

The Triangle Newsletter

Fall Assembly

Our Fall Area 40 Assembly takes up the business specific to our Area and elections take place during the second Fall Assembly of each rotation - which is this year. As you may, makes you "Weller" in little to do with what what you are willing to through the Area 40 Job

WE

or may not, know what Alcoholics Anonymous has you think but is more about do! So, please read Descriptions in this

issue. They are all coming up for election. Find one that is seasoned to your soul! Once you do, show up at the Fall Assembly and throw your hat into the ring and be a part of helping God's kids here in AA get done what they need to get done!

Tim M. - Triangle Editor

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AREA DELEGATE

The duties of the Area Delegate are:

- A. Will represent Area 40 at each AA General Service Conference, assuming whatever duties requested by the conference, and provide reports of activities at the GSC to the Area 40 Fellowship on a first come first served basis.
- B. Will split the Area with the Area Chair for visits to districts at least once during the two-year term of office. Expenses to be funded by Area 40.
- C. Will be funded to attend Area 40 Spring and Fall Roundups
- D. Will have the authority, along with the Area Chair, to poll the Area Committee to make important decisions that come up between assemblies and to let the Area Secretary do the polling. The item being polled must receive approval by a two-thirds majority of the Area Committee to pass. The Area Secretary will then notify the Area Committee of the results and will notify the Area Assembly at its next meeting.
- E. Is allowed spending flexibility within the proposed budget.

The suggested qualifications specific for the position of Area Delegate are described in the A.A. Service Manual (page S49 in the 2009-2010 edition). The suggested qualifications specific for the position of Area 40 Delegate are:

- A. A minimum of six years of sobriety.
- B. A candidate for delegate is required to have already served as an Area 40 Committee Member.
- C. Time available, not only for the week-long Conference meeting in April but for all the efforts needed before and after the Conference.
- D. The ability to make and take suggestions—and criticisms, too.
- E. Experience in chairing meetings.

For additional information or questions contact the current Area Delegate at delegate@aa-montana.org

AREA CHAIR

The duties of the Area Chair are:

- A. Will also serve as the Alternate Delegate.
- B. Will split the Area with the Area Delegate for visits to districts at least once during the two-year term of office. Expenses to be funded by Area 40.
- C. Will have the authority, along with the Area Delegate, to poll the Area Committee to make important decisions that come up between assemblies and to let the Area Secretary do the polling. The item being polled must receive approval by a two-thirds majority of the Area Committee to pass. The Area Secretary will then notify the Area Committee of the results and will notify the Area Assembly at its next meeting.
- D. Shall prepare the agenda for each upcoming Area Assembly with sufficient publishing time to allow distribution to DCMs and the Area Triangle.
- E. In the case of a vacancy, the Area Chair shall appoint a replacement as soon as possible, following input from the current area standing committee chairs. Any such appointment shall last for the remainder of the term, with the appointed chair being allowed to run for election to the same position at the next election assembly if so desired.
- F. Will, before each Area Assembly, send a letter to all Inter-groups in the Area, offering them the opportunity to give a 5 minute report at the upcoming Assembly.
- G. Will receive, or appoint a designee to receive, emails redirected from the Area website intended for chairs who have no personal email address.
- H. Will invite two past Delegates to participate at each Area Assembly. Invitations shall be made from a rotating list of those available.
- I. Will be responsible for scheduling and implementing an Area Inventory every four years starting in 2011. Refer to Area 40 2011 Spring Assembly Minuets "Archives Committee Report" for details.

The suggested qualifications specific for the position of Area Chair are described in the A.A. Service Manual (page S45 in the 2009-2010 edition). The suggested qualifications specific for the position of Area 40 Chair are:

- A. A minimum of six years of sobriety.
- B. A candidate for Area Chair is required to have already served as an Area 40 Committee Member.
- C. Need a sound understanding and appreciation of the Steps, Traditions, and the Concepts along with a good fund of experience gained through applying the guiding principles of the Steps, Traditions, and the Concepts successfully to local problems.
- D. Communication skills, leadership qualities, and sensitivity to the wishes of the local area are also important.
- E. Since the Area Chair also serves as the Alternate Delegate, a candidate for Area Chair should also meet the qualifications for the Area Delegate

For additional information or questions contact the current Area Chair at chair@aa-montana.org

AREA SECRETARY

The duties of the Area Secretary are:

- A. The Area Secretary shall take the official roll of all attendees at each Area Assembly. A roll call shall be made of all members of the Area Committee, while a sign in sheet will be provided to each DCM for all GSRs and visitors. This roll shall be used to determine a quorum of voting members prior to any voting.
- B. The Area Secretary shall keep a written record of the minutes of each Area Assembly and will provide a copy of those minutes to each member of the Area Committee within one month after the Area Assembly. An anonymity protected version of the minutes will be provided to the Area Webmaster for placement on the Area 40 website.
- C. The Area Secretary shall, at the request of the Area Chair or Delegate, poll the Area Committee on matters of immediate concern to Area 40 that come up between assemblies. The Area Secretary will then notify the Area Committee of the results and will notify the Area Assembly at its next meeting.
- D. Area 40 will pay for, or provide a computer to the Secretary for the performance of their duties. If the Secretary does not need a computer the Area will pay for and provide the necessary software to upgrade the personal computer of the Secretary. All equipment and software shall be returned to the Area after the terms of office are completed. It is not a requirement to own a computer to hold the position of Secretary.
- E. The Secretary will serve as the Area Registrar and be responsible for updating GSO's current database, Fellowship New Vision (FNV). As Registrar, the Secretary will update group, district and Area information and work closely with each DCM to assure the Area groups are receiving correspondence from the General Service Office.

The suggested qualifications specific for the position of Area Secretary are:

- A. A minimum of five years of sobriety.
- B. An interest in keeping a written record of the information provided and motions passed at the Area Assemblies.
- C. In addition to the computer requirements defined in the general section, this position also requires the ability to use the GSO member database software.
- D. A sense of order and the ability to capture the salient points, topics of discussion, and the essentials of what is happening at a business meeting.
- E. Sufficient time to do this time-consuming job that has deadlines.

For additional information or questions contact the current Area Secretary at secretary@aa-montana.org

AREA TREASURER

The duties of the Area Treasurer are:

- A. The Area Treasurer shall submit a budget for the Area for the next year at each Fall Assembly.
- B. The Area Treasurer shall submit a financial report at every assembly concerning the state of the Area's finances.
- C. The Area Treasurer will file all necessary legal and tax forms for the State of Montana and the Federal Government.
- D. Area 40 will pay for, or provide a computer to the Treasurer for the performance of their duties. If the Treasurer does not need a computer the Area will pay for and provide the necessary software to upgrade the personal computer of the Treasurer. All equipment and software shall be returned to the Area after the terms of office are completed. It is not a requirement to own a computer to hold the position of Treasurer.
- E. The Area Treasurer is authorized to disburse Area 40 funds in accordance with the following guidelines.
 - a. Any Area Committee member, or ad hoc committee chairperson who is not reimbursed in the capacity of G.S.R. or D.C.M. shall be reimbursed for all miles driven on Area 40 business, at a rate of \$0.05 per mile, as well as actual spent monies of food, gas and lodging. No money will be paid without proper receipts. The use of the Area Committee Expense Form is suggested.
 - b. The Area will fund the Area Delegate to attend Spring and Fall Roundups.
 - c. The Area will also pay the expenses of two past delegates to attend Area Assembly. This does not include the immediate past delegate whose expenses are also paid by the Area.
 - d. The Area will fund the Area Delegate, at the GSO suggested level of Area contribution for expenses, to attend the General Service Conference each spring.

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AREA TREASURER

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- e. The Area will fund the Area Delegate for expenses to attend the annual meeting of the West Central Region.
- f. The Area will fund the Area 40 Website. The funding will not exceed \$300.00 per year.
- g. The Area will pay the rent for the Area 40 Archives Repository.
- h. The Area will pay for and provide a computer for each of the following positions; Area Delegate, Area Secretary, Area Treasurer, Area Archivist and Triangle Editor. If the office holders do not need a computer, the Area will pay for and provide the necessary software to upgrade the personal computers of the office holders to be able to fulfill their duties. All equipment and software shall be returned to the Area after the terms of office are completed.
- i. The Area will fund the Area Assembly in Lewistown biannually. Arrangements for meeting space will be the responsibility of the Area Chairperson.
- j. Area 40 will implement an 800 number, utilizing the services and contract from a reliable service provider. The Area 40 PI chair will forward the itemized bill received from the service provider to the Area 40 treasurer for payment up to the amount of \$250.00 a month. In the event the monthly itemized total amount is over \$250.00 the Area 40 PI chair will bill each district on a prorated basis.

The suggested qualifications specific for the position of Area Treasurer are described in the A.A. Service Manual (page S46 in the 2009-2010 edition). The suggested qualifications specific for the position of Area 40 Treasurer are:

- A. A minimum of five years of sobriety.
- B. Sufficient organizational skills to keep good records.
- C. Some accounting or bookkeeping and budgeting experience is useful.
- A. In addition to the computer requirements defined in the general section this positions also requires the ability to use electronic spreadsheets, and financial software.
- B. Persuasiveness, firmness, and diplomacy will help the treasurer do the job.

For additional information or questions contact the current Area Treasures at treasurer@aa-montana.org

ARCHIVES:

The duties of the Archives Chair are:

- A. The Archives Chairperson will chair all meetings of their Standing Committee, maintain minutes of the meetings, and prepare a written and oral report of committee activities for the Area Assembly.
- B. The Archives Committee is established as the official archival agency of Area 40.
- C. The objectives of the Archives Committee shall be the collection, preservation, and administration of the official records of the Area, as well as personal papers and other items donated to the Archives which document and/or describe the history and activities of AA in Area 40.
- D. The Archives Committee promotes interest in Area Archives and encourages District Archives Chairs in the collection of historical information and items.
- E. The Archives Committee considers all business in Archives which appears on the General Service Conference Agenda.
- F. As an Alternate Assignment, the Archives Committee shall consider all agenda items dealing with Structure and Policy in Area 40 as assigned by the Area Chair.
- G. The Archives Committee shall, with the Area Archivist and Area Advisor, maintain and update the Area 40 Past Actions document during the second year of each service rotation, making it available to the Area 40 website after each update.
- H. The Archives Committee shall update the Area 40 Policy and Procedure Manual after each Assembly and make it available to the Area 40 website.
- I. The Archives committee will assume responsibility for the production, collection and reporting of our Assembly Evaluation Process.

The suggested qualifications specific for the position of Archives Chairperson are:

- A. 4 years of continuous sobriety would provide a good foundation in service to be successful in an Area position.
- B. An interest in the history of AA in Area 40 and a desire to learn how this history can be used to help carry AA's message to the still suffering alcoholic.
- C. The ability to lead and facilitate a committee, presentation meetings, and workshops.

For additional information or questions contact the current Area Archives Chair at archives@aa-montana.org

COOPERATION WITH PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC)

The duties of the CPC Chair are:

- A. The CPC Chairperson will chair all meetings of their Standing Committee, maintain minutes of the meetings, and prepare a written and oral report of committee activities for the Area Assembly.
- B. The purpose of the CPC committee is to provide a clearinghouse of information in Area 40 with respect to CPC, coordinating the exchange of ideas and resources between districts and concentrating on providing information about A.A. to those who have contact with alcoholics through their profession. To provide experience and assistance in developing projects that will further the carrying of the A.A. message through cooperation with members of the professional community.
- C. The CPC Committee will consider all Area Agenda items in CPC which are channeled through the Area Chair. The Committee will also consider all business which appears on the General Service Conference Agenda concerning CPC.
- D. As an Alternate Assignment the CPC Committee will consider all business from the Trustees Committee which appears on the General Service Conference Agenda.
- E. The CPC Committee will read and become familiar with the CPC workbook and all related materials from the General Service Office.
- F. Work with District CPC Chairs to find productive and creative ways of cooperating without affiliating with third parties who may come in contact with future members of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The suggested qualifications specific for the position of CPC Chairperson are:

- A. 4 years of continuous sobriety would provide a good foundation in service to be successful in an Area position.
- B. An interest in working with CPC to conduct twelfth step work in Area 40.
- C. The ability to lead and facilitate a committee, presentation meetings, and workshops.

For additional information or questions contact the current Area CPC Chair at cpc@aa-montana.org



CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

The duties of the Correctional Chair are:

- A. The Correctional Facilities Chairperson will chair all meetings of their Standing Committee, maintain minutes of the meetings, and prepare a written and oral report of committee activities for the Area Assembly.
- B. The purpose of the Corrections Committee is to lead and coordinate the work of individual A.A. members, groups, and districts to carry the A.A. message to alcoholics in correctional facilities located in Area 40. The Corrections Committee acts as a clearinghouse for the exchange of ideas and resources between Districts and all Area 40 correctional facilities.
- C. The Corrections Facilities Committee will read and become familiar with the Corrections workbook and all related materials from the General Service Office.
- D. The Corrections Facilities Committee Chairperson shall establish a working relationship with the Corrections Staff person at the General Service Office.
- E. The Corrections Facilities Committee Chairperson will ensure that Pink Can funds are used to supply AA literature to alcoholics who are detained in a facility as the result of a law enforcement action, and will report, in writing, to the Area at each Assembly an accounting of funds received related to the Pink Can Fund.
- F. The Corrections Committee will assist in placing A.A. literature in Correctional Facilities.
- G. The Corrections Facilities Committee will consider all Area agenda items concerning corrections which are channeled through the Area Chair. The Committee will also consider all business concerning corrections which appears on the General Service Conference Agenda.
- H. As a secondary assignment, the Corrections Facilities Committee will consider all business from the International and Regional Forums Committee which appears on the General Service Conference Agenda.

The suggested qualifications specific for the position of Correctional Facilities Chairperson are:

- A. 4 years of continuous sobriety would provide a good foundation in service to be successful in an Area position.
- B. Previous corrections committee work is strongly encouraged.
- C. An interest in working with correctional facilities to conduct twelfth step work in Area 40.
- D. The ability to lead and facilitate a committee, presentation meetings, and workshops.
- E. Basic spreadsheet and/or bookkeeping skill to account for and report Pink Can contributions and spending.

For additional information or questions contact the current Area Corrections Chair at corrections@aa-montana.org

GRAPEVINE

The duties of the Grapevine Chair are:

- A. The Grapevine Chairperson will chair all meetings of their Standing Committee, maintain minutes of the meetings, and prepare a written and oral report of committee activities for the Area Assembly.
- B. The purpose of the Grapevine Committee is to lead and coordinate the work of individual A.A. members, groups and districts to read, subscribe to, write for and utilize the Grapevine. The Committee shall be a clearinghouse of information in Area 40 with respect to the Grapevine, coordinating the exchange of ideas and resources between districts.
- C. G6.3 The Grapevine Committee shall read and become familiar with the Grapevine workbook and all related materials from the General Service Office.
- D. The Committee shall have guidelines for writing articles for the Grapevine on hand at all Area functions.
- E. The Grapevine Committee shall consider all business in Grapevine which appears on the General Service Conference Agenda.
- F. As an alternate assignment the Committee shall consider all business from Policy and Admissions which appears on the General Service Conference Agenda.

The suggested qualifications specific for the position of Grapevine Chairperson are:

- A. 4 years of continuous sobriety would provide a good foundation in service to be successful in an Area position.
- B. Have a working knowledge of the A.A. Grapevine, Inc., and how it differs from A.A. World Services.
- C. Have a working knowledge of the literature that is available from A.A. Grapevine, Inc.
- D. The ability to lead and facilitate a committee, presentation meetings, and workshops.

For additional information or questions contact the current Area Grapevine Chair at grapevine@aa-montana.org

LITERATURE

The duties of the Literature Chair are:

- A. The Literature Chairperson will chair all meetings of their Standing Committee, maintain minutes of the meetings, and prepare a written and oral report of committee activities for the Area Assembly.
- B. The purpose of the Literature Committee is to lead and coordinate the work of individual A.A. members, groups, and districts to utilize the literature of Alcoholics Anonymous. It also provides a clearinghouse of information in Area 40 with respect to all literature available through our General Service Office.
- C. The Literature Committee shall review all proposed changes to A.A. literature.
- D. The Literature Committee will have available one (1) copy of all A.A. literature from the G.S.O. for viewing.
- E. The Literature Committee will keep the Area informed as to current literature availability, pricing and ordering specifics.
- F. The Literature Committee will provide contacts and / or resources on how to order AA Literature requested by Area Committees.
- G. The Literature Committee will consider all Area agenda items in Literature which are channeled through the Area Chair and all business in Literature which appears on the General Service Conference Agenda.

The suggested qualifications specific for the position of Literature Chair are:

- A. 4 years of continuous sobriety would provide a good foundation in service to be successful in an Area position.
- B. Have a working knowledge of the literature that is available from A.A. World Services.
- C. Become familiar with the content of A.A. General-Service-Conference-approved literature.
- D. The ability to lead and facilitate a committee, presentation meetings, and workshops.

For additional information or questions contact the current Area Literature Chair at literature@aa-montana.org

Excerpts from A.A. Literature, materials and Grapevine are reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services and Grapevine Inc.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

The duties of the PI Chair are:

- A. The Public Information Chairperson will chair all meetings of their Standing Committee, maintain minutes of the meetings, and prepare a written and oral report of committee activities for the Area Assembly.
- B. The purpose of the Public Information Committee is to keep the Area, Districts, Groups and individual A.A. members informed of overall Public Information guidelines and current issues suggested by the General Service Conference so that the A.A. Districts and Groups may more effectively carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.
- C. The Public Information Committee will provide experience and assistance in developing projects that will further the carrying of the A.A. message by providing the public with accurate information about our Fellowship.
- D. The Public Information Committee works with District P.I. Chairs to find productive and creative ways of cooperating without affiliating with various avenues of media in Area 40.
- E. The Public Information Committee will offer any press releases and "for the public" videos, as well as other materials made available from the General Service Office, to the media in Area 40.
- F. The Public Information Committee shall consider all Area agenda items in Public Information which are channeled through the Area Chair and all business in Public Information which appears on the General Service Conference Agenda.
- G. As an alternate assignment the Public Information Committee shall consider all business from the Report and Charter Committee which appears on the General Service Conference Agenda.
- H. Also, as an alternate assignment, the Public Information Committee shall consider all business pertaining to the website operated by Area 40 Inc.
- I. The Website shall be registered with the InterNIC as <http://www.aamontana.org> in the name of the Area 40 Assembly.
- J. The Public Information Committee will oversee the Area Website contents, ever mindful of our Tradition of anonymity.
- K. It is understood that any changes, alterations, or matters of policy concerning the website will remain channeled through the Public Information Committee and the Area 40 Assembly.
- L. The website will contain anonymity protected versions of the Area 40 Assembly agenda, minutes, Triangle, and financial report.
- M. The website may contain an event page similar to that of the A.A. Grapevine, Box 459, and the Area Triangle.
- N. The website will contain web-links to a district level webpage. Also, each district is allowed the responsibility of updating their respective 800 number, contact lists and meeting schedules.
- O. The Webmaster is also allowed to create a page on the website that allows fliers and registration forms for upcoming A.A. events to be posted in a downloadable format.
- P. The website will contain "dummy" email addresses for all Area 40 Committee Chairs, Officers, DCMs, Triangle Editor and Archivist, which will then be forwarded to their personal email addresses. Email intended for those who do not have a personal email address will be redirected to the Area Chair or his designee. It may also contain additional email addresses for purposes of conducting Area 40 business
- Q. The website will contain current editions of the Area 40 Policy and Procedures Manual and the Area 40 Past Actions Document.
- R. The website will be used as secure repository for the collection of Bridging the Gap (BTG) Temporary Contact Information from each district in Area 40.
- S. The webmaster will create and provide its Bridging the Gap (BTG) Coordinators with generic e-mail prefixes respective to their districts, maintained on Area 40's domain.
- T. The website will add Montana AA Intergroups as entities that can submit events to the Area 40 Webmaster for inclusion on the calendar of the Area 40 website
- U. Area 40 will implement a toll free number, utilizing the services of a reliable answering service. The Area 40 PI chair will forward the itemized bill received from the answering service to the Area 40 treasurer for payment up to the amount of \$250.00 a month. In the event the monthly itemized total amount is over \$250.00 the Area 40 PI chair will bill each district on a prorated basis. The Area 40 Public Information Chair will make reports regarding utilization and expense at each Area Assembly.

The suggested qualifications specific for the position of Public Information Chair are:

- A. 4 years of continuous sobriety would provide a good foundation in service to be successful in an Area position.
- B. An interest in working with Public Information to conduct twelfth step work in Area 40.
- C. The ability to lead and facilitate a committee, presentation meetings, and workshops.
- D. Act as the contact point and perform the duties necessary to maintain the Area 40 statewide hotline number working closely with the Area Webmaster to accomplish this.

For additional information or questions contact the current PI Chair at pi@aa-montana.org

TREATMENT FACILITIES

The duties of the Treatment Chair are:

- A. The Treatment Facilities Chairperson will chair all meetings of their Standing Committee, maintain minutes of the meetings, and prepare a written and oral report of committee activities for the Area Assembly.
- B. The purpose of the Treatment Facilities Committee is to lead and coordinate the work of individual A.A. members, groups and districts to carry the A.A. message to alcoholics in Treatment facilities located in Area 40.
- C. The Treatment Facilities Committee shall read and become familiar with the Treatment Facilities Workbook and all related materials from the General Service Office.
- D. 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.
- E. The Treatment Facilities Committee shall consider all Area agenda items on Treatment Facilities which are channeled through the Area 40 Chair and all business on Treatment Facilities which appears on the general Service Conference Agenda.
- F. As an alternate assignment the Treatment Facilities Committee shall consider all business on the Agenda which appears on the General Service Conference Agenda.

The suggested qualifications specific for the position of Treatment Chair are:

- A. 4 years of continuous sobriety would provide a good foundation in service to be successful in an Area position.
- B. An interest in working with treatment facilities to conduct twelfth step work in Area 40.
- C. The ability to lead and facilitate a committee, presentation meetings, and workshops.

For additional information or questions contact the current Treatment Chair at treatment@aa-montana.org

TRIANGLE EDITOR

The duties of the Triangle Editor are:

- A. The Triangle is Area 40's newsletter. It shall be used for service within Area 40, remaining faithful in all it does to AA's singleness of purpose.
- B. The Triangle editor shall be responsible for the publication of eight editions annually, encouraging Area Committee members, GSRs, and other AA members to contribute articles for publication.
- C. The Area will underwrite the cost of the newsletter when necessary, the income from paid subscriptions will be treated as a reduction of the production expense.
- D. There shall be no paid advertising in the Triangle and a calendar of events, in the style currently used by the Grapevine and Box 459, should be used in each edition.
- E. Each issue shall contain an anonymity statement and confidentiality statement.
- F. One copy of each issue shall be sent to each group in the Area regardless of subscription status. Copies shall also be sent to each Area 40 Committee member, each West Central Regional Delegate, the AA Grapevine, GSO and the West Central Regional Newsletter.
- G. The Triangle shall be distributed via US Postal Service Business Mailing. Area 40 has established non-profit status and only a transfer of the permit is needed when changing editors. Each mailing shall utilize “Return Service Requested” to allow for maintaining mailing lists.
- H. Mailing lists shall be maintained for groups and individuals. Upon the expiration of individual subscriptions, the subscription shall be removed if not renewed by the individual.
- I. The Area 40 Treasurer shall handle all finances for the Triangle.
- J. The Triangle Editor shall be prudent in regards to all costs associated with the Triangle.
- K. The Triangle Editor shall keep Area 40 apprised of any changes in subscription rates.
- L. If necessary, Area 40 will provide with a computer, printer, scanner and all software needed to produce the Triangle.
- M. An anonymity protected version of each issue shall be provided to the Area 40 Webmaster for publication on the Area 40 website.

The suggested qualifications specific for the position of Triangle Editor are:

- A. 4 years of continuous sobriety would provide a good foundation in service to be successful in an Area position.
- B. An interest in helping communication among Area 40 service entities through a newsletter.
- C. In addition to the computer requirements defined in the general section this position also requires the ability to use electronic publishing and spreadsheet software.
- D. Sufficient time to carry out publication responsibilities on a schedule.

For additional information or questions contact the current Triangle Chair at triangle@aa-montana.org

Readers Speak

I just read the latest issue of the Triangle and I have request. You reported that the literature committee took no action on the plain language big book. You may have missed this, the committee in an additional consideration asked the trustees literature committee to further explore if there is a need for a plain language book. There may be some who read the Triangle that believe there is a need for such a book.

Submitted by Carole B.

AREA 40 AGENDA ITEM PROPOSAL FORM

- (1) **Describe the proposal:**
District #42 would like to relinquish one of their standing committee positions due to declining membership in the District. We would like to do this starting this rotation.
- (2) **List the proposal benefits:**

- (3) **Cost Estimate:**
None
- (4) **List additional background material(s) included with the proposal:**

- (5) **How the proposal originated:**
Discussions at District meetings regarding finances
- (6) **Why the proposal should be considered:**
To allow other Districts with more members chances for positions on committees.
- (7) **Final comments:**

Thank you for allowing us to propose this to Area 40.

AREA 40 AGENDA ITEM PROPOSAL TITLE: PROPOSE STANDING AGENDA ITEM TREATMENT COMMITTEE

- (1) **Describe the proposal:**
Consider that the Area 40 Treatment Committee, which has the Conference Agenda Committee as its secondary assignment, have a standing agenda item on its fall assembly agenda to consider recommending a theme and discussion/workshop topics in response to the GSO request. This request is communicated to the Area Delegates, usually in August.
- (2) **List the proposal benefits:**
 - (a) gives Area 40 the opportunity to discuss topics and issues that may help us carry the message to other alcoholics and to communicate with each other about topics that may be vital to the fellowship's future
 - (b) provides an opportunity for Area 40 groups to participate and experience the year-round conference process
 - (c) the theme and topics give an opportunity to discuss and consider issues that may not be policy issues, or need thorough consideration and discussion, often difficult conversations, as a result of our changing world
 - (d) the Area Delegate and/or Treatment Committee Chair will be relieved of submitting (or forgetting to submit) this agenda item for each fall assembly as the GSO request typically is mailed in August
- (3) **Cost Estimate:**
\$0 - it is the business of the Treatment Committee to discuss Conference Agenda Committee business; the proposal would not require travel expense and background material printing would be of nominal cost
- (4) **List additional background material(s) included with the proposal:**
 - (a) Agenda from Fall 2014 Assembly:

Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities – Area 40

- A. Review assembly report of the Area 40 Treatment Chair
- B. Consider recommending a theme and discussion/workshop/presentation topics for the 2016 General Service Conference
- C. Review the General Guidelines and Qualifications for Area 40 Trusted Servants, and those for Treatment, and discuss the activities of the Treatment committee during the 2013-14 rotation.

- (b) Themes/topic for previous conference 1985 - 2014 (attached)
 - (c) 2014 Conference Agenda Committee request for Theme Suggestions
 - (d) Area 40 Theme Suggestions from 2014 Fall Assembly
- (5) **How the proposal originated:** Participating in the Conference, I realized this would be a way for AA members in Area 40 to participate in the conference process and to consider and discuss topics of importance to AA as a whole. I submitted the agenda item in 2014; I forgot to submit it in 2015 and realized a standing agenda item would assure there would be an opportunity for this discussion each year.
- (6) **Why the proposal should be considered:** See (2) List Benefits above
- (7) **Final comments:** NONE

**AREA 40 AGENDA ITEM PROPOSAL
TITLE: RECOMMEND 2018 CONFERENCE THEME**

- (1) **Describe the proposal:**
Consider recommending a theme and discussion/workshop/presentation topics for the 2018 General Service Conference
- (2) **List the proposal benefits:**
- (a) recognizes topics of vital interest and importance to be considered by the 2017 Conference Agenda Committee for the 2018 General Service Conference ; results will determine presentation topics at the 2017 Conference and will be used by groups and districts and areas throughout the U.S. and Canada as focus for speaker events, workshops, meetings, Roundups.
 - (b) gives Area 40 the opportunity to discuss topics and issues that may help us carry the message to other alcoholics and to communicate with each other about topics that may be vital to the fellowship's future
 - (c) provides an opportunity to participate and experience the year-round conference process
 - (d) gives an opportunity to discuss and consider issues that may not be policy issues, but need thorough consideration and discussion, often difficult conversations, as a result of our changing world
- (3) **Cost Estimate:**
\$0 - part of the Treatment Committee agenda (Conference Agenda committee secondary assignment to the Treatment Committee)
- (4) **List additional background material(s) included with the proposal:**
- (a) Theme and topics for the 2017 Conference
 1. Theme: "Supporting Our Future."
 2. Discussion/presentation topics:
 - a. Growth
 - 1) Diversity - Outreach and Attraction
 - 2) Safety - An Important Consideration
 - 3) Communication - Today and Tomorrow
 - b. Participation
 - 1) Fellowship vs Membership
 - 2) Leadership: "I am Responsible..."
 - 3) Is your Voice Heard?
 - c. Contributions:
 - 1) Spirituality and Money
 - 2) Fully Self-Supporting Our Obligations
 - 3) Apathy and Power of the Purse
 - (b) Themes/topic for previous conference 1985 - 2014 (attached)
 - (c) Memo: 2014 Conference Agenda Committee Request for 2016 Conference Theme Suggestions (*copy of 2016 request not available at submission of agenda item July 1; likely available mid=August*)
 - (d) Area 40 2014 Fall Assembly Conference Theme Suggestions
- (5) **How the proposal originated:** Participating in the Conference, I realized this would be a way for AA members in Area 40 to participate in the conference process
- (6) **Why the proposal should be considered:** See (2) List Benefits above
- (7) **Final comments:** NONE

Calendar of Events

2016 Fall Assembly Dates

September 16-18

Yogo Inn - Lewistown

Events

August

- 19th-21st** - Lower Yellowstone SoberFest - Makoshika State Park - Glendale
- 19th-21st** - Boulder River Men's Retreat - Camp Mimanagish - McLeod
- 19th-21st** - Park County Intergroup Campout - Pine Creek Campground - Livingston
- 25th-28th** - 2016 Northwest Fellowship of the Spirit - Fort Worden - Port Townsend, Washington
- 28th** - Bozeman's Young People's Kickball - Kirk Park - Bozeman

September

- 2nd - 4th** - 33rd Annual Ray of Hope Camporee - Camp Marshall - Flathead Lake
- 10th** - District 41 Corrections Workshop - Peace Lutheran Church - Great Falls
- 17th** - 2016 Prison Mini Conference - Montana State Prison- Deer Lodge
- 17th** - MT State Prison Orientation - Montana State Prison- Deer Lodge
- 23rd-25th** - Havre Mini-Conference - 2229 5th Ave. - Havre
- 23rd-25th** - Brothers In Action Men's Retreat - Camp Paxton - Seeley Lake
- 23rd-25th** - Thoroughly Followed Our Path, Journey Through the 12 Steps - Red Lion - Wenatchee, WA
- 30th - October 2nd** - Fall Roundup - Bozeman

October

- 8th** - "Do The Do's and Don't The Don't's" - Peg M. from Bellevue, NE - Helena Indian Alliance Gym - Helena
- 8th-9th** - 22nd Annual Flathead Valley Fall Refresher - Creston Grange Hall, 35 Creston Rd., Kalispell
- 22nd** - HOW Group Speaker Event - Fellowship Hall - Bozeman

November

- 20th** - 62nd Annual Attitude of Gratitude, Radisson Colonial Hotel - Helena

May 2017

- 19th-21st** - 2017 Spring Roundup - Big Horn Resort - Billings

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