

Area 40 Post Assembly

Fall 2013 Area 40 Assembly took place in Lewistown September 21-23rd. GSRs, DCMs, Area Committee Chairs, Past Delegates and interested persons gathered to conduct Area 40 business. This issue of the Triangle provides summaries of the Area 40 committee chair and DCM reports. For the full record of Area 40 Assembly please see the minutes that are located on aa-montana.org.

Committee Chair Report Summaries

Alternate Delegate/Chair Report: Gerry R. Gerry reports that this group of trusted servants is halfway through its rotation. Of the 4 assemblies during our rotation this is the one that focuses primarily on Area 40 business (rather than the General Service conference or Area 40 elections). The Fall Assembly had 7 Area 40-generated agenda items. Gerry reported that he was able to be of service helping give Delegate's Reports over the summer while our Delegate, Sharon S. recovered from an injury. Since Area Assembly (Area) last met he has had two committee chair resignations and has filled the positions.

Secretary: Mary M. Mary thanks the Area Committee for helping her get the minutes out within 30 days. She informed participants about time limits for giving floor reports and how to submit written reports. Mary gave a report about Fellowship New Vision (FNV) and how members of Area 40 can help update group information. The Secretary also provided group change forms at Area so that those in attendance could update their contact information.

Finance: Libbie L. Libbie presented a Powerpoint about the state of Area 40 finances. Libbie reported that as treasurer/finance chair she is the custodian of the money traditions, 6,7 and 8. She asked that we take a moment to think of them. Libbie reports that Area 40 has spent more money than we have taken in contributions. She also reports that after the first 8 months of our fiscal year our finances are stable. The operating bank balance is \$3551, \$1500 more was spent than in 2012 and there has been \$500 less in contributions than in 2012. Archives' rent was paid in advance (this gave Area 40 a discount) which skews the numbers slightly. Even when the numbers are adjusted for paying Archives' rent in advance we have still spent more than the amount of contributions collected. See the full report in the minutes for more information. The Assembly voted unanimously to recommend the proposed budget of \$31,140.00.

Archives & Policy and Procedure: Kira A. Kira is recording old-timer interviews to preserve the history of what AA was like in the past. These are called archival interviews. She asks the interviewees a prepared questions that are asked to the interviewees. Transcribing the interviews is labor-intensive and time-consuming yet Kira reports this is a worthwhile investment for her. Area 40 Policy and Procedure had several motions that were considered at Area. See the list of motions passed, in this issue, or read the minutes online at aa-montana.org.

Archivist: Earl F. Earl has taken the archives display to many events in Area 40. He welcomes the opportunity to bring the archives display to your event. The Archives have been moved to Ennis, MT. Earl has revised the Policies and Procedures manual and sent it to the Area Advisor for review.

Committee Reports Continued

Corrections: Lee G. The committee reviewed the Corrections Kit and Workbook. They also reviewed possible city choices for the 2025 AA International Conference. The committee discussed ways to encourage interest in local and regional forums. The committee discussed that their service work is open to all members of AA and one does not need to have been incarcerated to participate and be useful.

Triangle: Erin G. There are over 300 Triangles sent out at each mailing at a cost of about \$290 per mailing. If your group doesn't get the Triangle you can update your contact information with the Triangle Editor. The Editor has received a lot of support and submissions. Anyone is welcome to submit service-related articles. Updating your groups' contact information helps save money because Area 40 pays for every Triangle that is returned-to-sender. Of the 246 groups Erin sends Triangles to—16 of them have paid their subscription fee. Triangles are sent to every group regardless of whether or not a subscription fee has been paid. But, if the word "expired" is on the address label, and your group wants to pay the fee you can mail it to Area 40 Triangle, PO Box 1266, Missoula MT 59806.

Treatment Chair: Brandon M. Brandon participated in an event in District 11 by helping them prepare for Unity Day. District treatment chairs can contact him for more information or assistance.

Public Information, Luke S. Luke talked about how he willingly stood in to fill the PI vacancy on the Area Committee. He immediately went to work and signed 5 hotline contracts. He also hosted a PI/CPC workshop in District 91. Luke has had some struggles working with the hotline company and hopes to improve the relationship and resolve a couple issues. There are 625 hotline volunteers signed up in Area 40.

Webmaster: Alex M. Alex reports the Bridging The Gap system has been online since last November with a total of 184 volunteers in 9 districts. He encourages districts and groups to submit fliers so they can be included on the calendar of events on the Area 40 website.

Grapevine: Sam B. Sam encourages people to read and subscribe to the Grapevine. He says the stories provide a great cross-section of AA members and experiences. The Grapevine Chair also reminds Area 40 that there are a lot of books published by the Grapevine. Sam brought up the idea of using Pink Can funds to bring Grapevine literature into jails. It was decided that district pink can funds could be used for whatever the district chose and that the pink can is not really AA anyhow. Sam also raised the question of what to do when a District Representative (DR) does not show up to be a voting member in a committee. Grapevine literature orders of \$500 or more get a 20% discount.

Literature: Nick D. Nick stepped in to fill the vacant literature chair position in August. Nick is looking forward to working with district literature chairs and jumping into his position. He brought a display to Area that was set up on the back table. He is interested in hearing from district literature chairs. The committee reviewed how shipping for literature orders is free on orders of \$500 or more. The threshold for free shipping went up from \$250.

CPC/Trustees: Serena R. Serena participated in several events including a CPC/PI workshop in Kalispell, Unity Day in Billings and an event in District 72. She also has several upcoming events that she'll be participating in. Serena invites district committee chairs to let her know about their events so she can try to support or attend them. CPC has Powerpoints available for workshops or presentations you might be hosting. Contact Serena for the materials.

Welcome to a new group! Welcome the Depth and Weight Group. Meeting Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 5:30 pm at the Alano Club in Missoula!

DCM Reports

District 11: ALT DCM Mike O. They have 26 active registered groups. There was an Archives workshop in their district with participation from the Area Archivist. The Area Archives chair has recorded the stories of a couple old timers from their district. On June 8th they hosted a Unity Day Celebration that included a Delegate's Report and several service work committee workshops. The District 11 committees have been busy carrying the message of AA.

District 12: DCM Daniel M. They had a wonderful gathering at the Fireman's Point Campout in August. This event included a Delegate's Report. Daniel reported that their next event will be the Midwinter Social held at the Joliet Center in February.

District 23: DCM Mary C-M. Sidney and Glendive continue to be the most active towns in their district. A couple of their meetings changed formats or times. District 23 held the Lower Yellowstone Soberfest in August which included a Delegate's Report. The Sidney Welcome Home Group is planning its first Founder's Day event. Stemming from a conversation which took place during the Fall 2011 Assembly, AA meetings will now be available in the Dawson County Jail. Several AA members worked together with the jail to make this possible. They also take meetings into the Richland County Jail and offer Bridging the Gap services.

District 31: DCM Kathie B. Kathie reports she took over as DCM earlier this year. So far she has been able to visit a couple groups and will continue to grow with her position.

District 41: DCM Chris W. District 31 includes a variety of meetings held seven days a week. Their Founder's Day celebration included a Delegate's Report and had record attendance. Chris attended the West Central Regional AA Service forum. He reports their district has a lot of new service members who are very motivated and involved in AA service.

District 42: Reported by Duane C. Duane is standing in for their DCM, Beth Z. They take meetings into the prison in Shelby. The Delegate will be visiting them in October. They have an upcoming Christmas Party and a New Year's Party. All are invited to attend.

District 61: DCM Karla B. Karla reports they have over 100 meetings a week in their district. They take meetings into 3 correctional facilities, MT State Prison and 4 treatment centers. They hosted Grapefest in June which was attended by the Area Grapevine Chair. The Area Delegate Skyped in while Gerry R. gave the Delegate's Report. Several groups in their district hosted events and they had a treatment/corrections workshop. Upcoming events include 15th Annual Common Grounds, Attitude of Gratitude and Pockets of Enthusiasm.

District 71: DCM Betty P. District 71 has 80 meetings a week. They had a Delegate's Day picnic in August. Betty reports they're busy preparing for Spring 2014 Roundup that will be held at Fairmont Hot Springs. They held a district inventory.

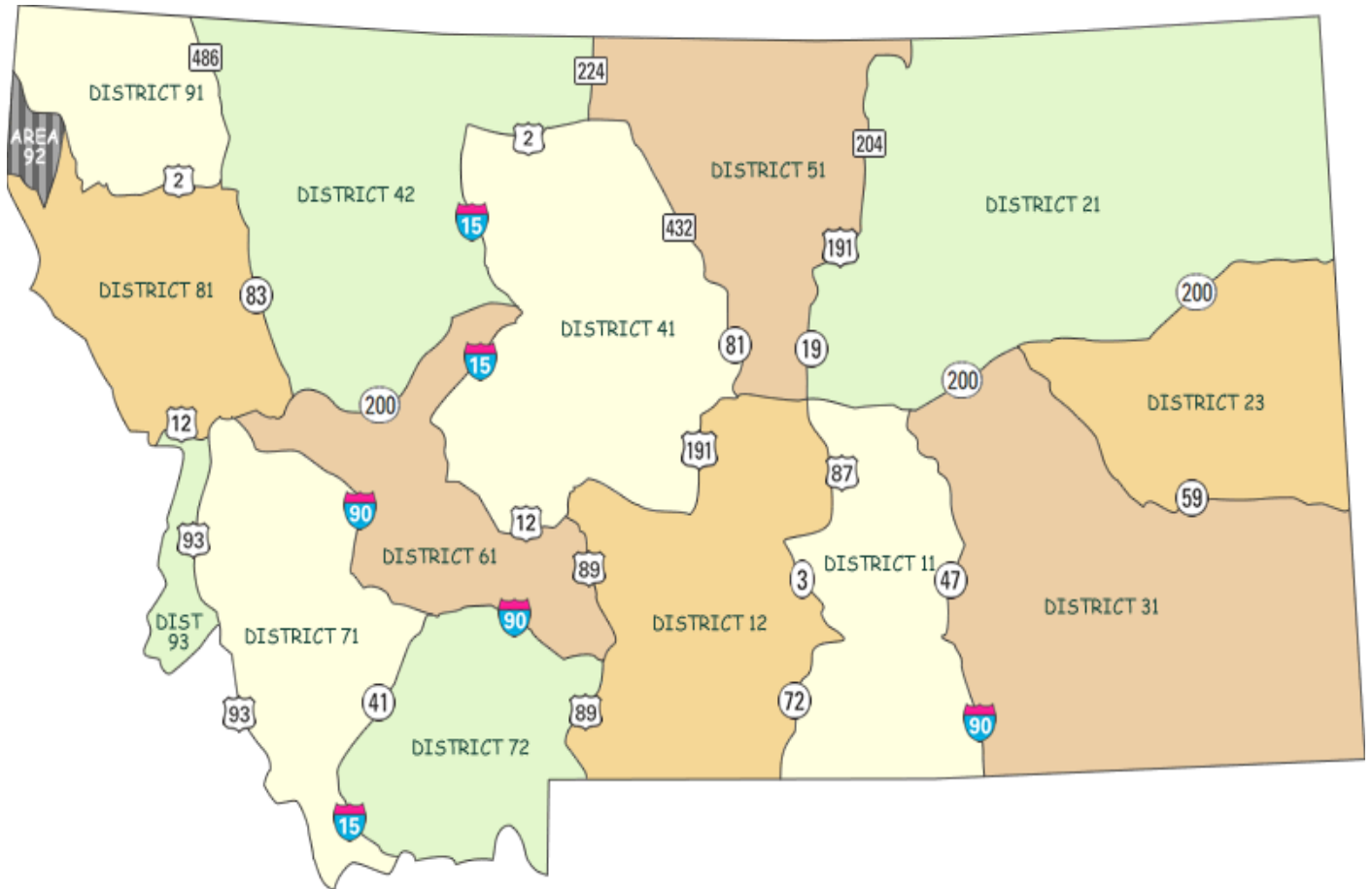
District 81: DCM Sherry C. Sherry reports that the majority of groups in their district are growing but a couple have disbanded. They have created a new district chair position to handle BTG work. District 81 now takes two meetings a week in to the men's jail and two meetings a week in to the women's jail. They are starting to plan for the Spring 2016 Roundup that will be held in Missoula. District 81 is planning upcoming events for Halloween, Christmas and Thanksgiving.

District 91: DCM Paul L. District 91 covers a large geographical territory that holds 115 meetings a week. Paul has attended a meeting at nearly all of the 18 groups in their district. They regularly take meetings into two treatment centers and have revitalized efforts to carry the message of AA into the jail—including getting 4 Grapevine subscriptions

DCM Reports Continued

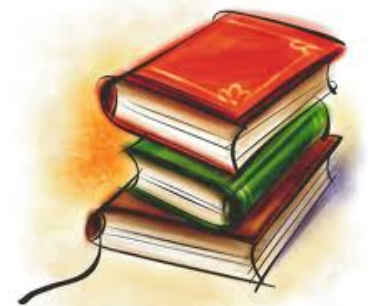
District 93: ALT DCM Mike M. Mike reports there are 29 meetings held each week in their district. District 93 held its annual Bitterroot picnic and campout at Lake Como as well as Norm's Picnic and the Florence Group held a BBQ in August. Earl F. stood in for the delegate to give a report at the Bitterroot picnic and campout.

Area 40 Districts



AA Literature Is Now Available For Purchase Online!

Check it out at: <https://b2c.aaws.org/>



| POSITION | NAME | | | | EMAIL |
|-------------------------|------------|--|--|--|--|
| Delegate | Sharon .S | | | | delegate@aa-montana.org |
| Area Chair/Alt Delegate | Gerry R. | | | | chair@aa-montana.org |
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| Treasurer | Libbie L. | | | | treasurer@aa- |
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| CPC | Serena R. | | | | cpc@aa-montana.org |
| Corrections | Lee G. | | | | corrections@aa- |
| Grapevine | Sam B. | | | | grapevine@aa- |
| Literature | Nick D. | | | | literature@aa- |
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| Triangle Editor | Erin G. | | | | triangle@aa-montana.org |

| NON-VOTING | NAME | | | | EMAIL |
|------------|----------|--|--|--|--|
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| Archivist | Earl F. | | | | archivist@aa-montana.org |
| Webmaster | Alex M. | | | | webmaster@aa-montana.org |

| DCMs | NAME | | | | EMAIL |
|-------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|
| District 11 | Mike D. | | | | dcm11@aa-montana.org |
| District 12 | Daniel M. | | | | dcm12@aa-montana.org |
| District 21 | Joe G. | | | | dcm21@aa-montana.org |
| District 23 | Mary M. | | | | dcm23@aa-montana.org |
| District 31 | Kathy B. | | | | dcm31@aa-montana.org |
| District 41 | Chris W. | | | | Dcm41@aa-montana.org |
| District 42 | Beth Z. | | | | dcm42@aa-montana.org |
| District 51 | Dan F. | | | | dcm51@aa-montana.org |
| District 61 | Karla B. | | | | dcm61@aa-montana.org |
| District 71 | Betty P. | | | | dcm71@aa-montana.org |
| District 72 | Ray M. | | | | dcm72@aa-montana.org |
| District 81 | Sherry C. | | | | dcm81@aa-montana.org |
| District 91 | Paul L. | | | | dcm91@aa-montana.org |
| District 93 | Kevin C. | | | | dcm93@aa-montana.org |

Area 40 Financial Information

| | Jan - Sep 13 | YTD Budget | Annual Budget |
|---|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | | |
| Income | | | |
| Individual contribution | 70.00 | | |
| Group Contributions | 18,521.37 | | |
| District Contribution | 496.00 | | |
| 7th Tradition | 635.00 | | |
| Triangle Subscriptions | 152.00 | | |
| Other Income (recouped from) | | | |
| Service Manuals | 237.05 | | |
| Total Other Income (recouped from) | 237.05 | | |
| | | | |
| Total Income | 20,111.42 | | |
| | | | |
| Total Expense | | 26,318.91 | 28,110.00 |
| Net Ordinary Income | | (6,207.49) | (28,110.00) |
| Other Income/Expense | | | |
| Other Expense | | | |
| Archivist Expenses | | 795.49 | |
| Total Other Expense | | 795.49 | |
| Net Other Income | | (795.49) | |
| Net Income | | (7,002.98) | (28,110.00) |

Check Book Balance 12935.95
 Prudent Reserve 10883.33
 Archives Account 567.64
 Operating Balance 1484.98

PINK CAN UPDATE

*At the Area Assembly, Lee G., Area Corrections Chair, reported that the Pink Can balance stands at \$159.41. That is not enough money to buy a case of Big Books. We have 3 outstanding requests for literature that we can't fill due to lack of funds. So talk to your groups and let them know about the Area Pink Can Fund. Make all checks out to: **Area 40 Inc.**, not to the Pink Can fund, though you can put that in the memo line. Checks made out to the Pink Can Fund will be returned because they will not be accepted by the bank. Send all contributions to: 311 Cedar Wood Circle, Bozeman, MT 59718.*



Area 40 Calendar Of Events

- **Attitude of Gratitude, Colonial Inn Helena, November 23rd
 - **First Saturday, MSU Liberal Arts Building Billings, December 6-7th
 - **Deadline for submitting new agenda items for Spring Area Assembly, February 1st
 - **Into Action Weekend, Headwaters Church Whitefish, February 21-22nd
 - **West Central Regional Service Conference, St. Louis Park, MN, February 28-December 2nd
 - **Spring Area Assembly, Yogo Inn Lewistown, April 11-13th
 - **Spring Round Up, Fairmont Hot Springs Anaconda, May 2-4th
- Fliers and more information available at aa-montana.org.

Motions Passed At Area Assembly

The page numbers are from the minutes if you want to look them up.

1. Pg. 29 - The Archives Committee recommends that: The Treatment Facilities Committee, in coordination with the Correctional Facilities Committee, will maintain contact lists, directories and other tools important in helping individuals to “bridge the gap” from treatment and/or correctional facilities to the larger AA community.
(This next one was done after another version that was initially passed then reconsidered and failed.)
2. Pg. 31 - The archives committee recommends that the treatment committee develop a mechanism to ascertain special needs accommodations and report back to the spring Assembly in 2014.
3. Pg. 42 - Motion to approve 2014 Budget Made & Seconded. The Assembly voted unanimously to recommend the proposed budget of \$31,140.00.
4. Pg. 57 - Public Information committee requests forwarding the request to update the AA service manual to better reflect how GSO, the areas and districts utilize the Fellowship New Vision program (FNV) in regard to reporting and sharing group information for submission as an agenda item at the 2014 General Service Conference.
5. Pg. 60 - That the Area form an ad hoc committee to investigate other venues for the Area Assembly that preferably centrally located and special needs accessible; and bring back recommendations to the Spring 2014 Assembly for a vote at that Assembly.

Bridging The Gap

All inmates and people leaving treatment centers should be aware of the Area 40 Bridging the Gap (BTG) program. The way the program works is that AA members present the program at local treatment and correctional facilities where they collect names and contact information from anyone wanting an AA contact to help them in their transition from facility to the community. District BTG chairs access a database on the Area 40 website and connect the inmate/client with an AA member in the community where they are returning. Hopefully, the contact happens early enough that the outside AA can connect with the inmate/client before they leave the facility. But once in the community the BTG contact can take the person to meetings, introduce them to the local AA community and help them get connected to the program. Shared experience indicates that people who connect with AA within the first 24 hours after their release are much more likely to stay sober so this program is a vital link in aiding sobriety.

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AREA 40 TRIANGLE
PO BOX 1266
Missoula MT 59806

Group Name _____

GSR/Contact Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

**WHERE TO MAIL
GROUP**

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