

Panel 59 Area 53

Minutes of Area Assembly

Sunday, March 9, 2009

Shawnee State Park Lodge and Conference Center

Opening:

The Assembly was opened by Bill Y., DCM Chair, with the Serenity prayer, short form 12 Concepts, explanation of the Ask-It basket, introduction of entire assembly.

Consolidated DCM Reports (Bill Y. DCM chair):

District 4 (Mt. Vernon), Kasie A., DCM: D4 was involved in supporting the mini-conference with greeters and signs. The district has requested a GSR School for April/May. **District 7 (Zanesville)**, Nanette L., DCM D7 will be hosting the upcoming Area committee meeting in April. The district has recently updated their meeting schedule and passed it out a local hospitals, mental health facilities and jails. **District 10 (Delaware)** D10 was well represented at the mini-conference and several new GSRs attended GSR School. D10 has held 2 organizing meetings which were attended by Area officers and committee members. The district is starting to build a committee structure, encouraging all groups to elect a GSR and is planning to elect a DCM in the coming meetings. **District 15 (Marietta)**, Marlene D., DCM D15 supported the hospitality suite, with D21, at the mini-conference. Eight people from the district attended the mini-conference and 2 new GSRs attended GSR School. **District 21 (Portsmouth)**, Jim F., DCM D21 co-hosted the hospitality suite at the mini-conference. Thanks to all who donated food, items and time to the effort. D21 is sponsoring their 3rd annual picnic the Saturday after Mother's Day. **District 22/23 (Dublin)**, Tony K., DCM Currently meeting together with district 30 each month with approximately 10-12 active GSRs. Just completed a Group Inventory Workshop and will hold the Picnic with the Delegate in August to get a firsthand update on the April GSC. **District 26/27 (Gahanna)**, Sanna S., DCM District participate in the mini-conference by preparing the committee folders, and sponsored "a GSR cabin for boys" and "a GSR room for girls" at the mini-conference. The district will be hosting the Area 53 inventory on May 9, 2009 and is looking for input. They are planning to start with the inventory questions used in 2005. A Singleness of Purpose workshop is planned for August. Rule 62 Day will be held in October. **District 28/29 (Columbus)**, Kerry M., DCM The district continues to cooperate with GSRs from other inactive districts, especially district 36 and 32. District volunteered at the mini-conference registration desk and had 10 people attend the mini-conference. District will work with the DCM Committee Chair (Bill Y.) to volunteer with floor management at the State Convention in July. **District 30 (Dublin)**, Michael V., DCM The district provided the Survey Signs for the 2010 GSC theme (please vote before you leave). District has volunteered to do The Traditions Play at the State Convention in July, as well as helping with the hospitality suite at the convention. Held a Group Inventory Workshop, with district 22/23, in February and plan to do it again next year. The district will host the Picnic with the Delegate with district 22/23.

GSR reports:

B Womens group: Michele L gsr district 23/23; 10 home group members; 11AM thursday, Lord of Life Lutheran church, dublin granville road, columbus; closed discussion for women, little red book for women; avg attendance 14; grp conscience issue, format; grp contributions 50/30/10/10 cogf, gso, area, district; service positions filled: annual chairperson, sec'y, treasurer, gsr; upcoming events: first anniversary in June, individual anniversaries celebrated every last thursday **Big Book Study:** Phil O (?) gsr; district 18; home group members: 15; Monday 8PM open meeting at the Brook Yates Bldg on S. Pickaway (city location not given); avg attendance 20+; grp conscience as needed; grp contributions to GSO, Cogf, Lancaster intergroup; service positions filled gsr **Brookside:** Susan B, GSR, district 22; home grp members: 15, avg attendance 65; meets sunday 8PM at St Peter's catholic church, Linworth and Smoky Row Roads, closed disc. meeting, with last sunday lead; grp conscience as needed (2 week advance notice); contributions to COGF, GSO, area, district (50-30-10-10); service positions filled 2 secretaries, treasurer, gsr, cfc rep, rotating monthly chair; Anniversary last week of July **Cliffside 12 & 12:** GSR Hunter K.; district 29; meets thursday 7:30 pm, corner of cliffside and calumet in Glen Echo Presby. Church; format is step a week, tradition last week of month; 15 home group members; group

conscience monthly, first thursday of the month; avg. attendance 35; the group contributes to service entities quarterly with the amount left after prudent reserve @ 60-30-10 split; service positions filled treasurer, sec'y, GSR, literature rep, CPC/PI; other info: fourth anniversary in July **Clintonville Big Book:** Skid R. gsr, district 29; Tuesday 8 p.m. at Maple grove UM church, Henderson and High, Open big book study; avg. attendance 40-50, home group members 14; monthly grp conscience; grp contributions 50-30-10-10 to cogf, gso, area, district; service [positions filled gsr,gir,gvr,cfrc, alt cfc, literature person, sec'y, treasurer, alt treasurer, treatment facil. rep.]; other info: anniversary every november **Delaware Friendship Fellowship:** Scott A. district 10; Meets at Grace United Meth. Church, Thursday 8PM, open lead; avg attendance 50; grp conscience monthly; group contributions under discussion to change to contribute to district; service positions filled: sec'y, treasurer, GSR; other information: recent rotation of sec'y and treasurer **Delaware Sunbury Morning Breakfast Group:** Scott L. gsr, district 10; 18 home group members; meets Sunbury Legion Hall, 230 Otis Street, 9AM, open speaker; service positions filled: chairperson, sec'y, treasurer, cfc rep, gvr, gsr **Delaware Sunrise Group:** Hal M. gsr district 10; ten home group members; 7AM monday -friday @mean bean caffeine lounge, 2 Sandusky St., Delaware OH; avg attendance 15-18; grp conscience 4-6 times a year discussing outreach, format, group contributions; grp contributions quarterly 50% to GSO and 50% to cogf; service positions filled sec'y, treasurer, jail, different chair each day, gsr and alt. gsr; of 24 attendees this past friday, four were in their first week of sobriety and four were in their first week back from relapse **Dublin Closed Discussion:** GSR Rick N. district 22/23; tuesday 1pm 81 Bridge Street Dublin OH, closed discussion with one topic only. 10 home grp members, with average attendance 30-40; group conscience every month; group contributions 2x a year 50-30-10-10; service positions filled GSR, GVR, GIR, treasurer, sec'y; other information: volunteers to chair and greeters; other info: we are a closed meeting with strong singleness of purpose message. we have a 3 minute timer and go around the room, then popcorn style with 15 minutes left. Valentines dance was very successful with 100 people in attendance **Gahanna Early Birds:** Rory M, GSR districts 26/27; 6:30 pm McCutcheon and Stygler Roads @ New Life Church; literature format; average attendance 10-15 with 4 homegroup members; group conscience meetings once a month and as needed; group contributions: still working on them; Service positions filled IGR, GSR, sec'y, treasurer, gvr.; still a new meeting, with lots of newcomers. A lot keep coming back. we need experienced members to support group **Hope Group:** John H gsr district 29 meets sunday 7PM Christ Presby. Church 4220 Cleveland Ave, Columbus, open speaker, with avg attendance 60 and 15 home group members; group conscience 4th sunday of the month after meeting; group contributions to CFC, COGF, Babysitting (quarterly for all); service positions filled: Sec'y Mike H, treasurer Carol M, GSR John H (ME!); upcoming events: anniversary 2nd or 3rd week of june held with Al-Anon meeting; other info: our group offers babysitting, paid for by the group, our group is considering filling other service positions; an Al-anon meeting is in the church at the same time as our meeting; the Hope group was started June 4 1978 and registered August 29 1978 **If We Work for Them:** Fran F. gsr district 22/23; 18 home group members, with 35 avg attendance; tuesday 8PM, lord of life church, dublin-granville road, Columbus; uses "The official guide to the 12 steps"; grp conscience first tuesday of every month, recent issues increasing contributions to GSO, also local cogf issues; grp contributions quarterly 60-30-10 with CFC jug as well; service positions filled all except CPC.PI; upcoming group events; pizza night at end of 20 week step study cycle, paid for by member; other information: all literature is free and cookie volunteer uses out of pocket money. **Life begins at 40:** JoCarol R, GSR, district 30; meets tuesday 10 am, Meadow Park Church of God, Discussion meeting, with last tuesday lead; avg. attendance 25-40; group conscience when needed; contributions to 20%GSO, 20%COFG, 20%area 53, 40%district; service positions filled sec'y, alt, secy, treasurer. gsr. gvr **Listening Post:** Dan H gsr, district 28-29, 15 home grp members; monday through saturday 8PM, sunday 6PM, all at oakland park united methodist church 994 Oakland Park Avenue, average attendance 20; grp conscience every second sunday; grp contributions as often as we can; service positions filled: gsr; other information: tape and womens' meetings, back to basics meeting (?all at 5:45, ?day of week) **Lodestar Group:** Kim S gsr, district 29; 7PM wednesday open step meeting at Overbrook presbyterian Church with avg attendance 30 (25 home group members); group conscience last week of month, babysitting started Oct 2008...low utilization and high cost. we had to lower rent to church to pay for babysitting; group contributions quarterly; service positions filled: sec'y, treasurer, alt sec/treas., IGR, GIR, GSR, supplies, cleanup, GVR, babysitting, chair (rotating monthly); upcoming events: anniversary july 2009;

other information: just had group inventory, discussing cost of babysitting, purchase of LaVina to have at meetings. group approves GSO selling books. we also want new central office to have meeting space(s) available if possible **Monday Night Steps and Traditions:** Paul B, GSR, district 23; 7 p.m. monday, Meadow Park Church of God, Bethel Road, Columbus; avg. attendance 25, with 10 home group members; monthly grp conscience; contributions 50-30-10-10; service positions filled: gsr, sec'y, treatment facilities rep, CPC/PI rep, GVR, actively seeking IGR and alt. GSR; other info: monthly grp get-together after meeting on 2nd monday of month; 14th anniversary in February, grp inventory in January, two members attended group inventory workshop in February **New Albany Sobriety Society:** Andrew F gsr district 26/27 meets thursday 8PM closed big book discussion at 20 S. 3rd St, New Albany OH, avg attendance 15 with 7 home group members; group conscience four time a year; group contributions twice a year or when gross is over \$200 (excluding prudent reserve) @ 50-30-10-10% ; service positions filled; Sec'y, Treasurer, GSR **New Freedom:** Marilyn J gsr, district 22/23; 10-15 home group members; 7:15AM mon-fri, open discussion step and Big Book; Dublin Community Church; grp conscience: as needed, most recent group inventory resulted in statement about profanity; group contributions quarterly at 50-30-10-10; service positions filled gsr, sec'y, treasurer, chairperson, gvr, cfc rep **North Group:** Kimberly B gsr district 23; 13 home grp members; Saturday 8:30 PM at North Lutheran Church, Morse and High, Columbus; avg attendance 120-150; grp conscience as needed; grp contributions quarterly 50-30-10-10; service positions filled: igr gir, gvr, gsr, sec'y, treasurer, babysitter **Recovery Road:** Mark G gsr district 25; 6 home group members; 8:30 PM closed discussion meeting, St. Matthews Episcopal church, State Street Westerville OH, avg attendance 25; grp conscience as needed, willing calling one soon to discuss anniversary, treasurer's report and service entity contributions; service positions filled: sec'y, treasurer, setup and coffee, gsr; three people attended last grp inventory workshop wth help of Mike V **Saturday Night Big Book Discussion Group:** Todd D, gsr, district 25; 8PM saturday, grace lutheran church, Schrock and Otterbein Roads, westerville; home group members 5 average attendance >20; grp conscience as needed, discussing scheduled group consciences; grp contributions \$15-20 per week, rent paid to church, contributions to area, cogf and gso; service positions filled sec'y, gsr, treasurer, set-up **Solutions Group:** Bob M gsr, district 25, Monday 7PM closed discussion Westerville Community Church; 10 home group members with avg meeting attendance 40; grp conscience held bi-monthly on a second monday, next grp conscience march 9 with election of officers; group contributions made quarterly at 60-30-10; service positions filled gsr, alt gsr, igr, literature and supplies **Three Legacies Group:** Ed A GSR, district 36 ; Sunday 7PM at Park Methodist Church on Algonquin off Broad Street on near west side of Columbus; rotating format (step/ tradition/ concept/sponsorship) average attendance 12-25 with 10 home grp members; grp conscience quarterly at a home grp member's home; group contributions quarterly to GSO, COGF, District, Area; service positions filled: GIR, IGR, GSR, CPC/PI, GVR, literature, nite owl, coffee, chair (rotating), sec'y, treasurer; other information ALL ARE WELCOME!!!! **Tuesday After Work Group:** Debra P gsr, rick K alt. gsr district 26; open speaker meeting 5PM Tuesday Gahanna Congregational Community Church, avg attendance 41, 23 home group members; Group conscience every other month, with recent completion of group inventory, with several action items as a result; Group contributions every quarter central office, district, area, and gso (50-10-30-10), and a jug for CFC change; service positions filled sec'y, alt sec'y GSR, alt GSR, GIR, GVR, IGR; other information: participate in Rule 62 day every year; annual christmas potluck **Two for One Group:** Cathleen R. GSR, district 15; two meeting a week 7 p.m. thursday 12 & 12, 10 am saturday Big Book; First Presby. Church, 4th and Wooster, Marietta; avg. attendance 20, 12-15 home group members; group conscience first thursday every month following tradition study, conducting group inventory; contributions to CFC, GSO, district 15 monthly, area quarterly, and CFC; service positions filled sec'y, treasurer, gsr, alt. gsr; upcoming events: 21st Anniversary **Two is Enough:** Sylvester S. gsr district 41; literature meeting Tuesday 8PM at Talbott Hall (columbus); group conscience once a month or as needed, discussing group anniversary; group contributions to central office and GSO; service positions filled: chair, sec'y, treasurer, GVR, GSR, IGR; upcoming events: anniversary July 6 2009 (16th year anniversary); other info; involved in state convention, enlarging meeting space, ordering more literature **Welcome Home:** Tara H gsr district; discussion meeting 8PM monday and wednesday 184 S. Main Street, Roseville OH 43777 average attendance 20 with 10 home group members; group conscience as needed; group contributions to district and GSO; service positions filled GSR, sec'y, treasurer **Women's Early Bird Group:** Sue K gsr district 29; 9:30 AM Saturday with rotating format (1st

week step of month, 2nd, 4th and 5th discussion, and 3rd lead); Meets at Overbrook Presbyterian Church, Columbus; Grp conscience 1st saturday of month, discussing adding a traditions meeting, electing GSR, welcoming newcomers, importance of anonymity; group contributions 50% COGF 30% GSO, 20% Area, made every 4-6 months; service positions filled: rotating chair, gsr and alt gsr, sec'y, treasurer, GVR; upcoming events 26th anniversary celebration to be held March 21; **Women's HOW:** Megan Z gsr, district 28-29; average attendance 30-40 with 15+ home grp members; Saturday at 9:30AM closed step meeting at East North Broadway Methodist, Columbus; grp conscience once a month (second saturday), recent discussions re: babysitting and interpreter, group sponsorship of GSR to mini-conference, email listserve of minutes and announcements and frequency of group consciences; yearly contributions to GSO and COGF; service positions: chair, sec'y, treasurer, grapevine rep, gsr other information: summer anniversary; we offer weekly babysitting and an ASL interpreter **Women's Wisdom by Candlelight:** Peg S gsr, district 32, 23 home group members, 7PM tuesday at St Luke's Church, West Fifth Avenue, Columbus, average attendance 28; quarterly grp conscience; quarterly group contributions to cogf and gso; service positions: two secretaries, treasurer, GVR, GSR, IGR **Youth Do Recover:** Amanda F gsr, district 21; 6:30 PM tuesday All Saints Episcopal Church, Portsmouth 45662 open discussion with speaker last meeting of the month; average attendance 30-40; grp conscience third tuesday of every month, discussing adding a thursday meeting; Group contributions: not yet determined (group is new); service positions filled: John A. sec'y/treasurer, Amanda F GSR, Tom H. alt. GSR; upcoming events: thinking about having a dance, to be cohosted with OYPAA; other info: most of our attendees have been from treatment centers

Committee Reports:

CFC Committee (Steve S, Chair) The Correctional Facility Committee held its Quarterly meeting on March 7, 2009 at the RAC Building. 16 GIRs and 12 Outside Sponsors of institutional meetings gave a report on their group's activities. In 2008, the committee received \$15,689.53 in donations from AA groups that used the Spare Change jug. With that, we purchased \$15,854.50 in AA literature that was distributed to incarcerated AA members, including 961 Big Books and 654 copies of the "Twelve & Twelve." Our other expenses for 2008 were \$393.47, which was paid for by the \$400 contribution from Area 53. In 2009 we will have added expenses as a result of the Area's decision to vacate its office at the RAC Building. We have worked a deal with COGF to have them carry our inventory for us, which will minimize the amount of storage space we need. Even so, we are renting a small storage area for the supplies we use for our correspondence and temporary contact program for \$25 a month. In addition, we will be renting a \$15 room from RAC each quarter for our Steering Committee meeting, which we used to hold in the Area office. As a result our non-literature expenses will increase by \$360 over last year, bringing our projected total expense to \$760. The Area budget does not fully cover the increased cost resulting from the Area's decision, so \$260 may have to come out of our literature fund. We purchased and distributed \$3,617.58 in literature during the first quarter. Group contributions were \$3,719.66 and the committee authorized \$3,900 in purchases for the second quarter. Our non-literature expenses were \$113.45 for meeting room rent, book storage and copies for the quarterly meeting. The Area has covered these costs out of our funding budget.

Our Alternate DRC Liaison resigned and an election to replace her will be held at the June quarterly. Our 2009 Workshop is scheduled for April 18 at Maple Grove. We will have panels of Outside Sponsors, Correctional Professionals and AAs who got sober behind the walls. There will be no cost and lunch will be provided by donations from several groups in the Area. I invite all interested AAs to attend the workshop to hear how this Twelfth Step work is being done and the difference it makes.

CPC/PI Committee (Suzan T, Chair) The committee is meeting on the second Saturday of each month, 11AM, at Panera Bread on North High Dt. in Columbus. Last meeting had 8 attendees including 2 new representatives. Stephen T elected to alternate Chair position. We appointed a website sub-committee which will meet independently and with the full committee as well. Scott T is new webmaster, with Bill Y alternate. We are planning a workshop to assist groups learn more about CPC/PI opportunities, as well as learning to speak to non-AA meetings. We are coordinating with district 10 to help an inactive district become active.

COGF Liaison (Chris T) *The following is a summary of the minutes of the 12/13/08 COGF Members Meeting. 1. Overview of 2008:* This is the end of the first year of the current Advisory Board's two year term. A new office manager, Paul Holmes, was hired in '08. Financial condition of COGF has been and

continues to be a priority concern for the Advisory Board. COGF web site has been updated, and includes a new meeting directory with maps and directions to meetings. Service Fair went well this year, though Gratitude Sunday received less attention than was hoped for. COGF has been exploring moving to a new location. 2. Office location change: COGF is currently searching for new offices, as the building in which it now rents space (owned by the Recovery Alliance of Columbus, or RAC) may soon be sold, and RAC itself may be moving to a new location. Though nothing is definite yet, it has been COGF's feeling that we ought to be prepared should a move become necessary. With this in mind, much discussion about COGF's office requirements has been had with members, and the Advisory Board has identified locations that could meet our needs. 3. New Advisors Elected: Tony Ramirez was elected Membership Committee Chair, and Lori Ramirez was elected Social Committee Chair. 4. COGF Self-Support Policy Approved: New policy addresses contributions to COGF, pricing of AA literature, dealings with vendors and businesses, COGF's prudent reserve, and compensation of paid staff. 5. Next Members Meeting will be at COGF offices, 1561 Leonard Avenue, on March 14 at 10:00am.

Grapevine Committee (Sylvester S. Chair): The committee recently elected new officers: Sylvester S. chairman Cheryl S Co-chair Kim P Secretary Jackie B Treasurer We will continue to meet on the first Friday of the month every month at 6:30, meeting at RAC Bldg. until another meeting place is found. Projects include updating the Grapevine display and involvement in the upcoming Ohio State AA convention. Chairperson is in constant contact with Grapevine personnel in New York.

Group Services Committee: (Mike S, chair): written report not available. oral report presented.

Treatment Facility Committee (Virginia P, chair) \$50 requested and received from Area 53 For trifold display board, paper, business cards, stamps, and envelopes. Display developed for mini-conference and state convention. Focus is bridging the gap. Temporary contact form developed. Groups are requested and encouraged to elect a TFC rep. At this point, three other people have volunteered to serve the committee. I would like to attend district functions to have display available and to offer information. Please contact the committee through the area 53 website or at virgprior@aol.com

Panel 59 Area 53 Officer Reports:

Recording secretary (Steve R): Minutes from January 2009 presented. Minute amended to change Life begins at 40 meeting's district to district 30 (listed as district 40) assembly approved minutes as amended.

Registrar (Brett G) info on 1 new group received. 1 group change received. Over the last month, there have been a variety of computer and internet issues that have kept me from making updates and filling information requests. Thanks to Kelly C. and Bill Y. for their assistance with the attendance list. Thanks for your patience with registration at this assembly.

Treasurer (Scott D): Area financial report reviewed. Correction made, deleting \$75 from Group Services Committee funding expenses. Report approved as amended.

Delegate (Jean Smythe, Delegate Panel 59 Area 53): During this first quarter as your Delegate, I feel as though I have been on a Service Marathon. We have been having monthly planning meetings for the mini-conference and for the Ohio state convention, involving many area workers, all trying to carry the message of recovery. My sincere thanks goes to all who have so willingly contributed their time and efforts. I participated in the group inventory workshop held by districts 23, 23, and 30. The conference of delegates/past delegates in Springfield IL was a weekend to help prepare for the General Service Conference. I also attended the miniconference for area 55, and plan to attend those of area 54 and 56. I am so grateful for the information of Ohio's conscience that these weekends provide. Studying the background material for the General service conf, has made me realize the importance that our group conscience has on impacting AA worldwide. From GSO: - a new special needs workbook is available. - "about AA, a newsletter for professionals" and "AA around the world, the international Newsletter" are now available and published quarterly. "Dateline Grapevine" is a newsletter that goes to conference members and grapevine area chairs each month. - our east central regional trustee Bob M. shared with us the opportunity that our region will have in 2012 to host and additional regional forum, tailoring the agenda to our local needs. - our new GSO office manager, Phyllis H. sent of letter of introduction to the fellowship. While addressing the need for contributions in these tough economic times, she state " AA history shows that it is during challenging times that members groups contributions actually increase. To my mind, this is one of the finest examples of gratitude in action." - a letter sent to all delegates showed the the % of area 53's contributing groups was only 26.55%, unchanged from 2007. More needs to be

done. Our initiative and belief in self-support should encourage us to share this principle with all of the groups in the area. -The corrections committee continues to need male AAs to volunteer to participate in correspondence with male inmates. "sharing behind the walls" is not available on GSO's website. - starting with the March issue, the Grapevine will be staple free, making it easier to take these into correctional facilities. - at the February General Service board meeting, it was reported that the Grapevine lost about \$94,00 as circulation was down by 1,044, but the gross profit was greater than in 2007. The income for LaVina was \$7520 under budget. AAWS reported that Book distribution was up by .03%, net sales for 2008 were .65% less than budgeted and the gross margin from literature was 3.68% over budget. Contributions were 3.5% less than budgeted. - The Board meeting solidified agenda items that would be considered at the GSC in April. - Prelim info about the 2010 International Convention July 1-4 in San Antonio TX is available on the GSO website. Registration and housing info will be mailed in August 2009 to all GSR's, central offices, Areas and will be available online. Once you register, you will be able to sign up for housing, which will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis. 10,000 rooms are blocked for the convention with 8000 within walking distance of all activities. Special airfare rates are also available. It's not too soon to start making your plans. - I look forward to bringing back to you from the GSC the results of the hard work of your trusted servants and sharing those results with you. I would be honored to present this to home groups or districts upon request.

Area Chairperson: (Glen P, Chair Panel 59 Area 53) Since being elected I have attended all Mini Conference and State Convention planning meetings. I have attended District 30's Group Inventory Workshop, Area 54's GSR/DCM workshop and our Mini-Conference. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Old Business:

1. **State Convention Update** (Jean S) The State Convention Planning committee has been meeting monthly on the third tuesday of the month at the Maple Grove Methodist Church at 6:30PM. Flyers have been update, hospitality planning is in progress, a contract for the DJ has been signed, the panels' committee is finalizing topics and members to share their experiences, the mailing committee is preparing an early mailing to past attendees, registration is planning their needs, and a skit is being planned for entertainment. We want to emphasize that this convention is YOUR convention that we are honored to host every four years. We encourage all GSR's, DCMs and interested AA members to join us and experience the fun, excitement and satisfaction in working with others toward this event. See you March 17 at Maple Grove Church, 7 West Henderson Road, Columbus OH at 6:30PM.
2. **Unity Day Update** (Jean S): The first Unity Breakfast was held Feb 1 2009 for the newly seated panel of Area 53 officers and the officers of COGF (who hosted the event). 15 AA members enjoyed a great breakfast and shared ideas for developing a closer working relationship and elimination of duplicate services, wasting time and service efforts. Some ideas were: to sponsor an Intergroup Panel at the stated Convention including speakers from COGF and area 53, having a liaison that would attend both Area 53 assemblies and COGF member and board meetings, presenting the goals of our Area committees at their membership meeting on march 14, and continuing the breakfast sharing meetings on July 26, which would be hosted by Area 53. THE plans for Unity Day on August 16 would be discussed at this time.
3. **Mini-Conference Update** (Carl D): 127 attendees total, with 90 registered for banquet. questions asked about the offsite location of hospitality suite (answer is that no inside-the-hotel sites were possible)
4. **Bulk Mail name registration:** Registration of *Area 53 General service* name with Secretary of State has been completed. This will allow the Area not to use the previously registered name, which used the phrase "*of Alcoholics Anonymous*" (causing concerns about anonymity breaks).

New Business:

5. **Area Inventory:** Area inventory to be held at New Life Church in Gahanna OH, in May. more details forthcoming.
6. **Area 53 June Assembly Location:** In Columbus at Whitehall Park, 400 North Hamilton Road, June 14, 2009

Ask-It Basket questions and answers:

1. What Support is available to AA members deployed in the military, not at a base actually fighting?
Answer: someone will find out and get back to assembly at the June meeting
2. I currently get the agenda and minutes in the mail, despite having said that I wish to receive them via email. Why do I still get snail mailings? **Answer:** The compilation of an master email list has not yet been accomplished. Fellowship New Visions should help to fix this problem. Keep coming back.....
3. How can the assemblies on Mini-Conference weekends be 2-3 hours long, and 4-5 hours long at other assemblies? **Answer:** The agenda for the mini-conference assemblies is abbreviated in several ways, in order to get everything that needs to be done, done in the afternoon after the Mini-conference.
4. Has there ever been any consideration of having the area assembly BEFORE the mini-conference?
Answer: No. From a planning standpoint, it would not be workable.
5. Our group recently had a addict attend, who stated that she was strictly an addict. How do other groups handle that? **Answer:** other members at the assembly share their experiences with similar situations.

Meeting adjourned with Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Steve R.

Panel 59 Area 53 Recording Secretary