

**Panel 61 Area 53
Minutes of Area Assembly
December 11, 2011
The Moose Lodge, Lancaster Ohio**

Opening: Opening: The morning session of the assembly was chaired by Panel 61 Alternate Chairperson, Scott D. The assembly opened at 10:20 am with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer and a reading of short form of the 12 Concepts. An explanation of the Ask-It Basket was given. The entire assembly introduced themselves. The assembly was attended by 18 GSRs, 5 DCMs, and 2 past delegates. Area 53 Panel 61 Delegate and Alt. Delegate; Chairperson and Alt. Chairperson; Recording Secretary; Registrar; Treasurer and Alt. Treasurer were also in attendance. Standing Committees represented at the assembly included CFC; Group Services; Special Needs, CPC/PI and the Grapevine. There were a total of 43 attendees, 38 of which were voting members.

Panel 61 GSR and DCM Reports

Groups that were represented at the assembly by either a general service representative (GSR) or an alternate: The Dirty Dozen Group, Good Morning Breakfast Group, Hilliard Big Book Group, Tri-County Group, Pomeroy Group, The How It Works Group of AA, Lodestar, Shawnee Group, Clintonville Big Book, Gahanna Early Bird, Westerville Women's Recovery Group, Sunset Women's Group, West Side Beginners Group, Rope Holders Men's Meeting, Monday Night step and Traditions, 2 for 1 Group, Three Legacies Group, and The Pleasant Valley Group.

Districts that were represented at the assembly by either a district committee member (DCM) or an alternate: District 17, District 15, District 19, District 26, and District 12.

Panel 61 Standing Committee Reports

Group Services Committee:

Chairperson Bill Y. (614-270-0593) or groupservices@area53aa.org

The primary activities of the committee are GSR School and website updates. If you are interested in getting involved in either of these service projects, please contact Bill Y., chair. / The Group Services Committee will start holding regular meetings in October somewhere in the Sunbury OH area. Committee meeting participation will be possible via conference call. / There is an online form for requesting GSR School. Please use it to propose a time and place for a GSR School in your area. / There are copies of the 2008-2009 Service Manual for

sale for \$1. The current edition is 2010-11. These are a great deal to share with those who might be interested in finding out more about general service.

Correctional Facilities Committee

Chairperson: Peggy A. (614-678-2512) or cfcchair@area53aa.org

Committee Meeting: Oakland Park United Methodist Church 994 Oakland Park Col. Ohio at 10:00 Quarterly March, June, Sept, and Dec.

The Correctional Committee Quarterly was held on Saturday December 3 2011 at the Oakland Park United Methodist Church 10:00a.m. The committee would like to let everyone know that we are ready and willing to attend any function, to explain what our committee does, and how you can be a part of it. The committee would also like to let everyone know that we need people to be participants in the correspondence program, if interested please contact us at area53cfc@gmail.com, or contact Bob B. our corresponding secretary. / The Area 53 corrections committee is happy to announce our 9th Annual Workshop on April 21, 2012 beginning 9 am-3:00 at Maple Grove United Methodist Church Corner of Henderson and High Street. If interested in being a part of the planning committee, contact Tom B. / Please remember when sending money to the corrections committee, that you do not send them to or drop them off at COGF please send them to, area53cfc, P.O. box 1201 Columbus Ohio 43216 we are very grateful for all contributions, our committee has asked to be included on re-entry coalition website as a resource to ex-offenders and to be included in re-entry fairs. / This quarter we collected \$5,127.67 from the jugs voted on and approved \$4900.00 for literature. Let me stress to you that the jug money goes strictly for literature and that is all. After taking care of all expenses we would like to ask the area for \$14.84 for our line items thanks to everyone who contributes time, money, knowledge, to the committee.

Mini-Conference Committee

Chairperson, Dave C. (614-882-0036) or miniconference@area53aa.org

Committee Meeting: meets once a month, most months, at 6:30 pm at the Oakland Park United Methodist Church 994 Oakland Park Columbus Ohio.

Committee has had 3 monthly meetings since the last assembly. Received commitments from District 28 and 26 to host the Registration Table and Hospitality Room responsibilities, respectively. / Area 53 Standing Committees and COGF and intergroup were contacted about making Friday afternoon presentations during the 2012 Mini Conference set for March 9-11, at Salt Fork Resort & Conference Center. / Group Services; Grapevine; Corrections; CPC/PI; Special Needs and COGF are currently committed. / In addition to the Mini Conference we are making progress in the development of a year 'round tabletop display to inform and attract A.A.s into participation on the Mini Conference committee. / The committee's goal is to raise awareness of the Area 53 Mini Conference and also, highlight A.A. General Service history and mission to make more and better 12th step work possible. / Next meeting will be January 12, 2012.

Grapevine Committee: Chairperson, Sylvester S. (614-501-1571)

Groups that have GVRs, please tell them that the committee meets the first Friday every month at St. Stephens Community Center. Our committee meetings are attended by 12-13 GVR's. We recently sent 600 flyers to all the group secretaries providing information about the Grapevine Committee. Our turnover is high, we have new people all of the time, which means new ideas. We decided to take on some organizational projects- 1 year Grapevine subscription to Netcare. Delegate from Vermont has given us a subscription challenge, we have accepted that challenge and so far have 12 -13 new subscriptions. We donated some 50 old Grapevines to give to institutions, we has a display at the Plug in the Jug anniversary, where we sold some subscriptions, many took subscription forms. Newer things—the Mini-Conference hospitality suite, we offered to help out. I have been going to the MC committee meetings to figure out what more we can do. We are thinking of having a Grapevine Day. We realize it is going to be lots of work. We are going to use the committee funds, not to order more calendars, but to try to do a Grapevine Day. This isn't about selling magazines, no, it is service work. Boy Scouts has Boys' Life, AA has the Grapevine, which is now published in 3 different languages.

PI/CPC Committee

Chairperson, Nita S.; (614-395-8703) or cpcpichair@area53.org

The committee continues to take an information session into Netcare. The Grapevine committee voted to give a one-year subscription to our Netcare project. We continue to have a literature and information display at the Adult Parole Authority of the O.D.R.C. and hope to facilitate an information session for parole officers in 2012. We continue to place business cards with COGF contact information in places where alcoholics might go before they find A.A. With their permission, we are placing business cards in the lobbies of several libraries in central Ohio. / At our committee meeting, when time allows, we review literature relevant to CPC/PI so committee members become familiar with the traditions that govern our committee's purposes. Our committee continues to cooperate with the COGF PI Committee. / In 2012, we hope to participate, jointly with the COGF PI Committee, in the Addiction Studies Institute. Our committee's portion of the conference fee is included in the proposed 2012 budget. / We organized an exhibit at the Ohio Catholic Education Association conference. All other Areas of Ohio as well as COGF PI committee participated. To help us look professional at conferences, health fairs, member and other information sessions, our committee updated our display. The CPC/PI committee will prepare a workshop about Anonymity in the New Media to present to the districts or individual groups in 2012.

The Special Needs / Accessibilities Committee

Chairperson: Cathy H.

Committee Meeting: COGF at 3rd Saturday of Month - 10:00 AM

The committee met twice since the last Assembly and will have final meeting of the quarter on Saturday, December 17. / Projects currently in progress: finding a meeting/AAs to sponsor a meeting at a rehab facility in Columbus, improvements to our display board for

the mini-conference, preparation for materials to distribute to DCMs/GSRs/meetings to get committee members, and development of a list individual AAs willing to help with visits to AAs who are in care facilities or who are home-bound, help non-driving AAs get to meetings and develop their own ride lists. / COGF is continuing to refer calls to us (at the rate of 2 or 3 per month) from care facilities and AAs who are homebound or unable to drive because of their disability. We are handling these calls on an ad hoc basis by contacting AAs we know in the pertinent geographic area to help respond to the need. / The chair and several other committee members attended the Regional Forum. We made contact with AAs from several other committees and also got to see a good display of the many AA materials available for members with special needs.

Standing Committees not reporting at the assembly: Intergroup Liaison Committee is currently unpopulated.

BREAK FOR LUNCH- at 12:20pm. Resumed at 1:20pm

Afternoon session chaired by, Kay H. Area 53 Panel 61 Chairperson

Informational Segment, --"Sprit of Rotation" presented by Dave C., Panel 61 Alternate Delegate. (This presentation can be found in its entirety at area53aa.org.)

Panel 61 Area Officer Reports

Secretary Report:

Debbie R. (740-274-1185) or secretary@area53aa.org

Distributed September 2011 Assembly Minutes. A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Jim F. (740-357-8996) or treasurer@area53aa.org

Distributed December 11, 2011 Treasurers Reports (attached and available on the website). A motion was made to approve the treasurer's report as presented by Jim F.; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Registrar's Report:

Kelly C. (740-568-9140) or registrar@area53aa.org

We have a total of 400 GSRs and a total of 20 DCMs listed in Area 53 Fellowship New Vision (FNV). Since the last assembly, I updated for 10 GSRs and 3 DCMs. I made the changes in FNV for the redistricting of Franklin County. / If you would like to receive the Area 53 minutes by Email or Snail mail just please see me today. We are currently collecting names and addresses on a master list and for now we will be updating it as needed./ As a

reminder, if there are any changes in your group or district, please feel free to contact either myself, or your alternate registrar Dan H.

Chairperson's Report:

Kay H. (740-797-3126) or chairperson@area53aa.org

I attended the District 16 Traditions Workshop, the Area Committee Meeting, the Regional Forum, and the West Side Beginner's Anniversary Dinner. I continue to work with all of the Area officers & chairpersons with the day to day functioning of the area. I have reserved our 2012 meeting location, which will be here at that the moose, the assemblies as well as the committee meetings. Jan 8 is our next scheduled Committee meeting, so that will be held here. Our march assembly will be held at salt fork in conjunction with our Mini-Conference, and remaining 3 assemblies will be held here in Lancaster. I have begun the planning process for the 2013 State Conference, which this area is hosting, if any of you are interested in serving on the planning committee please see after this meeting and I will get your email address. We will need to select a site for the 2013 State Conference within the next couple of months.

Alternate Delegate's Report

Dave C. (614-882-0036) or altdelegate @area 53aa.org

Chaired 3 Area 53 Mini Conference monthly meetings; Attended the District 16 Workshop 10/1/11; Was a panelist at the District 12 Workshop 10/29/11; Attended the Area 53 Group Services' & District 19-sponsored GSR School held 11-19-11 in Sabina, Ohio; Spoke at the Clintonville Big Book panel on Service 11/8/11; Attended the East Central Regional Forum Nov 11-13, Miamisburg Ohio; Attended the Area 53 Corrections committee quarterly meeting 12-3-11; Helped with the COGF Advisory Board elections, 12-10-11

Delegate's Report:

Glen P. (740-983-6693) or delegate@area53aa.org

During the past quarter I attended the following: District 26's Rule 62 Day, Grapevine Committee meeting, Special Needs-Accessibilities' committee meeting (2), BYOBB committee meeting(3), District 17's DCM meeting for Delegates report, Mini-conference Committee meetings (3), District 12 workshop, East Central Regional Forum, District 19's GSR school and moderated COGF Board elections.

We've gotten the communication from JM in area 54 who is program chairman for this coming year's state convention. He sent along the line up of panels that are being planned during the weekend. There are eight and the lineup looks very good. Over the next couple months we will be looking for people who are interested in presenting at one of the eight panels I have one taker already. If you look over the topics and something strikes you please let me know and we will talk about submitting your name as one of the panelists. Just see me after the meeting and I will give you a list of the panel topics. One probably not too many people are that qualify for or nobody gets to volunteer for will be the old-timers panel. The subject of the old-timers panel is what service was like back then.

I got my winter edition of box 459 the other day and I noticed right off that there is a deadline for AA directories. The article indicates that GSO is in the process of updating group records in order to publish a new directory mid next year. They're saying that hard copies of updates should be to GSO by May 4 and FNV updates by May 11, 2012. If your group did not get listed in the current directory please get a group change form and fill it out with the correct information and remember to check the box at the bottom that says okay to publish. I think not checking that box has gotten a lot of groups left out of the directory that wanted to be there, so make sure that that you check the box if you want to be in the directory. For help with any of that please see Kelly Cummings he will be happy to help you out.

Also arriving recently is the announcement that e-books will be available in early December that is the big book in the 12 steps and 12 traditions will be available in English French and Spanish in early December for the e-reader for Apple devices the android version of the AA E reader will be available approximately one month later. The AA e reader app may be obtained at no charge from the Apple App Store and Android Market.

The AWS committee reviewed the inventory of publications department's unfunded projects and advised moving three projects forward for inclusion in the 2012 budget. These items are the American sign language and CD formats for the new pamphlet AA for alcoholics with special needs; large print formats in French of the big book and 12 steps and 12 traditions and conference advisory actions summary booklet from 1989 to 2011 in French and Spanish.

From a financial standpoint we had total revenue from contributions, gross profit literature sales, and interest earned of \$10,500,000. Contributions totaled 4.5 million, the gross margin from literature sales was \$6.0 million and interest income was \$529.
Glen Peden

Old Business:

1. Finance Committee- Exempt Organization Application—presented by Kay H.-- application is in the mail and I will keep the Area posted with any developments. For those of you that are new, in March 2011 the Area 53 voted to apply for its own 5019(C)(3) status and that application has just been submitted to the Internal Revenue Service. Thanks for all of you that helped with process, especially Cathy H.

2. Guideline Revision Request re: June Assembly—A guideline revision request was submitted to the Sept 11 Assembly and the October Committee Meeting voted to place it on today's agenda. According to the Area Guidelines: a proposed guideline change is presented at next Area Assembly (this one). At that time, a limited discussion will occur, and a vote to consider the proposed change will be taken. If a majority of the Area Members present vote to consider the change, the change will be placed on the agenda for the following Area

Assembly Meeting (March). Comments and questions ensued. Steve S. called the question. Vote was taken; motion passes with one nay vote and one abstention. Minority opinion spoke. No one changed their vote in response to the minority opinion. Take this back to your groups, if you need copies, the guideline revision is available on the website. We will be voting on this item at the March Assembly, which is a great reason to bring your GSRs to the Mini-Conference.

New Business:

1. Election: Alternate Recoding secretary- Elected Alternate Recording Secretary has resigned, the Area needs to elect a new one. Sharon F., past delegate, lead a third legacy procedure to solicit a nomination, none were forthcoming.
2. Regional Forum Report—presented by Steve S., Alternate Treasurer
3. 2012 Budget—Panel 61 Treasurer presented the 2012 as compiled by the Area's Finance Committee. Several clarifying questions were asked. The Chairperson moved that the Budget be approved as presented. Treasurer asked that the 2012 Budget bank fees line item be adjusted to \$54 from \$30 to allow for the purchase of checks. Motion was amended, motion was seconded. Motion passed.

Ask-it-Basket Q & A's:

There were no questions in the Ask-it-Basket.

AREA 53 PROPOSED REVISION FOR ASSEMBLY MEETING DATES

Proposal submitted to Assembly on 9/11/2011. Approved by the Assembly for consideration by groups on 12/11/2011. Will be on Assembly agenda for discussion and action on 3/11/2012.

Existing Guideline

IV. Meetings of the Area 53 Assembly

1. The full Area 53 Assembly will meet on the second Sunday of the months of March, June, September and December.
2. These meetings shall be held in a convenient location and may be moved from community to community with Area 53.

Proposed Guideline Revision

IV. Meetings of the Area 53 Assembly

1. The full Area 53 Assembly will meet as follows:
 - a. In March on the second Sunday.
 - b. In June on the first Sunday.
 - c. In September on the second Sunday.
 - d. In December on the second Sunday.
2. The assemblies shall be held in a convenient location and may be moved from community to community within Area 53.