

THE TRIANGLE

AREA 40, Inc.

Volume 20 Issue 2

MARCH 2012

SPRING PRE-ASSEMBLY ISSUE

WHAT HAVE WE DONE LATELY?

From Your Editor

Up to speed. That's one way to look at pre-assemblies. With a West Central Regional A.A. Service Conference this weekend in *our* backyard (Billings, Montana), and an Assembly coming up (in April) pre-assemblies are taking place around the Area. The scope of the current issue, accordingly, is geared for putting some information at your fingertips concerning *what*

Continued below

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It's almost spring. After the West Central Regional Service Conference in Billings the first weekend of March, we have three pre-assemblies across our Area, then our Spring Assembly, then our Spring Roundup, and it will be summer in the twinkling of an eye. Meantime, practicing alcoholics are drinking, dying, and sometimes killing others in the process, all over Montana. There are more than 30 of them for each one of us in A.A. What can we do?

How many treatment facilities, correctional facilities, courthouses, law enforcement offices, professional and occupational organizations, unions, schools, churches, mental health facilities, doctor's offices and hospitals are there in my town and your town, in my district and your district? When was the last time my group or your group, my district or your district, got in touch with each one of those, to offer them our literature, information about A.A., meeting lists, contact information, Bridging the Gap and Tem-

porary Contact forms for their inmates, residents, patients and clients, or maybe a panel to present info about what A.A. does and doesn't do?



All those places and lots more, deal with practicing alkies, our prospects, our future members. When did we last drop in and talk to the folks in every one of those places?

Last year, we spent the last of Area 40's excess money. It's been several years since we had nothing beyond our prudent reserve, but now we have achieved our ideal level of "corporate poverty". What Area 40 is ca-

pable of will now be based on what we all do, and not just on how much money we contribute to Area 40. It will also depend on what we do in our communities to make sure our prospects can find us.

Across Area 40, our members, our groups and our districts B we live next door to all those places that have to deal with our prospects. We can drop in and get acquainted, so they know how to send our prospects to us, to you, to your group, my group, your district, my district.

If we invite our Area committee members (officers and Area committee chairs) to participate, they will come. But with them or without them, we are on the front line. When those active alcoholics reach out for help in our communities, we local members are the ones who can make sure that the hand of A.A. is always there.

Good luck and God bless and keep us all!

Terry S., Panel 61,
Area 40 (Montana)

FROM YOUR EDITOR (cont.)

happened last fall, *what's on* the agenda for the upcoming up Assembly, *and hope* for ongoing efforts in carrying the message to future generations of alcoholics. Take time to discuss the information in this issue with

members of your home group. After experiencing what is going on at the WCRAASC get people in the car and aim toward one of the pre-assemblies. There is a lot more to Alcoholics Anonymous than what we find at our local meetings.

At the same time, in order to make our meetings everything than can be for the still suffering alcoholic, and to insure their existence for the future let's continue our participation in all of these events. Lee T.

Area 40 Newsletter Editor

GLOSSARY OF TERMS:

ASSEMBLY AGENDA: The assembly agenda consists of the scheduling of committee meetings, workshops, breakouts, elections, and floor assemblies (that time when all members of the assembly are gathered together to transact business for the Area).

The construction of the agenda is the responsibility of the Area Chairperson through consultation with the Area Committee as a whole.

It is also the responsibility of the Chairperson to assign to the proper standing service committee Area items submitted for consideration.

The Area Chairperson may return agenda items to their source if they lack support of a group, district or committee; or if the item is a local matter.

COMMITTEE AGENDA: A list of things to be discussed at the meeting of the standing committee.

The committee agenda will be: Those items that appear on the corresponding agenda(s) from the General Service Conference.

(These agendas are distributed through the Area 40 Delegate to the Standing Committee Chairpersons. The agendas are usually available by the third week in February. The primary purpose in discussing these items is to provide the Delegate with a "sense of the Area" to assist him/her during discussion at the General Service Conference.)

Concerns and suggestions coming from Alcoholics Anonymous Members in Area 40.

These agenda items come through the suggested flow of information:

Group member to Group
Group to District; District to Area
Committee; Area Committee to

Standing Committee. Agenda items are assigned by the Area Chair approximately eight weeks prior to the Area Assembly. Agenda items are not submitted to the Area Chair or committee in the form of a motion. They are submitted as concerns or suggestions. However, to clarify the concern or suggestion, it is suggested that background information consisting of rationale, pro and con, be submitted. Indeed, any information that would help to create an "informed group conscience" should be submitted. This information should flow through the Area Chairperson, who has the responsibility of setting the Agenda for the Assembly.

COMMITTEE REPORT-FORM: The purpose of the committee report is to communicate the business of the committee with the members of the Area Assembly. Agenda items concerning the business of Area 40 are reported first with items of regional or national interest following. Committee agenda items can be addressed in several ways, depending on whether or not they come out of committee as a recommendation.

1. Agenda items resulting in recommendations. All agenda items resulting in recommendations should be brought to the floor before any other business during the committee's report.

Recommendations resulting from committee action and read on the floor become made and seconded motions.

Suggestions for constructing a recommendation:

Write with clarity so that it might still be understood ten-twenty years in the future. Give dates when needed ("to be held Feb 3, 1997" rather than "at the next meeting") Spell out sources (Suggestion 3 which states.....rather than just "use suggestion 3")

Set parameters if only intended for short

term ("with such recommendation being in place only until the election Assembly of 2002")

The item may be debated on the floor. The purpose of the debate is to reach an informed group conscience on what is best for A.A. as a whole. There are no winners or losers.

Recommendations that have been "tabled" are more often returned to committee for further study under the committee system. They become part of the Agenda for the following assembly. (Exception would be if recommendation to return to committee contains a time marker- "to be considered by the CPC Committee during the Spring Assembly of 2001"). This eliminates the need for designation of New Business/Old Business classifications.

2. Agenda items not resulting in recommendations

For the purpose of communicating with the Assembly, the committee report includes a reading of the agenda items that did not result in a recommendation. Examples are as follows:

The committee discussed producing another daily meditation book and concluded such a project is not needed at this time.

The committee reviewed and was satisfied with pamphlet on Employee Assistance Programs.

The committee discussed changes in the membership of the standing committees and agreed it would be wise to request additional input from other Areas for further discussion at the next Standing Committee meeting.

The committee discussed the General Service Conference Agenda item....., and provides for the Delegate a sense of the committee that.....

These items, as reported, do not call for any action by the Area Assembly members.

Sharon S. Area
40 Chair / Alternate Delegate

2012 Spring Assembly Preliminary Agenda

AREA 40 SPRING ASSEMBLY

Yogo Inn Lewistown, Montana April 14-15, 2012

The following Committees/Committee agenda items are listed in order of presentation.

ARCHIVES/AREA 40 STRUCTURE & POLICY — Joe H.

Archives— Area 40

- A. Review the Area 40 Archives Chair Spring 2012 Assembly Report.
- B. Review the Area 40 Archivist Spring 2012 Assembly Report.
- C. Review the National AA Archives Workshop Committee Spring 2012 Assembly Report.

2012 Spring Assembly Preliminary Agenda

Area 40 Structure & Policy

- A. Review the Area 40 Web site content, with particular attention to consistency between the Web site guidelines and Area 40 Policy and Procedures, suggesting changes to the web site guidelines as may be necessary for consistency with Policy and Procedures.
- B. Consider a method of replacing an Area Officer or Area Advisor who resigns or becomes unable to serve.
 1. In the event that the Delegate resigns or becomes unable to serve, the Area Chair/Alternate Delegate shall become the Delegate and the Area Advisor shall assume the Area Chair duties until the next Area Assembly when a third legacy election shall take place to select an Area Chair to fill out the term.
 2. In the event that the Area Chair/Alternate Delegate, Treasurer, or Secretary resigns or becomes unable to serve, the Area Advisor shall assume the duties of the position until the next Area Assembly when a third legacy election shall take place to select someone to fill out the term.
 3. In the event that the Area Advisor resigns or becomes unable to serve, the Area Chair shall appoint a Past Delegate to complete the rotation.
 4. If for some unusual, unlikely, or unforeseen circumstance this replacement process does not work, the following process will be used:
 - a. The available Area Officers (Delegate, Area Chair, Secretary, Treasurer) and the Area Advisor (or a previous past Delegate if the Area Advisor is unavailable) will confer to determine the best solution given the specifics of the vacancy or vacancies;
 - b. An Area Committee meeting will be scheduled as provided in section 1.4 of the Policy & Procedures Manual (audio conference or other meeting technology would be acceptable) to discuss the recommended solution;
 - c. The Area Secretary, or person designated by the officers, will poll the Area Committee as outlined in Sections G11.3; G13.3; and G14.4.
- C. Consider that Area 40 form an ad hoc committee to revise the current Assembly Agenda process, in light of the comments and suggestions in the Fall 2011 Assembly Inventory, and present their proposed revisions to the Fall 2012 Assembly.
- D. Consider removing inconsistencies in Area Secretary and Area Treasurer Guidelines and Qualifications. These inconsistencies were created as a result of the action passed at the Spring 2011 Assembly to include qualifications for Area service positions. Qualifications were accepted for these positions which require the Area Secretary to use GSO member database software (Q11.3 In addition to the computer requirements defined in the general section this position also requires the ability to use the GSO member database software) and the Area Treasurer to use electronic spreadsheets and financial software (Q12.4 In addition to the computer requirements defined in the general section this position also requires the ability to use electronic spreadsheets and financial software), but the ad hoc committee failed to delete conflicting language in the Guidelines stating that it is not a requirement to be computer literate or to use a computer for these positions. Statements to be removed:
 1. **G11.4** ... If the Secretary does not want to use a computer, it will not be required. It is not a requirement to be computer literate to hold the position of Area Secretary.
 2. **G12.4** ... If the Treasurer does not want to use a computer, it will not be required. It is not a requirement to be computer literate to hold the position of Area Treasurer.
- E. Consider including language in the Service Guidelines and Qualifications of the Area 40 Policy & Procedures to reflect the following responsibilities, which have evolved with the 800 number, for Public Information and Area Treasurer (for consistency with other 800 language in the Treasurer's responsibilities):
 1. The PI Committee Chair's responsibility to review and sign contracts with all the directory listing services and to share that information with the Treasurer for budgeting purposes.
 2. (Area Treasurer responsibility) The Area will pay for all directory listing services related to the 800 number.
- F. Review Area 40 Policy and Procedures updates which reflect past actions (Fall 2010, Spring 2011, and Fall 2011) since last update (September 2010).

Archives- GSC

- A. Review request for changes to the Composition, Scope and Procedure of the Conference Committee on Archives.
- B. Review Archives Workbook.

CPC/Trustees – Libbie L.

Cooperation With the Professional Community (CPC) - Area 40

- A. Review the Area 40 CPC Chair Spring 2012 Assembly Report.

Cooperation With the Professional Community (CPC) – GSC

- A. "A.A. Cooperation with the Professional Community" DVD:
 1. Discuss report on replacing the current "A.A. Cooperation with the Professional Community" DVD with a new compilation DVD that includes existing material.
 2. Review draft product of replacement DVD.
- B. Consider adding the phrase "nonalcoholics may attend as observers" to the "Singleness of Purpose" statement in C.P.C. literature.
- C. Review contents of Cooperation with the Professional Community Kit and Workbook.

Continued on next page

The General Service Conference Agenda and all background materials is sent to all DCM's and committee chairs. This information is then passed on to committee members for research, review and discussion. This process, hopefully, leads to a well-informed *conscience/decision*. If your Group has any comments, questions, or concerns or would like copies of any background information, please contact the appropriate Area Committee Chair. The names, phone numbers, and email addresses of the Area Committee members are on page 7. Your DCM also has this contact information or you can email the committee chair through the Area's website www.aa-montana.org.

(NOTE: The process by which items come to the Assembly is detailed in the **Area 40 Committee System Policies & Procedures** manual which is available through your DCM and on the Area website).

The General Service Conference items on our agenda will not come to the floor of the Assembly as *recommendations (as motions made and seconded)*. Instead each committee will report an informed sense of the committee to the Assembly. We will then seek an *informed sense of the Area on the Assembly floor by discussion and a show of hands* to provide our Delegate with a sense of Area 40's informed group conscience. This "sense of the Area" will assist him in preparing for and participating in the General Service Conference.

A number of GSC committees have an item in their background materials for election of the conference committee chairperson and/or an "other items" designation, with no background, which appears to be an empty item to allow for any last minute additions. These items are not included in our Area Agenda because our delegate does not need a sense of the Area on them.

Review of Concepts I, II, III, X, XII and Tradition 2 can help us understand our process. **[NOTE addition at top of page 6]**

Trustees – GSC

- A. Review resumes of candidates for:
 - 1. West Central Regional Trustee.
 - 2. Western Canada Regional Trustee.
- B. Review slates of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
- C. Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
- D. Review slate of directors of A.A. Grapevine, Inc.
- E. Review report from the trustees' Nominating Committee on the "Impact of the Conference Disapproving a Recommended Slate."

CORRECTIONS/INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS – Terry H.

Corrections – Area 40

- A. Review the Area 40 Corrections Chair Spring 2012 Assembly Report.
- B. Review the Area 40 Pink Can Spring 2012 Assembly Report.

International Conventions/Regional Forums - Area 40

- A. Review the 2012 WCRAASC Committee Spring 2012 Assembly Report.

Corrections – GSC

- A. Review the draft revision of the pamphlet "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell."
- B. Consider revisions to the pamphlet "A Message to Corrections Professionals."
- C. Consider a possible remake of the 1987 video "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell."
- D. Review contents of Corrections Kit and Workbook.

International Conventions/Regional Forums - GSC

- A. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums.
- B. Review 2025 International Convention Site-Selection Procedures.

FINANCE – Lori F.

Finance – Area 40

- A. Review the Area 40 Treasurer Spring 2012 Assembly Report.
- B. Review the Area 40 Triangle Editor Spring 2012 Assembly Report.

Finance – GSC

- A. Consider suggestion to increase the Conference delegate fee.
- B. Review the current \$3,000 dollar limit on annual individual contributions and one-time bequests.
- C. Review proposed Self-Support Kit.
- D. Review draft document of self-support/financial talking points to be used by the Fellowship.
- E. Review information concerning General Service Office/A.A.Grapevine Financial Projections for the years 2013 and 2014.
- F. Consider a review of continuing financial commitment to La Viña per the 2001 General Service Conference Advisory Action that "La Viña continue to be published by the A.A. Grapevine and supported by the General Services Board as a service to the Fellowship."

2012 SPRING ASSEMBLY PRELIMINARY AGENDA

GRAPEVINE/POLICY & ADMISSIONS (GSC) — Gary E.Grapevine – Area 40

- A. Review the Area 40 Grapevine Chair Spring 2012 Assembly Report.

Grapevine – GSC

- A. Consider proposal for A.A. Grapevine's Audio Strategy.
- B. Consider list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2013 and later.
- C. Consider "Sunset" proposal for Grapevine items.
- D. Consider incorporating the service responsibilities and duties of the service position "Grapevine Representative" into the Service responsibilities and duties of the "General Service Representative."
- E. Review Grapevine Workbook.

Policy/Admissions – GSC

- A. Approve request for two members from the General Service Board of India to attend the 62nd General Service Conference as observers.
- B. Review dates for the 2015 General Service Conference.
- C. Consider modifying the procedure for the submission of Concept V minority appeals to the General Service Conference.
- D. Review policy and guidelines regarding the use of personal electronic devices at the General Service Conference.

LITERATURE — Mary McC.Literature – Area 40

- A. Review the Area 40 Literature Chair Spring 2012 Assembly Report.

Literature – GSC

- A. Discuss progress report from the trustees' Committee on Literature on the development of literature which focuses on spirituality that includes stories from atheists and agnostics who are sober in Alcoholics Anonymous.
- B. Consider the draft of the revised "A.A. and the Armed Services" pamphlet.
- C. Consider the final draft of the revised Living Sober booklet.
- D. Discuss a suggestion for revision of the pamphlet "Circles of Love and Service."
- E. Discuss a request to add text from the dust jacket of the Third Edition of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, to the dust jacket of the Fourth Edition of the Big Book.
- F. Consider a request to add the A.A. Preamble to the front inside pages of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous.
- G. Consider a request to add the short form of the Twelve Concepts for World Service to As Bill Sees It.

PUBLIC INFORMATION /REPORT AND CHARTER & WEBSITE— Paula H.Public Information (PI) – Area 40

- A. Review the Area 40 PI Chair Spring 2012 Assembly Report.
- B. Review the operation of the Area 40 888 number.
 - 1. Area 40 888 number status.
 - 2. Area 40 Structure & Policy Committee Agenda Item E regarding PI responsibilities for phone directories.
- C. Review the Area Webmaster Spring 2012 Assembly Report.
- D. Consider all business pertaining to the Web site operated by Area 40 Inc.
 - 1. Consider use of the Area 40 website as secure repository for the collection of Bridging the Gap Temporary Contact (BTG) information from each district in Area 40. Each DCM or District designee would input the temporary contact information for their District. Each DCM or designee would be responsible for maintaining and updating current information. In order for the list to be complete and functional, it is suggested that each person signing up as a BTG contact would list their full name, mailing address, city, state, zip code, sober date, gender, age range, phone number and email. However, it would be up to each person signing up on the list whether or not to use his or her full name. First name and last initial are sufficient to make a contact. Since the website is a protected site, passwords for the functioning of editing, and viewing contact information will be restricted to the DCM, or district designee and the Area 40 web master.
 - 2. Consider forming an ad hoc committee, including the webmaster as a member, to consider ways to place Area background material and other material, such as contact information for Bridging the Gap and Temporary Contact participants, on our Area web site in secure locations.

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Concepts I, II, III, X, XII and Tradition 2

2012 Spring Assembly Agenda Addendum

Concept I: Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

Concept II: The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.

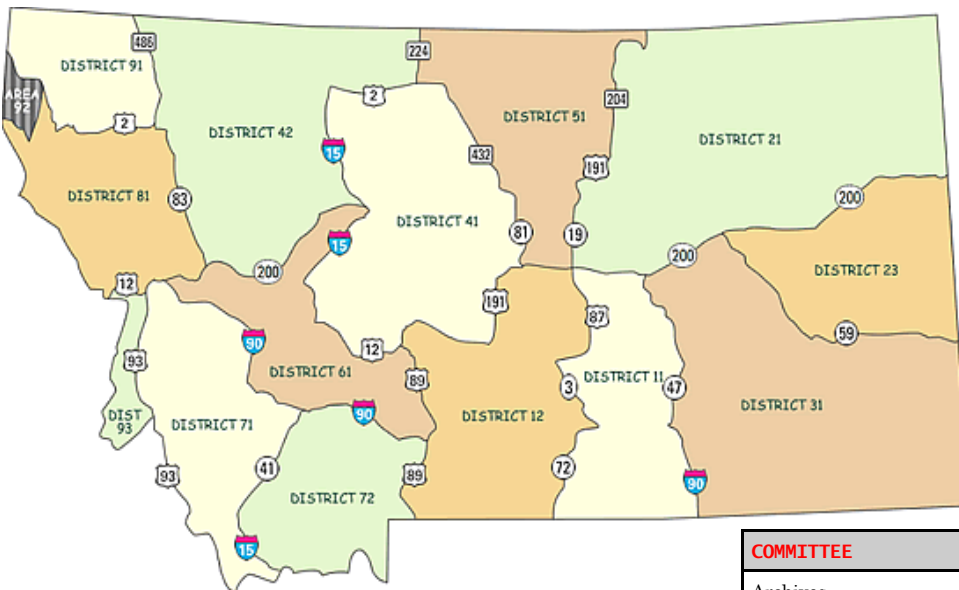
Concept III: To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A. —the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision.” are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

Concept X: Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

Concept XII: The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

Tradition Two: For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Area Map



- District 51—Box Elder, Chinook, Dodson, Fort Belknap, Harlem, Havre, Hays, Malta
- District 61—Boulder, Elliston, E. Helena, Helena, Lincoln, Townsend, White Sulphur Springs
- District 71—Anaconda, Butte, Deer Lodge, Dillon, Drummond, Hall, Jackson, Lima, Phillipsburg, Sheridan, Twin Bridges, Warm Springs, Whitehall
- District 72—Big Sky, Belgrade, Bozeman, Emigrant, Ennis, Gallatin Gateway, Gardiner, Livingston, Manhattan, Pony, Three Forks, Virginia City, West Yellowstone, Wilsall
- District 81—Alberton, Arlee, Clinton, Frenchtown, Haugan, Hot Springs, Missoula, Noxon, Seeley Lake, Pablo, Plains, Polson, Ronan, St. Ignatius, St. Regis, Superior, Thompson Falls, Trout Creek
- District 91—Big Fork, Columbia Falls, Coram, Eureka, Kalispell, Lakeside, Somers, West Glacier, Whitefish
- District 93—Conner, Corvallis, Darby, Florence, Hamilton, Lolo, Stevensville, Victor

- District 11—Billings, Garry Owen, Hardin, Huntley, Lodge Grass, Pryor, Roundup
- District 12—Big Timber, Bridger, Columbus, Fromberg, Harlowton, Joliet, Laurel, Red Lodge
- District 21—Culbertson, Glasgow, Plentywood, Poplar, Scoby, Winnett, Wolf Point
- District 23—Crane, Glendive, Fairview, Savage, Sidney
- District 31—Absarokee, Baker, Broadus, Busby, Colstrip, Crow Agency, Forsyth, Jordan, Lame Deer, Miles City, Terry
- District 41—Fort Benton, Fort Shaw, Great Falls, Lewistown, Stanford
- District 42—Browning, Chester, Conrad, Cut Bank, Choteau, Shelby, Valier

COMMITTEE	DCM	DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE
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Area Officers, Committee Chairs, and DCM's 2010-2012

CHAIRS

Position	Name	Email
Delegate	Terry S.	delegate@aa-montana.org
Area Chair/Alt Delegate	Sharon S.	chair@aa-montana.org
Secretary	Linda B.	secretary@aa-montana.org
Treasurer	Lori F.	treasurer@aa-montana.org
Archives	Joe H.	archives@aa-montana.org
CPC	Libbie L.	cpc@aa-montana.org
Corrections	Terry H.	corrections@aa-montana.org
Grapevine	Gary E.	grapevine@aa-montana.org
Literature	Mary McC.	literature@aa-montana.org
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Triangle Editor	Lee T.	triangle@aa-montana.org

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93	Jay T.	dcm93@aa-montana.org

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Advisor	Carole B.	advisor@aa-montana.org
Archivist	Gerry R.	archivist@aa-montana.org
Webmaster	Alex M.	webmaster@aa-montana.org

AAGRAPEVINE.org

The International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous

AAGRAPEVINE, Inc.

GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTING TO GRAPEVINE

It's your meeting in print:
Why not share?

AA members around the world have been submitting their personal stories, their sorrows and joys, their ups, downs and in-betweens to Grapevine since 1944. Why not join them? You don't need to have had prior publishing experience. All you need is a little willingness and the desire to share. Here are some suggestions to help you.

WRITING ARTICLES

Before writing, you might want to leaf through a few issues to see what kinds of articles are published. Most are first-person accounts of the writer's experience with alcoholism and Alcoholics Anonymous. Grapevine publishes stories for special departments such as Emotional Sobriety, Sponsorship, Newcomers, Youth Enjoying Sobriety, Old-Timers and Home Group, as well as articles about the Steps and Traditions, jokes for "At Wit's End" and letters for "Dear Grapevine." But you are not confined to these topics. The editors are always looking for innovative material, as long as it relates to AA experience and reflects an awareness of AA's singleness of purpose. Articles are reviewed by the editorial staff and selected by consensus.

WHAT THE MAGAZINE DOES NOT PUBLISH

Poems, prayers, song lyrics, tributes to individuals, plays, previously published material

or anything unrelated to AA or that violates the principles of AA.

LENGTH AND FORMAT

The magazine publishes work of different lengths, from snappy one-liners and one-paragraph anecdotes to five- or six-page articles. Suggested manuscript length is three to seven double-spaced typed pages. Handwritten manuscripts should be written clearly on one side of the paper.

TIMING:

The process of article selection for any issue begins about five months before the cover date. Take the December issue as an example: Articles are selected around the beginning of August; the editing and production process takes three months; and the issue comes off the press the first of November, in time to be mailed to subscribers by the cover date. As a result, a Christmas-themed article mailed to Grapevine in November would arrive after the December issue is already

printed. (It might, however, be saved for the following December.)

SUBMITTING ARTICLES, LETTERS AND HUMOR

Email submissions to gveditorial@aagrapevine.org; or mail to Grapevine, Editorial Dept., 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115. If your work is fairly short, the simplest way to submit it is within the body of your email. However, if you wish to attach a file to your email, please save the document in Word or simple text. Include your full name, address, phone number and email address. Please keep a copy of your work because manuscripts cannot be returned.

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHS, ILLUSTRATIONS AND CARTOONS

Grapevine uses members' photographs, line drawings and paintings when they relate to specific articles; photos for "If Walls Could Talk," Grapevine's gallery of meeting places around the world; original cartoons, never published elsewhere; and photos for the annual Wall Calendar Photo Contest, announced in the fall.

We also are interested in working with artists who can create professional-quality images from assigned story lines.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ART

Email art, or send links to a website displaying your art, to gveditorial@aagrapevine.org; or send via regular mail to Editorial Department, Grapevine, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115.

FORMAT

IF WALLS COULD TALK: Photos must be sent as high resolution (300 dpi) jpgs. You can also mail hard copy prints.

ALL OTHER ART: Email a link displaying your art or send low resolution (72 dpi) jpgs. The more pictures we have to browse through, the better. If we select one of your pieces, we will then ask you to send a high resolution (300 dpi) version. You can also mail hard copy prints.

If you are mailing prints, each photo or piece of artwork should be clearly marked with your name, address, phone number and email address. "If Walls Could Talk" submissions also should include the group's name and location.



Grapevine uses members' photographs, line drawings and paintings.



THE TRIANGLE

A Motion from the General Service Board to the 62nd General Service Conference:

The General Service Board agrees to forward to the 2012 General

Service Conference a proposal:

"The General Service Conference supports the General Service Board development of a plan to restructure the current Alcoholics Anonymous Grapevine, Inc., corporate and governance structure, while retaining the Grapevine's independent editorial voice. The plan may, among other things, address the separate corporate existence of Alcoholics Anonymous Grapevine, Inc., and address as well issues of governance and operations. The plan will be designed to increase unity, better reach and connect the Grapevine to the broader Fellowship while addressing financial stability. The plan will be submitted to the 63rd General Service Conference for approval prior to implementation."

Passed with substantial unanimity
January 30, 2012

NEWS FROM AAGRAPEVINE, Inc.

Senior Editor Wanted:

AA Grapevine Inc., publisher of the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous is currently seeking a senior editor to work in its New York City office. Written, edited and illustrated by AA members and others interested in alcoholism, Grapevine, La Viña and AAGrapevine.org reflect the experience, strength and hope of its contributors, carrying the message to thousands of alcoholics. AAGrapevine, Inc. also publishes collections of Grapevine and La Viña stories in books, eBooks, and CDs and other related products.

The senior editor is responsible for developing editorial content of AA Grapevine, Inc., and for overseeing the publication of the Grapevine and La Viña magazines and items both in print and digital, and for leading a creative, committed team.

In addition, the senior editor participates in the General Service Conference and at various AA events. The position reports to the Executive Editor/Publisher.

Requirements: Five years of equivalent editorial and management experience; demonstrated writing and editing skill; B.A. or the equivalent; and a working knowledge of the Steps and Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous. Six years of continuous sobriety. Proficiency in Spanish a plus. The editor job description will be listed in the spring issue of Box 4-5-9. Interested members may forward their resume and cover letter by March 30, 2012 to:

resumes@aagrapevine.org

Dear Regional Trustees,

Some of you have called or emailed wanting to know how the GSB motion will be communicated to the Conference so you can respond to the many questions you have within your respective regions.

The subject of this motion places it outside the scope of any of the Conference Committees, so it will not go through a Committee nor will it be mailed out with the regular Conference final agenda and background on February 15. After research on the past actions of the Conference, it is clear that although there is no exact comparison on GSB actions, there is precedent for Board presentations and various follow-up.

Ward is preparing a letter that will be sent to Conference members within the next two weeks. His letter will include the motion from the Board and, in lieu of background material, a summary that will provide basic information on the motion so to keep the focus on developing a plan, not the outcome. Ward's letter will also outline the process to be used in presenting and voting on the motion at the Conference.

I hope this is helpful. If you have questions about the process, please give either Ward or me a call.

I wish you all the best with your preconference and regional events and send much gratitude for your service.

In fellowship,

Phyllis H. General Manager

PI-CPC NEWS EXCHANGE

Public Information-Cooperation with the Professional Community

It is time in the "spirit of rotation" to turn the editorship over to another trusted servant. Please contact me by email if you are interested in this rewarding service position.

1. This Newsletter is for the exclusive use of A.A. members who wish to exchange information about PI and CPC work, so please disseminate it only among our membership and refrain from using contact information for expressing opinions on outside issues.

2. The News Exchange is OUR publication, by us and for us. When you are interested in sharing your experience, strength, and hope- and new ways to reach the Public and Cooperate with the

Professional Community in your area – please send me a couple of paragraphs (short summary) or more, and it will be included in our next edition.

3. Also, if you have a particular question/topic you would like to ask of others working in PI/CPC work feel free to send it to the Editor and it will be published in a future newsletter to be answered by others with experience, strength, and hope in that area.

4. Please identify your contribution to the Exchange with Area # and Area description (ex. Area 02 Alaska), and PI, CPC, or PI/CPC.

5. At the end of your article identify with your first name and last initial, Trusted , Servant Position, District, Area Number, City and State.

6. Your suggestions/comments/input are not only needed but are also greatly appreciated and will make our exchange fruitful; just some drunks sharing with other drunks their experience, strength and hope in doing 12th step work in Alcoholics Anonymous. This newsletter is a WE collaboration. Thanking you in advance. In Love and Service as YOUR Editor, Karen W. karendblu@cvip.net

2012 SPRING ASSEMBLY PRELIMINARY AGENDA

*Continued from page 5***Public Information (PI) – GSC**

- A. Consider 2011 annual report from the trustees' Public Information Committee on G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site.
- B. Review the final draft of the "Alcoholics Anonymous 2011 Membership Survey" pamphlet.
- C. Public Service Announcements (P.S.A.s):
 - 1. Consider approving the proposed Hispanic video P.S.A., "Tengo Esperanza."
 - 2. Review report on centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the 2010 television P.S.A., "My World."
 - 3. Consider centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the proposed Hispanic video P.S.A., "Tengo Esperanza," at a cost not to exceed \$40,000, as an addition to the work of local Public Information committees.
 - 4. Review current video P.S.A.s for relevance and usefulness.
 - 5. Consider production of new video P.S.A.s.
- D. Consider a suggestion that A.A. establish a presence on Facebook for the purpose of providing information about A.A. to the public; this presence would serve as an informational resource only, with no interpersonal communication capabilities.
- E. Discuss requests related to adding language referring to current media to Tradition Eleven.
- F. Consider updated text for Anonymity Wallet Card.
- G. Review contents of Public Information Kit and Workbook.

Report and Charter - GSC

- A. *The A.A. Service Manual*, 2012-2013 Edition:
 - 1. Review revisions from the A.A. Grapevine Board.
 - 2. Review revisions from the A.A.W.S. Board.
 - 3.. Review revisions from the General Service Board.
 - 4 Review list of editorial updates.
 - 5. Consider suggestion for revising text on "Conference Panels," on page S107, to clarify what is meant by the term "panels."
 - 6. Consider suggestion to add a section on the "spirit of rotation."
 - 7. Consider suggestion to replace the "STRUCTURE OF THE CONFERENCE" illustration on page S16 with a previous version.
- B. Review draft of text to add to Article 3 in the Current Conference Charter that includes the principles of participation, petition and appeal.
- C. Discuss A.A. Directories (Canada, Western U.S., and Eastern U.S.).
- D. Discuss General Service Conference *Final Report*.

TREATMENT/AGENDA – Colby D.**Treatment – Area 40**

- A. Review the Area 40 Treatment Chair Spring 2012 Assembly Report.

Treatment Facilities/Special Needs/Accessibilities – GSC

- B. Discuss trustees' progress report on the review of the video Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous.
- C. Discuss a suggestion to develop a pamphlet for the alcoholic with mental illness.
- D. Review contents of Treatment Committee Kit and Workbook.
- E. Review contents of Special Needs/Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.

Agenda – GSC

- A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2013 General Service Conference.
- B. Determine the inventory questions listed in the "INVENTORY PLAN," which were approved by the 2011 G.S.C. that will be discussed each year for the 2013, 2014 and 2015 General Service Conferences.
- C. Consider reducing the number of presentation/discussion topics for the 2013 General Service Conference to allow scheduling for the Conference Inventory process approved by the 2011 G.S.C.
- D. Review suggestions for presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2013 G.S.C.
Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form

END PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS

Calendar of Events

MARCH 2012

- 2-4 — **BILLINGS** — West Central Regional A.A. Service Conference — Don B.
- 3 — **BOZEMAN** — at the Vince Grant Hall — Service Workshop — Ted O. , Nate S.
- 2-4 — **WHITEFISH** — at the Whitefish Mountain Resort — 25th Annual Sober Ski — Jake H.
- 16-17 — **HELENA** — at the 1st Presbyterian Church — Pockets of Enthusiasm — Kevin S. Carleen L., John M.
- 17 — **SAVAGE** — at the Community Center Hall — St. Patrick's Day Soberfest — Mary.
- 24 — **BILLINGS** — at the Big Horn Resort — Founder's Day Celebration — Susan .
- 25 — **LAUREL** — at the AA Club on Central — Area 40 Spring Pre-Assembly — Sandy A.
- 31 — **BOULDER** — at the Boulder Hot Springs — Area 40 Spring Pre-Assembly — Allen K.

APRIL 2012

- 7 — **HAMILTON/DARBY AREA** — Area 40 Spring Pre-Assembly — Jay T.
- 14-15 — **LEWISTOWN** — at the Yogo Inn — Area 40 Spring Assembly — Sharon S.
- 28 — **GREAT FALLS** — at the Civic Center — 12 Step Study — Dan D., Denise P.

MAY 2012

- 2-4 — **KALISPELL** — at the Red Lion Hotel — Area 40 2012 Spring Roundup — Mary M., Chair

Planning a Future Event?

Want to be included in the *Triangle* Calendar, information should be sent at least by the month prior to the event. For your convenience and ours — please type or print the information to be listed on the Bulletin Board page, and mail or email to the Area 40 Editor:

Date of event: from _____ to _____, 20 _____

Name of event: _____

Place (city, state and location name, if applicable): _____

For information, write: (exact contact information to be included in Bulletin Board information i.e. mailing address, phone numbers, email address and contact information):

Other contact phone numbers or information (for confidential or office use only):

JUNE—JULY 2012

- 9 — **GREAT FALLS** — at Ryan's Dam — Founder's Day — Terri F.
- 29 - 1 — **SOUTH OF BIG TIMBER** — Beartooth Mountain Conference — Rick T. , Jesse V. , John S., Cindy S.

SEPTEMBER 2012

- 22-23 — **LEWISTOWN** — at the Yogo Inn — Area 40 Fall Assembly — Sharon S.

OCTOBER 2012

- 5-7 — **MISSOULA** — 2012 Fall Roundup — Rob H. ; Andrew Ware, Heather

SPRING 2013

- TBA — **BOZEMAN** — Spring Roundup

TIME FOR A SPLIT ?

**Area 40 Inc.
Box 863
Ennis, MT 59729**

Please make sure your contribution checks are made out to **Area 40, Inc.** Use this when mailing your group Area 40 contributions during this new rotation. Remember GSO contributions to:

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IF YOU WOULD LIKE A SUBSCRIPTION FOR YOURSELF, A FRIEND OR YOUR GROUP, PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM. THE COST OF THE TRIANGLE IS \$10 PER YEAR. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AREA 40, Inc. SEND TO:

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GREAT FALLS, MT 59403**



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