

**Confidential**

**For A.A. members  
only**

# The Triangle

June-July 2010

Volume 18 Issue 5

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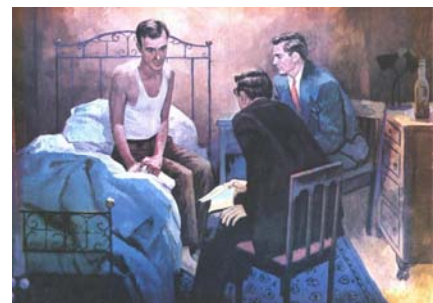
## A Long Way From the "Man on the Bed"

Greetings from your Area 40 Treatment Chair! Did you know that Treatment was the first area of service in Alcoholics Anonymous? Newly recovered people went to hospitals to talk to detoxing alcoholics. Hence the "Man on the Bed" picture.

We've come a long way from the "Man on the Bed." Now we go to treatment centers to make presentations to groups of patients. As in the old days, we take those folks to meetings once they are released. This part of the Treatment Committee is known as Bridging the Gap (BTG). It is possibly the most critical part of treatment. If folks don't get into a group right away, they are not likely to stay sober.

Here's how BTG works. First, the District Treatment Chair contacts local treatment centers to make arrangements to present the BTG program to the patients. The presentation includes giving the patients a BTG card to fill out with information about how to contact them when they get out of treatment. The patients give the cards back to the A.A. member giving the

presentation, who then gives the cards to the District Treatment Chair. S/he either mails the cards or calls the respective Treatment Chairs of the districts the patients will be going to and gives them the patient info. These Treatment Chairs ask someone in their district to contact the



patient and arrange a meeting time and place. This is entirely voluntary on the part of the patient and of the A.A. member. I want to also mention that there are BTG Chairs in some districts who do this important work.

"Just like BTG committees throughout the U.S. and Canada, the Bridging the Gap Web site, [www.BTGWW.org](http://www.BTGWW.org), describes its mission as providing a means for alco-

*(Continued on page 8)*

## 350 Attend Spring Roundup in Billings

The Spring Roundup in Billings was a total success, with over 350 attendees. The committee expressed its gratitude to everyone who attended and participated.

The roundup was a safe place where people could get together and share

recovery experiences. Speakers from different places put different angles on the concept of being in this all together. The format was relaxed, with time for personal discussions among newcomers and old timers over coffee and meals.

Seed money was passed on to the Fall Roundup Committee and there is some money left. The committee will be deciding what to do with these funds.

John B., 2010 Spring Roundup Chair

## From your Editor

I hope you enjoy this issue with stories of personal experience serving in Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC), Public Information (PI), and Treatment.

The Grapevine Board is asking the Fellowship to help determine what changes need to be considered for the future. Please be sure to complete the survey on page 6.

The next issue will be the pre-assembly issue and will include the agenda for the Fall Assembly to be held September 18-19 in Lewistown. This assembly will be an election assembly, so I am soliciting articles that will help inspire members to consider standing for service positions at the election of Area Officers and Standing Committee Chairs, or at the district or home group level.

Please submit articles by July 20.

Gratefully yours,

Sharon S.

## It's Pretty Simple ...

I was taught in A.A. to always say yes when asked to do service work. So yes I said to the position of District CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community) chair. I was told that it was pretty simple — put on a luncheon once a year, no big deal.

I had never participated in District or even attended a District meeting. So I did as I was told and, for the first three months of my commitment, I attended District meetings and said "Nothing new to report". The luncheon wasn't until October; I had plenty of time! April came and I attended my first ever Area Assembly. "Wow" describes that experience. I left that very memorable weekend looking like a deer in the headlights, but full of ideas.

I learned at the Assembly what my job entailed — which was completely overwhelming! I was to reach out to the professionals in my community to explain what A.A. does and does not do, give them our contact information, and attempt to build relationships. At first that may sound rather simple, but when I began to

think of what defined professional — doctors, nurses, therapists, lawyers, law enforcement, judges, human resources, clergy, teachers, school counselors, and on and on — simple started to seem impossible.

I decided to take the advice of a wise friend and start a committee. A committee, I thought, would solve all my problems; I would have all of these dutiful A.A.'s ready to work their fingers to the bone! I made fliers and announcements and went to my first committee meeting with high hopes and big dreams. Well there were two people there; and I was one of them. (Did I mention this is my first experience with service?) It was even more depressing when our meeting of two continued for the next two months. Perseverance and patience paid off and in September our meeting grew to four people. Now there are six of us who actively participate.

We have accomplished a lot in a few months. We were invited to speak at the Gallatin Valley Interfaith Association, a group of twenty or so leaders

of local churches. They also asked us to attend their monthly meetings, which we do. I happened to attend the April meeting and, afterwards, a pastor asked me if I would be willing to speak to a couple different groups. In February we invited professionals to an A.A. speaker event. We had a small turnout of professionals, but those who attended were really enthusiastic. We are scheduled to present to the medical staff of our local university in the fall. We have been in contact with the local high school and alternative school and are collaborating with PI to be able to reach both the students and the staff. We are also currently working towards giving a presentation to the local police department.

I have learned so much in the past year. I have met a lot of wonderful people. I have stayed sober. Hopefully, I have helped in a small way so that the hand of A.A. will be there for the still suffering alcoholic.

Katie M., District 72 CPC Chair

## Immeasurable Gratitude

I'm Dee G., I'm at least an alcoholic. I am also the current Treatment Chair in District 61. I'm very grateful to be a part of carrying the A.A. message to those in treatment facilities that we serve. They include MCDC in Butte, Elkhorn Treatment Center in Boulder, and Boyd Andrew (both adult and MIP classes)

in Helena. We also take Bridging the Gap to MCDC and Elkhorn.

The coordinators to these facilities do an outstanding job with scheduling participants and making sure that A.A. is well represented.

I personally participate in the meetings at Elkhorn on a rotat-

ing basis and attend the weekly meetings for the female inmates in the Broadwater County Detention Center.

What a joy it is to get a phone call or letter upon an inmate's release, asking about meetings or just a chat. I have been able to keep in contact with more than a few women that I began

a relationship with while they were incarcerated. I know that A.A. works, and the gratitude I feel by embracing the Responsibility Pledge is immeasurable.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Blessings, Dee G.  
District 61 Treatment Chair

### Maybe There Is a Better Way

Greetings Area 40. Let's talk about money. Since 2003, I have been a member of the Area 40 Committee and have heard the discussion regarding the Area's finances range from "we have too much money we must spend it" to "if we keep going the way we are with our budgets, we're not going to have enough money".

**What if we started talking about how we are going to help carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic?**

These are great discussions but maybe there's a better

way. What if, instead of talking about money, we started talking about how we are going to help carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic? What if we started getting the groups, through their districts, involved in the planning of the Area's activities?

For example, a group wishes to more effectively

carry the message to alcoholics in a treatment center and wants the district to hold a workshop on conducting meetings in a treatment facility. The district then plans the workshop for the next year and submits the workshop to be included in the budget.

This doesn't mean that items not planned the previous year won't be done. It does offer some accountability for the budget and doing what we say we're going to do. In other words, the groups who support the Area through their

contributions have more input in what we do to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic.

Linda B., our Area 40 Treasurer, will be asking the DCMs to ask the GSRs to go back to their groups for input on what activities the groups would like to see the Area conduct. My hope is that this will make the Area more effectively carry the message of hope A.A. offers.

Yours in Service,  
Carole B., Delegate

### Willing To Go To Any Length

I was attending a meeting the other night and the topic for the meeting was from *Alcoholics Anonymous*, Chapter Five, How it Works, "If you have decided you want what we have and are willing to go to any length to get it —then you are ready to take certain steps."

When I first came to Alcoholics Anonymous, I wanted physical sobriety. The steps I was willing to take were: going to meetings; working with a sponsor; being a sponsor; trying to physically complete the steps as best I could; and, because I did not know how to say no but did think I knew the best course of action for my group and all the committees in District 61, having more service jobs than a person should be allowed to have at one time.

These things, minus going overboard on service work, are all very good things to do and they did keep me physically sober. The longer I was around A.A., though, what I wanted grew. I started to notice that some members seemed to have a sense of peace within themselves, with the people around them, and with the world at large. I wanted that, but the question I kept asking myself and others was how do I get it?

When I was asked to write this article by Sharon, our Triangle editor, she informed me that the topic I was being asked to write on was service and Public Information (PI). I assume this is because I am the

**Some members seemed to have a sense of peace within themselves, with the people around them, and with the world at large.**

current Area 40 PI Chair. It may seem odd that I am prefacing it with my com-

ments that we should not take on too much service work. Let me explain. I think part of me believed that if I did more, much more, I was

definitely demonstrating that I was willing to go to any length. My problem, however, was that the peace I was now looking for was somehow eluding me. So then how has being the PI chair helped me to start tapping into this? It is been because service work, like faith as defined in the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, is more about the quality than the quantity. During these past eighteen months I have

largely focused on the Area Hotline and trying to get it stabilized and the management of it streamlined. In order to do this effectively and successfully, I had to let go of some of the more traditional roles this position fills. In so doing I also began to look at what "going to any length" means to me. It has changed from doing more physically to what length I am willing to surrender and accept; and in this I am finally finding what I have been looking for all my life - peace of mind.

In closing, please, if you have the time and the interest stand for the Public Information Chair this fall, it just very well might be a piece to the arch you are building to a more peaceful life within yourself and with your fellows.

Tim M., Area 40 PI Chair

## What a Surprise

Hello, I'm Virginia R.. I'm an alcoholic and chair of the Area 40 CPC committee. Not to be confused with PCP, CPC stands for Cooperation with the Professional Community. Our purpose is to work with professionals who are in frequent contact with alcoholics. They may be health care professionals, members of the clergy, correctional and legal professionals. We try to inform them of how A.A. can help the alcoholics that they serve. We explain what A.A. is and what it is not.

As we all know, alcoholics can be quite a frustrating group of individuals! Many who have occasion to work with us are perplexed by what seems to be our conscious effort to destroy our lives.

There are a couple of personal reasons I became interested in CPC work early in my sobriety. First of all, I spent lots of years and lots of money seeking the answer to my problems. I was certain that if I found the right counselor, author or other guru, I would suddenly and completely be cured. What a surprise when I found that the answer lies with a bunch of drunks! Secondly, I am a registered nurse and work in the ICU. We are frequently visited by those of us who haven't found a solution yet. We see many cases of drunk driving, accidental overdoses and suicide attempts. For those professionals who don't understand, the alco-

holic is a heartbreaking sight—especially those who return time after time.

We have many ways to reach professionals. We make phone calls, invite ourselves to staff meetings, hold luncheons and write letters inviting professionals to lend us a few minutes of their time. One popular means

is the "Sponsor your Doctor Program". Any of us, whether involved in CPC or not can bring an A.A. pamphlet geared to physicians and offer our assistance in working with patients the doctor may feel would benefit from a talk with another alcoholic.

When approaching professionals, it is quite impor-

tant that we not interject our own opinions because, to them, we represent A.A. There are many helpful suggestions on the [aa.org](http://aa.org) Website and I am also quite willing to assist in answering questions or gathering information.

It is encouraging to see that several districts throughout Montana are making a difference and trying to teach professionals about who we are. Please remember that all of your Area Committee Chairs are available to help you with your projects and we hope you will contact us.

Yours in love and service,  
Virginia R., Area 40 CPC Chair

**What a surprise when I found that the answer lies with a bunch of drunks!**

Grapevine print of "The Man on the Bed" and cover are reprinted with the permission of the Grapevine, Inc. Excerpts from pamphlet F2 : "Information on Alcoholics Anonymous", Box 4-5-9, the book **Alcoholics Anonymous** and other A.A. literature and materials are reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services.

## The Happening Committee

A few years ago District 51 separated PI and CPC from one committee into two because PI became the most work and the busiest of any of our committees. It is the happening committee now, thanks to an active committee chairperson.

The committee (of one) distributes updated information cards with meeting and contact information to all the motels, health institutions (clinics, hospital, mental health), law enforcement, and public bulletin boards (malls) in Havre. The meeting brochures are up-to-date — a new one is

printed as often as needed throughout the year, with a design that is pleasing to the eye.

The committee chair carries banded packets of 25 brochures wherever he goes, in case someone needs or wants meeting cards. If someone reaches out for help to find a meeting, the hand of A.A., through PI, is always there.

The PI Chairperson is also responsible for the contact infor-

mation for people willing to take toll-free calls. This very important aspect of our primary purpose required visits to every meeting in the District, usually more than

once, to give members the opportunity to sign up to be contacts.

Our District PI Chair is passionate about making sure drunks know where, how, and when to find

A.A. in District 51.

Your trusted servant,

BillJo D., DCM District 51

**The hand of A.A., through PI, is always there.**

### I Didn't Even Know

When my sponsor called for me to set up her IV at her home for her peritoneal dialysis, I did what I was asked. When she called for me to take her to the emergency room, I showed up. When she asked me to do errands for her while she was in the hospital, I did them. We brought a meeting to her intensive care room. I helped feed her. After being taken to a hospital in Great Falls, she returned to Havre to stay in the nursing home where I visited her. One day she called me and left a message asking me to come to see her, but I didn't have the time right then so I decided I'd call her later. I called and no one would

give me any information. I immediately went to the nursing home where a nurse who recognized me took me aside and told me she had died. That was November 15, 2007.

I didn't even know I liked her, let alone loved her. I had no idea the impact she had on me or that she would continue to sponsor me even after her death. The first gift she gave me was the recognition that I could care for someone without resentment. The second gift came in about six months. I realized if I wanted to experience the gifts of recovery and A.A., I had to go to any length. I had no idea what that meant or what was coming.

Service work was what was coming. Ellena showed me how to be a *part of* without being *the same as*. For years I went late to meetings and left early. I'd always loved being sponsored, but that often was the extent of my engagement. I made sure I was unapproachable. I considered the people who held offices as the self-aggrandizing geeks of A.A. So here I am a GSR actually attending Area Assemblies. That would have been unthinkable before Ellena's death.

I was assigned to the PI committee with a vote. Prior to attending the first meeting, I got all these attachments in an email. I thought, "What the H...,

like I'm supposed to read all this stuff, well think again" (progress not perfection). Even though I asked my Home Group their opinion, I was embarrassingly unprepared, but the good alcoholic that I am, I had an opinion. I was amazed at the bigger picture and the overwhelming workload of the PI committee. I loved being "a part of." Now I'm committed. The PI committee and service work rock!

Karen T., GSR

PS: It took a couple of years, but I again have a sponsor and we are working through the steps together.

### Correction

I apologize for not including the District 21 DCM highlights in the May issue of the Triangle. Here they are:

The newly elected DCM, Laura S., reported that the District is meeting again, is in the process of organizing and will be publishing a newsletter to help keep the District informed. There are meetings in Culbertson, Glasgow, Plentywood, Poplar and Wolf Point.

Your Editor

## Triangle Subscription Form

If you would like a subscription for yourself, a friend or your group, please return this form. The cost of the Triangle is \$10 per year. Make checks payable to Area 40.

SEND TO: AREA 40 TRIANGLE  
PO BOX 542  
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Number of years \_\_\_\_\_

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Group

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#### Subscription Information:

Groups are encouraged to be self-supporting for their Triangle subscription fee. "Expired" above the mailing address indicates that the subscription has expired. Groups will receive the Triangle regardless of subscription status because of Past Actions of the Area Assembly.

Individuals: If your subscription has expired, this will be your last issue of the Triangle.

## Grapevine Survey

In recent years the Grapevine, A.A.'s meeting in print, has suffered from declining subscriptions and has had difficulties being self-supporting. As a result, the Grapevine Board and the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous have asked the fellowship to help determine what changes, if any, might be implemented to help steer the Grapevine into the future. A few of the methods of gathering information include a survey, listening sessions, and brainstorming sessions. A survey is included below and all A.A.'s are encouraged to spend a bit of time filling it out and returning it to the address on the bottom of the survey. I also encourage groups and districts to hold listening sessions and brainstorm about any strategies or ideas about the Grapevine's future and what it means to the Fellowship. I will be more than happy to help and possibly attend these sessions upon invitation. I'd like to have all of the information together by November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 in order to allow time to compile and prepare a report for our Delegate to have in order to meet her deadline. I hope to hear from as many of you as possible! Rich K., Area 40 Grapevine Chair.

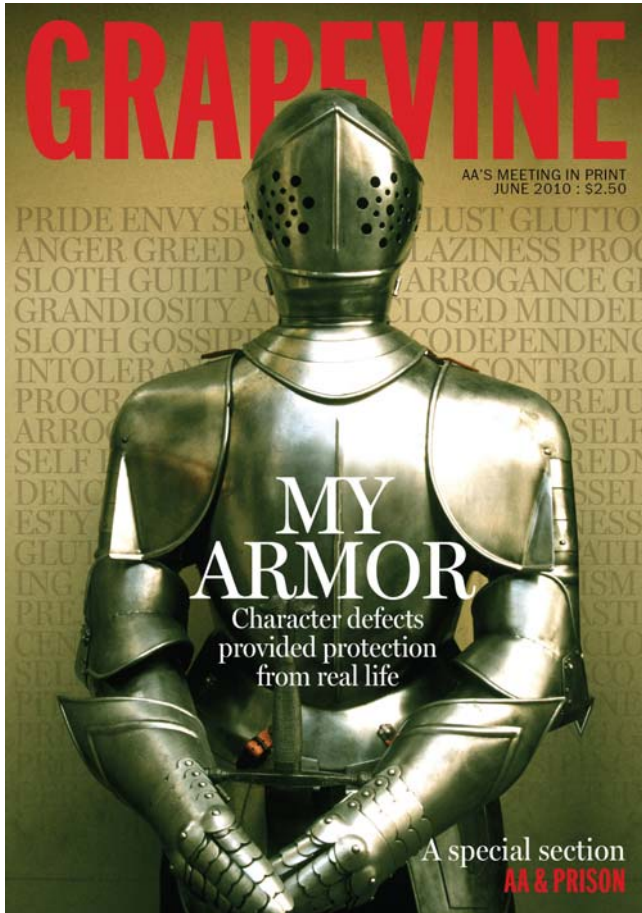
### Inspired by the 2010 Grapevine Conference Committee

- 1) What is the value of the Grapevine magazine to you?
- 2) How do you use the Grapevine magazine?
- 3) What would you like to change about the Grapevine magazine?
- 4) What do you think the purpose of the Grapevine magazine should be?
- 5) Please answer one of the following questions about the Grapevine magazine:
- a) If you currently have a print subscription: If the GV offers digital delivery (e.g., e-mail) in addition to the print version, will you opt out of the print version? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- OR
- b) If you currently do not have a print subscription: If the GV offers digital delivery (e.g. e-mail) in addition to the print version, will you begin subscribing? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- c) If Yes, and the digital and print are a bundled subscription, would you opt out of the print version? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) Important questions about you:
- a) How old are you? \_\_\_\_\_
- b) How long have you been sober? \_\_\_\_\_ years
- c) Are you a GSR? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- d) What district are you in (if known): \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) Do you currently subscribe to the Grapevine Magazine? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) If you do not currently subscribe, have you previously? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- ..... If yes:
- a) How long ago? \_\_\_\_\_ years
- b) Why did you discontinue your subscription? (check all that apply)  
 \_\_\_ Content \_\_\_ Price increase \_\_\_ No longer read magazines \_\_\_  
 No longer use or benefit from \_\_\_ Other:
- 9) If you do not currently subscribe to the Grapevine Magazine, what would need to change for you to subscribe? \_\_\_ Content \_\_\_ Format (digital) \_\_\_ Price reduction (willing to sacrifice color, pages) \_\_\_  
 \_\_\_ Nothing, will not subscribe \_\_\_ Other:
- 10) If you checked "content" as a reason you do not subscribe or as an area you would like to see change, please elaborate...what specific changes would you like to see?
- 11) Do you think it is important for the Grapevine Magazine to continue? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) In reference to pricing: (the Grapevine currently operates in a deficit, with shortfalls being covered by General Service Board approved withdrawals from the Reserve Fund).
- a) Do you think the Grapevine Magazine should be priced so that the Grapevine is self-supporting? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ DON'T KNOW \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Do you think the Grapevine Magazine should remain priced lower than the cost of production, and that the Grapevine Board and General Service Board should generate plans to subsidize operations to bring to the fellowship for consideration? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ DON'T KNOW \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail to:**

**Area 40  
 Attn: Grapevine Survey  
 PO Box 21577  
 Billings MT 59104**

**Responses are to be submitted to your delegate no later than November 1, 2010. These will be compiled and forwarded to the AA Grapevine Corporate Board by year end, and will be included as background material for the 2011 Conference Committee on the A.A. Grapevine.**



### Highlights from the June Grapevine

*Stories of experience, strength and hope from AAs all over the world*

**Special Section: AA & Prison Members find sobriety behind the walls**

- **Bag of donuts** Sometimes all it takes is a kind gesture to save a life
- **"Cash & prizes"** Fearing her son would find her dead, an alcoholic turns her life around
- **Sweet 16** It took that many rehabs to begin to recover
- **Surrender, that's all** Going to jail was getting old quick
- **Turmoil** Drinking every day finally took its toll
- **The end of everything** Jail was the best place for a guy like me, even if I didn't think so

# YES

I want to share the experience, strength, and hope of the Grapevine every month.

1 year — \$27    2 years — \$51

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*(A Long Way from page 1)*

holic clients in a treatment or hospital facility ... to find a local A.A. contact near their place of release to help them make the transition from the facility to regular A.A. meetings." (Box 459, Winter 2009, p 9) The website is simple and easy to use. There is a drop-down menu to locate the city or state one is interested in, and there is a contact name and number! The list is updated constantly. My contact information is on the list for Montana. Someone from Washington actually emailed me so that he could connect

someone coming out of treatment in Washington who was moving to Montana. Since we have such awesome District Treatment Chairs, I was able to connect him immediately.

I would like to clear up the change in the name of the Treatment Facilities assignment at the General Service Office (GSO) to Treatment Facilities / Special Needs. In November, I received a memo from the new staff person, Gayle R.. Gayle states that this change does NOT need to affect the workings of Area Treatment Committees in any way.

**Treatment and Special Needs are still separate service entities with a common desk at GSO.**

Gayle now corresponds with both Treatment Committees and Special Needs Committees. They are still separate service entities in the Fellowship, but with a common desk at GSO, the Board meetings and the General Service Conference.

Back to our Area. Alex, the Web Master, is working on an updated map of the Area, putting in more highway markers and clearing up the print. It has become blurry over the years. I think the new map will help us in our BTG

work. Also, we have worked over some contact cards and added a little blurb to give to patients that explains BTG. Ask your District Treatment Chair, DCM or me for copies. Please have your District Treatment Chair check with any treatment facility before using these cards.

Thank you so much for allowing me to serve in this capacity. I have benefited greatly from it in more ways that I can tell you.

Yours In Love & Service,  
Paula H., Area 40 Treatment Chair

## A Perfect Fit

I strongly believe in the importance of service work and A.A. in my own life, in my family, in my community, and in my state. I was the product of a treatment center. If I had not been exposed to A.A. speakers, meetings, and the Big Book in treatment, I am not sure that I would have gained the knowledge or connections that I needed to stay sober.

It was just after my twentieth birthday when I was introduced to A.A. I attended a women's A.A. meeting that was held at the treatment center. The center also hired a taxi to take us to early morning meetings twice a week.

In the treatment facility I was introduced to speak-

ers who came in to tell their stories. The backbone of my recovery during those early days was the A.A. meetings I attended. If there had not been an emphasis on A.A. and the Big Book in my treatment center, I am not entirely sure that I would still be around today.

Based on my own early recovery, I strongly believe that A.A. has an important role in the treatment community. It was important for me to relate to people who were sober and living productive lives in the community and know that A.A. really does work.

Service work has been a vital part of growing in my own sobriety. I strongly believe in the concept of

giving back to my A.A. community, since A.A. is responsible for giving me the wonderful life that I have today. I have memories of going to the Area Assembly with my sponsor early in recovery. There I gained an entire understanding of how A.A. works, and really gained a concept of the importance of service work in my own sobriety.

Recently, my family moved to a more rural community in Montana. There were not as many meetings, not to mention having two kids and a new baby on the way. I have been taught to be of service where ever I am. So, even though it was difficult leaving my Home Group where I sobered up, I jumped into the A.A. community when I

arrived here. Immediately, I found a service position and a Home Group. When I attended the District meeting and found that the Treatment/BTG position was open, I volunteered to be of service in this way.

What a perfect fit! I know that God always knows what is best for me, so I agreed to be of service and became a part of the wonderful A.A. community that rural Montana has to offer. A.A. still continues to give me the ability to be useful to my family, my community, and to my state.

Jamie S., District 51 BTG/  
Treatment Chair



## What A.A. Does (and Does Not Do)

The basic information communicated by the CPC committee is what A.A. is and what it is not. This information is covered in several pamphlets and includes the following from the pamphlet (F2) titled "Information on Alcoholics Anonymous".

### What Does A.A. Do?

1. A.A. members share their experience with anyone seeking help with a drinking problem; they give person-to-person service or "sponsorship" to the alcoholic coming to A.A. from any source.
2. The A.A. program, set forth in our Twelve Steps, offers the alcoholic a way to develop a satisfying life without alcohol.

3. This program is discussed at A.A. group meetings.

### What A.A. Does Not Do

1. Furnish initial motivation for alcoholics to recover
2. Solicit members
3. Engage in or sponsor research
4. Keep attendance records or case histories
5. Join "councils" of social agencies
6. Follow up or try to control its members
7. Make medical or psychological diagnoses or prognoses
8. Provide detox or nursing services, hospitalization, drugs, or any medical or psychiatric treatment

9. Offer religious services or host/sponsor retreats.

10. Engage in education about alcohol

11. Provide housing, food, clothing, jobs, money, or any other welfare or social services

12. Provide domestic or vocational counseling

13. Accept any money for its services, or any contributions from non-A.A. sources

14. Provide letters of reference to parole boards, lawyers, court officials, social agencies, employers, etc.

## International Convention Update



If you are among the folks who will be at home, an anonymity-protected broadcast of the Friday night Flag Ceremony will be available from [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) starting early Saturday (July 3) morning, and running until Monday night (July 5) at midnight, Eastern time.

As of the May Volunteer Committee newsletter, 4,500 of the 5,400 volunteer time slots are filled. Check out the web site [www.aa-75.org](http://www.aa-75.org).

### Anonymity and the International Convention

Last names will not be printed on badges because there is so much

opportunity for pictures of last names on badges to appear in the media. The Convention is an important public information opportunity for A.A. Members of the press often attend. They are escorted by A.A. members who assure that films or photographs are neck down only, so that no recognizable faces appear in the news.

**Photographs** — Out of respect for others, please do not take photographs during any of the meetings at the International Convention. Please remember that the taking of photos during A.A. meetings makes many members uncomfortable about the confidentiality of the gathering.

Also, please be considerate when taking photographs around Convention venues. Take care that you do not capture images of A.A. members, family members and friends who did not give permission and may not wish to appear in your

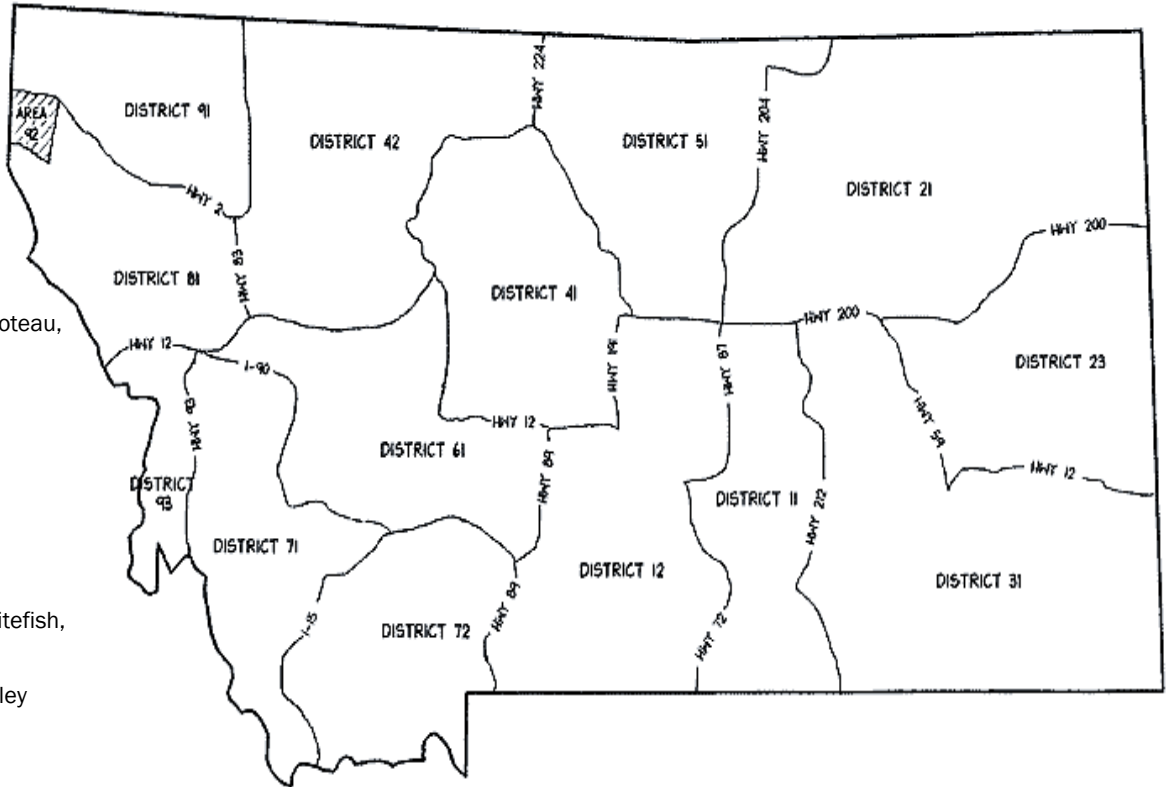
pictures.

**The Internet** — The long form of A.A.'s Eleventh Tradition says "Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed or publicly printed." In keeping with this principle, please do not post recognizable photos of identifiable A.A. members on Web sites accessible to the public, including unrestricted pages on social networking sites.

**Remember....** Whatever the medium, no disclosure of a member's affiliation with A.A. can rightfully be made by anyone but the individual him or herself. "It should be the privilege of each A.A. to cloak himself with as much personal anonymity as he desires. His fellow A.A.'s should respect his wishes and help guard whatever status he wants to assume." ("Anonymity" by Bill W., A.A. Grapevine, January 1946)

## Area Map

- District 11—Billings
- District 12—Laurel
- District 21—Wolf Point, Glasgow
- District 23—Glendive
- District 31—Miles City
- District 41—Great Falls
- District 42—Cut Bank, Choteau, Shelby
- District 51—Havre
- District 61—Helena
- District 71—Butte
- District 72—Bozeman
- District 81—Missoula
- District 91—Kalispell, Whitefish, Eureka
- District 93—Bitterroot Valley



### Coming Soon...to a location near you!

Don't miss out on hearing about the General Service Conference and the decisions made there. Our Delegate will be making her final Delegate Reports at the following dates and locations:

- June 12 in Missoula
- June 13 in Bozeman
- June 19 in Helena
- July 17 in Anaconda
- July 18 Districts 42 & 51
- August 21 Noon - District 31
- August 21 (5 PM) - District 12

## Help Carry the Message

**2011 National Archives Workshop Committee** meets July 10th at 1:00 pm at the First Baptist Church, 201 8th Avenue, in Helena. Contact Gerry R., Area Archivist.

**Grapevine Seeking Stories**  
Please share your experience, strength and hope. The Grapevine is always looking for material relating to the AA experience. Would

you like to share your story—or perhaps an article for one of our special departments? Email it to:

[gveditorial@aagrapevine.org](mailto:gveditorial@aagrapevine.org)

or

mail it to:

Editorial Department  
475 Riverside Drive  
New York, New York 10115

**Grapevine Nontrustee Director.**

Serves on the A.A. Grapevine Corporate Board. Basic qualifications are a minimum of seven years of continuous sobriety, a sound business or professional background in, but not limited to the following: finance; management; publishing or communications; leadership qualities and the ability to work with others in a group conscience

setting; availability to attend four planning committee meetings, three General Service Board Weekends, and the General Service Conference. Interested A.A. members are encouraged to submit a résumé by August 2, 2010. See Box 4-5-9, Vol. 56, No. 2 Summer 2010 for more information.

**Area Officers, Committee Chairs, and DCM's 2009-10**

<b>Position</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>	<b>COMMITTEE</b>
Delegate	Carole B.	<a href="mailto:delegate@aa-montana.org">delegate@aa-montana.org</a>	
AreaCh/Alt D	Terry S.	<a href="mailto:chair@aa-montana.org">chair@aa-montana.org</a>	
Secretary	April A.	<a href="mailto:secretary@aa-montana.org">secretary@aa-montana.org</a>	
Treasurer	Linda B.	<a href="mailto:treasurer@aa-montana.org">treasurer@aa-montana.org</a>	Del, Alt,
Archives	Tim H.	<a href="mailto:archives@aa-montana.org">archives@aa-montana.org</a>	DCMs-11, 71
CPC	Virginia R.	<a href="mailto:cpc@aa-montana.org">cpc@aa-montana.org</a>	DCMs-21, 51
Corrections	Mary S.	<a href="mailto:corrections@aa-montana.org">corrections@aa-montana.org</a>	DCMs-41,42
Grapevine	Richard K.	<a href="mailto:grapevine@aa-montana.org">grapevine@aa-montana.org</a>	DCMs-81, 91
Literature	Lori F.	<a href="mailto:literature@aa-montana.org">literature@aa-montana.org</a>	DCMs-12, 31 DRs-91, 93
Public Info.	Tim M.	<a href="mailto:pi@aa-montana.org">pi@aa-montana.org</a>	DCMs-23, 93
Treatment	Paula H.	<a href="mailto:treatment@aa-montana.org">treatment@aa-montana.org</a>	DCM-61
Triangle Ed.	Sharon S.	<a href="mailto:triangle@aa-montana.org">triangle@aa-montana.org</a>	
DCM 11	Colby D.	<a href="mailto:dcm11@aa-montana.org">dcm11@aa-montana.org</a>	Archives
DCM 12	Nick D.	<a href="mailto:dcm12@aa-montana.org">dcm12@aa-montana.org</a>	Literature
DCM 21	Laura S.	<a href="mailto:dcm21@aa-montana.org">dcm21@aa-montana.org</a>	CPC
DCM 23	Mike M.	<a href="mailto:dcm23@aa-montana.org">dcm23@aa-montana.org</a>	Public Info.
DCM 31	Jim G.	<a href="mailto:dcm31@aa-montana.org">dcm31@aa-montana.org</a>	Literature
DCM 41	Lee T.	<a href="mailto:dcm41@aa-montana.org">dcm41@aa-montana.org</a>	Corrections
DCM 42	Gerry L.	<a href="mailto:dcm42@aa-montana.org">dcm42@aa-montana.org</a>	Corrections
DCM 51	BilliJo D.	<a href="mailto:dcm51@aa-montana.org">dcm51@aa-montana.org</a>	CPC
DCM 61	Tom D.	<a href="mailto:dcm61@aa-montana.org">dcm61@aa-montana.org</a>	Treatment
DCM 71	Kevin M.	<a href="mailto:dcm71@aa-montana.org">dcm71@aa-montana.org</a>	Archives
DCM 72	Jennifer W.	<a href="mailto:dcm72@aa-montana.org">dcm72@aa-montana.org</a>	Finance
DCM 81	Dan K.	<a href="mailto:dcm81@aa-montana.org">dcm81@aa-montana.org</a>	Grapevine
DCM 91	Libbie L.	<a href="mailto:dcm91@aa-montana.org">dcm91@aa-montana.org</a>	Grapevine, DR
DCM 93	Eric D.	<a href="mailto:dcm93@aa-montana.org">dcm93@aa-montana.org</a>	Public Info.
Advisor	Andrew W.	<a href="mailto:advisor@aa-montana.org">advisor@aa-montana.org</a>	
Archivist	Gerry R.	<a href="mailto:archivist@aa-montana.org">archivist@aa-montana.org</a>	
Webmaster	Alex M.	<a href="mailto:webmaster@aa-montana.org">webmaster@aa-montana.org</a>	

## Calendar of Events

### JUNE

- 18-29—**YORK - VIGILANTE CAMPGROUND**—Last Chance Campout—Steve B.; Bill C.  
 19—**HELENA**—Grapefest—Gary E.  
 25-27—**PAINTED ROCKS STATE PARK CAMPGROUND**—Bitterroot Picnic & Campout—Eric D.  
 25-27—**NEIHART**—Annual Unity Campout—Ray S.; Steve D.

### JULY

- 1—**AGENDA ITEMS DUE FOR FALL ASSEMBLY**—Terry S.  
 1-4—**SAN ANTONIO TEXAS**—A.A.'s 75th Birthday Party "A Vision for You"—www.aa.org  
 3-5—www.aa.org—A.A.'s 75th Birthday Party "A Vision for You"—Anonymity protected broadcast of the Friday night Flag Ceremony  
 9-11—**COONEY RESERVOIR**—2010 Cooney Campout—Don M.  
 30-August 1—**MCLEOD**—18th Annual Beartooth Mountain Conference—Chairman, PO Box 23406 Billings MT 59104 or www.beartoothmountainconference.com

### AUGUST

- 6-8—**HUNGRY HORSE RESERVOIR**—Flathead Valley Intergroup Campout  
 20-21—**COLUMBUS - FIREMAN'S POINT**—Nick D.; Sandy A.

### SEPTEMBER

- 3-5—**POLSON**—27TH Annual Ray of Hope Sunlight of the Spirit Camporee—Suzanne or Sonya  
 18-19—**LEWISTOWN**—Fall Assembly—Terry S.

### OCTOBER

- 1-3—**BUTTE**—Fall Roundup—Virginia C. FALLROUNDUPBUTTE@YAHOO.COM  
 9—**BOZEMAN**—H.O.W. Group Annual Speaker Event—Candy S.  
 16-17—**KALISPELL**—Flathead Valley Serenity Group Annual Fall Refresher—Kathy

### NOVEMBER 2010

- 12-14—**RAPID CITY, SD**—Additional Regional Forum—*Singleness of Purpose-Carrying the Message to the Native American*—Carole B.

### MARCH 2011

- 4-6—**NORTHERN MINNESOTA**—West Central Region Service Conference

### APRIL 2011

- 9-10—**LEWISTOWN**—Spring Assembly

### MAY 2011

- 13-15—**GREAT FALLS**—Spring Roundup

### JULY 2011

- 11-12—**GREAT FALLS/MILES CITY**—Local Forum—pending request outcome

### SEPTEMBER 2011

- 10-11—**DAVENPORT IOWA**—West Central Regional Forum  
 17-18—**LEWISTOWN**—Fall Assembly  
 22-25—**HELENA**—National A.A. Archives Workshop—Gerry R.

### MARCH 2012

- 2-4—**BILLINGS**—West Central Region Service Conference

### **Don't Be Late!**

According to the Area 40 Policy and Procedures (p. 23) Fall Area Assembly Timeline, by **July 1** of each year, "All ideas, suggestions, questions, and concerns to be on the Fall Assembly Agenda come to the Area Chair for committee assignment. Background information on these items is encouraged. These are local (Area 40) concerns and considerations for our Area 40 Committees. They are not motions. Motions originate in committee and come to the floor as Recommendations, which are made and seconded motions." Don't be late!

### **Workshops?**

The Area Chair asks that members of the Fellowship, groups (through their GSRs) and districts (through their DCMs) tell him whether they would like to see workshops added to this Fall's Assembly Agenda. Workshop topics suggested so far include: Archives (basics on the group and district level); Treatment (special needs access to A.A.); Triangle (what do we want to change or keep the same in light of our Triangle survey results). Please email Terry S. [chair@aa-montana.org](mailto:chair@aa-montana.org) as soon as possible and definitely before June 30, 2010.

### **Fall Assembly**

September 18-19, 2010, at the Yogo Inn, Lewistown, Montana, preceded by the usual Friday evening AA meeting at the same location at 7:30 p.m. (This meeting is separate from the Assembly and is self-supporting). Make your reservations as soon as possible!

**If you would like your event listed here, please email information to the editor at:**

**[triangle@aa-montana.org](mailto:triangle@aa-montana.org)**

**or send it to: PO Box 542  
Bozeman MT 59771**