

# MINUTES OF THE AREA 53 PANEL 63 AREA ASSEMBLY- MARCH 10, 2013

## **OPENING:** Steve S., Area Chair

- At 1:18PM, Steve S., Area Chair, opened the Assembly with the “We” version of the Serenity Prayer
- Nicole read the Short Form of the Twelve Concepts
- Roll Call was taken by Area Chair, Steve S. : GSRs: 22, Alt. GSRs: 9, Past Delegates: 5, DCMs: 5, Interested AAs: 10, Standing Committee Chairs: 2, Area Officers: 9. Fifty-one voting members
- Area Chair, Steve S. reviewed the Agenda as prepared by Area Committee. It was approved without objection.
- Area Recording Secretary Nita S. presented the minutes from the December 2012 Assembly. Sharon F. moved that the minutes be adopted. Peggy A. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **DISTRICT AND GROUP REPORTS:** Peg S., Alternate DCMC

Twelve DCM reports and twenty-nine GSR Reports were presented with the following highlights:

- District 12 has decided that although District meeting schedule costs have gone up, the District will keep the price at 50 cents and absorb the difference.
- District 15 is discussing the possibility of starting a website and a newsletter. The Two For One Group will host an anniversary breakfast/lead meeting April 13 at First Presbyterian Church.
- District 16 is looking into how to put group change forms on-line and would like to know if it needs a tax-exempt ID number. Over 100 people attended The Big Book Comes Alive Weekend hosted by Districts 16 & 17.
- District 19 in the process of forming a committee to talk to inactive groups and is restarting a Service Manual Study Group on the third Saturday of each month.
- District 21 would like advice on getting structured. The Portsmouth 12 and 12 Group is having its 40th Anniversary dinner on Friday, March 15th. The Shawnee Group began making contributions to the recently re-lit District 21
- District 23: The Dirty Dozen Group recently decided to begin announcing the GSO “Birthday Plan” at each meeting.
- District 26 is discussing ways to make all District events handicap accessible. A GSR school to be held in District 26 on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Rule 62 Day hosted by District 26 will be Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Choice is Ours Literature Group will hold its Thirteenth Anniversary on March 14<sup>th</sup>. The home group members of the Gahanna Early Bird Group are reading “The A.A. Group” pamphlet together.
- District 28 will now provide sign language interpreters for District events. District 28 has found in updating group information that many groups did not have nor want GSRs. The Clintonville Big Book Group has begun supporting a meeting at Maryhaven. The COGF Membership Committee Chair attended the We Agnostics Group to check whether the meeting is following the Traditions. Life Begins at Forty Group recently voted to begin saying the “We” version of the Serenity Prayer as the closing.
- District 30: The Sunset Women’s Group will hold its Anniversary April 22nd and Terri from Woodville, OH will speak.
- District 34: The Three Legacies Group will again travel to Akron this summer to visit historic A.A. sites.

Please see page 3 for a list of all those Districts and Groups reporting.

## **OFFICER & COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Greg M, Alternate Area Chair

- **Delegate’s Report** – Dave C. reported on his participation at the Conference of Delegates – Past & Present, plans for the Regional Convention in Wisconsin on July 19-21, his Panel 63 Standing Committee activities, the latest news from GSO, and his preparation for the upcoming General Service Conference. Please see page 4 for his full report.
- **Officer Reports**
  - Area Chair – Steve S. reported on the January Area Committee Meeting, his participation in the Conference of Delegates – Past & Present, and his Standing Committee activities. Please see page 5 for his full report.
  - Area Treasurer – Kristi H presented the First Quarter financial report. Dave C moved that the report be approved and Debbie R seconded it. The report was approved unanimously. The Financial Report is attached to these Minutes as a separate document.
  - Area Registrar – Dan H reported that the Panel 63 Tri-Folds are available and requested that group information be updated in the Fellowship New Vision Database using the change form.

• **Standing Committee Reports**

- Corrections Committee - Tom B., Committee Co-Chair, reported on the Committees' Quarterly Meeting on March 2nd. The Minutes for that meeting can be found on page 5.
- CPC/PI Committee – Nita S., past Committee Chair, reported on the Committee's current and future projects. Please see page 6 for the full report.
- Grapevine Committee – Jeff T., Committee Chair, reported that the Committee is now meeting at COGF on the second Saturday of the month at noon. Six to eight people attended the February meeting.
- Special Needs/Accessibility – Cathy H., past Committee Chair, reported that the Committee is meeting at COGF on the third Saturday of February, May, August, and November at 10 am. The Committee is searching for a Panel 63 Chairperson. Notes from the February meeting can be found on page 6.
- Group Services –No report.
- Mini-Conference Committee - Peggy A., Committee Chair, reported that the just completed 2013 Mini-Conference was a success. Initial indicators are that it was self-supporting. A full report will be made at the June Assembly.

• **Other Committee Reports**

- State Convention Committee – Dave C./Kristi H., Convention Co-Chairs, updated the Assembly on plans for the 2013 Ohio State Convention to be held August 2-4 at the Doubletree Worthington.

**INFORMATION SESSION:** None because of Mini-Conference

**BUSINESS MEETING:** Steve S., Area Chair

- Steve S., Area Chair, reviewed a Parliamentary Guide that the Assembly will follow during the Business portion of the meeting.

• **OLD BUSINESS**

Guideline Change: June Assembly Date Change. The December 2012 Assembly approved a motion to consider amending the Area Guidelines as follows: (Words in ~~strikeout format~~ will be deleted from the Guidelines. Words in **bold italic format** will be added to the Guidelines.)

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~~ **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. ~~These meetings~~ **The Assemblies** shall be held in a convenient location and may be moved from community to community within Area 53.

A lively discussion was held using the rules of discussion that are followed at the General Service Conference. The vote on the Guideline change was: Yes – 54, No – 10. The motion passed with Substantial Unanimity. Two people expressed a Minority Opinion. Bob M. made a motion to reconsider that was seconded by Toi I. The motion to reconsider failed with 12 votes in favor of reconsideration and 31 votes opposed.

The Guideline changed passed and will go into effect immediately. The next Assembly will be held the first Sunday of June at the Lancaster Moose Lodge.

- **NEW BUSINESS: None**

**DISCUSSION/SHARING TOPICS: None**

**OPEN MICROPHONE:** 3 minutes to express view or ask question. Questions added to Ask-It Basket.

*Sharon F., Past Delegate, would like a map of the new districts.* Bill Y, Group Services, stated that the district maps on website are correct, but have not been updated in the Area Guidelines. Steve S., Area Chair, stated that new copies of revised guidelines, including the new district map, will be available at the next Assembly.

**ASK-IT BASKET & OPEN MIC QUESTIONS**

*What happened to the redistricting effort of the counties outside of Franklin County?* Dave C answered that the issue had been placed on hold for a variety of reasons. It will be added to the Area Committee Agenda and we will report back at the June Assembly.

**CLOSING:** Area Chair, Steve S.

- Next Meeting Date and Location. Moose Lodge. 10AM Sunday, June 2, 2013
  - At 5PM, Area Chair, Steve S. closed the Assembly with the “We” version of the Responsibility Statement
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**DISTRICT AND GROUP REPORTS:** Peg S., Alt. DCMC

12 of 29 Districts present and reporting

District 11: No DCM present.

Brenda B. - GSR Marysville Closed Discussion

District 12: Frank G., DCM

Ann S. - Mid-Morning Recovery Group

District 15: Heather S., DCM

Tammy P. – GSR: Two For One Group

Patrice P. – GSR: Hand in Hand Group

District 16: Debbie R., DCM

Roberta D. GSR: Friday 12 and 12

Kate M. Alt. GSR – Athens Sunday Lead

District 17: Ryan C., DCM

Alison T. GSR – Gallipolis Tri-County Group

Marilyn D., GSR – Mason County Out to Lunch Bunch

Jerry C., GSR – Pomeroy Serenity Group

Bobby P., GSR – Pleasant Valley Group

District 19: Steve D., DCM

District 21: Greg H., DCM

Aron B. GSR – 12 and 12 Group Portsmouth

Greg S. GSR – Shawnee Group

District 23: No DCM present

Randy M., GSR Dirty Dozen Group

District 26: Ed. A. DCM announced a GSR school to be held in District 26 on April 20th

Dominique M., GSR - Northeast Discussion Group

Tom F., GSR - After Work Group

Constance C reporting for Chris Puchovich, GSR - The Choice is Ours Literature Group

Bob M., Alt. GSR - The Solutions Group

Toi I., stand-in GSR - The Reynoldsburg Women’s 12 and 12 Group of A.A.

Hannah M., GSR – How It Works Group of AA

Zoe B., GSR – Gahanna Early Bird Group

Rob S., GSR – Minerva Park Group

District 28: Peg S., DCM

Peg S., GSR - Maynard Wednesday Promises

Billy K., Alt GSR - Listening Post

Taffy J., GSR - Clintonville Big Book

District 30: No DCM present

Ed. S., GSR - We Agnostics

Jennifer R., GSR, - Monday Night Steps and Traditions

Megan A., interested AA, reporting for Life Begins at Forty

Heather S., GSR - Sunset Women’s Group

District 34: No DCM present

Dana P., GSR - Three Legacies Group

**OFFICER REPORTS**

• **DELEGATE'S REPORT:** Dave C., Delegate

Thank you to the groups of Central and Southeastern Ohio Area 53 for entrusting me to be your Delegate for Panel 63, 2013-14 and represent the groups in our area at the General Service Conference(GSC).

First, I want to say thanks for financing my participation in the Conference of Delegates Past and Present held Feb 15 – 17, La Porte, Indiana. I feel it was a very valuable experience for a number of reasons.

To begin with, it was valuable for me to meet and begin to develop working relationships with the other 13 Delegates from the five-state, East Central Region (ECR). The states include Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin. It was important to meet with the ECR Trustee, Pam R., to go over regional events and lists of GSC and Delegate do's and don'ts. It was important for reporting to the three other Ohio Delegates about Area 53's plans for the 57th Ohio State Convention coming Aug. 2 – 4 in Worthington at the Double Tree by Hilton. The Ohio State Planning meeting is traditionally held at the Conference of Delegate and it was important to have Area 53 key people there give the other Ohio Delegates convention-planning updates and materials.

My participation in La Porte was valuable for affording me an opportunity to practice reading the Area Highlights, which are a traditional responsibility for first-year Delegates at the GSC. It was also important for the opportunity to practice my 2-minute remarks to be given at the GSC in advocacy for Jean S., (New Albany) for Trustee At Large U.S.; and for Bill F. (Marietta) for ECR Trustee to succeed Pam R.

I met with Marty L., Panel 62 Delegate (2012 -13), from Northern Wisconsin –UP Michigan. I committed to bring a Central and Southeastern Ohio delegation to the ECR and Wisconsin State Convention in Appleton, July 19 -21. It was also very valuable to feel the support of many Area 53 officers and past delegates in La Porte. Five past Area 53 Delegates were there to contribute their wisdom and three Area officers were actively representing our Area the whole weekend.

Since December Assembly I have been regularly attending the Mini Conference , the 57th Ohio State Convention, the Cooperation with the Professional Community and the Area Committees. These meetings were held in Columbus, Athens and Lancaster. In addition I attended the District 26 meeting in Gahanna.

In preparation for the GSC I have kept in touch with the Panel 62 Delegates from Southwest Ohio, Mark E, and Northwest Ohio, Bob S. who Pam R. assigned the role of mentoring me for the GSC.

The Conference Coordinator also assigned a 'buddy' for the GSC and I have also exchanged e-mails with Dick H. Area 12 Delaware Delegate and had two phone conversations (one for over an hour). Dick related some very good do's and don'ts for the GSC.

During the week of January 14, Ila T, a 2004 World Service Delegate to the GSC from Finland, visited Central Ohio. I was able to drive Ila to the Friday Night Grove City Group Anniversary held January 18 and then met with Ila and Steve S. Area Chairperson, Saturday the 19 to share information about how we carry the message in Central Ohio. Jean S. hosted Ila for a tour of the Akron A.A. historical sites where Ila met two NE Ohio archivists. Ila greatly appreciated the graciousness and support of all the Ohio A.A.s he met and expressed profound gratitude for the chance to do a Third Step prayer where Dr. Bob took his pigeons in the pioneering A.A. days.

On finances it is important to remember that the most recent year's records show that less than 25 per cent of Area 53 registered Groups are making contributions to the General Service Office (GSO). Gross printing sales in the most recent reports are 1.6% below budget. Twenty-three percent of all print-book units sold were sold to non-A.A. customers. The ECR, Pam R., reported that the cost for each Delegates week at the GSC is approximately \$6800. Area 53 sends GSO \$4000.

In the most recent Box 459 you can find stories that include Q & A on Anonymity; India's 'Jack Alexander Moment'; and the French Big Book is 50 years old. Also GSO hired a new publishing director, Greg T to replace retiring Valerie O'N. Also, I wanted to report the 57th Ohio State Convention for Aug 2-4 has been put on the Box 459 calendar of events in addition to the digital version of the A.A. Grapevine.

In Service, Dave C, Delegate Area 53, Panel 63(2013-14)

• **AREA CHAIR REPORT:** Steve S., Area Chair

The Area Committee met on January 13 at the Lancaster Moose Lodge. Attending were 9 Area Officers and Alternates, the DCMC, 4 DCMs, 4 GSRs from District 21, and 2 interested AAs. In addition to developing the Agenda for today's Assembly, the Area Committee:

- Adopted "Area 53 Takes Its Inventory" as the Area's 2013 Theme.
- Approved the establishment of an Ad-hoc Area Inventory Committee that will propose an inventory plan for review at the April Area Committee Meeting.
- Adopted the Parliamentary rules used at the General Service Conference for use at our Area Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings.
- Increased the 2013 Budget for the Mini-Conference Committee from \$600 to \$750.
- Voted to continue holding the Area Assemblies and the Area Committee Meetings at the Lancaster Moose Lodge in 2013.
- Voted to begin and end the Area Assemblies and the Area Committee Meetings with the "We" versions of the "Serenity Prayer" and "The Responsibility Statement", respectively.

I attended the Conference of Delegates - Past and Present, held in Kokomo Indiana on February 15-17. My purpose in attending was to form an opinion about the value of this Conference to Area 53. I concluded that attendance by our Delegate and Alternate Delegate will better prepare them to represent the Area at the General Service Conference, and that we should continue to financially support their attendance. I also concluded that their experience will be enhanced by the participation of Area 53's Past Delegates, and that we should encourage their attendance and provide them with financial support to the degree that we can afford it. My final conclusion was that attendance by other Area Officers is of limited value to the Area and that we should not offer them financial support, unless they have a specific role to play at the Conference.

During the first quarter, I attended Mini-Conference and CPC/PI Committee meetings as I rotated off those committees that I had served on in Panel 61. In Panel 63, I will serve on the Special Needs/Accessibility and Corrections standing committees, and I also attended their meetings during the last 3 months.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

• **CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE:** Tom B, Committee Co-Chair

Area 53 Corrections Committee 1Q 2013 Meeting Minutes

Meeting was opened with Serenity Prayer, and CFC Purpose Statement was read.

Introductions:

- Outside sponsor introductions and reports
- GIR introductions and reports

Officer Reports:

Chair: Chair reported that mini-conference will be next week end. Chris has offered to help with representation.

Recording Secretary: December minutes were accepted. GIR/OS contact sheets were passed around for updating. Request was made that 'Residing County' information be updated on GIR list. Gave a reminder that literature contributions are up, and we currently have more inventory than normal, so new requests are encouraged.

Correspondence: No report given, as officers not in attendance.

Temporary Contact: Liz reported that 15 requests for temporary contacts were made, and 5 were connected, with three pending. Six were out of our area, and were forwarded to appropriate sources. One was sent meeting information.

Literature: Paper report was distributed and reviewed. During the quarter, there were 1736 units of literature taken into 18 different institutions (of 1898 units requested) for a fulfillment rate of 91.46%. Value of all literature fulfilled was \$5047.92. Officers will notify requesters when orders are ready for pick up.

Liaison: Chris J. is now assuming office of Liaison, and Mabelle is taking over as alternate. Chris explained that ODC has programs designed to reduce recidivism, and he asked for permission to discuss/be involved as a connection to our committee, since there exists overlap between their purpose and ours. Discussion revealed that committee has already OK'd this several months ago, but starting it up had stalled.

Treasurer: Jamie stated that it is preferable for donations to be sent to the Treasurer in advance of the meeting, and/or consolidate change into paper currency or check if it brought to the quarterly meeting. NSF check and "double-issued" check were discussed, and further follow up discussion will take place at steering committee meeting, but an impasse has in all

## MINUTES OF THE AREA 53 PANEL 63 AREA ASSEMBLY- MARCH 10, 2013 – PAGE 6

likelihood been reached. Current quarter contributions (with carryover) were \$6119.51. Treasurer report was submitted and approved, with \$6333.66 available for literature.

### Old Business:

Workshop update was given by Chris J., explaining arrangements being made for food (Costco subs) and potluck sign-up. Jessica will be conducting a panel offering information for those interested in getting involved in this type of service work. Discussion about goals for the workshop ensued.

### New Business:

Motion was made by Jim G. to approve \$6000 for literature, and seconded by Gunnar. Motion passed unanimously. Alternate Correspondence Secretary has stepped down, and the position is open. Cate expressed willingness to step into the position, and was approved.

Meeting adjourned with Responsibility Statement.

### • **CPC/PI COMMITTEE:** Nita S., past Committee Chair

CPC/PI committee report  
March 10 2013

The Area 53 CPC/PI standing committee continues to meet on the first Sunday of each month, 2PM, at The Columbus Mennonite Church, 35 Oakland Park avenue, Columbus Ohio.

#### A. ONGOING PROJECTS

1. Netcare: We hold a public information session there on Saturdays at 10AM. There is a format Chris J. and Nita created that is based on the Preamble and the Information about AA free pamphlet. Allen Speedy coord. Additional volunteers needed. To participate, contact allenspeedy67@yahoo.com or 614-915-4183. There is a literature rack there and they have a "sample" big book.
2. Adult Parole Office - 770 West Broad. This is a literature display in the lobby of the Adult Parole side of the building. The most popular pieces of literature are the comic books. We also have business cards there.
3. Business Cards: Business Cards continue to be distributed at libraries throughout Area 53. Cards are also made available to interested AA's as needed. Other places business cards have been put up include plasma donation centers, pawn shops, and bulletin boards in coffeehouses. The options are unlimited.
4. Literature in Columbus Public schools.
  - Literature in guidance counseling offices :Project on hold pending approval by CPS .Big Books in the Schools – June P. coordinating.
  - Big Books were purchased at end of 2012 and placed in the schools in early 2013 at libraries within PCS.
  - Our committee budgeted \$45 for replacement of big books during 2013 if necessary.

#### B. FUTURE PROJECTS

1. Presentations to Ohio Health Medical staff: contact is ongoing to organize informational sessions to medical students, residents, attending staff, and nursing staff.
2. Ohio Assoc. for Justice Annual Convention – May 2013
3. Addiction Studies Institute (August every year)
4. Department of Corrections Re-entry Program. Steve S. coord. - Project tabled until 2013. Recovery Services Supervisor from the Dept. of Corrections will let us know when next recovery fair is scheduled. Very interested in us having a booth there. Steve S. will talk to Chris J. about taking over coordination of this project
5. Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections Conference – October 11 & 12, 2012

Respectfully submitted, Steve Rolfe, CPC/PI chair

### • **SPECIAL NEEDS/ACCESSIBILITY:** Cathy H, past Committee Chair

First quarter meeting was held February 23. Next meeting is May 18. Committee has quarterly meetings.

Steve S. has joined the committee as his Area 53 assignment and new group representatives are rotating in.

## MINUTES OF THE AREA 53 PANEL 63 AREA ASSEMBLY- MARCH 10, 2013 – PAGE 7

We continue to look for a new committee chair. We determined to ask committee members to consider standing as co-chairs, splitting committee management and area 53 responsibilities between two persons.

Central Office now has all adaptive special needs literature

Deaf members of the committee have been researching what deaf access services are being provided in other Areas and Inter-groups. Delilah D. presented this information. Between now and next quarterly meeting, additional committee members will meet with the deaf members to develop a working proposal for action by the committee.

We also want to encourage groups to include AAs with special needs in service positions. The Committee and the Area are committed to providing necessary accommodations.