

AREA 40 SPRING ASSEMBLY

Yogo Inn
Lewistown, Montana
April 9-10, 2011

FRIDAY, April 8 - Sapphire Room

A.A. meeting starting at 7:30 p.m. (This meeting is separate from the Assembly and is self-supporting; a 7th tradition basket will be passed)

SATURDAY SESSION — April 9

7:30-8:00 GSR's and visitors sign in with their District's DCM. *(DCM's please give the sign in sheets to the Area Secretary no later than 10:00 a.m.)*

8:00-9:45 **Welcome** — Serenity Prayer, Traditions, and Concepts
Roll Call — by Area Secretary, Linda B.
Orientation to the Assembly — by the Delegate, Terry S.
Reports from Area Committee Members
Area Chair¹
Secretary¹
Treasurer¹
Triangle Editor¹
Area Service Chairs¹
DCM's¹
Standing, nonvoting service positions¹

9:45-10:00 **Coffee Break**

10:00-12:00 **Standing Committee Meetings:**
Public Information/Report and Charter & Website.....Judith
Treatment Facilities/Agenda.....Moccasin
Archives/Area 40 Structure & Policy.....Kendall Room
Corrections/International Conventions.....Terrace Room
Finance.....Gypsum Room
Grapevine/Policy & Admissions (GSC).....Room 412
Literature.....Snowy
CPC/Trustees.....Room 310

(If your committee finished its business during this session, please notify the Area Chair)

Workshop for those not attending committee meetings
Led by past delegate — Bob H. — “We are Responsible for A.A.’s Future — Let It Begin With Us”

12:00-1:30 **Recess for Lunch**

1:30-2:30 **Workshop** for those not attending committee meetings
Led by past delegate — Loren B. — “How to Increase Participation in A.A. — Striving for Self-Support in All Our Affairs”

Standing Committee Meetings (continued at same locations as 10:00-12:00)

¹ **Reports:** 5 minute time limit with email (or written) copies to the Area Secretary and Triangle Editor

- 2:30-3:15 **Delegate's Report** — Terry S. (questions and answers)
- 3:15-3:30 **Coffee Break**
- 3:30-5:00 **Floor Assembly — Committee Reports, Motions, and Discussion**
Public Information/Report² — Paula H.
Treatment Facilities/Agenda² — Colby D.
Archives/Structure² — Joe H.
Corrections/Intn'l-Regional Forums² — Terry H.
CPC/Trustees² — Libbie L.
Finance² — Lori F.
Grapevine/Policy & Admissions² — Gary E.
Literature² — Mary M.
- 5:00-7:00 **Recess for Dinner**
- 7:00-8:15 **Floor Assembly — Committee Reports, Motions, and Discussion (Continued)**
- 8:15-8:30 **Coffee Break**
- 8:30-10:00 **GSR Breakout** — Held by Past Delegate: Ask-it-basket and sharing
DCM Breakout — Held by Past Delegate: Ask-it-basket and sharing

SUNDAY SESSION — April 10

- 8:00-8:45 **Roundup Reports¹: Fall 2010 Butte; Spring 2011 Great Falls; Fall 2011 Helena Intergroup Reports¹:**
Report from the West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference (WCRAASC) in Nisswa, Minnesota¹
Report from the Local Forum Committee¹
Report from the National AA Archives Workshop Committee¹
Report from the 2012 WCRAASC Committee¹
- 8:45-9:15 **Past Delegate Sharing** — Bob H.
- 9:15-9:45 **Past Delegate Sharing** — Loren B.
- 9:45-10:00 **Coffee Break**
- 10:00-12:00 **Floor Assembly — Committee Reports, Motions, and Discussion (continued)**
followed by general sharing as time allows

ADJOURN — PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY!

The rooms this Assembly meets in are designated smoke free by past action. The Yogo Inn graciously places ashtrays/receptacles outside the doors and asks that smoking be limited to the outside smoking area. Please do not smoke in the meeting rooms, hallways or lobby area. Our thoughtful compliance and courtesies are appreciated.

¹ **Reports:** 5 minute time limit with email (or written) copies to the Area Secretary and Triangle Editor

² **Floor comments are requested to take no longer than 3 minutes**

Pages 3-8 contain the standing committee agenda items. Most of these items come from the General Service Conference and will be fully addressed at the General Service Conference May 1-6. There are 3 Area 40 agenda items — all for the Archives/Area 40 Structure & Policy Committee.

The General Service Conference Agenda and all background materials were 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 in ***The Triangle*** (the Area newsletter). 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.

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

Public Information/Report and Charter & Website— Paula H.

Public Information

- A. Consider 2010 annual Web site report from the trustees' Public Information Committee on G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site.
- B. Consider that the 2011 A.A. Membership Survey be conducted by area on a random basis as was done in the 2007 A.A. Membership Survey.
- C. Consider approval of the General Service Board "Policy on Actors Portraying A.A. Members or Potential A.A. Members in Videos Produced by the General Service Board or its Affiliates."
- D. Public Service Announcements (P.S.A.s):
 - 1. Review current television P.S.A.s for relevance and usefulness.
 - 2. Consider production of new television P.S.A.s.

- E. Consider revisions to "Understanding Anonymity" which include text on the topic of anonymity in the digital age and answers the question "What should I tell my loved ones about protecting the anonymity of the A.A. members they may meet?"
- F. Consider revisions to "The A.A. Fact File."
- G. Consider a revision to "A.A. at a Glance."
- H. Review contents of P.I. Kit and Workbook.

Report and Charter

- A. *The A.A. Service Manual*, 2011-2012 Edition:
 - 1. Review revisions from the A.A.W.S. Board.
 - 2. Review draft of description on trustees emeriti.
 - 3. Review list of editorial updates.
 - 4. Review revised text forwarded from the 2010 Conference Committee on Trustees regarding the nominating procedure listed as #2 on page S67.
 - 5. Consider request to change the phrase "new kid on the block" to "a first year delegate" on page S52 under Personal Experience in section "Preparing for the Conference."
 - 6. Consider suggestion to revise the text on "inactive service workers" on page S37 in Chapter Four to reflect that the appropriate local entity is responsible for addressing inactive G.S.R.s and D.C.M.s and add similar text to Chapters One and Three.
 - 7. Consider request to review and update the section "What Goes On at the Conference" on page S55.
- B. Conference Charter:
 - 1. Consider request to recommend adding "the right of Petition and Appeal" to the Conference Charter as found in *The A.A. Service Manual*.
 - 2. Consider request to "address and remedy the inconsistencies between the Current [Conference] Charter and the Original [Conference] Charter" as found in *The A.A. Service Manual*.
- C. Discuss A.A. Directories (Canada, Western U.S., and Eastern U.S.).
- D. Discuss General Service Conference *Final Report*.

Treatment Facilities/Agenda — Colby D.

Agenda

- A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2012 General Service Conference.
- B. Presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2012 General Service Conference
 - 1. Discuss presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2012 G.S.C.
 - 2. Consider reducing the number of presentation/discussion topics planned for the 2012 General Service Conference.
- C. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2012 General Service Conference.

- D. Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form.
- E. Consider a request that the trustees' Conference Committee meet annually with the Conference Committee on Agenda and the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions to address matters concerning the Conference Agenda and Conference Policy.

Treatment Facilities/Special Needs/Accessibilities

- A. Review draft recovery pamphlet for alcoholics with special needs.
- B. Discuss report from the trustees' Committee regarding changing "Treatment Facilities" Committee to "Treatment" Committee in committee titles and in A.A. literature.
- C. Consider removing line of dialog from video "Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous."
- D. Review contents of Treatment Facilities Kit and Workbook.
- E. Review contents of Special Needs Kit and Workbook

Archives/Area 40 Structure & Policy — Joe H.

Archives

- A. Review Workbook.

Area 40 Structure & Policy

- A. Consider Area 40 Ad Hoc Committee's draft of "Qualifications for Area Committee members" (*tabled from Fall 2010 Committee meeting*).
- B. Consider Area 40 Ad Hoc Committee's proposed protocol and time line for Area 40 to conduct an inventory of itself.
- C. Consider the following additions to the Area 40 Policy and Procedures:
 - 1. In the event that the Delegate resigns or becomes unable to serve, the Area Chair/Alternate Delegate shall become the Delegate.
 - 2. In the event that the Area Chair/Alternate Delegate, Treasurer, or Secretary resigns or becomes unable to serve, the Area Advisor shall assume these duties until the next Area Assembly. A Third Legacy Election shall take place at the next Area Assembly to fill the vacancy. All current and past Area Committee Members are eligible to stand.
 - 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.

Corrections/International Conventions — Terry H.

Corrections

- A. Review progress report from trustees' Committee on Corrections on revising the pamphlet "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell."
- B. Consider adding references to the Big Book in the pamphlet "A.A. in Correctional Facilities," including a proposed section describing Big Book studies as a possible meeting format.
- C. Review contents of Corrections Kit and Workbook.

International Conventions/Regional Forums

- A. Discuss report on the 2010 International Convention in San Antonio, Texas.
- B. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Forums and how areas communicate about upcoming Forums in their region.

Finance — Lori F.

Finance

- A. Review update from trustees' Finance Committee on gathering personal stories drawn from the Fellowship that humanize the impact of Seventh Tradition monies for the purpose of communicating with the Fellowship about self-support.
- B. Consider two alternative suggestions of ways to revise the pamphlet F-3 "Self-Support: Where Money and Spiritually Mix" forwarded from the trustees' Finance Committee.
- C. Consider a request "that the trustees' Finance Committee develop a Finance Workbook, a draft of which is to be made available for the 2012 General Service Conference, to assist group, intergroup/central offices, district and area service workers in carrying the message of our shared responsibility for the Seventh Tradition."
- D. Consider a request "that the trustees' Finance Committee convert Self-Support packet F-19 to a comprehensive Finance Kit."
- E. Discuss the list forwarded from the 2010 Conference Finance Committee for additional ways to communicate about self-support:
 - 1. Birthday Plan
 - 2. Seventh Tradition Pamphlet
 - 3. Box 4-5-9 or Grapevine Articles
 - 4. Finance Workbook/Tool Kit
 - 5. Report Costs of Services to Members
 - 6. Discuss Effects of Inflation
 - 7. Add Additional Financial Information to the Web site

Grapevine/Policy & Admissions (GSC) — Gary E.

Grapevine

- A. Consider that A.A. Grapevine, Inc., be permitted to utilize digital channels and current (commissionable) support and distribution technologies such as but not limited to smart phones, tablets, e-reader, applications, and commissioned online stores for the sale and distribution of magazines, books and products.
- B. Consider permitting A.A. Grapevine, Inc., to accept contributions limited to the same General Service Board contribution policy, to be used for operation expenses with excess funds continuing to be forwarded to the Reserve Fund.
- C. Review request for a discussion on how to best support the Grapevine magazine.
- D. Consider collections of Grapevine stories for possible publication in the year 2012 or later.

- E. Review and discuss the results of the surveys conducted per the 2010 Advisory Action.
- F. Review revisions to "The A.A. Grapevine and La Viña: Our Meetings in Print" pamphlet.
- G. Review contents of the A.A. Grapevine Workbook.

Policy/Admissions

- A. Approve admission to the 2011 General Service Conference of Ron F., alternate delegate, Area 22, Northern Indiana, in place of Donald S., the Panel 61 delegate for Area 22.
- B. Approve request for two members from the General Service Structure of Peru to attend the 61st General Service Conference as observers.
- C. Approve request for two members from the General Service Structure of Great Britain to attend the 61st General Service Conference as observers.
- D. Discuss request to change the deadline for the submission of Conference agenda items.
- E. Consider the comprehensive plan and estimated cost from the Conference Inventory Planning Committee for the General Service Conference to conduct a thorough inventory of itself.
- F. Review dates for the 2014 General Service Conference.
- G. Discuss request that a formal relationship be developed between the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions and the trustees' Conference Committee to address matters of policy relating to the Conference.
- H. Consider suggestion that the Conference Committee on Archives meet outside of the time allotted for their joint committee meeting with the trustees' Committee on Archives.
- I. Review report from the General Service Board regarding Concept V Appeal to the General Service Conference.

Literature— Mary M.

Literature

- A. Review the revised draft pamphlet "The A.A. Member—Medications and Other Drugs."
- B. Review progress report from the trustee's Literature Committee on the development of literature which focuses on spirituality that includes stories from atheists and agnostics who are successfully sober in Alcoholics Anonymous.
- C. Review progress report from the trustee's Literature Committee on the revision of the pamphlet "A.A. and the Armed Services."
- D. Review draft revisions to the *Living Sober* booklet.
- E. Consider suggestion to replace the text under "When you're a G.S.R." in the pamphlet "G.S.R. General Service Representative."
- F. Consider a request to develop an item similar to the Self-support or "green card" to help promote the use of our literature as a Twelfth Step tool.
- G. Consider a request to reconsider the 2010 Conference Advisory Action that "the trustees' Literature Committee develop literature which focuses on spirituality that includes stories from atheists and agnostics who are successfully sober in Alcoholics Anonymous."

- H. Consider a request to include the A.A. Preamble in the front inside pages of the Big Book.
- I. Consider a request to develop a publication about the General Service Office.

CPC/Trustees — Libbie L.

Cooperation With the Professional Community (CPC)

- A. Discuss the concept of a compilation DVD of C.P.C. literature.
- B. Discuss a draft sample letter to professionals on how they might use the A.A. Grapevine, La Viña and La Vigne.
- C. Review a draft service piece regarding use of the A.A. Grapevine, La Viña and La Vigne in C.P.C. endeavors.
- D. C.P.C. Kit and Workbook
 - 1. Review contents of C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.
 - 2. List of goals and project suggestions for C.P.C. committees.
 - 3. Sharing on formats for one-on-one contact with professionals.
 - 4. Sample guide letter for healthcare professional school administrators.

Trustees

- A. Review resumes of candidates for:
 - 1. Northeast Regional Trustee
 - 2. Southwest Regional Trustee
 - 3. Trustee-at-Large/Canada
- 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.