

Area 40 Triangle

A Newsletter for AA in the State of Montana



Issue 5—September 2018
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The Fall 2018 Area Assembly - Area Elections to be held
September 21-23, 2018
Great Falls Holiday Inn - Great Falls

Headquarters is coming to Area 40!!!

Summer is indeed upon us in Area 40. Temperatures are hovering around triple digits and there is the slight taste of smoke in the air in some places. This means two things; A.A. Campouts are in full swing (check the aa-Montana.org website for up to date information) and the Fall Area Assembly held at the Great Falls Holiday Inn on September 21—23 is only a few weeks away.

One of the items that we will be deciding on is the top three choices for venues in Area 40 to host the West Central Regional Forum in 2021. We went through this process at the Spring Assembly for hosting the West Central Regional Service Conference. Congratulations to District 11. Districts interested in hosting the Forum will make their presentation to the Corrections Committee where the top three contenders will be chosen and presented to the Assembly during the Corrections Committee report.

A.A. Regional Forums were created in 1975 as a way to improve communication between “Headquarters” (as Bill used to call the General Service Office) and the various eight regions that make up the General Service Conference. The Forums are brought to each region every other year. Members of the General Service Board, staff members from A.A. World Services and the Grapevine also attend. As the A.A. Service Manual says about Forums, “...they provide unique opportunities to share and exchange valuable experience, ask questions and spark new ideas.”

At the most recent Forum that I attended, they tried out a new strategy to help the staff from the General Service Office visit with A.A. Members on a more informal basis. This was done by sharing meals with the members of an Area and a member of the staff or board. This was a very special time to spend together. It served as a great way for me to discover that it is not They or Them; It is US. I was able to see and understand that we are all there working to “carry the A.A. Message of love and service.”

I would strongly encourage all members to attend a regional forum and to especially consider attending the forum that will be held in Area 40 in 2021. If you are fortunate enough to be a member of a District selected to host the Forum I would also like to encourage you to volunteer for a position on the host committee. It promises to be a rewarding experience. - Paul L. Area Chair

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Never too young

After yet another geographic “cure,” I was going to AA meetings and making trips to the ladies’ room to drink. I sometimes left the meeting drunker than when I arrived. Yet people welcomed me anyway. They shared their experience with drinking and sobriety with me, and told me to keep coming back. Members even helped me get to meetings.

Then one day, in the summer of 1971, I finally realized that I was beyond human aid. I asked the power that enabled these other alcoholics to live sober to help me. I have not had a drink since that day. I was 19 years old.

I began to go to lots of meetings and learn about the Twelve Steps and about growing along spiritual lines. I began to practice these principles in all of my affairs—which also included giving up having affairs!

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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 – Preparing for service work—it's okay to ask for help - Led by Andrew W. Past West Central Regional Trustee & Past Area 40 Delegate from Panel 57

Workshop: Topic – How I learned to play well with others- 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.
- FinanceJulie R.
- Grapevine/Policy & AdmissionsJake H.
- LiteratureLance W.
- Public Information/Report and Charter & WebsiteTim K
- Webmaster ReportBrandon M.

5:00-7:00 Recess for Dinner

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

8:00-8:30 Resume Floor Assembly with DCM Reports and begin Committee Reports

8:30-9:00 Ice Cream Social

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, Intergroup and Service Conference Committee Report

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

Area 40 Treasurer's Report - Budget vs Actual by Committee

	<u>Jul 18</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Jan - Jul 18</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Program Services					
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
Delegate Expenses					
Area 40 share to GSC	0.00	0.00	-1,800.00	-1,800.00	-1,800.00
Other Expenses	0.00	0.00	-165.00	-350.00	-600.00
Other Expenses NYC	0.00	0.00	-940.75	-400.00	-400.00
Roundups	0.00	0.00	-344.54	-375.00	-480.00
Travel expenses	0.00	-230.00	-294.06	-1,330.00	-1,600.00
Total Delegate Expenses	0.00	-230.00	-3,544.35	-4,255.00	-4,880.00
Area Chair Expenses	-118.48	0.00	-558.12	-600.00	-600.00
Archivist Account					
Archivist Display & Travel	0.00	0.00	-50.00	-110.00	-150.00
Archives Storage	-24.00	-25.00	-168.00	-175.00	-3,900.00
Total Archivist Account	-24.00	-25.00	-218.00	-285.00	-4,050.00
Literature Chair					
General literature purchases	0.00	0.00	-111.85	0.00	-150.00
Total Literature Chair	0.00	0.00	-111.85	0.00	-150.00
Public Information Chair					
Area Hotline Expenses	-242.50	-250.00	-1,656.94	-1,750.00	-3,000.00
Directory Listings	-105.60	-183.33	-1,100.40	-1,383.35	-2,300.00
Total Public Information Chair	-348.10	-433.33	-2,757.34	-3,133.35	-5,300.00
Website	0.00	0.00	-155.88	-200.00	-200.00
Triangle	10.00	0.00	-789.96	-1,300.00	-2,500.00
Committee Chair Post/Supplies	0.00	-40.00	-176.39	-290.00	-350.00
Committee Chair Travel	-180.66	-240.00	-811.46	-1,770.00	-2,100.00
Computer Hardware/Software	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	-50.00
Total Program Services	-661.24	-968.33	-16,341.46	-20,163.35	-35,260.00
Management and General	0.00	0.00	-20.00	-20.00	-20.00
INCOME	2,235.78		19,673.32		
	1,574.54	-968.33	3,311.86	-20,183.35	-35,280.00
	0.00	0.00	0.80	0.00	0.00
	1,574.54	-968.33	3,312.66	-20,183.35	-35,280.00
Checkbook balance	\$ 20,507.40				
Prudent Reserve	\$ 11,760.00				
Operating balance	\$ 8,747.40				

Treasurer's Report - Budget vs Actual by Line Item

	<u>Jul 18</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Jan - Jul 18</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense					
Income					
Individual contribution	10.00		70.00		
Group Contributions	2,225.78		18,898.24		
District Contribution	10.00		235.00		
7th Tradition	0.00		281.10		
Triangle Subscriptions	0.00		169.98		
Other Income (recouped from)					
Service Manuals	0.00		29.00		
Total Other Income (recouped from)	<u>0.00</u>		<u>29.00</u>		
Total Income	2,245.78		19,683.32		
Expense					
Computer software	0.00	0.00	69.99	50.00	50.00
Reconciliation Discrepancies	0.00		(0.80)		
Travel Expenses					
Gas	50.00	185.00	1,125.81	1,750.00	2,365.00
Mileage	16.75	65.00	508.55	825.00	1,170.00
Meals	17.10	20.00	1,163.01	1,680.00	2,735.00
Lodging	96.81	200.00	3,757.43	5,300.00	8,400.00
Air/Train/Taxi fare	0.00	0.00	1,400.58	1,150.00	1,650.00
Area 40 contribution to GSC	0.00	0.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00
Total Travel Expenses	<u>180.66</u>	<u>470.00</u>	<u>9,755.38</u>	<u>12,505.00</u>	<u>18,120.00</u>
Rent					
Archives storage	24.00	25.00	168.00	175.00	3,900.00
Meeting space	0.00	0.00	1,868.25	1,600.00	3,300.00
Total Rent	<u>24.00</u>	<u>25.00</u>	<u>2,036.25</u>	<u>1,775.00</u>	<u>7,200.00</u>
Literature Expenses					
Lit purchases (not svc manuals)	0.00	0.00	45.05	0.00	150.00
Service manuals (for resale)	0.00		66.80		
Total Literature Expenses	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>111.85</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>150.00</u>
Photocopies / printing					
Background information	0.00	0.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
Photocopies / printing - Other	118.48	0.00	853.48	1,110.00	2,060.00
Total Photocopies / printing	<u>118.48</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>853.48</u>	<u>1,360.00</u>	<u>2,310.00</u>
Dues, registration, fees	0.00	0.00	200.88	370.00	400.00
Postage	0.00	0.00	391.37	620.00	1,240.00
Supplies	0.00	40.00	113.92	270.00	410.00
Telephone					
Directory Listings	105.60	183.33	1,100.40	1,383.35	2,300.00
800 Number	242.50	250.00	1,656.94	1,750.00	3,000.00
Total Telephone	<u>348.10</u>	<u>433.33</u>	<u>2,757.34</u>	<u>3,133.35</u>	<u>5,300.00</u>
Miscellaneous expense	0.00	0.00	81.00	100.00	100.00
Total Expense	<u>671.24</u>	<u>968.33</u>	<u>16,370.66</u>	<u>20,183.35</u>	<u>35,280.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>1,574.54</u>	<u>(968.33)</u>	<u>3,312.66</u>	<u>(20,183.35)</u>	<u>(35,280.00)</u>
Net Income	<u>1,574.54</u>	<u>(968.33)</u>	<u>3,312.66</u>	<u>(20,183.35)</u>	<u>(35,280.00)</u>

AREA 40 P.I. AND ANSWERNET REPORT FOR JULY 2018

Greetings Area 40 Members,

Here is the Answer Net Bill and report for July 2018.

There were 20 calls to Answer Net. 19 were legitimate calls for a potential alcoholic looking for help or information. One was a AA Group in Polson asking for name to be changed and meeting information on website. PLEASE contact the Area 40 Webmaster or your DCM to find out how to change that information.

The Area is charged per call, so please don't use the hotline for general AA business. I also will say, this month seven of those calls took 8 or as many as 17 calls to reach a volunteer. In my opinion, that is unacceptable. Please....If you are going to volunteer to be a contact for the Hotline, put accurate information of availability and phone numbers to reach you. Then put the AA Hotline number they call from (406-248-2337) into your contacts, so when a call comes in, you will see on caller ID it is the AA Hotline and know to answer right away or call back ASAP.

The bill for July was \$227.50. Under the Area 40 budget of \$250.00 and Area 40 picked up the cost. I did receive a email from the Answer Net Service informing us of a rate increase that could be quite significant, but will wait to discuss this in more detail once I talk to the main manager who has authority over that issue when they return from vacation August 13. So more to come in next few weeks regarding that.

Thanks for allowing me to serve!!

Tim K. Area 40 PI Chair

Call Log:

Dist. 61: 4 CALLS, 1 ANSWERED IN 2 CALLS. 2 TOOK 8 CALLS EACH FOR VOLUNTEER TO ANSWER AND 1 TOOK 3 CALLS.

Dist. 11: 4 CALLS, 1 ANSWERED IN 10 CALLS, 1 TOOK 17 CALLS,1 TOOK 3, AND 1 TOOK 2.

DIST. 72: 2 CALLS, 1 TOOK 1 CALL, 1 ANSWERED IN 3.

DIST. 21: 2 CALLS, BOTH CALLS FEMALE LOOKING FOR A RIDE .

DIST. 81: 7 CALLS, 1 TOOK 6 CALLS, 2 TOOK 4 CALLS,2 TOOK 2 CALLS,1 TOOK 5 CALLS.

DIST. 41: 1 CALL, 8 CALLS NO VOLUNTEER ANSWERED, WERE LED TO WEBSITE FOR MEETING LO-

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: Continued from Page 1

: Being the youngest AA in the area at that time, I was asked to chair quite a few meetings and anniversaries. Even

: TV and newspaper reporters wanted to interview me. That's when older members in our Young People's group

: explained to me the importance of our Traditions—especially anonymity. Of course, I could do as I chose, but to

: follow the Traditions, I could either talk about AA anonymously, or not be anonymous and not mention AA. I

: thought the message of AA was more important than the messenger, so I chose anonymity. I'm grateful for

: those young members—who were only two or three years sober at the time—who explained this to me.

: Most of us in that small Young People's group are still sober today, some since the late 1960s. That group no

: longer exists, but we do. Our lives have been saved. We get to enjoy a life worth living.

: I'm now 65. Over the years, my damaged liver healed, my relationships improved and my faith in a living God

: grew. Alcoholic drinking restricted my freedom in so many ways. The Third Step increased it. How wonderful!

: -- Anonymous Fairport, New York, United States

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Events Calendar

September 2018

Monday September 3, 2018
END OF SUMMER PICNIC
Les Mason State Park - Whitefish Lake

September 7-8
FELLOWSHIP AT THE FALLS
The Bridge Church - Great Falls MT

September 21-23
2018 WOMAN to WOMAN
Elkhorn Ranch - Gallatin Gateway MT

September 28-30
BROTHER'S IN ACTION RETREAT
Camp Paxon - Seely Lake MT

Delegate's Report Schedule

September 21-23 - Area 40 Fall Assembly
October 12-14 - Fall Roundup—Helena

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AA-Montana.org



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