

The Triangle Newsletter

Gratitude

“There’s a mystic about AA I’ll never understand. I’ve read the fifth chapter and heard it I don’t know how many thousands of times. I’ve averaged probably three or four meetings a week for twenty five years. I still don’t know how AA works, it works, and I think it is that the keystone is gratitude.”

Louie F. - Clancy Montana

Groups Please Contribute
articles and subscriptions to the Triangle!
Next Issues topic - Area Inventory
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Secretary's Report

Motions passed at the 2015 Spring Assembly:

Public Information

"That Area 40 create and provide its district Bridging the Gap Coordinators with generic e-mail prefixes respective to their districts, maintained on Area 40's domain.

MOTION PASSED: 80 FOR AND 1 OPPOSED

Archives

"That the Archives committee will assume responsibility for the production, collection and reporting of our Assembly Evaluation Process." MOTION PASSED: 80 FOR, 1 OPPOSED

"That Area 40 form an ad-hoc committee to consider an alternative structure for the Area 40 Webmaster position and report back to the Fall 2015 Assembly."

MOTION PASSED: 91 FOR, 0 OPPOSED.

Thank you,
Julie R., Area Secretary/Registrar

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- District 91 CPC/PI planning committee is having workshop.
- AnswerNet issues- no invoices since Feb.
- No hotline complaints have reached Luke.
- Budget question-Area hotline 366.40 so far.
- Districts aren't getting AnswerNet invoices, so we don't know how much exactly we owe and we know that the service is working.
- Luke keeps plugging away.
- Any local number are the responsibility of the districts.
- Connie from Billings willing to go into the office. Luke will be doing a follow up on Monday and will contact Lonnie if he needs to go in.

Area 40 P.I. Chair., Luke S.

Where Are We At Financially

2014 # of Groups Contributing To Area	143/283 = 50.5%
# of Groups Contributing To Area thru August	103/274= 38%
2014 \$ contributed from Groups thru August	\$16,875.50
2015 \$ contributed from Groups thru August	\$18,362.01
Total 2015 income to Area 40 thru August	\$19,143.69*
Total 2014 income to Area 40 thru August	\$19,029.35
2015 Expenses thru August ARE	\$19,639.33
2014 expenses thru August WERE	\$21,073.59

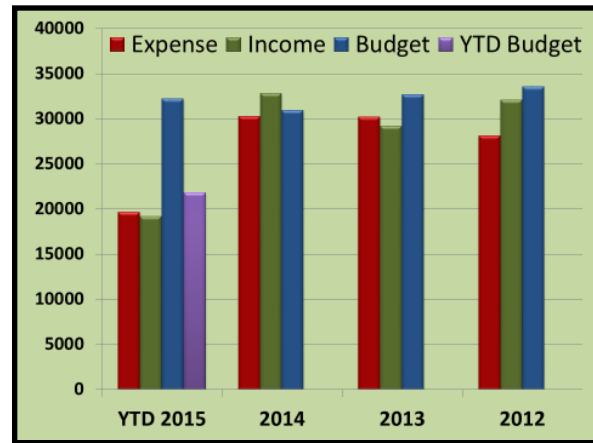
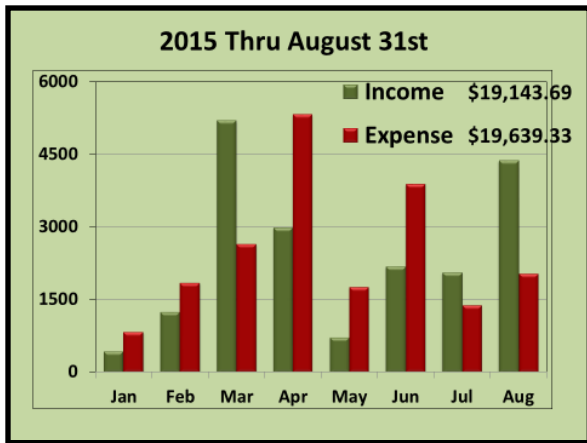
How Groups Support Area 40

- Area 40 2015 Budget = \$32,210.00
- Registered Groups in Area 40 = 274

THEN

- \$32,210.00 / 274 Groups =
- \$117.55 Cost per Group
- Still around \$5.64 Cost per Member

As of August 31st 103 GROUPS HAVE CONTRIBUTED



Archive's Chair Report Fall 2015

Hello everybody, I am glad to see all your smiling faces again! It's been a long busy summer for me, as I'm sure it's been for all of you. I hope you have all enjoyed yourselves, and had as much fun as you can handle for one season! I know many of you were able to attend the International Convention in Atlanta this summer, and I look forward to hearing more about it from you. Especially anyone who took the time to visit the Archives Exhibit, please find me and tell me all about it!

So the summer has passed much quicker than I would have liked, and I didn't get to do nearly all that I would have liked to. As far as archives work here in Area 40, I don't have much to report. I have kept busy working on the Assembly Evaluation, and I'll just say that it is proving to be a fairly time consuming task. It's a very interesting process to me, and I hope that it will be a useful tool in guiding us towards becoming a more effective service body. I am working on conducting some archival interviews of old timer's around the area, and I would love to have some assistance from anybody who might be interested, or who may have some suggestions on who I may interview from their district! Please don't leave the Assembly this weekend without chatting with me briefly about it, but if by chance you do, my email is Archives@aa-montana.org. I really look forward to hearing from you!

I am mostly excited to participate in our inventory process with all of you fine folks! I believe that we are taking the opportunity to stand shoulder to shoulder, and safeguard the growth of our Legacy as a fellowship in Area 40. The work that you are all here to do is ultimately aimed at preserving our future, and finding ways to be more useful and effective in reaching the still suffering alcoholic. As a doomed drunk with no way out who has somehow found myself walking the road to happy destiny with a multitude of amazing friends to share the journey, I'm a big fan of finding more doomed drunks to share this thing with. I'd like to thank you all for your contribution to the cause, and for your participation in my sobriety!

Respectfully Submitted, Mike D. Area 40 Archives Chair

DELEGATE'S REPORT

Delegate Report 2015 Fall Assembly - Libbie L. Panel 65

Since the Spring assembly I have attended:

- ☼ General Service Conference in New Your City
- ☼ Helena Round Up
- ☼ Delegate Reports
- ☼ Traveled 6000 miles of getting in the car
- ☼ International AAConvention in Atlanta
- ☼ West Central Regional forum - Meet Your Neighbors
- ☼ Regional Forum
- ☼ Seventh Tradition Beyond the Dollar

Upcoming after Fall Assembly:

- ☼ Havre Mini Conference
- ☼ Kalispell Round Up
- ☼ Non delegate AA Events and work Traveling

At the last assembly I concluded with thoughts about my son, this time I'll end with the other child. Our daughter was 4 years old when I got sober. She doesn't remember much prior to sobriety, and for that I am grateful. She is now a junior in college. We're very proud of her. She's travelled to many places including Ireland and Mexico. She's told me she didn't like Guinness, but has found that she doesn't mind tequila. I might have to keep her away from Russia or maybe an Eskimo with a bottle of scotch.

I thank you all for being there when I got here to give me this gift and for coming in after me, so I could give that gift away. I am grateful that you join me as we continue to do this work so that if and when those children and grandchildren of the world reach out for help, the hand of AA will always be there.

LITERATURE

Hello everyone,

My name is Jake L. and I am an alcoholic. It has been a pleasure to serve as the Area 40 Literature Committee Chair for this 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 for showing up and participation with all their lively discussion and input. 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. This year has been relatively quiet with little to no fanfare. I have taken a detailed inventory of the literature we have in stock and replenished this missing and low items, mostly pamphlets. Feel free to help yourself but please remember these are provided by Area 40.

Please feel free to visit the 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. Some of you may recall the discussion from a couple of years ago surrounding the pamphlet, "Many Paths to Spirituality", which was published last year. Please check it out as it is the culmination of some of the work we do at Assemblies and an example of the importance our input has on the effectiveness on carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic. The feedback of this Area, and all the others like it, are vital. You can also find all kinds of information at AA.org and our own www.aa-montana.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 Area 40 literature display, please let me know.

Thank you for allowing me to serve Area 40.
Jake L., Area 40 Literature Committee Chair

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 want to invite all of the area to renew your subscriptions or start a new subscription to the Grapevine Magazine, our meeting in print.

The subscription challenge is 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.

I was able to set up the Grapevine and La Viña display at District 41s Founders day Celebration. It was a successful event and the district grapevine display and sales table had many sales.

Later that month, I was honored to be a part of the Grapefest in District 61. The food, as always at any AA event from my experience, was fantastic and made with love. I was able to share about the subscription challenge and give a timeline history of Grapevine and La Viña. There was a great sharing with members of the fellowship, sharing ideas on how to get more grapevines into our communities. Thank you to those who brought food and participated.

Due to the West Central Regional Forum being just a state line away, I and many of Area 40 were able to make the trip. I was able to take part in the Grapevine break out. It was fun to say the least. We all took turns sharing ideas about story topics and how to put on a workshop. This has inspired me to plan a writing workshop at an event sometime in the next year. If your district would like me to participate in this manner at one of your events I would be honored to come.

Thank you for allowing me to serve. In service, Chris W.

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

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 have reviewed the CPC workbook, all related CPC Literature and the Power Point presentation to use for a CPC workshop. Please, please contact me if you have any questions about what a CPC presentation entails. I am willing to share this information with you, your groups or CPC committees. It is attraction not promotion, but I need to hear from you about your needs.

In August I attended the West Central Regional A.A. Forum hosted in Casper, Wyoming. This was very informative and I got to hear from many people that have a passion for Alcoholics Anonymous.

Again, as part of my service I am willing to visit other districts in Area 40 to contribute to events that would like some information about what CPC does and can do. 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 A.A. It is important that we continue to carry the message to non-alcoholic professionals about who we are and what we can offer to the still suffering alcoholic.

Yours in service,
Paul L. Area 40 CPC Chair

Treatment

Since spring assembly I've had the opportunity to travel and I am so grateful. I was invited by District 61 to participate in the Corrections Treatment Workshop the spring. I've had the opportunity to attend in past years but it was such an awesome experience to participate and I just wanted to thank the committee again for having me. I traveled to Hotlanta in July for the International which was unbelievable. I spoke on a YP panel we hit bottom too. I was able to hang with so many from our Area 40 but also have met new friends from around the world. In the spring I was asked to present a Bridging the Gap presentation at the Lower Yellowstone Soberfest this August and was able to travel to District 23 where I was welcomed by the committee which I wanted to thank them again as well for being so welcoming to not only me but my newcomer friend who was able to see service in work and is here now attending her first Area Assembly. Last weekend I drove to Park City Utah to attend the Bridging the Gap Weekend Workshop. It was so amazing to be surrounded by 75 men and women who serve in all areas of our service structure and to be in a focused group to brainstorm and share how we can do some of our most fundamental 12 step work, connecting men in women coming out of our various treatment and correctional facilities with our volunteers in our communities. I brought home so much information and new service pieces that I hope our Area may find to be useful.

District 61, 71, 72, and 81 are continuously bringing meetings and BTG presentations into the state facility Montana Chemical Dependency Center. Please contact the respective committees for more information or I'd be happy to get connected if you're interested in getting involved in this area of service work.

Currently I have an active list of our treatment chairs and Bridging the Gap chairs. DCMs, if you have any updated changes for new BTG coordinators or treatment chairs, please contact me. We currently have 40 cities in our bridging the Gap volunteer database. My hope is we can enlarge this database, 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 are 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. If you are from more rural areas or don't have a current treatment chair I'd love to talk to you this Assembly if you're interested in helping.

One of the needs I believe was apparent to me after last assembly was the need for service pieces for new treatment chairs and or BTG chair when starting their new positions and or developing their committee. I've brought service pieces which include a workbook for starting a BTG committee that I have amended to what I believe may fit our needs and am presenting them to the treatment committee. I also have converted a pdf version of a BTG volunteer workbook to an updated version which I will also present. My hope is that these service pieces will be further developed by the treatment committee and be useful for Area 40.

Treatment and or BTG workshops are a great way to educate, energize, and inspire volunteers, and I am willing to be of use or come attend. This fall I'll be attending the Fall Round up and hoping to visit GSO during Christmas for my road trip to New York. Besides this, I'd love to come visit your district. I actually love the winter time and am not afraid to drive so let's connect!

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

Archivist Report

Greetings everyone, my name is Earl F. and I am an alcoholic. I am also serving as the Area 40 Archivist. To open I would like to use a standing joke that was coined by Gerry R., "there is nothing new in Archives." I want to report that our collection in the repository in Ennis is well protected, dry and has been utilized for research and information since the last assembly. Our lease is paid through July of 2016 and our landlords are very pleased with us as tenants. I did go through a situation early in the summer when the local gas company changed ownership and as a part of cleaning up and transferring the accounts, it was determined that we had an outstanding bill of around \$275. After I went to the archives to make sure that the gas was not turned on, I visited with the new manager and explained that we do not use the heat that is available, as it is not needed, and that the gas was not even on. He explained that it was probably a computer glitch and that he would look into it and let me know. I received a statement about three weeks later that stated that we had a little over a \$200 credit. I called him and informed him of the inaccuracy and that I would like to get this corrected and he said he would look into it further. I haven't heard anything further from him, so I am guessing that it has been resolved. Our landlords are building another facility building to the South of our unit which will help to break the south wind in the winter. Construction traffic has created a little additional dust in the neighborhood, but other than that no adverse effects. Earl F., Area 40 - Archivist

Calendar

Assembly Dates 2016

February 1st
Spring Assembly
Agenda items Due
Special Needs Form Due

April 8-10
Spring Assembly
Yogo Inn - Lewistown

July 1st
Fall Assembly
Agenda items Due

September 16-18
Fall Assembly
Yogo Inn - Lewistown



Events

December

- 4th-5th - 28th Annual 1st Saturday - Big Horn Resort - Billings
- 4th-6th - Concepts In The West - Lake Poinsett Camp - Arlington SD
- 11th - Holiday Gathering - Trinity Lutheran Church - Hot Springs

January - 2016

- 15th-17th - Rule 62 Rendezvous - Mandan, ND
- 16th - MSP Orientation - Montana State Prison - Deer Lodge

February - 2016

- 20th - Mid Winter Social - Joliet Community Center - Joliet

March - 2016

- 4th-6th - 2016 West Central Regional Service Conference - Bismarck, ND
- 4th-6th - 29th Annual Whitefish Sober Ski - Whitefish Mountain Resort
- 18th-19th - 20th Pockets of Enthusiasm - First Presbyterian Church - Helena

May - 2016

- 6th-8th - 2016 Spring Roundup - Holiday Inn Parkside - Missoula



Subscribe to the Grapevine!

For flyers and additional information, see the 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

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

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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.

WHERE TO MAIL GROUP

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