER PUBLISHER, NOW WE WOULD BE COMPETING WITH TWO WHO ALREADY PUBLISH THIS BOOK
MOTION FAILS 79-47, I VOTED AGAINST, NEEDED 5 MORE VOTES TO PASS
MOTION TO RECONSIDER PASSES
I VOTED YES THIS TIME- MOTION PASSES- 96-28

Conference Committee on Trustees

- The committee reviewed the General Service Board's proposed plan regarding the slate of directors for the A.A.W.S. Board and the A.A. Grapevine Board and took no action. The committee did not support the proposed interlocking directorate.

The committee noted that the General Service Board has sufficient authority to implement changes in Practices as outlined in the initiatives in the sections under the heading "Communications and Unity" and "Efficient Operations and Financial Stability" and expressed their support for those ongoing changes. It was the sense of the committee that the changes in Practices could address the concerns of the General Service Board.

The committee requested that, before implementation, any changes proposed in the section "Governance," regarding "Non-trustee Director Service," "Eligibility of General Service Trustees" and "Eligibility of Appointed Committee Members" be brought to the Conference Committee on Trustees for review.

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

	2010 ACTUAL	2011 ACTUAL	2012 ACTUAL
Group Services	\$3,035,842	\$3,263,908	\$3,307,215
Public Information	432,153	445,832	420,794
Cooperation Professional Community	403,732	484,271	488,252
Treatment Facilities	204,183	206,459	203,446
Corrections	364,572	357,460	369,890
Overseas Services (including Literature Assistance)	801,816	760,790	633,373
General Service Conferences	1,062,423	1,340,073	1,115,021
International Conventions	268,511	0	0
Regional Forums	568,284	581,972	670,396
Archives	678,296	793,285	825,788
Trustee/Director Activities	520,978	513,089	593,398
World Service Meeting	301,322	0	305,774
Supporting Services (Allocated in above numbers)	<u>\$8,642,112</u>	<u>\$8,747,139</u>	<u>\$8,933,347</u>
Total			

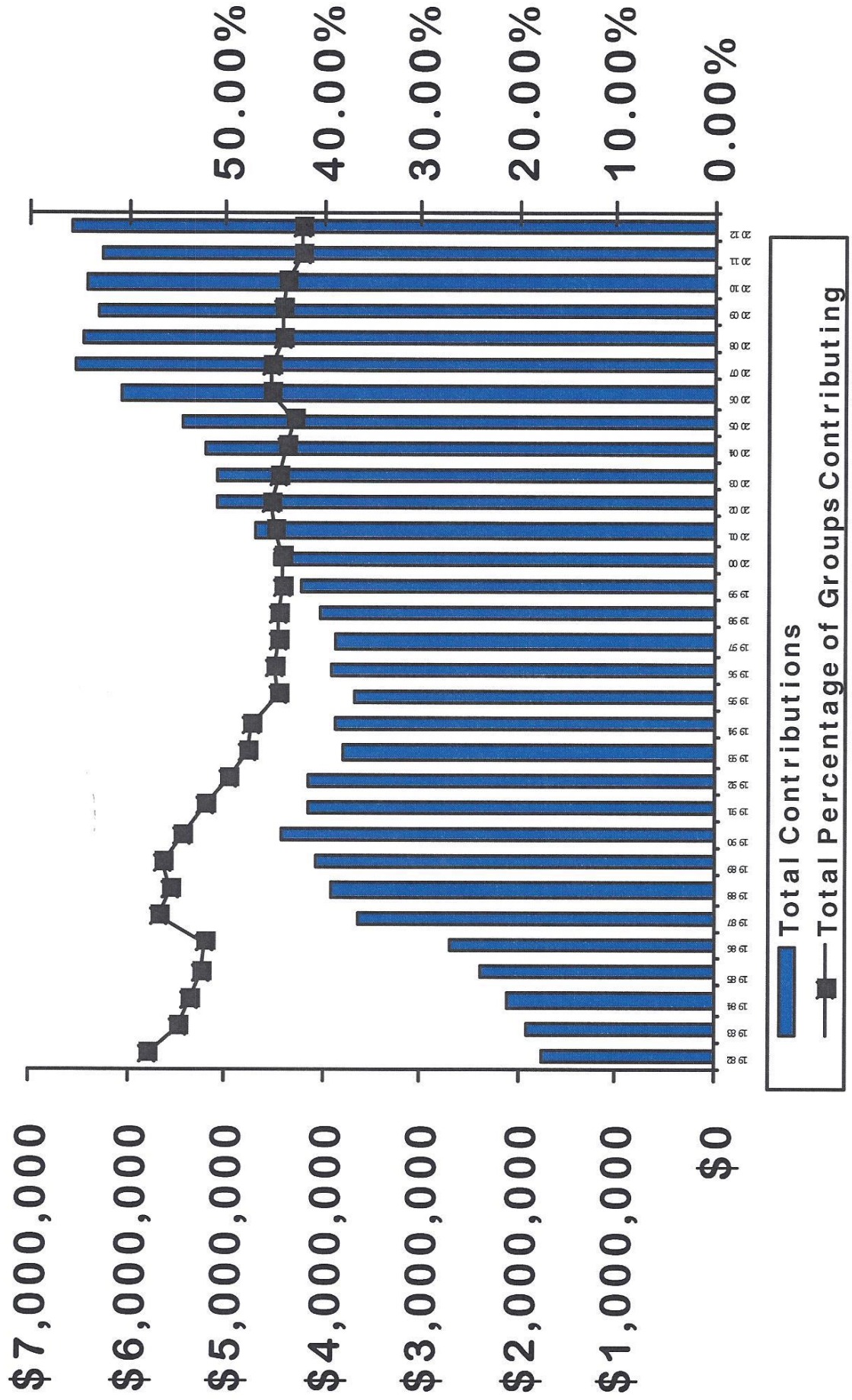
MEMBER STATISTICS

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
Cost of Service per member per year	\$7.04	\$6.46	\$6.29	\$6.32	\$6.43
Cost of Service per group per year	\$157.21	\$142.64	\$137.45	\$137.01	\$138.69
Number of members reported	1,342,380	1,358,879	1,373,681	1,384,699	1,388,727
Number of groups reported	60,093	61,581	62,873	63,845	64,414
Percentage of Groups Contributing	44.1%	44.3%	44.9%	42.4%	42.4
Contributions per member per year	\$4.69	\$4.50	\$4.54	\$4.47	\$4.67
Contributions per group per year	\$107.55	\$102.24	\$99.24	\$96.95	\$100.69
Literature contribution to Service cost per member	\$2.35	\$1.96	\$1.75	\$1.85	\$1.76

GROUP SERVICE ACTIVITIES

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
Group Service Staff Activities	\$549,542	\$664,853	\$628,675
Box 459	305,811	303,879	279,687
A.A. Directories	99,167	100,262	55,314
Records & Files Depts.	808,665	853,912	853,592
Contributions, Processing, Verification and Documentation	961,261	940,651	921,458
French Services	27,978	36,452	37,805
Spanish Services	34,692	23,701	26,721
Special Needs	122,806	170,443	222,959
Nominating	125,920	169,755	281,002
Total	<u><u>\$ 3,035,842</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 3,263,908</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 3,307,213</u></u>

CONTRIBUTION HISTORY 1982—2012



INFLATION CALCULATOR

\$1.00

in

1945

had the buying power of

\$12.90

in

2013

\$.08

in

2013

had the buying power of

\$ 1.00

in

1945

Source: U.S. Department of Labor

Service Committee Breakout Meetings
Conference Reports

1. 2013 Spring Conference:

(D 70) Alan – (Janet and 14811.69 hotel bill over charge for 4gals coffee/ 11001.61 final bill- Hotel had nothing but good things to say we had 676 registered-

2. 2013 State Conference (D 22& 23) Larry- aug.23-25 Hyatt Schaumburg- room block held until aug 9, reg; \$20 conference /\$30 banquet –hospitality spots been filled- speaker for sat will be from Montana-new eastern trustee will be participating. Bridging the gap now at the corner of recovery and aa- currently have 100 registered

3. Annual BTG Weekend Workshop (NIA 20), Carol H.

The 2013 which will be held on September 6-8, 2013 at the Hyatt Regency Schaumburg, 1800 E Golf Road, Schaumburg, IL 60173. Our last BTGWW planning meeting was held on May 19th at St. Hugh of Lincoln Church on Randall Road and Highland Avenue in Elgin. There were seven of us in attendance and most of our discussion centered on the program. We are really excited about the current topics and scheduled panelist line-up. We have received confirmation from the Honorable Judge Stride from the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court in Lake County and Judge Michael W. Feetterer from the Twenty-Second Circuit in McHenry County to participate on the Corrections Panel discussing "Drug Court". Our Panel 42, Past Delegate Tom B. has also agreed to be a part of our panel. We also have a graduate of Drug Court that will share her personal experiences of how this program which brought her to AA changed her life. We have a couple of participants that have volunteered for the Treatment Facilities Panel and our topic will be Singleness of Purpose. Our Hospitality Chair Kevin K. is still looking for commitments to fill two hour time slots in the hospitality room at the workshop. You can reach him or send your volunteer commitment to Kevin at 2013btgwwtransportation@aa-nia.org. Please ask your group or district if they would like to contribute snacks, coffee or paper goods to this event. Our Registration Chair Alecia F. is looking for volunteers to help by sitting at the registration desk on Friday and Saturday and she can be reached at 2013BTGWWVolunteer@aa-nia.org. Anyone who volunteers to help at the BTGWW will not have to pay for registration. Our Transportation Chair Pat C. has two volunteers to assist with picking up out of town guests from the airport to and from the hotel but more is needed. Pat will try to coordinate as many rides as possible with a reasonable taxi service but there may be some participants with such limited budgets that assistance may be needed. Anyone who would like to assist with our transportation needs please contact Pat at 2013btgwwtransportation@aa-nia.org.

Since most of the people that have attend these meetings in the past travel from the northern part of NIA 20 we decided to move our next and all future meeting to St. Hugh of Lincoln Church on Randall Road and Highland Avenue in Elgin from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Our last planning meeting is scheduled for August 4, 2013. The BTGWW Host Committee consists of:

- Host Committee Chair: Carol H., District 11 Corrections Chair
- Hospitality Chair: Kevin K., District 11H&T Chair
- Transportation Chair: Pat C., District 11 Alt. Answering Service and NIA Alt. Special Need Chair
- Registration Chair: Alicia F. from District 22
- Greeters: The Hope Factory Group Members

4. 2013 Big Book Conference (D 62) – Michele H

Due to weather we were unable to meet on 6/12/13, we have rescheduled for 6/19/2013

We will be discussing the and finalizing the program

A Literature motion

Committee chairs and their volunteer lists

Special Needs Contracts with ASL and Spanish interpreters

Speaking at the All District meetings in the months of August and September

Electing a new treasure

We have brought with us today flyers for every district! DCM's please see Michelle H before you leave!

We are also looking for Big Book Meetings to take panel slots Please see Michelle H if you are interested.

We will send out a report to the Area Chair to distribute after the meeting.

5. 2014 Spring Conference (D 10,11,12), Bob P.

The planning committee has met four times. The meetings started on March 30th. Committee meetings are at 2:00 PM, on the second Sunday of each month, at the Joy Lutheran Church, 749 S. Hunt Club Road, Gurnee, IL. The committee is drawing from Districts 10, 11, and 12. We are indeed fortunate as many of the committee participants have had past conference experience.

A deposit was made and a contract has been signed with the Holiday Inn and Convention Center in Gurnee, IL. This hotel is at the intersection of I94 and Grand Ave. (Rte. 132). Local landmarks include: Gurnee Mills, and Great America. This venue has adequate space for the various Assembly and Conference activities. The contract was reviewed and negotiated by Area 20 Officers: Cheryl V., Ray M., Marcia S., and Larry S. The dates for the 2014 Spring Assembly and Conference are: March 28, 29, and 30, 2014. The Conference theme will be: "Living in 10, 11, and 12". The first site visit by the committee will be September 8, 2013, at the Holiday Inn. A contract for taping (recording) the conference has been signed with AMOT Audio. The conference address is: NIA 20 Spring Conference 2014, P.O. Box 142, Antioch, IL 60002. A bank account has been opened at Nor States Bank in Waukegan. The Conference budget has been approved; this budget was based on the "breakeven analysis" conducted by Cheryl V. Questions have arisen concerning the responsibilities of the Registration Committee with respect to the Assembly. It is hoped more will be revealed as we move forward.

The current committee roster is as follows (NOTE: numbers in parentheses indicate individual person's district):

Committee Chair Alternate/Co-Chair

Bob P (10) Bill (10)

Secretary Kevin A. (10) Veronica J. (12)

Treasurer Martin C. (12) Ron K. (12)

Program Carmela R. (10) Felicia J. (10)

Registration John and Darlene C. (10) Beau J. (10)

Decorations Terry V. (12) Peter O. (12)

Printing Steve R. (10) Open

Greeters Bill V. (12) Gloria P. (10)

Literature Greg D. (10) Herb B. (12)

Alcathon Rhonda M. (10) Open

Hospitality Dan L. (12) Bridgette M. (10)

Coffee Ken C. (12) Open

Archives Marlene G. (12) Open

Grapevine Carol H. (11) Frank M. (12)

P.I. Dave G. (11) Open

Entertainment Cheryl V. (10) Tom B. (12)

Special Needs Pete B. (10) Lisa B. (10)

Alanon Brian B. Charmaine, Millie

Committee Actions so far include: Alanon and Alateen participation has been confirmed. A "logo" for the conference has been approved. Registration forms are being composed and reviewed (probably two sides: English on one side, Spanish on the other). The goal is to have the registration forms ready for the Summer Committee Meeting on August 10. It is the plan to have a registration table at area events, provide copies to individual Districts, conduct mailings to select destinations (Alano Clubs, etc.), and to visit individual District meetings to promote the conference. Probable costs at this point seem to be: \$20.00 (Conference) and \$35.00 (Banquet) these have not yet been approved. Menu choices are known, but selections have not been made as of yet. The program committee is actively seeking speakers and is aware of the August 10th deadline.

Area Business

1. Election of Area Alternate Archives Chair: Volunteers-
 - a. Ernest L (many years GSR, answering service, DCM, and much more)

All in favor for:-Ernst L our new Area Alternate Archives Chair

2. Bids for the 2014 Big Book Conference:
 - a. will be voted on fall assembly

3. Motion by the Service Structure VII Committee to amend the Procedures for Planning the Spring Conference

It is moved that the Area Committee approve the changes to update the Procedures for Planning the Spring Conference.

Background material: Joe S

Other than format changes, the Procedures have not been changed since written in 2004. This motion seeks to update all areas of the Procedures based on the following:

At the 2012 Spring Assembly a motion was passed with a vote of 131 to 2, to combine the Spring Assembly and the Spring Conference. This motion stated:

That the NIA Spring Assembly be held on an annual basis at the NIA Spring Conference with the intent that the transition begin no later than 2014.

That the main AA speaker schedule for Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday morning remain unchanged.

That the alcahthon remain.

That we continue to invite AI Anon and Alateen participation.

That opportunities for Service Committee meetings or workshops or panels be made available

That the traditional Literature, Archives and Grapevine rooms, etc. remain.

That the remaining programs focus on our Three Legacies of Unity, Service and Recovery with a focus on service.

In March the Area Chair, Kelly L., appointed an ad hoc committee to review and update the Procedures for Planning the Spring Conference. This committee consisted of Larry Stiff, Panel 56 past Delegate, Cheryl V., Alternate Delegate, Brandon L., Dave Gilbert (resigned), Joe S., and Tina R. and Judd W. This committee received input from the 2012 and 2013 Spring Conference Planning committees on items to incorporate for changes. They met regularly and discussed all aspects of the Procedures.

Note:

Revision Guidelines

Revisions to this section are approved by a substantially unanimous vote of the Area Committee. All approved revisions must be reported to the Assembly when it next meets, discussed if necessary, and accepted or rejected by a "sense of the Assembly."

Questions and Discussion: NO

Vote: PASSED

4. Motion from District 10 to form a Conference Advisory Committee

Motion: Mike M

It is moved by District 10 that Northern Illinois Area 20 (NIA or Area) form a Conference Advisory Committee to assist Districts in the Conference bidding and planning process. The initial Committee will begin its term in January 2014.

CONFERENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION:

Description of the Committee (to be placed in the Handbook in the section title Area Standing Committees / Responsibilities of Administrative Committee, roughly on page 40 in the current printing of the Unabridged version on 03/01/2013) The purpose of the Conference Advisory Committee is to guide and cooperate with the bidding/hosting Districts with the hope that conferences will achieve self-support through prudent budgeting and active member participation.

The Conference Advisory Committee helps with the Big Book Conference, Spring Assembly Conference and the State Conference when hosted by Area 20.

The Conference Advisory Committee is made up of 4 people and the Alternate Area Chair.

Members serve a rotating term of service for 4 years. Members will rotate two at a time at two-year intervals. This will achieve consistency and continuity. No member will serve more than 4 consecutive years.

As terms rotate, the current Advisory Committee will submit the names of candidates willing to serve. Members will then be appointed by the Area Chair, rather than elected, so as to assure we choose members with adequate and appropriate qualifications.

The Conference Advisory Committee will give due consideration to and be mindful of established conference procedures.

Duties & Responsibilities of the Committee (to be placed in the Handbook in the section title Duties & Responsibilities of Northern Illinois Area Trusted Servants / Administrative Committees, roughly on page 63 in the current printing of the Unabridged version on 03/01/2013)

Qualifications:

It is suggested that members have 5 years of continuous sobriety. They should have extensive experience in conference planning (negotiating contracts, choosing a suitable venue to accommodate special needs, weather considerations, food and beverage costs). Members should have specific experience with AA Conferences.

Responsibilities:

Assist bidding Districts and the Districts' Conference Planning Committees.

Aid Districts in preparing a bid for a conference. Help to include:

- o Develop and maintain a standardized form to be used by Districts to seek facility bids.
- o Work with Districts to understand Area Procedures for hosting conferences, and Illinois State Conference guidelines.
- o Review facility bids for accuracy and content, including but not limited to selecting a facility, conference room costs, and food & beverage costs and other facility accommodations.

- o Help ensure that all requirements for the event are met including Special Needs accommodations have been taken into consideration. Aid Districts that have been awarded a conference. Help to include:
 - o Help negotiate facility contracts.
 - o Review all contracts with facilities prior to signing.
 - o Help establish a timeline to set priorities for planning committee in early stages, particularly in those instances when conference award has happened within 1 year of conference date.
 - o Assist Public Information in giving notice to the Fellowship in general of the conference and make suggestions to attract attendance.
 - o Maintain historic budget data from past conferences.
- Develop and maintain a collection of best practices from past conferences for future conference to refer to.

The Conference Advisory Committee will meet as requested by the Alternate Area Chair or Area Chair.

Committee members may be requested to participate in conference planning meetings at the request of the Alternate Area Chair or Area Chair.

BACKGROUND:

NIA has two conferences, a three-day Spring Conference and a one-day Big Book Conference. The hope is that these conferences achieve self-support through prudent budgeting and active member participation.

While it is sometimes stated that an AA conference does not "lose" money, it can have a negative impact on Area finance when it does not achieve self-support. Self-support can be defined as two fold. First a conference should be financially able to return seed money to the Area after all conference expenses have been paid. This funding is currently set at \$3000 for the Spring Conference and \$2500 for the Big Book Conference. In addition, the Area incurs expenses to support the attendance of Area Committee members to these events. When a conference is able to forward additional funds over the amount of the seed money, it is achieving full self-support of these events.

Over the years, the Area treasury has been negatively impacted by losses incurred from Conference expenses. Recent conferences have incurred expenses that have seen a draw down on the Area treasury approximating \$10,000.

Area funding is diverted from our Primary Purpose Motions by using money to support non-self-supporting Conferences. Any action taken in support of assisting Conferences to be self-supporting will contribute to our Primary Purpose Register funding.

Districts who wish to bid on hosting a conference could call upon the experience and expertise of resources within the fellowship in their Conference bidding and planning activities.

Districts that have been reluctant to bid on hosting a Conference may be encouraged to participate if they are assured of support from a Committee with experience and knowledge in these matters.

We have experienced people available in the Area who have successfully negotiated past conferences and could consult/liaise with bidding Districts and Conference Planning Committees if they were sought out to help. The Area would benefit if these resources were used to the fullest extent.

Questions and Discussion:

Questions and Answers:

Q: Michelle H – considered the alternate area chair need not apart of conference?

A:Mike- separate issue; A:Cheryl v – they are there to support if needed;

Q:Lisa – how do we get new people to know how to help?

A:Mike M – by rotation, A:Cheryl V – they get their experience by working on committees;

Q:Jim- in developing this idea, how do we address these specific items?

A: Mike M – checks and balances (making sure everything is met on the contract)

Q: Jim- do you look at past experiences to learn what to and not to do? A: Yes, absolutely

Q: Garret- do we have a budget for this? Cheryl V- not in motion just thinking at this point.

Q: Rich H – is this committee going to leave the conference committee alone

A: Alan J – when in need

Discussions:

Ellen = my take on motion is that alternate area chair called upon when needed

Mike = if the conference needs help.. just ask for help- do we really need four people-biggest experience is the officers

Bill W= this is going to be a great committee

Cheryl V= we should be self supporting, Im grateful I had experience with me when I had to look over and sign contract at Gurnee hotel.

Larry S=

Robert S= different take on this- someday I may stand for alternate chair – I would have to negotiate a hotel contract – I may not stand for possession, however; to have these four experienced people behind me- I could do it.

Vote: motion passes: 51/2

5. Motion by the Alternate Chair to add list of Previous Spring Conferences

Motion: Allen J

It is moved to add a list of previous Spring Conferences with their locations and hosting districts to the Spring Conference Planning guidelines. This list would be an appendix to the planning guideline.

The Area alternate Chair with the Area Archivist would be responsible for the original conference list.

The Service Handbook Custodian with the Area Alternate chair would be responsible for the list updates.

The updated list would not need Committee / Assembly approval. However, the updates should be reported to both that it has been done.

Purpose is to have a central location for this history list that is accessible to all.

Questions and Discussion: NO

Questions and Answers: NO

Vote: 44/6

Minority opinion

Bill W – expense.. What is this purpose...its already on website- put the money in the still suffering alcoholic

Vote: 27/25
Motion fails

6. Motion by the Alternate Chair to add list of Previous Big Book Conferences

Motion:

It is moved to add a list of previous Big Book Conferences with their locations and hosting districts to the Big Book Conference Planning guidelines. This list would be an appendix to the planning guideline.

The Area Alternate Chair with the area archivist would be responsible for the original conference list.

The Service Handbook Custodian with the Area Alternate Chair would be responsible for the list updates.

The updated list would not need Committee / Assembly approval. However, the updates should be reported to both that it has been done.

Purpose is to have a central location for this history list that is accessible to all.

Questions and Discussion:

Motion 6 was withdrawn by the submitter (Allen J)

Vote:

7. Motion by Delegate to fund district participation at the 2013 East Central Regional Forum

Motion

It is recommended that \$5000* (25 districts at \$200/district) be used to provide limited funding to offset costs for districts to participate in the 2013 East Central Regional Forum.

The Delegate moves that the following entry be added to the Primary Purpose Register and that the NIA Treasurer be authorized to reimburse expenses in accordance with the terms of that entry:

Item #

	Activity	Description, expected outcome and execution guidelines	Example expenses	Reimbursement Guidelines	Projected cost
PPMxx	<i>East Central Regional Forum</i>	To promote participation at the District Level for this General Service activity. Participation should be limited to District – Officers, Committee Members and/or General Service Representatives.	Travel and Lodging - To offset some of the costs of travel and lodging associated with this event by District Officers, Committee Members and/or General Service Representatives for their districts.	Reimbursement authority: NIA Treasurer. Reimbursed to District. Spending Limit: 200.00/District	\$5000.00

Questions and Discussion

Questions: NO

Discussions:

Mike F – friendly amendment to \$2000? No! Not accepted

Joe S – worthwhile investment

Terry W – the whole point is to send someone who cannot afford to attend.

Michele H – It is nice to know that we can get help when we need it

Larry S – regional forum is the best service

Ellen – need to keep in mind that money is not the sole purpose, it is carrying the message

Cheryl V- home group started setting aside \$2 a week to help send GSR to Regional Forum

Vote: All in favor

Motion passed

Committee Reports:

Answering Service – Matt J

Archives - Rich F

Archivist - Ray M

CPC – Carmela R

Corrections – Bill W

We have spent Pink Can money as quickly as it's been contributed. I just filled 3 orders for \$613.26. As well as two cases of the soft cover Big Book which were sent to downstate women's facilities. I have several requests I cannot fill at this time. In Districts 10 and 12, we are holding 4 two hour sessions doing a BB workshops in

the County Jail. We are about to do a second round. Over 90 inmates signed up for the first round, as well as a session for the women's pod which is in the works. Dupage county jail needs Big Books badly. The Substance Abuse Program Director has a want of over 500 books. Breakout session; Attendees from Dist 10, 11, 12, 22 and DuPage. Much discussion on step workshops in McHenry and Lake County. DuPage provides much pink can support to their facilities. One attendee was a Sheridan Corr Facility employee.

Grapevine – Wally L and Jeanne F

Talked with Jim for D22 on what is being discussed about Grapevine for State Conf to get people to come to the Grapevine Display. Talked about Area 20 Grapevine Chairs being there with supplies to sell. Talked of ideas to get groups and Districts more information on the Grapevine.

Electronics – Robert S

Finance – Mike M

Literature – Jeff

No attendees. Area literature chair will participate in State Conference.

PI – Ed C

Dist 40- Letter was sent from Area PI to Police Chiefs of seven communities. In her districts they also hand delivered the poster "Can you spot the Alcoholic?". Middle Schools, High Schools and Colleges were contacted through School Nurses, health teachers or social workers. Also sent info to college of Dupage TV station on Public Service Announcements. She went to an independent hotel and was granted permission to leave pamphlets there. The two other attendees are new to their positions.

DCM – Cheryl V

2 items for discussion, 1. Fall assembly being a voting assembly. Asked if someone would be willing to run for an Area position. 2. District position rotation. Explanation of district procedures, chair first then alternate, area 20 guidelines are a tool. Discussion on area, start earlier on breakouts, rotating to are to make room for new district people, if not area chair position consider serving on a committee. Getting a new DCM; district inventory, make district meeting attractive, communicate with groups, continue to visit groups in district, attend group business meetings, chair an assembly. Area suggestions, minimize committee reports, longer breakouts, dcm training, orientation of comm chairs, maybe a binder, it's DCMs job to find out what groups need and ask area for those needs. Recommendations; DCMs; present to alt area delegate what and how long breakouts should be. Workshops; define what you want from area, present a binder for approval

GSR – Allen J

Attendance 25. Talked about motions. Passed out 3 Grapevine articles on service. Read one (Not my job, Oct 87) and had lively discussion about it.

Report & Charter - Jim W

The R&C cmte. has not met since the Summer Committee Meeting. I tried to coordinate a meeting for during lunch of this summer assembly - it did not develop. I spoke with Larry earlier and we will plan on getting together prior to the fall committee meeting.

A point of clarification was brought up at the summer committee meeting by the area chair referring to slide 7 of the primary purpose finance powerpoint presented there, if reimbursement of expenses did not include those that were not active participants. Larry Stiff found the pertinent reference in the the NIA Service Handbook:

Except from Larry's email 6/12:

Regarding Kelly's question about reimbursement I found that on page 43 under the heading Primary Purpose Basic Expenses it says this:

"It is the expectation of the Area Assembly that trusted servants would actively participate in conferences or forums in order to qualify for reimbursement."

(Actually on page 47 on the pdf version of my Droid.)

The 8 page Primary Purpose Finance section and the entire NIA service manual is still under review by this committee. I did notice the following and i will hey the input of the rest of the committee soon:

The description of the finance committee in the "new" primary purpose finance section is much more detailed and thorough than that in duties and responsibilities of that same committee already included. Therefore, it seems that there should be a parenthetical reference to it. I will get more input from the R&C.

Lastly, the NIA area chair said that she would be sending me more motions for the R&C to look over.

Treatment – Robert S

Officer Reports

Alternate Delegate – Cheryl V

At the Spring Committee Meeting in May the Service Structure VII committee presented the redrafted version of the Procedures for Planning the Spring Assembly Conference. Discussion followed regarding whether the Assembly is an open or closed event and who is permitted to participate. Two friendly amendments later, and the Area Committee approved these Procedures. These amended Procedures were sent to all DCMs and Area trusted servants. During the business portion of the Summer Assembly we will ask the body to give us a "sense" of whether they approve them or not. As I reported at the Committee Meeting, I was a member of that committee, and it was a year of thoughtful work. Every line of the Procedure was reviewed in light of having a full Assembly with breakouts embedded in to the event. I applaud the work of the rest of the committee; they worked hard. Me, I just typed what they were saying and played devils advocate upon occasion ;-)

As I also reported at the Committee Meeting, I participated with my home District on the motion regarding an Advisory Committee for Conferences. Little did I know when we started that I would be helping Districts 10, 11 & 12 with the hotel negotiations for the 2014 Spring Assembly Conference. I can personally attest now to the need of having people who have some experience in hotel negotiation and contract review available. I couldn't have been of service to the planning committee had I not had the help of the knowledgeable people we have who help without any recognition for their services.

Two presentations have been placed on the NIA web site that we offered at the Committee Meeting. These can be found on the "Information" tab under "presentations." There are 4 versions of each presentation, one in PowerPoint format so that people can edit if they wish. The other 3 version are pdf files which anyone can download and use with the free software from Adobe. One version is a full sheet page, a second is two pages per sheet, and the final is a handout version with 3 pages per sheet and lines next to the slides for notes. The hope is that Districts can use these to bring a short service session to their GSRs. The presentations are on the Role of the GSR and on Self Support. I've been asked to speak at District 61 on service at the end of June. Additionally the Flying Geese from District 11 have requested a service opportunity in fall. They are looking to have presentations to increase interest in their elections in October. We're hoping to find a slot in August that will also help generate some interest in Area elections in September.

Speaking of elections, hopefully you DCMs who are rotating are giving consideration to moving "down" the chain to Area Service. It's a wonderful opportunity, so please consider it

Alternate Chair – Allen J

No Report

Secretary, Dawn B.

I've been sending committee and assembly minutes twice to area committee and assembly minutes to District Secretaries as well. The email versions are NOT anonymity friendly. The website minutes ARE anonymity friendly.

Alternate Secretary – Dana C

Discussed and Reviewed new secretary handbook; fellowship new vision: electronic delivery of district minutes and other communications.

Alternate Treasurer- Janet N

The contributions report is attached to this memo. The summary of the numbers are as follows:

Group Contributions	\$ 25,018.30
District Contributions	12,526.10
Conference Contributions	<u>6,285.50</u>
Total:	\$ 43,829.90

Please let your groups know that the address to send contributions to the NIA Treasurer is:

NIA Treasurer

Northern Illinois Area, Ltd.

P.O. Box 241

Elburn, IL 60119

There are contribution envelopes on the information table for you to take back to your groups.

Please indicate your group number on your donation.

Thank you to everyone for your contributions to NIA 20.

Registrar – Marilyn F

Fellowship New Vision database

Fellowship New Vision database (FNV) was developed by the General Service Office and released for use by the areas in May, 2007. FNV is a web based tool and because of that, updates are immediate. FNV also provides each area, via their Area Registrar, access to update certain area information directly into the database. Because FNV is an online-real time database, what is entered by either the areas or the GSO Records department is available for immediate use.

Four times a year the Alternate Registrar will be sending to the DMC and the District Secretary a document of all of the groups in their district. The last column is where updates can be entered. GSRs can update group information by working with their DCM or district secretary or by completing a group information change form which they can find online at <http://www.aa-nia.org/forms.html>.

Group information includes group name, group number, area, district, history dates, meeting locations and times, and complete group contact information. District information, on the other hand, includes district service positions and contact information for those elected to those positions and Area information is similar to district information but at the area-level.

This information is the key to communication throughout the A.A. general service structure. GSO uses group information to send information kits to new GSRs, copies of Box 459, the GSO quarterly newsletter, and GSO quarterly reports. Similarly, the area uses the information to send to the group Concepts, the NIA newsletter, and area assembly meeting minutes. This information is also used by GSO to send information kits to District and area-level committee chairs to help orient them to their service positions and by area service committee chairs to communicate with their district counterparts.

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.

New e-mail address for the Area Registrar

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

Information updates since 01/01/2013

All update requests that were received before 06-01-2013 have been processed in FNV.

Total for 2013	
Group information	18
New groups	20
Folded/Inactive	49

Group contact information	122
District contacts	91
Area contacts	14
Total updates	314

We will continue to send welcome letters from the area to new GSRs. The packets include the following:

- a welcome letter from the area
- a snapshot of the group's information from FNV
- NIA contribution envelope

Since 1/1/2013 the Area Alternate Registrar has sent 107 new GSR group packets.

Chair, Kelly L.

Thank you district 12 for hosting today's Assembly meeting. I hope everyone had a chance to read the information that was sent out with the preliminary and final agenda. As you have seen the procedures for the planning of the Spring Conference has "As Approved by the Area Committee" watermark across it. According to the NIA guidelines the procedures need to have a substantially unanimous vote of the Area Committee and a sense of the Assembly. We will be having a few agenda items that will need a two-thirds majority to pass.

Since the spring committee meeting I have been mostly busy at my computer reading and answering e-mails. Once again thank you to those who copy me on your district minutes and conference reports. Those reports and district minutes will be added into NIA archives.

I am sure many have noticed that I seem to be a little obsessed with the sign in sheets from your breakout sessions. It is because I have been keeping a fairly accurate account of members at all the committee and assembly meetings. The attendance is broken down into five different categories; area officers with committee chairs, DCMs and alternates, district committee chairs, GSRs and visitors, guest or volunteers. This was an item mentioned on the 2011 Area inventory about what the attendance was at each area meeting throughout our area.

I have been working with the unabridged version of our NIA service manual adding all the new revisions that have been passed this year. I also have been researching cost effective measures for the printing of both handbooks. I have a copy of a new design for the unabridged version which I feel looks nicer and will last longer. These can be purchased for four dollars apiece. I will have a sign up sheet up front for anyone wishing to purchase one or two. The copies will be available at the summer committee meeting August 10th.

June 6th I and Ray M. meet with an associate of the Hyatt Regency in Schaumburg to sign a contract to use the facility for the Delegates Past and Present conference being held next February. Ray will be reporting on that conference starting at the summer committee meeting.

June 9th I attended the State Conference planning meeting. Without doing their report it appears they are trudging along pretty good.

I have sent out a couple of e-mails trying to get a few members to be on the Electronic Equipment Committee. There were a few responses with questions. I hope I answered those questions. It would be nice to get a few new members that could learn from or assist Robert for the remainder of the year so they will be able to take over for the 2014-2015 year. Please if you or you know of anyone that would be interested contact myself or Robert S.

Adjournment and close