

## **2019 Area 40**

### **Inventory Packet**

#### **Spring 2011 Past Action:**

It was agreed that an Area 40 Inventory be conducted every 4 years at the Fall Assembly, beginning in 2011 and carried on in 2015, etc. The questions will be disseminated 5 months prior to the inventory through area communications, including the Spring Assembly minutes, Area 40 Triangle and Area 40 Website.

#### **Inventory Process:**

There are 16 questions in the inventory that were distributed to the districts at the end of July. These questions are divided into four groups of four questions each. Each set of four questions considers how Area 40 conducts its business with regard to a certain area of operation. Those four areas are: Groups & Districts; Individual Participation & Attendance; Committees & Committee Chairs; and Area Assembly. These are the same areas reviewed in the 2015 Inventory however our committee has revised several of the questions.

We will divide ourselves into eight groups with each group meeting in a separate room. You have been randomly assigned to participate in the group that will meet in the room found at the bottom of the second page of this packet. Two of the groups will discuss the first set of question, two the second set, two the third and two the fourth. Each question will be allowed twenty minutes for discussion. Your facilitator and the group of questions you will be discussing have also been randomly assigned.

Each group will select a recorder and someone to present the general sense of their Group Conscience to the entire Assembly tomorrow morning. The committee will then collect the notes of each group and will compile a final inventory report that will be presented at the 2020 Spring Assembly and posted on the Area 40 website.

## **Facilitator's Role:**

The facilitator is neutral with no opinion and is here to keep the meeting on track.

It's best to direct comments to the facilitator to avoid personalizing discussion.

## **Reminders & Suggestions:**

1. We need a timekeeper and someone to record the inventory. **Note to Reporters:** It is not necessary to record multiple, repetitive comments, but it will be helpful to have an indication of majority and minority perspectives.
2. Our goal is to gather a "sense of the Area" on those things we do well and those we do not so well.
3. Our goal is not to generate agenda items. Agenda items may evolve out of this process, but only after the fact and if individuals or groups feel moved to develop them..
4. It is important to remember that no votes will be taken nor decisions made during the inventory.
5. A consensus is possible but is not necessary.
6. Please help the facilitator in their role.
7. Titles should be checked at the door.
8. Do not interrupt when someone else is talking.
9. Please raise a hand to be recognized.
10. There is no such thing as a bad opinion.
11. Please treat one another with dignity and respect.
12. Remember keep AA's primary purpose uppermost in mind at all times.

## **2019 Area 40 Inventory Questions**

### **GROUPS/DISTRICTS**

1. How can Area 40 better encourage and convey the importance of Concept 4 and the “Right of Participation” to our respective Groups and Districts?
2. Can Area 40 do a better job of identifying and addressing its Remote Communities (defined by GSO as those communities separated by geography, language, or culture) as well as those with accessibility issues.
3. Do groups and districts feel connected to and involved with Area 40 between our assemblies? What can be done to better accomplish this?
4. With respect to Concept 1, do the groups in Area 40 feel they adequately hold and exercise the final responsibility and ultimate authority for AA world services? If not, what might Area 40 do to help that cause?

### **INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE**

1. Are we attracting a good cross section of new people to participate in the Area 40 service structure?
2. Do we effectively welcome, orient, and integrate, new people into our assembly? What could we do better?
3. Do new people feel their voice and their experience are relevant at our assembly? What can we do to facilitate that?
4. Does Area 40 adequately recognize Concept 5 via each individual’s “Right of Appeal” and minority opinion? Do we ever experience the “tyranny of the majority” or the “tyranny of the minority?”

### **COMMITTEES/COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

1. The Triangle is the Area's newsletter; its purpose is to communicate service information among trusted servants, groups, districts and the area committee. How effective is the Triangle in serving this purpose? What can be done by the groups, their GSRs, the districts, or the Area Committee to improve its effectiveness?

2. How can we improve the methods of encouraging and selecting effective leaders as well as nurturing leadership qualities in all our trusted servants?

3. Considering that most A.A. members are introduced to A.A. by sources other than A.A. members, what might the Area 40 Committees, or Area 40 as a whole, do to better support the Districts in carrying the A.A. message to these sources?

4. How are Committee Chairs communicating within the overall AA service structure? What could be done better?

### **AREA ASSEMBLY**

1. Does Area 40 operate as an effective link in the overall communication cycle of the AA General Service structure? What can we do to better ensure that it does?

2. Do the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts guide our decisions and actions when we conduct business at assemblies? Do our policies and procedures prohibit anyone from serving who might want to participate?

3. Does the current format and scheduling effectively address communication and the business to be conducted? How can Area 40 more effectively conduct its business?

4. How can we make our assembly and service work in general more inviting and relevant to the Area 40 Fellowship?

5. Is Area 40's use of Fellowship contributions both prudent and effective? How might we make better use of Fellowship contributions?