

**Area Registrar
PO Box 524
Crystal Lake, IL 60039-0524**



**2021 Report from the Panel 70 NIA Registrar
Summer Committee Meeting – August 14, 2021**

Welcome to the Summer Committee Meeting!

You will be receiving two reports today, the report from the Summer Assembly and today's Summer Committee Meeting report. Please share these with you General Service Representatives (GSR's) in your districts. The summer has gone quickly with hardly a moment of relief. In the past month I attended another sharing session held by Group Services. The main purpose of the sharing session was to introduce a new option that will be available through Fellowship Connection (FC), the GSO database that houses all the data of groups and meeting listed throughout the United States and Canada.

As you may recall, FC replaced the previous database called Fellowship New Vision (FNV) and has only become available for Area Registrars to utilize since the end of January 2021. Up until that point all group changes and new group forms were sent to GSO, and they entered the information and provided monthly reports for us to distribute. In the past couple months GSO has made FC available for our Area Delegate and District Committee Member (DCM) for read-only access. If you are a DCM that has not had the opportunity to go into FC and see what is available, please contact me and I will go through that process with you.

The newest upgrade in FC is an option to upload bulk group changes. This is helpful for areas that utilize a separate database such as Microsoft Access, Airtable or other software packages that maintain and manage data. Groups have the option to send their "New Group" or Group Change" forms to the records department at GSO with one data dump. However, it would have to be in the current FC format and mirror their data fields exactly. My experience has been whenever a group or district sends the forms to the records department directly, the group ends up in an unknown district and therefore never gets recognized as a group.

They are asking if you are a new GSR or Group and would like an new GSR or Group packet to let the records department know if you would prefer a digital package instead of a paper package. You can also access them on the aa.org website.

The best way to get changes made for your group or if you want to register a new group is to send it to registrar@aa-nia.org. If your group or meeting changes the format from a face-to-face meeting or a virtual meeting either way, you DO NOT NEED TO REPORT THESE CHANGES. Once your group has a number, the records department will only update location or contact information changes.

At the 71st General Service Conference, an advisory resulted which would allow virtual or online groups to register with their respective area and district. The GSO is working on revising the forms so that this option is available and clearly identified when submitting information. The only requirement is that the group or meeting have a local street address and email address for

either the contact or GSR. The GSO will not keep track of group or meeting information such as day of the week, time of the meeting or virtual access (Meeting ID or Passcode) . That information is maintained at the area and or district level and the Meeting Guide App is fed by the area, district or intergroup.

Please note, every group MUST HAVE at least a mail contact. If a group loses their General Service Representative (GSR), they need someone to replace them as a mail contact if there is not one already listed for that group. If you are not sure, please ask your DCM to check in Fellowship Connection, or contact the registrar.

If you have changes and updates to district service positions, please continue to forward to registrar@aa-nia.org.

Remember all forms can also be found on the aa-nia.org website. <http://aa-nia.org/group-forms/>. ***All communication of changes and updates should be sent to the registrar@aa-nia.org mailbox or mailed to Area Registrar, PO Box 524, Crystal Lake, IL 60039-0524.*** Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol H., NIA Registrar – Panel 70
registrar@aa-nia.org