

Area Assembly Inventory Notes
September 17, 2011

Group 1:

1. Is Area 40 represented by all districts in Area 40? If not, what is being tried to encourage participation by those groups or districts not yet represented?

Districts represented well at Area. Sponsor a group or district to Area.

2. Are we attracting new people to participate in the Area 40 service structure in an enthusiastic way or are we boring them? If not, what could we do to improve this?

Could increase Native American attendance by having District meetings on the reservations.

3. What has the Area Assembly done lately to bring the AA message to the attention of professionals in the communities—the physician, clergy, court, law enforcement officials, educators and others who are often the first to see alcoholics in need of help?

Ask chairs to come visit your District.

4. Are we upholding our ‘primary purpose’, to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic? What more can the area do to carry this message?

Help groups learn the best way to carry the message. Are all the reports necessary in the Area agenda? The “slower” parts of our business need to be streamlined.

Group 2:

1. Is the business of Area 40 being carried out just at assemblies, or is its business being recognized by AA groups in Area 40 the year round?

Concentrated at Area, but conducted throughout the year by pre-assemblies, Delegate reports, etc.

2. Are we attracting new people to participate in the area 40 service structure in an enthusiastic way or are we boring them? If not, what could we do to improve this?

Lead by example, enthusiasm breeds enthusiasm. Consider streamlining the Assembly agenda. Consider funding strategies to help people come to Area.

3. Mindful that holding an office is a great responsibility (...), are we choosing our Area officers with care? What could be done differently

Yes, we choose with care. Pool of willing may not be the best qualified. Consider a nominating committee to encourage the best qualified. Print nominations and qualifications in the Triangle before the Assembly.

4. Is the Area Assembly effective in communicating information between the General Service Conference and the groups?

There is communication, however, not all AA members are interested in the service structure of AA. It can help to be concise and have “information bombs” or bullet points of items, rather than a report.

Group 3:

1. Considerable expense is incurred in presenting Conference reports to the districts across Area 40 with seemingly low participation and attendance. What can we do to correct this or can our funds and efforts be spent more productively?

Have the Delegate report by dividing the state into four zones. Have the report as part of a larger “fun” function. Bring food.

2. Do we as members of the Area Assembly, come to participate?

Yes. Background information needs to be accessible on the Area website. DCM schools would be helpful. Pre-Assembly is well attended.

3. What has the Area Assembly done lately to bring the AA message to the attention of professionals in the communities—the physician, clergy, court, law enforcement officials, educators and others who are often the first to see alcoholics in need of help?

Panel luncheons work well. In Helena, the District Corrections and District Treatment committees work together and the luncheon is well attended and respected. Have the Area chairs contact the state level corrections and law, i.e., the Attorney General’s office.

Bridge the Gap needs better coordination. Have CPC chair go to the conventions of other professions.

4. Are the steps, traditions, and concepts governing our decisions and actions when we conduct business at the assembly?

Yes. Sometimes personalities come, but mostly yes.

Group 4:

1. Are we doing a good job of aiding the flow of information to all the different entities of our service structure?

GSR needs to keep the group contact information up to date. Area needs to increase information to remote or non-wired groups and individuals. Focus on certain issues instead of all issues. Try to recruit knowledgeable nominees for service positions. Orientation information to DCMs before Assembly. Bring up service as a meeting topic.

2. Is the Area Assembly attracting Alcoholics from different backgrounds? Are we seeing a good cross-section of our AA community?

Welcome new participants. Sponsor an “at-large” member to come experience the Assembly.

3. The “Triangle” is a source of considerable expense for Area 40. Is it effective in helping us to carry the message or has it outlived its usefulness. What could we do differently?

Many ask “what is the Triangle?” It is sent to 300 groups/8 times per year. Give an electronic option to groups to save Area \$. Is it on display at your group? The information we need is often in the Triangle.

4. How can Area 40 more effectively conduct its' business?

Explain acronyms to everyone. Review the format of the Assembly Agenda and update.