

The Triangle Newsletter

Area 40 Spring Assembly

The Spring 2015 Area 40 Assembly was held the weekend of April 10 - 12 in Lewistown. If you have not had an opportunity to attend an Area Assembly, you should make it a point to attend to find out what is going on in our Area to help the still suffering alcoholic along with supporting all of our recovery. It also provides a powerful demonstration of Alcoholics Anonymous working in peoples's lives. I don't believe I will ever grow tired of, or lack wonderment at, the experience of a group of people truly trying to do what's best to further accomplish these goals, especially when you consider where we once were in life's journey. Please take the time to read through this issue of The Triangle to see what the Area 40 Committees are up to. Hopefully it will also provide you ideas you will want to share with us in meeting these intentions.

Sincerely,

Tim

Area 40 Triangle editor

15 years ago

when I went into treatment on my son's 8th birthday, I never imagined what a life was ahead. Getting relief from my alcoholism in any way possible took me to a hopeless place. Today, my relief comes from a higher power that is revealed by working the steps, working with the still suffering alcoholic, and with Service to AA. I have listened to your voice and the voice of that God inside me that will guide my actions in the coming weeks. Again, thank you for all your love and support, for being a part of my sobriety, and for giving me a life full of hope. The daily reflection from my sobriety birthday, March 25, is a Full and Thankful Heart.

I try hard to hold fast to the truth that a full and thankful heart cannot entertain great conceits. When brimming with gratitude, one's heartbeat must surely result in outgoing love, the finest emotion that we can ever know.

From: As Bill Sees It - pg. 37

You have all helped we find that finest emotion, and for that I am eternally grateful. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Libbie L. - Area 40 Delegate - Panel - 65



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Spring 2015 Area Assembly Secretary's Report

Good morning and welcome to the Spring Assembly! My name is Julie and I'm alcoholic, and it is my privilege to serve as your Area 40 Secretary and Registrar.

Motions passed at the 2014 Fall Assembly:

Public Information

A motion to change the wording of our Policy and Procedures regarding our hotline, Section G8.9, from: "Area 40 will implement an 800 number, utilizing the services and contract from AnswerNet," to: "Area 40 will implement a toll free number, utilizing the services of a reliable answering service" Section G12.5, under Area Treasurer, would also be modified to reflect the change. Motion passed: 86 FOR 1 OPPOSED

Treatment Facilities

A recommendation that the following theme and discussion / workshop / presentation topics be submitted for the 2016 General Service Conference:

1. Theme - Service - Reinvesting in your sobriety
2. Topics:
 - a. Safety in A.A.
 - b. What is Service?
 - c. How to give back what you have been given
 - d. Fear of Service - What am I committing to?

Motion passed: 72 For 1 opposed

Finance

Finance Committee Recommended that G12.3 under Area Treasurer, page19, Policies and Procedures be changed to read: "File all necessary legal and tax forms for the State of Montana and the Federal Government." Motion passed:

88 For, 0 Opposed

2015 Budget total of \$32,210.00 was approved with a vote of: **85 FOR, 1 Opposed**

Floor Assembly

THERE WAS A MOTION TO EXTEND ASSEMBLY AT 12:03pm to finish the business of the assembly. Motion passed: 52 FOR - 20 OPPOSED

Another floor Motion was made: To find a person to fill the webmaster position from January 1, 2015 until the Spring Assembly.

During the discussion, it was moved to table this motion and bring it back to 2015 Spring Assembly. Motion to table passed: 52 For, 20 Opposed.

Thank you and have a great Assembly! Julie R. - Area 40 Secretary/Registrar

Area 40 Literature Committee Chair

Hello everyone,

My name is Jake L. and I am an alcoholic. It is a pleasure and another growth opportunity to serve as the Area 40 Literature Committee Chair for the upcoming rotation. Our literature is an effective mechanism to spread the message of recovery to the still suffering Alcoholic. I want to thank everyone who attend these Assemblies and help keep Alcoholics Anonymous alive. I really want to thank the literature committee members: Jodee, Lee, and Daniel for showing up along with the other participants and all their lively discussion and input.

This rotation started off quietly with me minding my own business until I received word from our illustrious past chair concerning an important topic. I decided to ice him for few days as I fully expected he wanted me to participate in something that would vastly improve my recovery. Sure enough, he asked if I was willing to stand for the newly vacated Literature position. Not being convinced, I told him I'd think about it. Work, home and AA life has been extremely busy and after careful consultation with my wife and sponsor, I let Gerry know I was absolutely willing. All jokes aside, I'd like to express my deep gratitude and thanks for the opportunity to serve for something that has provided so much to my loved ones and I.

I was able to attend the pre-assembly in Billings on March 14 and hear the feedback for the exciting new agenda items coming up before the Literature committee this assembly. Thanks to Dave for his diligence and District 11 for their hard work in setting up a great venue.

Please feel free to visit the outstanding Area 40 literature display in the back of the room, and I hope you will take some time to look at all the AA approved literature that is available to the fellowship. And for you "digital drunks" we also have E-Book information on the literature table that you can surf though. You can also find all kinds of information at AA.org and our own www.aamontana.org If you, your group or district have any questions please ask me, and will do my best to get them answered. I am here to serve Area 40, so if your group or district have an event that you would like to showcase the outstanding Area 40 literature display, please let me know.

Thank you for allowing me to serve Area 40 for the coming rotation.

Jake L., Area 40 Literature Committee Chair

CPC/Trustees Report

I'm an alcoholic and my name is Paul. I am the Area 40 chair for the Cooperation with the Professional Community committee for this rotation. The additional assignment for this committee is to review all business with the General Service Office regarding Trustees. I am honored to serve the fellowship of alcoholics anonymous in this capacity.

As of yet I have not been very busy in this position. I picked up the box of supplies from Serena R., the previous CPC chair. I reviewed the CPC Workbook, viewed the videos pertaining to the CPC work and have read the pamphlets in the workbook. I received and reviewed the Power Point presentation to use for a CPC workshop. I have also contacted the members of the committee to introduce myself and to let them know what our agenda is for this assembly. In March I attended to Pre-Assembly hosted in Billings and this really got my juices flowing for this service position and to prepare for Assembly

I have been working with Jamie D., the CPC chair from District 91 (my home district) to host a CPC workshop for professionals in the Flathead Valley that come into contact with alcoholics. Plans are progressing nicely for this and it will be held this fall. As part of my service I would like to visit other districts in Area 40 to be a part of events like this. I feel that it is imperative that we continue to be friendly with the professionals that wind up referring so many of us to the rooms of AA. It is important that we continue to carry the message to non-alcoholic professionals about who we are what we can offer to the still suffering alcoholic.

Yours in service,
Paul L. Area 40 CPC Chair

Greetings Area 40,

I started the rotation off with a bang at the Great Falls New Years Eve Party. I attended at a breathtaking GSR School that was followed by an OA blacklisted potluck. The potluck was followed by hotline workshop and a great speaker. I m glad to report I have heard no complaints on our hotline and received a successful call as well. I forward the bill to all the DCM's in our area as soon as I receive them, which is on Gods time and nothing close to monthly. I met with district 91 PI chair and discussed what fun PI work could be done. I took a trip to the Kalispell library and was amazed that they didn't have a Alcoholics Anonymous book on their shelves. I was irritated to find a copy of "Why Alcoholics Anonymous didn't work for me" on the shelf. The librarian was able to print up a list of all the local libraries with copies of Alcoholics Anonymous on the shelf and I passed that on to the Sam B. I attended all three pre-assemblies in our beautiful Area 40. I found many dedicated members of Alcoholics Anonymous and know without a doubt that AA is in safe hands.

Area 40 PI Chair - Luke S.

Area 40 Corrections

I have had a little trouble finding out who all District Corrections Chairs are, but in hopes to be able to finish out that list this weekend. I have been to 3 Pre-Assemblies and listened to over 11 hours of the 2015 WCRAASC glad I have it got good ideas from it.

May 16th we will be having an Orientation at Montana State Prison. Applications need to be in by the end of April. There will also be a Mini Conference September 12th, 2015. Your information needs to be gotten to Lee G. Prior to June 1st so that MSP has time to complete Background checks. You can also find information on this on Area 40 Website. There are a few fliers in the back and I have sent e-mails to your DCM's and those Corrections Chairs I have. Pink Can Fund is \$2229.60 will be making an order so if you need something please let me know. Please remember to make out the checks to Area 40 Inc. and mail them to Area 40 Corrections, PO Box 851 Darby, MT 59829. I would like to Thank the Groups for their contributions. I will be sending out Thank you letters to you Groups. One more thing Nexus is trying to get an AA Meeting started and wanting AA's from the outside to come in. So anyone interested in going in let me know. I will give updates to how it is going.

**I Thank You All for allowing me to be of Service,
Area 40 Corrections Chair - Jay T.**

4:15 PM
04/05/15
Accrual Basis

Area 40, Inc.
Budget vs. Actual by Committee / Project
March 2015

	<u>Mar 15</u>	<u>Jan - Mar 15</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Unrestricted				
Program Services				
Spring Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	-4,750.00
Fall Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	-4,750.00
Regional Service Conference	-682.76	-682.76	-2,000.00	-2,000.00
Regional Forum	0.00	0.00	0.00	-1,700.00
Regional Trustee	0.00	0.00	0.00	-300.00
Delegate Expenses				
Area 40 share to GSC	0.00	-1,600.00	-1,600.00	-1,600.00
Other Expenses	0.00	0.00	-150.00	-600.00
Other Expenses NYC	0.00	0.00	0.00	-350.00
Roundups	0.00	0.00	0.00	-600.00
Travel expenses	0.00	0.00	-275.00	-1,900.00
Total Delegate Expenses	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-1,600.00</u>	<u>-2,025.00</u>	<u>-5,050.00</u>
Area Chair Expenses	-111.21	-111.21	-175.00	-650.00
Archivist Account				
Archivist Display & Travel	0.00	0.00	-100.00	-400.00
Archives Storage	-21.00	-42.00	0.00	-3,500.00
Total Archivist Account	<u>-21.00</u>	<u>-42.00</u>	<u>-100.00</u>	<u>-3,900.00</u>
Literature Chair				
General literature purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	-150.00
Total Literature Chair	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-150.00</u>
Public Information Chair				
Area Hotline Expenses	0.00	0.00	-600.00	-2,400.00
Directory Listings	-635.55	-720.75	-450.00	-1,800.00
Total Public Information Chair	<u>-635.55</u>	<u>-720.75</u>	<u>-1,050.00</u>	<u>-4,200.00</u>
Website	-155.00	-155.00	-160.00	-160.00
Triangle	-306.79	-1,027.72	-600.00	-2,400.00
Committee Chair Post/Supplies	-165.70	-187.30	-120.00	-400.00
Committee Chair Travel	-556.94	-751.37	-900.00	-1,500.00
Computer Hardware/Software	0.00	0.00	0.00	-300.00
Total Program Services	<u>-2,634.95</u>	<u>-5,278.11</u>	<u>-7,130.00</u>	<u>-32,210.00</u>
Unrestricted - Other	5,190.37	6,839.47		
Total Unrestricted	<u>2,555.42</u>	<u>1,561.36</u>	<u>-7,130.00</u>	<u>-32,210.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>2,555.42</u>	<u>1,561.36</u>	<u>-7,130.00</u>	<u>-32,210.00</u>

Area 40 Treatment Facilities Chair Report

Greetings Area 40, my name is Jessica E. and I am currently serving as your Area 40 Treatment Chair. I started my rotation this year with reviewing materials and service pieces that were passed down from my predecessor to me. I am grateful for the trip Brandon M. made to the Gallatin Valley and the time he spent with me for a seamless transition.

I was contacted by Montana Chemical Dependency Center, our state treatment facility, in which District 61, 71, 72, and 81 are currently bringing meetings and BTG presentations into the facility. I immediately forwarded the rotating schedule to their respective district treatment chairs, and updated the Administration with the new contact information of the four district treatment chairs. We were continuously thanked for our service, which warmed my heart. I attended a Saturday meeting as a volunteer for district 72 and was pleased to be greeted by a welcoming staff who continuously thanked us for our service as well.

I've sent an article to the triangle. I've sent out a request to all DCMs for updated contact information for their districts Treatment Chairs and Bridging the Gap Coordinators. I have compiled an active list that will be continuously updated so please contact me with any new information that you would like to be updated. As I have been connecting with our new rotation of treatment chairs, I have also been collecting data on the treatment facilities that we currently attend and if we have BTG presentations whether while in attendance or separately. I realized after starting this process that for ease it would be better if I asked Area 40 to send me this information, and so I am asking that you send me a response at your earliest convenience

As I have been connecting with our district's Treatment Chairs and Bridging the Gap coordinators I have been continuously inspired and charged as they share how they are carrying this message across our Area . I was able to meet with and talk to our trusted servants when I traveled for all of our pre-assemblies. I was excited to hear how there is a passion to enlarge and update our BTG Database. I've put together a meet and greet for after our committee completes our Area and GSC agenda, and my hope is that we can share our experience with what's working in our districts , what we can do to reach more alcoholics, and "Bridge the Gap" between our facilities and our respective communities. Ultimately I believe through our collective experience we can be the most efficient and inspire and mentor our incoming trusted servants and volunteers.

I spoke to Alex M. , our Webmaster and Area Chair, about the BTG database. We have many small towns that we don't currently have BTG volunteers for. One way we can help enlarge this database as GSR's and volunteers is if we are from these areas or are planning to attend meetings there, we can download a volunteer sheet from our Area 40 website or retrieve them for our treatment chairs and or BTG coordinators and bring them to our groups. Even if we aren't from smaller towns we can talk to our Treatment Chair and or BTG coordinators about updating our volunteers by passing these around at our business meetings.

I will be attending the Spring Roundup in District 61, BTG workshop in Utah this September, and the International this summer, but beside these weekends I am available to come visit your districts. Treatment workshops are a great way to educate, energize, and inspire volunteers, and I am willing to be of use or come attend.

Thank you again for entrusting me to serve as your Area 40 Treatment Chair.

Jessica E

To update your Group address information for the Triangle, (and all other correspondence), please use form found at aa-montana.org > Forms and Other Documents > Existing Group Information Update Form.

GRAPEVINE

HELLO AREA 40, MY NAME IS CHRIS W. AND I AM AN ALCOHOLIC.
 IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE ABLE TO SERVE AREA 40 AS THE GRAPEVINE AND LA VIÑA CHAIR. I ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY AT THE FIRST OF THE YEAR. SO FAR I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO FAMILIARIZE MYSELF WITH THE DUTIES THIS POSITION HOLDS AND LOOK FORWARD TO DOING MY BEST TO FULFILL THOSE DUTIES. I WANT TO INVITE ALL OF THE AREA TO RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS OR START A NEW SUBSCRIPTION TO THE GRAPEVINE MAGAZINE, OUR MEETING IN PRINT.
 THERE IS A SUBSCRIPTION CHALLENGE WHERE A STATE, PROVINCE AND TERRITORY-WIDE CHALLENGE TO INCREASE NEW* GRAPEVINE AND LA VIÑA SUBSCRIPTIONS IN 2015. THE PRIZE IS A SPECIAL SECTION IN A 2016 ISSUE OF GRAPEVINE OR LA VIÑA FEATURING MEMBERS' STORIES FROM THE STATE, PROVINCE OR TERRITORY WITH THE GREATEST PERCENTAGE GROWTH IN NEW* PAID SUBSCRIPTIONS OR SUBSCRIPTION GIFT CERTIFICATES. * A NEW SUBSCRIPTION IS ONE THAT HASN'T BEEN ACTIVE IN THE PAST 6 MONTHS. THERE ARE FLYERS AVAILABLE BOTH ON THE GRAPEVINE AND LA VIÑA WEBSITE AND AT THE AREA DISPLAY LOCATED RIGHT HERE AT YOUR AREA 40 ASSEMBLY.
 THERE ARE A COUPLE OF UP-COMING EVENTS I HAVE BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN. FRIST IS THE DISTRICT 41 FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION, WHERE THE AREA 40 DISPLAY WILL BE. THE SECOND IS AN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN DISTRICT 61 GRAPEFEST.
 I HAVE A SMALL STACK OF FLYERS FOR EACH DCM TO PASS ALONG TO THEIR GRAPEVINE AND LA VIÑA REPRESENTATIVES. IF YOUR DISTRICT IS HAVING AN EVENT AND WOULD LIKE AREA GRAPEVINE AND LA VIÑA CHAIR TO PARTICIPATE, I WOULD BE MORE THAN WILLING TO BE THERE.
 THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO SERVE.
 IN SERVICE,
 CHRIS W.

Triangle Area 40 report - Spring 2015

Issue	Topic	Article Deadline	Number sent	Cost	Number returned	Cost of Returned
January	Introducing Committee	1/9/2015	293	\$474.74	13	\$3.08
Febuary	Relationships	2/8/2015	311	\$215.19	12	\$8.05
March	Spring Pre-Assembly	3/8/2015	311	\$294.19	3	\$1.47
April/May	Spring Post-Assembly	5/8/2015				
June/July	God's Will	7/1/205				
August	Fall Pre-Assembly	8/9/2015				
Sept/October	Fall Post-Assembly	9/1/2015				
Nov/Dec	Gratitude	11/1/2015				
Totals			915	\$984.12	28	\$12.60

The above is the Triangle schedule for 2015 with the current number of issues sent by USPS and the costs associated with them.

As of April 5th, 2015 only 14% of the groups have paid subscriptions. We have also had 28 Triangles returned so far this year at a cost of \$12.60 due to being undeliverable. Groups, please use the Group information form that can be found on the Area website under Forms and Other Documents > Existing Group Information Update Form, to keep you group address current so we can avoid these charges.

Tim M. - Triangle Editor

Calendar of Events

Assembly Dates 2015

July 1

Deadline Fall Assembly
Agenda items

September 18-20

Fall Assembly
Yogo Inn - Lewistown

Area Events

May

15th-17th - Spring Roundup, Red Lion Colonial Inn - Helena
16th - 5th Annual Spring Fling 2015, 150 Larch Hill Dr., Columbia Falls
16th - Montana State Prison Orientation - Please submit application to Area 40 Correction Chair, corrections@aa-montana.org by April 30th
31st - Delegate Day, Alano Club 55 1st Ave. N. W. Kalispell

June

5th-7th - Bigfork by the Bay Campout, Swan Lake Campground
6th-7th - 2015 EZ DUZ IT Golf Tournament, Whitefish Lake Golf Course, Whitefish
20th - Annual Grapefest, Wilson House, 1376 Linden, Helena

July

2nd-4th - The Big Book Breakdown, Red Lion Inn - Kalispell
17th-19th - Beartooth Mountain Conference, Camp on the Boulder, McLeod

August

21st-23rd - West Central Regional Conference, Casper, WY
21st-23rd - Lower Yellowstone Soberfest, Lion's Youth Camp, Glendive

September

11th-13th - Bridging The Gap Workshop, Park City UT
12th - Prison Mini Conference, Montana State Prison, Deer Lodge
12th-13th - Flathead Valley Fall Refresher, Creston Grange Hall, Kalispell

October

2nd - 4th - Havre Mini-Conference, Havre
9th-11th - Fall Roundup, Red Lion Hotel - Kalispell

For flyers and additional information, see the calendar on Area 40 website aa-montana.org.

If you'd like your activity to be included in the Triangle (and on the Area 40 website) please email it to calendar@aa-montana.org

Groups Please Contribute

articles and subscriptions to the Triangle!

The theme of the June/July issue is God's Will along with District, Area Archive, and Area Inventory reports

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Please Distribute this Newsletter among your Group!

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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.

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PO BOX 6433
HELENA MT 59604

GROUP NAME _____

GSR/CONTACT NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

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.

**WHERE TO MAIL
GROUP**

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GSO

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