

# The Triangle Newsletter

## Fall 2015 Assembly

One of the most precious things that becoming a member of Alcoholics Anonymous gave me was the understanding and appreciation that I was connected to something greater than myself. With this realization also came the responsibility to try to be a positive contributor to the whole. In this effort, I not only gain a sense of belonging, but the peace of mind I have been searching for all my life.

The Fall Assembly takes up local (Area 40) concerns and considerations for our Area 40 Committees. The most important, in my opinion, agenda item at the Assembly this year is an inventory of the Area itself. Please take the time to not only look at page 6 of this Triangle that explains the process and lists the questions that will be gone over, but make it your priority to provide input on them. You need not attend the Assembly in order to do this. Your thoughts, ideas and concerns can be given to your GSR or to any of the Area Committee members. All of the committee members, along with their email addresses, are included in this issue.

Love and Service,

*Tim M.*

Triangle Editor

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**Groups Please Contribute**  
**articles and subscriptions to the Triangle!**  
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**The following is the preliminary Agenda for the Fall 2015 Assembly.  
Please note that it is subject to change.**

**FRIDAY SESSION**

8:00-10:00      **Sapphire Room:** GSR and DCM Welcome Session – led by the Delegate.  
**Kendall Room:** Area Standing Committee Chair Welcome Session – led by the Area Chair and Area Advisor  
*(GSR's, please sign in with your District's DCM at this time).*

**SATURDAY SESSION**

7:30-8:00      GSR's and visitors sign in with their District's DCM.  
*(DCM's please give the sign in sheets to the Area Secretary no later than 10:00 a.m.)*

8:00-9:15      **Welcome** — Serenity Prayer, Traditions, Concepts, Housekeeping  
**Roll Call – Past Actions** — by Area Secretary, Julie R.  
**Financial Highlights** — by Area Treasurer, Mary Mc  
**Orientation to the Assembly** — by the Delegate, Libbie L.  
**DCM Reports** (5 min. Hard stop at 9:15 am, to be continued in the afternoon)

9:15-9:30      **Coffee Break**

9:30-10:00      **Election of Area 40's Nominee for West Central Regional Trustee** – Sharon S.

10:15-12:00      **Standing Committee Meetings:**  
 Treatment Facilities/Agenda.....Room 164  
 Archives/Area 40 Structure & Policy .....Kendall Room  
 Corrections/International Conventions.....Gypsum Room  
 Public Information/Report and Charter & Website .....Room 150  
 CPC/Trustees.....Room 270  
 Finance .....Chokecherry Room  
 Grapevine/Policy & Admissions (GSC) .....Room 256  
 Literature .....Room 252

**Workshops** (For those not attending committee meetings).....Sapphire Room

**10:15 – Workshop:** *AA's Future: Unity and carrying the message*  
 Led by Past Delegate: Carole B.

**11:05 – Workshop:** *Concepts 3, 4, 5: Right of Decision, Right of Participation and Right of Appeal at your Home Group*  
 Led by Past Delegate: Scott W.

12:00-1:00      **Recess for Lunch**

1:00-1:15      **Area 40 Inventory Orientation** – Area Advisor Sharon S.

1:15-3:45      **Small Group Inventory Discussion Groups**  
**Group 1** – Northeast Sapphire Room  
**Group 2** – Southeast Sapphire Room  
**Group 3** – Gypsum Room  
**Group 4** – Pool Area  
**Group 5** – Pool Area  
**Group 6** – Room 164  
**Group 7** – Kendall  
**Group 8** – Chokecherry

3:45–4:00      **Coffee Break**

4:00–5:30      **Inventory Reports and Discussion** (Entire Assembly in Sapphire Room)

5:30-7:00      **Recess for Dinner**

7:00-8:45	<b>Floor Assembly — Committee Reports, Motions, and Discussion</b> Treatment Facilities/Agenda ..... Jessica E. Archives/Structure ..... Mike D. Corrections/International Conventions-Regional Forums ..... Jay T. Public Information/Report & Charter ..... Luke S. CPC/Trustees ..... Paul L. Finance ..... Mary McC. Grapevine/Policy & Admissions ..... Chris W. Literature ..... Jake L. Ad-hoc Committee Report ..... Terry S.
8:45-9:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>
9:00-10:00	<b>GSR Breakout</b> — Led by Past Delegate: Carole B. <b>DCM Breakout</b> — Led by Past Delegate: Scott W.
<b>SUNDAY SESSION</b>	
8:00-8:45	<b>Triangle Report<sup>1</sup></b> <b>Roundup Reports<sup>1</sup></b> <b>Intergroup Reports<sup>1</sup></b> <b>Report from the West Central Regional Forum in Casper Wyoming<sup>1</sup></b>
8:45-9:15	<b>Past Delegate's Sharing</b>
9:15-9:30	<b>Delegate's Report</b>
9:30-9:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>
9:45-12:00	<b>Floor Assembly — Committee Reports, Motions, and Discussion</b> (continued) followed by general

**Area Officers, Committee Chairs**

POSITION	NAME	EMAIL
Delegate	Libbie L.	delegate@aa-montana.org
Area Chair/Alt Delegate	Alex M.	chair@aa-montana.org
Secretary	Julie R.	secretary@aa-montana.org
Treasurer	Mary M.	treasurer@aa-montana.org
Archives	Mike D.	archives@aa-montana.org
CPC	Paul L.	cpc@aa-montana.org
Corrections	Jay T.	corrections@aa-montana.org
Grapevine	Chris W.	grapevine@aa-montana.org
Literature	Jake L.	literature@aa-montana.org
Public Information	Luke S.	pi@aa-montana.org
Treatment	Jessica E.	treatment@aa-montana.org
Triangle Editor	Tim M.	triangle@aa-montana.org

**District Committee Chairs**

POSITION	NAME	EMAIL
District 11	Dave O.	dcm11@aa-montana.org
District 12	Dave R.	dcm12@aa-montana.org
District 21	Vacant	dcm21@aa-montana.org
District 23	Todd M.	dcm23@aa-montana.org
District 31	Vacant	dcm31@aa-montana.org
District 41	Grant M.	dcm41@aa-montana.org
District 42	Vacant	dcm42@aa-montana.org
District 51	Karen T.	dcm51@aa-montana.org
District 61	Rebecca S.	dcm61@aa-montana.org
District 71	Roxie B.	dcm71@aa-montana.org
District 72	Ted O.	dcm72@aa-montana.org
District 81	Brandi W.	dcm81@aa-montana.org
District 91	Jeanie S.	dcm91@aa-montana.org
District 93	Vic M.	dcm93@aa-montana.org

**Non-Voting Members**

POSITION	NAME	EMAIL
Advisor	Sharon S.	advisor@aa-montana.org
Archivist	Earl F.	archivist@aa-montana.org
Webmaster	Brandon M.	webmaster@aa-montana.org

## History and principle of doing an Area Inventory

- A. 2011 Spring Assembly action
1. The Archives committee recommends that Area 40 implement the proposed procedure for an Area 40 Inventory, to be carried out at the Fall 2011 Area Assembly. The questions from the ad hoc committee will be used for this inventory and disseminated immediately following the Spring 2011 Assembly.  
For 72, Against 0
  2. The Archives committee recommends that an Area 40 Inventory be conducted every 4 years at the Fall Assembly, beginning with the 2011, and carried on in 2015, etc. The questions will be disseminated 5 months prior to the inventory through area communications, including the Spring Assembly minutes, Area 40 Triangle and Area 40 Website. For 81, Against 1
- B. Value of inventory as important to entities in our service structure as it is to the individual
1. "...one object is to disclose damaged or unsalable goods, to get rid of them promptly and without regret....we searched out the flaws in our make-up ..." P 64 *Alcoholics Anonymous*
  2. Taking the process through this course by reviewing the inventory and looking at what improvements might be made will improve Area 40 just as steps 4 - 9 improve our personal lives

### 2015 INVENTORY QUESTIONS

#### GROUPS/DISTRICTS

1. How can we better convey the importance of the principle of participation in Area 40 General Service to our respective Groups and Districts?
2. What can we do to make our Groups, Districts, and Area more attractive?
3. Is the business of Area 40 seen as a result of a year-round process by and for its Groups and Districts?
4. Considering Concept I, "the final responsibility and the ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship", (the A.A. groups today hold final responsibility and ultimate authority), do the groups in Area 40 have everything they need to carry out this responsibility? If not what could Area 40 do to help provide what they need?

#### INDIVIDUAL/PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE

1. Who are the underrepresented alcoholics in Area 40? What can be done to overcome difficulties in attracting these people?
2. What can the Area do to help members of the Area Assembly be better prepared as we come to participate?
3. Do we effectively integrate new people into the Area Assembly?
4. Are we attracting new people to participate in the Area 40 service structure? What could we do to improve?

#### COMMITTEES/COMMITTEE CHAIRS

1. The Triangle is the Area's newsletter; its purpose is to communicate service information among trusted servants, groups, districts and the area committee. How effective is the Triangle in serving this purpose? What can be done to improve its effectiveness?
2. How can we improve the methods of encouraging and selecting effective leaders as well as nurturing leadership qualities in our trusted servants?
3. Considering that the 2011 Membership Survey indicates most A.A. members are introduced to A.A. by sources other than A.A. members, what might the Area 40 Committees do to support the Districts in carrying the A.A. message to these sources?
4. How are Committee Chairs communicating with their District counterparts? What could be done better?

#### AREA ASSEMBLY

1. Is the Area Assembly effective in communicating information within the General Service structure? What might be done to improve communications?
2. How are the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts guiding our decisions and actions when we conduct business at assemblies?
3. Do the current agenda, format and scheduling of the Area Assembly effectively address communication and the business to be conducted? How can Area 40 more effectively conduct its business?
4. What keeps groups from attending Area Assembly? What could be done to remove these barriers?

**District 11**

A hearty HEY HO! on behalf on District 11 (THE FIGHIN 11TH!) in Southcentral Montana. Nestled in between Highways 72, 3 & 87 to west; Highway 200 to the north; Highway 47 and Interstate 90 to the east; and Wyoming to the south, District 11 covers approximately 7,000 square miles, including parts of Big Horn, Yellowstone, Golden Valley, Musselshell, Petroleum, and Treasure counties.

There are currently approximately 25 groups and 110 meetings per week, from 6:30 in the morning until 10:00 at night. We hold our District Meeting in Billings on the second Saturday of every month at 10am in a space that we share with the Southcentral Montana Intergroup, in the basement of the Westend Group, at 2931 Colton Blvd.

The District Committee is made up of myself, Katie C, Don M, and Claire M. We have mostly regular participation by 10 GSRs, and are able to carry the message via 7 District Committees. Our busiest committee is Corrections, where, weekly, just in Billings, we coordinate taking 12 meetings into the Yellowstone County Detention Facility, 2 meetings into the Montana Women's Prison, 3 meetings into Passages (Women's Pre-Release), and 1 meeting into Alpha House (Men's Pre Release). GSR Chris L. is facilitating a brand new weekly meeting in the Musselshell County Jail in Roundup. Committee Chair Lisa C. began the new rotation in good stride, and is meeting the formidable demands with equal devotion.

Bob K. chairs the Treatment Committee, coordinating ongoing dialogues with - and mostly meetings into - the Rimrock Foundation, as well as coordinating weekly meetings into both the Billings Clinic Psychiatric Center and the Community Crisis Center.

Kim R. and Carla H. are the Archives and Grapevine Chairs, respectively. Chuck D. wears two hats, as both Hotline Chair and Intergroup Liaison.

I was most grateful that District 11 saw fit to continue its tradition of covering DCM travel expenses to the West Central Regional AA Service Conference in Norfolk, NE in late February. It was nice to meet up with fellow travelers from rea 40, and the event provided me with a good first look at the agenda items for the General Service Conference, as well as invaluable time in talks and discussions of common pursuits, problems, and solutions with fellow trusted servants.

District 11 hosted the first of Area 40's three Pre-Assemblies, on March 14 in Billings. Travel by the Area Delegate, Advisor, and most Area Committee Chairs was appreciated and the interactive informational event was attended by DCMs, many District Committee Chairs, as well as members of both Districts 11 and 12.

So come on down - Y'ALL - and join us for any meeting any time, or at the District meeting on the second Saturday of the month at 10am. The coffee and donuts will be waiting.

In service, Dave O.

**District 51**

My name is Karen and I am a grateful alcoholic from . District 51 encompasses Hill, Blaine and parts of Phillips County. We have 27 meetings a week representing 12 groups. We currently have three Big Book studies going strong. We've struggled as a district to fill our committee chair positions resulting in some chairs wearing two hats.

Our experience is around the coffee pot discussing the spirit of rotation and a singleness of purpose. Sometimes we come to agreement and sometimes we walk away taking each other's inventories.

Our strength is our fellowship. We have a fall mini-conference, three Bear Paw campouts, a Valentine's Day party, a St. Patty's Day party and a New Year's Eve party. Two groups have speaker meetings, one with a potluck. We also have dodgeball, horseshoe and cow pasture golf tournaments.

Our hope lies with the many newcomers arriving and being sponsored out of the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous. Our hope is that they accept the same gift we've been given.

Yours in love and service. Karen T.

**District 23**

Welcome everyone to the Area 40 Spring Assembly; I'm Todd Mc. serving as DCM for this rotation.

District 23 consists of; Crane, Culbertson, Fairview, Glendive, Savage & Sidney.

District 23 hosted it's annual St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef & Cabbage Potluck which was a success.

Welcome Home Group hosted it's annual New Year's Day & Valentine's Day socials. They were successful.

Glendive has 7 meetings, Sidney has 7 meetings (the newest meeting being the Friday Noon Meeting), Fairview has 2 unregistered meetings. Meeting attendance is steady in both Glendive & Sidney.

The Welcome Home Group meeting house has acquired a ramp which allows those with mobility issues to attend meetings.

WatchEast has changed their meeting schedule as follows;

Women's Meeting on Friday 7-8, Men's Meeting on Friday & Sunday 7-8. Anyone interested in attending these meetings must go to an orientation beforehand. The most recent orientation was April 5th. You may call WatchEast to find out when the next orientation is scheduled.

Bridging the Gap is still active in WatchEast. To date Mary M, the Bridging the Gap Coordinator has received 30 community contact requests for individuals leaving WatchEast and relocating across Montana.

Corrections:

Scott W. & Don S. as well as several other men are taking meetings into the Richland County Jail every Wednesday.

Mary M. is taking meetings into the women at Richland County Jail every other Wednesday.

**District 12**

District 12 covers an area from Harlowton to Red Lodge, Big Timber to Laurel.

There are 30 meetings weekly. Our District meets the third Sunday of the month.

Over the last year we have opened a District Book Store to better serve our Groups.

District 12 has two events yearly the Mid-Winter Social and Fireman's Point Campout.

The Mid-Winter Social was held in Joliet Mt. February 14 and was supported by Districts 11 & 12. We had a Mid- Winter BBQ and Potluck Dinner, Speakers Virginia I. Joliet & Steve G.

Red Lodge did a great job sharing their experience, strength, and hope to a full house.

In August we will hold our Fireman's Point Campout, fun for the whole family. On Friday Night the Great Spam Cook-off for all the Spam Lovers (last year we had over 40 entries). Saturday Sober Old Biker Poker Run and meeting along the Stillwater River.

BBQ and Pot luck Dinner to follow with a Fireside Speaker Meeting & a Resentment Burning. Sometime during the weekend we will have the Delegate's Report and to close the weekend District 11 Cooks the Best Breakfast around, this you do not want to miss.

Dave R.

## Calendar of Events

### Assembly Dates 2015

September 18-20  
Fall Assembly  
Yogo Inn - Lewistown items

### Events

#### August

**15th** - Whitehall Group Potluck - WhiteHall  
**21st -23rd** - West Central Regional Conference - Casper, WY  
**21st -23rd** - Lower Yellowstone Soberfest, Lion's Youth Camp - Glendive  
**29th** - Delegate's report, Fellowship Hall - Bozeman  
**29th** - Rose Park Picnic, Rose Park - Billings

#### September

**11th-13th** - Bridging The Gap Workshop - Park City UT  
**11th-13th** - 17th Annual Men's Retreat, Camp Mimanagish,- McLeod  
**12th** - Prison Mini Conference, Montana State Prison - Deer Lodge  
**12th-13th** - Flathead Valley Fall Refresher, Creston Grange Hall - Kalispell  
**19th** - Montana State Prison Orientation - Montana State Prison - Deer Lodge  
**21st** - District 81 PI Informational Meeting - Missoula Public Library - Missoula  
**25th-27th** - Western Montana Men's Retreat - Camp Paxon, Seeley Lake

#### October

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

#### November

**21st** - Attitude of Gratitude, Red Lion Colonial Inn - Helena

#### January - 2016

**15th-17th** - Rule 62 Rendezvous - Mandan North Dakota

#### March - 2016

**18th-19th** - 20th Pockets of Enthusiasm - First Presbyterian Church - Helena

**For flyers and additional information, see the calendar on Area 40 website [aa-montana.org](http://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](mailto:calendar@aa-montana.org)**

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

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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

### CONTRIBUTIONS:

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