

## **Panel 59 Area 53 Minutes of Area Assembly Sunday, December 12, 2010 Whitehall Park, Columbus OH**

**MORNING SESSION:** Chaired by Bill Y., DCM Committee Chair

**Opening:** The Assembly was opened with the Serenity prayer, short form of the 12 Concepts, explanation of the Ask-It basket, and introduction of entire assembly.

An Announcement was made by the delegate informing the assembly that the Delegate elect had resigned for personal reasons. The delegate explained that the GSR's have the right of decision and Glen P. was confirmed as Delegate by acclamation leaving the position of Alt Delegate open.

### **GSR Reports**

**Kiss Group:** Kristy A., GSR, District 27; meets 1PM Wednesdays at Christ United Methodist Church with 3 home group members and average attendance of 25-30. Group consciences are held as needed. Positions filled are Secretary/Treasurer and GSR.

**Listening Post:** Dan H., GSR, District 28; Group has 10 home group members and meets at Oakland Park United Methodist Church at 8PM Monday –Saturday and 6PM on Sunday. The average attendance is 20. Group consciences are held monthly on the third Sunday. Contributions are made when possible. Positions filled are GSR, Grapevine, IGR, Secretary and Treasurer. Coming up is the 10<sup>th</sup> New Years Eve Games people play. The group held a successful Sponsorship Panel with 30 attendees and good food.

**Clintonville Big Book:** Tony R., GSR, District 28, Open Big Book Discussion. Group meets at Maple Grove United Methodist Church with 20-25 home group members and average attendance of 60. Group consciences are held the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month 90 minutes before the meeting. Contributions are 50,30,10,10 to COGF, GSO, Area and District. Positions filled are GV, IGR, GIR, GSR, CPCPI and Lit.

**Hand N Hand Group:** Dave E., GSR, District 15; Group has 10 home group members and an average attendance of 12 at meetings at Barlow Methodist Church at 7:30 PM Saturday with an open discussion format. Group consciences are held monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday. Donations are made to COGF, GSO, Area and District. Positions filled are Secretary, Treasurer and GSR. The group will be participating in a Christmas Alkathon. Members also participate in prison meetings and district activities.

**Reynoldsburg Women's 12 and 12:** Deb C., GSR, District 26; Group meets Saturdays at 10AM at Church of the Redeemer with 8 home group members and 15-20 average attendance. Group conscience meetings are held quarterly when a treasurers report is made and announcements from committee members are heard. The group keeps a \$100 prudent reserve and contributes to COGF (\$50), Area (\$30), District (\$10) and GSO (\$10). Positions filled are GSR, GV, Treasurer and Secretary. The group will meet Christmas Day, chair the alkathon on New Years Eve, but will not meet for New Years day. Suggest going to the alkathon.

**Southeast Breakfast Group:** Annie B., GSR, District 26; Group is an open speaker meeting and meets at Mt. Carmel Hospital Sundays at 9 AM with 60 home group members and 80-90 average attendance. Group consciences are held monthly on the last Sunday. Contributions are made to COGF and Area53. Positions filled are GSR, IGR, Treasurer, Secretary, GV, Literature with co-chairs for most positions. The group will participate in the New Years alkathon and is looking forward to their anniversary in April.

**After Work Group:** Dave, GSR, District 26; Group meets with 20-25 home group members and 53 average attendance for an open speaker at Gahanna Community Congregational Church at 5 PM on Tuesdays. Group consciences are held monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday. Contributions are made on a 50,30,10,10 distribution while maintaining a \$100 prudent reserve. Positions filled are IGR, GVR, GIR, PI(COGF), GSR alt GSR, secretary and treasurer. Elections will be held in December along with a Christmas potluck on Dec 28 and participation in the District 26 alkathon.

**Monday Night Steps and Traditions:** Jennifer R., GSR, District 30; Group meets Mondays at 7 PM with 12 home group members and average attendance of 25. Group consciences are held monthly on the last Monday. The group contributes quarterly to COGF, GSO and Area. Positions filled are secretary, co-secretary, treasurer, GSR, IGR, GIR and GVR. The groups anniversary is coming up Feb 7<sup>th</sup> with food at 6pm, lead at 7 PM (Stephanie C.)

**Cliffside 12&12:** Spencer G., GSR, District 28; The group has 10 home group members and meets Thursdays at 7:30 PM at the Presbyterian Church at Cliffside and Calumet with average attendance of 20-25. Group consciences are held the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month. Contributions are made when possible with a 60, 30, 10 distribution to GSO, COGF and Area 53. Positions filled are secretary, CPC/PI, GIR, GSR, GVR, IGR and treasurer. A group inventory is scheduled in January.

**Tuesday Men's Rope Holders Group:** Larry M., GSR; Ten home group members and 35 average attendees meet Tuesdays at 7PM with a rotating format at Karl Road Baptist Church. Six/seven group consciences are held annually and contributions are made to COGF (50), GSO (30), area (10), and CFC (10). Positions held are secretary, treasurer, GVR, GSR, IGR and GIR. The group will be doing its first ever group inventory in January. Long time group member Don W. passed 10/3/2010.

**Women's Early Bird:** Sue K., GSR, District 28; The group has 27 home group members and has average attendance of 32 at meetings at Overbrook Presbyterian Church at 9:30 AM on Saturday. Group consciences are held monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday. Contributions are made to Area (50), COGF (10), District (10) and GSO (30). In additions contributions are made to buy literature for the Women's Pre release Center. Positions filled are GSR, Secretary, Alt Secretary, GVR, and treasurer. Group, anniversary is coming up March 19<sup>th</sup>. The group also sponsors a weekly meeting at the Women's Prerelease Center.

**Back to Basics Big Book Study:** Amanda F., GSR, District 21; An average of 20 (4 home group members) meet in the CAO Bingo Hall on Thursdays at 8 PM. Group consciences are as needed with the most recent being Dec 9<sup>th</sup>. Contributions of \$15 each were made to GSO, Area, COGF and District 21. Positions filled are GSR, secretary and Alt. GSR.

**Nelsonville Monday night Big Book:** Peggy F., GSR, District 16; The group meets Monday at 8 PM at Doctors Hospital Cafeteria with 5 home group members and an average attendance of 8-12. Group Consciencences are held monthly on the last Monday. Contributions are made when possible to GSO, COGF, LAI, and District 16. Positions filled are treasurer, Secretary and GSR.

**2 for 1 Group:** Cat R., GSR, District15; The group meets at the 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church on Thursday at 7 PM and Saturday at 10 AM with 15 home group members and 25 average attendance. Group conscience is held the1st Thursday of every month. Contributions are made to District, COGF, Area, CFC, GSO monthly. Positions filled are secretary, treasurer, GSR and Alt GSR. There are no upcoming events.

**How It Works:** Ginny L., GSR, District 26; Ten home group members and an average attendance of 20 meet on Thursday night at 8 at Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church for literature discussion. Group conscience is the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month and some recent topics include: singleness of purpose, open/closed meeting and 1<sup>st</sup> 164 pages or the whole book. Contributions are made every 4 months divided 50/30/10/10. Positions filled are GSR, secretary and treasurer. Group anniversary is Jan 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Solutions Group:** Kate B., GSR, District 25; group meets at 7 PM Monday for a Chairman's choice meeting at the corner of County Line Rd and Spring St with seven home group members and an average attendance of 30. Positions filled are GVR, secretary, treasurer and GSR. Contributions are made to area, COGF and District. Group consciences are held monthly with meeting format being a recent topic.

**Grant Us The Laughter:** Jeff, GSR, District 28; The group of 12 home group members meets at 7:30 PM at Indianola Church of Christ with an average attendance of 45. Group consciences monthly and 1 group inventory question is discussed.

**Choice is Ours:** Constance C. , GSR, District 26/27; Group meets at 6:30 PM Thursday with a rotating format at Whitehall Park. Attendance includes six home group members with an average attendance of 15-20. Group consciences are held quarterly. Topics include attracting new home group members and fellowshiping before cleanup. Contributions are made to Area District, COGF and GSO. Positions filled are GSR, IGR, GIR. Upcoming events are District 26/27 alkathon.

**Westerville Women's Recovery:** Cathy H., GSR, District 25; Group meets at Westerville –Spring Road Church of Christ at 7:45 PM on Thursday to read and discuss the Big Book and 12 & 12. The last meeting of the month is Chairpersons option. The average attendance is 25 with 15 home group members. Group conscience is the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday. Contributions are made when the prudent reserve is exceeded to the entities and in the percentages suggested in the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition pamphlet. Positions filled are secretary, treasurer, IGR, GSR, GIR, GVR Alt. IGR and Literature rep.

**Westside Beginners Group:** Debbie R., GSR, District 16; Group is meeting temporarily at John Clem House at 7:30 PM with an average attendance of 20 that includes 10 home group members. Meeting format is 20 minute group participation and a speaker. Group conscience is held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday. Group just celebrated third anniversary and is looking for a permanent home. Contributions are made to District, Area, GSO, and COGF. Service positions filled are Hospitality, GSR, Alt GSR, treasurer, coffee, clean up, and setup.

## DCM Reports

**District 4:** Kasie A, DCM; The district has 21 meetings a week, with seven of them being held at the St Paul's Parish House on the corner of E High and S Gay Streets. Our district meeting takes place every other month on the second Saturday of that month at 6 pm. We will be hosting a shorter Alkathon this year both through Christmas and New Years days at the Parish house complete with meals and leads at regularly scheduled times. That is accomplished by volunteers serving a four hour shift starting at noon on Christmas Eve day. District continues to hold two jail meetings a week with a Tuesday evening for the liaison and a Sunday evening for the women. Laura L. is our new CFC District 4 liaison and does good work for CFC within our district. Please, enjoy your holiday season with an attitude of gratitude.

**District 15:** Marlene D., DCM; District 15 meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Presbyterian Church, 4<sup>th</sup> and Wooster Sts., Marietta, OH. 6 DCM's attend regularly. District continues to take a meeting into the Noble Correctional Institute each Wednesday. Last week, the group celebrated an anniversary and was allowed to take in cake and punch for a celebration. The District distributes literature throughout Washington and Noble County and have recently distributed meeting schedules to all hotels/motels in Marietta. In November, District 15 held an election of officers for the next panel. There were 11 of the District's 13 groups represented. David E. was elected DCM. Bob R. was elected treasurer and Steve D. was elected secretary. The district will sponsor an Alkathon, which will begin after the Colonial Group adjourns on Friday, December 24, 2010 at 9:30 p.m. It will conclude on Christmas evening when the Serenity Group meets at 7:00 p.m. It will be held at the Serenity House, 431 Third Street in Marietta, OH.

**District 16: Greg M., DCM;** District meetings are held the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 5 PM at First Christian Church, w. State and N. Columbus Streets in Athens , Oh. There are 23 meetings each week in the district and 3 correctional Facilities meetings. There are 11 GSR's filling positions of secretary, treasurer, CFC rep and webmaster. On 10/31/2010 the district held a movie day and provided popcorn, pop, and pizza to attendees who watched Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous and Markings on the journey. Upcoming events are a Beginners Workshop on Saturday 1/22/2011 at 10 AM. Topics will be

Sponsorship, Home Group and Steps 1, 2, 3. Chili will be served for lunch. On 2/12/2011 at 10 AM will be GSR School. The district makes contributions annually to LAI, COGF, Area 53 GSO and A53 CFC.

**District 17: Tammy B., DCM;** Meeting time: First Sunday of every month, 5:00pm, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 161 Mulberry Avenue, Pomeroy Ohio 45769. There is an average of 4 GSR's out of 7 attending monthly meetings as well as many members from different groups throughout the District. Positions filled are DCM, Alternate DCM, Treasurer, and Secretary. New positions filled are Alternate DCM, Ryan C. Pleasant Valley. Group and Secretary, Sherri S. Out To Lunch Bunch. Current Bank Balance as of 12-10 is \$320. District 17 Hosted Area DCM Committee Meeting on October 10<sup>th</sup> in Pomeroy Ohio. It was held @ Coventry Manor, located on Union Ave. The meeting was well attended and very informative. The active members of District 17 did a great job in working together and making this event a success. District 17 had a workshop November 20<sup>th</sup> 2010, in Point Pleasant WV. This event was a huge success. Area 53 Delegate Jean S. and General Service Board, Class A trustee, Michele G. presented an informative presentation on the problems facing AA today in regards to Anonymity in the Digital Age. Attendees were mixed from throughout Area 53 and Area 73, with many Area 73 service representatives attending including Area 73 Delegate, Kathy O. and Alternate Delegate Barb C as well as many AA members throughout Area 73. (It was great to see two Areas working together trying to solve a common problem within AA. This is a problem that has a possibility to affect us all in recovery and AA as a whole. Also Gene, per the District 17's request, gave an informative presentation on the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition and what AA is facing today in regards to the rapid decline in monetary contributions from the groups. Literature on this issue was given out for all to take back to their home groups and help educate them on this serious issue. I would like to recognize the efforts put forth by the GSR's, their sponsees and all who helped out with many hours of service to make this event possible. It was a team effort, and the chili they made, as well as all of the other food that was brought was excellent. The church where it was held commented on how well it was left and we were welcome to have any future events there. District 17 has committed to help with the Hospitality Room for the Area 73, WV State Convention to be held in Huntington WV, in July 2011. We are now focusing what little fund that's we have to help offset the cost of the price for the GSR's to attend the upcoming Miniconference. We have one group, Pleasant Valley Group, which is very active in CPC PI / literature distribution. This has been showing results from "meeting attendance picking up and calls for 12 step work being received. District 17 provides meeting lists for all groups within the district. One thousand meetings lists have been purchased and distributed among the groups.

**District 26/27: Rory M., DCM;** DCM will be stepping down to get in sync with Area on Jan 1<sup>st</sup>. The district has 10 active GSR's (double last year) who will be participating in the alkathon. The District has had a Chili cook out and a workshop on the Grapevine. The group is very active.

**District 28: Peg S., DCM;** The district met October 16 with 4 GSR's in attendance.

**District 32: Jason L., DCM;** An organization meeting was held November 14, 2010 to bring District back into the light. The meeting was attended by 4 GSR's and the area chairman. Jason L. was elected DCM and Kalen C. was elected Secretary. Meetings will be held quarterly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Feb, May, Aug, and Nov. at a location to be determined. GSR's should ask groups for donations to fund the district. Discussed having the district host a GSR School.

## **Standing Committee Reports**

**Archives:** Tom V., Archivist; The Archives are secure in the Westerville Mini Storage in an environmentally controlled storage locker. The search for a more accessible storage area continues. The Archivist attended the AA National Archives workshop in Macon, Georgia. Two noted AA history authors - Mel B. and Bill B. - spoke. An outstanding experience of caring and sharing with fellow archivists was worth the attendance.

**Correctional Facilities Committee (CFC);** Peggy A., Chair; The Area 53 Correctional Facility Committee held its Quarterly meeting on December 4 at Oakland Park United Methodist Church. 14 6IRs and 7 Outside Sponsors participated. In the last quarter, we purchased \$4,045 worth of AA literature for incarcerated men and women. This brings the total for the year to \$16834. In the last 3 months, we distributed 285 Big Books, 164 12&12s. 467 other Conference-approved titles and 961 AA pamphlets and flyers. All of this literature was distributed through outside sponsors who carried it into a total of 15 correctional institutions in the Area. Third Quarter group contributions from the "Spare Change" jugs totaled \$4,438. Contributions for the year are \$18,236. We approved \$4,500 for purchases in the first quarter of 2011. Thanks, again, to all of the groups who are supporting this program. We spent \$366 on meeting room rent, our P.O. Box and copies of our various forms. We received \$316.55 from the Area to help cover those costs. Individual donations and passing the basket at our Quarterly meeting covered the balance of these expenses. For the year, our expenses for programs other than the literature program were \$719. Individual donations and passing the basket raised \$177 and the area contributed \$542 toward these costs. Our correspondence and temporary contact programs continued to provide outside contacts for incarcerated A.A.s and help for those making the transition from the institution to A.A. on the outside. We had 28 requests from men and women getting ready to be released from correctional institutions, 14 from men and 14 from women. All were provided with an A.A. contact from the area to which they are being released. A copy of this report, our Financial Summary and a recap of the literature distributed to correctional facilities are available on request. Thanks for the opportunity to serve.

**Grapevine:** Sylvester S., Chair; Grapevine committee meets regularly the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month at St. Stephens Community Health Center at 17<sup>th</sup> and Joyce at 6 PM. Attendance is consistent at 10-15 GVR's per meeting. Committee is quite enthusiastic about being GVR's. Elections were held in December and elected Chairperson, Co-chairperson, Secretary, Alt Secretary, Treasurer and alt Treasurer. Sales of pocket planners and wall calendars going great. Getting varied opinions of how to increase sales of Grapevines.

**Mini-Conference:** Glen P., Alt Chair; The 2011 Mini-Conference will be held at Salt Fork State Park on March 11-13. All subcommittees are manned and Guests have been confirmed; they are Mary D. from GSO and Pam R. our East Central regional trustee. See attached Summary sheet for the final 2010 financial report.

**Treatment Facilities:** Cindy O., Chair; requested permission to continue as Treatment Facilities Chair in 2011. Co-Chair position filled by Gary. Budget increase of \$50 was requested for 2010 for literature for Salvation Army. Treatment Facilities meeting is changed from monthly at Bob Evans to quarterly at Reynoldsburg Bob Evans at 6:30 PM. 2011 Budget should be for \$250-\$300.

**Information Segment:** What is the relationship between the 12<sup>th</sup> step and the 5<sup>th</sup> tradition?

Glen P. Area Chair

The steps are the recovery legacy and the traditions are the Unity legacy 12<sup>th</sup> Step Having had a spiritual awaking as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics and practice these principles in all our affairs. This is the last step in the recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous. If we work the first 11 steps we will have a spiritual awakening, maybe immediately, but most likely it will develop over time. Once it happens we will be changed in a way that makes it difficult to recognize the old self. We will then have the tools to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to other alcoholics and practice these principles in all of our affairs. Unfortunately we may come to believe that we can also use this spiritual awakening to mend other ills in the world. The 5<sup>th</sup> tradition addresses this eventuality. 5<sup>th</sup> Tradition Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

In the Group pamphlet (P-16) Bill W. says the following about Tradition 5:

“There are those who predict that AA may well become a new spearhead for a spiritual awakening throughout the world. When our friends say these things they are both generous and sincere. But we of AA must reflect that such a prophecy could well prove to be a heady drink for most of us – that is, if we really came to believe this to be the real purpose of AA and if we commence to behave accordingly. Our Society, therefore, will prudently cleave to its single purpose: to carrying of the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Let us resist the proud assumption that since God has enabled us to do well in one area we are destined to be a channel of saving grace for everybody.”

The 12 and 12 starts the chapter on the fifth tradition by saying, “Shoemaker stick to thy last - better do one thing well than many badly.” So the 5<sup>th</sup> tradition provides the framework to keep our feet squarely on the ground and keep us focused on the thing we do best, that is, help the still suffering alcoholic.

**Afternoon Session:** Chaired by Glen P., Area Chair

**Panel 59 Area Officer Reports**

**Recording Secretary, Steve R.**

No Report

**Treasurer, Scott D.**

Area Treasurer’s report was approved unanimously as presented. The report is attached as a separate document.

**Registrar, Brett G.**

No Report

**Area Chairperson, Glen P.**

During the past quarter I have participated in the quarterly Area Committee meeting in Pomeroy, the Redistricting Ad Hoc committee, the Mini conference committee, the Area Finance Committee and the Ohio State Convention committee. I also attended District 32’s startup meeting, a workshop on “Anonymity in the Digital age” sponsored by District 17 and a workshop on the “History of Sponsorship” presented by the Listening Post in District 28. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

**Delegate, Jean S.**

Report in a separate document

**Old Business**

1. Special Needs Guideline Change – Motion made and seconded to approve guideline change for the addition of a standing committee on Special Needs/Accessibility. Approved Unanimously.
2. Ad Hoc Committee on Redistricting  
Motion made and seconded to combine Districts 26 & 27 into District 26. New borders to be Franklin/Delaware county line on the north, Franklin /Licking county line on the East, I70 on the South and Alum Creek on the West. Approved Unanimously

Motion made and seconded to combine Districts 23, 24 and 25 into District 23. New borders to be Franklin/ Delaware county line on the North, Alum Creek on the East, Morse Road on the South and Olentangy River on the West. Approved Unanimously  
Motion made and seconded to combine Districts 37 and 38 into District 37. New borders to be I70 on the North, Franklin /Licking County line on the East, Franklin /Pickaway county line on the South and Scioto River on the West. Approved Unanimously  
Motion and second to combine Districts 34 and 36 into District 34. New borders to be I70 on the North, Scioto River on the East, Franklin/Pickaway county line on the South and Franklin/Madison county line on the West. Approved unanimously.

3. Contributions through the Website. Webmaster Bill Y. explained the advantages of being able to make group and personal contributions to the Area through the website. A motion was made and seconded to have the Webmaster make online contributions a reality. Approved Unanimously

### **New Business**

1. Election of Alternate Delegate. The delegate explained the duties of the Alternate Delegate from the Service Manual. Rick B. read the third legacy procedure and Past Delegate Sharon F. asked all those who qualify to stand. Two people stood and Dave C. was elected the new Alternate Delegate.
2. Special Needs Chair Cathy H. requested funding in the amount of \$300. The request was approved unanimously.
3. Treasurer Scott D. presented the proposed 2011 budget. Amendments were made to add \$300 for Special Needs/Accessibilities Committee and \$200 for Treatment Facilities Committee. A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2011 budget as amended. Approved Unanimously
4. The Delegate explained the GSO request for a survey to determine the theme for the 2012 General Service Conference. She then requested that members return the surveys as soon as possible.
5. The Alternate Chairperson explained the need to look for other meeting places for 2011.
6. A motion was made and seconded to approve \$50 for Treatment Facilities Committee for this year. Approved Unanimously.
7. The Chair introduced the Panel 61 officers.

### **Ask it Basket Questions and Answers**

If you can not be at an Assembly where can you mail information? Paper mail goes to Area 53 General Service P.O. Box 2131 Columbus, OH 43216 or information can be emailed to [contact@area53aa.org](mailto:contact@area53aa.org).

Where do the contributions from the district go?