

**Virtual Area 40 Spring Assembly
March 27 & 28, 2020**

FRIDAY SESSION: 7-8 pm ZOOM Orientation

SATURDAY SESSION

9:00 AM Welcome: Serenity Prayer; Traditions; Concepts
Zoom Orientation: **Area Webmasters** **Brandon & Jake**
Area Orientation **Area Delegate** **Paul L.**
Roll Call **Area Secretary** **Brynn C.**

*****Area Chair Report, Past Actions, Financial Highlights, Triangle Report, DCM Reports & Committee reports and all other reports usually given Sunday Morning will be available on-line at aa-montana.org in a special folder for 2020 Area 40 Spring Assembly *****

9:30-10:30 Standing Committee Meetings:
Archives/Area 40 Structure & Policy
CPC/Trustees
Corrections/Int'l Conventions - Reg. Forums
Finance Grapevine/Policy & Admissions
Literature
Public Information/Report and Charter & Website
Treatment Facilities/Agenda/Bridging the Gap

11:00-12:30 Committee Reports	
Archives/Area 40 Structure and Policy	Kacie N.
P.I./Report & Charter/ Website & Webmaster Report	Sabrina C.
Literature	Grant M.
Grapevine/ Policy & Admissions	Shawn N.
Treatment/ Agenda/ BTG	Steve S.
CPC/ Trustees	Terri T.
Corrections/ IC-RF	Jeremiah S.
Finance	Ashley J.

12:30 – 1:30 Lunch

1:30-5:00 Resume Floor Assembly (Committee Reports, Motions and Discussions)

6:00 Adjourn

**Fall Assembly – September 11, 12, & 13, 2020.
The Location is scheduled for Holiday Inn in Great Falls, MT.**

All the following is a list of agenda items and the Area Committees they have been assigned to for review. There are agenda items that originate in Area 40 and from the General Service Conference. All agenda items from the General Service Conference will be addressed at the General Service Conference later on in April.

The Committee Chairs, DCMs and District Representatives were sent a list of agenda items with the corresponding background information in February. This information is then passed on to other members of those committees, to GSRs in the districts and other interested members of our Fellowship for research, review and discussion, in turn providing for a well-informed group conscience and decision. If your Group has any comments, questions, and concerns or would like copies of any background information please contact the appropriate Area Committee Chair or your DCM. Your DCM has the names, phone numbers and addresses of the Area Committee (which also appear in the *Triangle*) or you can email them through the Area's website www.aa-montana.org should you need them.

The General Service Conference agenda items discussed by committees will come to the floor as a brief report of each item considered, reviewed, or discussed with the general sense of the committee for each item, rather than coming as recommendations (motions passed and seconded). Assembly members will have an opportunity to ask questions and offer their groups' thought on each item. The discussion will provide the Delegate with a sense of the Area, with substantive comments to share with the Conference. For controversial items, or items for which the floor discussion does not provide a clear sense of the Area, the Delegate may request an informal show of hands, for and against, in order to obtain the sense of the Area

(NOTE: the process by which items are submitted, dispersed, considered and brought to the Assembly is detailed in the **Area 40 Committee System Policy and Procedures** manual which is available through your DCM and on the web site).

Review Concepts I, II, III, X, XII and Tradition 2 for a clearer understanding of the above process.

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

Archives/Area 40 Structure & Policy – Kacie N.

Archives - Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Archives Chair.
- B. Review Archivist Report.
- C. Review the Service Guidelines and Qualifications in the Area 40 Policy & Procedure for the Archives Chair and Archivist. Consider any changes that need to be made.
- D. Review activity of Archives Committees throughout Area 40.

Structure & Policy – Area 40

- A. Review Area Assembly Evaluation Report.
- B. **Consider** voting privileges to be granted to the Archivist, Webmaster, Area Advisor & Bridging the Gap Chair.
- C. **Consider** creating a new Area 40 Hotline Chair rotating position that will be separate from the Area 40 PI Chair rotating position.
- D. **Consider** rotating Area Assembly between 2 locations by allowing the Area Advisor to select the next location by accepting bids from interested districts.
- E. **Consider** implementing an Area Officer Training that will be held in October after elections for the new Area Officers and Area Committee Chairs.

Archives – GSC

- A. Consider requests to develop a book on A.A. history from 1955 through the present.
- B. Review Archives Workbook.

Corrections International Conventions Regional Forums Jeremiah S.

Corrections - Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Corrections Chair.
- B. Report on Pink Can income and disbursements.
- C. Review the Service Guidelines and Qualifications in the Area 40 Policy & Procedure for the Corrections Chair. Consider any changes that need to be made.
- D.
- E. Review activity as it relates to Corrections in the Groups and Districts of Area 40.

Corrections – GSC

- A. Review contents of Corrections Kit and Workbook.

International Conventions/Regional Forums – GSC

- F. Discuss methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention.
- G. Discuss upcoming 2020 International Convention.
- H. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.

Public Information/Report & Charter – Sabrina C.

Public Information – Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Public Information Chair.
- B. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Webmaster.
- C. Review Activity of Public Information Committees in Groups and Districts throughout Area 40.
- D. **Consider** having the Triangle Editor create a new website for the Triangle.
 - 1. Consider a creation of a searchable website for the Triangle
 - 2. If item a passes consider allowing the Triangle Editor authority to email notices of the new Triangle being available on the Triangle website
- E. Review the Service Guidelines and Qualifications in the Area 40 Policy & Procedure for the PI Chair and Webmaster. Consider any changes that need to be made.
- F. Review Ad-hoc committee report on Area Answering service.

Public Information – GSC

- A. Review 2019 annual reports from the trustees' Public Information Committee regarding aa.org and aagrapevine.org.
- B. Discuss a progress report on the A.A.W.S. Meeting Guide app.
- C. Review the 2019 trustees' Public Information Committee progress report on the usefulness and effectiveness of the A.A.W.S. YouTube account.
- D. Review the 2019 trustees' Public Information Committee progress report on the use of Google AdWords/Grants to carry the A.A. message.
- E. Discuss a request to adjust all A.A.W.S. video titles for search engine optimization (SEO).
- F. Review a report regarding the 2020 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.
- G. Review a draft plan to create video shorts based on A.A. pamphlets.
- H. Public Service Announcements (PSAs):
 - 1. Review the 2019 Report on the "Relevance and Usefulness of Video Public Service Announcements."
 - 2. Review the distribution and tracking information for the video PSA "Changes."
 - 3. Review a report regarding the new financial reporting system for PSA media valuations.
 - 4. Review a progress report on the development of two PSAs.
- I. Discuss a request "to create a new form of communication" to address anonymity on social media.
- J. Consider a request to develop a plan to create an A.A. podcast
- K. Review "A.A. Triennial Membership Survey" report.
- L. Review contents of P.I. Kit and Workbook.

Report and Charter - GSC

- A. Discuss General Service Conference Final Report.
- B. Discuss A.A. Directories (Canada, Eastern U.S. and Western U.S.)
- C. Consider restoring the two paragraphs and the accompanying footnote in the Concept Eleven essay of The Twelve Concepts for World Service that were removed by an advisory action of the 66th General Service Conference.
- D. Consider amending a sentence in Article 4 of the current Conference Charter.
- E. The A.A. Service Manual, 2020-2022 Edition.
 - 1. Review the draft and the agenda items that were forwarded to Publishing during the period of the redesign project

Treatment/Accessibilities/Agenda – Steve S.

Treatment/ Accessibilities/Agenda - Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Treatment Chair.
- B. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Bridging the Gap Chair
- C. Review the Service Guidelines and Qualifications in the Area 40 Policy & Procedure for the Treatment Chair and Bridging the Gap Chair. Consider any changes that need to be made.
- D. Review activities of Treatment Committees in Districts and Groups throughout Area 40.

Treatment/ Accessibilities - GSC

- A. Discuss the report on the review of materials related to Bridging the Gap activities.
- B. Consider request to develop a Bridging the Gap Workbook.
- C. Review progress report regarding the pamphlet "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic."

- D. Review contents of Treatment Committee Kit and Workbook.
- E. Review contents of Accessibilities Committee Kit and Workbook.

Agenda - GSC

- A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2021 General Service Conference.
- B. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2021 General Service Conference.
- C. Review workshop topic ideas for the 2021 General Service Conference.
- D. Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form, process and 2019 Evaluation Summary.
- E. Review the 2019 January conference call participant survey results.
- F. Discuss report on the Conference Agenda Process from the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference.
- G. Discuss the General Service Conference schedule.

Grapevine/GSC Policy & Admissions – Shawn N.

Grapevine - Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Grapevine Chair.
- B. Review the Service Guidelines and Qualifications in the Area 40 Policy & Procedure for the Grapevine Chair. Consider any changes that need to be made.
- C. Review activity among the Groups and Districts of Area 40 as it relates to the Grapevine.

Grapevine - GSC

- A. Consider the list of suggested AA Grapevine book topics for 2021 or later.
- B. Review progress report on AA Grapevine Workbook revisions.
- C. Review progress report on actions taken from the findings of the AA Grapevine Fellowship Feedback Survey.
- D. Consider revising the A.A. Preamble to use gender neutral pronouns. For example, "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other..."
- E. Consider a request to change the language of the first sentence of the A.A. Preamble as follows: "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share..."
- F. Consider a request to develop an AA Grapevine pamphlet on how the AA Grapevine can be utilized to carry the A.A. message.
- G. Consider a request to change the name of the General Service Conference Committee on Grapevine to the Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña.
- H. Consider a request for AA Grapevine, Inc. to establish an Instagram account in line with the Twelve Traditions.

Policy & Admissions - GSC

- A. Consider a proposed process for approving observers to the U.S./Canada General Service Conference.
- B. Consider implementing electronic voting for trustee elections.
- C. Review G.S.O. general manager's report regarding General Service Conference site selection.
- D. Consider continuing the review of dates for the General Service Conference with timing and year(s) to review as requested by the general manager.

- E. Consider a proposed process for how a Conference committee could review, discuss and act on proposed agenda items not forwarded to a Conference committee.
- F. Consider a proposed process for equitable distribution of Conference committees' workload.
- G. Review the Floor Action process.

Literature – Grant M.

Literature - Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Literature Chair.
- B. Review the Service Guidelines and Qualifications in the Area 40 Policy & Procedure for the Literature Chair. Consider any changes that need to be made.
- C. Review Literature activity in Area 40.

Literature - GSC

- A. Review progress report regarding the pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated.”
- B. Review progress report regarding the pamphlet “The Twelve Concepts Illustrated.”
- C. Review progress report regarding the development of the pamphlet on A.A.’s Three Legacies.
- D. Review progress report regarding the pamphlet “Too Young?”
- E. Review progress report regarding the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.”
- F. Review progress report regarding the development of the pamphlet for Spanish speaking women in A.A.
- G. Review draft update of the video “Your General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure.”
- H. Review draft language regarding safety and A.A. to be included in Living Sober and “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship.”
- I. “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated” pamphlet:
 - 1. Discuss draft update of the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated.”
 - 2. Consider not retiring the existing version of the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated.”
- J. A.A.W.S. Policy:
 - 1. Review “A.A.W.S. Policy on Publication of Literature: Updating Pamphlets and Other A.A. Materials” approved in January 2020.
 - 2. Review proposed “A.A.W.S. Policy on Conversion of Written Conference approved Literature and Service Material into Video Format.”
- K. Consider if proposed agenda items for plain language, simplified language, accessible translations and large print versions of the book Alcoholics Anonymous, as well as workbooks to help study the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, can be addressed with a common solution.
- L. Consider requests to revise the book Alcoholics Anonymous:
 - 1. Add pages 3 through 41 of the pamphlet “The A.A. Group” as an appendix in the next printing.
 - 2. Revise the first 164 pages.
- M. Consider proposals related to possible Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous:
 - 1. Develop a Fifth Edition.
 - 2. Develop a Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous with updated stories and revisions to Appendices III and V.
 - 3. Add a proposed addendum to a Fifth Edition foreword of the book Alcoholics Anonymous at the time it is published.

- N. Consider development of a draft Fourth Edition of the book Alcohólicos Anónimos.
- O. Consider updating the pamphlet “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic.”
- P. Consider requests to revise the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions:
 - 1. To remove the phrase “opposite sex” from paragraph two on page 117 in the chapter “Step Twelve.”
 - 2. To reconsider use of the phrase “lustful enough to rape” in paragraph one on page 66 in the chapter “Step Six.”
- Q. Consider request to add a subtitle to the booklet Living Sober.
- R. Consider requests to revise text related to open meetings in the pamphlet “The A.A. Group.”
- S. Consider request to revise text related to self-support in the pamphlet “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.”
- T. Consider revising the pamphlet “Questions & Answers on Sponsorship”:
 - 1. Change the suggestion that sponsor and newcomer be of the same sex.
 - 2. Expand the section on “Service Sponsorship” and retitle the pamphlet to include service sponsorship.
- U. Consider request to include a G.S.R. preamble in the pamphlet “G.S.R.: Your Group’s Link to A.A. as a Whole.”
- V. Review recovery literature matrix.

Cooperation with the Professional Community and Trustees Committee

Terri T.

Cooperation with the Professional Community - Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 CPC Chair.
- B. Review the Service Guidelines and Qualifications in the Area 40 Policy & Procedure for the CPC Chair. Consider any changes that need to be made.
- C. Review activities of Districts and Groups as it pertains to Cooperating with the Professional Community.

Cooperation with the Professional Community - GSC

- A. Consider a request to discontinue the pamphlet “A.A. in Your Community.”
- B. Consider a request to create a pamphlet for mental health professionals.
- C. Discuss progress report on LinkedIn page implementation.
- D. Review contents of C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.

Trustees – GSC

- A. Review resumes of candidates for:
 - a. West Central Regional Trustee
 - b. 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 AA Grapevine, Inc.
- E. Consider the revised "Procedures for a Partial or Complete Reorganization of the General Service Board, the A.A.W.S. or AA Grapevine Boards."

Finance- Ashley J.

Finance - Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Treasurer.
- B. Review the Service Guidelines and Qualifications in the Area 40 Policy & Procedure for the Area Treasurer. Consider any changes that need to be made.

Finance - GSC

- A. Review the pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix."
 - 1. Consider a request to revise the pie chart percentages on page 12.
 - 2. Consider a request regarding contribution percentages to service entities.
 - 3. Consider draft language related to the "virtual basket."
- B. Review Self-Support Packet.