

MINUTES OF AREA 40 ASSEMBLY

SEPTEMBER 16 -18, 2016

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Alcoholics Anonymous Area 40
Fall Assembly, September 16 - 18, 2016, Lewistown, MT

GSR AND DCM WELCOME SESSION FRIDAY NIGHT – 8:00 – 10:00 PM

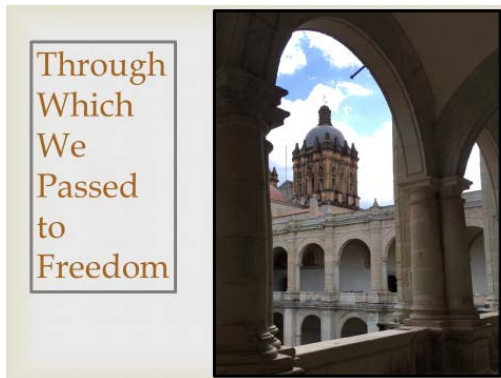
The following is the Power Point presentation given by Libbie L., Area 40 Delegate:



Welcome Everyone



Delicate Arch, Moab Utah



Santo Domingo Oaxaca, Mexico

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Next, we decided that hereafter in this drama of life, God was going to be our Director. He is the Principal; we are His agents. He is the Father, and we are His children. Most good ideas are simple, and this concept was the keystone of the new and triumphant arch through which we passed to freedom.

My sober life gave me opportunities to go to Moab, Utah and Oaxaca, Mexico this summer to see these arches.

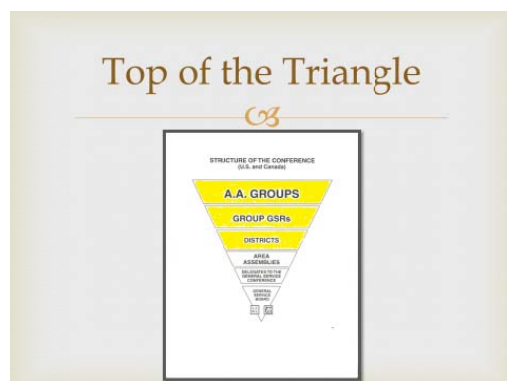
This weekend may we allow God to be our Director.



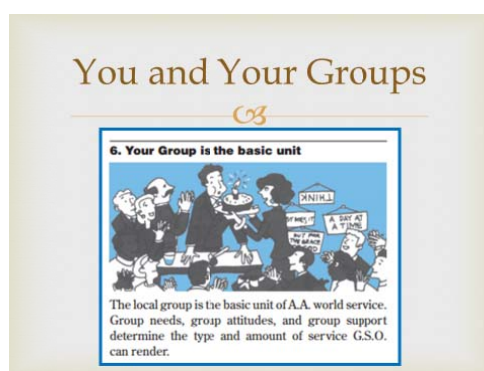
Serenity Prayer

Traditions and Concepts read

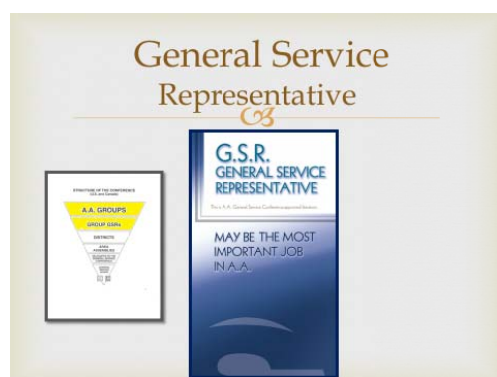
Assembly Buddies



Start with the Service Structure of the Conference for US and Canada. The infamous upside down triangle. This top of the triangle represents the largest group of participants, and that's YOU!



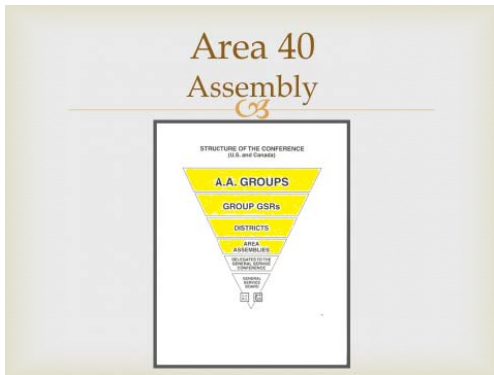
Basic Unit of AA World Service -269 listed groups currently in our Area
The communications process starts with the group, which lets is group conscience—for or against change, approval or disapproval of a proposed actions—be known to its elected general service representative (GSR)



The Group's link to General Service.
The GSR makes sure the group's wishes are heard and fully considered at the district and area levels, and that they are part of the delegate's thinking at the Conference.

Another important link to General Service.
The GSR's of the district select the district committee member (DCM) who becomes part of the area committee.





Further down the triangle we come to the Area Assemblies.
Yay! You're here! Especially if you are here for the first time, remember that you are not alone. I will go through some basics to get us better acquainted with the process.

Meet twice yearly,
Spring and fall
April and September
Often a snow storm involved



Areas are the

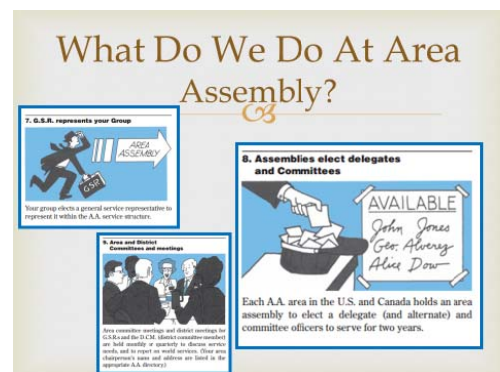
- Division of states/provinces and population centers in the US and Canada and Puerto Rico (93)

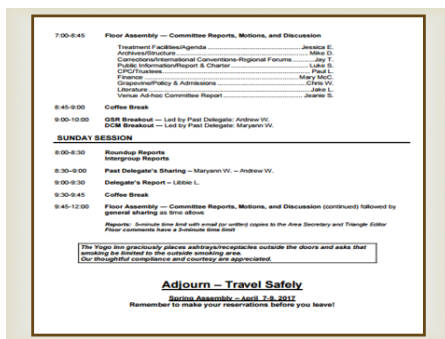
We are Area 40

Area Assembly is the

- Business meeting for the state (Area 40)

- Elect a Delegate-Met every 2 years and was originally the only reason areas assembled.
- Give the Delegate the sense of the area, especially important in the spring just prior to the GSC.
- Conduct Area Business with a prepared agenda using the committee system and Area 40 Policies and Procedures Guidelines(Available on the Website)





Floor Assembly commences.

GSR and DCM breakouts in the evening. From 9-10.

Sunday morning again promptly at 8 AM! Round up and Intergroup reports, past delegate and delegate sharing, then finish our business.

Your district is assigned and will post the new assignments for the next rotation once they are drawn before we leave on Sunday. Once again, anyone can attend and participate but only assigned people have a vote.

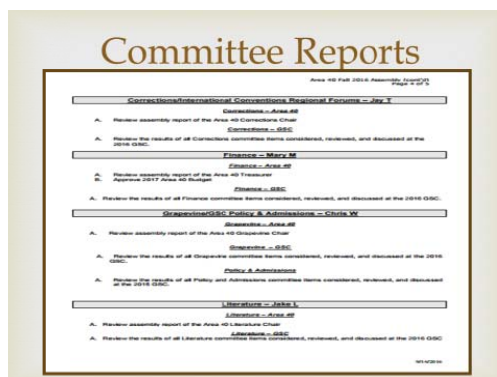


Floor Rules/etiquette

We loosely follow Robert's Rules of Orders to conduct our Business Meeting

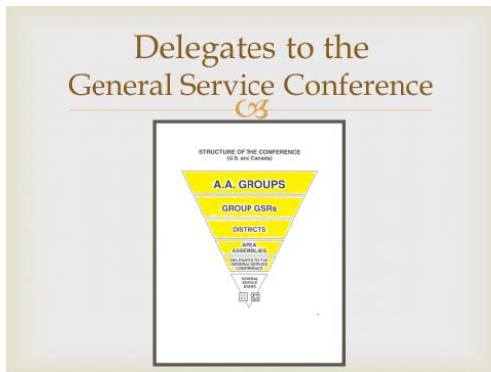
General Guidelines for the Floor Assembly

- People wishing to speak line up at the microphones and the chair will call on them in order
- Introduce yourself at the microphone each time you speak(name, service position, district)
- Each person may speak for 3 minutes, hard stop when time goes off (we have cowbells)
- Everyone who wishes to speak will have a turn before anyone may speak for a second time
- Full discussion should take place before the vote
- Everyone is entitled to, and should, express their opinion. However, if it has already been stated, it is not necessary to repeat it.
- Everyone is asked to refrain from clapping or cheering when people share, pro and con, in order to encourage and not discourage those who may have opposing opinions or facts
- Voting is by a show of hands
- Listen with an open mind



Each committee chair will report back on their Agenda and bring their recommendations to the floor and perhaps for a vote.

Will be approving next year's budget.



Even further down the triangle is the Delegate

So that's me



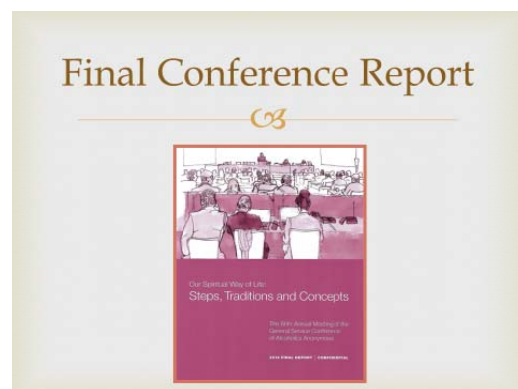
I will give a brief Delegate Report to the Floor on Sunday, but there won't be any pictures, so I thought I'd show you a few from the Conference tonight.
Stepping Stones

After the Conference, the GSR's and DCM's are responsible for making sure that group members are informed about what went on there and are made aware of the full range of Advisory Actions. (The Outcomes)

Had a great summer presenting delegate reports, and still have a few more scheduled.

Final Conference Reports are here and will be freely given to you all.

At this assembly we will have some discussion on the outcomes from the 66th GSC, especially in the committee meetings.



GSC Agenda Submission

- ☞ Deadline for GSC Agenda Submission is
December 15
- ☞ Final Agenda and Background information are available
Mid February

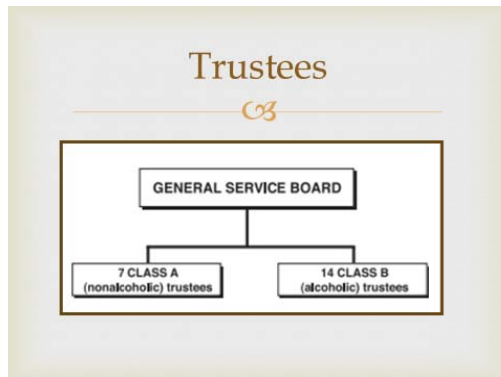
Deadline for submission for next year's conference is December 15

Our Three Boards (AAWS, Grapevine, GSB) meet quarterly. They decide the final GSC agenda at the January Board weekend.

For next spring, Area 40 distributes the Final Agenda and background material to the Area Committee and DCM's through the Delegate and the Area Chair.

Your job will be to share that with your groups and districts and bring their voice to the Assembly

Even further down this triangle we go.



The General Service Board is made up of 21 Trustees

Some Trustee Information

Our Regional Trustee is Tom A from Northern Minnesota. He was elected in April and succeeds our own Andrew W

21 Trustees

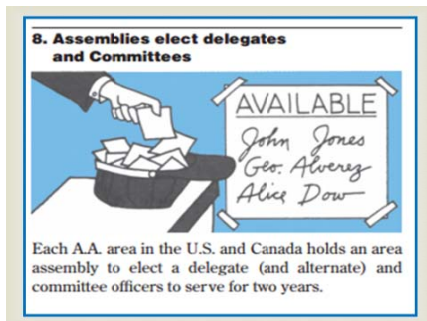
- 14 Class B Trustees
 - 8 Regional Trustees
 - 4 General Service Trustees
 - 2 Trustees At-Large(US, Canada)
- 7 Class A Trustees



At this Assembly, we will decide who will be the Area 40 Candidate. Past Delegates and past Area Chairs are eligible to stand.

Election in April. Successor to Bob W from Massachusetts No TAL has ever hailed from the WCR, there will be an agenda item at the next conference to explore how we elect this position, so look for that in the spring.

Sharon will preside over these.

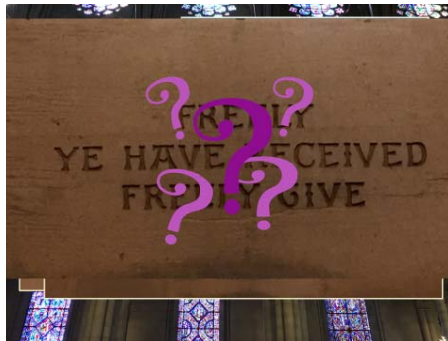


Introduce Sharon to give more details.

Riverside Church and the Inter Church building from the Hudson River and interiors.

Pg. 110 12 X 12

We can be the ones who take on the unspectacular but important tasks that makes good Twelfth Step work possible, perhaps arranging for the coffee and cake after the meetings, where so many skeptical suspicious newcomers have found confidence and comfort in the laughter and talk. This is Twelfth Step work in the very best sense of the work. "Freely ye have received; freely give..." is the core of this part of Step Twelve.



The Area Standing Committee Chairs also held a Welcome Session led by the Area Chair, Alex M., and Area Advisor, Sharon S.

SATURDAY SESSION 8:00 – 10:00 AM

The Assembly was opened at 8:04 am by Area Chair, Alex M. After some housekeeping announcements and the Serenity Prayer, the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts were read. The roll was called by Area Secretary/Registrar, Julie R.

ROLL CALL, PASSED ACTIONS OF LAST ASSEMBLY (Area Secretary, Julie R.)

AREA 40 OFFICERS		Attendance	Voting Members	Non-Voting Members
Delegate	Libbie L	X	1	
Area Chair/Alt Delegate	Alex M	X	1	
Secretary	Julie R	X	1	
Treasurer	Mary M	X	1	
Archives	Mike D	X	1	
CPC	Paul L	X	1	
Corrections	Jay T	X	1	
Grapevine	Chris W	X	1	
Literature	Jake L	X	1	
Public Information	Luke S	X	1	
Treatment	Jessica E	X	1	
Triangle Editor	Tim M	X	1	
DCM's				
11	David O	X	9	3
12	Dave R	X	2	
21	Maryann A			
23	Todd M	X	4	2
31	Lance B	X	5	1
41	Grant M	X	9	5
42	Kurt K	X	2	
51	Karen T	X	3	
61	Rebecca S	X	8	7
71	Teyrl R	X	3	2
72	Ted Osterloth	X	8	4
81	Margaret P	X	9	3
91	Kacie N (for Jeanie)	X	9	4
93	Vic M	X	8	2
Non-Voting				

Officers				
Area Advisor	Sharon S	X		1
Area Archivist	Earl F	X		1
Area Webmaster	Brandon M	X		1
TOTALS			91	36
			QUORUM =	
			61	
Past Delegate	Maryann W	X		1
TOTAL ATTENDANCE		128		

Secretary's Report – 2016 Fall Area Assembly

Good morning! And welcome to the Fall Assembly. My name is Julie and I'm alcoholic. I has been my privilege to serve as your Area Secretary and Registrar this rotation.

When I call your name, please answer "here" (Roll Call)

All DCMs should have folders with the sign-in sheets for your districts. Please return these to me at the first break so we can determine the quorum for our voting this afternoon. Also, in your folders are the Group Information sheets. I only need those sheets back if you have corrections to the information on them. If your district has elected a new DCM for the next rotation, I've included a District Change form, as well. Thank you for helping to keep this information current.

Thanks to all those who have already e-mailed their reports to me and a reminder to those who haven't to please send an e-mail copy or 2 hard copies to me before the end of the assembly. I also ask that each committee meeting, workshop and breakout session leader please appoint a recorder to provide me with the notes or minutes taken during that meeting so they can be included in the final Assembly minutes. If your committee brings a recommendation to the floor, please give me a written copy prior to presenting the motion. Reports are limited to 5 minutes and floor comments limited to 3 minutes. When the timer rings, please close your sharing...or you will get the cow bell!

On the tables in the back are two plastic "ask it baskets." Please use these for any questions you have or topics you want discussed tonight during the DCM and GSR break-out sessions. Tomorrow, please drop off your name badges in the box I'll have here to save expenses for the next assembly. Thank you! Thank you!

Lastly, here are the motions passed at the 2016 Spring Assembly:

From the Archives committee:

RECOMMENDATION:

That the "suggested agenda framework for area assembly" be modified to include the triangle Editor's report to take place Saturday morning directly following the financial Highlights. **MOTION PASSED: 92 FOR, 1 OPPOSED**

RECOMMENDATION:

That we define the scope of the Inventory Ad Hoc Committee as follows:

- plan and facilitate Area 40 Inventory
- collect and report results
- suggest items to be discussed or considered

MOTION PASSED: 88 FOR, 9 OPPOSED

RECOMMENDATION:

That we form an ad hoc committee to find another venue for the fall 2017 Assembly, and report back to the Fall 2016 Assembly. **MOTION PASSED: 100 FOR, 0 OPPOSED**

From the P.I. committee:

RECOMMENDATION:

"That the Area 40 Webmaster establish the ability to subscribe and pay for the subscription to the Area 40 Triangle Newsletter via the Area 40 website, utilizing an external link to an online payment service."

MOTION PASSED: 95 FOR, 3 OPPOSED

RECOMMENDATION:

"That Area 40 forward the following agenda item to the General Service Office, requesting that it be placed on the 2017 General Service Conference agenda: *Please consider the proposal that the short form of the "Twelve Concepts for World Service", adopted by the 1971 GSC, be revised to better reflect their description of the general principles of service work as they apply to the entire service structure of the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous*" **MOTION PASSED: 84 FOR, 5 OPPOSED**

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Julie R.
Area 40 Secretary/Registrar

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (Area Treasurer, Mary M.)



Good morning everyone, Mary Alcoholic and the Area 40 Treasurer.
Thank you for again trusting me with the Area 40 Finances. I cannot believe we are at the last assembly of this rotation. It has been an honor to be of service this rotation for area 40 finances. There are

financial statements on your tables and in the back of the room near the coffee for your review. There is also the Contribution basket on the coffee table which monies from that have helped defray some of the rising cost of these assemblies and help toward self-support to add to annual donations.

CONTRIBUTIONS EQUAL SERVICE

*From dollars in
the basket at our home groups to
donating to Intergroups,
Districts, Areas and G.S.O.
every time we give,
We are helping to carry A.A.'s message
of hope to alcoholics everywhere*

First read slide. The financial committee will be going over the 2017 proposed budget in our breakout this morning to present on the floor during area business.

Please let the financial committee and this Area Assembly know how we want to spend our contributions.

How Groups Support Area 40

- Area 40 2016 Budget = \$30,210.00
- Registered Groups in Area 40 = 269*

THEN

- \$30,210.00 / 269 Groups =
 - \$112.30 Cost per Group
 - \$5.74 Cost per Member

*from 2016 GSC Final report

How do the groups support area 40. Area cost per group is with years budget = **\$112.30 / group**. GSO's states we had 5264 members in 2015 so Cost per member is approximately **\$5.74**. **Julie shows 266 registered groups thus far for 2016**. We have approx **\$8,500** left of our budget to spend which assembly will take close to **\$5200**.

Where Are We At Financially Thru August 31

of Groups Contributing To Area
105/269= 39%

2016 \$ contributed from Groups	\$19,838.46
Total 2016 income to Area 40	\$22,214.09*
2016 Expenses thru August	\$21,097.44

INCOME FROM GROUPS ALONE is \$19,838

*Total income includes individuals, triangle subscriptions, 7th tradition, service manuals for a total of \$22,214

Total Expenses to date \$21,097

Income

Individual contribution 90.00

District 500

Hot line 180.83

Round up 550

Group Contributions 19,838.46

7th Tradition 523.80

Triangle Subscriptions 425.00

Service Manuals 106

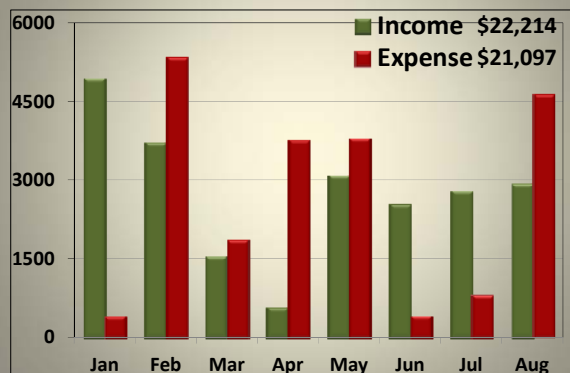
Total other income = \$2375.03

Total Income 22,214.09

Total Expenses to date 21,097.44

We are self supporting !!

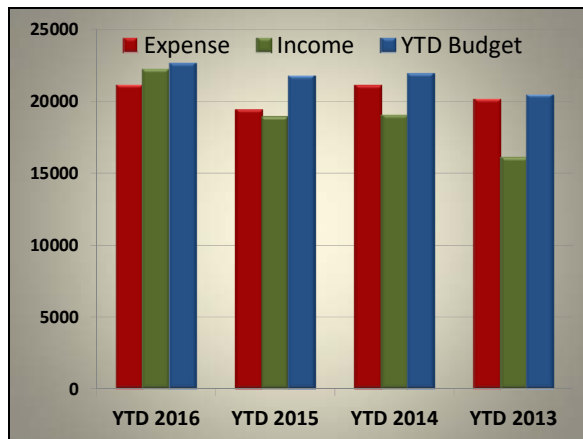
2016 Thru August 31st



Here is this year's month to month income and expense thru August 31. We had \$568 more in income than expenses this year so far.

	Income Expense	
Jan	4951.65	408.79
Feb	3727.92	5352.97
Mar	1552.36	1867.6
Apr	575.84 \$	3772.06
May	3103.94	3810.55
Jun	2552	421.05
Jul	2806.17	812.55
Aug	<u>2944.21</u>	<u>4651.85</u>
	22214.09	21097.42

February had Yogo deposit, Delegate share to GSC, and Regional Service Conference. April and May expenses reflect Spring Assembly and Travel and August we paid the annual Archives Storage bill. To date of course does not reflect this Fall assembly which should be approximately \$5,200.

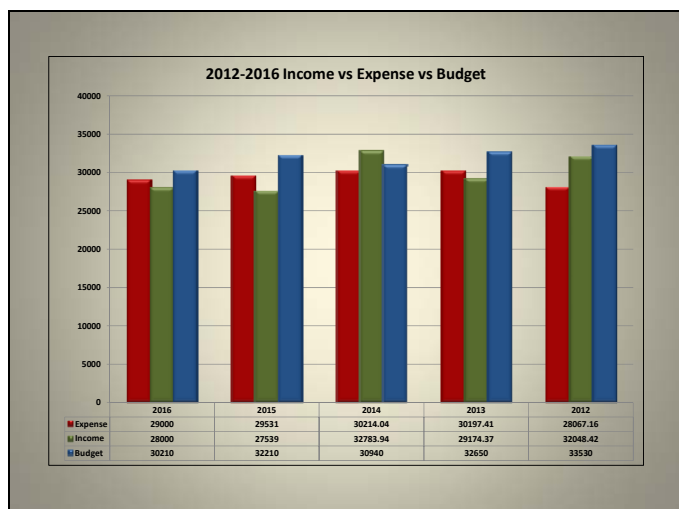


This chart illustrates our finances as of August 31, 2016 and then the past three years to date also comparison. Income and expense thus far are really close and within the YTD budget. We still have 3.5 months to go with anticipated \$7525 left in expenses

Expense	Income	YTD	Budget
YTD 2016	21097	22214.09	22685
YTD 2015	\$19,377	\$18,881	21780
YTD 2014	21059	19014	21940
YTD 2013	20110	16063	20490

We have a current operating balance of about \$10,000. I think that we are going to spend the proposed budget this year. Some committees are over and some are under.

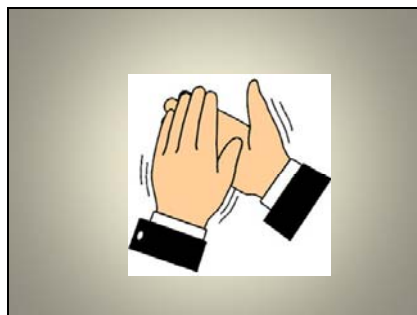
Historically we usually start the year off with around \$8,000 operating balance. It looks like we are going to do just fine if we continue to remember Area 40 in your 7th tradition splits.



And finally, here is a recap of how we have done for the past four years. Also showing what the end of this year may look potentially. Anticipating Income of \$8000, avg of groups per month this year has been \$2,000 +/- and expenses right about \$7500 and may be a bit over that with hotline and assembly higher, and with a couple more triangles and travel expected.

It never ceases to amaze me looking at these charts how self-support really works when we work it!!

Thank you



TRIANGLE REPORT (Triangle Editor, Tim M.)

Twelve years ago next month, I was the host to Jack C. from Hagerstown Maryland who was the Spiritual speaker for the Fall Roundup in Helena. If you have never heard Jack's story I encourage you to get a copy of it. It's literally explosive and, in my opinion, worth the time. When I picked him up at the airport, he told me he had two requests. The first was to take him to a store where he could buy several dozen postcards. I asked why he wanted so many postcards. He explained that he was whining to his sponsor about not having any friends who wrote to him. His sponsor asked him if he ever wrote to anyone, to which he responded "No". So up until he left for the big meeting in the sky, he sent out postcards to all his friends as he trudged along the way.

The second question was "Who is your sponsor?" I explained to him that my sponsor had passed away the previous year and that I had yet to find another. He smiled and told me that by the time I put him back on the plane to fly home I would need to have found another sponsor. Toward the end of the weekend, I had yet to find a sponsor so I asked Jack if he would be willing to be my sponsor. He said he would do anything he could for me but a sponsor needs to be physically present when he looks their sponsee in the eye and asks "How are you doing?" I will be eternally grateful to him for his reply.

I think about this response from time to time when it comes to the cost and effort involved in delivering the Triangle to the fellowship of Area 40. By the time I finish this rotation, I will have mailed out over 4800 Triangles across our Area. Hopefully each issue will have touched at least one alcoholic, and will have been passed around in their groups so other alcoholics will have read it too.

As for finding a sponsor before I put Jack back on the plane to fly home, I did find one who not only had sobriety but also a good long term marriage. This coming year he will be celebrating fifty years of marriage and I twenty five. And since he lives in the same town as me, we not only meet regularly in rooms of AA and my home but in the rivers, ski hills and mountains of Montana.

The Triangle not only keeps us informed but also serves as a means of keeping our group addresses up to date. It does this by return mail of the issues that cannot be delivered due to obsolete addresses. I am happy to report that the number of Triangles returned from the last issue was 75% less than the first issue at the start of this rotation.

At this Assembly we will be voting in new Trusted Servants for all of our Area 40 committee positions. I encourage all of you to consider standing for any of them. I also would like to emphasize the importance of standing for the Triangle editor position. It has, and continues to be, a vital instrument that keeps all of us connected, the very soul of spiritually.

Sincerely,
Tim M.
2015-2016 Triangle Editor

ORIENTATION TO THE ASSEMBLY (Area 40 Delegate, Libbie L.)

Good Morning Everyone! My name is Libbie L and I'm an alcoholic. Again it is my honor and privilege to serve with you as the Area 40 Delegate. It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2016 Fall Area 40 Assembly.

I would like to extend warm greetings to everyone in attendance especially any first time attendees. Thank you for being here to serve the Area, your groups, your district, and the alcoholic who still suffers. Your participation is vital.

We are here this weekend to share and make decisions about Area 40 business. Alex will chair the meeting following our set agenda. Our practice is to be punctual, so our meetings will start on time. We had a great Welcoming Session last night; I covered some basics about what we're trying to accomplish this weekend. We'll briefly review that this morning.

We will start with DCM reports until 9:00 AM. Next is the Election Orientation and posting of Delegate Nominees. Thanks to Sharon S., Area Advisor for presiding over this. Then the Standing Committee meetings will start at 10:00. Rooms are assigned. Committees meet until noon. It is imperative to have your district's positions filled on those assigned committees, remember, they are voting members! Any questions on those assignments, come see Alex, Julie, or me. All committee meetings are open, and all who attend are encouraged to participate. Two of our past delegates, Andrew W and Mary Ann W, will

be leading workshops here in this room for those who don't attend the committee meetings. Greetings to all the other past delegates in attendance this weekend.

We break for lunch, and then we will reconvene promptly at 1 PM with the Trustee at Large Nomination. I will preside over that. Remember that past Delegates and current and past Area Chairs are eligible to stand. After that, we will hold our Area 40 elections. There will be a recess for dinner then we will reconvene for the Floor Assembly.

It is Alex's responsibility to see that the meeting flows smoothly and effectively. He will loosely follow Robert's Rules of Order. Everyone will have the opportunity to share and discuss items presented by the committee chairs.

Here are some general guidelines for sharing from the floor:

- People wishing to speak line up at the microphones and the chair will call on them in order
- Introduce yourself at the microphone each time you speak (name, service position, district)
- Each person may speak for 3 minutes (hard stop when the time goes off)
- Everyone who wishes to speak will have a turn before anyone may speak for a second time, full discussion should take place before the vote
- Everyone is entitled to and should, express their opinion. However, if it has already been stated, it is not necessary to repeat it
- Every is asked to refrain from clapping or cheering when people share, pro and con, in order to encourage, not discourage those who may have opposing opinions or facts
- Voting is by a show of hands
- Listen with an open mind, particularly to those who speak on the other side of an issue from you

Our goal is to cover the entire agenda succinctly with everyone having their voice.

GSR and DCM breakout sessions will be from 9-10 PM. Thanks Andrew and Maryann for leading those. Sunday morning starts bright and early and promptly at 8 AM. Our business will include Round Up and Intergroup Reports, Past Delegate sharing and a Delegate's report from me. We'll finish up the floor assembly, completing all our Area 40 business.

I will wrap up this orientation with a reading from Appendix V, "The Religious View on AA"
Speaking at a dinner given by John D Rockefeller Jr. to introduce Alcoholics Anonymous to some of his friends, Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick remarked:

"I think that psychologically speaking there is a point of advantage in the approach that is being made in this movement that cannot be duplicated. I suspect that if it is wisely handled—and it seems to be in wise and prudent hands—there are doors of opportunity ahead of this project that may surpass our capacities to imagine."

So let's keep those doors of opportunity open and continue to surpass our imaginations. Thank you all for participating in my sobriety today!

DCM REPORTS (see last section)

ELECTION ORIENTATION/POSTING NOMINEES FOR DELEGATE (Area Advisor, Sharon S.)

Sharon provided an orientation to the upcoming election, eligibility requirements for the position and a review of the 3rd Legacy Procedure from the Service Manual. After compiling a list of all eligible candidates present, the list was narrowed down to those willing and able to stand for the position of Delegate. The following were the nominees: Gerry R., Paul L. and Melinda W.

SATURDAY SESSION 10:00 – NOON

After a 15 minute break, the standing committees met in their committee rooms while workshops were held for those not attending the committee meetings. Past Delegate, Andrew W., conducted the first workshop on the topic of “Applying our Spiritual Principles in Service” and Past Delegate, Maryann W., led the second workshop discussing “Our Spiritual Way of Life.”

SATURDAY SESSION 1:00 – 5:00 PM

NOMINATION FOR TRUSTEE-AT-LARGE (Area Delegate, Libbie L.)

After reviewing the position eligibility requirements and procedure, nominations were accepted from the floor. Area Advisor, Sharon S., was nominated by Margaret P., seconded by Troy H., to be Area 40's nominee to the 2017 General Service Conference slate for Trustee-at-Large, U.S. There were no other nominees. Sharon accepted the nomination and a vote was taken by acclamation. Libbie will forward Sharon's name as a nominee for election at the GSC next spring.

AREA 40 ELECTIONS FOR 2017-2018 ROTATION (Presider: Area Advisor, Sharon S.)

OFFICERS:

Candidates for Area 40 Delegate:

- Gerry R., (12/17/90 sobriety date) past service includes: Area Chair/Alt. Delegate & Area Archivist
- Paul L., (4/1/04 SD) past service includes: current CPC Chr., Dist. 91 DCM, Dist. Treasurer
- Melinda W., (8/8/87 SD) past service includes: Area Treasurer, Triangle Editor, Area P.I. Chr., Dist. 72 DCM, GSR

Gerry R. was elected by substantial unanimity on the 2nd ballot.

Candidates for Area Chair/Alt. Delegate:

- Luke S., (2/3/07 SD) past service includes: current Area P.I. Chr., Dist. 91 P.I. Chr.
- Melinda W. (see above)
- Paul L. (see above)
- Raymona K.-A., (10/5/87 SD) past service includes: Triangle Editor, Corrections comm., GSR

After a motion to conduct a 5th ballot was defeated, the election went to the “hat” with the top two remaining candidates, Melinda and Paul. Paul L. was drawn from the “hat.”

Candidates for Treasurer:

- Julie R., (7/14/94 SD) past service includes: current Area 40 Secretary/Registrar, Dist. 81 DCM, Dist. 81 Treasurer & dist. rep. on Finance Committee, Dist. 5 (Area 18) CPC/PI Chr., GSR

After no other candidates stood for this position, it was moved and seconded to **elect Julie by acclamation.**

Candidates for Secretary/Registrar:

- Melinda W., (see above)
- Mike D., (6/25/09 SD) past service includes: current Area 40 Archives Chr., Dist. 11 DCM, GSR
- Raymona K.-A. (see above)

Melinda W. was elected by substantial unanimity on the 2nd ballot.

SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

The following were elected by majority or acclamation:

Archives: Nominees: Raymona K.-A. (see above for service) and John (2/12/07 SD) past service includes: Alt. DCM, GSR. **Raymona was elected by majority vote.**

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC): **Luke S.** (see above) **elected by acclamation**

Corrections: **Hugh M.** (9/28/10 SD) past service includes: GSR, Dist. Treatment Chr., **elected by acclamation**

Grapevine: Nominees: Jake H. (1/29/01 SD) past service includes: Alt. DCM, Dist. Grapevine & PI Chrs., GSR and Todd M., (3/29/08 SD) past service includes: current Dist. 23 DCM, ad-hoc comm., GSR. **Jake elected by majority vote.**

Literature: Nominees: Tim K., (10/28/95) past service includes: Dist. CPC & Corrections Chrs., Roundup Chr., GSR and Lance L., past service: GSR. **Lance elected by majority vote.**

Public Information (PI): Tim K., (see above) and James W. (9/11/09 SD) past service includes: Dist. PI and Treatment Chrs. **Tim elected by majority vote.**

Treatment: **James W.** (see above) **elected by acclamation**

Triangle Editor: Nominees: Mike D. (see above) and Margaret P. (4/2/08 SD) past service includes: current Dist. 81 DCM, Dist. Treatment & BTG Chrs., GSR. **Mike elected by majority vote.**

SATURDAY SESSION FLOOR ASSEMBLY 7:00 – 8:45 PM

VENUE AD-HOC COMMITTEE (Jake H. for Jeanie S., Chr.)

(Report not submitted) The committee researched the following centrally located venues for holding the Area Assembly:

- Yogo Inn, Lewistown, MT – cost approx. \$1,561, avg. mileage: 182
- Holiday Inn, Great Falls, MT – cost approx. \$1,615, avg. mileage: 203
- Gran Tree, Bozeman, MT – cost approx. \$1,635, avg. mileage: 223
- Radisson, Helena, MT – cost approx. \$2,000+ (eliminated due to cost)

Each venue has a conference room capable of seating 150+ and 8-10 break-out rooms accommodating 8-10 people. Noted that the current venue does not meet ADA requirements for accessibility.

RECOMMENDATION:

“To move the 2017 Fall Assembly to Great Falls.” **MOTION PASSED: 71 FOR, 10 OPPOSED**

TREATMENT (Area Treatment Chr., Jessica E.)

REPORT:

Greetings Area 40, my name is Jessica E. and I am currently serving as your Area 40 Treatment Chair.

Since this spring assembly the edits for the updated BTG were completed and sent out. These are available to everyone and a great resource to New or Old Treatment and BTG chairs as well as to volunteers that have signed up to be a temporary contact. I was contacted by Montana Chemical Dependency Center, our state treatment facility, in which District 61, 71, 72, and 81 are currently bringing meetings and BTG presentations into the facility. I was asked if we could bring books again into the facility again because members that are in the facility do not have the money to purchase them. I sent out 10 books this spring to the facility and a case was sent out again this summer from our corrections chair.

I attended the District 61 Corrections Treatment Workshop in Helena and have been invited will be doing a BTG workshop in Great Falls in October the 8th. There is food and fellowship involved and I'm excited to visit. Please join us! I am available to visit your districts this fall. Workshops are a great way to encourage participation and fire up new trusted servants to fall in love with treatment and bridging the gap work.

This will be the last assembly that I will report to you as your Treatment Chair. I wanted to thank my committee, all of the participants, my fellow area committee who helped me and Area 40 for the opportunity to be able to serve in this capacity. This has been a beautiful experience as I expect it to be as I finish this rotation and it's always a privilege to serve Alcoholics Anonymous

COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

Passed around the Bridging the Gap Workbook for updating etc.

Jessica introduced herself. We went around the room

Tom F. - Helena

Bob - Billings
Donna - Glendive
Lance - Great Falls
Bob - Ennis/Virginia City
Levi - 81
Connie - Havre
Karen - Havre
Elisheva - Anaconda
Bill - Great Falls
Jeff - Great Falls

Treatment/Accessibilities/Agenda - Area 40

A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Treatment Chair

Every committee is autonomous. Pink Can money for MCDC? Jessica explained the policy regarding use of the Pink Can. 75% of in patients self-identify as an alcoholic. 70% of those are involved with the courts.

The committee reviewed updates from Treatment Chair.

Corrections Workshop in Great Falls: October 8 Saturday afternoon Bible Valley community Church The Bridge 3400 Flood Road

B. Consider Theme for 2018 General Service Conference

Passed around possible themes/suggestions - past and current.

Giving Back What We've Been Given 5 1
Gratitude, Paying it Forward 2
Recovery in Action - Service 6 2
Singleness of Purpose - Ensuring AAs Future 12 9
Alcohol and Drugs - Where Do the two mix in AA? 0

The Treatment Committee considered the theme for the 2018 General service Conference and recommends the following:.

Area 40 submits the theme for the 2008 General Service Conference be : Singleness of Purpose - Ensuring AA's Future."

Jessica moved. Levi seconded. Unanimous M/C

C. Consider Standing Agenda item for Fall Assemblies

The Treatment Committee considered and recommends there is a standing agenda item for the Fall Assembly to consider a General Service Conference theme.

Jessica moved. Connie seconded. Unanimous M/C

Treatment/Accessibilities - GSC

A. Review the results of all Treatment/Accessibilities Information committee items considered, reviewed, and discussed at the 2016 GSC.

The item did go forward at the GSC. Changes were made to the Area 40 website. Jessica requested that if anyone sees something that needs changing to notify her.

The Treatment Committee considered, reviewed, and discussed at the 2016 General Service Conference.

Agenda

A. Review the results of all Agenda committee items considered, reviewed, and discussed at the 2016 GSC.

2017 theme is "Supporting our Future."

The Treatment Committee considered, reviewed, and discussed at the 2016 General Service Conference.

RECOMMENDATION:

"That Area 40 submit the following theme for consideration as the 2018 GSC theme: *"Singleness of Purpose – Insuring AA's Future"*. **MOTION PASSED: 77 FOR, 3 OPPOSED**

RECOMMENDATION:

"That there is a standing agenda item for each Fall Assembly to consider a GSC theme." **MOTION FAILED: 39 FOR, 19 OPPOSED, 22 ABSTAINED**

ARCHIVES (Area 40 Archives Chr., Mike D.)

REPORT:

Hello Area 40! As always, I am grateful, and humbled to be here this to serve as your Archives Chair at our last Assembly together as this body of trusted servants. I have been trying to determine exactly how I feel about the fact that this rotation will be soon over. I still haven't quite decided, and maybe that's a good thing, since there is still yet work to do! I wish I could put into words how refreshing and exciting this experience has been for me. There is a certain energy that seems to be present with the combined passion for our way of life, and the sense of duty that you all feel to give back the most that you can to this fellowship. I want to thank you all for sharing your hearts, and your lives with me throughout your service to our Area. I want to thank my committee, and those of you who have participated in our work these past couple years for pouring yourselves into it. Thank you for making my job so much fun! Who would have thought that you could have a spiritual experience in a committee? I am constantly reminded that when I make myself available to a power greater than myself, I get to go along for the ride of my life. Good luck, and Godspeed to those of you who have chosen to take that ride this weekend and stand for a new journey into service!

These past few months have been a trying time for my family, and I wish I could say that I had accomplished more of my goals. A year ago at this Assembly I was sitting at this table in this room

preparing to give a report to you when I got the message that my father was on the operating table to have a double bypass heart surgery. I want to thank you again for your prayers then, because somehow although his left main artery was completely blocked, and the right main was 95%, we were able to have dinner the other night together and talk about what this last year has been like. I don't believe in coincidences anymore, I have seen enough of God's handiwork to recognize it today. As for my goals and my personal agenda, it's a good thing there is still some time left to get a few more things done. I have a couple interviews coming up, and I will make sure that Earl gets my work when it is completed. I anticipate that I will be in contact with him over the next several months to work on updating the Area's Past Actions as our final business of this rotation. I hope that somebody will be getting a hold of me to talk about the duties of their new position of Archive's Chair as well. I'm looking forward to a new chapter, but first I hope to enjoy how this one will end!

In Love with Service,
Mike D

ARCHIVIST REPORT:

Greetings Area 40. I am Earl F. and I am an alcoholic and serving as your Area Archivist. A lot has happened since I last seen you at an Assembly. I want to thank Mike and Alex and Bob for covering for me at the Spring Assembly. I am not as tough as I think I am sometimes. Surgery was a setback, but it did allow me a little extra time to spend in the Archives during recovery. I have begun the process of sorting through several storage containers and determining where the contents should be filed and stored. There are a lot of newspaper clippings, meeting lists, directories, papers on the Washingtonians, tapes, films, obits and ancient electronics. Certain areas of the repository looks as if a tornado deposited its accumulation of debris, but it is all very interesting once I start to read and think of how I want to store it.

The spring has been very hectic as my mother had a few health problems that required me to make a couple of trips to Kansas. Needless to say and very aware by several of you is the fact that I have yet to update the Policy and Procedure Document and our Past Actions Document to reflect the actions from this Spring Assembly. I will do this as soon as the minutes from this Assembly are published and then we will be up to date.

I have been busy with traveling and participating in activities across the Area. In May I attended the Area 40 Round-up in Missoula. What a fun activity. I provided a display on the history of "Our Spiritual Way of Life." It was a great weekend. In June, I attended a Founders Day Activity, hosted by District 41, at Ryan Dam. I gave a presentation of the History of AA in Montana, and was able to hear several great speakers. I also made a haul in the raffle. After this weekend, I will be taking a display to the Fall Round-up in Bozeman, the end of the month. I have been invited to the "Attitude of Gratitude" do a workshop on "The Importance of Archives in Carrying the Message of AA." I am looking forward to this, it sounds like fun.

An example of this importance has been recognized recently when it was noticed that certain parts of our Assembly minutes are not viewable because of the computer programs and we have hard copies on file in the Archives. I have also been able to do research for a couple of people who wanted history of the assemblies and actions taken and of activities that were held several years back. These are fun activities that get me more familiar with what we have and where it is. On a sad note we have lost some people who served on past Area committees this past year, and I do collect obituaries and other articles about these members, so please, keep this in mind when someone, active in AA in your District happens to pass. As always, please include me in your mailings, emails, correspondence and committee notes

and discussions. As we are preparing to rotate on in service, remember to not just “toss” your stuff when it is no longer of use to you, contact me or just drop it by sometime.

And now, a little information about the repository. I mentioned in my Spring Assembly report, that our land lords had put up another building and it had benefits and detriments for our facility. They have also changed the process by which the lease is implemented. We used to pay for 11 months and get the 12th month free. Now, they have asked us to pay for a complete year and we will get the next month free. Therefore, our rent due date will always advance each year. Also, they have raised our rent to \$300.00/month from \$285.00/month. I can understand this as everything costs more. I am very happy with the facility. The temperature stays very constant at around 65* to 70* and the humidity is almost perfect. I checked it on this past Thursday and it was around 42%. It is easy to clean, and we have a lot of room to expand or utilize in other ways. One way I thought that we could utilize the room is to offer to house District Archives if needed or wanted. I want to bring this up for discussion in the committee and, depending on the discussions, might bring this forward as an Agenda Item for the Spring Assembly. I would also like to attend the NAAAWS in the upcoming year, depending on where and when it will be held. This year was just held in early September, and I haven’t received any information as to where next years will be held. More will be revealed.

I know there was some discussion at the Spring Assembly about Group histories and Archival Interviews. If I can be of any assistance in any way, don’t hesitate to ask. I am more than willing to help in any way I can.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

Archives Minutes 9/17/16

ATTENDANCE (voting members)

Mike D	Chair
Mary M	GSR Dist 23
Teryl R	DCM 71
Hugh M	Dist 41
Ted O	DCM 72
(non voting and visitors)	
Earl F	Archivist
Joe H	past archivist
Jon M	GSR Dist 71
Rick M	Alt GSR Disst 11
Chris M	GSR Dist 81
Mark S	past Delegate
Gerry R	past archivist

The Area 40 Archives Committee meeting started at approximately 10:07am with the Serenity Prayer. Mike D then asked everybody to give a brief introduction, and asked the question “what brought you here to this room today?” as an ice breaker exercise. We spent the next 20 minutes getting to know one another, and what drives our passion for service work in the Archives field. Next Earl F delivered his report to the committee, followed by some question and answers. Mike D then delivered his report to the committee.

Earl proposed a couple items to the committee for request to consider as time permitted. First he mentioned that he would like to request attending the 2017 National Archives Workshop in Winnipeg, Manitoba. He was hoping the committee might consider putting a motion on the floor, or a recommendation for an agenda item at the following spring assembly. We thought it would be great for him to attend his first NAW as Archivist, as this would enable him to network and share valuable experience with many others in the Archives world. Next he asked what the committee thought about housing district's archival materials in the Area 40 Archives upon request. Discussion included:

- There is room in the Archives, and many districts do not have a safe location to store materials
- Many districts have to shuffle archives to their chair's house between rotations, and sometimes items are lost, miss-placed, or never returned. (Several such accounts were given by members present)
- There has been a few requests to Earl from district archives members to do so.
- It makes sense for Area 40 Archival policy to include housing any/all items from districts within Area 40 in a central location for preservation and accessibility purposes.
- What kinds of items/materials are we interested in collecting? - Pretty much anything related to AA groups or members in our Area: books, letters, any kind of correspondence, newspaper articles/clippings, obituaries of members, booklets or crafts made by members, scrapbooks, photographs of members/events, old newsletters, event flyers, minutes of any kind, anything that documents AA records of any kind...
- There was some mentioning of how historical information contained in the archives is much safer, and easier to share digitally upon request to the archivist. (Earl was thanked for his quick habit of doing so many times thus far since becoming archivist)

Mike D then directed the committee's attention to a standing agenda item of Area Assembly Evaluation and Review. A summary was given on the origination of this item, and the evolution of the process. Handouts were provided of each assembly's eval. review report since conception. It was noted that although this process originated from an ad-hoc committee's recommendation to stay at the Yogo Inn as long as they make necessary steps to accommodate our body's needs, and we needed a tool to ascertain how well that was being done. The evaluation was therefore designed with the Yogo Inn's adequacy as a main focal point. The secondary role of this process was to serve as a mini spot check inventory for the assembly body, and moving forward in the future that role would take precedence. The committee agrees that this is an important point to remember, and pass on to the next rotation. Mike D will conclude this phase of our assembly evaluation process with a final report to pass on after the evaluations from the present assembly are collected.

The next item for discussion was the request from District 42 to relinquish their appointment for a district representative to be assigned to serve on an Area 40 standing committee. Mike D shared that he spoke with Kurt K, DCM 42, who submitted the request to clarify the details, nature, and origin. Kurt communicated that this was a decision that was discussed, and voted on at their district meeting. They intended for this action to be permanent. He also shared that while their rural district does have low operating funds, the biggest problem for them is finding willing and able members to serve such commitments. They thought it would be best to let the bigger districts have those commitments since they have more resources, including willing members.

We discussed the fact that this request brings to our attention that there are at least 4 districts that share the same frustrations, and this is just one of them deciding to take this action. We acknowledged that this causes stress to those districts, as well as to the area standing committees we assign them to. We discussed the dangers that we saw in granting this request as cutting off rural districts from our service structure when we as an area have a duty to explore how best to serve those

within our area. Some shared speculation that in granting this request we sentence these rural district's into further isolation.

We reviewed Area 40 Policy 5.2 regarding assignment and composition of standing committee members. We discussed the perception that as read it sounded like a mandate not only in how the committee assignments must be made, but also to those districts to fulfill those roles. The idea of asking these district's before we make such assignments might be appropriate, and how would we logistically fit that into our process. It was noted that such practices have already been taking place over the last several rotations, but our policy as read did not allow for such arrangements. We agreed that if there is a need to take such actions, it ought to be incorporated into our policy in such a way that would be more fair to all involved, while staying within the spirit of the original intentions for the standing committee structure. We then reviewed the past actions and history of Policy 5.2 noting the following:

- The committee assignments were intended to allow the random spirit of rotation to be a governing principle to our service body thus drawn from the hat
- The order listed in 5.2 contradicts pure random assignment, and allows selective measures to be systematically implemented
- The composition of our standing committees was designed to include equal representation from each district, big or small, so that the rural districts would have an equal right of participation in Area 40 business, as well as an equal voice
- Permanently removing any district from the pool of representative to serve on area standing committees would be to change our policy and thus systematically discourage an equal right of participation in Area 40 business
- The committee process was implemented in Area 40 in 1994 to serve as a means of efficiently handling the business of Area 40
- When we knowingly continue to assign districts that are unable to provide a representative to serve on a committee, we continue a cycle that has been a confusing trend in Area 40 which places certain committees in a position where they may be short one or two voting members for the duration of the entire rotation. Having a standing committee with only 3 voting members would seem to be somewhat disproportionate to the intended responsibility which we expect that committee to perform. We agreed that this may not be the most efficient means for Area 40 to handle its business.

We decided that granting this request does not serve the best interest of the area, or the districts involved. The question was called by Mike D and vote was 0 in favor. We also agreed that there is a need for the Area to revisit the entire committee assignment and selection process, including possible means to handle vacancies. We talked about making recommendations to change the policy, and how we could address all of the needs involved to do so, while staying within the intended parameters of the standing committee structure. We liked the idea of disposing the order listed in 5.2, asking districts who struggle with attendance before each rotation change takes place whether they are able to fulfill such commitments, allowing other districts to have an additional district rep so that each committee would have 5 voting members who are able to participate. We also liked the idea that any districts with an additional district rep would not have an additional rep the following rotation, therefore the districts with more reps would be on a rotation as well. Example: district 11 has 2 reps as well as DCM this rotation, so next rotation they will only be allowed 1 rep and DCM; while district 72 has only one rep and DCM this rotation, so they may be allowed to have 2 reps and DCM for the following rotation.

We decided that it may be appropriate to allow an ad hoc committee the chance to have more time to further explore the options, and needs so that we don't rush into a change that has not been fully thought through. We would like to have that ad hoc explore the committee assignment process,

and report back to the Archives Committee in time to have their findings included in the background material for the Spring 2017 Assembly. This would bring the item back to the Area 40 Structure and Policy Committee with ample time for them to examine recommendations before introducing any motion to the assembly body. Hugh made a motion to “recommend that the Area Chair appoint an ad-hoc committee to review the committee assignment, selection, and replacement process; and report back to the Archives Committee for the Spring 2017 Assembly.” Mary seconded the motion, 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

We adjourned approximately 12:04pm.

RECOMMENDATION:

“That the Area Chair appoint an ad-hoc committee to review the committee assignment, selection and replacement process, and report back to the Archives Committee for the Spring 2017 Assembly.”

MOTION PASSED: 76 FOR, 5 OPPOSED

CORRECTIONS (Area 40 Corrections Chr., Jay T,)

REPORT:

I am Jay and I am an Alcoholic, serving as your Area 40 Corrections Chair, Well since the last time we were here not a lot happened. I did get to go camping 2 times. Then last weekend on September 10th I went to District 41 Great Falls for a Corrections Workshop. Desiree the District Corrections Chair of District 41 worked for months to get it together. I want to thank you all for allowing me to serve you in Corrections.

Pink Can Fund Report

Like to thank all the members of Area 40 AA for their contributions to the Pink can fund. We have a balance of \$3173.04 now. I have books with me. So if anyone needs any let me know. There is a spreadsheet attached to my report.

Again it has been a pleasure serving as Area 40 Corrections Chair, In Service Jay T.

					\$1,211.39	Current Balance	
Date given	Check#	Date deposited	Source	Amount			
4/7/2016	3684	4/15/2016	The Whitefish Group-Whitefish	\$75.00			
4/13/2016	2187	4/15/2016	Hotsprings One Day at a Time-Hotspring	\$10.00			
4/15/2016	2065	4/15/2016	Control is an Illusion Group-Butte	\$21.43			
				\$106.43	Additional Contributions		
				\$1,317.82	Current Balance		
4/19/2016	5234	4/22/2016	Last Chance Group-Helena	\$44.37			
4/19/2016	5134	4/22/2016	Keep it Simple Monday Night-Missoula	\$38.00			
4/20/2016	1174	4/22/2016	Candlelight Meeting-Helena	\$31.50			
4/20/2016	4006	4/22/2016	Whitehall Group-Whitehall	\$20.00			
				\$133.87	Additional Contributions		
				\$1,451.69	Current Balance		
4/27/2016	1290	5/17/2016	Promises Group-Butte	\$51.25			
5/12/2016	1598	5/17/2016	Missoula Women's Group-Missoula	\$64.00			
5/12/2016	3694	5/17/2016	Whitefish Group-Whitefish	\$153.00			
				\$268.25	Additional Contributions		
				\$1,719.94	Current Balance		

5/28/2016	1293	6/17/2016	Promises Group-Butte	\$71.57		
5/28/2016	1295	6/17/2016	Promises Group-Butte	\$24.46		
6/1/2016	2068	6/17/2016	Control is an Illusion-Butte	\$32.65		
6/3/2016	930	6/17/2016	Early Bird Group-Polson	\$68.00		
6/6/2016	3688	6/17/2016	Anaconda Traditions-Anaconda	\$50.00		
6/6/2016	1600	6/17/2016	Missoula Women's Group-Missoula	\$52.31		
				\$298.99	Additional Contributions	
				\$2,018.93	Current Balance	
6/17/2016	2069	6/28/2016	Control is an Illusion-Butte	\$18.00		
6/17/2016	3703	6/28/2016	Whitefish Group-Whitefish	\$108.00		
6/26/2016	5235	6/28/2016	Last Chance Group-Helena	\$76.38		
				\$202.38	Additional Contributions	
				\$2,221.31	Current Balance	
7/1/2016	1296	7/13/2016	Promises Group-Butte	\$24.00		
7/1/2016	1298	7/13/2016	Promises Group-Butte	\$22.45		
7/6/2016	1301	7/13/2016	Missoula Women's Group-Missoula	\$33.00		
				\$79.45	Additional Contributions	
				\$2,300.76	Current Balance	
Pink Can Expenditure						
Date			Reinbursement for Books	Amount		
7/26/2016			To Jessica Books for MCDC	(\$104.87)		
				\$2,195.89		
Date given	Check #	Date Deposited	Source	Amount		
7/15/2016	147	7/29/2016	Big Book Breakfast Group-Clancy	\$27.00		
7/15/2016	2101	7/29/2016	Control is an Illusion-Butte	\$43.01		
7/17/2016	1405	7/29/2016	Talk Story-Hamilton	\$62.24		
7/17/2016	1405	7/29/2016	Lolo Group-Lolo	\$20.00		
7/26/2016	685	7/29/2016	The Way Out Group-Hamilton	\$44.00		
				\$196.25	Additional Contributions	
				\$2,392.14	Current Balance	
Expenditure		Date	Shipping	Amount		
USPS		8/12/2016	Books	(\$11.73)		
				\$2,380.41	Current Balance	
Date given	Check #	Date Deposited	Source	Amount		
8/3/2016	1307	8/16/2016	Missoula Women's Group-Missoula	\$41.16		
8/7/2016	2002	8/16/2016	Promises Group-Butte	\$39.53		
8/8/2016	1406	8/16/2016	Talk Story-Hamilton	\$112.52		
7/30/2016	3714	8/16/2016	Anaconda Traditions Group-Anaconda	\$50.00		
				\$243.21	Additional Contributions	
				\$2,623.62	Current Balance	
8/17/2016	2104	8/23/2016	Control is an Illusion-Butte	\$32.00		
8/17/2016	5237	8/23/2016	Last Chance Group-Helena	\$61.99		
8/17/2016	3717	8/23/2016	The Whitefish Group-Whitefish	\$276.00		
				\$369.99	Additional Contributions	
				\$2,993.61	Current Balance	
9/7/2016	941	9/9/2016	Early Bird Group-Polson	\$83.93		
9/7/2016	3723	9/9/2016	Anaconda Traditions Group-Anaconda	\$50.00		
9/7/2016	1313	9/9/2016	Missoula Women's Group-Missoula	\$45.50		
				\$179.43	Additional Contributions	
				\$3,173.04	Current Balance	

COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

10 people attended the committee meeting.

- Reviewed Corrections report
- Pink Can \$3,173.04
- Reviewed Correctional info 2016 GSC

1. New Freedom considering replacement "Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell" distribution – has been approved
 2. In need of Spanish-speaking women for correspondence
 3. Orientation/Mini-conference @ MSP today. Next possible orientation in January
 4. April 2015 – there has been 57 BTG w/r out of state
 5. Annual Corrections workshop need nationally. Discussed feasibility. Questionnaire worked on to send to committee chairs & delegates. But first asking respondents for North American workshop (Shawn commented on this)
- Sponsors for MSP inmates (men only) in need. If you sponsor, you cannot attend MSP AA meetings, though. Get the word out to all members interested in your districts.
 - BTG forms great resource
 - Look @ Corrections Correspondence pamphlet if interested in sponsoring inmate, etc....very informative. Important like in Great Falls due to lack of prisons interested in AA., etc.
 - Need help on the 4th Saturday of month for MSP volunteers! Calling all... Dist. 93 is working w/a skeleton crew

If your district needs Pink Cans, they're by the coffee.

PUBLIC INFORMATION (Area 40 PI Chr., Luke S.)

REPORT:

I was invited to district 41 to do a public information workshop during the founder's day event. The event was off the chain and the location was off the hook. The main speaker was freaking awesome and their Sunday morning "Spiritual Speaker" was a lil rough on the edges. I attended District 93's campout on Como Lake. Freaking awesome! I listened to Libbie's delegate's report and enjoyed every second of the campout. My last trip was to Bozeman for the young people's kickball event which was highlighted with shoeshiner's, water balloon fights, a subpar speaker, and a birthday meeting. I saw our area Treatment chair receive her 10 year coin and strike out at kickball. One of these statements was true. The biggest bummer was losing our beloved GM Kaitlyn at AnswerNet. She was a true professional and will be missed. The email for every call to the hotline is kicking some major butt. The best call was one to our hotline reporting people were being mean to her at a meeting..... shame on u!

Luke S.

WEBMASTER REPORT:

Greetings Area 40, my name is Brandon and I am an alcoholic. Currently have the pleasure of serving Area 40 as your webmaster.

Since May 1st we have had 97,000 page views on our website. The vast majority of these (82,000) have been to our online meeting lists. This section of our website continues to be the most viewed section. It is extremely important that we keep these lists as updated as possible. DCM's please let me know if you have any issues with getting these meeting lists updated.

Since the last assembly, 44 e-mails have come in from people reaching out for the hand of A.A. The vast majority of these were individuals looking for help on getting to their first meeting. I want to thank everyone I reached out to for their help on assisting these individuals.

This summer I spent quite a bit of time getting our online Triangle subscription program up and working. We had some issues with PayPal changing around the backend of their system that we use to process payments. Without going into boring tech details, it caused quite the headache. I am glad to say that the PI committee and the Triangle editor will get to view this new online subscription system during the committee meeting. With the approval of the committee, this system will go live shortly after this assembly. The price for paying for your Triangle subscription online is \$10.61 – the increase in price over the normal \$10 is to off-set the cost that PayPal charges to process the payment. You do not need to have a PayPal account, PayPal will allow you to pay with a credit card without having to create an account.

Members within Area 40 continue to submit items for the Calendar of Events – please keep these coming in. I love to see what is happening in / around Area 40, and it is also our second highest viewed page on the website.

Districts are also continuing to send in meeting minutes, district events, etc., to be posted on their respective mini-sites. For those who may be unfamiliar, each district has a mini-site available to them. Simply send me an email (webmaster@aa-montana.org) to get items added to your mini-site.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity serve Area 40 as your webmaster.

COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

PI/Report and Charter & Website Committee Breakout

- Reviewed PI Area Chair responsibilities and qualifications from the Area 40 Policy & Procedures (G8)
- Reviewed resources available to Area and District PI chairs
 - PI workbook
 - PSA's
 - Workshops
 - Hotline
- Discussed issues and successes with PI
 - The hotline and PSA's have brought newcomers to AA meetings
 - Workshops have been successful
 - Hotline calls are not always answered – we need to step up ourselves some
- Reviewed Area PI Chair report
- Reviewed Webmaster report
 - Reviewed the online Triangle subscription service and it will be turned on Monday!
 - 90,000 page views YTD

A motion was brought to the committee and discussed

The committee recommends that the webmaster budget for 2017 and subsequent years be increased to from \$160 to \$210 to cover the costs of fonts used on the website. **Passed unanimously in committee**

- Reviewed the PI motions discussed at the 2016 GSC

- Committee will develop proposals to implement a Google-for-nonprofit and a Twitter account and bring information back to the 2017 GSC
- Will distribute the French and Spanish versions of “Tengo Esperanza”
- Reviewed the Report and Charter motions discussed at the 2016 GSC
 - Removed the sexist language from Concept 11 in the service manual.
 - Service Manual to be published biannually to save the fellowship ~\$50,000

RECOMMENDATION:

“That the Webmaster budget be increased from \$150 to \$210 to cover the cost of fonts on the website.” After discussion, it was decided that a request could be made to the Treasurer to increase the budget which had yet to be presented, so the committee rescinded the motion.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

GSR BREAKOUT 9:00 – 10:00 PM (Led by Past Delegate, Andrew W.)

Topics:

1. How to get others involved in service
 - Sponsees nominated for service
 - Consistency in bus. Mtgs. & Area
 - Lead by example
 - Having alternate positions available
 - Having “smaller” service positions such as “chip” person or greeter, etc.
 - Sharing service experiences
 - Keeping positive attitude & ask for help
 - Encourage participation
2. What are the requirements to be GSR?
 - Generally two years is acceptable
 - Hold service positions @ other levels, such as supply person, greeter, opener, etc.
 - Show up @ business meetings
 - Explain importance of service work to new people. Looking forward to Fall Assembly.
 - Encourage alternate positions
 - For groups that can afford it, send alternate GSRs to Area all through rotation as altern.
3. What are the responsibilities of GSR?
 - Try to fill needs of the group
 - Attendance @ business meetings & commitment to attend district
 - Don’t assert personal opinions but just convey opinion of your group
 - Give accurate report from Area to the group
 - Being a guardian of the Traditions; being conduit of principles. FSRs are lifeblood of Assembly
 - Recognize not only importance of 12 Steps but also 12 Traditions & 12 Concepts. Being willing to study Concepts &, with all 36 principles, carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic

4. What's a good time to hold a business meeting?
 - Group conscience...business mtg.
 - Business mtg. after regular mtg. sometimes works best
 - Pg. 74 has a "rule"
 - Some groups have chosen to stop mtg. and have cake & short bus. Mtg. & then go on w/meeting.
5. What to do with disruptive children
 - If you bring a child & they become disruptive, you will be asked to leave
 - Members take turns going out w/children to occupy them
 - Some meetings don't want to make anyone leave
 - Practice love & tolerance in meetings, esp. toward children
 - Some identify more w/unruly kids than old timers. Sometimes you can create toy chests or color books for kids
 - Closed meetings
 - Liability insurance should be checked
 - Give them something to do
 - People to watch them, i.e. babysitters

DCM BREAKOUT 9:00 – 10:00 PM (Led by Past Delegate, Maryann W.)

Mainly we discussed problems within the districts. It seems there is a lot of disinterest with the groups concerning the districts. Technology could be part of the problems as e-mails are sent out rather than visiting the groups in person. Another major conflict was with Intergroups attempting to accomplish the same things as the districts.

ROUNDUP AND INTERGROUP REPORTS SUNDAY SESSION 8:00 -8:30 AM

SPRING 2016 ROUNDUP

(no report received) Andrew W. reported there were over 400 attendees.

FALL 2016 ROUNDUP

Molly S. reported there were currently 198 registered with 375 registrations needed to break even; scholarships were available; registration forms available on the website www.bozemanroundup.com and flyers; the Holiday Inn agreed to honor the same price for rooms as the Gran Tree, just mention "Bozeman AA Roundup when reserving a room; the meal cutoff is 9/25/16.

SPRING 2017 ROUNDUP

Dear Area 40 Fall Assembly! Are you a group of people that absolutely insist upon enjoying life? If you are, then you must attend the 2017 Spring Roundup in Billings!

Our theme is Participation is the Key to Harmony. As you probably know, harmony is the combination of simultaneously sounded musical notes to produce a chord having a pleasing effect. We will have many notes including speakers, meetings, workshop, a poker run, a scavenger hunt, a trolley ride, a sidewalk barbecue with live music, an ice cream social, and more. We need you to attend to make this a most memorable event.

There are flyers on the table. Dave O is willing to take your registrations today. Please join us at the Big Horn Resort May 19-21, 2017.

We are very excited for you to join us.

Carole B.

Roundup Committee Chair

FALL 2017 ROUNDUP

(no report received) Teyrl R. reported the event will be held 10/13/17 -10/15/17 at Fairmont Hot Springs Resort.

INTERGROUP REPORTS

FLATHEAD VALLEY: Intergroup is going strong and currently gearing up for the election of all positions for the 2017-2018 rotation. Nominations will be given in October and elections in November. We meet the last Saturday of every month at 6:30pm at the Columbia Falls United Church. Flathead people, please come join us!

We have the big Thanksgiving feast coming up at our November meeting with Intergroup providing the turkey and mashed potatoes and the remaining food to be potluck assigned by last initial.

Last summer we had a great turn out at our Emery Bay campout with one loop open for Thursday night campers. Next summer, 2017, we have reserved both loop A and B from Thursday through Sunday for our campout.

If you're looking for fun in the Flathead, either living there or heading our way, please check us out on the web at AA-Northwest Montana or Google Kalispell Intergroup.

In service,

Raymona K.-A.

Liaison for Dist. 91 to Flathead Valley Intergroup

SOUTH CENTRAL: (no report)

PAST DELEGATE SHARING 8:30 – 9:00AM

Past Panel 40 Delegate, Maryann W., who drove over 1,000 miles to get here from Nebraska, gave some highlights of her service in Area 40 starting out in 1979 as Area Secretary/Treasurer (it was one position back then.) She got busy studying the Steps and Traditions. There were very few women in AA back then. Today she is 79 years old and 41 years sober!

Past Panel 57 Delegate and Past West Central Regional Trustee, Andrew W., observed some trends he's noticed in AA. In 1998, his first Area 40 Assembly, there was one member from Montana at the General Service Conference. In 2007, there were two members: Andrew, as Delegate, and Mary D., GSO Staff. In 2016, there were four Montana members: Andrew, as WCR Trustee; Carole B., AAWS Director; Libbie L., Area 40 Delegate; and Scott R., Area 92 Delegate, from Libby, MT. At this rate we should soon have eight Montanans serving at GSC! He encouraged us all to make ourselves available for service, to talk to our families, employers and/or sponsors. He's been grateful for the support of his wife during his many absences due to service commitments. It has been challenging and exciting. He's gotten to work with delegates from all over and says that Area 40 has been well served. His last assembly was in British Columbia as an invited guest since their Regional Trustee, Marty, had passed away. Because BC is such a large Area, many members have to fly to get to their assembly! And we complain about our drives in Montana!

DELEGATE'S REPORT (Area 40 Delegate, Libbie L.) 8:55-9:20 AM

Activities since the spring assembly:

- GSC NYC
- Missoula Round Up and the Maggot Fest
- Delegate Reports –thanks to everyone for having me and listening to information
- Many miles of getting in the car
- Wyoming State Convention Speaker
- Moab Utah vacation with the husband
- Oaxaca Mexico- meetings in both places

Upcoming:

- Havre Mini Conference
- Bozeman Round Up
- Fall Refresher-Dave O and Dorothy W
- San Juan Island bike trip

GSC Rundown:

What I thought, felt and saw:

I had fun with Mary. She took care of me well. There were 4 Montanans at the GSC. It was a privilege serving with Andrew. I also had a great time hanging with the Western Canada and Pacific Region people (including my “buddy” Dave from Arizona.) Had a cool last dinner, looked around the table and there were 4 trustees.

Agenda Results-short form copies

Plain language, translations, agenda setting, lot of time discussing the presentation topics

- Final Conference Reports-have arrived to be freely distributed
- Remember our Inventory reports –Action taken
- Not done and neither are you.
- GSR schools and Service Workshops

Conclusion:

For that last several years you have seen my family photos and travelogues and I appreciate your patience and attention. I hope you enjoyed it a little bit. I've shared with you about my 2 children and my parents and siblings. So there's one guy left to tell you about. The man I have been married to for the last 26 ½ years. Early in my sobriety we were separated and I had fantasies of him being dead. I had stepped on the toes of this fellow, and he retaliated. After time, this program changed all that. This reading describes us well.

Pg. 99 Working with Others-(gender revised):

If there be divorce or separation, there should be no undue haste for the couple to get together. The woman should be sure of her recovery. The husband should fully understand her new way of life. If their old relationship is to be resumed it must be on a better basis, since the former did not work. This means a new attitude and spirit all around. Sometimes it is to the best interests of all concerned that a couple remains apart. Obviously, no rule can be laid down. Let the alcoholic continue her program day by day. When the time for living together has come, it will be apparent to both parties.

Let no alcoholic say she cannot recover unless she has her family back. This just isn't so. In some cases the husband will never come back for one reason or another. Remind the prospect that her recovery is not dependent upon people. It is dependent upon her relationship with God. We have seen women get well whose families have not returned at all. We have seen others slip when the family came back too soon.

Both you and the new woman must walk day by day in the path of spiritual progress. If you persist, remarkable things will happen. When we look back, we realize that the things which came to us when we put ourselves in God's hands were better than anything we could have planned. Follow the dictates of a Higher Power and you will presently live in a new and wonderful world, no matter what your present circumstances.

Every day I live in a new and wonderful world. Through the struggles and circumstances of life, AA and all of you have been there for me as I try to be there for you. It is impossible to express how much gratitude and joy I have in my heart right now.

Remarkable things have happened, and I can't wait to see what's next.

Thank you

2017-18 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS (Posted Sunday morning)

COMMITTEE	DCM	DISTRICT REP
Public Information	93 91	72 31
CPC	41 11	12 51
Grapevine	31 21	61 91
Archives	51 71	93 42
Corrections	61 81	11 23
Treatment	72 42	81 41
Literature	12	41 11 61
Finance	23	71

FLOOR ASSEMBLY CONTINUED 9:35 – 11:00 AM

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (Area 40 CPC Chr., Paul L.)

REPORT:

Howdy, I'm an alcoholic and my name is Paul. I am the Chair for the Area 40 CPC committee for this rotation. It has been an honor to serve Area 40 and the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous in this capacity.

I have not been very busy as the chair of this committee but I have had the opportunity to make 2 presentations on behalf of the CPC Committee.

- District 72 hosted a workshop on "Sponsoring Your Professional". I was able to attend with 2 other District 91 members interested in CPC work. The CPC Chair from District 72 worked very hard with the committee to organize this. There was a good turnout and we had lots of fun role playing different scenarios about how to talk to your Health Care Provider or your Clergy person about your alcoholism, sobriety and your willingness to help another suffering alcoholic.
- I was contacted by the coordinator of the Family Medical Residency program for Western Montana and made a presentation about A.A. There were 6 or 7 doctors working on their residency in family medicine and I was able to make a short presentation about A.A. and what it does and doesn't do. I felt the most beneficial part of the presentation was the question and answer time I had with them. They had good questions about anonymity and what to do if a patient comes back to them and says A.A. doesn't work because their sponsor drank.
- Last month I attended the Western Canada Regional Forum in Kamloops B.C. I had arranged to meet with the Area 78 CPC Chair and we were able to exchange notes about what we were doing in our Areas. I learned that there is a very active CPC Committee in Alberta and received some ideas for service opportunities in our Area.

Finally, I am at the sunset of this service position, but if there are any districts or groups in Area 40 that would like some information about what Cooperation with the Professional Community means and what we can do please let me know. I am willing to participate in any type of event that would help inform professionals about the message that A.A. has. It is important that we continue to carry this message to non-alcoholic professionals about who we are and what we can offer to the alcoholic interested in recovery.

Yours in service,
Paul L., Area 40 CPC Chair

COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

Attended By: Voting members: Paul L., CPC Comm. Chair, David O. DCM Dist. 11, Margaret P. DCM Dist 81 and Pat District 12 Guest: Brynn C. District 91.

The CPC Comm. Chair gave his report. Discussion on how the presentations went and what the opportunities for improvement were.

Reviewed action from the General Service Conf. regarding pamphlets for CPC.

- Adding a new section to "If you are a Professional",
- Adding words to broaden the businesses addressed in the Pamphlet "Is there an Alcoholic in the Workplace?"

- Minor revisions to “How A.A. Members Cooperate with Professionals”.
- Reviewing a draft paragraph in pamphlet “Problems Other Than Alcohol”.
- The decision to take no action regarding discontinuing the pamphlet “Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W.”.
- A request to explore ways to integrate technology into C.P.C. exhibits at professional conferences.
- Reviewed the contents of the C.P.C. Kit and Workbook. Suggestions to add more material to it was made.

Reviewed action from the General Service Conf. regarding the Trustees Comm.

- Discussed the plan to replace a Regional Trustee if a vacancy occurs.

Reviewed the Area 40 Policies and Procedures as it pertains to the work of the C.P.C. Committee and the Committee Chair.

Open discussion was then held about what we are doing in our individual Groups and Districts to carry the message of A.A. as it pertains to the work of the C.P.C. Committee.

FINANCE (Area 40 Treasurer, Mary M.)

REPORT:

I want to thank you all for allowing me to serve as Area 40 Treasurer and Finance Chair this rotation. It has been a pleasure. I look forward to helping our incoming Treasurer transition smoothly into this position. It usually starts with a gathering of a few alcoholics doing an audit of the books the first of the year. Fun road trip in the middle of the winter! I think Fairmont Hotsprings would be a good choice to meet.

Thank you to all the groups that have contributed their 7th tradition and also the individuals that continue to support Area 40. It has made this rotation easy to balance and Area 40 to be self-supporting. There have been 105 groups, out of 266 registered groups, that have contributed so far this year.

I had an amazing trip to NYC with our Delegate in April to the GSC!! I would not have had the opportunity if I had not been Sober and involved in service work. So grateful and blessed to have had that experience. Our trusted servants really work hard all week at the Conference while the guests get to experience the City! The NYC intergroup hosts were fabulous and worked hard at keeping all the giddy guests under control. Stepping Stones was a highlight for sure and I was able to go to a few local meetings. The food is the best and hanging out with Gary E was priceless.

The work of our committee this assembly is the 2017 budget which I will be presenting that budget to the floor of this Assembly for approval.

There are finance reports available by the coffee area, near the donation basket. There are also Birthday contribution envelopes back there and the history of self-support. I have the 66th GSC Financial PowerPoint which was presented by our GSB Treasurer at the Conference in April on a travel disc if anyone is interested in downloading it to their computer.

All finance reports are put on the Area 40 website for you to view. I also send the reports out to committee chairs and DCMs. Please remember Area 40 when groups do their splits.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our Finance committee, Libbie, Alex, Don, and Grant for always showing up and contributing.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service, it has been an honor,
Mary M, Area 40 Treasurer

COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

2016 FALL FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer, all members present plus three visitors.

Finance – Area 40

A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Treasurer

Mary M read her committee report for review by the Committee. Committee agreed to have Mary read the report with a couple of edits.

B. Approve 2017 Area 40 Budget

Committee reviewed the 2017 proposed budget line by line for approval. Discussion brought a few changes to line items and the final proposed 2017 budget of \$33,430 was approved by the committee unanimously.

Motion Made and Seconded for approval to take to the floor of the assembly.

Also the Committee is recommending that an agenda item be considered for the Spring 2017 assembly that reviews the use of Directory Listings and how we do this and the associated costs.

C. Review Area 40 Policy & Procedures on Treasurer and Finance Committee

Committee reviewed the Area 40 Policy & Procedure manual around the Treasurer position its requirements and duties. Committee agreed the section was fine as written. We then reviewed the manual section outlining the Finance Committee, its requirements and duties. Committee found no changes were needed.

Finance – GSC

IV.2016 GSC FINANCE FROM LIBBIE SHORT FORM

No increases in fees or contribution limits.

Use the “Seventh Tradition Fact Sheet” (F-203)

A. Review results of all Finance committee items considered, reviewed, and discussed at the 2016 GSC

Committee reviewed and discussed the 2016 GSC results of the Finance Committee items. Nothing changed at the conference. The Committee continues to feel that the consideration to add the 7th Tradition Fact Sheet to the self-support packet is implemented. We discussed the continued financial struggles of GSO and ask the Area fellowship to remember them in their group splits.

FOR REFERENCE AT OUR FALL 2016 FINANCE COMMITTEE BREAKOUT AT AREA ASSEMBLY

Finance – GSC From SPRING 2016 Area Assembly

A. Review suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference.

Committee reviewed Area 40 Contribution of \$1,600 for our Delegate to the GSC and agreed we were ok with this amount. This is a standing agenda item at the GSC.

B. Review the Conference approved level of \$5,000 for individual bequests to the General Service Board from A.A Members.

Committee reviewed the one time bequest amount of \$5,000. We discussed that it is a few years till the normal increase that happens 7+ years typically.

C. Review the Conference approved maximum annual contribution to the General Service Board from an individual A.A Member of \$3,000.

We reviewed this agenda item. We were for increasing last spring assembly to the \$5,000. This agenda item came out of committee at the 2015 GSC to approve and failed on the floor. AND FAILED AT THE 2016 GSC

D. Discuss material from A.A.W.S. Self-Support Committee.

The committee really liked the new flyer ‘Your 7th Tradition Contributions, Carrying Our Message Beyond Your Home Group’ Simple and easy to understand. I am going to read a letter from Chet P, who is on the Board of Directors at GSO. The flyer is available on aa.org website.

E. Review Self-Support Packet.

Committee reviewed the packet and loves it. We thought it would be nice to add the new service piece from agenda item D. above to be added to the packet.

RECOMMENDATION:

“To approve the 2017 Area 40 Budget in the amount of \$33,430.” It was moved and seconded to amend the budget motion to cover expenses for the Archivist to attend the Archivist workshop in Winnipeg not to exceed \$1,500. AMENDMENT PASSED: 71 FOR, 0 OPPOSED

AMENDED MOTION TO APPROVE 2017 BUDGET IN AMOUNT OF \$34,930 PASSED: 75 FOR, 0 OPPOSED

			Final 2017 Budget
Spring Assembly			5,200.00
Fall Assembly			5,200.00
Regional Service Conference			1,500.00
Regional Forum			1,500.00
Regional Trustee			800.00
Delegate Expenses			
Area 40 share to GSC			1,600.00
Other Expenses			200.00
Other Expenses NYC			400.00
Roundups			600.00
Travel expenses			1,500.00
Total Delegate Expenses			4,300.00
Area Chair Expenses			300.00
Archivist Account			
Archivist Display,Supplies & Travel			1,650.00
Archives Storage & Utilities			3,850.00
Total Archivist Account			5,500.00
Literature			
General literature purchases			200.00
Total Literature			
Public Information			
Area Hotline Expenses			3,000.00
Directory Listings			2,200.00
Total Public Information			5,200.00
Website			210.00
Triangle			2,500.00
Committee Chair Post/Supplies			350.00
Committee Chair Travel			2,000.00
Computer Hardware/Software			150.00
Conference/Phone Calls			0.00
Ad Hoc Committee			0.00
Annual Filing Fee			20.00
TOTAL		41	34,930.00

GRAPEVINE (Area 40 Grapevine Chr., Chris W.)

REPORT:

Hello Area 40,

My name is Chris and I am an alcoholic.

This is going to be my last area 40 assembly in a service position. As many know I have relocated to the far western edge of Montana. The community I reside in is actually in Area 92 and is a more practical location for me to be of service. I have an opportunity to take what all of you have taught me and use it to be of complete service to the still suffering alcoholic.

You are the first real family I have experienced that never openly judged and have welcomed me with open arms. Thank you for walking the past 8 years next to me.

I want to invite all of the area to renew your subscriptions or start a new subscription to the Grapevine Magazine, our meeting in print.

Grow your Grapevine challenge is still going on. The Area with the greatest number of Arbor Cards submitted will be featured online and in the magazine. Get together with your friends, your home group, as a group of groups, district or area to complete as many activities as you wish. Go online at aagrapevine.org to learn more, get your arbor card, and activity ideas.

Grapevine's new book "Our Twelve Traditions" is available now. You can order it and many others through the store on the AA grapevine page.

For those who are into technology there is a GV subscription App. You can subscribe through the app, download your issue for off-line viewing, archive past issues, and more. What's the cost you ask, well it's just \$23.99 for a 12 month subscription.

Make your plans and add your events to our online calendar at www.aagrapevine.org Grapevine is always looking for stories, photographs, and illustrations. Please Visit www.aagrapevine.org/share to learn more about how you can participate with Grapevine. To listen to two free audio stories, visit www.aagrapevine.org

I was invited to a couple of events this summer which I was unable to attend due to my new job and relocating.

It has been an honor to serve this rotation as your Area 40 grapevine Chair. Thank you!

COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

Grapevine/Policy & Admissions Standing Committee notes:

- Reviewed GSC report
- Discussed interest in members interested in standing for Area Grapevine chair
- Talked about how to promote GV in community

- Read description of GV responsibilities form Area 40 Policy and Procedures
- Read Ami B.'s report from the GSC Final Report
- Discussed difference between AA World Services and AA Grapevine, Inc.
- Report from Chris W.
- Reviewed Policy and Admissions GSC report

Attendees: Ryan, Carolyn, Marty, Duane, Lisa, Troy, Gene, Casey, Chris

LITERATURE (Area 40 Literature Chr., Jake L.)

REPORT:

Hello everyone,

My name is Jake L. and I am an alcoholic. It has been a pleasure to continue to serve as the Area 40 Literature Committee Chair. I want to thank everyone who attend these Assemblies and help keep Alcoholics Anonymous alive. I'd like to express my deep gratitude and thanks for the opportunity to serve for something that has added so much to my life. Thank you to the participants who have continued to attend the literature committee breakout for their lively discussion and input.

I continue to maintain a detailed inventory of the literature we have in stock and replenished this missing and low items, mostly pamphlets. Feel free to help yourself but please remember these are provided by Area 40 and feel obligated to contribute if you take any stock.

We continue to have the Area 40 literature display in the back of the room, and I hope you will take some time to browse through the literature available to the fellowship. Our literature is an important mechanism for carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic. The feedback of this Area, and all the others like it, are vital. If you, your group or district have any questions please feel free to contact me, and will do my best to get them answered. I am here to serve Area 40, so if your group or district have an event that you would like to showcase the Area 40 literature display, please let me know.

Thank you for allowing me to serve Area 40.
Jake L., Area 40 Literature Committee Chair

COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

Committee members

D41 GSR - Lee T

D11 GSR - Joan C.

~~D42 GSR - Dwayne C.~~

~~D31 Kathie B.~~

Area 40 Literature - Jake L. D72

Attendees: Tony 72, John 61, Susan 93, Scott 72, Kurt 91, Gary 91, Kevin 72, Jeff 11, Matt 81, Dan 91

We reviewed the following items from GSC:

- A. Consider developing a plain language version of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous
- A. Review A.A.W.S. report on "pagination" of Conference-approved digital books
- B. Revision of pamphlet "AA for the Woman"

- C. Review progress report on the revision of the pamphlet "A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic"
- D. Review progress report on the development of literature for A.A.'s with mental issues and those who sponsor them.
- E. Development of a plan for the systematic review of A.A. recovery literature.
- F. Review revised draft pamphlet "Inside A.A.: Understanding the Fellowship and Its Services."
- G. Consider request for revision to the pamphlet "Young People and A.A."
- H. Consider request to update the pamphlet "Twelve Traditions; Illustrated"

We reviewed the responsibilities of the Area 40 Literature chair as outlined in the Policies and Procedures.

- No action.

We reviewed the requirements of the Area 40 Literature chair as outlined in the Policies and Procedures.

- No action.

GENERAL SHARING

Approximately 45 minutes of general sharing at the mics included many announcements of upcoming events and lots of expressions of gratitude. The Assembly adjourned at 11:00 AM.

DCM REPORTS

DISTRICT 11

Once again, a hearty HEY HO! on behalf of District 11 (THE FIGHTIN 11TH!) in Southcentral Montana. Again, District 11 is located between Highways 72, 3 & 87 to the west; Highway 200 to the north; Highway 47 and Interstate 90 to the east; and Wyoming to the south, covering approximately 7,000 square miles, including parts of Big Horn, Yellowstone, Golden Valley, Musselshell, Petroleum, and Treasure counties.

There are currently approximately 25 groups and 117 meetings per week in District 11, from the 6:30 AM Brown Bagger's meeting until the 10:00 PM meeting on Fridays and Saturdays at the 644 Group.

Approximately 46 unique people from 15 separate Groups have attended our monthly District Meetings thus far in 2016, with regular representation of 10 Groups by their GSRs.

Thanks to my fellow outgoing Officers of District 11 for your time, energy, and commitment...Katie C (*Alt DCM*), Don M (*Treasurer*), and Claire M (*Secretary*).

We were able to elect a DCM for the 2017-2018 rotation. Thanks to Bob K. for being responsible and stepping up when asked yet again, just now finishing a rotation as our Treatment Committee Chair.

Thanks as well to the outgoing Committee Chairs: Kacy K (*Corrections*) Doug D (*PI/CPC*), Chuck D (*Hotline*) and Wayne R (*Intergroup Liaison*). Thanks as well to Lisa D for being the interim Grapevine Rep, and deciding to stand for the upcoming rotation as well. Thanks, too, to Terri T for finishing out the rotation as Bridging the Gap Coordinator, and stepping up to chair the PI/CPC Committee for the next two years.

We are especially glad to welcome Joan E and Mal T to District 11 service, our incoming Archives and Treatment Committee Chairs, respectively.

District 11 held a Corrections Workshop on May 21 at the Big Horn Resort, which included pertinent local professionals and speakers, as well as members of local AA. An informative, good time was had by all. Thanks to Kacy and the Corrections Committee for their hard work.

District 11 once again gratefully participated with District 12 and other brothers and sisters at the annual Fireman's Point Campout, August 12-14. I could not attend, but I am told there was an obscene amount of spam-filled goodies at the Friday Night Spam Cook-off. I do not know of any spam-related injuries. There was a fishing, hiking, biking, and a great float on Saturday. District 11 cooked breakfast for the group on Sunday, followed by an informative and engaging – alas, albeit PowerPoint-less – Delegate's report from Libbie. Good times with great people!

The Spring 2017 Roundup will be held in Billings May 19-21. Carole B and her committee are already some ten months into committee work on what promises to be a glorious event. Flyers are on the Area 40 website (as well as on the back table). 2017 Spring Roundup Committee meetings are the first Monday of every month at 6:30pm at Perkins/Downtown.

I want to thank District 11 for the opportunity to serve, and for their patience and tolerance while I learned more of what that means. This position has taught me much, and you have been great teachers. CARRY ON, FIGHTIN 11TH!!!

So come on down and join us for any meeting any time, or at the District meeting on the second Saturday of the month at 10am at 2931 Colton Blvd, a space we share with the Southcentral MT Intergroup. The coffee and donuts will be waiting.

Dave O. A.A. Area 40 District 11 DCM dcm11@aa-montana.org 406.670.7107

DISTRICT 12

Hello Area 40.

I'm Dave R. DCM District 12, Sobriety Date is May 18th 2008. It is with great sorrow that I will not be giving this report after Dave O. again after today, he will rotate out and I too with a little luck. District 12 has 9 active meetings from Harlowton, Laurel, up to Red Lodge and towns in between. We hold our District meetings at the laurel Home Group the third Sunday of every month. We struggle with attendance but we still get our events done.

Our events are the Mid-Winter Social and Fireman's Point Campout. The Mid-Winter Social in February was the largest to date and had Great Attendance from District 11. If this happens again we'll be looking for a larger place. August is our annual Fireman's Point campout. Friday night we started off the event

with the 4th annual SPAM Cook Off and had over 60 entrees, you would not believe the dishes that people come up with. Louis P. was our Camp fire speaker from N.H. Saturday was the SOB run with Bob M. memorial at Woodbine Falls and back to a BBQ potluck. Dave L of Kentucky was our fireside Speaker for the evening. Both of the speakers did a great job of sharing their experience, strength, and hope. We wrapped up the event with District 11 cooking Breakfast for everyone. Thank you Dave O. and the crew!! We closed with Libbie L. giving the Delegates report to a large crowd.

Being DCM has been one of the great's things I have done in my sobriety, service to one's group. District or Area is what has kept me sober for the last 8 years and hopefully many more to come. I have many new friends now from all over Montana.

Thank you all for helping me stay sober.

Dave R.

DISTRICT 21

(none)

DISTRICT 23

Good Morning everyone, I'm Todd M., serving as your DCM for district 23 for the remainder of this rotation.

Meetings are Alive and well in District 23, Glendive has a total of 6 active meetings a week, Sidney has 8 active meetings, and Fairview has 2 unregistered meetings for a grand total of 64 great meetings a month.

Lower Yellowstone Soberfest was a success again this year, With 65 people in attendance throughout the weekend to listen to Brenda C. speak. Looking forward to seeing everyone there next year to hear Wally P. the personal archivist for Bill W..

Welcome Home group hosted a fish fry / bbq which was well received. The Monday & Friday noon group hosted a turkey and ham luncheon/ game day that was well received as well.

District 23 will be having their District meeting, October 1st for post assembly review; This will also serve as our election meeting for the next rotation for DCM and Secretary / Treasurer.

It has been a privilege to have served as DCM for this last rotation.

Truly yours in service, Todd M., outgoing District 23 DCM.

DISTRICT 31

Lance B., alcoholic, DCM District 31.

Good morning from District 31 covering the SE corner of Montana. That's a large and largely unpopulated portion of the state where it is typically between 50 and 120 miles from any meeting place to any other meeting place for AA. And those two places are apt to have one or two or three people who regularly attend a weekly meeting. The point is that when you see several people at the district table from 21, 23, or 31, you know that several have gone out of their way to attend Area 40's semiannual meeting, often at their own expense.

That was how Bud n., sometimes described as the most humble man some of us have ever known personally, did it. I travelled with him to Area for a several years from 1986 to 1994. Even though I still smoked a pipe and would not spend for myself, he let me take his car to sleep in, bought me food and

stopped at regular intervals so that I could get out and smoke. I could always count on his presence even though he usually had to pay for it himself. Bud's funeral was in Jordan last Saturday; he died safe and sane and sober of Alzheimer's at age 89, I believe.

So how is 31 doing? I feel good about this report even though it's the only one I'll be making. We had our district elections last Sunday and chose Gene M., GSR of the Unity Group in Miles City as our incoming DCM. We used the third legacy procedure as outlined in the service manual. Gene is here today and I believe has been to each assembly since his election to GSR. In addition, he read the DCM report for 31 at the last assembly and before I was asked to complete the term of our last DCM. Thank you, Gene.

In addition to all the older meetings which are accurately listed on our meeting list at www.aa-montana.org, we have one newer meeting on Sundays at 10 AM in Miles City – the usual place – the Drywell, and that is a secular meeting. I'll be glad to answer any questions you may have about the structure of that meeting. Also there is a new set of meetings scheduled to begin in Hysham on Oct. 3 by Ralph S. who is to be here with us today. And I've learned the location and times of meetings in Lame Deer and Busby over the last 3 months that I've been DCM. Birney may be bringing a new meeting into the fold though that was introduced to me by the Lame Deer Baptist minister and so may violate Tradition 3 (no other affiliation.)

One more project has been brought up to date and that is that our Bridging the Gap listing is current, though Broadus has lost their GSR. The female contact has a Wyoming prefix which cannot be entered in the form Area 40 provides – thus we need help there.

The last 3 months of my term I shall be working with Gene to get all our group information in with contact information. As you are aware, many tiny groups really just have a de facto GSR – someone who has kept the meeting going for many years but never was actually elected. We count on them just like a formal GSR in the larger groups. That effort will require trips to all of our groups in the district, preferable at business meetings, but if those are not available, we'll just have to make regular meetings work for us. I expect each group will wind up with a current service manual as we get them registered and Gene and I will be trying to encourage use of that manual.

In Miles City we also have a halfway house with about 7 residents. We considered registering them as a group since they have two meetings a week and have been pretty consistent. The reason I've found for not registering them is twofold: 1) Tradition 3 suggests that the group have no other affiliation and the house is just such an entity 2) Turnover is so great that we'd be continually registering new GSRs, I expect. But despite not being an AA group, I've listed their meetings on our Area meeting list. If anyone feels that's a mistake, I would like to hear about it.

Thank you all for welcoming me back for a single performance.

DISTRICT 41

(no report received)

DISTRICT 42

All current meetings on State website

East Glacier Grizzly Group...nice location, great people, stop and see them this summer, Tuesday and Thursday 7:00 PM

Browning...most nights at Treatment Center...7:00PM located on south side of hospital, difficult to locate, ask at hospital for directional help

Cut Bank...holding steady, help from Treatment Court

Shelby...holding steady, help from Treatment Court

Conrad...good numbers, steady turnout

Choteau...struggling, most nights 2-3

Chester...no meetings

August...good meeting Fri. evening, not registered, will be registering

Dutton, steady turnout, members from both districts

Kevin...not registered, small meeting, trying to get going

Crossroads...few attendees, 1-3 State side, more on Fed side, usually 6-10..hear that they should have stayed in the program, lots of inmates with AA experience

Steady turnout to most groups, struggling some nights because of low numbers, Treatment Court sends most new attendees

Kurt K., DCM

DISTRICT 51

District 51 is a relatively small group of recovering alcoholics. We lost one of our own this summer which profoundly reminded us that alcoholism is a deadly disease.

There were campouts in June, July and August in Beaver Creek Park, that largest county park in the United States. The Road to Recovery group hosted a picnic and meeting in a city park.

Next weekend, September 23-25, is our annual Mini-Conference. AA speakers are Mari G. from Toronto, Ontario and Mike M. from Kalispell. The al-Anon speaker is George E. from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. For \$40 you get three great speaker, three workshops, a steak dinner, a potato bar lunch and a delicious Sunday morning breakfast. We think it's the best deal in the Region.

On October 16, the district is hosting a GSR Workshop at the Alano Club at 2110 Hwy #2 East followed by a feed and speaker. The leader for the workshop will be Joe from Belt.

We will be having meetings soon at the Hill County Detention Center. One evening a week, we will alternate between a women's meeting and a men's meeting.

Even though we're small and we share district responsibilities, we meet monthly. Our District meetings are the third Sunday of the month at 3:30 PM at HRDC 4 located at 2229 5th Avenue in Havre. Join us if you're in town.

Grateful to be of service. Karen T.

DISTRICT 61

Greetings from District 61. There are more than 100 meetings a week in our district. The District meeting is well attended.

We held our elections on September 1st. I'd like to introduce the new alternate DCM, Shawn N, and Carol W, the new DCM.

The past two years have gone quickly. I have appreciated everyone's support.

District 61 has had a fun and eventful summer. The Grapefest was well attended. Bill did a great job organizing.

There has been sobriety camp outs, golfing, a river float, and other sober fellowship.

I look forward to rotating out and am excited about Carol and Shawn their thing.

In gratitude,
Rebecca S.

DISTRICT 71

Greetings from District 71 – located in the southwestern portion of this great state. We have 24 active groups with approximately 80 meetings per week. During the summer months, several groups held bar b q's – potlucks, and other outdoor events. A partial list of institutions and penal settings that District 71 covers includes: Butte pre-release, Connections Corrections, MCDC, Montana State Prison, Start program, Watch-DUI program, Warm Spring St. Hosp. and the newly opened Warm Springs Forensic unit located at Galen. Our Corrections chair is doing his best to fire up an interest in the Butte jail meetings but currently we are struggling for volunteers. In July our DCM Roxie B. retired, she and her husband are traveling across our beautiful country enjoying their retirement. We sent her off with love and our best wishes as she writes a wonderful new chapter in her life. She truly is missed! Teyrl R. stepped up from the Alternate DCM position to be the interim DCM and Dan H. stepped up to fill the Alt. DCM position. Delegate's Day was Aug. 7th at the city park in Philipsburg. Libbie's report was very informative and well received by those that attended, the food was awesome and even the weather cooperated. This month began the nomination process for all eleven of District 71 Committee chair positions. Our elections will

take place next month at our regularly scheduled meeting with new officer officially beginning service on Jan. 1st 2017. We are financially sound and have a prudent reserve. We will be hosting next year's Fall Round-up at Fairmont Hot Springs Oct. 13-14-15,2017. Fairmont has recently constructed additional conference rooms and completed extensive remodeling. We will be looking forward to seeing you there.

Yours in Service – Teyrl R., District 71 DCM

DISTRICT 72

Greetings from District 72. Our district encompasses Gallatin, Park and Madison counties. There are currently 55 active groups in District 72, holding 84 meetings per week, everywhere from Wilsall to Cooke City and West Yellowstone to Three Forks. District 72 holds its monthly business meeting the last Saturday of the month at 5pm at the Fellowship Hall in Bozeman. It's been a busy summer in District 72 with many meetings filled to capacity with the extra influx of visitors to our area from all over the country and the world.

We were graced with the presence of Area delegate Libbie L. for her report on August 13th, and like just about everything else that has gone on in District 72 this year I was out of town, but the reports I received are that it was well attended and a great time for everyone.

Our corrections and treatment committees are as usual very busy, holding meetings at Montana State Prison, Gallatin County Detention Center, Watch, MCDC, and the riverside treatment facility.

The committee in charge of the Fall 2016 Roundup is in full gear. The roundup will be held on September 30-October 2 and will be held jointly at the Gran tree Inn and Holiday Inn. The committee has put together an amazing weekend filled with fellowship and recovery and we hope to see you all there.

District 72 held elections for the upcoming rotation at our July business meeting and I'm happy to report we have filled nearly all of the positions. It is great to watch so many people step up to be of service to the still suffering alcoholic

.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve.

Ted O.

District 72 DCM

DISTRICT 81

(no report received)

DISTRICT 91

I so wish I was here!

District 91 has been very active since my last report.

Where do I start? The summer was full of camp-outs, picnics, and just plain fun. But what really amazed me was all the work The District 91 committee has taken on and how much has been accomplished. I guess that's what happens the second year of the rotation.

We had an unplanned traditions and guidelines study this summer when two of our elder statesman appeared on the front page of our local newspaper promoting the new Alano Club and while never asking for donations it did mention where they could be sent. You can't plan this stuff. The traditions came out and were read and re-read studied short and long form, guidelines consulted, calls to GSO, etc. I think every AA in our District had an opinion. When the dust settled, it was apparent no harm was intended and that guidelines are just that "guidelines" and the best thing to do would be to move forward. The result of the whole thing is we will all have a better understanding of the twelve traditions and rule 62.

Our Area Delegate gave her report at our July meeting and August brought about a service workshop designed to get people interested and involved in The District's upcoming elections. We also elected our new DCM Kacie N. (She's the one giving this report).

Our committees have also been very active with Corrections setting up a sponsor by mail program with the inmates in Flathead County Jail and a release packet program for inmates being released who would like AA literature. Our Treatment Committee has been very active and The Bridging the Gap program seems to be working. Our Public Information committee has set up brochure and schedule routes throughout the valley as well as getting Big Books into The High School & Junior High Libraries valley wide. PI also got The PSA's from GSO and they just started running on two of our local TV stations. One other idea a committee member had was a District News Letter. Short and sweet and loaded with info about District and Inter Group. It's been a great success and we hope it will be carried on by the new District Committee.

And last but not least it has been an honor to serve the fellowship that has saved my life! "When anyone anywhere reaches out for help I want the hand of AA to always be there and for that I am responsible."
Jeanie S.
DCM

DISTRICT 93

It was a busy spring and summer in District 93: a well-attended Bitterroot campout that included Libbie's excellent Delegate's Report, a delightful Norm's Picnic along the West Fork of the Bitterroot River, and increasing numbers of attendees at group meetings from Darby to Lolo and points in between. We have filled a majority of district chairs for the next rotation and the level of enthusiasm for service at the group and district level is encouraging. In short, we continue to trudge on!

In Service,
Vic M.
District 93 DCM

PASSED ACTIONS OF THIS ASSEMBLY

From the Venue Ad-Hoc Committee:

RECOMMENDATION:

"To move the 2017 Fall Assembly to Great Falls." **MOTION PASSED: 71 FOR, 10 OPPOSED**

From the Treatment Committee:

RECOMMENDATION:

"That Area 40 submit the following theme for consideration as the 2018 GSC theme: *"Singleness of Purpose – Insuring AA's Future"*. **MOTION PASSED: 77 FOR, 3 OPPOSED**

From the Archive Committee:

RECOMMENDATION:

"That the Area Chair appoint an ad-hoc committee to review the committee assignment, selection and replacement process, and report back to the Archives Committee for the Spring 2017 Assembly."

MOTION PASSED: 76 FOR, 5 OPPOSED

From the Finance Committee:

RECOMMENDATION:

"To approve the 2017 Area 40 Budget in the amount of \$33,430." It was moved and seconded to amend the budget motion to cover expenses for the Archivist to attend the Archivist workshop in Winnipeg not to exceed \$1,500. **AMENDMENT PASSED: 71 FOR, 0 OPPOSED**

AMENDED MOTION TO APPROVE 2017 BUDGET IN AMOUNT OF \$34,930 PASSED: 75 FOR, 0 OPPOSED