

**Panel 61 Area 53  
Minutes of Area Assembly  
Sunday June 13, 2011  
The Moose Lodge, Lancaster Ohio**

**Opening:** The morning session of the assembly was chaired by Panel 61 Alternate Chairperson, Scott D. The assembly was opened at 10:17 am with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer and a reading of short form of the 12 Concepts by Sharon F. An explanation of the Ask-It Basket was given. The entire assembly introduced themselves. The assembly was attended by 19 GSRs, 7 DCMs, 3 past delegates, and 2 interested AAs. Area 53 Panel 61 Delegate and Alt. Delegate; Chairperson and Alt. Chairperson; Alt. Recording Secretary; Registrar and Alt. Registrar; Treasurer and Alt. Treasurer were also in attendance. Standing Committees represented at the assembly included CFC; Grapevine; Group Services; PI/CPC.

**Panel 61 GSR and DCM Reports**

**Groups** that were represented at the assembly by either a general service representative (GSR) or an alternate:

Hilliard Big Book Group	The Dirty Dozen Group
2 for 1 Group	Monday Night Steps and Traditions
Clintonville Big Book Group	Back to Basics Group of AA
Three Legacies Group	Unity Group
Sunday Evening Mercy M.H.	Tradition III Happy Hour Group
10:30 Midmorning Group	The Upper Room Group
After Work Group	Women's Early Bird
Rise & Shine	Wednesday Promises

**Districts** that were represented at the assembly by either a district committee member (DCM) or an alternate: Districts 15, 7, 12, 28, 4, 20 and 21

GSR and DCM reports from the June assembly can be found at [www.area53aa.org](http://www.area53aa.org).

**Panel 61 Standing Committee Reports**

**Group Services Committee:**

Chairperson Bill Y. (614-270-0593) or [groupservices@area53aa.org](mailto:groupservices@area53aa.org)  
Committee Meeting: No regular committee meeting at this time

The Group Services Committee does not currently hold regular meetings. 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./ A GSR School was held in Springfield (District 12) on March 26 and there were about 35 enthusiastic people in attendance, including

some from outside Area 53. Some of those that attended are here at the June assembly for the very first time. Thanks to DCM, Frank G., and others who organized and set it up. The next GSR School is being planned for Franklin county sometime in August. 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./The current GSR School Workbook is out-of-date. It has officer and committee chair contact data for 2009-10 and the district maps do not reflect the consolidated districts inside Franklin county that the assembly approved in 2010. Please take copies if you are interested in knowing the content covered in GSR school. Share it with others.

### **Correctional Facilities Committee**

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

“Spare Change Helps Lives Change”/The Committee meets quarterly at Oakland Park United Methodist Church. The annual CFC Workshop was held on April 30, 2011 at the Maple Grove United Methodist Church. Attendance was very good and the committee felt that it was a successful event. Thanks to all who assisted. We had a professional panel, an explanation of the outside sponsor and temporary contact program, and a great potluck./Alt. Chairperson, Jessica H. is working on getting the CFC website up and running. The committee is available to go to groups to explain the purpose of the committee, the “Jugs” and where the money goes. GIRs are encouraged to send money collected to the Area 53 CFC/P.O. Box 1201/Columbus OH 43216. / There was \$5,900.67 was collected from the jugs last quarter. the committee’s collection for year-to-date is \$10,415.47; Committee voted to spend \$5,700 on literature. The CFC display was at the Spring Roundup. We had 15 GIR’s at last quarterly meeting – minutes are available at the registration table, as well as a financial report and a list of committee members.

### **Mini-Conference Committee**

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

The committee took a month off in April and met in May and June. We have begun to make decisions and take actions related to its operation and to its main mission of planning and managing the annual Area 53 Mini-Conference. A written report is available at the registration desk./ We have a contract with Salt Fork and will be signing it very shortly. March 9, 10, 11 2012 are already reserved for the upcoming event. /We are looking for a recording secretary, if more than one person is available and able to do the job we will hold a committee vote August 11, 2011. Our committee meets at 6:30 pm the second Thursday of the month, the months we meet. /The Purpose Statements of the committee and the mini-conference itself are all in the process of being created. A “How To” set of practices, materials, time-lines and guidelines for all the roles and responsibilities involved in a conference planning and managing committee is in the early stages of getting created. We want to pass on a written document and a core of experienced A.A. service workers ready to continue carrying the message by putting on the most beneficial Conference experience possible.

### **Grapevine Committee:**

Chairperson, Sylvester S. (614-501-1571)

We still meet the same place and same time, 6-7pm. Participation is off and on, usually 15-16 people but last time only about 4-5 people. I might have to call people on the phone to

remind them. There are a lot of GVRs out there, but they just don't come to the meetings. We hosted a workshop at the mini-conference and it was very well attended, we put up a display at "Freedom from Bondage" where we sold some materials and got some subscriptions. The grapevine is our magazine, the Boy Scouts have Boys Life, the mechanics have Mechanics Illustrated, and AA has the grapevine. It is an international journal. It is a form of service work, where we encourage our home group members to buy a subscription. We have been talking about using some of the committee's funds to purchase subscription to take the grapevine to nursing homes, doctor's offices and schools. The subscription has increased in price for both the printed and digital versions as of June. We keep showing up when we are asked to come, we're just plugging along with the message that we do still exist. Two gentlemen have called to report that they have started grapevine meetings. It is hard to get everyone together, to reach everyone who is in our area. Another issue is rotation of the chairperson and other officers, getting people to step up – to come to the meetings. All we can do is do what we do.

### **PI/CPC Committee**

Chairperson, Nita S.; (614-395-8703) report given by alternate chairperson Mary S.

In Cooperation with COGF's Public Information Committee, members of Area 53 PI/CPC committee attend information sessions at Columbus State Community College, The Ohio State University, and a central Ohio church during the past quarter. / In response to a notice from the General Service Office, our committee has decided to provide an information booth at a multi-state conference of the Ohio Catholic Education Association to be held in Columbus in October. The non-profit fee to exhibit is \$275. Area 55 and 56 have committed to assisting with this opportunity including both sharing cost and providing volunteers to staff the exhibit. / One of our committees most important goals is to expand the understanding of the PI/CPC among AA members and to enlist participation in our committee activities. To that end, PI/CPC Committee members are available to Districts or to individual groups for information sessions. At these sessions, PI/CPC committee members can explain the projects our committee does, review PI/CPC related literature, or provide an information session about specific topics related to public information or cooperation with professionals in the community. GSRs, DCMs or individual members can contact any PI/CPC committee member to arrange an information session.

**Standing Committees not reporting at the assembly: Special Needs and Treatment Facilities. Archives and Intergroup Liaison Committees are currently unpopulated.**

BREAK FOR LUNCH - Resumed at 1:04 pm

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

**Informational Segment**,—"How does Concept 12 relate to our service and personal life", presented by Dave C., Panel 61 Alternate Delegate.

(This presentation can be found in its entirety at [area53aa.org](http://area53aa.org).)

## **Panel 61 Area Officer Reports**

### **Secretary Report: given by chairperson in the absence of the secretary**

Debbie R. (740-274-1185) or [secretary@area53aa.org](mailto:secretary@area53aa.org)

The Secretary's minutes from the March Assembly were presented. There were no corrections of the minutes. The motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Scott D, seconded by Rory M. and passed unanimously. / Kay H. encouraged DCM, GSRs, and committee chairs to submit reports electronically via email or the website. She explained that one does not need log in to submit reports on the area website.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Jim F. (740-357-8996) or [treasurer@area53aa.org](mailto:treasurer@area53aa.org)

Distributed June 2011 Treasurer's Report (attached and available on the area website) and presented a 2-page handout outlining options for making contributions to the Area. A motion was made to approve the treasurer's report as presented by Peggy A., the motion was seconded by Kasie A. and passed unanimously.

### **Registrar's report**

Kelly C. (740-568-9140) or [registrar@area53aa.org](mailto:registrar@area53aa.org)

Since we last met, the Area had the great task of updating the group contact information for the Eastern Regional directory. Information for group contacts of thirteen Districts was recorded in the data base of Fellowship New Vision. Groups that were updated were Districts 4, 7, 12, 15, 17, 18, 23, 26, 34, 35, 36, 38, and 37. I would like to thank all that were involved for doing this hard tedious work. To date, we have 17 registered DCMs and 397 GSRs in the Fellowship New Vision Data Base. I would like to remind everybody that updating information for group contacts is an ongoing continuous process. As a reminder, we do have group and position change forms here at our Assembly, and you can get these same forms from the Area website at [www.area53aa.org](http://www.area53aa.org) and if there are any changes, please do not hesitate to contact either me or Dan H. your alternate registrar.

### **Chairperson's Report:**

Kay H. (740-797-3126) or [chairperson@area53aa.org](mailto:chairperson@area53aa.org)

Since the last area assembly, I attended the Area 56 mini-conference, several mini-conference committee meetings. I helped with the Salt Fork contract for the next mini-conference, I meet with several COGF board members at this facility to review for a possible Unity Day location (the COGF board has since decided to hold the 2011 Unity Day here) and I attended the state conference planning meeting in May. Lastly, I have been trying to wrap my mind around a couple of policy issues that we will be addressing in this panel, which is assembly attendance, assembly minutes and the mailing of those minutes whether they be to GSRs or the primary contact. It is rather an involved problem, and I have asked a couple of people on the panel to help me sort it out. I have a couple of volunteers; however if anyone is interested in working on this ad hoc committee, we would love to have your participation.

## **Delegate's Report:**

Glen P. (740-983-6693) or [delegate@area53aa.org](mailto:delegate@area53aa.org)

*The Delegate's Report on the 61<sup>st</sup> General Service Conference is attached and can be found at [www.area53aa.org](http://www.area53aa.org).*

In addition to the 61st General Service Conference, I have attended two mini conference meetings, a redistricting meeting in which we finished the district redistricting of Franklin County and the State Convention planning meeting. As a result of the state convention planning meeting, four of our members have been selected as participate in panels at the state convention in August. Peg S. will serve on a panel discussing the topic "Not allied with any sect denomination, politics, organization or institution": spirituality and non-affiliation is being handled by our Peg S., the sponsorship panel member- Steve Shelton, the home's address: the relationship between the home group and GSO is Kelly Cummings and "How did you get started in service": A reverse panel is Bill Young. Many thanks to the four panel members for their participation and the past delegates who helped me make the selections.

## **Old Business:**

**1) Re-districting Ad Hoc Committee** – no formal report, but a committee member shared that the group has finished its review of districts within Franklin County.

**2) Unity Day, 2011** – Scott D., Panel 61 Alternate Chairperson - Scott explained the purpose and objective of Unity Day. The event will be held August 28 at the Moose Lodge in Lancaster beginning at 11:00am; a Secretaries and Treasurers Workshop will be held at 10:00. Lunch will be provided. Invite and encourage all standing committees to setup a display to explain/promote their respective committees. Area 53 will be supplying the food and refreshments.

## **3) Area Guideline Revisions:**

1. Item VI. Duties of the Officers, #5b: adds after mailing minutes to all members "with the exception with those members who have agreed to receive the minutes electronically." **Vote: item passes.**
2. Item VI. Duties of Officers, # 5f: remove "notifying voting members of area committee meetings." To list only on web sites. Discussion – people don't go to web sites. Emails sent to folks but won't be from secretary. Who? DCM chair did mail reminders for meetings; Glenn emailed committee chairs/officers. **Vote 17 – 9 item fails**
3. Item VI. Duties of Officers, #7a: Shall maintain area computer system. Explanation: we no longer have an area computer. **Vote: item passes.**
4. Item VI. Duties of Officers, #7e: Remove a manual calendar that registrar carried around. Digital calendar' is underutilized. How do we submit area/service events to be published on the calendar? Bill Y. gave contact address. **Vote: item passes.**

5. Item VI. Duties of Officers, #8a: remove “shall be responsible for managing the Area voice mail answering machine. Explanation: Area no longer has a phone number (check if # is in *Conscious Contact*) **Vote: item passes.**
6. Item VI. Duties of Officers, #9g: add “shall maintain” before “a listing by group, district, or other entity of all donations deposited into the Area account.” **Vote: item passes.**
7. Item VIII. Standing Committees of the Area 53 Assembly, #1b: Remove Convention Committee from list of Area Standing Committees – explanation: we no longer have such a committee–call for a vote- Glen gives point of order to do all references to the Convention Committee at once. OK. Convention Committee to be removed from Item IX Committee Areas of Activity. **Vote: items pass.**
8. Item XII. Election.. Area Officers #2: remover “ad-hoc nomination committee” Discussion: are they putting out the ‘favored nominee’; we no longer have an ad hoc nomination committee. Past delegate chairs elections for new panel. The ad hoc committee process can work – for people who are new – people referred to the method used at the 2010 Elections with people standing who are eligible, then sitting if they can not absolutely do it, and then vote on who is left. Conclusion: leave as is, to be re-considered/sent back to committee. **Vote: 11-21 item fails.**
9. Item XIV. Changes in these Guidelines, #1: add phrase “if coming from outside area committee,” **Vote : item passes.** Chairperson asked for Minority Opinion. Chairperson then asked if anyone wants to change their vote in consideration of the minority opinion. Three member indicated that they want to change their vote. A motion was made to re-vote. Motion passed. **New Vote: item fails.**

**4) Finance Committee: Exempt Organization Application-** Kay H. reporting— Application has been completed, awaiting a copy of the original articles of organization from the Secretary of State’s office. Assuming that the articles have the required language, the committee will seek pro-bono professional counsel for review of the application before submitting to the Internal Revenue Service.

### **New Business:**

**1)** The Correctional Facilities Committee requests \$69.84 from the CFC line item of the Area budget.

**2)** Ohio State Convention – flyer on website, August 5-6-7 at Holiday Inn Eastgate (Cincinnati Ohio). Many Area 53 members will be speaking on various topics.

### **Ask-it-Basket Q & A’s**

Q. Can a district use district funds for history field trip (eg, to Akron OH)?

A. It depends on the district’s group conscience.

Q. Do DCMs meet regularly? Who is current DCM chair, why no DCM Chair report?

A. Yes, DCMs meet regularly at the quarterly Committee Meeting; the current DCM Chair is Tammy B., District 17 and there generally is only a DCMC report given at the abridged March Assembly.