

## 2015 Spring Assembly

March 28, 2015

St Charles, IL

(Host District 71)

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

### Quiet Time

Robert S read the *Why Do We Need A Conference?* by the late Bernard B. Smith from the AA Service Manual.

### New Attendees

Mike, GSR D80	Ron, GSR D10	Sara, GSR D62	Tom, Guest
Gary F GSR D10	Kyle B, GSR D22	Rick B, GSR D22	Gary P, GSR D22
Bill, TF D22	Denise M, D90	Michael B, GSR D22	Miguel, Alt GSR D61
Anthony, Guest	Susan N, GSR D10	Sheldon, GSR D64	Joy B, GSR D22
Steve R, GSR D61	David F, D22 guest	Sue M, GSR D72	
Dave T, GSR D64	Cory S, GSR D10	Joe Alt GSR D 22	
Norm O, GSR D42	Dan S, GSR D10	Matt F, GSR D10	

### Anniversaries

Debbie B, 10	John C, 19	Bill B, 17	Jason 4
Mark H, 13	Mike B, 2	Chuck S, 15	Ken C, 12
Craig B, 27	Amy L, 6	Albert, 3	Salazar, 21
Kelly L, 16	Mike M, 12	Terry B, 3	Carol H, 16
Richard H, 5	Carl T, 11	Terry W, 28	Urbano, 11
Jessica 1	Rick S, 25	Mike M, 28	Karen M, 9
Marilyn F, 31	Maggie, 3	Mike H, 41	Isidro B, 4
Craig D, 17	Sue M, 2	Joe S, 16	

**Twelve Concepts of World Service** read by Maggie

**Approval of 2014 Winter Assembly Minutes** Robert called for comments or corrections; there were none. Minutes were approved as written.

Vote to Hear Floor Motion

Voting members of the assembly were identified.

John C - Past D Panel 58, I ask that we not consider this; floor actions are never heard; we shouldn't even be considering this; it's in the wrong place.

Rich H - we have a procedure. We have a procedure and we need to have a reason for why we're voting. Robert - if you would like to vote to not hear the motion. Choice is whether or not we're going to hear the motion.

Vote taken to hear the floor motion:

In favor of hearing the motion: 70

Opposed to hearing the motion: 32

We will hear the motion.

**Treasurer's Report**, Janet N reported: This report is being presented as of February 28, 2014. The following is our financial status as of this date.

	<u>2015</u>
Contributions/Income:	\$12,795.74
Expenses:	<u>\$12,592.89</u>
Excess of Income over expense	\$ 202.85

Current checking account	\$ 4,386.04
Current prudent reserve	<u>\$16,500.00</u>
Net Assets	\$20,886.04

2015 Primary Purpose Register

The 2015 primary purpose register thru February 28, 2015 is attached to this report. Actual expenses for each PPB and PPM are listed through February, 2015.

It was brought to our attention that PPB11 – Illinois State Conference, does not align with the “duties and responsibilities of NIA trusted servants” in the Service Handbook. The Handbook states that all officers, service committee chairpersons and appointees participate in the Spring and/or State Conference as requested by the Spring or State Conference Committee. The delegate is expected to provide Area 20 representatives to participate in the State Conference when requested by Area 19 or 21 State Conference Host Committee.

It is our stated intention that the PPB should reflect reimbursement for our trusted servants to perform their delegated responsibilities as described in our guidelines. Therefore, if any of our trusted servants mentioned above are asked to participate in the State Conference in 2015, they will be reimbursed for their expenses.

Can Contributions

**Pink Can Fund:** has received a total of \$1,433.50 YTD in contributions. We have spent \$2,012.70.

**Green Can Fund:** no activity

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

**Finance Committee,** Steve, reported, the committee met 2 times this year; first at Jan committee meeting. Discussed responsibilities and elected a chair. Discussed expense disbursement for PPB14; Discussed BTG committee and total number of trusted servants once guidelines have been established.

**Operating Committee,** no report

**Delegate Report,** Cheryl V reported, I am looking forward to participating in the General Service Conference again this year. I leave on Friday, April 17th and return on April 25th. As a second year Delegates we are asked to take a more active part in supporting the Conference. Loving invitations are sent to each Delegate with specific requests. I have been asked to be the scribe for the Inventory Group I am part of, along with I’ve had very limited requests this year to visit Districts and talk about the items that are on the Final Agenda. I hope this means that the DCMs are doing a wonderful job and that we will have a huge turnout for the Pre-GSC Workshop this year. If any of you DCMs here today would like a visit, please let me know.

I know that last year my report included the preliminary schedule for the week, but I’d like to include it again this year. There are always new GSRs attending our Assemblies, along with the various District meetings. I think it’s important for you to know what you are sending me to attend.

Saturday 2:00 pm – 9:30 pm

Hospitality, 1728 Group (Class A Trustees), Remote Communities Meeting, and Delegates Only Meeting

Sunday 9:00 am – 9:00 pm

Roll Call, Keynote Address, Report/Presentation: 23rd World Service Meeting / AA Around the World, Presentation/Discussion: Our Common Welfare – Gratitude in Action, Joint Trustee & Conference Committee Meetings, Opening Dinner

Monday 9:00 am – 9:00 pm

Conference Committee Meetings, General Service Board Report, AAWS Board Report, AA Grapevine Board Report, Panel 65 Delegates Area Service Highlights, Presentation/Discussion: Finances, GSO Relocation Study, General Sharing Session

Tuesday 9:00 am – 8:00 pm

Conference Committee Meetings, Panel 65 Delegates Area Service Highlights, Trip to the GSO / Grapevine offices, Delegates only dinner and meeting

Wednesday 8:30 am – 9:30 pm

Inventory: Third year of three-year Inventory Process, Regional Luncheons for Delegates, Trustee Elections, Committee Reports & Discussion, General Sharing Session

Thursday 8:30 am – 9:45 pm

Committee Reports & Discussion, Presentation: 2015 International Convention, General Sharing Session

Friday 8:30 am – 5:30 pm

Committee Reports & Discussion, Inventory Reports/Discussion, Farewells by Rotating Delegates, Adjourn 65th General Service Conference

Saturday 8:30 am – 10:45 am

Closing Brunch, Farewell talks by Rotating Trustees

2015 Inventory Questions:

*General Service Board/Corporate Boards (AAWS & AA Grapevine)*

11. Reflecting on Concept Six, how can the Conference ensure that the authority we delegate to the General Service Board is commensurate with the responsibility we have entrusted to them?

12. Reflecting on Concept Eight: (a) How well is the General Service Board exercising custodial oversight and how effectively are they serving as the principle planners and administrators of policy and finance? (b) What are the boundaries between oversight vs. delegation? When is each practiced?

13. Should the Fellowship have more direct influence in the selection of Class A trustees, corporate directors, and General Service trustees? If yes, how might that be accomplished?

*Leadership*

1. How well is the Third Legacy Procedure serving us? How could it be improved?

I think we have several very interesting topics this year that require our consideration. I hope to see a good turnout for the Pre-GSC Workshop held on April 11th at Lord of Life in Elburn. There are few items I would really like to hear what our fellowship thinks about. One of these is the Finance Committees item regarding translation of Conference material into French and Spanish. This item potentially carries a price tag anywhere from \$80,000 to \$320,000 per year. As it was stated in last year's recommendation; "Because all Conference members are considered equal, all members should have equal access to Conference material..." I know how difficult it has been to get Spanish translated material for our two Districts.

### **General Service Office (GSO) Staff Update**

Several changes are going on at the office. As I reported previously, Phyllis H. the GSO General Manager has announced her retirement effective in October. If you have an interest in knowing the requirements for the position please let me know and I will forward them to you. Also, the new IT manager has been hired, Cynthia G. and has a myriad of projects to fill her time.

### **General Service Board (GSB) Reports from the February Board Meeting**

As always the board reports are both fascinating and challenging. Some of it still seems to go over my head at times, but more and more of it makes sense now. As always I will send it out now that we've met.

One of the items under the Trustees Nominating Committee is regarding what to do for unexpected vacancies for trustees. Some of you may recall that I reported last year that one of the Canadian trustees passed away and was not replaced. The new verbiage clarifies the timing of responses needed by the Areas in the Region.

The State of New York made changes to the laws governing non-profit business. This required special meetings of both the AA World Services (AAWS) Board and the Grapevine Board. I should have more information regarding these changes after the Conference.

*General Service Office (GSO):*

*2014 results:*

Gross sales = \$17,128,000 (14% higher than budgeted)

Gross Profit from literature = \$9,894,00 (less than budgeted)

Contributions = \$6,898,100 (less than budgeted)

On-line contributions were \$379,500 and are expected to grow in the overall percentage

Total expenses = \$15,415,800 (less than budgeted but more than 2013)

*2015 Budget:*

Budget sales = \$14,570,000

Budget contributions = \$7,000,000

Budgeted expenses = \$16,440,025

*Grapevine:*

*2014 results:*

Average printed circulation = 74,000 (2013 = 77,126 & 2012 = 83,258)

Average on-line circulation = 5,262 (2013 = 5,175 & 2012 = 5,535)

Total gross profit (magazine) = \$1,529,063 (greater than budgeted)

Total gross profit (other) = \$509,303 (less than budgeted)

Total costs & expenses = \$1,719,637 (less than budgeted)

Donation to the Reserve Fund = \$260,000

*2015 Budget:*

Average printed circulation = 69,632

Average on-line circulation = 5,368

Budget profit = \$1,432,614

Budget costs & expense = \$1,961,233

Projected loss = \$14,606

*La Vina:*

*2014 results:*

Average printed circulation = 10,380 (2013 = 10,145 & 2012 = 9,157)

Total gross profit (magazine & other) = \$59,447

Total costs & expenses \$201,804

Shortfall from operations = \$132,026 (2013 = \$142,544)

*2015 Budget:*

Budget profit = \$56,973

Budget costs & expense = \$225,728

Shortfall = \$159,457 (to come out of the General Fund)

*Reserve Fund:*

2013 balance = \$14,094,966

The GSB recommended a motion to transfer \$1,500,00 from the Reserve Fund to the Pension Plan. An additional \$1,695,480 was also transferred to the Pension Plan from the operating Corporations. The Pension Fund remains a challenge to fund.

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

On the off chance you haven't already heard, AA throws a really big event every five years. We descend by the thousands on a city in the US or Canada for a weekend of fellowship and recovery. And I do mean thousands... like about 40,000 to 50,000.

This year we will be gathering in Atlanta on the July 4th weekend. The East Central Region (ECR) is hosting a hospitality room at the Omni Hotel in the downtown area. We are looking for volunteers to come and be available to talk to whoever wanders by. I have given sign-up sheets to the DCMs and asked that they coordinate volunteers in each District. I have a few with me today if you would like to sign-up directly with me. The effort is being coordinated by Dennis M., Panel 63 Delegate from Ohio, Area 33.

Approximately 34,000 people have registered so far, and over 400 are deaf members. There were between 1,500 and 1,800 AA's attending the Volunteer Kickoff Meeting. They are gathering names for 4,000 members needed to be greeters. This effort is being led by the local Host Committee in Atlanta.

One of the questions that comes up with any conference, including this one today, is about why we need to pay to attend. Here's the question and response for the International:

Q: Must everyone register? I thought I didn't have to pay to go to an AA event.

A: Yes. Everyone must register. Attendance at this special celebration is voluntary and, as responsible AA members, "we pay our own way." The International Convention is paid for by those AAs who participate in it.

### **Upcoming Events**

The East Central Regional Forum will be held November 13-15 at the Crown Plaza Milwaukee Airport hotel. This is a chance for AA members to have access to General Service Board (GSB) along with Directors from the General Service Office (GSO) and the AA Grapevine. Forums offer the opportunity for AA members to ask questions of these our "special workers" of our service structure. There is no registration fee for this event. And it's probably the closest Forum we will have until one is in our Area or Chicago. So please consider attending. Flyers have been given to the DCMs and I've asked one to be placed on our web site.

Please remember to attend the NIA 20 Pre-General Service Conference Workshop on April 11th at

Add: Opening for non-trustee appointed committee member for committee on Literature.

Questions: John C, Panel 58 Area 20 - AAWWS just reported a large shortfall on the 75<sup>th</sup> edition; reported they had to write off \$825,000. Will you ask the General Service Conference for a full accounting of that grievous mistake? Cheryl - the write off has been explained as a financial practice. As a not for profit, want to keep close to not making money; when you carry inventory that shows as a Financial write off and sales will be accumulated this year. Written off to now show as in inventory.

### **Website Orientation**, presented by John C

Discussed the NIA website

Only post flyers on our website for NIA groups registered with GSO

Anonymity protected reports

Encourage you to explore the website

webmaster@aa.nia.org

### **Conference Reports**

1. 2015 Spring Conference – no report

2. 2015 Big Book Conference – Ed R, co-chair for 2015 BB conference; locked in a location; October 24 at Countryside Church Unitarian; plenty of parking; secured 2 speakers Dick C and Lisa L from MN; Panels are moving along fine. Catering and other items are moving forward; early bird flyers are here and we will gladly take your money today; flyer will be on website shortly.

3. 2016 Spring Conference, Jesse N; have a conference chair who is unable to be here today; co-chair just walked in; Anissa M, reported the hotel contract is being finalized; the conference will be held April 1-2 at Holiday Inn Rock Island.

4. Bids for the 2016 State Conference – Carol H reported three districts (10, 11, and 28) are willing to collectively submit a bid. Intend to continue efforts to secure a hotel; planning for August 19-21, 2015. Proposed location is the Westin NS in Wheeling; Anticipate \$55 fee for conference and banquet.

Questions: Rich H - was food and beverage minimum discussed? Carol – we had preliminary discussions; want to know we have the support of the assembly to proceed. Contacted advisory committee; they have provided support documents and are going to review our bid.

Robert asked if any other districts that want to submit a bid for 2016 State Conference; there were none. A vote was taken to accept the bid; bid was accepted.

Election of Vacant Service Committee Positions:

Alternate PI, Tracy F, former DCM of D71 and co-chair 2011 NIA Big Book Conference was elected as Alt Public Information Chair

Alternate CPC,

Joe S, we might refer to it as service work but this is really a service privilege. I've had some family changes and don't want to leave this position. Some of you are qualified to stand for this position; it's only 8 months commitment to the end of my term.

Alternate Treatment Facilities, no volunteers

Robert asked all to please discuss these open positions at District and group levels.

Presentation of 2015 Appointees; NIA chair is responsible for appointment to people to committees. I have emailed out the list of the appointees.

### **New Business**

1. Wording for BTG Committee; Rich H, presented the proposed wording for inclusion in the Area 20 Service Handbook; unanimously approved.

2. Motion by BTG Committee to fund representation at BTG Workshop. Presented by Rich H, for inclusion in the PPB

Questions: Heather S - is there going to be a further motion to fund workshops around the area? Robert S - that already exists in the guidelines.

Discussion: Larry S, past delegate – no issue with this motion but would like to see expected guidelines and authority. I think it means BTG chair can appoint any 2 people to attend the conference; think it needs to be clarified. Rich H - those of us who wrote it understand it; we have BTG Chair and Alternate. I shouldn't say we're expected to go to this event. Robert - it's Treasurers responsibility to decide whether an item gets reimbursed; Janet? Janet - yes, it is clear. Jeff G - Larry brought up a good point; in terms of this being a PPB item and we just approved the wording that's going into the guidelines. Understand PPB items are to be driven by the guidelines; I don't see anything that ties this item to the guidelines. Robert - guidelines were based on the motion that was represented at the winter assembly; this is a separate motion that would become a guideline if this was passed. It would be a revision to the guidelines.

Robert, since this is becoming part of guidelines vote requires substantial unanimity, meaning a 2/3 vote

Those in favor of passing this motion: 100

Those opposed: 0

Robert - in my experiences we have accepted floor motions in the past as long as the assembly approves this. Prior to setting the agenda, got the wording so the motions were part of preliminary and final agenda so that you would have the opportunity to read this ahead of time.

## **Floor Motions**

1) Motion by Delegate to fund \$375 for use in the ECR hospitality room at International Conference in Atlanta; Cheryl V presented: two years ago at ECR conference past and present we voted to host a hospitality room; as long as I've been delegate I've reported to you we were going to host a hospitality room; presenting as I was requested to do as soon as possible.

Questions: John C - I ask that this motion not be considered based on the fact groups have not been informed in a timely manner. Carol H - how did you arrive at that figure? Cheryl - using historic information – thinking there won't be a lot of traffic. 14 Areas, some not as well funded as NIA; wanted something the areas could equally share  
Chrissy - in regards to John's question, did you not have enough time to go back to the groups? Cheryl - sense that I left ECR is that they wanted to know as soon as they could. Expressed we should wait and go through the committee process and they wanted an answer sooner.

Dan L - who's paying for room? Cheryl - every region that wants a hospitality room is given a comp room; gentleman from Detroit is booking room. No cost of hospitality room.

Discussion: none

Robert, PPM motion will required a 2/3 vote:

Vote taken:

In favor of supporting motion: 94

Opposed: 14

87% in favor

Minority opinion: none

Motion passes

2) Motion by Delegate to fund 1,200 copies of *How To Find AA in Northern Illinois* and create display for CDR hospitality room at the International Conference, Cheryl V, presented. Would like to make a display board and print 1,200 copies of *How To Find AA in Northern Illinois*. No idea on cost

Rob M - cost to print 500 was \$100

Scott - promote the website; Cheryl - website is on the *How to Find...* pamphlet

Dan L - can we do a friendly amendment to also add in business cards that include the website and general phone numbers? Cheryl V - I am amendable to that amendment because it seemed friendly

Mike B, since 500 = \$100 why only 1,200 then? Cheryl - I'd be happy to take more.

John C - to this body, approving \$3,375 in funds with \$202 in our bank account. Are we being financially prudent today?

Cheryl V, we don't have to spend anything until July, and if we don't have the funds, I just don't take them.

Janet N – the (treasurer) report that I gave is as of Feb 28; right now we have \$3,000

Rich H - any type of info specific to NIA 20 that they would like to see? Will you communicate with committee chairs to see fit there is something that would be good to have? Cheryl V - if assembly approves \$1,000 I'm more than happy to work with any committee; happy to take anything that says AA in NIA.

Robert - would you consider withdrawing and bringing up at committee meeting to have more discussion? Cheryl - I would like to withdraw and bring to the committee meeting

Did not vote on hearing 3<sup>rd</sup> motion;

Rich - would you consider the standing committee reports? Robert, I would love to

Cheryl made a motion to hear the floor motion

Dan L, seconds the motion

Barbara H, DCM D21, are we allowed to know what the motion is so we can decide whether we want to hear it? Robert - yes

Nate B, presented information regarding a request for an NIA letter of support for ICYPAA

Vote is whether we hear the motion or not:

In favor of hearing the motion: 88

Opposed to hearing the motion: 4

3) Motion by Nate B regarding letter of support for ICYPAA.

Heather S, seconds the motion.

Questions: Cheryl - concern NIA would need to ensure there were no events 30 days before or after the event; best you could do is either July or November; is it really true we can't do anything 30 days before or after? Nate – bidding requirement is there are no large scale events in the area; 2016 conference is in Florida;

Rob M - without this endorsement you wouldn't be able to put the bid together? Nate, no we could put a bid together, but this is a "cherry"

Carol H - clarify that this is for bidding for 2017 and written statement is in 2016. Nate - proposed conference is in 2016. Bid presented in 2015 to be held in 2016. Robert - will the conference take into consideration that we are hosting the state conference?

John C - can you sit with our Delegate, craft a letter, and bring to committee to endorse that letter with specifics which we could then approve at the assembly?

Robert - Nate, will you consider presenting us with the actual letter? Nate - yes, I withdraw the motion

Robert, if we pass this motion, means Nate or a represented person will need to sit down with Cheryl to craft a letter.

### **Officer Reports**

**Alternate Delegate**, Kelly reported, since the last assembly I attended the 2015 Conference of Delegates Past in Present that was hosted by Area 32 in Michigan which is one of the Areas in our Region, East Central Region, making it the third time at the conference. It was the second year of being able to set in with the panel 64 and 65 Delegates while they prepare for the mock agenda item.

Cheryl, Marilyn, Robert and I held a Service workshop in Freeport for districts, 70, 71, 72 & 73. There were presentations on the general service structure, the role of the GSR, service committees and a Pre-General Conference presentation. There were 31 in attendance with many questions and comments.

The workshops fall under the primary purpose basic motion PPB5; it is a motion dealing with the alternate delegate hosting roughly eight Service Orientation workshops within the districts. I am looking forward to being able to use all eight, or close to it this year. Please let me know what you would like to have presented and I will work on getting the appropriate members there. It would be nice to combine the workshops with Cheryl's post GSC report.

I spent many hours printing agendas, labels, stuffing and mailing of a total of 78 packages for the Pre-General Service Workshop on April 11, 2015 at which time we will be informing Cheryl of our recommendations. I sent out all the Delegate Quarterly Contribution Reports to all the DCMs and their alternates. I am also participating in a panel after lunch today.

**Chair**, Robert reported, since our last assembly I have:

- Attended the Conference of Delegates Past and Present
- Met with Delegates and Chairs from all three Illinois Areas regarding the 2015 State Conference
- Participated in a Service Workshop hosted by Districts 70, 71 and 72
- Worked on finalizing the area appointed positions to present today
- Put together the agenda for the Winter Committee Meeting as well as today's meeting
- Participated in the ISCYPAA Conference the past weekend in Lombard speaking on Anonymity in the Digital Age
- Will be participating on a panel later this afternoon on Introducing the Newcomer to A.A.

As we move into the second year, of this rotation, I must say that it has truly been a pleasure to serve the Area as your chair and I look forward to this year.



**Alternate Chair**, Marilyn reported, since the last Assembly held on 12/13/2014 I have attended the following:

- 12/14/2014 – 2015 Big Book Conference Planning meeting
- 12/21/2014 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting (South Elgin)
- 01/11/2015 – 2016 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting (Moline)
- 01/11/2015 – 2015 Big Book Conference Planning meeting – unable to attend (Robert S. attended on my behalf.
- 01/18/2015 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting (South Elgin)
- 01/24/2015 – Winter Committee Meeting
- 02/08/2015 – 2016 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting (Galesburg)
- 02/08/2015 – 2015 Big Book Conference Planning meeting – unable to attend (Bob P. attended on my behalf.
- 02/09/2015 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference – Program meeting at Joe L.’s house.
- 02/15/2015 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference (South Elgin)
- 03/08/2015 – 2016 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting (Milan)
- 03/08/2015 – 2015 Big Book Conference Planning meeting – unable to attend (Bob P. attended on my behalf.
- 03/14/2015 – General Service Workshop (Freeport, D70, 71, 72 & 73)
- 03/22/2015 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference final walk-through at Pheasant Run Resort

**Secretary**, Nicole E reminded those presenting to submit a written report for inclusion in the meeting minutes.

**Alt Treasurer**, Judd reported:

Date deposited	(All)
Row Labels	Sum of Contribution amount
Group contribution	\$9,556.96
(blank)	
Pink Can contribution	\$1,433.50
District contribution	\$3,236.12
Remember November contribution	\$819.07
Conference contribution, seed money	\$3,000.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$18,045.65</b>

**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.

**New e-mail address for the Area Registrar:** [registrar@aa-nia.org](mailto:registrar@aa-nia.org).

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

***Information updates since 01/09/15***

Requests input between 01/09/15 and 03/20/15

<b>Total Since 01/09/2015</b>	
Group information	34
New groups/Pending Active	10
Folded/Inactive/Unknown	4
Group contact information	5
District/Individual contacts	12
Area contacts	1
<b>Total updates</b>	<b>66</b>

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

### **Service Committee Chair Reports**

**Answering Service**, Terry B and Rob M reported, today we are hoping to have a nice turn-out for a break away session with the district chairs. All the district answering services have been called, the chairs have been e-mailed and called. This is simply to get an idea on how the districts feel it's going, and where or if we can improve, save money, get THEIR ideas, etc. Let's pray for a good turn out. Robert and I are continuing to work on our "How To Find A.A. In Illinois" Northern Illinois Area 20 map.

**Archives**, no report

**Archivist**, no report

**Bridging The Gap**, no report

**Concepts**, no report

**Corrections**, Dan L reported, it has been a busy year and we are only three months into it. The corrections committee hosted a workshop in DuPage County. We have provided over \$4000 of literature to different districts for jails, prisons, and transitional centers. I think the best news is the headway made to get AA back into the Kendall County Jail.

At the end of February a very successful workshop was held in Wheaton, IL, with an attendance of about 50 or so. It featured speakers from DuPage JUST (the volunteer arm for DuPage County Jail), our friends from Area 19, and a speaker addressing Bridging the Gap for corrections. Attendees had the opportunity to get and complete applications / security clearance packets to be able to take meetings behind the walls. They also could fill out requests to become a pen pal with an inmate in both Cook County Jail and through GSO for inmates from around the country. There was approximately a couple of dozen pen pal forms submitted. Those who came were serious about corrections work and I look forward to helping them carry the message to the suffering alcoholic inmate.

I continually receive requests for literature. PLEASE PASS THE PINK CAN COLLECTION AT MEETINGS! This is how literature is purchased for inmates and the money has run out. It is essential to get literature into the hands of inmates to help them stay sober from both drink and stinking thinking.

The ice has been broken and the Commander of Kendall County Jail is willing to meet and try to get meetings and/or literature back into the facility. It has been about 8 years in the making. I cannot wait to bring the message to those inmates!

**Electronic Equipment Committee**, no report

**CPC**, no report

**Grapevine**, no report

**Literature**, no report

**PI**, no report

**Report & Charter**, Bill E reported, the Report and Charter Committee reviews and offers motions to revise N.I.A. documents. The committee will also review Assembly approved revisions to N.I.A. documents to assess the impact on related documents and offer motions to make additional revisions as needed.

Following direction from the Fall and Winter Committee Meetings, the Report and Charter Committee is undertaking review of the N.I.A. Service Handbook (unabridged version).

The Service Handbook is a compilation quoted articles from the G.S.O. Handbook, various other literature from the General Service Office and sections written by N.I.A. members and committees. The Report and Charter Committee has been meeting on the first Saturday of the month to read, discuss, organize, and edit, if deemed necessary, page by page,

section by section, chapter by chapter. The goal is to provide the Northern Illinois Area with a single Service Handbook. The committee estimates this process could take us into the Winter Committee Meeting and Assembly before we can present a revised Service Handbook recommendations to Northern Illinois Area 20 for approval.

The Report and Charter Committee will consider suggestions from NIA 20 members or committees regarding organization or content of the Handbook.

**Special Needs**, no report

**Treatment Facilities**, no report

**Web Administrator**, no report

### **Open Mic**

Following open mic, Dan made a motion to close the meeting

Chuck D, second

Meeting adjourned