

# +2006 Area 40 Spring Assembly Minutes

## April 8 & 9, 2006

### WELCOME TO THE ASSEMBLY

Andrew W., our Area 40 Chair/Alternate Delegate, opened our Assembly at 8 am Saturday April 8, 2006 with a moment of silence to remember Kevin N., our Area 40 Archivist, who passed on February 26, 2006. We will all miss Kevin a lot.

### ROLL CALL

Paul W., Area 40 Secretary, took roll call, with all Area 40 Officers and Committee Chairs present, all 14 DCMs or their alternates present, and Earl F.—Area 40 Advisor present. Alex M.—Area 40 Webmaster was not present. There were 99 voting members present, along with 44 visitors for a total of 143 AAs attending our Spring Assembly.

### Orientation to the Assembly – Area Delegate Scott W.

My name is Scott W. and I am an alcoholic. Good morning and welcome to everyone. I have the honor and privilege to serve as your contribution to the General Service Conference. I truly appreciate this opportunity to participate at this level of service as the Panel 55 Delegate from Area 40, Montana.

Would all the new GSRs and anyone attending their first Assembly please stand up. Welcome to the Assembly. As the newcomer is the life blood to our AA meetings, the GSR is the life blood to our Assemblies. I welcome you and I hope to have the opportunity to meet and get to know each of you this weekend.

I think back to my first Area Assembly and I remember having the thoughts of “who are those people sitting in the front of the room? They must be somebody”. And “what language are these people speaking?”. The terminology used at the Assembly such as “substantial unanimity”, “ad hoc committee”, and “calling for question” can be confusing at first. The process and the terminology take a little bit to get used to, so please ask questions at anytime. The people in the front of the room are your Area 40 Standing Committee Chairs and Officers. They are seated in the front of the room so you can get to recognize them and know them this weekend. The Standing Committee Chairs, Triangle Editor, and the Area Officers will be giving reports in the next few minutes. There is a tremendous amount of experience, strength and hope available at the front of the room. Please utilize your elected, trusted servants.

I would also like to introduce the Past Delegates who are in attendance this weekend. Would all the past Delegates please stand? (introduce each by name and Panel number). The past Delegates are a great source of information and I thank them for their continued support and attendance of the Area Assemblies. Also, Earl F. serves as our Area Advisor.

We will follow the Agenda prepared by our Area Chair, Andrew W. Please get one at the next break if you do not have one at this time. Also, in the event the Assembly should take a vote this weekend, we will need a precise number of voting members in attendance. Eligible voters are GSRs or their alternates if the GSR is not in attendance, and the Area 40 Committee: DCMs, officers and standing committee chairs. Please sign in with your DCM prior to the first break this morning. And please, all DCMs bring your sign in sheets to our Area Secretary Paul W. at the first break.

The standing committee meetings will commence after the first break. The committees are generally comprised of the standing committee chair, 2 DCMs, and two District representatives. Anyone may attend and participate with the committee meetings. However, if a vote is taken we ask that only the committee members vote in the committee meetings.

Most of the discussion in the committee meetings will encompass the Agenda Items for the 56<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference. The Chairperson of each committee will make a report starting later this afternoon on the items in their committee. Discussion will take place at the microphones so everyone has an opportunity to hear your point. When you go to the mike, please introduce yourself with your name and service position. Comments are limited to 3 minutes, and there is a timer. If your opinion is shared, it is not necessary to share the same idea. However, if your opinion is not shared, please go to the mike so Area 40 can have a full and open discussion and participate in the process of an informed group conscience. God speaks to us through our group conscience, so it is important that we all speak up if we have something to say. Also, as a matter of thoughtfulness and consideration of others, please listen to the points being shared at the mike.

Through the process of discussion of the General Service Conference Agenda Items, we will develop what is known as the “sense of the Area”. We will not “vote” as Area 40 on any of the items. However, there will be occasions when I will ask our Area Chair, Andrew, to ask for a sense of the Area by a show of hands.

In addition, there are Agenda Items that pertain to Area 40. The items may come out of committee as a “recommendation”. This translates as a made and seconded motion from the committee to the Assembly for discussion prior to a vote. The floor will be open for discussion, again please use the mikes. When a recommendation comes to the Assembly floor, it will require a 2/3 majority. In the event a motion passes, the floor will be open for minority opinion. Anyone who voted in the minority is encouraged to go to the mike and state their view. Alcoholics Anonymous values the minority opinion and we take the time to allow the minority to express their thoughts before we go on to the next item of business.

The floor discussions and votes will follow a loose interpretation of Robert’s Rules of Order. Andrew will have final say on interpretation of Robert’s Rules of Order and final say on any question of procedure.

There are two workshops for those who do not attend the committee meetings. Please review the weekend agenda for details. I would enthusiastically encourage you to attend either the committee meetings or workshops. Your group sent you to the Assembly as their GSR—General Service Representative to be of service. Please participate in all of the Assembly activities and Represent your Group.

This evening at 7pm after our dinner break, we will elect a new Archivist. For those who are not aware, our Archivist Kevin N. passed away on February 26<sup>th</sup>. With his passing, our Fellowship and Area 40 lost a great friend, great member of our Society, and a trusted, willing servant. His presence at these Assemblies has been a constant for many years and he will be missed.

In addition, this evening there will be two breakout sessions: GSRs and DCMs. There are “Ask it Baskets” in the back of the room. Please put your questions in the baskets and plan on attending the breakout sessions so you will have the opportunity to share your Group or District’s experience. Also, Service Manuals are available at the Literature Display. The Service Manual will be used as a point of reference this weekend. Please get one; the cost is only \$2.50.

Also located in the back of the room are the Birthday and Group contributions to the General Service Office envelopes. I brought enough for everyone—so please do not be bashful about grabbing a handful or two to take back to your Home Group and Districts.

Tomorrow morning starts with Roundup Reports, Intergroup Reports, a report on the WCRAASC that was held in Minneapolis, and a report on the WCRF that was held in Great Falls this past September.

After the reports, we will have two past Delegates share with us: Ed M. and Mark S. I look forward to hearing from both past Delegates tomorrow. Their experience, wealth of information and willingness to continue to be of service sets a high mark for all of us to emulate.

After the past Delegate sharing, we will continue with committee reports and if time permits, we will have opportunity for general sharing prior to our adjournment at noon tomorrow.

Again, I want to welcome the new GSRs and the visitors to the Assembly. I hope and pray this weekend is as informative and enjoyable as I anticipate it will be for me. I have been attending Assemblies longer than I have been sober and the discovery of how big AA is continues to amaze me. That process of discovery started with my first Assembly and I am sure will continue through this weekend.

Are there any questions? If I can be of assistance at anytime, please ask.

## **Area Chair/Alternate Delegate’s Report**

Dear Area 40, Welcome to the Spring Assembly for 2006. I especially want to welcome all you who are attending your first Area Assembly. I know that it can be confusing the first time that you participate in an Assembly. We all appreciate your willingness to be of service.

After the Fall Assembly last year, I had the privilege of attending the West Central Regional Forum in Great Falls. Many Area 40 folks, especially the folks from Great Falls, did a great job of hosting the folks from the General Service Office (GSO) and AAs from all over the West Central Region. I came back to Great Falls later in the year to attend the district meeting for District 41. That was the fourteenth different district that I visited last year. I was able to attend a couple of meetings for a few districts. Thank you all for giving me some of your time at your district meetings.

Since last Fall Assembly, the agenda for this Assembly has been developing. A number of DCMs, a couple of Area 40 officers, and a few individual Area 40 AA members sent me items before the February 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Scott sent me a copy of the agenda items for the General Service Conference (GSC) as soon as he received them from GSO. I then used these to put together our agenda for this conference. I sent copies of the agenda to all of the Area 40 officers, committee chairs, and DCMs. I also sent a copy to the Triangle Editor and our Web Master so they could put a copy in the Triangle and on the web, respectively. Those of us who were able to attend

the 2006 West Central Regional Alcoholics Service Conference in Minneapolis had our first opportunity to discuss the GSC agenda items with folks from all over our region.

Since the WCRAASC, we have had 3 pre-assemblies over four weeks. I attended the pre-assemblies in Hamilton and Great Falls. I apologize for missing the pre-assembly in Billings. I thought it prudent not to leave my wife alone during the weekend we had to move out of our home (more on that in a moment). All of the pre-assemblies helped us become more informed on the agenda items. We will discuss all of our agenda items here at this assembly, but there are only a few that we might actually vote on. We will take a sense of the area on many of the items so that Scott can take that information with him to the General Service conference in New York where he will actually vote on many of these items.

I want to remind all of you that we encourage your participation. Please participate in the discussion. If someone else has expressed your thoughts on the topic, then there is no need to share them again. If, however, you have a point to make that has not been expressed, or if you have a question that has not been asked, then please do go to the microphone and add it to the discussion. We put the time in to discuss the agenda items and examine how we operate because Alcoholics Anonymous is so important to us.

I have moved back to Missoula due to a change in my wife's employment. My new address is: 3214 Cummins Way, Missoula, MT 59802. I hope to start living there very soon.

Yours in love and service, Andrew W.

### **Area 40 Secretary's Report**

Hi everyone. I'm Paul W., alcoholic, and your Area 40 Secretary. Welcome to all here at this Assembly, and a special welcome for those of you here for your first time. Please visit with me during this weekend if I can be of any help to you, and for any of you that may be interested in being Area 40 Secretary—we have elections this September for new Area 40 Chairs and Officers for 2007—please ask me just what does the Secretary do for Area 40? I will be glad to fill you in on my duties that I have learned so far.

All Area 40 Chairs, Officers, and District Committee Members, please give me Two Copies of your reports given this morning. I will also need Two Copies of the minutes taken during your "Standing Committee Meetings" which will be taking place this morning and continuing later on this afternoon. Thank you in advance for your help. DCMs, please complete your "Group Member Voting Registration Forms" that were on your tables this morning, and return these to me during our first break. We can then establish total voting members present, a substantial unanimity, and a quorum should voting be necessary this weekend. Those eligible to vote during Assembly are DCMs or their alternates, GSRs or their alternates, but Not both, and our Area Chairs and Officers. Thank You.

Following are the motions and their outcomes from our Fall Assembly 2005.

1). This motion is from the Public Information Committee: "The Public Information Committee recommends that the current Policy and Procedures document be made available to the Area on the Area website, and that updates and revisions will be the responsibility of the Archives committee after each Assembly. Corrections to the Policy and Procedures document need to be submitted to the Area Chair for furtherance to the Archives Committee in accordance with Area Timelines to be included under the Committees agenda".

**Motion voted on and passed.**

2). "The Public Information Committee recommends that the following procedure be put in place for handling Area 40 committee chair's emails. For those chairs who do not have email, it will go to the Area Chair or his designee. **Motion voted on and passed.**

3). "The Archives Committee recommends that the Archives Committee conduct, with the Area Archivist and the Area Advisor, an update of the Past Actions Document—to insure the applicability of any Past Actions, and to insure the historical position of certain Past Actions. This review will be conducted during the second year of each rotation". **Motion voted on and passed.**

4). This motion is from the Archive Committee: "That Area 40 sponsor Area Workshops, which would follow a "Forum" model, be no more than one day in length with a maximum of three presenters. The Area Advisor shall serve as the Area 40 Workshop Coordinator, and will be responsible for dividing the state into 4 quadrants, and establishing a schedule of two workshops per year between May and October. The local DCMs involved shall be consulted about time, place, and topics to be covered. The Area 40 budget shall have a line item allowing up to \$1000 for each workshop. If an alternate workshop coordinator is needed, it should be a past Delegate. The Workshop schedule shall begin in 2006". **An amended motion, which follows, was made before the previous motion could be voted on:** "That Area 40 hold 2 workshops per year per the ad hoc Committee's recommendations given at the Spring 2005 Assembly". **Both the amended motion and the previous motion were voted on, and they both failed.**

5). This motion is from the Finance Committee: "Consider the proposal that Area 40 submit the following Agenda Item to the 2006 General Service Conference: "Consider the addition of a reference to the publications *AA Guidelines: Finance*, and *The AA Group Treasurer* in the pamphlet *Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix*. **The motion was voted on and passed.**

In closing, there is a 5-minute time limit for our Area 40 Chair's, Officer's, and DCM's reports. Three minutes time are allotted for responses from the floor microphones. Thank you. The "Ask-It-Basket" used for questions during the GSR and DCM Breakout sessions later this evening are by the water cooler at the back of this room. Please put your questions in the baskets. Thank you for help in making this a great Assembly.

Yours in Service, Paul W.

ps—DCMs, please finish with your District's Group Information Changes, and mail them to the General Service Office as soon as you can. Thank You.

### **Area 40 Treasurer's Report**

Area 40 is in excellent financial condition. Generous contributions from the groups have kept the treasury full and allowed us to carry out activities planned for the first three months of 2006.

The Year to Date financial statement is available by the front door.

As a reminder to take back to your group treasurers, the mailing address for Area 40 treasurer until December 31, 2006 is:

Area 40, Inc.  
PO Box 495  
Helena, MT 59624

In Service, Sid G.

### **Triangle Editor's Report**

My name is Carole, and I'm an alcoholic. I am currently serving as your Area Newsletter Editor. Since I began my term in January 2005, eleven issues of the "Triangle" have been published. My sponsor, a past Triangle editor, suggested I make a schedule of themes, which I did and provided to the Area Committee. Thus far, I have stuck to the schedule and it seems to be working out very well.

The theme schedule typically involves participation from the Committee Chairs who have participated fabulously by submitting articles and encouraging District Committee Chairs to participate as well. Thanks to all of you who have submitted articles and/or encouraged others to submit articles.

All groups in Area 40 receive the Triangle regardless of their ability to pay for their subscription. In February 2005, twenty-eight groups had paid subscriptions. As of April 6, 2006, seventy-six groups are self-supporting by having paid subscriptions. Thank you. Thirty-three percent of groups receiving the Triangle have paid subscriptions.

Just for kicks, I recently computed the percentage of groups with paid subscriptions by District. Let's have a round of applause for District 31. Sixty-three percent or 5 of 8 groups have paid subscriptions. I have provided each DCM with their percentage of paid subscriptions.

The best thing about updating your subscription is that I get an updated mailing address for your group. Even if your group can not pay the subscription, provide me with an updated mailing address.

If you do not believe your group is receiving the Triangle, please see me and we'll see who is receiving it or if we need to get you added to the list. Please remember that the purpose of the Triangle is to serve as a communication vehicle for the Area. Therefore, please share it with your groups. Some groups even have subscriptions for 2 copies.

I have placed copies of the most recent issue in the back of the room. Please take one only if your group has not received a copy.

In 5 months you will be seeing a new Triangle Editor. If you or someone you know is interested in the position, please talk to me. I will share with you what the job involves and how much fun it has been.

Thank you for giving me this great opportunity to serve you. Carole B., Area 40 Triangle Editor.

### **Area 40 Archives Report**

Greetings to you all. A special welcome if this is your first assembly, and welcome back if it isn't! I am Dennis O., your Area 40 Archives/ Structure Chair.

We note with sadness the passing of our Area 40 Archivist, Kevin N. This weekend I expect we will be discussing his replacement. As this discussion unfolds, I hope you will carefully consider our options and the people who may be interested in Kevin's replacement.

This weekend our committee will be discussing a couple of agenda items for the General Service Conference, and four items of interest to Area 40. Two Area 40 Structure items look like repeats from last Fall's Assembly, and they are. The one recommending adoption of a revised Policy and Procedures Document for Area 40 was basically held over. The agenda item recommending Area 40 sponsorship of a couple Area-wide workshops each year was defeated last Fall. But District 91, the group which originated the idea thought it was worthy of reconsideration. So the necessary steps were taken to put this item on the agenda again, beginning at the group level, thru district, to the Area Chair, and to our committee, and later this weekend to you. The other two agenda items have to do with inviting past Delegates to the Assembly on a rotational basis.

Last October, I participated in a District Archives workshop in Helena, and greatly enjoyed it. Thanks to all who contributed for the success of that gathering.

Also, it was around October that my computer got so full of cyber sludge that it simply gave up and for all purposes, died. So be it. Emails will not get to me. But my mailbox is PO Box 214, Bigfork, MT 59911. My phone # is 406-837-6767.

In love and service to you all, Dennis O.

### **Area 40 Corrections Facilities Report**

Since the Fall Assembly my travels have included attending a District 61 Workshop in Helena in December, and three pre-assemblies that occurred this past month. I have also attended an average of two AA meetings per month in the Men's Prison at Deer Lodge, an average of three AA meetings per month in the Forensics Unit of the Montana State Hospital at Warm Springs, and I have brought a monthly speaker into WATCH at Warm Springs each month. Thank you to all the speakers who have shared their experience, strength, and hope at these speaker's meetings. Please contact me if you are interested in speaking at WATCH on the third Thursday of the month at 2:30 in the afternoon.

The Pink Can Fund continues to provide literature to inmates across Area 40 who could not otherwise get any AA literature. Since the Fall Assembly, I have received \$3,994.77 from four different districts, six different groups, and from money sent to our Area Treasurer to be passed along to the fund. I have placed fifteen orders to six different institutions in the same time period. The amount spent came to \$3,418.02. With those institutions that allow AAs to carry in orders, I place the orders based on the requests of those AAs. With the institutions that demand direct delivery to their institution, I rely on the staff to tell me their needs. I will submit a detailed report of this account to the Area Secretary to be included in the minutes. Any group or person wanting information on the Pink Can Fund may contact me and I would be happy to supply that information. Any group or person wishing to contribute money to the Pink Can Fund can send money to me. Also, anyone needing help, financial or otherwise, in providing AA literature to their local correctional facility can contact me. I also have information on the Corrections Correspondence Service, where AAs on the outside are put in touch with AAs on the inside for the purpose of writing letters to each other.

The biggest challenge remains the Men's State Prison in Deer Lodge. It has given me an abundance of opportunities to employ, or at least try to employ, various aspects of my AA program. In November I had a large literature order sent to the prison. The prison called in January and said they never got it. So I immediately had a small order sent to the prison to see if this was a one-time incident or the start of a trend. The prison called me and said that order never showed up either. Last week the prison called me and said they found both orders in the warehouse and that the books will be distributed to the Freedom Group members. In the meantime, a member of my home group, who is employed at the prison, has volunteered to physically take the next order into the prison and see that it gets properly delivered, so we will try that. Regarding the meetings, after three months of no meetings, we were allowed to bring meetings back into the prison in October. They have taken place every Saturday since then, except Christmas Eve, when the prison was in "lockdown". But on Thursday, two days ago, the prison called me to say that the meetings are again cancelled until further notice, and that includes this afternoon's scheduled meeting. The prison administration is now requiring that a staff member be present in the meetings and the inmates who are members of the Freedom Group, the inside AA group, are refusing to conduct meetings with a staff member present. So until this is resolved, there will be no meetings. I have already notified those involved of this new incident and I will immediately contact those involved as soon as we are allowed back in. The Mini-conference is currently scheduled for July 8<sup>th</sup>. However, this is the third different date I have been given in the last five weeks, and with the current problem with meetings, I have no idea if that date will hold up, or if the Mini-conference will even happen. As of now, only currently carded sponsors will be allowed in, and this conference will be a "Recovery Conference" instead of an "AA Conference" as it will also include inside NA and GA members. I will pass on any new information as soon as I receive it. And finally, after asking many times that the prison inform me of any scheduled orientations, an orientation was held in February without my being notified. I regret this lost opportunity to get new

AAs involved, and have pleaded to be informed of the next orientation. Thank you to all those involved for your continued patience in trying to carry the AA message inside this institution.

With the exception of the Men's Prison in Deer Lodge, literally all AA service work being done at correctional facilities in Area 40 is being carried out at the district and group level. A few very dedicated AAs are making sure that the still suffering alcoholics in these institutions get to hear AA's message of hope on a regular basis by going into these institutions. These AAs, along with the district corrections chairs who coordinate it, are a huge asset to our Area. I thank you for all your efforts.

In closing I just want to say thank you for the opportunity to serve, and if anybody needs any help with their Correctional service work at the district, group, or individual level, please let me know. Following is a summary of the Pink Can Fund.

PINK CAN FUND === 9-16-2005 to 4 - 7- 2006

	<u>Group or Institution</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Deposit</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<u>Starting Balance:</u>					\$382.65
16-Sep	Pad 'N Pencil				376.95
20-Sep	Deposit			\$23.75	400.70
20-Sep	Deposit			286.21	686.91
19-Oct	Deposit			10.00	696.91
19-Oct	Deposit			65.42	762.33
19-Oct	Deposit			17.36	779.69
25-Oct	Deposit			100.00	879.69
4-Nov	World Services	1017	255.22		624.47
4-Nov	World Services	1018	278.90		345.57
4-Nov	Deposit			11.00	356.57
4-Nov	Deposit			10.00	366.57
29-Nov	Deposit			100.00	466.57
29-Nov	World Services	1019	252.85		213.72
7-Dec	World Services	1020	155.76		57.96
19-Dec	Deposit			669.41	727.37
22-Dec	Deposit			100.00	827.37
9-Jan	Deposit			15.00	842.37
9-Jan	Deposit			7.75	850.12
12-Jan	USPS	1021	7.80		842.32
13-Jan	World Services	1022	61.60		780.72
13-Jan	World Services	1023	288.60		492.12
20-Jan	Deposit			629.47	1,121.59
20-Jan	Deposit			200.00	1,321.59
22-Jan	World Services	1024	669.30		652.29
22-Jan	World Services	1024	49.30		602.99
25-Jan	World Services	1025	8.60		594.39
14-Feb	World Services	1026	115.94		478.45
14-Feb	Deposit			8.00	486.45
14-Feb	Deposit			222.96	709.41
14-Feb	Deposit			200.00	909.41
14-Feb	Pad 'N Pencil	1027	3.00		906.41
2-Mar	Deposit			35.00	941.41
2-Mar	Deposit			13.82	955.23
2-Mar	Deposit			150.00	1,105.23
16-Mar	Deposit			294.04	1,399.27
17-Mar	World Services	1028	20.50		1,378.77
30-Mar	World Services	1029	354.40		1,024.37
30-Mar	World Services	1030	428.15		596.22
30-Mar	World Services	1031	462.40		133.82
4-Apr	Deposit			100.00	233.82
4-Apr	Deposit			205.58	439.40
4-Apr	Deposit			20.00	459.40
6-Apr	Deposit			500.00	959.40

\*--Donations sent to Area Treasurer and passed on to me.

Total Donations by District and Group--- District 72: \$963.45; District 81: \$629.47; District 91: \$500.00; District 93: \$750.00; Anaconda Traditions GRP: \$99.00; Early Birds GRP: \$428.54; Its In The Book GRP: \$200.00; Malta GRP: \$23.75; New Hope GRP: \$48.93; Serenity GRP: \$65.42; \* Donations Sent To Area Treasurer And Passed On To Me: \$286.21; TOTAL: \$3,994.77

Spending by Institution: Men's Prison: \$787.82; Women's Prison: \$354.40; WATCH Warm Springs: \$968.70; WATCH Glendive: \$1,125.36; Glendive Regional Prison: \$115.94; MSH Forensics Unit: \$49.30; USPS-Stamps: \$7.80; Copies: \$8.70; TOTAL: \$3,418.02.

## **Area 40 Cooperation with the Professional Community Report**

Welcome everybody, especially those attending their first Area Assembly. I'm Lloyd B., alcoholic, and honored to be allowed to serve as your CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community) Chair for Area 40.

The week of September 30-October 2, 2005 I was able to attend the West Central Regional Forum in Great Falls, MT. It sure was nice not having to drive over a thousand miles to attend a Forum!!! At the Forum I met in person some of the GSO staff. I also learned more about what GSO was doing. I also attended a CPC Workshop.

In October 2005 I was invited to Bozeman for a Professional luncheon. It was well attended by professionals from several fields of work. District 72 did a wonderful job of presenting AA to the professionals attending. The rest of the winter was fairly quiet with nothing but phone calls for me.

For the weekend of March 3-5, 2006, it was off to Minneapolis, Minnesota for the West Central Regional AA Service Conference. While there I heard sharing on the General Service Conference Agenda Items from the 8 Areas-in 7 States- in the West Central Region. I also attended the PI/CPC breakout session. March 11 found me in Billings for the pre-Assembly. March 19, I went to Shelby for a CPC Workshop, but due to bad weather, only one person showed up. I was able to drop off some literature while there, and I also had coffee with three AA members before heading back home. I was also assured that I would be invited back to do another workshop!!

March 25 I attended the pre-assembly in Hamilton, and April 1, I attended the pre-assembly in Great Falls.

The Area CPC Committee is asking for sober Lawyers in AA who are willing to be Temporary Contacts for lawyers getting assistance from the State Bar Association's Program. The State Bar contacted us to see if we could do this. If we get enough willing Temporary Contacts, The State Bar will provide our CPC Committee with the name, address, and phone number of a lawyer who might want to check out the AA program. We would give this name to a sober lawyer in AA who is near this potential newcomer. The Temporary Contact would introduce the lawyer to AA by taking them to meetings, sharing one on one, and offering to be a temporary sponsor. If you are a sober lawyer in AA and would like to participate in this new program, contact Terry S., DCM for District 61, Helena, and he will put your name on the list. Thank you for participating.

Yours in Love and Service, Lloyd B., Area 40 CPC Chair

## **Area 40 Grapevine Report**

Welcome back to another Spring Assembly. Soon after the Fall Assembly, I attended the West Central Regional Forum in Great Falls. That was really a great experience for me. I got to meet many of the people who work at our General Service Office in New York City. Some are alcoholic and others are not. I got to participate in the Grapevine session as well as many others. I learned a lot and got reacquainted with people from other states in our Region who I'd met before. I also got to meet new people. One of the high points for me was hanging out with Robin, the Executive Editor of the Grapevine. I brought back the **Grape ball** that we used for the kick-off meeting. It was a gift from the Grapevine staff to Area 40 for hosting the Forum.

In January, I talked with Janet, the office manager at the Grapevine. She told me that there are a lot of internal changes that are going to take place soon with the magazine. They're hoping to boost circulation by updating the look and some other parts of the publication. They are also working with a new printing company which is able to send out the magazines sooner so that the subscribers receive them in a timelier manner. I've noticed that my copy now comes in different packaging.

As of the February issue of the Grapevine, there were 604 subscriptions in Montana. There are 8 Districts that have Grapevine reps who have registered with GSO. Janet thought that wasn't very many, but when I told her there were only 14 Districts in our Area, she thought that was a pretty good percentage. The other statistic Janet gave me is that there are only 2 groups in our whole Area that have

registered Grapevine reps. Please encourage your groups to choose one. That's the main way that new subscriptions are generated. When group representatives register with GSO, they are sent materials to help them in their service position. If your group doesn't have a lot of members, the alternate GSR can take over the GVR position. It's also a good opportunity for a newcomer because there isn't a length of sobriety requirement.

In March, I participated in the pre-assemblies in Billings, and Hamilton. Both were well attended, and there were lots of good discussions about the agenda items. I was glad to have the input of others, and to learn more about what the other committees will be discussing.

Today, our committee will be discussing two agenda items for Grapevine. The one that we need to take a vote on is regarding a proposed book of La Vina stories from the last 10 years. The Grapevine office staff says that there has been a lot of interest in additional publications in Spanish. We also have four agenda items for our Policy and Admissions assignment, but nothing that will require a vote.

I know I'll learn a lot at this assembly—I always do. I hope you all have a good time.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Gail M., Area 40 Grapevine Chair.

### **Area 40 Literature Chair Report**

Welcome everyone. My name is Louise, and I'm an alcoholic and serving as your Area 40 Literature Chair. We have several General Service Conference items to discuss this weekend in the Literature break out and one Area 40 Agenda Item, and I look forward and appreciate every ones input.

I did make it to two of the three pre-assemblies and would again like to thank everyone for their participation. Paula, from Missoula was gracious enough to attend the pre-assembly in Hamilton for me and Sean's help in Great Falls was a God send. I got sick Saturday morning and the extra help was appreciated. I was reminded of one of the miracles of Alcoholics Anonymous; how we can do together what I can't do alone.

For those who forgot since the last Area Assembly or for those who are here for their first Assembly, there is a literature display in the back of the room, so please take some time to see what we have available from AAWS. One section is for "display" only, but if you need a pamphlet or an order catalog, please help yourself.

The only additions to the display this assembly are the 2004 survey pamphlets and the matching cardboard display. I bought the cardboard display to insure we would meet our \$250.00 purchase but that was before I realized the Service Manuals went up in price. We would have been just fine.

There are plenty of service manuals available and they are \$2.50. We have gone back to the thicker paper so you will be able to read one side of a page instead of reading two sides (front and back) at the same time. The thicker paper is why the price increase and way worth the investment. If you don't have a service manual, I strongly encourage you to get one.

I received some information from Adrienne B., our Literature Coordinator at GSO, and one item of interest was a piece from the February/March Box 459. It is called "How Does Your Group's Literature Stack Up?" The opening line is "When newcomers to your group walk over to the literature table or rack, what do they see?" It also talked about literature looking like it needs to be repainted. That sounds like some of our literature at my Home Group, so I will share this information and hopefully we will make a change to better carry the AA message through our Literature. I made several copies of this article—it's well worth reading, so please take a copy and share it with your Home Group.

Have a great weekend and I hope we all go home a little better informed that when we came. How can we not?

Yours in Service, Louise M., Area 40 Literature Chair

### **Area 40 Public Information Report**

Hello, my name is Connie R. and I am an alcoholic and I am your Area 40 Public Information Committee Chairperson.



Since our last meeting in September of 2005, I have been privileged to be a participant in a couple of events. District 72 invited me to attend their Luncheon for the Professionals on October 12, 2005. There was a wonderful turn out of law enforcement, Judges and health professionals. District 72 is very fortunate to have so many "Friends of AA".

At the end of October, I was asked to share my experience, strength, and hope at the Women in Recovery Retreat in Kalispell. Spending a weekend with a bunch of women has never been my cup of tea, but as always, it was a wonderful experience and I left the retreat having found new friends and strengthening those friendships I already had.

In January, the It's In The Book Group in District 61 asked me to participate in a workshop. The workshop was on the GSO Conference theme "Sponsorship, Service, and Self-Support in a Changing World". I was on a panel with Area 40 Delegate Scott W.; Treatment Chair Lee G.; Treasurer Sid G.; and Triangle Editor Carole B. I shared on the topic "Service: Accountability and Responsibility". I have found that anytime I participate in AA, I learn and grow from the experience and this was most definitely a learning experience. To prepare, I did an inventory using the Concepts Checklists. As with any inventory, I found my strengths and my weaknesses and could share my understanding of service work a little better with those who attended the workshop.

The first of March brings a rush of activity that indicates that Area Assembly is not far away. The pre-assemblies began. This year I was able to attend the pre-assemblies in Billings, Hamilton, and Great Falls. The sharing that is done in the break outs of each event is always very helpful in getting different perspectives on the agenda items and their background information. Thank you to all of the districts who hosted and participated in those pre-assemblies. You did a great job.

In late February, I received an email from Area 41 (Nebraska) asking me to share my experience with the committee structure. They have recently changed their Area to this type of structure. I was asked some thought provoking questions as to what the committee does. This helped me identify things that I will try to put into practice during the rest of my rotation as PI Committee Chair, and to be able to pass on the incoming Committee Chair.

I am willing to come to your District to present a workshop on Public Information. You can contact me at 406-933-5342, or reach me by email at aamontana.org under Area Business.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Connie R., Area 40 Public Information Chair.

### **Area 40 Treatment Chair Report**

We have had several maintenance projects going on in Treatment since the Fall Assembly. At MCDC, we had another change in the AA coordinator. Craig R. has taken over as the liaison with MCDC and coordinates the weeks that District 71 covers. We have instituted some additional changes. We have shortened the length of some of the meetings since patients are no longer allowed to share. We changed the start time of meetings so that people traveling from out of the district can get home earlier. We now provide one speaker meeting a month, so if you are interested in and available to speak at MCDC on the last Saturday of the month, please get in touch with me.

Kevin M., District 71 Treatment Chair, continues to do a great job processing Bridging the Gap temporary contact cards from the various facilities, MCDC, WATCH East and West and Warm Springs. I mentioned last Assembly that we are trying something new at WATCH East in Glendive. Those folks fill out their Bridging the Gap cards half way through their 6 month stays. This is designed to give outside AAs adequate time to write a letter and begin to establish a relationship with the patients. That message has not gotten out clearly and AAs have not been writing letters. So Kevin and I sent out letters to clarify the expectation for those AAs receiving BTG cards from WATCH East. Please write them a letter ahead of time so you can begin to interact before they are released. The address and contact information should be on each card you receive.

Additionally at WATCH East, we have been having trouble being consistent with the monthly BTG pitch. At the Billings pre-assembly I spoke with Bob H. who said there were several Billing's AAs who might be willing to carry a message out to Glendive once a month. He also contacted a very active group in Dickinson, ND, that was also interested. So we are in the process of developing some additional support for that facility to take the pressure off the locals. If you are interested in getting involved in this project, please get in touch with me.

WATCH West meetings are going well. We now have a group in Helena that is committed to covering the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday each month. District 72 in Bozeman is also committed to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday each month. Missoula is also exploring taking on one Friday a month. Again, that takes the pressure off the local AAs who are stretched serving a variety of facilities in their District.

We have added a couple of additional facilities to the BTG system. And I am drafting a letter to send out to all facilities in the state making them aware of the BTG program, explaining how it works and inviting them to get involved.

This Spring I have been able to attend a workshop for the It's In The Book Group in January and the three pre-assemblies. I have learned a lot about what people doing treatment work in AA think. I want to thank all those who attended pre-assemblies for helping me become better informed about what is going on in the fellowship. I have also sent out copies of the recently released Treatment Survey results to each District Treatment Chair so you should have access to that information in your District.

I still have two additional projects on my "to do" list. One is developing a directory of all the facilities in the state with AA and facility contact information as well as guidelines for each facility. The other project is to make sure staff at each facility knows about AA and the website to get local meeting information for clients before they are released. I'd like to develop a packet of materials available to anyone leaving the facility. This packet would include pamphlets and local meeting lists or at least our Area 40 website information.

Overall, treatment work around the state is going well. We are blessed with a group of very active, dedicated District Treatment Chairs around the state. There are still many opportunities to get involved, so talk to your local treatment chair and see what you can do.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Lee G., Area 40 Treatment Chair

## **Area 40 District Committee Member Reports**

### **District 11, Linda B. – DCM**

District 11 has been busy since last Fall. We have a very active PI/CPC committee that has been doing in-service workshops for the professionals in our District and keeping meeting lists stocked at the local institutions and motels. There are lots of opportunities with CORRECTIONS AND TREATMENT to carry the message with the Yellowstone County Detention Facility, the Women's Prison, Alternatives Inc., Deaconess Psychiatric Center, Parkview Convalescent Care, Deering Community Center, Rimrock Foundation, Senior High and Alternative High School, and the Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch. Our GRAPEVINE AND ARCHIVES were recently displayed at the Founder's Day in March.

The meeting list has been updated and mailed off to the General Service Office. We have 33 registered groups, 3 inactive groups, and several groups that are not registered that have meetings. Our District meetings are held at 10am on the second Saturday of each month, except July. We rent space from the South Central MT Intergroup and we have a great new meeting location at 1417 13<sup>th</sup> Street West. The District was able to send me to the WCRAASC in Minneapolis in March and I was asked by Scott to moderate a workshop at the breakout sessions. Returning home, District 11 hosted the first pre-assembly. Cleve, the Recovery Group GSR, and Rich, the GSR from 510 Cook were the co-chairs for this great event. The planning for the Fall 2006 Roundup is in full swing and we will be happy to see a large gathering of ex-drunks in the Magic City come September. That is all for now.

Yours in Service, Linda B.

### **District 12, Andy P. – DCM**

The District currently has 6 active groups out of 8. Our GSR attendance averages 20-30 % participation. The reports from GSR's indicate the groups are doing wonderful. There are no Standing Committees in District 12. We are currently looking for an Alternate DCM, Secretary & Treasurer. We are having some difficulties filling any responsibilities on a consistent basis. We have a new Hotline Chair that is doing a great job. The Hotline Number is 255-7578. Thanks.

From the trenches, Andy P.

### **District 21, Pam C. – DCM**

My name is Pam C. I am an alcoholic and I am the DCM from District 21. Our District consists of 8 towns holding 29 meetings per week. We have our District meeting every other month on the second Sunday, usually at our central meeting point which is Glasgow. We had a Halloween party and District meeting in Glasgow—fun was had by all.

At our last District meeting, Dave from Plentywood, stepped up and took the Alternate DCM position. Thanks Dave.

A lot of planning for summer is taking place, for campouts, speakers and meetings. Plentywood agreed to host a campout which will also be our next District meeting. This is set for June 9<sup>th</sup> through June 11<sup>th</sup>. There will be speakers from Canada as well as Area 40. The location will be announced at a later date. We talked about having our campout at Fort Peck again this summer in July; last years was a great success. Two Area Chairs came and did a workshop, so we are hoping to get two other Chairs to do the same this year.

Culbertson is still going strong and meetings are held on Wednesday nights, and Scobey has started a meeting on Monday night. We welcome anyone passing through to stop in at our meetings.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service, Pam C.

### **District 23, Jim H. – DCM**

Greetings from District 23. Our District is struggling in service. Jim H., our DCM, had to resign, as he took a position working in Alaska. So these poor guys in Eastern Montana are stuck with me again. However, there has been a steady resurgence in attendance at meetings, and some of those individuals are starting to show interest in service.

There are two groups in Glendive holding regular meetings, and there are meetings at the WATCH East Program as well. Sidney has one group hosting five meetings a week. Attendance has been stable. The Tuesday night meeting is holding a Big Book Study with the Joe and Charlie CDs. We will be having our first barbeque on Saturday May 20 at Richland Park. We hope to have at least one function a month this summer.

Fairview has started having a weekly meeting but they have not formed a group.

The Lower Yellowstone Soberfest will be held August 18-20 this year. Bob H. from Billings, and Carl B. from Wyoming will be the speakers.

I would like to thank both Rich B. and Mike M. for attending this weekend. They have both given a lot of support to service at all levels in our District.

I'm looking forward to seeing old friends, making new ones, arguing a little and hugging a lot this weekend.

Thank you. In service, Joe P.

### **District 31, Bill M. – DCM**

District 31 has 7 active groups in Jordan, Miles City, Baker, Broadus, Forsyth, and Colstrip with over 30 total meetings a week. Those include weekly jail meetings being held in Miles City and Forsyth as well as the Pine Hill School for Boys.

There is currently a lull in District Service Activities, but hopefully that will change as newcomers are guided into service.

We hold 5 District meetings a year, usually in Miles City as it is the most centrally located and limits the drive for the outlying groups. Meetings are typically well attended with most groups being represented. We have been using the 12 Traditions Checklist from the Grapevine as a guide for workshops at each meeting. The discussions have been very informative.

The District is busy trying to establish a working link between the mental health professionals and Miles Community College. There is some interest in beginning a meeting at the college.

All is well in District 31. Yours in Service, Bill M.

### **District 41, Brian M. – DCM**

Hello everyone. My name is Brian and I am an Alcoholic. I have the honor to serve as the DCM for District 41, Great Falls. District 41 is made up of 28 registered groups with over 65 meetings per week. We enjoy good attendance at our District meetings and our District is in good shape financially.

The past half year has been full of activities in our District. Our groups and committees are busy carrying our message of hope to many that still suffer.

Last September Great Falls hosted the West Central Regional Forum. It was an awesome opportunity to meet and discuss a wide range of topics with the staff at GSO. Hundreds of people attended the event.

This spring has also been busy. Our CPC chair put on a luncheon for Professionals. It was very well attended by local professionals from Schools, the Courts, and Service agencies. We had first class speakers from my District on the panel. It had been about twelve years since our last luncheon.

In February, Scott W. came and gave his Delegate report. We like him so much we invited him back during warmer weather. He will come back in July.

This past weekend, District 41 held a pre-assembly workshop. It was well attended and gave participants a first look at the business we will conduct this weekend.

I am excited to be here and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve.

Thank You, Brian M.

#### **District 42, Mike M. – DCM**

Hi! My name is Mike and I am an alcoholic. I also have the privilege of being the DCM for District 42.

Our District consists of seven active groups located in the towns of Browning, Chester, Choteau, Conrad, Cut Bank, Shelby and Valier. We also take a meeting into the Crossroads correction facility located in Shelby.

Since our last Assembly, I attended the West Central Regional Forum held in Great Falls and the West Central Regional Service Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Both events were enlightening and informative.

The Lake Francis group has their annual Mini-Roundup scheduled for July 28-30, 2006, in Valier, MT. Everyone is welcome.

Yours in Service, Mike M.

#### **District 51, Ellena N. – DCM**

My name is Mark. I am an alcoholic. I am standing in as DCM for District 51. Our DCM, Ellena N., has decided to step down for personal and medical reasons. Doug M. has stepped up to be interim DCM until elections this Fall. Business commitments kept him from attending this weekend, so as previous DCM, I volunteered to be here.

Havre AA is at a steady pace attendance wise. We had our mini-conference last Fall, and it was well attended. We have a speaker potluck every month at the clubhouse and they are very well attended by old-timers and newcomers alike.

We will be having our campouts in June, July, and August the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of the month.

It is good to be back at Assembly and I look forward to the weekend.

Thanks, Mark M.

#### **District 61, Terry S. – DCM**

Greetings from District 61, Helena vicinity, consisting of 27 groups with perhaps 450 alcoholics (mostly sober ones) participating in just over 90 meetings each week. Since we gathered here last Fall, District 61 has hosted the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Attitude of Gratitude, at the Great Northern Hotel and Convention Center in Helena. Our District has held some solid workshops for the fellowship, within our District events of various descriptions (celebrations, workshops, pot lucks, etc.) have been hosted by individual groups. We have 2 active clubs (operating in the spirit of cooperation and not affiliation) that rent meeting space and event space to the fellowship and also cooperate with us (providing space and sign up sheets) for marathon meetings at those times (like New Years Eve for example) when marathon meetings seem advisable. If we have any newcomers to AA here, you might feel as I remember I did---any day that had a name ending in "D-A-Y" was a good day for non-stop meetings at first, to get me out of the non-stop train wreck in my head. We have adopted a new budget with a minimum of bloodshed and have replaced committee chairs as family emergencies and other defualties of life have required. We have weathered a few controversies about what is best for AA regarding club information on meeting cards, registration fees at AA functions, AA meeting information printed on the fliers of an outside organization's function, dual addiction questions and, next month, whether District committee chairs should vote at District meetings. All our committee chairs are filled, except we are starting the search for a committee chair for the 52<sup>nd</sup> Attitude of Gratitude this November. We have a dilly of a workshop on April 22, including 2 Area 40 past Delegates and a retired judge and Class A Trustee Linda C. (who is a marvelous speaker), reports on this Assembly, and what we hope will be a tasty pot luck. We are also starting the planning for additional workshops and events later over this year.

Our District is fortunate to have lots of enthusiasts for AA service work as part of their sobriety. We continue to take meetings into correctional and treatment institutions, provide Bridging the Gap contacts, a local hot line, meeting cards, informational panels to the schools and whoever else invites us, literature and people contacts for professionals and road trips to various facilities in the

surrounding parts of Montana. Despite grumblings about it being “too California”, some of our groups keep contributing to corrections literature through the Pink Can program, and our groups, by and large, support the District, the Area, and the General Service Office with their splits. Our book store is open every Saturday, the coffee is on for at least 9 meetings every day, we try to keep our events posted on the website and to show up at Area functions, and amidst everything else, to make certain that the hand of Alcoholics Anonymous is there whenever anyone anywhere reaches out for help. We can always use more folks, and we invite you all to come on over any day for meetings, fellowship and whatever else happens to be going on.

It is a pleasure to be a sober, participating member of Alcoholics Anonymous—the program and the fellowship saved my skin and then helped me learn how to live comfortably in it by being of service. I’ll take another 24! God bless from District 61

Thank you, Terry S.

### **District 71, Marcy D. – DCM**

A greeting from District 71. My name is Marcy and I am District 71 DCM. Since last time that we met, our chairs have all been filled. Our District meeting has been going very well.

We are in the process of planning Delegates Day on June 17<sup>th</sup>, and we are looking forward to hearing what Scott will bring back from New York. We are also excited to hear what the outcome will be on an Agenda Item that the Anaconda Traditions Group has put forth for this Assembly.

Well, it has been a long winter, and we are looking forward to summer activity. I am waiting for warm weather. We would like to extend an invitation to all who pass through District 71 to stop in and join us for a meeting.

Yours in Service, Marcy D.

### **District 72, Sean B. – DCM**

Out of the 53 to 60 groups across Gallatin, Park and Madison Counties in District 72, 36 groups or 2/3 contributed \$7,500 in 2005 (plus \$1,000 in Pink Can Funds and \$1,500 on literature for a total budget around \$10,000). The monthly District 72 business meeting attracts between 25 and 35 people representing around 20 different groups. Last fall District 72 hosted an annual CPC luncheon where local parole, police and court officers were invited to meet AA members and hear their stories, particularly as it relates to the legal system. This has turned out to be quite a successful program assisting law enforcement in understanding the implications of compulsory AA attendance.

Bozeman is hosting the Spring Roundup June 2-4, 2006 at Montana State University. Inexpensive dorm rooms are available. Registration is \$20. Please register by May 24 if you would like to reserve a spot for food.

Thank you District 41—Great Falls for hosting the regional pre-assembly workshop on April 1, 2006. Given that our local District’s pre-assembly was further away than the other District’s pre-assemblies, it was difficult soliciting participation from GSRs in District 72.

Thank you to all the Districts that email monthly minutes. This has been very helpful.

Here is our District’s on-going controversy:

- ❖ Is the WATCH Program corrections or treatment?
- ❖ Should Pink Can money be used for literature to WATCH or MCDC?
- ❖ How loose is too loose when loosely following Robert’s Rules?
- ❖ Should the District pay for mileage for committee chairs to attend the monthly District Meeting?
- ❖ The amount of money our District plus Missoula is paying for AirPage to handle the answering service is about enough to pay for the entire state. Should we instead of the Area create a state-wide answering service?

Yours in Service, Sean B.

### **District 81, Julie R. – DCM**

District 81 is faring well in our second year of the current rotation. We have 31 groups in the District and several unregistered meetings. Our newest group to register is in Alberton on Tuesday nights boasting about 8 regular members. We also have a new GSR in Plains which has not had a contact for over a year. As most of you know, many groups in the rural areas only meet once a week and

struggle to keep the finances and membership going. The group in Arlee finally disbanded with most members going to Missoula or St. Ignatius for meetings.

On the District Committee, we currently have two open service positions: Archives and Treatment. But we have a nomination for the Treatment Chair who is filling in temporarily. A new Teen Recovery Center opened recently and we are taking meetings in there alternate weeks in addition to meetings at the adult outpatient treatment center. Meetings have also started at the Juvenile Detention Facility and continue in adult corrections, as well. The CPC Committee put together an information packet of pamphlets for University students who visit open AA meetings as part of their studies. The PI committee continues to provide speakers for the local high schools and PSAs to the radio stations as well as pamphlets in literature racks all over town. At the beginning of the year, we switched from cell phones to an answering service due to a lack of volunteers to carry the phones. We're still working out some billing problems, but the AA phone is getting answered.

In October, we held a District inventory meeting with the help of Andrew, our Area Chair. This was an enlightening process and has resulted in a few changes mostly in our District meeting format and Public Information outreach. The need for the formation and use of committees was expressed in several areas.

Since "we absolutely insist on enjoying life", we have also had several fun events. 200 people attended the Halloween Party and many enjoyed a scrumptious Thanksgiving dinner. Marathon meetings on Christmas and New Year's kept more than a few alkies sober on those slippery days. A Valentine's event called "Love and the Family in Recovery" had both an AA and Al-Anon speaker as well as a yummy potluck with a dance following it. Our next event will be a new Spring Fling/Service Fair the end of April with the District Committee officers and chairs showcasing their service functions along with hot dogs, cotton candy and prizes. And, as always, I look forward to our Founder's Day celebration in June where Scott will give his Delegate's report and maybe he'll help the old-timers win the softball game this year!

In between all that, I attended the Regional Forum in Great Falls last Fall and the West Central Regional Service conference in Minneapolis last month. And each time I came to a new understanding and appreciation of service in Alcoholics Anonymous. It truly is a privilege to take part.

Thank you, Julie R.

### **District 91, Conrad M. – DCM**

My name is Conrad M. I am an alcoholic, and DCM for District 91 which lies in the great North West corner of Montana with 16 registered groups meeting 125 times each week.

District 91 meets the last Sunday of the month. The meeting place rotates around the District offering every group the opportunity to host the meeting. Presently, all committee chair positions are filled and actively working along with the usual positions. We also have a District 91 webmaster to keep meeting schedules and all other AA events current on the Area 40 web site and an Intergroup liaison to help us play better with our local Intergroup. District committee chair persons also give a combined workshop four times each year.

This year's Into Action Weekend was a great success chaired by Mary M., and Katy H. with about 175 grateful alcoholics in attendance and a potluck to die for. We had workshops, speakers, and great enthusiasm toward the topic "Sponsorship and Service".

Again, I was allowed to attend the WCRAASC. A special treat as I spent a few days with my two daughters and granddaughters. Thank you District 91 and AA. I was also able to attend the pre-assembly in Hamilton hosted by District 93.

Next month, District 91 will host our annual Delegate's Day. We will get to hear from Scott W. all the great news from the General Service Conference in New York.

With Spring on us and summer shining brightly in the future, local groups are making plans for summer activities that ensure great fellowship through experience, strength, hope, and potlucks.

In Service, Conrad M.

### **District 93, Mary H. – DCM**

Good morning, my name is Mary and I am an alcoholic, and DCM for District 93. Our 13 groups host 30 meetings a week in the Bitterroot Valley along with 3 non-group meetings that carry the message as well. Our District meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 4 pm in the Victor Senior Center, Victor, MT.

District 93 was able to send me to the WCRAASC in Minneapolis, MN. last month. Attending the Conference allowed me to bring back information to the March District meeting and provide additional background material for the GSRs as we collectively went through agenda items. An arduous task, yet all stayed till the final prayer. Thank you District 93 for allowing me to attend.

District 93 hosted a pre-assembly last month in Hamilton. Many thanks to our Area Delegate, Area Chair and Committee Chairs, including Literature stand-in Paula H. for traveling the distance to share background agenda information. Over 50 recovering alcoholics attended from Districts 81, 91, 93 and beyond. Lastly, many many thanks to the volunteers who made the event possible. We gathered for one organizational meeting, divided the chores and everyone did what they volunteered to do. It was truly inspiring.

The District 93 Bitterroot Campout will be held the weekend of July 21-23. We will return to Painted Rocks Lake again this year. Folks last year enjoyed boating, kayaking and hiking along with food and fellowship. Come join us. We hope to see new faces around the campfire.

Gratefully yours in service, Mary H.

## **Non-Voting Officer's Reports**

### **Area 40 Webmaster, Alex M.**

I want to thank Lee G. for graciously volunteering to read my report at this Assembly. Currently I am in Bogota, Colombia enjoying a terrific, well needed vacation visiting family and friends.

Here are a few interesting statistics for those of you that like numbers. The number one reason users visit the website is to look for meeting information.

Since the last Assembly, The Past Actions PDF document has been downloaded 466 times. There has been 207 downloads of copies of our Area Newsletter the Triangle. There has been 1965 downloads of flyers for Area, district and home group events. And as usual, there has been a steady increase in the number of monthly visitors.

I want to encourage all of you to visit your website. When you go back to your group and/or District, let them know that we do have a website, and give them the URL. If anyone asks you if you have a website, tell them that you do and you had to completely drink your life into the ground to pay for it. As usual, they won't understand.

If there is anything that you would like to see added, changed or deleted, let your Group Service Representative or your District Committee Member know so it can be added to the Fall Assembly Agenda Items. The growth of the website is dictated by its owners—the AA members of Area 40.

Yours in Service, Alex M.

### **Workshop led by Past Delegates Mark S. and Ed M.: "7<sup>th</sup> Tradition-Where Money and Spirituality Mix"**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition has evolved into a topic today. This was not so in the beginning of Alcoholics Anonymous as meetings were held in member's homes, and the expenses were mainly coffee. Today, it costs GSO \$200.00 per group to provide the services that they do, and also today, only 42% of groups contribute to GSO. The rest of the groups are getting a free ride. Gary G., a former treasurer of GSO, always encouraged all groups to contribute something—any amount was appreciated---\$1, \$5, etc. Mark then read the long form of Tradition 7, and a quote from Bill W. out of the pamphlet "AA Tradition—How It Developed", in the area of Tradition Seven—good reading for those interested in our efforts to become self supporting as a fellowship.

Some early dreams of Bill W. to raise money to keep our fellowship going were to build hospitals for the rehabilitation of drunks, which did not work. Bill also had the thought of raising money in New York!! Wasn't this the place where all the money was?? A meeting with the Rockefellers was arranged, and it was thought that all the money woes would soon be over, but the money did not come as Bill envisioned it would. The Rockefellers thought that vast sums of money would destroy AA, but they did come up with \$5000.00 to help AA out. As an aside, the greatest benefit AA received from this dinner was in the nature of the favorable public relations that came to view to the public as a whole. Even today, the world wide view of AA's ability to be self supporting is very favorable. Did you know that Bob and Bill split \$41,000 given to them by the Rockefellers? *Just a rumor!!!*

The Alcoholic Foundation (now known as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous) started with a mix of alcoholics and non-alcoholics, and remains that way today. This original Foundation was given most of the power in AA. Bill and Bob received \$30 a month for their work for the Foundation, and as AA continued to grow, money became more important. In the office Bill and one

secretary handled all of the work---the operation is, of necessity, much bigger today. Office expenses, computers, rent, retirement are all part of operating expenses. Literature dollars are the mainstay for AA.

In 1941, Jack A. wrote an article about AA to determine if AA was for real. There seemed to be a lot of skepticism revolving around AA as to it's authenticity. A remarkable thing happened—1000's of inquiries came flooding in to the little New York office. Mark then indicated that his sponsor's sponsor was one of those AAs who wrote to the New York office to find out more about this AA thing. As a result of that, AA in Texas had it's beginnings. As AA grew, so did the need for more money become apparent, and Bill, at this time, asked the groups to begin sending in contributions to help make AA self supporting--\$1.00 per group per year. Today, that cost has risen to \$200.00 per group per year.

The "Hat" is really where money and spirituality do mix. Our contributions to the group's treasury reflect our desires for our own groups to become truly self supporting and not dependent on other entities. AA as a whole has decided not to accept large gifts, or any large amounts of money in Wills earmarked for AA. Bare running expenses and a prudent reserve are our policy today. Our prudent reserve right now is low—approximately 6-8 months.

Try putting more than one dollar in the basket—inflation has hit AA too!! Also, help out those who cannot contribute to AA financially. Another way for those groups that cannot afford to send contributions to GSO is to participate in the "Birthday Plan". The Up Street Group in Laughton, Oklahoma started the idea of the Birthday Plan as a way for AAs to help support the General Service Office. Self-addressed envelopes are available for these contributions, and they are a nice addition to home groups that have birthday meetings. Hand out an envelope to those celebrating their AA birthday.

A Prudent Reserve reflects how many months operating expenses remain. Your Home Group can also have a prudent reserve, which can be determined by a group conscience, and you can also have more than one prudent reserve say for an annual event, money set aside to send your GSR to the Assembly, our Service Conference that is held each year, etc.

Another matter that groups participate in is "making splits", which is determined by a group conscience. In other words, know what is going on in your Home Group, your District, your Area and the General Service Office. Pass on accurate information, so that the money you contribute is going where it can do the most good. The money that we give is a demonstration of our gratitude, participation, and our respect for the ongoing World Wide efforts of Alcoholics Anonymous.

How do I give reports to my group in regards to money matters, knowing that some will want to hear the news and some will not!! Be enthusiastic!! Enthusiasm is contagious, and by golly, some will catch it!!

Ed M. joins us now---

Why are we so cheap?! Our Group Conscience is so important for our groups to function effectively. Examine closely what the money you give away goes towards. If you are hoarding money---Why? For what purpose? Could it be better used elsewhere? Help your group to be as well informed as it can, and the money you give away will go for the best purposes. Carrying AA world wide costs a lot of money, and this money is well spent.

Our Area 40 is starting to be more self supporting in paying all our Delegate's expenses for their trip to New York for the General Service Conference. The "Final Conference Report" will give the areas of support provided by GSO to each group.

Giving of our time and money translates into serenity in all areas of our lives. Keep AA simple.

Copies of the areas of support for each group provided by GSO written up by Don F., AA Treasurer, will be available after our lunch break.

After the lunch break, Ed and Mark asked those assembled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the workshop to break into smaller groups and answer some questions centered around the topic of the workshop "7<sup>th</sup> Tradition—Where Money and Spirituality Mix". The questions came from the Traditions Checklist (from the Grapevine, for those interested) and Tradition 7—Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. An additional question was also offered to the small groups—"How does your group convey that the responsibility for self-support includes giving of effort and time as well as money?" Each group answered the questions, picked a chair person who, at the end of the time allotted, gave a report for their group as to their answers to the questions. We had a lively discussion on these questions, and, we all came away from this workshop with more ideas on how we as members and Home Groups can be fully self supporting, and convey the importance of AA as a whole being self supporting. Thanks to Mark and Ed for sharing their time with us.

**Area 40 Delegate's Report—Scott W.**



My name is Scott W., and I am an alcoholic. Privileged to serve as your contribution to the General Service Conference as the Panel 55 Delegate from Area 40, Montana. Each time I say that, it still surprises me.

During the orientation this morning, I asked if there were any new GSRs and first time attendees to the Assembly. I just want to reiterate how grateful I am to see you here. Hopefully, you will come away from the experience this weekend with a desire to find out more about the General Service Structure and how Area 40 and more importantly how your Home Group fits into the structure. Simply, the most powerful people in our Fellowship are the individual members of the Alcoholics Anonymous Home Groups. How that power is exercised and more importantly how we as the members of this wonderful Fellowship treat that power is our responsibility to AA as a whole and the members of AA we serve in our service positions.

The key to any relationship I have in life is communication—open and honest. There appears to have been and possibly continues to be a breakdown of communication from the General Service Conference, to the Delegates, to the Districts, to the General Service Representatives, to the individual members of our Home Groups. Potentially a break down of communication from the bottom up. The information we will discuss this weekend and the actions we take are of no value to the members of Area 40 if we do not share them through our actions and reports. Please, after this weekend take the information home and communicate with those members who could not be here with us this weekend. I know this is the choir, but we may need to teach others to sing and communicate.

First, a little update on my activities since we last met in September. My schedule has been fairly light. As the result of my work and AA, I have enjoyed three weekends home this year. Here is a short list of where I have been since our last Assembly:

September 29-October 2: West Central Regional Forum-Great Falls, MT; December 17: District 12 Traditions History Workshop-Laurel, MT; January 25-January 30: January meeting of the General Service Board in New York City; February 10: Conference Report – Great Falls, MT; February 25: District 72 meeting-Bozeman, MT; March 2-5: WCRAASC – Minneapolis, MN; March 11: Pre-Assembly-Billings, MT; March 25: Pre-Assembly- Hamilton, MT; April 1: Pre-Assembly- Great Falls, MT.

And speaking of travels, in less than two weeks I will be flying out on April 21 to New York City to participate at the 56<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference. If you would like to send a card of encouragement, the address is:

Scott W.  
Crowne Plaza Times Square Hotel  
1606 Broadway at West 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10019

I received numerous cards, letters, faxes and calls last year. There were many times, late at night when exhaustion was setting in as I sat at my computer writing up my notes from the day when those communications from Montana fit the bill to lighten my spirits. In particular, there was one card that brought me and every Delegate who saw it a great amount of enjoyment. Simply, one of the inscriptions in the card said, “Looking forward to the next election”. Aw, to be thought of—good or bad.

One event I wanted to be sure to share with everyone was the General Service Board meeting in New York. As the result of being elected to serve as the Delegate Chair of the Conference Committee on Trustees, I was invited to attend the January meeting of the General Service Board in New York. All of the Delegate Chairpersons were invited and all were accounted for. We started out Friday morning at the General Service Office with an orientation to the Conference. Rick W., GSO staff for the General Service Conference and Tom K., West Canada Regional Trustee gave some great talks about the Conference. Then we were given opportunity to ask questions. Susan T. from Colorado, Delegate Chair of the Conference Committee on Finance asked for input from the other Delegates regarding the current state of dissemination of the Conference background information and how each Area managed the background information. Two hours later, and after some very interesting insight from the other Delegates we adjourned to attend the Alcoholics Anonymous meeting that is held every Friday at GSO.

After lunch, I met with Gayle R., GSO staff on the Trustees Nominating Committee assignment and we discussed the Conference and what I would like her to do during our Committee meetings and how I may be of service to her.

Saturday and Sunday were filled with Trustees Committee meetings. I attended the following committee meetings: Finance and Budgetary, Archives, Corrections, Nominating, Public Information, and Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment Facilities. I came away from the Committee meetings with two main thoughts. First, the Class A Trustees, the Regional Trustees, the General Service Trustees, the Trustees at Large, the non Trustee Directors, and the appointed committee members on each Committee absolutely want what is best for AA. There were some very bright-yet very fun people in those meetings. The other thought I came away with was I actually understood all of the service positions and how they interact. Just over a year ago, when I was first assigned to the Trustees committee, I had at best a passing understanding of those service positions. After attending last year’s General Service Conference and the Board meeting in January, I can honestly say the pieces of the puzzle are falling into place. Not all the pieces, but at least the corners are solid. Consequently, with the increase of knowledge as the result of experience, I look forward to this year’s conference even more so than last year.

Yes, it will be a great time to rekindle some “one of a kind” friendships and I am looking forward to seeing everyone again. But more importantly, one more of my character defects (fear: real or imagined) has been reduced and I anticipate being firm and deliberate in our discussions of the Agenda Items that come forth to the Conference floor. I was elected to serve and that I shall do.

This year's schedule is very similar to last year's conference. Saturday night will start with the Delegates only meeting. The Delegate Chair Michael S. from North Florida has asked me to give a talk to the Delegates on the Conference Process. I have put many hours of discussing, writing and editing into that 10 -minute report. Sunday morning is the Remote Communities Meeting and then Sunday afternoon is the official start of Conference. I still recall last year when Greg M. read the roll call of the voting members of the Conference and the amazing power and presence of God that was in that room. Later on Sunday afternoon each committee meets with its corresponding Trustees committee to ask questions of the Trustees and review the Scope, Composition and Procedure of the committee. Sunday night will be the dinner and AA meeting where guests are invited. I do hope to remember to sit with people I do not know at every meal and meeting like last year. Those impromptu introductions have turned into some long lasting and valuable friendships.

Monday morning, we jump in with both feet and start in with our Committee meetings. If this year is anything like last year, the week will be the shortest week of my life with some of the longest moments I will ever encounter.

And speaking of the General Service Conference, there are items on our Agenda this weekend that will call for discussion and deliberation so I can get a “Sense” of Area 40. Simply, we will not take a vote, but Andrew will ask for a show of hands. I will be taking notes and listening intently to the group conscience of Area 40. However, please keep this thought in mind. I participate on one committee, the Trustees committee. Consequently, I have opportunity to have an intense, some would say up close and personal input on only 7% of the Conference. However, the Group conscience of Area 40 will be heard through my voice and or vote when and if an Agenda item from another committee comes to the floor of the Conference as a recommendation, the very same process we observe and practice here at our Assembly on Area 40 Agenda Items. Although I only participate on one committee, I will have opportunity to debate on any Agenda item that comes to the floor. That makes our group conscience important to me and invaluable during that process. Communication.

I would like to share a few thoughts on the financial condition of our Fellowship. Speaking of money in AA is never as easy thing. This is especially true if one fails to connect it somehow to our spiritual activities. Again, communication.

First, Area 40 is in great financial shape—for now. As we have discovered in all facets of our lives, most things are cyclical. Not that many years ago, Area 40 took some very prudent actions to be financially accountable. One of those actions was to inform Area 40 of the need for financial support—communication. The support came and continues to come. Thank you to the Groups, Districts, Special Events and members who continue to financially support Area 40. There are a couple of Area 40 Agenda Items that may come to the floor as recommendations that will use that financial support to help with communication of this wonderful sober life to the sick and suffering alcoholic.

As I shared earlier today, there are Birthday Contribution and General Service Office contribution envelopes in the back of the room. I asked everyone to take a handful or two as there are plenty for everyone. It is no mistake that I have those envelopes here this weekend. I would like to implement the idea that we collectively need to actively pursue additional group contributions. In 2004, Area 40 had 45% of the registered groups make contributions to the General Service Office. In 2005, that figure dropped to 42%. In October 2005 a letter explaining the numerous services provided to AA groups and committees and the services provided by the General Service Board went to all Districts. Perhaps in response to that communication—voluntary contributions in January and February of 2006 were almost 16% ahead of budget for the US and Canada. If your group was part of that ground swell, thank you.

So, why all the communication about group contributions to the General Service Office? No, the office is not going broke. No, the office is not going broke. Yes, the office needs the voluntary contributions to pay for the services it provides for our Fellowship. When the voluntary contributions do not meet the budget of the office, then profits from the sale of our literature is used to make up the short fall. When there is a deficit, as there has been for many years, the General Service Office relies upon those literature profits and in an effort to maintain a mandated cap with our prudent reserve has found it necessary to adjust the price of literature, discounts and most recently institute a shipping and handling charge.

I personally would love to see our Fellowship pay it's own way through voluntary group contributions. A concerted effort to communicate the need was conducted in 1986-87. This resulted in an inflow of group contributions that was sufficient, for that year only, to support the services provided at GSO without the need to draw on literature gross profits to offset the shortfall.

It was communicated to me early on in sobriety and I am reminded on a regular basis that as a member of Alcoholics Anonymous, the principled, spiritual action to take is to pay my own way. I do not care for the price adjustments of our Literature, reviewing discounting levels to “qualified purchasers” and the additional costs of literature through a handling charge that is more than likely placed upon groups that can least afford the few extra dollars. Those adjustments are a short- term fix to a much larger issue.

Should every registered group give a voluntary contribution to the General Service Office? Sure, that would be great and the cheese on the moon really is green. The reality is some of the groups who can are, the groups who can not are not and some of the groups who can do not. Why? We will never know unless we communicate. Not only to ask the question “why”, but more importantly communicate where the money goes and what the money does to help further our spiritual journey. This is not a mandate. Just a request of your time, energy and resources to communicate to your fellow members.

I shared earlier the most powerful people in our Fellowship are the individual members of the Home Groups. We in Area 40 witnessed that power or better described as group down leadership this past September at our Fall Assembly. There were four Agenda items that were passed by substantial unanimity for consideration by the upcoming 56<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference. I forwarded the items to the General Service Office, received confirmation the items had been received and each item was assigned to a committee for review. All four items went forward and are included for our review as part of the background material for discussion this weekend. Although two of the items had a bit of a rocky road to be placed on the Agenda, they are there. Let’s take a minute and follow the path of a General Service Conference Agenda item.

As with almost every item we will review this weekend, they all started as an idea with someone, somewhere in a Home Group in our Fellowship—the top of the service structure. That idea was communicated to the individual’s group, the group in turn communicated the idea to the District, the District communicated the idea to the Area Chair, the Area Chair communicated the idea to Area 40 via the Assembly Agenda and he also assigned the item to a specific committee for review, deliberation and debate. The committee communicated the idea to the Assembly floor as a recommendation, a made and seconded motion, and the Assembly had an opportunity to communicate with each other through the process of debate. A vote was taken, substantial unanimity was reached and I communicated the Agenda item to the General Service Office. GSO assigned the item to a Trustees’ committee for review, the committee forwarded the item on for consideration by the Conference committee, and the Conference committee will have opportunity to communicate with the General Assembly at the Conference with the idea as a recommendation.

Sounds like a lot of communication, committees, review and such. That is okay—really okay as we want our decisions to be deliberate, well thought out, and have the greatest opportunity for an informed group conscience.

I look forward to reporting back to Area 40 the outcome of those four Agenda Items as well as the rest of the Conference. I have conference communication opportunities or better known as Delegate’s Reports scheduled for the following days:

May 13---Kalispell  
June 3---Bozeman at the Spring Roundup  
June 10---Missoula  
June 17---Butte  
July 8---Helena  
July 15---Great Falls  
July 23---In the Bitterroot  
August 19---Glendive

I would like to take a few minutes to talk about an event that will be taking place in this room in 5 months—the election Assembly of the next panel of servants to Area 40.

Every two years, just about the time each of us starts to get an understanding of our service positions, we are asked to rotate on. That rotation will take place through elections of new GSRs, DCMs, and then the Area Committee and Officers. I would enthusiastically encourage you to look around your Home Group for your next GSR, look around your Districts for your next DCM, and be sure to look around this weekend for the next panel of Area 40 servants. Now is the time to start asking the difficult questions—not only of the prospective candidate but of yourselves. Do you have the time, energy and resources to fulfill the next service position?

One trap I see a lot of service people get caught in is trying to balance their egos with a desire to serve. What I am about to share with you is not theory or something I heard at a meeting. The following are the lessons I have learned about ego, desire to serve and the not so delicate balance between the two.

I had a desire for a particular service position, not to serve, but for the position. I really did not have much of an understanding what the position was or what the duties were, but I am willing to try anything and do well at it until I get tired of it. Simply, my decision was ego driven. For the first year of the position, I was totally ineffective because “they weren’t doing it right”. After sufficient ego deflation in numerous service meetings, I finally understood what it meant to offer myself to a God of my understanding so I could be of maximum service to those about me. Once that happened, I was no longer toiling with an undesirable job, but enjoying the gift of giving back to this fantastic Fellowship and fulfilling the duties of that service position because I was trying to pay back the gift and not because I wanted everyone to see my ego driven accomplishments.

The point being, if there is a service position you would like to fill—then take the time to review the duties of that position, talk with others who have filled that position, visit with your sponsor and the God of your understanding and then if you still have a sincere desire to be of service let your intentions be known.

And speaking of new GSRs. Each rotation, there are a number of “GSR schools” that are put on by past servants to Area 40. Generally those schools happen in January and/or February. I would like to suggest, if you are planning on a GSR school to have those take place later this year. The new GSRs will be elected yet this year and I believe the logical progression of events would be to have the new GSR start their rotation or service after attending a school. Just an idea.

A few months ago in the Triangle I requested to have some input from Area 40 on the discussion topic at the General Service Conference. I set a time line for response of this weekend and I want to thank the groups, Districts and individuals who have taken the time to respond to my request. Your sharing will be included during the discussion breakout session at the Conference.

One other item I would like to share is the General Service Office website: [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org). The website was revamped starting January 1, 2006. There continues to be more and more additional information available on the website for members and professionals who are looking for assistance with Alcoholism. I would encourage you to take a few minutes, review the information on the site and ascertain how our message is being communicated via the internet.

My personal favorite is the Grapevine website: [www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org). I registered for access to the digital archives. Every article, letter, editorial, special feature, joke, and cartoon published in the Grapevine magazine from the first issue in June 1944 to 12 months ago is available. The search engine uses author, key words, phrases, or subjects. I have used the site extensively doing research over the past year and for some of the agenda items we will discuss this weekend. For example, there is an Agenda item regarding the definitions and usage of the words donate and contribute. I searched each of the words and got back a lot of information. The surprising bit of information was the majority of the time the word donate was used it was in the form of an inquiry. Such as “How much should I donate?” The answer to the question contained the word contribute. “Voluntary contributions are used for group services...”

Again, I would encourage you to take a few minutes and review what “our” websites have to offer and the message “we” are communicating.

(Breathe—twice)

In closing, I would like to offer the following thoughts:

Let’s try and remember this weekend that our deliberations, discussions and debate are not about winning or losing. Our decisions are about what is best for AA in Area 40 and AA as a whole. In the words of a past General Service Board Chair, Bernard S., “We seek not compromise but certainty”.

Should we make a mistake this weekend, that’s okay as our decisions can be changed at a future Assembly. However, the words we speak and the actions we take on the way to those decisions are permanent. Let us ever be vigilant of honesty and integrity on the spiritual journey. Simply, the only mistake we can make is not debating in fear our voice will not be popular.

And one last challenge. Try to listen with the ears and see through the eyes of a newcomer at your meetings. Is the message being carried that of Alcoholics Anonymous? Is the message in observance of our Traditions? I challenge you and myself to those standards.

Any questions? Thank you again for the opportunity to serve. I hope to see you all this summer on the Happy Road to Destiny.

Scott W.  
Delegate  
Panel 55, Area 40

## **Floor Assembly / Committee Reports--Motions and Discussion**

### **Archives/Structure—Dennis O.**

1.) Review Workbook. Proposed additions include a new “Ownership of Material Statement”, plus revisions to the “Deed of Gift Form” in the workbook. Our committee had no opposition to these changes.

2.) Consider that the Conference Archives Committee annually review a list to be compiled by GSO’s Archivist of proposed archival recordings (format to be determined by AAWS) to be produced for sale by AAWS so that the Conference might provide guidance

prior to production. Our Committee made no recommendation but actively questioned the reasons behind production of such recordings. Background information indicates that AAWS has already been selling bits of AA's Archives (e.g. the 2005 International Convention Audio Archives CD). Who authorized this? The sense of our committee with this agenda item is that if said recordings were to be marketed, we favor the proposed review of the proposed list. However, we have several questions: *How will confidentiality be protected? What are the motives? Did this come from the Fellowship? How much money is for self-support, or is it for profit motive?* A sense of the Area on this item was split for and against.

### **Area 40 Agenda Items for Structure**

1.) Consider the recommendation that Area 40 Adopt the policy of having an ordered list of past delegates for the Area 40 Chair to invite on a rotating basis to the Area Assemblies. All of the past delegates, with the exception of the Area Advisor, would be put on the list. The mechanics of the rotation would be the responsibility of the Panel 55 Area Chair. The Area Advisor would be added to the list at the end of each two-year rotation.

2.) Consider instituting the policy that past delegates living outside Area 40 be put in the rotation for invitation by the Area Chair to Area Assemblies. These past delegates would be compensated for only those expenses incurred while in Area 40 with compensation not to exceed the average expense of past delegates living in Area 40.

Our Committee discovered that Agenda Items 1 and 2 had been originally submitted as one, and we found it easier to address both items with one recommendation which follows: **The Committee recommends that Area 40 adopt the policy of having an ordered list of past Area 40 delegates for the Area 40 chair to invite on a rotating basis to the Area Assemblies. All the past delegates with the exception of the Area 40 Advisor would be put on a list. The rotation would be the responsibility of the current Area Chair. The Area Advisor would be added to the list at the end of each two year rotation. Those past delegates living outside Area 40 would be compensated for only those expenses incurred while in Area 40.** *This motion was voted on and it passed.* Floor comments for this motion were "Don't we already do this?—Has this been a problem in the past?—We already pay expenses for our Area Advisor—We are just formalizing what already takes place—Let's practice principles before personalities—A minority opinion states "It's necessary to invite the right person for the job, so let's not complicate this."

3.) Consider the recommendation that Area 40 adopt the revised Policy and Procedures Document dated 4/10/2005. The Committee reviewed the Area 40 Policy and Procedures Draft Document of 04-10-05 and took no action. We still continue to work on revisions and edits. We are currently working under the document adopted 02-16-01 as posted on the web site". This was unsettling news to several at the Assembly, and a floor motion on Sunday further spurred our Committee Chair to promise to bring forth a finished, updated Area 40 Policy and Procedures document to be approved at the Fall 2006 Assembly.

There were no floor comments on this Agenda Item.

4.) Consider the recommendation that Area 40 sponsor and fund two Area Workshops per year. The Area Advisor will serve as the Area 40 Workshop Chair/Coordinator. If an alternate Workshop Coordinator is needed, it should also be a past Delegate. The Workshop Chair/Coordinator will be responsible for dividing the state into four quadrants and establish a schedule of four workshops over a two-year period, one in each quadrant. The workshops would normally occur between May and October. The local DCMs involved shall be consulted about time and place, and topics to be covered. The Area 40 budget shall have a line item for two workshops per year with the workshop schedule to begin in 2007. After much discussion by the Committee we came up with this recommendation: **We recommend that Area 40 sponsor and fund two Area workshops per year. The Area Advisor will serve as the Area 40 Workshop Chair/Coordinator. If an Alternate Workshop Chair/Coordinator is needed, it should also be a Past Delegate. The Workshop Chair/Coordinator will be responsible for dividing the state into four quadrants and establish a schedule of four workshops over a two-year period, one in each quadrant. The workshops would normally occur between May and October. The local DCMs involved shall be consulted about time and place, and topics to be covered. The Area 40 budget shall have a line item for two workshops per year with the workshop schedule to begin in 2007. Usefulness and effectiveness is to be evaluated at the Fall 2008 Assembly.** *This motion was voted on and it passed.*

Floor comments were " We are much in favor of this type of communication---We can inform smaller areas that can't afford to bring someone in for workshops---Are we forcing AA members to go to workshops?---We like the addition to the motion that we evaluate this motion at the Fall 2008 Assembly. A minority opinion stated that they were uneasy because no dollar amount was set for these workshops".

Dennis concluded his Committee report by thanking his committee members for their hard work. And finally, Kevin N., our past Area 40 Archivist was honored by a moment of silence at the opening of the Assembly. Then, on Saturday evening, we elected his replacement and congratulate Gerry R. from Helena as our new Archivist. Gerry's election means that we will probably move the Archives from Great Falls to Helena, but not until a suitable location is found. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Area 40 Archives/Structure Chair.

## **Finance—Sid G.**

1.) Discuss the draft “Finance Card” created by trustees’ Finance Committee. Our Committee was in favor this item, but we do not want the Intergroup listed first. *A Sense of the Area was in favor of this.*

2.) Discuss a proposal to replace the word “donation” with the word “contribution” in AAWS literature. Our Committee has no recommendation on this item. *A sense of the Area indicates we are split on this item.*

3.) The pamphlet “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix”:

A. Discuss a request to add references about other AA information for group treasurers. Our Committee was in favor of this, and there was no floor discussion on this item.

B. Discuss a request to remove the pie charts from the pamphlet. Our Committee discussed and found we had different views as to the effectiveness of the pie charts. Floor responses were “Take out the pie charts---Let each Home Group determine through it’s group conscience how to distribute their monies.” *A sense of the Area is that we are in Favor of this item.*

C. Discuss a request to add an additional pie chart reflecting a 25/25/25/25/ % distribution. Based on the last item, this is a mute point. *A sense of the Area is that we are against this item.*

A combined conclusion of items A-C from our Committee is that there are some useful additions that are trying to be incorporated, but we think that improvements in text and graphics can be made to make these pamphlets more useful.

4.) Discuss requests to rescind the small-order freight charge policy instituted by AAWS effective 7/1/05. A discussion of the committee indicates from our background material that because of this policy being in place, it has raised about \$10,000 a month. This also encourages a more efficient operation and distribution. It was also noted that if more groups would increase and or begin to make 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions to GSO, literature prices would go down, and AA could truly become self-supporting. The original intent for the shipping and handling charge increase was so that each member could buy our literature at the same price. These freight charges were not meant to be punitive but equitable. No sense of the Area was asked for as Area 40 introduced this Agenda Item for inclusion in the General Service Conference Agenda.

5.) Discuss requests to eliminate the discounts on volume purchases of AAWS literature. Our Committee discussion showed per the background information that \$1.2 million would be taken away if the discounts were discontinued. Should we deny smaller areas and groups the opportunity to be self supporting.

## **Grapevine/Policy and Admissions—Gail M.**

### **Grapevine**

1.) Review contents of Workbook. Any changes were sent only to GSC committee members so we had nothing to review.

2.) Consider a suggestion that AA Grapevine produce an anthology of La Vina stories in the year 2007 or later. We reviewed the background material initiated by the Grapevine staff because the frequently have requests from AA members requesting more materials in Spanish. *A sense of the Area showed that we are in favor of this suggestion.*

### **Policy and Admissions**

1.) Approve invitation for two observers to attend the 56<sup>th</sup> General Service conference, one from GSO Japan and one from GSO Australia. Our committee was in favor of this invitation. We did find out that they will pay their own expenses to attend the Conference.

2.) Review dates for the 2009 General Service Conference. We read the background material of holidays, calendars and a list of previous conference dates. There were no questions.

3.) Review report from the General Service Board on feasibility of more balanced composition/structure of regions. We reviewed the background material. Much of it centered around the fact that the trustees represent AA as a whole rather than a geographic area. The region in question has one area with approximately 1500 groups and one with approximately 250. The background material states, “In the past, when presented with the opportunity to change, both areas did not want to make any changes.” The discussion centered around clarification of the background material. The wording of some of it made it confusing to know exactly what the Item was about.

4.) Review request that the Conference be mindful of balancing the number of odd and even panel delegates when decisions are made that affect delegate rotation. This was the agenda item that originated in Area 40 at the 2005 Fall Assembly. It passed on the assembly floor then, and the committee is still in favor of it.

### **Literature—Louise M.**

1.) Review the revised draft pamphlet “Too Young?” There was no information for the committee to review.

2.) Review the revised draft pamphlet “It Happened to Alice.” There was no information for the committee to review.

3.) Consider suggestion to revise the pamphlet “AA for the Native North American.” Our committee discussed that we are okay with GSO making these revisions---due to the age of the pamphlet, revisions may be necessary as reservation life is different than it was 20 years ago. There are over 600 sovereign Native American nations in the US and Canada. The most general stories by size, location and language were selected. The broadest target message has been considered. There is a big need to reach out to the Native American population. Alcoholism seems to affect the Native American population more so than the rest of the population. We approve of the suggestion. *A sense of the Area is that we are in favor of this suggestion.* Minority opinion asks what will this project cost?, and what size pamphlet will be produced?

4.) Discuss request for a review of language in AA literature that refers to the first 164 pages of the big book. The main issue is should we return the word “largely” to the preface in the next printing of the Big Book the same as it appears in the preface to the first edition---“the book remains largely unchanged”. In addition, literature referring to “unchanged” would also be undated to include “largely”. The fact is that the big book has been changed—wording, pagination, etc., so suggesting that it has not is “largely” incorrect. We concur with the GSO recommendation to add the “largely”. *A sense of the Area is also in favor of this.*

5.) “Young People and AA” draft manuscript

A. Consider revised front matter, and B. Review stories. We did not have any materials to review.

6.) Discuss requests to develop an intergroup/central office pamphlet. Our committee thinks that there is enough information already available for Intergroup and Central Offices. Trick is to get AA members to read the guidelines and other information that already exists. *A sense of the Area was against this request.*

7.) Review trustees’ Committee on Literature progress report on the Spanish-language Third Edition Big Book, Alcoholicos Anonimos. The background information said that the deadline was extended to receive more stories. This is a good thing so that the book can appeal to a wider range of alcoholics. We approved of this review.

8.) Consider the request to develop an AA history book covering years 1955-2000. The committee felt this a good request to know this history and have it in written form. This has been tried numerous times and rejected with the thoughts there is no compelling need to have such a book. Previous projects of this nature have already cost \$400,000. Ultimately our sense was that we would take no action on this matter. *A sense of the Area was also against this consideration.*

9.) Consider proposal that the pamphlet “Letter to the Woman Alcoholic” be discontinued. Discussion ranged from the pamphlet still being useful to the newcomer, to, is a pamphlet that originated as an article in Good Housekeeping magazine relevant for a woman alcoholic? Some say we should archive it to make it still available for AA members. Is the pamphlet “AA for Women” better, and does the pamphlet “Do you think you’re different?” cover the same things? As a committee, we could not come up with a clear decision—we were split. Some floor comments—“I like the pamphlet, and it described me very much when I came to AA. This was written by a non alcoholic so it is more of an observation. Let’s not forget that the Doctor’s Opinion was also written by a non alcoholic too. We may need to produce a new pamphlet directed to women, or make updates to the existing pamphlet. *A sense of the Area was against this consideration.*

10.) Consider developing a pamphlet concerning Alcoholics Anonymous, religion and spirituality. The committee agrees that there is already adequate information in our Big Book on these matters indicating that we are spiritual and not religious. A floor comment was that if we pursue this, it might put us in violation of our Traditions. We decided that we would take no action on this matter. *A sense of the Area was against this consideration.*

### **Area 40 Agenda Item for Literature**

1.) Consider instituting the policy that periodically, and as needed, the Area Literature Chair purchase enough Big Books and Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions in bulk to take advantage of free shipping, in order to have these books available at Assemblies, Round Ups, and other Area-wide events for resale to individuals and small groups at cost. Comments by the committee varied from “Is there a need—Would this overburden the literature chair—Is distribution around Montana possible—Roundups, districts, Intergroups

already have their own literature—Do we need to legislate the process of distributing literature—Groups that do not have any money usually do not attend Assembly—Should we wait to see the outcome of the General Service Conference?” On the pro side comments from the committee were “It is not our job to judge if literature is needed but rather to make sure that literature is available—Are there groups that find the shipping/handling costs a deterrent to buying literature---Is assessing the smaller groups service fees meeting our primary purpose?” Others said if more groups would make 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions to GSO, literature prices would come down--- Are we being self supporting if this income comes from non AA groups?” The Committee will take no action on this consideration. *A sense of the Area shows that we are against this consideration also.*

### **Corrections/International Conventions—Regional Forums—Gary O.**

- 1.) Review the trustees’ Committee on corrections Progress Report on the Development of an Informational Media Presentation Introducing AA to Training Academies and In-service Training Programs for Corrections Personnel. The committee learned from the background material that this will focus on what AA does and does not do. We will be there even if an AA member can’t be there. We wonder if this will take away from our face to face contacts with the Personnel and potential AAs? There were no floor comments.
- 2.) Consider the revised manuscript of AA in Prison: Inmate to Inmate. Our committee learned from the background material that this will modernize stories and will include more diversity. It will do that by including more stories about women, minorities and youth. Our Committee thinks this is a good idea. There were no floor comments.
- 3.) Review contents of Kit and Workbook. We did this and also noted the inclusion of a new yellow Guideline—“Making presentations to Corrections Personnel in training facilities.

### **International conventions—Regional Forums**

- 1.) Discuss addition of informational flyers to the Regional Forums section of GSO’s AA website. The committee supports this addition of flyers. *A sense of the Area is also in favor of this.*
- 2.) Discuss the Report on Restructuring and/or Increasing Regional/Special forums from the trustees’ Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums. The background helped the committee understand this better. The Primary purpose is to change from two Special Forums per year to three per year. How do they choose Special Forums? They choose by differences in culture and language and by geographic isolations. The Trustees’ committee will also look into the need to spread Special Forums evenly between Regions. Our committee supported this item.
- 3.) Review report on the 2005 International Convention in Toronto. We talked about highlights. Only transportation problem was the motorized carts. China and Mongolia were there for the first time. 250 old-timers were there to speak at the old-timers meeting, with 12 being chosen. 200 regular AA meetings were held that weekend. The 25 millionth Big Book was presented to the warden of San Quentin where the first prison meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous was held in 1946. 90 countries participated. The next International Convention will be held in San Antonio in 2010.

### **Public Information/Report and Charter—Connie R.**

- 1.) Consider 2005 annual report from the trustees’ Committee on Public Information regarding GSO’s AA Web site. The committee discussed what has happened on the website over the past year. The home page is a different format and is now color-blind friendly. PSAs can be viewed on the website. Because of some concern with affiliation with the link to Toronto’s Tourism website, our website now has disclaimers when a person goes from AA’s website to a link. There is also a page break with the AA website and Grapevine’s website.
- 2.) Public Service Announcements (PSAs):
  - A. Consider approving the proposed television PSA “Testimonials” developed by the trustees’ Committee on Public Information. Only the GSO members received this, although Scott saw it and liked it.
  - B. Review information on centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the television PSA “Living in Chaos”. we discussed how Banyan Communication distributed PSAs and the survey that is taken by responding TV stations.
  - C. Consider centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the proposed television PSA “Testimonials” at a cost not to Exceed \$30,000, in addition to the work of local Public Information Committees. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> in the package that was approved 5 years ago. We also discussed sending thank you notes to our TV stations. *A sense of the Area is in favor also.*



3.) 2007 Alcoholics Anonymous Membership Survey:

- A. Discuss how to get more area delegates involved in the distribution and collection of the 2007 AA Membership Survey Questionnaires. The committee discussed how GSO communicated with the delegates as to how the survey should work. The communication seemed very clear about the timeline of when the delegate would receive the survey and how to proceed from there. It was also clear that if the delegate did not receive the survey what next they should do.
- B. Consider request to add the following categories to the “Length of Sobriety” section in the “2007 AA Membership Survey” pamphlet: Sober between 11—20 years, and Sober more than 20 years. We thought this was a good idea. The previous survey stopped at 10 years or more giving the impression that after 10 years, they stop going to meetings. *A sense of the Area was also in favor of this request.*
- C. Consider request to add “Domestic Partner” to the “Marital Status of Members” section of the 2007 AA Membership Survey Questionnaire. We discussed this to some extent. It was mentioned that the background information stated that this would allow us to be inclusive not exclusive. The over feeling was that “Domestic Partner” does not just refer to gay/lesbian couples but also those who are neither married nor single but living together. The sense of the committee was that this was a good idea. *A sense of the Area is also in favor of this request.*
- D. Consider request to add a “Sexual Orientation” category to the 2007 AA Membership Survey Questionnaire. We had a lot of discussion on this item. Some felt that it was needed to help with identification. One individual wanted it brought up about how AA extends their hand to other subgroups such as the gay/lesbian groups. We were informed that there is a higher rate of alcoholism in gay and lesbians. Some felt that this was no ones business and do we want to single them out? The sense of the Committee was that this item not be added to the survey. A floor comment was that the category was not specific. *A sense of the Area was also not in favor of this request.*
- E. Consider and approve the 2007 Alcoholics Anonymous Membership Questionnaire. The committee was not clear what we we’re approving--would it include the items just discussed or not? We were not in favor of this. *A sense of the Area is also not in favor of this*
4. Consider request that the list of early symptoms derived from outside literature on page 17, item #19 in the pamphlet “Speaking at Non-AA meetings” be replaced with a list derived from AA literature. We discussed the wording as it is and how some do not match what is said in the Big book and even the wording is no longer used by NCADD (National Council on Alcohol and Drug Addiction). It is suggested to replace with the questions that are found in the pamphlets: “Memo to an Inmate who may be Alcoholic”, “Is AA for You?”, and “Is AA for Me?”. The committee felt that this was a good idea. *A sense of the Area is in favor of this also.*
5. Review report from the trustees’ Committee on Public Information on Videos for Young People. We discussed the survey and thought there were some good points made in the survey about how to reach young people.
6. Review contents of Kit and Workbook. We have some great information in this workbook.

**Area 40 Agenda Item for Public Information**

1. Consider instituting the policy that an anonymity-protected version of the minutes from the Area Assemblies be posted on the Area 40 web site. The Area Secretary would be responsible for producing the anonymity-protected version of the minutes and providing it to the Area Webmaster. We discussed how this would be done. This would be accomplished just like the Triangle does it now. There would be no added cost and the hard copy would still be sent to districts and available to others who would like a hard copy. Most of the discussion was about putting the finances on the web. An accountant present stated that we are very close to being required to post our financial statement for public viewing. One comment was that possibly this may generate some interest if someone sees our finances on the web and begin showing up at District/Area to get some answers. Based on this discussion:

**The PI Committee unanimously recommends instituting the policy that an anonymity-protected version of the minutes and financial report from the Area Assemblies be posted on the Area 40 Web Site. The Area Secretary would be responsible for producing the anonymity-protected version of the minutes and providing it to the Area Webmaster. Motion passes.**

**Report and Charter**

1. Review The AA Service Manual:

- A. Review editorial updates to The AA Service Manual. We did not discuss this.
  - B. Discuss the discrepancy between the conference Charter and The AA Service Manual regarding panel rotation of District Committee Members (DCMs). We felt this was a good idea to be consistent with the term of District Committee Members. *A sense of the Area was also in favor of this.*
  - C. Consider a request to include a description of the duties of a District Committee Member Chairperson (DCMC) on page 30. We agreed with this request.
  - D. Consider a request to restore the graphic “Service Structure Inside the AA Group” to chapter 2. Committee members felt this was a good addition. One member stated that “cartoons are good!”
  - E. Consider a request to insert an inverted triangle graphic similar to the one found in “The Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated” pamphlet. The committee agrees with this. Again, cartoons are good.
  - F. Consider a request to revise page S28 to more accurately reflect the number of groups in a metropolitan district. The current numbers do not truly reflect what the number of groups are in a metropolitan district. We feel this is a good idea. *A sense of the Area also agrees with this request.*
  - G. Consider a request to add a descriptive sentence on the role of a trustee-at-large to the second paragraph on page S63 in the section “Trustees-at-Large.” The committee agreed that this be added.
2. Consider a suggestion to restore The Twelve Concepts for World Service by Bill W. to its original form as published in 1962. I shared the history of this consideration and the 4 recommendations made to put this document back in its original form. We felt that it was a not a bad idea but it didn’t say anything about what it might cost to get this done. *A sense of the Area was in favor of this suggestion.*
  3. Discuss General Service Conference Final Report. I showed the committee the book and explained that if they want to know what will be on the agenda next year it will be in this report. It also has some good sharing in it.
  4. Discuss AA Directories.
    - A. Consider a request to add/attach an explanatory letter regarding the appropriate use of the AA Directories. This item came about because a treatment center had a directory and broke a member’s anonymity by giving their name to a patient of the treatment center. What is on the inside of the directory about the confidentiality of the directory, does give the impression that it can be used for referrals. We thought adding an explanation of the use of the Directories is a good idea. *A sense of the Area is that we are also in agreement with this addition.*
    - B. Consider a request to revise the statement on page ii, located below the box “An AA Group”. The committee felt this makes the groups autonomous. The new statement gives relationship between AA World Services and the groups, stating that AAWS does not monitor or oversee the individual groups. We felt this was a good idea. *A sense of the Area was also in agreement with this request.*

**Treatment/Agenda—Lee G.**

1. Consider both the scope and name of the Conference Committee on Treatment Facilities. We reviewed some of the background information for this item. In 1978, the Hospitals and Institutions (H&I) committee was divided into the Treatment and Corrections Facilities committees. In 2000, the Trustees committee on Treatment Facilities combined with the Cooperation with the Professional Community committee. In 2004, the Corrections Facilities Committee changed it’s name to the Corrections Committee.

The Treatment Facilities Committee is looking at the need to change it’s name and scope based on the information gathered from the 2004 Survey, which indicated that treatment committees around the fellowship are working with a much broader range of programs than in past years. Many of these are not traditional Treatment Facilities dealing exclusively with alcoholism treatment. Therefore, there is some consideration of changing the committee name in the same way that the Corrections Committee has changed and to change the scope to better reflect the current state of treatment work in AA.

Discussion included comments about the importance of not only carrying the message but also sharing what AA is and what AA is not. We also discussed facilities where it is easy to cross the line between corrections and treatment facilities. “Crossing the line” was deemed not nearly as important as carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic. This crossover just requires communication to avoid confusion and conflict.

The Trustees Committee discussed the sub-committee's draft revised Scope. Comments were that is used language that was not in keeping with how AA usually describes itself in the Fellowship and to the public. Further discussion was tabled until the July 2006 meeting so there was not a revised scope or name change recommendation to be considered.

2. Treatment Facilities Kit and Workbook:

Review a summary of the results of the 2004 Treatment Facilities committee Survey prepared for inclusion in the Treatment Facilities Workbook. The committee reviewed the changes being included in the next edition of the workbook. Changes fall into 4 main categories: 1) Inclusion of summary material from the survey indicating changes in AA treatment work over the past decade. These changes include: fewer facilities to work with, a trend toward shorter term, out-patient treatment, more dual addiction facilities, more facilities working with younger clients, continued issues around AA's primary purpose and singleness of purpose.

Committee discussion revolved around our similar experience in Area 40 to trends around the fellowship, especially regarding the need to work with both newcomers and professional staff clarifying AA's singleness of purpose and our primary purpose traditions. We do not need to confront people in our meetings but we owe it to them to educate them about what is alcoholism and what isn't, who we work with and who we don't. We need to be willing to refer people to the appropriate 12-Step program. We need to clarify the difference between open and closed meetings. We also need to be clear about AA's stand on drugs other than alcohol. In these cases, it is imperative that AAs be fully acquainted with our traditions and our literature. We also discussed the situation common in Montana of small towns without a variety of 12-step programs to refer folks to.

Review contents of Kit and Workbook. It was suggested that, given the changes within the fellowship and the way we currently carry the message (more panels and workshops and fewer AA meetings), it might be useful to include the pamphlet "Speaking at Non-AA Meetings" in the kit. This suggestion will be forwarded to Mary C. at the GSO Treatment desk.

**Agenda.**

#s 1-3. Discuss suggestions for the theme, presentation/discussion and workshop topics for the 2007 General Service Conference.

Lee circulated the lists of suggested topics for the theme, presentation/discussion and workshop topics for the 2007 General Service Conference. Attendees were given 3 votes in each category. The 5 highest scoring suggestions in each category were Passed on to our Area Delegate.

4. Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form. Lee reviewed the proposed changes. All are house-keeping items. The committee had no comments on the proposed changes or other recommended changes.

**CPC/Trustees—Lloyd B.**

1. Discuss the need for three short video segments that could be streamed on GSO's Website and directed to professionals in the employment/human relations, legal/criminal justice, and medical fields, with a total cost not to exceed \$60,000.

The committee discussed this and found out through the background material that more professionals use the web site than read literature. This would be another resource for the professionals. The committee was in favor of this. Comments from the floor were "could we attach a contact number to the videos for the professionals to get in touch with an AA member?—a lot of comments in favor of this---one member said they wonder if the web will replace one on one contact with the professional?" *A sense of the Area is also in favor of this.*

2. Discuss ways CPC committees present AA to professionals, such as slide presentations, demonstrations of GSO's web site or local AA web sites, and the use of AA booths at professional events. The committee discussed the need for all these ways to contact professionals, with best way still being one on one contact. Some AAs feel like they are on the chopping block when sitting with a booth full of AA literature. Luncheons for professionals are very successful too.

3. Review contents of Kit and Workbook. The committee liked the three ring binder better than the former Kit. We would like to see the word "sponsor" changed to member or AA member, as the professionals are unsure what is meant by "sponsor."

**Trustees**

Agenda items 1—4 have no background for the committee to go over. The Trustees' Nominating has this information.

5. Review report on the efficacy of the "Diversity Statement" currently being used in vacancy letters. The committee members liked the "Diversity Statement."

6. Review background material and experience pertaining to request that the selection process for Chair person of the General Service

Board be expanded to include past Class B trustees as candidates. The background indicates that Class B trustees have always qualified as candidates for Chair person of the General Service Board, but Class A trustees have been chosen. There is concern that we may be running short of qualified non-alcoholics (Class A trustees) who would want to fill the position of Chair person of the General Service Board. A comment from the floor was that this is simply a request to recognize that there may be a need to use Class B trustees down the road. *A sense of the Area shows that we are in favor of this.*

7. Discuss recommendation from the General Service Board to approve the revised Bylaws of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. The committee was in favor of this recommendation.

8. Discuss recommendation from the General Service Board to approve the revised Certificates of Incorporation of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc. The committee was in favor of this recommendation.

### **Election of Area 40 Archivist**

Tom W. (past Area 40 Archivist) was invited to come and share the duties of the Area 40 Archivist, primarily that this position is a non-rotating, long-term commitment of a minimum of 5 years—hopefully. The Area 40 Archivist would attend all Assemblies and Roundups by invitation and provide an Archives display. All duties of the Area 40 Archivist are listed in the Policy and Procedures manual for Area 40.

Two men stood for this position—Gerry R., and Lee T. **Gerry R. is our new Area 40 Archivist.**

### **DCM Breakout Session, led by past Delegate.**

I thank Earl F. for providing me with notes of the DCM Breakout session which took place after the Standing Committee reports Saturday evening.

Would Area 40 be interested in an Area-wide 800 number hotline?

Comments: An area wide hotline could be made available through AIRPAGE out of Helena for a cost of around \$1070 / month. This is close to the amount that two (2) districts currently pay for the service in their Districts. AIRPAGE stated that they could serve the entire state or all of Area 40. This would require a lot of communication between the DCMs to insure that the list of contacts was accurate and current. There were some questions of integrity with AIRPAGE giving out billing information. The sense of the group was that this would be worth bringing forward as an agenda item for this fall.

Is there a possibility of or have we ever had an Area hosted CPC luncheon?

Comments: The Area CPC committee has participated in events like the Governor's Council on Aging, and state-wide Health Fairs, but we have never hosted an area wide CPC luncheon. Some reasons stated were travel and time concerns of the professionals. The professionals would prefer to have local resources. Some professionals seem to be very uninformed or misinformed. It seems that we always have to reeducate after staff changes. Suggestions to assist in providing information to professionals was to use the AA Fact Sheet, repetition of our message, cooperation of the Districts and try to participate in continuing education or training sessions.

What are some different experiences of DCMs who have put on workshops within their Districts?

Comments: Ask and they will come. Put on GSR Schools and invite non-locals to participate; this seems to generate a better turnout. Have workshops on a separate night than the regular District meeting. Encourage District Committee chairs to do their own workshop. Make hosting a workshop a responsibility of each District Committee service position. Have a Special Events Chair. Do a Service Fair. (see the January issue of Box 459) Ask the Groups of the District to host workshops. One District said they asked a group from the District to provide a 30 to 45 minute presentation on one tradition from the "Traditions Checklist" before or after each District meeting.

Do District Committee Chairs have the right to vote on District business?

Comments: A poll of the DCMs present showed these results: 10 Districts give the right to vote to the committee chairs, 2 Districts do not allow committee chairs to vote and 2 districts were absent. Concept 4 "The Right of Participation" was stated in the discussions. One comment was, "We try to make sure that the votes are weighted to the GSRs or the Groups. (make sure the groups represent at least 2/3 of the total votes). This is definitely a group conscience issue. Having committee chairs vote can cause a group overbalance if several committee chairs belong to a particular group, but this should not be a problem if principles are practiced and we always try to do what is best for AA as a whole.

If a district wanted to start filling District Committee chair positions, what position should be a priority?

Comments: It depends on who is willing to serve and what they would like to do. The needs of the District should dictate the priorities. Answering service is the committee most important to the still suffering alcoholic. Whatever the committee, get some help from other members. It is far better to have an actual committee than just a committee of one.

Do you think that there are “Dark” Districts in Area 40, and if so, what are some things that we can do to help them become active?

Comments: The number of members willing to do service work seems to be cyclical. It seems to be 10% of the people doing 90% of the work. We have trouble overcoming a lack of participation. There seems to be a lack of or no Spirit of Rotation. We need to fulfill the responsibilities of the DCM. Show enthusiasm and actually walk the walk, not just talk the talk. Take meetings to the groups who are not showing up or participating. Encourage sponsorship, especially into service. Try service workshops and be persistent. Pass on the experiences that you have had to the new trusted servants.

What can we do with people who won't fulfill the responsibilities of their position?

Comments: Bring this to the attention of the District and ask for guidance. Talk to the people and see if they really want to serve and inform them of what their responsibilities are. If they won't or can't serve, ask them to step down so that the District can replace them.

**GSR Breakout session chaired by Mark and Robbie S.**

The Ask-it-Basket had no questions in it, so we used a sharing session format. The group suggested five topics for discussion:

- A. How to gain participation for Business meetings so that there is an informed group conscience.
- B. How do various groups decide on splits.
- C. Accountability from trusted servants: standards for group treasurers.
- D. Increasing interest in service.
- E. Handling difficulties during a meeting: specific references to personal Higher Power.

A.) Sponsorship is the key. Newcomers need the guidance of an active sponsor. We give newcomers too many options. Tell them to “get in the car”. —Groups have found food to be helpful!! One group hosts their monthly business meeting in individual homes with potlucks. They call the event a Member's Meeting.—Others reminded us to keep meetings short and sweet. The average meeting length was between 30—60 minutes. One group has a “Mini-meeting” of 5-10 minutes following a regular meeting. These mini-meetings deal with one issue and might happen 3-4 times each month.---Another group has an agenda for all business meetings. Controversial issues bring people out for discussions. Also, have all service positions give reports. That gets that group of people to the meeting.

B.) Most sharing centered around having groups actively discuss who needs the support. This way of forming a group conscience is successful.---Some groups use percentages that are set but listen to the needs from district, area, and GSO.---One group has accepted the challenge of sending the amount of money per member that GSO has calculated it would take for us (AA as a whole) to be fully self supporting.

C.) Many felt that accountability among trusted servants was very important. Encouraging accountability begins with not railroading individuals into jobs. —It was mentioned that often, we need to help people quit. Some people realize they can't do the job but don't know how to quit.—In relationship to Treasurer reports, most groups have monthly reports from their trusted servant. They are expected to keep members updated so informed decisions can be made.

D.) In discussing how to encourage service participation, the following suggestions were offered: 1) Have topics at meetings specifically on service. 2) Offer consistent friendly encouragement to individuals. Remember to compliment each person on a job well done. 3) Have them “get in the car”. Don't go to a District meeting without taking a new person. 4) Always talk positively about service. 5) Encourage sponsees to have a service job early!! 6) Consider using the responsibility pledge in the format of a meeting. 7) Lead by example. 8) Have term limits to service positions so that people don't feel like they have to serve “forever”.

E.) Most important seems to be having a chairman who is willing to chair. Sometimes it is necessary to intervene when a speaker is talking too long or is way off topic.---Others said usually members of the group talk to individuals who are off topic or outside traditions.---Remind everyone religion is an outside issue.

**Roundup reports**

**Fall Roundup 2005—Missoula**

Since the Roundup fell before the Fall Assembly, we were able to report on it at the Assembly last Fall. So, I will just recap that it was held in Missoula at the Doubletree Hotel on September 9-11, 2005. We had 585 registered attendees from all over the U.S. and came out in a healthy financial shape, able to send \$1000 in seed money to Bozeman for the Spring Roundup. There were workshop panels, an old-timer's meeting and some very inspiring speakers. In keeping with the theme of "We absolutely insist on enjoying life", members took part in a golf tournament, talent show, river walk and danced the night away after the banquet. Thanks to everyone who came and participated. As our Roundup Chair, Kristi, put it: "It was an awesome experience we were honored to be a part of."

Report given by Julie R., DCM for District 81

### **Spring Roundup 2006--Bozeman**

The 2006 Area 40 Spring Roundup will be held in Bozeman the weekend of June 2-4, 2006. We have 5 out of town speakers coming, including an Alanon speaker for their luncheon. The committees are in place, and there are a lot of fun events planned. We've been having a lot of organizational meetings, but are keeping in mind that we ought not be organized.

I put out lots of registration forms yesterday, and they're all gone now, so we expect to be receiving them in the mail this week—we need to buy those plane tickets! You can also download the registration form from the Montana website (aamountana.org), and you will find it under upcoming events.

Gail M.- Roundup Secretary.

### **Fall Roundup 2006—Billings**

The Fall Roundup is going to be held in Billings on September 8-10, 2006. We are holding it at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center. The price for the rooms that we have blocked is going to be \$69 a night plus tax. They are blocking 75 rooms at this price. We have our speakers chosen and they are: Don S. from Lockwood, Roger B. from St. Louis Park, MN, Donna E. from Bellingham, WA.; and Mary B. from Essex, MT. will be our Alanon Speaker. We are not going to have a Saturday Night Banquet. We decided to only have an Alanon luncheon and a Sunday morning Brunch. This way, everyone that comes to the Saturday night Speaker Meeting will have the same opportunity to get front row seating instead of just the ones that attended the Banquet. There are plenty of great places to eat right in the area of the Convention Center. The price of the Roundup is as follows: Registration is \$15; Alanon luncheon is \$11; and the Sunday Brunch is \$11. We will be having a dance immediately following the Saturday night speaker. We brought Registration flyers to hand out to all Districts to pass out and have some on the back table to take also. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in Billings in September. Thank you for allowing me to give this report.

Don B., Fall 2006 Roundup Chair.

### **West Central Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference**

The WCRAASC was hosted by Area 36 in southern MN this year. The conference meeting place rotates among the eight Areas within the West Central Region. The purpose of the conference is to bring unity among members, groups, and Areas in the Region, discuss upcoming General Service Conference agenda items, and share experience, strength, and hope. With 480 AA members attending this year, we did discuss and share. Starting Friday afternoon with an AA meeting followed by the opening and welcome, and the first of four general sessions. Presenters shared on the topic: "Sponsorship—Change in the Alcoholic Coming to AA". Then we met the Area Delegates with brief highlights on their Areas. This was followed by the first of three discussion sessions for the General Service Conference agenda items. There are no votes or decisions made at these sessions, just information shared and understanding gained.

On Saturday morning we jumped in with both feet. The topic of General Session 2 was "Service, Responsibility, and Accountability" presented by Area 41—Nebraska. Next was the first of two break-out sessions with five topics in five rooms. It can be tough to decide which one to attend. The first five were DCM, Literature, PI/CPC, Delegate/Trustee, and Newsletter. Topics of discussion in each break-out were chosen by the members attending. After lunch, the second break-out session topics were Archives, General Service Representative, Grapevine, Corrections/Treatment, and Area Officers. If anyone has a deeper interest of the discussion from any or the entire break-out sessions, then ask. I have the complete minutes of every break-out session.

After a short break, general session 3 topic was "Self-Support—An Informed Group Conscious" presented by Area 76—Wyoming. After the general session we got back to the General Service Conference agenda items until supper time, after which, we were treated to an open speaker meeting. Our speaker was Dorothy W., Trustee-at-Large, US. This is when I learned more about the phrase "Drunker than a pig". It may be one of those where you had to be there to really get it. I also got what I like to call my memorable quote, "God doesn't choose the qualified, He qualifies the chosen". After listening to Dorothy, we dug into the Ask-it-Basket to hear questions and answers from members attending the conference, after which we again returned to the upcoming agenda items before retiring for the day.

On Sunday morning, we started with the Regional Trustee report given by Chuck B., West Central Regional Trustee. The Fourth general session topic was "Passing It On In A Changing World" presented by Area 35—Northern Minnesota. This completed the conference. I'd like to say thank you to all the people that helped me to make this report possible—Scott W., Andrew W., Julie R., Mary H., Linda B., Terry S., Clark P., Robbie S., Eric. I am very sorry if I forgot anyone that contributed to this report. Once again, thank you Scott and Area 40 for allowing me the opportunity to stand before you today.

In Service, Conrad M., DCM District 91.

### **Flathead Valley Intergroup Report**

Flathead Valley Intergroup represents the AA groups throughout District 91. Our monthly newsletter is mailed out to group reps from Polson to Eureka and individuals who request it. We continue to have wonderful representation from groups in the valley at our business meetings and birthday celebrations. We have a full complement of officers and committee chairs. We continue to provide the answering service and District meetings list to help carry the message and let folks know where our meetings are, and why we are here.

Our annual campout was well attended last year. We also had an awesome pig roast for the first time at the campout, which of course brought wonderful opportunity for more service work. The campout this year will again be at Emery Bay on the east shore of Hungry Horse reservoir tentatively set for July 14-17, 2006. Our speakers last year were excellent, and those scheduled for this year will likely be just as good. Please come and join us this year. We would love to have you enjoy the weekend with us.

Our annual Thanksgiving feast, valley wide sobriety birthday party and dance/Karaoke night was, as usual, a pretty big deal with lots of folks, lots of food and lots of fellowship. The New Year's Alkathon was also a smash this year.

We have enjoyed being invited to different groups in the area including Eureka, and Kalispell. This month we will be having our business/birthday meeting in Whitefish at the 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church on the 29<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30 pm for the business meeting with the birthday meeting to follow at 8:00 pm.

Our entertainment committee continues its fantastic commitment to fun and fellowship with its announcement for a "Cinco de Mio Party" at the Came to Believe group located at 133 6<sup>th</sup> Street West, Columbia Falls, MT. This of course will be on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May. If a group in the area would like to invite Intergroup for a business/birthday meeting, and has enough room for a big crowd of fun loving sober individuals, come visit us at the Intergroup business meeting at least 2 months before the planned date.

Yours in Service, Brian M., chairperson of Flathead Valley Intergroup, PO Box 2592, Columbia Falls, MT 59912

### **Past Delegate Sharing –Ed M.—Panel 38 Delegate serving 1988 and 1989.**

My sobriety birthday is August of 1973. I came to my first Assembly in 1974, and have attended many Assemblies since then. When I was serving as Panel 38 Delegate, we the last group of Delegates to have the General Service Conference in the Roosevelt Hotel, and have lunch with Lois W. before she passed on.

Jumping off of an aircraft carrier at 3am does not make any of the 6500 crew very happy. It is very hard to retrieve anything out of the water from the deck of a ship like this, and I'm not so sure they wanted to leave me there. A friend—who had not been around for a couple of months—had been in treatment, and invited me to an AA meeting. However, it took me two more years of drinking before I joined AA and stayed.

Assemblies and all types of service work have always been an uplift for me. I hope to see all of you at the Fall Assembly. Thank You!

### **Past Delegate Sharing – Mark S.—Panel 44 Delegate serving 1994 and 1995.**

My sobriety birthday is February 26, 1980, and I was not on a winning streak when I got here!! I started going to Assemblies in 1982 as the Alternate GSR of my home group in Oklahoma. I then moved to Montana where I got into service work right away, as no one else wanted to do it!! My service position of Monday night coffee maker still means the most to me. The home group members gave me a key to open up and make coffee. That meant that I could not take a drink Tuesday, because I had to make coffee the next Monday!! You know what mean if you drank like I did.

Suiting up and showing up is what service is all about. My service jobs of District Corrections Chair and Area 40 Corrections Chair were great service jobs. These were not full of immediate satisfactions, other than I'm staying sober. I also got to leave jail when I wanted to!! Another benefit of being in service is that I have met and know people from all of Area 40. What a treat.

At the Fall Assembly of 1993, I was elected Delegate for Area 40. Bob H. helped me a great deal throughout my time as Delegate, and we became closer friends. People in Service do stay sober. Your next Delegate is most likely sitting in this room. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Legacy Procedure that we use for elections is unlike any other election process used anywhere else in the world.

I was suspicious of “them” in New York, but when I attended a Board weekend, my whole idea of “them” changed. They are just like “us”. As a matter of fact, they may even argue more!! I was invited to go wherever I wanted in “Our” office in New York. There is just “us”—no “them”. I encourage you to get beyond the us and them—it’s all “us”.

There are some very strong opinions at the General Service Conference, and I learned how to express my views, no matter the outcome. My wife, Robbie, gave me great support while at the Conference.

A memory from the Conference was that we thought we had lost the trustee from Australia at a Yankee baseball game we attended, but it turned out that he left the game early, and beat us back to the hotel!! I have met people from all over the world at our International Conventions. These parties are a blast—go if you can!! Thank You.

#### **Floor Motions and their outcomes.**

1. The Area Chair appoint an ad hoc committee comprised of three current members of the Area Committee to review, edit and finalize the revised Policy and Procedures Document. The Committee’s work will be completed and the final document made available to the fellowship via the Area 40 website on or before August 20, 2006 so that it can be considered for adoption at the Fall 2006 Area 40 Assembly.

Floor comment: We want to finalize this important document—This is not an emergency; the Committee is working on this Document now, so let them do their work—Stay with our current Policy and Procedures document which is One we have been using since 2001.

*This motion was voted on, and it failed. A motion to reconsider also failed.*

2. Since last year our Area’s contribution to the Delegate’s General Service Conference expense was \$4,900, and it appears we can afford that amount again this year, I would like to see us continue our Area’s efforts to become self supporting and so move that we increase our contribution (line item 30) from \$2,699 to \$4,900 again this year.

Floor comments were in favor, and *the motion was voted on and it passed.*

Minority opinion was that the groups did not receive a chance to review this item, and it may be necessary to make this an agenda item.

This concludes the minutes from our Spring 2006 Assembly. A reminder that agenda items need to be to our Area Chair by July 1, 2006. Scott W. leaves for New York April 26, 2006.

**See you at our Fall Assembly September 16-17, 2006 at the Yogo Inn. Make reservations early!!**

Yours in Service, Paul W., Area 40 Secretary.



# AREA 40 FINANCIAL REPORT

March 31, 2006

INCOME	PREVIOUS	CURRENT	YTD		
GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 2,437.50	\$ 2,239.87	\$ 4,677.37		
DISTRICT CONTRIBUTION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
ROUNDUP CONTRIBUTION	\$ -			OPENING BALANCE	\$ 24,079.53
BILLINGS PRE ASSEMBLY	\$ -				
GREAT FALLS PRE ASSEMBLY	\$ -		\$ -		
HAMILTON PRE ASSEMBLY	\$ -		\$ -		
7th TRADITION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
INTEREST	\$ 12.56	\$ 6.01	\$ 18.57	INCOME	+ \$ 2,458.88
				EXPENSES	- \$ 2,227.23
831 - SERVICE MANUALS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
841 - BACKGROUND INF.	\$ 10.00	\$ 163.00	\$ 173.00	<b>CURRENT BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 24,311.18</b>
				PRUDENT RESERVE	- \$ 11,500.00
911 - TRIANGLE INCOME	\$ 100.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 150.00	ARCHIVIST ACCT	- \$ 1,481.63
931 - ARCHIVIST	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
941 - LITERATURE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	OPERATING BALANCE	<b>\$ 11,329.55</b>
MISC. INCOME	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 2,560.06</b>	<b>\$ 2,458.88</b>	<b>\$ 5,018.94</b>		

ACCT NO.	BUDGET ITEM-EXPENSES	2006 BUDGET	YTD EXP	CURRENT EXPENSES	TOTAL YTD EXP	BUDGET REMAINING
120	SPRING ASSEMBLY	\$3,250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,250.00
140	FALL ASSEMBLY	\$3,250.00	\$ 134.44	\$ 225.42	\$ 359.86	\$ 2,890.14
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
210	REGIONAL CONFERENCE	\$1,600.00	\$ -	\$ 555.51	\$ 555.51	\$ 1,044.49
220	REGIONAL FORUM	\$0.00		\$ 221.22	\$ 221.22	\$ (221.22)
230	REGIONAL TRUSTEE	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
310	DELEGATE- NEW YORK	\$ 2,699.00	\$ 2,699.00	\$ -	\$ 2,699.00	\$ -
320	DELEGATE-NY EXPENSE	\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 700.00
340	DELEGATE-TRAVEL EXP.	\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ 143.12	\$ 143.12	\$ 556.88
350	DELEGATE-OTHER EXP.	\$ 540.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 540.00
360	DELEGATE-ROUNDUPS	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00
410	AREA CHAIR EXPENSES	\$ 900.00	\$ -	\$ 372.22	\$ 372.22	\$ 527.78
510	ARCHIVES	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300.00
520	CPC	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400.00
530	CORRECTIONAL FAC.	\$ 400.00	\$ 30.93	0	\$ 30.93	\$ 369.07
540	GRAPEVINE	\$ 300.00	\$ 7.40	\$0.00	\$ 7.40	\$ 292.60
550	LITERATURE	\$ 350.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 350.00
550L	LITERATURE PURCHASE	\$ 250.00	\$ 84.80	\$ -	\$ 84.80	\$ 165.20
560	PUBLIC INFORMATION	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400.00
570	TREATMENT FACILITIES	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ 101.54	\$ 101.54	\$ 298.46
			\$ -			
610	SECRETARY	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300.00
710	TREASURER	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300.00
820	AREA COMM MILEAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00
830	SERVICE MANUALS	\$ 200.00	\$ 322.56	\$ -	\$ 322.56	\$ (122.56)
840	BACKGROUND INF.	\$ 350.00	\$ -	\$ 376.13	\$ 376.13	\$ (26.13)
850	AREA 40 WEBSITE	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00
910	TRIANGLE	\$ 2,650.00	\$ 821.66	\$ 232.07	\$ 1,053.73	\$ 1,596.27
950	ARCHIVIST (STORAGE)	\$ 1,860.00	\$ 465.00	\$ -	\$ 465.00	\$ 1,395.00
	<i>Transfer of Pink Can Funds</i>		\$ 422.96	\$ -	\$ 422.96	
	<i>computer for Triangle</i>			\$ -	\$ -	
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$22,999.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,988.75</b>	<b>\$ 2,227.23</b>	<b>\$ 7,215.98</b>	

ARCHIVIST - OFF BUDGET	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,215.98
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>				<b>\$ 7,215.98</b>