

Panel 59 Area 53
Minutes of Area Assembly
Sunday, March 14, 2010
Shawnee State Park Lodge and Conference Center

AFTERNOON SESSION: chaired by Glen p., Area 53 Chair

Opening: The Assembly was opened with the Serenity prayer, short form of the 12 Concepts, and introduction of entire assembly.

GSR reports: **After Work Group:** Deb P. GSR, Rick K. alt. GSR; district 26; tuesday 5PM gahanna congregational church; 20-25 home group members, avg attendance 40-50; group conscience every two months; regular contributions; all positions filled; group goes out to dinner every week and welcomes anyone who wishes to join **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 (requires advance notice) ; contributions to COGF, GSO, area, district (50-30-10-10); service positions filled secretary, treasurer, gsr, cfc rep, rotating monthly chair; Anniversary last week of July **Choice is Ours:** Constance C. gsr; district 26/27 meeting time 6:30PM Thursday at Whitehall Park; average attendance 15-20; contributions divided with even split among gso, cogf, area and district; positions gsr, gir, igr, gvr; upcoming events: participation in rule 62 day. **Cliffside 12 & 12:** Spencer G GSR; district 29 # of home group members 10; meets thursday 7:30PM at the Presbyterian church, corner of Calumet and Cliffside in columbus; grp conscience first thursday every month, just had elections; grp contributions 50/30/10/10 quarterly; service positions filled gsr, igr, gir, cpc/pi, grapevine, literature, supplies, coffee. **Clintonville Big Book:** Charles R. gsr, district 29; Tuesday 8 p.m. at Maple grove UM church, Henderson and High, Open big book study; avg. attendance 55, home group members 20; monthly grp conscience, starts with grp inventory; revising our home group list; grp contributions 50-30-10-10 to cogf, gso, area, district; service positions filled: gsr,gir,gvr,cfc, alt cfc, literature person, sec'y, treasurer, alt treasurer, treatment facil. rep.; other info: devilishly handsome **Crossties:** Doug McC gsr; district 23/24; 8pm tuesday open speaker at mt carmel east hospital in basement; 12 home group members with avg attendance 35; grp conscience second tuesday of the month, recently discussed sponsoring GSR's trip to mini-conference; contributions once a month 50-30-20, positions filled gsr, gir, sec, treasurer, literature **Friday night Colonial group;** Steve D. gsr dist 15; 6 home grp members; meets friday 8:30pm open speaker at St. Lukes Episcopal church, marietta; grp conscience last friday of every month with recent topics cooperation with the church, anniversary, format, getting people involved; grp contributions by AA pie chart; service positions filled chairperson, sec'y, treas. gsr; upcoming events 62nd anniversary; other info: new format encourages more grp involvement i.e. next months chair makes coffee and sets up meeting for this month. persons are assigned to read announcements, recognize anniversaries, all readings. this frees up chair to be more of a host or hostess for speaker. **H.O.W. it works Group** Ginny L gsr district 27; thursday 8PM ReynoldsburgUnitedMethodistChurch; big book and 12&12 study; avg attendance 20 with 10 home group members, grp conscience once a month, recently discussing Lord's Prayer as it relates to traditions, how to get more people involved in service, closed vs

open group; contributions quarterly using 50-30-10-10 guidelines; service positions filled gvr, sec'y, gsr, chair, treasurer; upcoming events june picnic; other information: we find ourselves dealing with tradition 6 issues because of the church we rent from and the fact that they have a christian recovery program **If We Work for Them:** Megan A. gsr district 21/22; 18 home group members, with 35 avg attendance; tuesday 8PM, lord of life church, dublin-granville road, Columbus; uses "The unofficial guide to the 12 steps" ; grp conscience first tuesday of every month, recent issues planning grp inventory and 20th anniversary; grp contributions quarterly 60-30-10 with CFC jug as well; service positions filled all except CPC/PI and treatment; 20th anniversary; other information: we offer our literature for free. All we ask is that if you take it, you read it. **Independence Group;** Roger A. gsr dist 27; meets at Church of the Redeemer, 235 Mc Naughten Rd Columbus, Thursday 8:30pm, lead meeting; 43 home grp members, with avg attendance 75; group conscience generally once a month money, contributions, home group members job positions; grp contributions N/A; service positions filled gsr; upcoming events: anniversary in july; other information: best Thursday night meeting in Columbus **Lodestar Group:** Kim S gsr, district 29; 7PM wednesday open step meeting at Overbrook presbyterian Church with avg attendance 40 (25 home group members); group conscience recently moved to first week of the month to increase attendance; contributions gso 30 cogf 50 area 53 10 district 10; positions filled sec'y, treasurer, gsr, igr, babysitting coordinator; upcoming events: anniversary july 2010 **Monday Night Steps and Traditions:** Paul B, GSR, district 23; 7 p.m. monday, Meadow Park Church of God, Bethel Road, Columbus; avg. attendance 20, with 12 home group members; monthly grp conscience; contributions 50-30-10-10 made whenever treasury reaches \$200, with \$20 prudent reserve; service positions filled: gsr, sec'y, GVR, IGR; upcoming events: annual showing of "Bill W. speaks on the Traditions" other info: group goes out to dinner once a month **Nelsonville Buckeye Big Book Study;** Peggy F. gsr, district 16; 2 home group members; meets monday 8PM (BB study) at Doctors Hospital, avg attendance 9; monthly grp conscience; grp contributions made when able; service positions filled: sec'y treasurer, gsr, chairperson **New Freedom Dublin;** Chere Y. gsr, district 22; 50 home group members; meets friday 7:15AM at Dublin Community Church; grp contributions we always get a letter thanking us for our contributions; service positions all are filled. **Out to Lunch Bunch:** Sherri S. gsr, district 17; 3 home group members; meets 12 PM Tuesday discussion at Prestera center, corner of 8th and Main; grp conscience last tuesday of the month, recently discussing mini-conference, losing a home group member to this disease, what we can do to help those still suffering inside and outside of the meetings; contributions once a month district 50 area 30 gso 20; service positions filled: gsr, alt. gsr, treasurer; upcoming events: workshop on service work in the home group **Pleasant Valley Group:** Mark G. gsr district 17 10 home group members; meets monday 7:30 PM, Thursday 7:30PM, Saturday 8PM at Presbyterian Church, corner of 8th and Main; avg attendance 16; group conscience once a month, recently discussing concerns about individual carrying a weapon at meetings; decision made to take no action as for as adding anything to preamble, situations in future will be handled individually; grp contrib 50 district 30 intergroup 20 gso; service positions filled: gsr, alt. gsr, treasurer; other information: we have been distributing meeting list and literature locally **Pomeroy Serenity Group:** Mickey D, gsr district 17; 8 home grp members; avg attendance 10; meets sund 7pm step thursday 7 pm closed discussion, saturday and friday bb study (*note: not sure about accuracy of meeting times due to difficulty transcribing*); monthly grp conscience first sunday 5pm prior to district meeting; grp contrib. 40 gso 20 intergroup 20 district 20 columbus; service positions filled gsr, alt gsr, treas, sec'y; upcoming events: stepping through steps april, homegroup workshop may; other info: recently visited all "wind-up" places (hospitals pros. atty, judges, lawyers, drs. and mental health facilities... leaving literature, BB, meeting lists. we have seen an increase in newcomers attending. **Reynoldsburg Women's 12**

& 12: Toi I gsr district 27. saturday 10 am at the church of the redeemer, McNaughton road; 12 home group members, with avg attendance 35; quarterly group conscience; 50-30-10-10- to district, area gso, cogf; positions filled gsr, igr, gvr, gir sec'y, treasurer; 2 year anniversary just held **Ropeholders men's meeting:** larry M. gsr meets at Karl Road Baptist Church, 7pm tuesday, BB discussion with LWS; 10 home group members; average attendance 40; group conscience average one every two months, recently discussing how to become more active in both our home grp and area 53; recently voted to contribute quarterly to gso, area, cogf, and cfc; positions filled sec'y, treasurer, gsr, gir, igr, grapevine; other information: trying to gain interest in doing gorup inventory, still excited about becoming active in area 53 **Southeast Breakfast Group:** Annie B. gsr, district 26/27: 50 home grp members; meets Sunday 9AM (lead) Mt. Carmel East Hospital Columbus, avg attendance 80; grp conscience last sunday of the month; positions filled gsr, igr, gvr, sec'y, treasurer; upcoming events: anniversary April date TBD. **Serenity Group:** Bob R. gsr district 15, 10 home group members; meets 12 noon monday-saturday, saturday night 7:PM and sunday 1PM at 431 3rd street Marietta 45750, avg attendance 25; grp conscience last friday of month; contributions monthly to district; service positions filled: gsr, sec'y/treasurer, alt. gsr; other information: started sturday night meeting open discussion one month ago. attendance has grown from 15 to 21 **Solutions Group;** Kate B. gsr district 25, 12 home group members; closed discussion, meeting at Westerville Community Church, avg attendance 30-35; group conscience second monday of every other month, discussing group inventory and service positions; contributions quarterly or as need 60 cogf 30 area 53 10 gso; service positions filled: gsr, igr, gvr, sec'y, treasurer with alternates; upcoming events: none planned **Three Legacies Group:** Barry W GSR, district 36 ; Sunday 7PM at Hope Memorial Presby. church, 2930 West Broad street in Columbus; rotating format (step/ tradition/concept/sponsorship) average attendance 15 with 9 home grp members; grp conscience quarterly at a home grp member's home, recently deciding to sign court slips and return them at the start of the meeting, and considered changing format to all literature based, same topics; group contributions quarterly to 100% to GSO; service positions filled:GIR, IGR, GSR, CPC/PI, GVR, literature, nite owl, coffee, chair (rotating), sec'y, treasurer Tradition 3 Happy Hour Group: Penny B. gsr; meets seven days a week, varying format, at 1621 W. 5th Ave. Grandview; 20 home group members; with avg attendance 20-25; group conscience first tuesday of every month, with group inventory recently completed; contributions 50-30-10-10, also second basket for central office contributions; positions filled co-secretaries, treasurer, gsr, igr, gir, gvr **Tri-County Group;** Dee S. gsr, district 17; 14 home group members; meets tuesday and wednesday 8PM, thursday 12 noon, friday 8PM at St Peter's Episcopal Church, 541 2nd Avenue, Gallipolis, avg attendance 12-20; grp conscience once monthly on last tuesday, agreed to add "no weapons allowed at meeting" to opening of meeting; grp contributions 50 district 30 intergroup 20 gso; all service positions filled; upcoming events: planning to host district 17 workshop on homegroup with focus on service positions **Two for One Group:** Cathleen R. GSR, district 15; two meetings a week 7 p.m. thursday 12 & 12, 10 am saturday Big Book; First Presby. Church, 4th and Wooster, Marietta; avg. attendance 16, 14 home group members; group conscience first thursday every month following tradition study, conducting group inventory; contributions monthly to CFC, GSO, district 15, area 53, cogf; service positions filled sec'y, treasurer, gsr alt. gsr; upcoming events:21st breakfast anniversary (lead) April 17. **Westerville Women's Recovery;** Catherine H gsr, district 25; 25 home grp members; meets Thursday 7:45 PM Church of Christ 74 S. Spring St., Westerville (big book or 12&12 read and discuss) avg attendance 20?; grp conscience monthly ordinary housekeeping issues only, nothing new to discuss; contributions as suggested in pamphlet as often as prudent reserve is exceeded; service positions filled sec, treasurer, gir, igr, gsr **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; 26 home grp members, with avg attendance 18; Grp conscience first saturday monthly, recently discussing eliminating crosstalk, written start to open meeting, anniversary details, should/could/ group cover gsr expenses to mini-conference ; group contributions 50% COGF 30% GSO, 20% Area; service positions filled: rotating chair, gsr and alt gsr, sec'y, alt. sec'y, treasurer, GVR; upcoming group events: anniversary March 20 8:30 potluck, 9:30 lead (Peg S.), celebrating original meeting 3/5/1983; other information: sponsor mtg at women's pre-release center 2x month, collection 3rd week for literature for women's pre-release center.

Women's HOW: Megan Z gsr, district 28-29; average attendance 50-60 with 40 home grp members; Saturday at 9:30AM closed step meeting at East North Broadway Methodist, Columbus; grp conscience once a month (second saturday) when issues arise; group contributions 50-30-10-10 and change for our incarcerated friends; service positions: chair, sec'y, treasurer, grapevine rep, gsr upcoming events: spring anniversary; other information: babysitting and an ASL interpreter **Women's Wisdom by Candlelight;** Peg S. gsr district 32; 36 home grp members; meets 7pm tuesday closed discussion at St. Luke's Church, 5th Avenue, Columbus; group conscience bimonthly, crosstalk prohibition, anniversary prep. (july 20) newcomer packet, policy for format if someone is at their first meeting; grp contributions 50-30-10-10 cogf, gso, area 53, district, made whenever we have \$100 in our prudent reserve; service positions filled: joint sec'y, treasurer, GVR, GSR, IGR; upcoming events july 20 anniversary **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 20; 2 home group members; grp conscience: have not had one in several months; Group contributions: none last quarter; service positions filled: gsr, sec'y, treasurer; upcoming events: none; other info:group had to close due to lack of financial support and lack of participation. last meeting was February 16

Consolidated DCM Reports (presented by DCM chair): not available

Committee Reports:

Archives: (Thomas V.): The Archives are alive and well, also they are safe and secure. In February 2010 the archivist was informed that the room rented by area 53 for the archives would be terminated by March 1, 2010. A new storage facility was found and the move was instituted on 25 Feb 2010. The archives are now stored at the Westerville Mini-Storage in a climate controlled environment. The price for this space is about the same as the rent previously paid to RAC. With the archives being secured, a search is continuing to find a more permanent place for the archives. Any questions or comments, please contact the archivist.

CFC Committee (Steve S., Chair)The Area 53 Correctional Facility Committee held its Quarterly meeting on March 8 at Oakland Park United Methodist Church. In the first quarter of this year, \$3,600 was approved to purchase literature. Actual purchases were \$3,400; the balance was added to the purchase authorization for the second quarter. We distributed \$3,000 of the literature to outside sponsors who carried it into correctional institutions in the Area. This left us with a literature inventory of approximately \$400 at the beginning of March. In the first quarter, we distributed 163 "Big Books" and 120 "12 & 12"s, which accounted for 49% of the total distributed. In addition, we distributed 279 other conference-approved books and 652 pamphlets. Group contributions from the "Spare Change" jugs totaled \$5,182 in the first quarter.

We approved \$5,300 for purchases in the second quarter (which included the carryover from the first quarter). An order for \$5,199 was placed with COGF on March 10. The first quarter's cost of renting meeting rooms and buying stamps for our correspondence program was \$144. We collected \$36 by passing the basket at our Quarterly and the Area provided the other \$108. 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. Sign up forms for these programs are available on the CFC display table. We presented an informational session on Friday before the start of the Mini-Conference. Our Annual Spring Workshop is scheduled for April 10 from 9am-3pm at Maple Grove United Methodist Church. It is free and lunch will be provided. There will be 3 panels: one composed of Correctional Professionals, one composed of AAs who got sober while incarcerated, and one composed of current GIRs and Outside Sponsors. We'll also have 2 leads from AAs who are currently incarcerated – the result of our strong cooperative relationship with the Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections. The workshop is self-supporting: the costs are covered donations from several groups in the Area and passing the basket. No money from the jug or the Area budget is used for this workshop. A Workshop Flyer is available on the CFC display table. A copy of this report and our Financial Summary are available on request. Thanks for the opportunity to serve...

Grapevine Committee (Sylvester S., Chair): We continue to have monthly meetings on the first Friday of the month. We now meet at the the St. Stephen community center, 1500 17th Avenue. Monthly attendance was poor with the bad weather, but has picked up immensely Our first workshop was held at this mini-conference. It was well attended and went well. We are trying to get more grapevines in the jails as we work with corrections committee. we plan to have a display at the spring round up. Overall, the Grapevine Committee participation and attendance is doing well.

Panel 59 Area 53 Officer Reports:

Recording secretary (Steve R): Minutes from December 2009 presented. No questions or comments. Minutes approved by acclamation.

Registrar (Kelly C): All group change and role received by March 12, 2010 have been made. For inclusion in the 2010 Regional directory, please have updates to me or GSO by April 23, 2010. Only those registered as their group's GSR will receive a GSR packet. email contact is registrar@area53aa.org

Treasurer (Scott D):

Area 53 Treasurer's Report

March 14, 2010

Beginning Balance 2010	7,253.59
Birthday Club	0.00
Unity Day/Mini-Conference	0.00
Interest on Checking	0.00
Group Contributions	\$3,229.53
Total Funds Available 2010	10,483.12

		2010	%
		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Achieved</u>
<u>Officers Expenses</u>			
GSO Expense-Delegate to NY	2,500.00	2500.00	100.00%
Delegate Fund International	0.00	400.00	0.00%
Delegate Expenses	0.00	3000.00	0.00%
Chairperson/Alternate Chair Expense	0.00	1200.00	0.00%
Alternate Delegate Expense	44.00	2000.00	2.20%
Delegate-Past Delegate Conf.	0.00	750.00	0.00%
Other Officers to Area/State Conf.	194.00	1500.00	12.93%
Total Officers Expenses	2,738.00	11,350.00	24.12%
<u>Operating Expenses</u>			
Rent to RAC room/Archives	0.00	1000.00	0.00%
Postage, Copies and Supplies	241.60	600.00	40.27%
Post Office Box	0.00	26.00	0.00%
Minutes of Meetings-Copies	0.00	600.00	0.00%
Minutes-Mailings	0.00	450.00	0.00%
Bank Service Charges	0.00	30.00	0.00%
Web Site/Web Services	0.00	120.00	0.00%
Total Operating Expenses	241.60	2,826.00	8.55%
<u>Meeting/Conference Expenses</u>			
DCM Meetings/Inventory	157.49	500.00	31.50%
Assembly Meetings	0.00	500.00	0.00%
Unity Day	0.00	150.00	0.00%
Hospitality Room-State Conference	0.00	200.00	0.00%
Total Meeting/Conference Exp.	157.49	1,350.00	11.67%
<u>Committee Funding Expenses</u>			
Archives Committee	0.00	400.00	0.00%
CPC/PIC	77.00	200.00	38.50%
Correctional Facilities Committee	0.00	600.00	0.00%
Treatment Facilities Committee	100.00	100.00	100.00%
Grapevine	0.00	350.00	0.00%
Group Services	0.00	300.00	0.00%
Mini-Conference	0.00	300.00	0.00%
Total Committee Expense		2250.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,314.09	17,776.00	18.64%

Ending Balance 3/14/2010

7,169.03 Prudent Reserve: \$2,500

	Int. Conf.
	Delegate
	Fund
Beg. Balance	2,010.69
2010 Deposits	0
Interest	0
Balance 3/14/10	2,010.69

Delegate (Jean S): Service work has kept me very busy since our December Assembly. I have attended the Area Committee Meeting, the Mini-Conference Planning Meetings, Area District Meetings, monthly area committee meetings, the COGF Open House, the Ad Hoc Special-Needs Planning Meetings, The Delegates Past and Present Conference in Kalamazoo, MI. and chaired a workshop there, attended the Area 55 Mini-Conference in Perrysburg, OH, read the 700 pages of background material for the General Service Conference and selected agenda items from this and prepared the folders for the Mini-Conference with the help of wonderful volunteers. I want to keep our Area informed and up-dated with the latest news that I have received. I hope you will share this with your districts and groups A.A.W.S.: A goal for 2010 is the planning meetings for the G.S.O. E-Technology team that will address use of digital, web and e-technology tools that will be most effective in communicating with the Fellowship in the new decade. The new "Contributions – on-Line" should be up and running by May. Area registrars are being asked to up-date group information so that Regional Directories can be printed in 2010. (2009 Directories were not printed as a cost-saving measure).

Two Class A. Trustees were selected after interviews to be on the proposed slate presented to the Conference: Michele Grinberg, an attorney, and John Fronson, M.D.

Financial: Gross profits were literature for 2009 were over \$8 M. Contributions were down by 2 ½%. The net profit was 1.2M. The Reserve Fund is at approximately 9 months operating expenses

Publications: Sales were up 5%, primarily due to early sales before the price increases became effective. Grapevine: The Grapevine is in difficult financial straits, with the loss of 7000 subscriptions last year, resulting in a loss of \$128,000 +. La Vina lost over \$54,000. Please make talking about the Grapevine at your District and groups a matter of priority.

C.P.C.: The Committee will begin selecting stories for the Special Needs Recovery pamphlet. They have extended the deadline for submission of stories and encourage the Fellowship to participate. The information is on the www.a.a.org website.

Public Information: There is an opening for a Non-Trustee Appointed Committee member for the Trustees' Committee of Public Information. They are seeking an A.A. member with expertise in media communications. See me for procedures and applications.

International Convention: The International Convention will be held in San Antonio, TX. on July 1-4, 2010, with over 32,000 registrations made. This can be accessed on the website.

Volunteers and host committees are being formed. Invitations to speak at the hundreds of meetings, panels, and presentations are being sent to members of the Fellowship. If you have been asked to share your experience, strength, and hope please let me know so that Area participants can be there to support you.

A growing concern is the thousands of anonymity breaks that are occurring on social networking sites and at A.A. events. A grave concern is the use of cell phone cameras at the International Convention. Once more we need to remember that upholding our Tradition of Anonymity is our personal responsibility.

I'm excited about attending the General Service Conference in New York in April and already making plans with some districts to report to them the news, decisions, and actions that will be the result of that week. I'd be more than happy to make arrangements with your district or group. Please feel free to contact me about this or any other matters in which I could assist.

Thank you for allowing me to participate in this gift of service as your Area 53 Delegate. In Love and Service, Jean Smythe, Delegate

Old Business:

1. **Special Needs Ad Hoc Committee report:** This Ad-Hoc Committee presented a draft proposal of a statement of purpose for a Special Needs Committee. The Ad Hoc committee felt that a newly formed Special Needs committee should be a free standing and separate

committee, rather than a subcommittee of an already existant standing committee. Much discussion ensued. No vote was taken. The draft statement of purpose is appended to the minutes.

2. **Area 53 Re-Districting Ad Hoc Committee:** nothing to report at this time. The committee will be meeting soon.

New Business:

1. **Unity Day:** This year it will be held on August 22 at Whitehall Park. More details will be forthcoming.

2. **Proposed Revisions to Area Guidelines:** The revisions below were presented to the assembly. The revisions will be voted on at the June 2010 assembly.

The Mini-Conference Standing Committee requests the following revisions to the Area 53 Guidelines regarding the Mini-Conference Standing Committee:

Under VIII, remove:

2. a. *The committee members of the standing committee (except mini-conference) shall elect the Chairperson.*

Under IX – Committee areas of activity, remove:

10. *Mini Conference Committee*

- c. *Shall be chaired by the Area 53 Alternate Delegate*

3. **Proposed Funding Revision for 2011 Area 53 Mini-Conference:** A proposal for changes in the funding of the 2011 Mini-conference was presented. The Mini-Conference committee proposes that the Area offer the 2011 mini-conference without a registration fee for those who would attend. The committee further proposes that Area 53 fund the mini-conference with an amount of \$20 per person for an estimated attendance of 150 registrants for the 2011 mini-conference (\$3000). This money would be used for supplies and coffee (as was the previously collected registration fees). Area 53 is spending approx. \$3000 per year now that space is no longer rented in the RAC building. It was felt that because of this decrease in spending, the Area could afford to make the mini-conference free of registration fees. The committee proposes that for practicality, funds from the current year's budget would be encumbered for the following year's mini-conference. Much discussion ensued. No vote was taken.

Meeting adjourned with Lord's Prayer

Humbly and Apologetically submitted,

Steve R.

Panel 59 Area 53 Recording Secretary

Draft Purpose Statement – Area 53 Special Needs Committee

The purpose of the Area 53 Special Needs Committee is to explore, develop and offer resources to make the A.A. message and participation in our program available to alcoholics who have special needs that limit their access to the full A.A. experience.¹ A.A.'s with special needs are persons who are blind or visually impaired; deaf or hard of hearing; chronically ill or homebound, and those who are developmentally disabled.² The members of the Special Needs Committee shall establish and implement service priorities for A.A.s with special needs at the individual, group, district, and area level.³

¹ GSO AA Guidelines, "Serving Alcoholics with Special Needs," 2nd paragraph.

² GSO AA Guidelines, "Serving Alcoholics with Special Needs," 1st paragraph.

³ "Special Needs/Accessibilities Workbook," A.A. World Services (2008), generalized statement developed from review of "Suggested Activities," p. 10