

# Area 40 Triangle

A Newsletter for AA in the State of Montana

Issue 4—July 2018

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## Original Manuscript News

Dear General Service Conference members,

I am writing to inform you that the General Service Office was recently contacted by a representative of the current owner of the 1939 Printer's Copy Manuscript of Alcoholics Anonymous, inquiring as to our interest in exhibiting the Manuscript on loan at G.S.O.

Expressing gratitude for the offer, I indicated that our existing G.S.O. Archives policy precludes us from accepting or displaying any archival material on loan. Thereby, we would have to decline the opportunity to exhibit the Manuscript.

In bringing this matter to your attention, I have also informed the General Service Board and the A.A. World Services Board of this inquiry and my response.

I hope that you are having a great season of service as you report out to the Fellowship the work of our productive 2018 Conference, and, as you make such reports, please feel free to share this latest information.

In fellowship and service,

*Greg*

The Fall 2018 Area Assembly will be held in Great Falls  
September 21-23, 2018.

Holiday Inn - Great Falls  
For reservations, use group code : A4A

Pay for Your Newsletter Online!

Groups are encouraged to be self-supporting for their Triangle subscriptions. Check it out on the Area 40 website @ AA-MONTANA.ORG



**Area 40 Fall Assembly Agenda**  
Holiday Inn --- Great Falls, MT September 21-23, 2018

**FRIDAY SESSION**

8:00-10:00 Mansfield Room: Assembly Attendees Welcome Session – led by the Delegate.

8:00- 9:00 Russell Room: Area Standing Committee of Area Chairs and DCMs  
Welcome Session led by the Area Chair and Area Advisor.

**SATURDAY SESSION** Mansfield / Aronson Room

7:30-8:00 Sign in: 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)

8:00-9:00 Welcome Serenity Prayer, Traditions, Concepts, Housekeeping  
Orientation to the Assembly by the Delegate, Gerry R.  
Roll Call – Past Actions by Area Secretary, Melinda W.  
Financial Highlights by Area Treasurer, Julie R.  
Triangle Report by Triangle Editor, Rebecca S.  
Chair Report by Area Chair, Paul L.  
DCM Reports: (5 minute limit; Hard stop at 9:00. Continued in afternoon)

9:00-9:45 Election Orientation/Posting Nominees for Delegate – Libbie L.

9:45-10:00 Coffee Break

10:00-12:00 Standing Committee Meetings:  
Archives/Area 40 Structure & Policy Russell Room  
CPC/Trustees Executive Suite “B” Room  
Corrections/International Conventions-Regional Forums Missouri Room  
Finance Boardroom (2nd Floor)  
Grapevine/Policy & Admissions Lobby Suite “A” Room  
Literature Lobby Suite “B” Room  
Public Information/Report and Charter & Website Executive Suite “A” Room  
Treatment Facilities/Agenda/Bridging the Gap Trigg Room

10:00-12:00 Workshops: (For those not attending committee meetings) Aronson Room

Workshop: Topic – TBA - Led by Andrew W. Past West Central Regional Trustee & Past Area 40 Delegate from Panel 57

Workshop: Topic – TBA - Led by Tom A. Current West Central Regional Trustee

12:00-1:00 Recess for Lunch

1:00-5:00 Elections—Presided by Area Advisor Libbie L.

- \* Area Officers: Elected by the Third Legacy Procedure as outlined in the AA Service Manual.
  - o Delegate
  - o Area Chair
  - o Area Treasurer
  - o Area Secretary

- \* Area 40 Service Chairs: Elected by nomination and simple majority.
  - o Archives, Structure and Policy in Area 40
  - o Bridging the Gap
  - o Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC), Trustees
  - o Corrections, International and Regional Forums
  - o Grapevine, Policy & Admissions (GSC)
  - o Literature,
  - o Public Information (PI), Report & Charter (GSC) & Website (Area 40)
  - o Treatment, Agenda & Bridging the Gap (Area40)
  - o Triangle Editor

2:30-2:45 Coffee Break

2:45-5:00 Resume Elections. When Elections are complete we will begin the Floor Assembly:

DCM Reports followed by the Committee Reports

- Archives/Area 40 Policy & Structure: .....Raymona K-A.
- Archivist Report .....Earl F.
- Treatment Facilities/Agenda.....James W.
- CPC/Trustees .....Luke S.
- Corrections/International Conventions-Regional Forums.....Hugh M.
- Finance .....Julie R.
- Grapevine/Policy & Admissions .....Jake H.
- Literature .....Lance W.
- Public Information/Report and Charter & Website .....Tim K
- Webmaster Report .....Brandon M.

5:00-7:00 Recess for Dinner

7:00-8:00 Trustee and Past Trustee Sharing

8:00-8:45 Resume Floor Assembly with DCM Reports and begin Committee Reports

8:45-9:00 Coffee Break

9:00-10:00 GSR Breakout Ask-It-Basket & Sharing Led by: Andrew W. Aronson Rm  
DCM Breakout Ask-It-Basket & Sharing Led by: Tom A. Mansfield Rm

**SUNDAY SESSION** Reports: 5-minute time limit - Floor comments have a 3-minute time limit

8:00-8:30 Roundup Reports

Intergroup Reports

8:30-9:00 Past Delegate Sharing – Libbie L.

9:00-9:45 Floor Assembly — Committee Reports, Motions, and Discussion (cont.)

9:45-10:00 Coffee Break

10:15-12:00 Floor Assembly — Committee Reports, Motions, and Discussion (cont.) followed by general sharing as time allows

## Leadership and the Spirit of Rotation

By Paul L., Area Chair

The time is coming in this service cycle to choose members that are willing to serve in the General Service Structure; in individual Groups, in Districts and at the Area level. The Service Manual talks about “Stimulating Interest in General Service” in the early pages of the Manual. It continues on to describe what general service looks like at these various levels. While most A.A. members are interested in their own sobriety, in serving their home group, and in helping to carry the message of A.A. by helping drunks on a one-on-one basis the work of General Service has much the same objective, that of “carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.” The connection may not always be clear but participation in general service can be vastly rewarding in personal development of our sober lives and in carrying the message through Twelfth Step work. The major benefit I have realized for myself is that it is teaching me how “to play well with others”.

The leadership pep talk that Bill Wilson gives us in Concept Nine is a sort of “follow me boys, this is what leadership is about, and this is the type of leader we need in A.A.” He talks about the spirit of rotation as “furnishing our service structure... has to be a continuous activity”, that we need to continuously find the right people to fulfill the service needs of A.A. Not by selecting people for service because it would be good for them, but to select people that would fulfill the needs of A.A.

Bill goes on in Concept Nine to further describe the specific leadership qualities an individual ought to have. He does this through an article he wrote for the Grapevine in 1959. LEADERSHIP IN A.A.: EVER A VITAL NEED He talks about the ability to compromise, about the give and take of leadership and how that is hard for a bunch of all or nothing drunks like us. He talks about not leading by mandate but to lead by example. He says that a good leader can listen carefully to all sides of an issue because regardless of the way it is presented the other person may have some truth in what they are saying. The other attribute of a leader is someone who is able to make good estimates for the future, someone who has vision.

In summary, Bill says that the attributes of a good A.A. servant include:

Tolerance,

Responsibility,

Flexibility and

Vision.



As you go into your various meetings to select new trusted servants, keep in mind what attributes of leadership these people have. Which of them have something to bring to A.A. that will improve our ability to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.



Corrections from the last Triangle:

- The Ad Hoc Committee Chair is Sherry C. , not Sherry M. from District 81 (Missoula). Also, Ken S. from District 41 (Lewistown) was omitted as a committee member.

AREA 40 PI/ANSWER NET REPORT FOR JUNE 2018

Program 406-248-2337 into your phone!

Greetings Area 40 :

Here is the hotline report for June 2018. Again, most of the calls answered in 5 calls or less, but we did have one take 13 calls. Please be sure to contact Brandon M. our Area 40 webmaster and get the password/username to enter the volunteer list for your District on the internet that Answer Net uses, then you can update/delete/add information and names. If you need help or have questions please call Brandon or myself. Also into your phone contacts so when you get a call from the Hotline that number will pop up on caller ID and you know to answer or call them back. THE BILL WAS \$242.50, AGAIN UNDER THE \$250.00 AREA BUDGET.

CALL LOG: 16 TOTAL CALLS.

DISTRICT 81: 5 CALLS VOLUNTEERS ALL REACHED

DISTRICT 72: 6 CALLS, ALL VOLUNTEERS REACHED,

1 REPEAT CALLER, 1 STATEMENT ABOUT MEETING NO LONGER GOING NEEDS REMOVED FROM WEBSITE.

DISTRICT 11: 3 CALLS, ALL VOLUNTEERS REACHED. 1 TOOK 9 CALLS.

DISTRICT 44: 1 CALL VOLUNTEER REACHED.

DISTRICT 23: 1 CALL, VOLUNTEER WAS REACHED AFTER 13 CALLS 3 DIFFERENT CITIES.

Thanks for letting me serve! September is just around the corner, looking forward to seeing you all in Great Falls for Assembly. Let's get everyone we know involved in AA Service, bring them along with you and see if we can have a record attendance!

Tim K. Area 40 PI chair

## FROM THE GRAPEVINE ABOUT SERVICE WORK



### Small town drunk

I got sober in a small town. This was the same small town I had grown up and gotten drunk in. In fact, I've lived here most of my life, a few geographical cures notwithstanding. I was not a quiet drunk. I was arrested several times, both here in my hometown and in the closest city. This deeply embarrassed my family, who were rather socially prominent.

As I became a sober, steady AA group member, it was impressed upon me to pay it back somehow. Making coffee, greeting at the door and washing ashtrays were all my early duties until I was elected GSR of my home group during my second year.

I quickly grew to love service work. I had not traveled at all in my drinking career and service allowed me to travel a bit and introduced me to lots of committed and gratefully sober individuals. Many of these became friends that I still know today.

After quite a few years in general service to my area, I decided to take a break from it and found myself involved in community service. Much to my surprise, I found that AA general service had equipped me very well in this realm of working with others to set and achieve common goals. After a few years of community service, I also became involved in work with my church. Again, I was surprised at my ability to serve in that capacity.

I believe that over time, I showed my small town that a drunk could get sober and that people can change. While I do not publicly profess my AA membership, many who knew me as a drinker grasped the story of my recovery without me telling it.

My willingness to get out of my AA comfort zone and to engage in these more public activities was also essential to my feelings of belonging and acceptance. Today, I am a well-respected member of my community.

I never left AA service work for long. I rejoined the effort after several years of absence. My district couldn't come up with a DCM, so I volunteered. That led to my election as our area delegate to the General Service Conference. I would like to think that 31 years of sobriety and 16 years of general service have prepared me for that experience. I am finding that it entails as much of a learning curve as anything else, which shows me that rotation is God's way of keeping me both somewhat humble and dependent on him.

My initial reason to join in general service was that I couldn't think of anything more worthwhile to be doing with my spare time. Meanwhile, my business has gone well. My family is doing fine. In fact, every area of my life is better than I could have ever hoped for and I still don't have a better pastime than service. I am tremendously grateful to AA for my sobriety and to God for the wonderful life that I otherwise would have missed. -- Anonymous

**Area 40, Inc.**  
**Budget vs. Actual by Committee / Project**  
June 2018

	<u>Jun 18</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Jan - Jun 18</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
<b>Unrestricted</b>					
<b>Program Services</b>					
Spring Assembly	0.00	0.00	-4,872.40	-6,000.00	-6,000.00
Fall Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-6,000.00
Regional Service Conference	0.00	0.00	-2,345.71	-2,280.00	-2,280.00
Regional Trustee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-800.00
<b>Delegate Expenses</b>					
Area 40 share to GSC	0.00	0.00	-1,800.00	-1,800.00	-1,800.00
Other Expenses	-165.00	-250.00	-165.00	-350.00	-600.00
Other Expenses NYC	-81.00	0.00	-940.75	-400.00	-400.00
Roundups	-33.35	0.00	-344.54	-375.00	-480.00
Travel expenses	-137.20	-225.00	-294.06	-1,100.00	-1,600.00
<b>Total Delegate Expenses</b>	<b>-416.55</b>	<b>-475.00</b>	<b>-3,544.35</b>	<b>-4,025.00</b>	<b>-4,880.00</b>
Area Chair Expenses	0.00	0.00	-439.64	-600.00	-600.00
<b>Archivist Account</b>					
Archivist Display & Travel	0.00	0.00	-50.00	-110.00	-150.00
Archives Storage	-24.00	-25.00	-144.00	-150.00	-3,900.00
<b>Total Archivist Account</b>	<b>-24.00</b>	<b>-25.00</b>	<b>-194.00</b>	<b>-260.00</b>	<b>-4,050.00</b>
<b>Literature Chair</b>					
General literature purchases	0.00	0.00	-111.85	0.00	-150.00
<b>Total Literature Chair</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-111.85</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-150.00</b>
<b>Public Information Chair</b>					
Area Hotline Expenses	-227.50	-250.00	-1,414.44	-1,500.00	-3,000.00
Directory Listings	0.00	-183.33	-994.80	-1,200.02	-2,300.00
<b>Total Public Information Chair</b>	<b>-227.50</b>	<b>-433.33</b>	<b>-2,409.24</b>	<b>-2,700.02</b>	<b>-5,300.00</b>
Website	0.00	0.00	-155.88	-200.00	-200.00
Triangle	-237.49	0.00	-799.96	-1,300.00	-2,500.00
Committee Chair Post/Supplies	0.00	0.00	-176.39	-250.00	-350.00
Committee Chair Travel	0.00	-240.00	-630.80	-1,530.00	-2,100.00
Computer Hardware/Software	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	-50.00
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>-905.54</b>	<b>-1,173.33</b>	<b>-15,680.22</b>	<b>-19,195.02</b>	<b>-35,260.00</b>
Management and General	0.00	0.00	-20.00	-20.00	-20.00
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>3,490.11</b>		<b>17,437.54</b>		
<b>NET Income</b>	<b>2,584.57</b>	<b>-1,173.33</b>	<b>1,737.32</b>	<b>-19,215.02</b>	<b>-35,280.00</b>
Reconciliation Discrepancies	0.00	0.00	0.80	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,584.57</b>	<b>-1,173.33</b>	<b>1,738.12</b>	<b>-19,215.02</b>	<b>-35,280.00</b>
Checkbook balance	\$ 11,832.86				
Prudent Reserve	\$ 11,760.00				
Operating balance	\$ 7,172.86				



# Events Calendar

## August 2018

8/10-8/12

FIREMAN'S POINT CAMPOUT  
Fireman's Point - Columbus MT

Saturday August 18th at 3 PM  
HOT SPRINGS ONE DAY AT A TIME GROUP  
9th Annual SUMMER PICNIC Camp sites available

August 2-5, 2018  
Aloha Emery Bay! Flathead Intergroup Campout\*  
\*See Flathead Intergroup website for details

Three Rivers Bigbook Weekend (Tri Cities WA)  
threeriversbigbookweekend.org/ for details

## Delegate's Report Schedule

September 21-23 - Area 40 Fall Assembly

October 12-14 - Fall Roundup Helena

Flyers available on

[AA-Montana.org](http://AA-Montana.org)

## Triangle Subscription Form

If you would like a subscription for yourself, a friend or your group, please return this form or subscribe online at [aa-montana.org](http://aa-montana.org). Cost is \$10 per year.

Group

GSR/Contact

Address

City, St, Zip

Phone #

Email

SEND TO:  
AREA 40 TRIANGLE c/o Rebecca Shaw  
PO BOX 1976  
Helena, MT 59624

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.

## **WHERE TO MAIL GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS:**

**Area 40, Inc.**

**PO Box 3878**

**Bozeman, MT 59772**

*If sending to Area please*

*address check to Area 40 Inc.*

**GSO**

**PO Box 459**

**Grand Central Station**

**New York, NY 10163**