

**2023 Winter Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Saturday, January 21, 2023**  
**Lord of Life Church in Elburn, IL and Online Audio / Video Meeting via Zoom**

**Meeting Opening**

Area Chair, Rob M., called the meeting to order at 9:00am. The group participated in a quiet time followed by the Serenity Prayer. Rob made the meeting announcements.

**First Time Attendees**

Bill, D42, Free Breathers Group  
Jeff, D10, Bridge the Gap Chair  
Jennifer, D10 GSR Alternate, Maggie's Meeting  
?, D73, DCM Alternate and GSR New Beginnings  
Sean M., D10 Archives  
Kathy, GSR, Maggie's Meeting  
Steve, D52 DCM

**Anniversaries:**

Bonnie, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>, 10 years  
Dave, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>, 6 years  
Erik L., Dec, 12<sup>th</sup>, 35 years  
George, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>, 42 years  
Sid, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>, 12 years  
Dan, Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>, 29 years

**Approval of Fall Committee Minutes**

A member made the motion to approve the October 8, 2022, Fall Committee Meeting minutes and a member seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Meeting Business**

**Delegate's Report – Chris D.**

# Northern Illinois Area 20

Unity - Service - Recovery

January 20, 2023

## 2023 Winter Committee Meeting

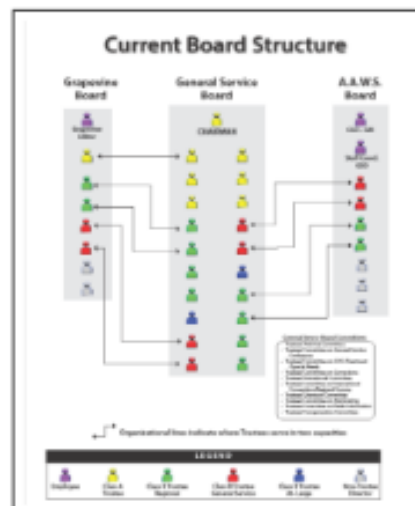
### Delegate's Report

As we start a new year, I would like to thank you once again for your continued support and for allowing me to serve as your Delegate to the General Service Conference. Additionally, a warm welcome to all the new incoming (and returning) DCM's, Standing Committee Chairs and GSR's. We certainly are glad you are all here today and we appreciate your service!! I said last year in this report that my primary goal would be to keep the fellowship informed on matters that came before me which you needed to be kept informed on, and for which your input was needed, and I will strive to continue that goal this year as well. As in my previous reports to this body, this document (when viewed digitally) contains several hyperlinks to documents that contain additional information.

### General Service Conference

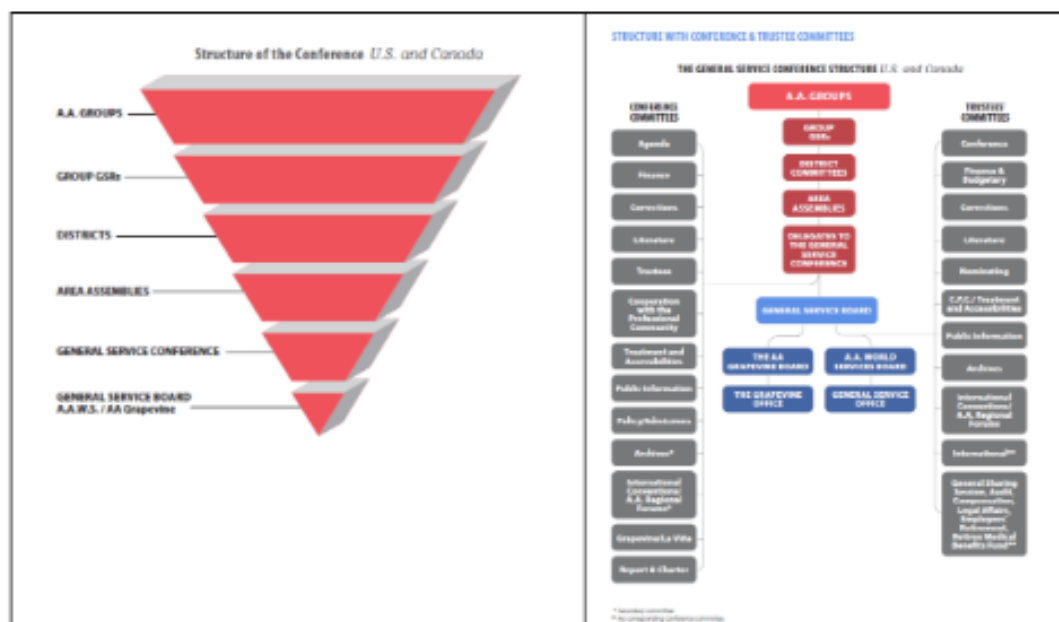
There is much activity already underway by the Trustees of the General Service Board, the Staff of the General Service Office as well as by the Delegates. I have been given access to the conference dashboard which is a sort of document repository for members of the documents below.

- [2023 Letter to Area Treasurers from CFO](#) – This document details the projected costs of the upcoming GSC and contains a request for Area treasurers to submit a preliminary payment for upcoming Delegate's fee. I have already forwarded this to Allen.
- [07-F-15 GSO Staff Assignment Sheet \(November 2022\)](#) – This is a roster of the staff members at GSO along with their current assignment and email information.
- [06. 2023 Trustee-Director brief bios \(AP\)](#) – This is an anonymity protected document that has brief biographies of the Trustee and Non-Trustee members of the General Service Board and two corporate boards of Alcoholics Anonymous. **These are the folks who make AA work in New York!!**



- Preliminary List of Agenda Items (PAIs)– This is the current list of proposed agenda items along with each items' status as of 1/13/23. These proposed items are not the final agenda items. These proposed items will be reviewed by trustees' committees, who may forward them to a Conference committee, keep them at the Board level for additional background and consideration, or route them to the A.A.W.S. or Grapevine Boards. The final list of Conference committee agenda items will be available around February 15, 2023, following the January General Service Board meeting (see below). By my count there are currently 68 agenda items being considered by the Trustees committees.

I mentioned above that the final items are decided on by the Trustees at the January Board Meeting which takes place from Jan 27-30 in New York. As a Conference Committee Chairperson (Archives Committee) I will be attending this Board weekend in New York and will be able sit in on the various Trustees meetings and be a witness as to how our fellowship functions at the very lowest level of our inverted service triangle!!



### Panel distinction-

Since I was elected and attended my first General Service Conference last year, (at the 72<sup>nd</sup> GSC), I am referred to as a Panel 72 Delegate. The new Delegates from across the country that were recently elected and will be attending their first conference this year are referred to as Panel 73 Delegates. Both Panel 72 AND Panel 73 Delegates will attend the Conference this year. As such, all the new Panel 73 Delegates have been given their conference committee assignments and I have received new rosters for my two committees (Finance & Archives) that contain the new Panel 73 Delegates. The first Archives Committee call is scheduled for tomorrow!! Speaking of new Panel 73 delegates, I have also been assigned as a conference buddy to the new Panel 73 Delegate from Area 73 West Virginia. That makes him a P73/A73!!

Many other additional details for the conference are already underway and I'm currently in the process of firming up my travel plans and hotel reservations and procuring "mementos".

### **Pre-General Service Conference Workshop**

As we have done for the past 3 years, Area 20 will be scheduling virtual committee breakout meetings towards the end of March to discuss the agenda items. The background material for these meetings will be distributed electronically in the same manner as the last few years (via a drop box or Goggle Drive link). I am willing to visit Districts ahead of the Conference to discuss the process so please let me know if that's something your District would like.

**Quarterly Reports from GSO** This link is for the most recent version of the GSO Quarterly Reports and details recent activities of the General Service Board including A.A World Services, Inc. (AAWS), and AA Grapevine, Inc. The report contains activities from the following committees-

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| • General Service Board Meeting               | • Finance                 |
| • Conference                                  | • GSO Financial Results   |
| • Cooperation with the Professional Community | • Corrections             |
| • Treatment                                   | • Archives                |
| • Public Information                          | • General Sharing Session |
| • Literature                                  | • Nominating              |
|   | • International           |

**Finance** - Please see the December 11, 2022 Assembly [report](#) for specific 2022 financial details.

### **Upcoming Events**

- ECR Conference of Delegates Past & Present – Columbus, OH Feb 10-12th 2023 – hosted by Area 53
- Spring Assembly
- AI-Anon Illinois State Conference (October 2023)

Respectfully submitted-

Chris D.  
Delegate Panel 72/Area 20

\*\*I incurred an additional \$52.80 in additional 2022 expenses in December 2022 bringing the total 2022 expense to \$2090.57. There have been no expenses incurred yet in 2023.

## Treasurer's Report – Allen J.

Northern Illinois Area, Ltd.  
PO Box 808  
Streamwood, IL 60107-2971

Northern Illinois Area 20  
Unity - Service - Recovery

### 2023 Report from the Panel 72 NIA Treasurer NIA 2023 NIA Winter Committee Meeting, January 21, 2023

Attached is of the usual Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Statements for both 2022 and 2023 from QuickBooks, and the 2023 PPR. Below is a brief summary of the main accounts.

Account	2022 Amount	2022 Amount	2023 Amount	2023 Amount
Checking		\$ 47,030.55		\$ 53,833.88
Green Can (restricted)	\$ 1,214.62		\$ 1,214.62	
Pink Can (restricted)	\$ 4,414.90		\$ 4,529.89	
Total restricted		\$ 5,629.528		\$ 5,744.51
Net Checking		\$ 52,660.07		\$ 59,578.39
Prudent Reserve	(0.3 X \$58,400.00) + Interest	\$ 17,523.97	(0.3 X \$70,565.00) + Interest	\$ 21,169.22
Total		\$ 70,184.04		\$ 80,747.61
	Sum Contribution	\$ 55,240.274	Sum Contribution	\$ 7,418.32
Interest		\$ 3.35		
Net Income (YTD)	Sum Income	\$ 55,236.92	Sum Income	\$ 7,418.32
Net Expenses (YTD)	Sum Expenses (per PPR)	\$ 53,341.93	Sum Expenses (per PPR)	\$ 784.98
Net (YTD)		\$ 1,894.99		\$ 6,633.34

#### Notes:

- We did receive a contribution from the 2022 Illinois Al-Anon State Convention. Their conference guideline states that they share excess funds with the three AA Illinois delegate areas. Likewise our state and spring conference have similar clauses. So I deposited the check.
- The contribution spreadsheet has been updated to use the 9-digit "Fellowship Connect" ID. The thank you letters will include both the FC ID# and the older 6-digit FNV #. However, the contributions report will only have the FC ID#.
- We currently have two checking accounts for our conferences. I would like to open a third account so the next spring conference can be up and running prior to the current one finishing up. I'm asking the area committee permission to do this.
- The last time we raise the mileage reimbursement was at the summer 2011 assembly (\$0.28 to \$0.40). I hope to have our 2023 finance committee look at having a motion to raise this at the summer 2023 assembly. If you feel the need to do this sooner please give our area chair a motion **now** so we can discuss it and have it on the agenda for the spring assembly.
- Please turn in your reimbursement requests in a timely fashion.

#### Miscellaneous

- If you are making a PayPal contributions please clarify if this is a Personal, Group, District, Pink Can, or Green Can contribution in the "memo area". If the contribution is from a group, please clarify group number or group name and location in the "memo area" so that we may credit the correct group. You can also follow up with an email to [treasurer@aa-nia.org](mailto:treasurer@aa-nia.org) if you missed putting in the group information. I have been reaching out via email to make sure the correct entity gets credit for the contribution.
- Clubs, please remember we cannot accept contributions from you. We WILL accept contributions from groups meeting at your clubs.
- The Crystal Lake P.O. Box has been closed with the Streamwood P.O. Box as the forwarding address. Many of the contributions sent there were for the "Pink Can", so please check your "Pink Can" label and make sure it has our current Streamwood P.O. Box. The same can be said for the "Green Can" labels.
- 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions forms can be found on the NIA website ([www.aa-nia.org](http://www.aa-nia.org)). It's on the home page or on the "Forms for Group Use" page. Please note that there is no check boxes on this form for "Pink Can" or "Green Can" contributions so you must identify them as such.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen J., NIA Treasurer – Panel 72 [treasurer@aa-nia.org](mailto:treasurer@aa-nia.org)

**Alternate Treasurer – Jeff L.** This report can be found on the website.

**Alternate Delegate – Erik L.**

Since December, has been preparing for Service Orientation Workshop. Will be attending Delegates Past and Present Conference in February and the Spring Assembly in March.

**Officer Reports:**

- **Area Chair – Rob M.**

Attended D42's meeting; I'm happy to come to any district meeting, just let me know when and where. Working on the Committee assignments which should be completed later this week. Preparing for Delegates Past and Present conference and the Spring Assembly conference. We had technical difficulties at the Winter Assembly last month; I'm working with the technology team to discuss a fix, including the possibility of hiring a third party technical provider for our committee meeting and assemblies. Will have Area Service Manuals available at next meeting.

- **Alternate Area Chair – Dawn B**

Northern Illinois Area, Ltd.  
PO Box 808  
Streamwood, IL 60107-2971



**Report from the Panel 72 NIA Alternate Chair**  
**Winter Committee, January 21, 2023**

Hello NIA,

Thank you to Lorrie and Cheryl and all of District 12 for hosting us today. I will continue to work with each Assembly or Committee meeting host District to ensure that we have what we need to carry on the business of Area 20.

Spring Conference 2023 is in our sights, and it is a pleasure working with the Daves and the committee to produce the Conference for Area 20. They are an amazing group. Please, if you haven't registered or gotten your room yet, do so soon. Post-covid, the hotel is not as flexible with food numbers as they once were. If you are only planning on attending the Assembly that weekend, please consider paying for your box lunch today, or going online to [niaspringconference.com](http://niaspringconference.com) to buy it there. They may not have the option of offering lunch to buy that day.

The work for the 2023 Big Book Conference, planned for November 4, 2023 at Lord of Life, has begun. We will be meeting on February 3<sup>rd</sup> to continue planning. The bank account has been switched over to the new committee.

We have signed the contract for Spring Conference 2024 and I'm looking forward to working with the planning committee over the next year.

Thank you to all the GSRs who showed up for our first GSR committee meeting last Thursday. It's great to be able to get to know each other and address things that are on their minds outside of Assembly breakouts.

PLEASE ask me to visit your District meeting or workshop. I'm happy to come and observe, participate in any way you need, or make the coffee.

My expenses last year were \$535.58.

On a personal note, thank you to all who helped to make the National Corrections Conference a success. I will further expand upon that in the upcoming issue of Concepts, but we were able to greatly help our incarcerated brothers and sisters in Area 21 prisons with literature when the business of the Conference was concluded.

In Service,

Dawn B.

NIA Panel 72 Alternate Chair

▪ **Registrar's Report – Chris E.**

This report includes information from the Winter Assembly as well as updates since then. We are looking for an Alternate Registrar; please see me for more information. In October, I attended a Registrar's meeting with Trish L., Trustee at Large for Canada. Attend monthly Registrar meetings and focus on virtual groups. We continue to have monthly Secretaries meetings. Alternate Tuesdays and Thursday's month to month. Will host Fellowship Connection training meeting in February. Nine districts are rotating out this year. There are 90 people in the room today and online, twice the regular number of people.



- **Secretary – Kate D.**

No report.

- **Alternate Secretary – Sue M.**

GSR business meeting lists are updated and available on table; attended January secretaries meeting; next meeting is February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm on Zoom; we meet on alternating Tuesdays and Thursdays and the meetings have different meeting IDs; refer to invitations I send out; attended area officers meeting where I learn so much from my colleagues.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **Open Elected Positions:**

- Accessibilities Chair and Alternate
- Answering Service Alternate
- Archives Chair and Alternate
- Bridge the Gap Alternate
- CPC Alternate
- Grapevine Chair and Alternate
- Literature Alternate
- Registrar Alternate
- Treatment Chair and Alternate

If interested in serving in any of these roles, please attend the Spring Area Assembly on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **SERVICE WORKSHOP – Erik L.**

Focused on fundamentals of GSRs and DCMs. Panel included Ray M., Sid B., Sarah, Aaron B.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Motion 1:**



## ILLINOIS STATE CONFERENCE MOTION #1

Panel 62 Past Delegate makes a motion to have our Area 20 Treasurer write up to 13 checks or PayPal reimbursements. One to each Area of the East Central Region that sent checks or PayPal payments, in the amount received from these Areas that they sent to help cover the loss of the \$3,000.00 East Central Regional Conference Seed Money incurred by Area 20.

BACKGROUND - There was a \$12,537.42 loss while Area 20 was hosting the 2022 Illinois State Conference/East Central Regional Conference. Which included \$3,000.00 seed money from the East Central Region. This loss obviously has nothing to do with lack of attendance and participation. The other Areas of the East Central Region play no role in this whatsoever. The only financial agreement between the Area 20 Host Committee and the East Central Region is to return the \$3,000.00 seed money to the East Central Regional Treasurer. They merely trust us with their seed money and attend if possible and upon invitation. With all the above said, they did their part, with attendance and participation on Panels as requested and should not be responsible for any financial losses incurred by Area 20. We need to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. We must return those payments covering the loss of the East Central Region Seed Money, with a kindhearted note of appreciation for their great generosity, asking them to please accept the fact that we need to do this on our own to heal and move forward with this. We as an Area, as a Group, must take responsibility for this.

### **Motion 2:**

## ILLINOIS STATE CONFERENCE MOTION #2

Panel 62 Past Delegate makes a motion to have Area 20 accept payments sent from Areas 19 and 21 to help cover losses incurred during the 2022 Illinois State Conference except the monies received to cover losses of East Central Regional Conference Seed Money which will be returned.

BACKGROUND - Area 20 has a formal agreement with Areas 19 and 21 to host the Illinois State Conference. And we should respect the Group Consciences of their Assemblies to fulfill their commitment regarding the Illinois State Conference Structure, Procedures and Planning Digest. But the loss of the East Central Regional Conference Seed Money falls outside the agreement of the Illinois State Conference Structure, Procedures and Planning Digest and should be returned.

**Motion 2 is a moot subject, as this is already the way we do business.**

### **Motion 3:**

#### **Motion to Increase the Mileage Reimbursement Allowance**

##### **Motion**

It is moved that the mileage reimbursement be increased from \$0.40 per mile to \$0.50 per mile retroactive effective to January 1, 2023.

##### **Background**

NIA last raised the reimbursement rate on June 18, 2011, from \$0.28 per mile to \$0.40 per mile.

On December 19, 2022, the IRS announced the 2023 mileage reimbursement rates. Starting on January 1, 2023, the following rates apply to personal cars, minivans, trucks, SUVs, and panel trucks:

- 14.0 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations
- 22.0 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes
- 65.5 cents per mile for business miles driven

The 2011 increase was \$0.11 less than the business reimbursement. This would make the new rate "prudent" along with being comparable to what we have historically been done.

*As stated in our Service Manual, under Cost Reimbursement Philosophy, "While the Primary Purpose finance model attempts to provide sufficient financing for all the activities of the Assembly it remains the responsibility of trusted servants to spend the Assembly's money prudently. It is expected that we as individuals will likely participate financially in our service experience. Thus Primary Purpose Register items should not be expected to cover all costs incurred during our involvement in service."*

**Motions 1 and 3 will be brought to the Spring Assembly for discussion and voting.**

**2023 Spring Assembly and Conference:** Committee meets every 2 weeks; new flyer coming out. Sign up! 52 people registered so far and 62 room nights booked. There will also be a 12 Step Workshop available during the Assembly, for those not participating in the Assembly. Must register by February 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **DCM REPORTS:**

Dave, D23 - I am happy to report that we have fully transitioned from TAS United to Google Voice and brought down the cost to \$0 a month from \$107. Our district has established a prudent reserve for the first time and now we have those funds available if ever needed. We have a new alt Secretary Ana Z and a new alt DCM Laura S. Laura S has already brought an interesting idea to the district body and asked GSRs to ask the groups what kind of workshops they would like to see in our district. I have also typed up suggested guidelines for District 23 and have presented them to the district body for review and to take to the groups in order to make changes and vote on the guidelines to put in place for the future use.

Dave, D22 and Mike, Alternate DCM: Would like to see D22 partner with D23 on workshops to generate more interest; Treatment Chair is having a hard time getting into treatment centers so Dave suggested that she drop off Grapevine magazines just to start some conversation. TAS has been a big pain for us; they wouldn't let us use the same number after cutting ties with them and they wouldn't notify callers of our new number. When we call the old number, we get a busy signal. Our secretary left the district due to moving.

Lori, D10 and Dawn, Alternate DCM: Working a lot with D12. Tri-County conference with Kenosha and Racine Counties. Spring and Fall breakfasts. Changing answering service.

Aaron, D43: Active participation at our business meetings, 40 to 50 people! Updating contacts. Preparing district for pre-GSC workshop. Outlining voting procedures. Treatment, BTG and Corrections continue to bring meetings to various populations.

Bonnie, D12 and Jessica, Alternate DCM: Working with D10 on Tri-County Conference; making rounds around district to get more participation.

Tracy, D28: Doing okay, a lot of open positions.

Steve, D70 and Jeff, Alternate DCM: New Primary Purpose Budget for 2023; flyers and obituary questions were answered promptly by GSO.

Raul, D20: 70 groups, 12 GSRs, will participate at Spring Conference, ready to host 2024 Spring Conference, need more support for introductions, September conference for Spanish Speaking AAs in Seattle, May convention (Illinois State)

Hugo, D64: Held first service workshop, full room for elections; more of our people want to get involved! Co-chairing with D20 and 21 the 2024 Spring Conference

Sarah, D21 and Debbie, Alternate DCM: Going well, co-hosting 2024 Spring Conference, busy CPC and PI chairs and alternates, Grapevine and La Vina is growing in our district, webmaster updating meeting guide

Terry, D40: Thanks to Sandy, alternate DCM; printed card distribution with QR code for meeting guide; Big Book conference participation; transitioned answering service; held Christmas party, working on DuPage County Open, working on Grapevine workshop

Ed, D91: Small but strong group; we have money that needs to be disseminated; working with Earl on putting together district website

**OPEN MICROPHONE:**

Lisa S., PI Chair: Spring conference planning

John: March 18<sup>th</sup> is Tri-County Conference (Racine, Kenosha and Lake County); \$5 registration, \$2.00 chili lunch, dinner banquet

Ted: Area 20 is hosting monthly workshop for Grapevine

Rich H.: Old Timers Brunch and Open Speaker meeting

**Meeting closed with The Responsibility Statement.**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Kate D., former Area Secretary**