BRIDGING THE GAP REPORT 2015 SPRING ASSEMBLY

Good morning fellow AA Members

It has been an honor to have been asked to stand for this position by members of the Bridging the Gap Committee, and then to be elected by all of you to serve. In my experiences of chairing committees in the past, I had felt that I was the go to guy, and being the person with experience. With this committee, that is not the case. I am very well aware of the need and the mechanics of this committee. But I am definitely soaring with eagles in regards to the members of this committee. The members of this committee possess a great amount of knowledge, experience and desire to make this work. And I am learning from them as I go.

On the weekend of Feb. 27 – March 1, I was at the West Central Regional Service Conference in Norfolk Nebraska. Where I had a busy and full weekend, but in regards to this report I sat in Breakout Sessions for Treatment and Corrections and talked to people doing that work.

March 7, attended Common Solutions Workshop, Hosted by Spanish District 20 and Elgin ISCYPAA Bid Committee.

March 11, along with 2 good friends that I participate in AA locally with, did a Bridging The Gap Meeting at an outpatient treatment facility in McHenry.

March 14, AA talk Elgin Alano Club Banquet, And got to talk to people afterwards About Bridging the Gap, Treatment, and Corrections work.

March 20, Along with Carol H. did a Bridging the Gap presentation at District 61 Business Meeting in Geneva

March 21, spent the day at the ISCYPAA Conference in Lombard. Where I observed there interesting bid process to decide which bid committee will host the following years conference. I also talked to members of that group about individual involvement in our Area 20 Service Structure and participation in joining our committee to host the 2016 Illinois State Conference. I was happy to see that as a local (local to me) bid committee they were putting efforts to bring meetings into local treatment facilities.

I responded to two separate requests from a local in-patient facility, giving them phone numbers for the local area that residents would be returning home to.

I responded to two requests from the General Service Office to contact local individuals. These were already members, looking for a way to be involved.

We hope that as the BTG Committee we will find time convenient to all so we can gather and talk this weekend at the Spring Conference.

I forgot how much fun it is to chair an active Service Committee. Thank you to all involved

Rich H. Area 20 Bridging the Gap Chair