

Area Assembly March 13, 2016 – Opened at 10:14 am

Opening of the Assembly- Peggy A.

Call to Order and Serenity Prayer (we version)

Twelve Concepts (long form) – Jim P.

Roll Call – GSRs 33, Alternate GSRs 7, DCMs 11, Alt DCM 3, Committee Chairs 3, Area Officers 1, Past Delegates 3, Alternate Delegates 1, Interested Aas 6.

Review of the Agenda - Peggy A. goes over the Agenda.

December Assembly Minutes – Matt P. advises on the minutes. Cat R. motions to approve, second by Julie . Approve 40. opposed none.

Treasurer’s Report – Dan S. Projected on screen and hard copies were made available. Contributions are coming in strong. We are just about 25 percent of budgeted contributions for the year. All groups contributed on the back of the report. If your group has not yet contributed, please consider doing so. There is also a handout on where your seventh tradition contribution goes and everything the GSO does with one of those dollars. This is where the Spirituality and Money Mix, carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. The report explains the expenses we have sent GSO, the contribution for the delegate to attend the General Service Conference. Frank and Peggy have attended different functions – the Past and Present Delegates, the Area 55, 53 and next weeks Area 56 conference coming up. The officers are going out in the spirit of unity and interacting with other areas. Line 16, Postage, Copies and Supplies. The bulk of that is for 321 dollars is for contribution envelopes for area. Line item 26 is our Areas contribution to cover the deficit for the 2015 State Convention that was held in Area 56. Last year had a surplus which allowed us to subsidize the Mini-Conference last year. We had 3000 dollars, we coupled that with money from the Area which allowed many people to attend the conference that wouldn't normally been able to attend. This year 110 attended last year 150. We can also the expenses. CPC/PI has requested their funds, Group Services some and one of the Committee Chairs went to the Area Conference. We have completed our IRS reporting for this year. We submitted a 990N report as a 501C3 organization. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Motion to approve by Marcia, Second by Cat R. All in favor, 55 – no opposed.

Explanation of Ask it Basket – Peggy A. gives an explanation on the “Ask it Basket”

Explanation of Parliamentary Procedures - Peggy A. advises that she has been putting the explanations on the back of the Agenda. Information regarding the process of voting can be found on the back of the Agenda.

Unfinished Business / Guideline Change Proposal - Stephen S. – Stephen explains that he was requested to chair the discussion of the Guideline Change proposal. In the last Assembly, this Guideline Proposal was introduced. The Area has Guidelines and it spells how it is suggested the the Assembly and the Area Committee, which are the Officer and Standing Committee Chairs and DCMs operate and what our roles and responsibilities are. In the Guidelines are listed the Officers and the Officers have a vote here and at the Area Committee. There is a process for changing the Guidelines. It is a multi assembly process. It is the only thing we do that requires more than one Assembly. The

process has been followed so far. The Guideline change is presented first to the Area Committee, while it is preparing an Agenda. Then it is presented to the Assembly for two purposes. 1.) Is to inform to inform the Assembly that there is a Guideline change being requested, 2.) Is to give the Assembly the opportunity to ask some questions about it and to make sure that they understand it. At the first Assembly the Guideline Change was presented, was in December. The Assembly votes on whether or not they want to consider it. At that point the Assembly has the authority to kill the whole thing. The idea is to get enough people to consider the Guideline Change. During the December Assembly, the motion was passed to consider the Guideline Change. Normally this gives the GSRs, DCMs and the Standing Committee Chairs an opportunity to go back to their respective entities to gather more information, discuss it and get the input they need and look into other research that might be done. Then they would bring it back to the next Assembly, which is this one. There would then be an approval – yes or no. Because this is the Assembly following the Mini-Conference and it's a busy weekend, the Area Committee decided to not have the vote today. We would just have some additional discussion today and put the vote off until June. So we are not going to have a vote. We are going to go through the process of giving you the chance to come to the microphone, express opinions on it as it stands right now and ask questions. This is more of an information session. Essentially this Guideline Change is to add a new officer to the Guidelines. Right now we have, Chairperson, Area Chairperson, Area Treasurer, Area Secretary, Area Registrar and their alternates. Right now there are ten officers. Five officers and five alternates. This is adding another officer and it will be called Website and Communications Officer. Duties for the position are listed in the handout. It basically refers to the technology related things we have to do. We have always had the position. It's not formally in the Guidelines. We used to call it Web-master. Bill Y. has been fulfilling that role and doing all kinds of things. Not only with respect to the website, but how we interact with the General Service Office Website, the District Websites. He is responsible for maintaining the website and for maintaining everything legally to make sure we have a website. They take care of things like the on line registration for the mini-conference and the State Convention. All kinds of stuff. So, it's been an important ongoing function that has been performed. So the question before us is, should we formalize that position and spell out the responsibilities for it and add it as an officer. The implications of adding it as an officer are two. 1.) The person would be a voting member of both the Assembly and the Area Committee. The Area Committee is basically the Steering Committee for the Assembly. They meet a month after this and they prepare for the next Assembly. Their primary responsibility is to prepare the Agenda for the next Assembly and to share information on what is going on in the Districts and what the different officers are doing. So this will add the position on Website and Communication Officer to the list of officers. This would modify the Guidelines and add one more, who would then be a voting member. 2.) The second implication of making this change, the position would then become an elected position. Subject to Third Legacy Procedures and everything else. As a member of the panel. So if this were approve and go into effect with the next Panel. In September, not only would we be electing a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, Registrar and Delegate, we would also be electing a Website and Communications Officer. That's the basic Guideline Change, today is an opportunity to ask questions or express views about it. In the Parliamentary Procedures things, even though we are not going to vote I am going to try to do that. Please come to the mic and introduce yourself and what your position is. Anybody who is here can have an opinion. Only voting members will vote, but anybody can express a view or ask questions. If you have an position, for or against, it would be helpful when you start to state that position. So this adds two positions, the actual position and the alternate. It would be elected and it would be rotating. It is subject to our Concepts, with respect to Right of Decision, Right of Rotation. We will vote on this at the June Assembly and you will have an opportunity before that election to ask more questions.

Kalan C – DCM Dist. 30 – I have a questions about the Standing Committees. Can you clarify how many voting positions there are now and how many would be afterwards?

Stephen S. – With respect to the Assembly as it stands right now, all GSRs or their Alternates, 1 per group, have a vote. The DCMs have a vote or their alternates. The Past Delegates have a vote. All the officers. There are 5 officers and their alternates and all of the Standing Committee Chairs. We have 9 Standing Committee Chairs like Corrections and CPC/PI. They can vote here and at the Area Committee. The Area Committee are DCMs, the Standing Committee Chairs and the officers. The past delegates and the GSRs are not members of the Area Committee. Did that answer the question?

Kalan C - Yes, I just did get the number of the Area Committee... (inaudible)

Stephen S. – The Area Committee would technically be 29 Districts and a DCMC.

Kalan – I was just trying to get an idea of the members of the Area.

Stephen S - The Area Assembly has all the GSRs, so it could be 800 people. At the Area Committee you have the 10 officer positions, 9 Standing Committees and 29 DCMs and the DCMC. We don't have 29 people showing up. The Area Committee is designed in such a way, that the DCMs have substantial unanimity, if they all show up. This would add two officer positions to that as well as two votes here.

Frank G, Alternate Delegate - There was some discussion of the importance and technicality of the web-master position. That possible they could run for more than one term as the other positions can not. Is that being considered further?

Stephen S. – As I read it that is not being addressed. It is an elected officers position, which means it would be subject to our Concepts and Traditions. It would be part of the Panel that is elected every other year and would be subject to the Spirit of Rotation.

Kristy H. - Delegate – Just to add to that, we can run for office twice. I've seen it happen before. It very rarely happens, because we believe in the Spirit of Rotation. But that position would not be any different and any of the officer positions. Any officer can run twice and be elected for a position. Nothing in the Guidelines precludes that.

Dave C – Past Delegate – I commend you for doing some foresight and planning because of how important good communications are in the digital age. I have two questions. 1. Is there any other Area in AA that you are modeling any of the ideas or approaches here. In other words, has this been tried, so we can study it - This works, but that doesn't work. 2. Could a GSR do the job at the same time.

Kristi H. - Delegate – There is a pretty big movement across the United States for this issue. The Delegates have been doing a great deal and a lot of the Areas are moving to electing an officer. GSO added a position very similar to this to their GSO staff. That is actually a non-rotating position. So all of us are having to deal with this. We are not using the word web-master. We have grown out of this idea that we just need someone to manage our website. We are way past that. With regard to your question about a GSR? That is true of any officer position, they can't vote twice. They can't have two voting positions. They would get one vote at the Area Assembly and at the Area Committee Meeting.

Cheryl S. - CPC/PI – Stephen S. asks, “Is it a great and glorious day?” Cheryl responds - It is a great and glorious day! I am the current chair of the standing committee of CPC/PI of Area 53, Panel 65. I am a work in progress, I'm learning. As part of the learning process for me, I studied what is mine to do. In the Area Guidelines under Cooperation with the Professional Community, Public Information Committee, on page 5 of 9 of the Area Guidelines under Standing Committee Areas of Activity. Section 2 part E. – Shall appoint, with Area Chairperson’s approval, a Web-master to update, maintain, and make changes to the website. The Web-master should: - then it has the three areas that it covers. So it is at the current time, in the Guidelines, under a standing committee. In looking at the website and I do a lot, I have drug myself into the 20th century. It's not easy, but I am really trying hard and I am passionate about having the hand of AA being there when ever it is needed. In looking at the website, I saw the Area 53 policy regarding the Area's website and it's talks about it being published under the Area 53 committee on December 14, 2014. It talks about the purpose of the website and additionally oversight of the website will be the responsibility of the Area 53 committee and in accordance with the 12 Traditions about Alcoholics Anonymous. That information seems to be contradictory and so I was confused. I appreciate the massive amount of work that goes into maintaining the information and having the communication among the Area and other Areas. Thank you for that consideration.

Stephen S. – If you notice on the very bottom on the Guideline Change. The very last item – Additional Guideline Revision: Remove Item 2e from Article IX – Standing Committee Areas, so that part that you read under CPC/PI. Part of this would clarify this and take that out and any reference to the responsibilities of Web-master or anything else that would exist would be replaced by this. This is what would be in effect. As an officer, he would be reporting to the Assembly and the Area Committee.

Mike M. - DCM District 26 – Thanks Bill for his effort on the Website. We are fortunate to have him. I think a lot of the success of Area 53 has come from the continuity of a single web-master and also to some extent, this flies in the face of typical AA democracy is the ability for that web-master to make decisions and to move things forward without consulting the Assembly. I think we have benefited from that. I am a little concerned that we will have every idea brought forth to the Assembly. I had a couple of questions. Going forward, all changes to the website be brought forward to the Assembly for a vote? The second part of that, in regards to the idea of continuity or a legacy position, Have we considered the idea of what I would call a Legacy Officer Position, like we have for the Archives? Somebody that could be there for a longer period of time. So we wont run into possible conflicts through rotation. Will there be someone there like Archives. That will be here longer than the rotation of the officer?

Stephen – I think this is what the Assembly will ultimately decide. In answers to those questions. This can be amended in different ways by the Assembly if it chooses to do so. I suggest that you follow the current Guidelines. We've got Concepts and Guidelines and this would fit into that framework as it currently stand.

Patrick – GSR- Solutions Group, District 10 – I have two parts. Is it a paid position? - and when I brought this up in my Group, we discussed it and one of the questions came up, If we are paying somebody to look over the website, are we paying for what it's worth – like market-value? If not, if somebody if volunteering time, does that go against Traditions of not being self-supportive?

Kristi H. - Delegate – This is not a paid position which is why we feel that it should be an an officer position because none of us officers are paid. We are reimbursed for some of our expenses. We do feel the motion is to create an officer and not to pay somebody to do this. So that is not being considered at this time. We feel that this person should be accountable to the Area, which is why we feel it should be

an officer position and be required to attend the Area Committee Meetings and the Area Assemblies. That is hard to do with a paid professional. We don't want to pay someone to come to our Area Assemblies, they are eight hours long. With this setup they would actually be more accountable to the Assembly than in the past. Under a committee chair or on their own, they will be accountable just like the Treasurer is accountable. The Treasurer has special skills that not everybody can fulfill. Every year we get one or two to stand for that position, but we do fulfill it. We feel that accountability and being involved is a crucial requirement of this job.

Stephen S. – In addition to that, the idea of somebody volunteering their time. All the officers provide professional volunteering experience. That's just the way it works. Any other questions or comments? So the deal is, in June Assembly, this will be on Unfinished Business for a vote on whether to do that. I could suggest a couple of way to organize our thinking about this as we are talking to our Groups and gathering additional information. I personally think that there are three questions that I would need to answer. 1. Is this a position that we need. Do we need the function. 2. If we do – should the position have a vote. I would suggest that Concepts 3 and 4 become very instrumental in understanding the principles that might be applied there, the Right of Participation, the Right of Decision. 3. If it is a position we need and if it should have a vote, then should this be an elected position. Those are three separate questions I think come into play here. We have Area Guidelines that I would refer to, to look at how we operate and what are the guiding principles at the Assembly which is given for officers and everybody else. To understand it. Cheryl mentioned that there was a conflict and this would straighten out. The Service Manual itself, in particular, the essays on the Concepts. You don't have to get into all of them. I would look into nine, three and four. Nine is on leadership and what is a leader, why we need a leader and three and four and how they apply. When we come to vote on this, we vote on the basis of the question on how it fits on our principles vs. how it fits in some other plan. Thank you very much for your time.

Kristi H. - Delegate – The handout you have today have the exact changes that will be made to the Area 53 Guidelines. There are two areas. The main one will be Article 6, the Duties of Officer and at the bottom, removing item 2E from Article IX – Standing Committee Areas of Activity. The language in 2E is going to be brought over to Article VI. This is going to be available on the website, so you can make additional copies. We will be voting on the actual Guideline Change.

Sharon F – Past Delegate – **Report on East Central Region Hospitality Room at 2015 International Convention.** All the regions donated to the hospitality suite. Every region in the East Central Region contributed to the suite financially. Volunteers signed up for every available time slot and displays were provided to make to room interesting and informative. They used the extra funds to provide coffee and purchases of book marks and some additional sign-age. Here are the numbers – Area Donation were \$5334.45. There was an anonymous cash donation of one dollar. Expenses were, 12 ounce bottled water \$798, 5000 bookmarks \$195, Hotel Fee \$3799, Candy was \$281, Sign-age was \$100, Coffee was \$1159 and a sign in book and pen \$11.65. Total expenses were \$5196.56. Balance left over was \$138. Volunteer distributed all the bookmarks and all but 30 bottles of water before the suite closed on Saturday. Over 908 people signed the book but the actual number of visitor was much higher. The room was very active. It was wonderful to showcase the Area. It was the active participation of every Area in the Region that made the room successful. Copies of the report are available. Sharon asks for a show of hands on how many were able to make it. She said it was a great room. Sharon went on to say, at a previous International Convention, one of our Trustees at the time, said hardly anybody came into that room. We had a lot of participation. I feel that we can do this again. Thank you.

New Business

Area Inventory -Dan S. – Treasurer - Passed out copies of the inventory. The area has been challenged to take an ongoing inventory. There have been ad-hoc committees. Last year at the mini-conference, there was a mini-conference inventory committee. When we get feedback, we ask, how can we act on this. Alcoholics Anonymous, Chapter 6 on Step 10, there are about four paragraphs where the word “continuous” is used about four times. The big book sets the bar on inventory. It doesn't say to do it at ten o'clock at night. It says to do it in a continuous manner. If we take that practice inventory and bring it to our area, much like the General Service Conference has done it. This is an effort that started back in 2011 with the General Service Conference. In their Conference Report from last year, on page 25, they have the results of their first inventory. Just recently the General Service Conference published this item. This is an attempt of Alcoholics Anonymous to identify gaps in the program and learn how to close those gaps. Dan read a portion from the Conference literature on what an inventory is. We would like to serve usefully and well. Toward that end, what we have done, adding on to the efforts of the 2015 Mini-Conference Inventory Committee and the ad-hoc committees that existed before, we have developed a proposal for how, we as an Area, can look at ourselves continuously. There are three basic areas that we look at ourselves. We have the Area 53 Assembly, Mini-Conference and we have the Area 53 Standing Committees. What we are going to do, is every quarter we are going to look at ourselves,. We are going to look at a list of questions that came from the 2015 Mini-Conference Inventory Committee and we are going to ask ourselves questions about those three areas. In the final quarter of the year in December, we are going to look at our membership. Does our service membership reflect the community at large. There are gaps there right? This is the purpose of the inventory. We are going to look how are are doing as far as the 7th Tradition. The plan is, at the Area Planning Committee meeting, we can distribute to the DCMs and GSRs upcoming questions that will be addressed at the following Assembly. Everybody will know in hard copy and the Internet, a posting that will say, something like, in June we are going to tackle these topics. And when we get to the Assembly, we will take the inventory. That information will be collected, we will identify those gaps, we will go back to the Area Committee and we will act on those. In the September Assembly, we will report what our action was. As we are accountable to the members of Alcoholics Anonymous and Area 53. Those actions will repeat, quarter after quarter. The questions may not be the same all of the time. Maybe the Assembly or the Committee will say that that gap has been closed and lets look into another area. We will continue this – a continuous look at ourselves. Have we better served the alcoholic in our Area. As Bill Wilson said, it is in our interest to serve usefully and well. Does anybody have any questions?

Sharon F. – Past Delegate – So the questions we are going to answer? Do you want people to ask them in their Districts and Homegroups?

Dan – Yes, The hope is that prior to the Assembly, that these have been distributed through the Area Committee and the website. Get groups thinking about are we electing officers the way we are supposed to. Are people standing for positions. Are we having people be Treasurer twice. Identify areas were we can improve. Then bring that collective conscious to the Assembly and get the group conscious.

Pam R. - Special Needs Chair – I feel this is a trickle down. I am saying yea. I was on this committee last year. The group should be doing a group conscious. Everybody is cleaning house. I think this is really good practice – yeah.

Cheryl – CPC/PI - I second the yeah. This action is important to hang on to. To be a guideline, so that we can grow and learn and serve usefully and well. Its a process. Thank you so much for the hard work and for everybody suiting up and showing up. Thank you.

Toy I - Its always good to do an inventory. I don't see anything regarding the diversity of the area. I know that you were talking about reflecting. Reflecting what? I think something should be included to show diversity.

Dan – I would like to draw everyones attention to the back of the page on the December Assembly, target for inventory. In the first paragraph, the last sentence reads, “Do our practices honor our heritage of inclusion and achieve diversity within our AA team. That is something we need to be asking ourselves. Look around the room folks. Look at the 2014 statistics of the makeup of Alcoholics Anonymous. We have opportunities for improvement. Today we are just trying to introduce the idea of an ongoing inventory. Our hope is to start this with the June Assembly. We will get the questions that are going to be targeted to the June Assembly, to the Area Committee next month. Then we will start the process. I am really excited about it because I I think its important, because that is the way I learned that the program of recovery happens. That is when we can grow into our effectiveness and recovery. That is what the 10th Step suggests. Thank you for your time.

Peggy A – Area 53 Chair - Brings up a correction. The date on the Agenda for the Area Committee Meeting is wrong – It shows January and it should be in April.

Frank G. – Alternate Delegate - **Informational Segment - Why do we contribute to GSO?** Frank gives his presentation. After the presentation, he advises on some questions.

Julie – DCM District 28 - I want to go back to last assembly. We were advised that we were the lowest contributing Area to the General Service Office. I went to the different meetings and encouraged everybody including my homegroup to contribute more. Somebody hear that information went back to COGF and they had a different spin on the contributions. They didn't seem to think that that the Area was in a deficit. Can I get some kind of reconciliation that the Area is having the lowest percentage. The Central Ohio Group Fellowship didn't believe that was correct information.

Dan S – Treasurer – The Treasurer report that we distributed earlier clearly shows that we are not in deficit.

Julie – That is not what I am talking about. I am talking about our contributions to the GSO. Area 53 had the lowest contribution limit of any other Area in the United States – That we were under 11 percent. Somebody took that information to COGF and they had a different report.

Kristi H. - Delegate – That number is reported to us either quarterly or it might be semi-annually. They may have been looking at an older report. The annual figure I have gotten from 2014 shows 22 percent. But that quarterly report that I got which was the most recent said 11 percent and the COGF are not sent those letters. It does fluctuate. We have a different number of groups contributing in the first quarter than we do.... In the first of the year we do get less. They were probably looking at a different report than I gave you guys.

Frank G. - Alternate Delegate – Make phone call and get the fact straight from the people in the front lines.

Patrick – GSR – Thank you for providing this information. Note 11 advises that that PSA had been viewed 30000 times. I am in the broadcasting industry. I am curious as to what equipment or what method was used to gather that information. Did it come collectively from the TV Stations....

Frank said he part of that committee this weekend could show Patrick the report on how the statistics were obtained.

Steve D – DCMC-- Concerning Julie's question. She said that she asked COGF on a question that should have been directed to the Area. COGF is different than the Area level. It may not have the same numbers we give you. Your District could be contributing to more to COGF than some of the outlying Districts. COGF's numbers will be different than what Area and what GSO is.

Kristi – Delegate – It doesn't matter what percentage of contribution we are looking at - we are different entities, that is what Steve is referring to. COGF has higher percentage contributions. No matter what percentage you are looking at, we are definitely in the lowest five percentage of the 93 Areas. I don't know if everyone would have access to that unless you are looking at that conference report. We are in the bottom five percentage - that will never be different.

Jim P – Interested AA – Since that report came from COGF I would assume that we are looking at how many Groups are members of COGF relative to how they get contributions. How Groups give directly to COGF as a separate entity. Because they wouldn't see to a GSO report.

Sharon F. - Past Delegate – I was going to say something that Kristi said. Since I been involved the top max was 27 percent. Even if your group gave a dollar, you would be included in the number. What it means to me that groups aren't contributing anything because they don't know they are supposed to. Take it back to your groups and Districts and ask that question.

Frank G – Alternate Delegate – Out of site out of mind. The Group that is going to spend money on a Pizza and a Party they aren't going to change their mind. The Group just kinda don't know. The person that is just coming in, they don't know. The sheet has some value and it is simple enough. If you can get them thinking on a District level you will get more activity.

Officers Reports

Kristi H. - Delegate – I serve on the Treatment / Special Needs Committee. That report that Frank gave you on the 7th Tradition contributions is available on the AA dot org website if you want to print off additional copies. Since last Assembly in December I attended the Conference of Delegates, Past and Present in the middle of February in Milwaukee Wisconsin. That is always a really good conference. I served as the Alternate Chairperson for the sitting delegates. Good opportunity to for Delegates to network. Maybe talk about the issues coming up because the General Service Conference Agenda is released that weekend. We do a mock conference. An agenda item would be New Delegates and that would be really great. Our Agenda Item Topic was to turn delegate position into an optional four year term and we had some great discussion about that. I did a presentation there on young people in AA. are they members. We had a nice banquet with a speaker. That East-Central Region is it's own entity and it has a Treasurer and a Secretary. A pretty tight knit group. Once your a Delegate, you are always a member of that. They keep track of all of the Delegates and where they've gone. Always glad to get there and attend that. We had one heck of a trip. I took Peggy and Frank and we get up there within about 30 miles and my car starts to make some noise. At first I thought it was

the road, then the wind. Then I'm like something is really wrong. We pull over. It becomes apparent that my car isn't going to drive one inch further. Tommy who comes out with Dave C. to rescue us. I get it toed to a dealership. We're kinda out in the middle of nowhere even though we are about 30 miles out of Milwaukee. The dealership tells me that I have a ruined axle. So, I tell them that I am getting it towed home. We rented a car to come home and there was an ice storm. We even left a little bit early. Huge sections of 65 was closed. There were pileups. A rig was fishtailing. I'm in this little front wheel drive car. If we wreck what are we going to do. I got the Delegate, the Alternate Delegate and the Chairperson in the car. I really want to thank Tommy and Dave. Bill and Sharon flew and they got home even later than we did. For those of you who think we don't do anything.... That's not true. That's it for Wisconsin. No more Wisconsin in the winter. We're gonna Skype-it or something next year. I attended the Area 55 mini-conference last weekend. I put in a lot of work into the Area 53 mini-conference. It is quite an undertaking to get the General Service Conference Agenda Items on February 15th and then pull this off two to three weeks later. That is basically my report. The Area 53 mini-conference There are additional copies of the Agenda items of which we will be looking at GSO. I will report back to you on what we decided. I am going to the Area 56 mini-conference this weekend. I will go to Area 54 mini-conference in the first week of April. The General Service Conference the week of April 17th to the 23rd. The theme of the conference this year is, Our Spiritual Way of Life. We are gearing up for the State Convention. We are hosting the State Convention in 2017. The tentative dates for that are July 21st to the 23rd of 2017. I won't be gearing up to much as I will be turning over this position as we rotate out. We are going to secure the date and the hotel will be the Double Tree Hotel in Worthington, Ohio. It is the same hotel at the 2013 Conference and it does not coincide with Meeting on the River. The Theme that is on the table right now for the State Convention is the theme for this years General Service Conference. Our Spiritual Way of Life – The Steps Traditions and Concepts. In Area 53, we will get between 275 and 300 people. Thank all of you for attending the mini-conference. This is the best mini-conference I have ever had and I have been involved in a few of them. It was an extremely enjoyable experience. Attendance was great.

Peggy A. - Area 53, Chairperson - I attended Delegates Past and Present. Even though I haven't been a Delegate, I feel like I am part of that family. It humbles you because the the only ones that have feed back are the Delegates and Past Delegates. I attended the Area 55 mini-conference it was totally awesome. I am planning on attending 56 this weekend and 54 in April. I attended a DCM school that was held at Brandy's house. There was a couple of things they asked me to check into. One of them was to have donation envelopes at the Assembly. They are on the back table are the Birthday Donation Envelopes and the other envelopes to send to GSO with your contributions. The other item will be discussed at the Committee Meeting. It's basically trying to separate the officers meeting from the DCMs meeting. This year we will be voting for new officers. I have copies of the explanation of the officer positions. They are also in the Guidelines. Article 4 of page 2 explained the officer positions. I will have further information at the Committee Meeting and at the June Assembly. The elections are going to be at the September Assembly. If needed you can contact me at by email or call. We are going to need new faces and ideas. I didn't change the date on the Area Committee Meeting. That is going to be on April 10th at 10:00 at COGF. Other item of business is the Treatment Facility Committee has been vacant. They haven't had a Chair. – Toy Ivory will be the Treatment Facility Chairperson. I will be giving information on the committee meeting as soon as we meet and you will have it for your Groups. The only other thing I will be attending is the Ohio State Convention. The June Assembly dates will be June 5th first Sunday. Thank you for the privilege to serve. That DCM workshop was awesome. Food was great.

Ed A. - Registrar – In attendance today, we have our Delegate, our Alternate Delegate, 3 Officers, DCMC, 9 DCMs, 4 Alternate DCMs, 36 GSRs, 5 Alternate GSRs, 3 Interested Aas, 2 Past Delegates and 5 Standing Committee Chairs. I don't have the information on what is going on the FNV. We have been working on setting up the electronic sign in similar to how he did the May conference. Bill and I have been working on that. June Assembly should have electronic check in with paper backup. If you haven't had a change form for your group see me. Within a couple of weeks you should receive your GSR packets from New York. Any questions? Thank you.

– BREAK FOR LUNCH –

GSR and DCM Reports - Steve D. - DCMC

District 1 – Mindy G – DCM – Meets the 3rd Sunday of every month at 5:00pm at Urbana Sweedonborgian Church. We have a mold issue at one of our churches recently due to flooding. An estimate has been taken on the damage. There are also some outside lighting issues with the church. All the groups are participating to fund that problem. We are filling positions with newly elected officers and created a Literary position. The Alternate DCM has resigned. We had a successful 38th Anniversary Dinner and are planning the 36th Annual Hog Roast. The District is in the process of planning a workshop. Finances are healthy and operating above prudent reserve and the District was able to fund my finances to the conference.

Wednesday Rosewood Noon Group - Kimala C – GSR – Our meeting is at noon in Rosewood, Ohio. We could use support. That is all I have.

District 4 – no report

District 6 – No DCM report

Help the Sunrisers Group - Marcie D. - GSR – In the planning stages of a June Picnic.

District 7 – no report

District 8 – no report

District 9 – no report

District 10 - Corby K - DCM – District meets on the 4th Sunday of every month at 1:00 pm at 1680 East Orange Road. Recent Discussions have been around event planning, We need help with a meeting in the Delaware County Jail. It's time again to update our meeting schedules. We also talk about how to get the message out to more groups and get them involved. Three Recent Events in 2015. There was a Sponsorship Workshop in April of Last Year, we did a Fourth Step Workshop in October and a New Year's Eve Bash. All well attended and we got good feedback. April 16th we have an event coming up. Carrying the Message. It's a Saturday and we need a couple of speakers on Intergroup and Treatment.

Solution Group - Patrick - GSR - We have a good part of our positions filled. Our group conscious meets once a month, I feel like our members are pretty good – We work well together. We do well with our quarterly contributions. We need improvement with the home group member list. Some service positions are not filled.

District 11 – not structured

Marysville Friday Closed Discussion Group - Judy Y - GSR - This is my first time. We are in District 11. The meeting is from 8:00 to 9:00 and is closed discussion. The location is at the Marysville 5th Street Vineyard Church and the upcoming event is the June anniversary. We have a new Secretary. We have an informed Group Conscious quarterly. Brenda – Alternate GSR advised that the group has a new secretary and the group is contributing at 60/30/10 since we don't have an active District.

District 12 – Ann S – DCM – Meet the 3rd Sunday of the month at 4:00pm at the Springfield Alano Club. Currently we would like to have more GSR involvement. Out Jail Committee is looking for more females to go to the Clarke County Jail. Just reprinted the Meeting Schedule Booklets for the District. They are sold at cost. A Spring Fling Cookout is planned for Saturday, May 21st from 1:00 to 4:00pm. The District is financially sound.

District 13/14 – no report

District 15 – Matt P – DCM – The District meets the fourth Tuesday of the Month at the First Presbyterian Church, Fourth and Wooster in Marietta. On April 9th we are having a Newtimers/Oldtimers panel from 10:30 to 2:30. We are well above prudent reserve and plan to use the money for District activities. Our website is available at <http://www.seohdistrict15.org> for more information.

2 for 1 Group – Cat R – GSR - Meeting times are Thursday at 7:00pm, we do the 12 and 12. On Saturday at 10:00am we do the Big Book with Joe and Charlie tapes. Located at the First Presbyterian Church at Fourth and Wooster Streets. An Anniversary is coming us and we are in the planning stages. In process of doing a Group Inventory. We are doing one question a month.

Hand in Hand Group – Joe S – GSR – We have our meetings on Saturday night at 7:30pm. Open Discussion meeting in Barlow, Ohio. We have an Anniversary Coming Up on March 19 at 4:30 at Belpre Heights United Methodist Church. We have Group Conscious the last Saturday of the month. We stay informed on District and Area levels. Discuss welcoming newcomers and are doing so and the meeting is growing. Our meeting is very involved and we assist with the hospital and jail meetings.

GPS Group – Bruce W – GSR – The group meets Sunday nights at 7:30pm in Belpre Ohio. It is a 12 and 12 discussion meeting. If there are five Saturdays in a month, we do a lead. We rotate the Chair position. We participate in District 15. We just had our Fourth Anniversary, last month. Sister Kathy from Mingo County West Virginia gave her lead and we had 115 people for that event. Most weeks we get 15 to 20 people.

Woodsfield AA – Joel K – GSR – We have two meetings, Tuesday night and Friday night at 8:00pm. Both are open meetings. Tuesday night is a discussion/big book meeting. Friday is a Lead Meeting. We are in the epitome of rural. Woodsfield is about 2000 people and we carry two meetings. I am happy to see that because it is what saved my life. We meet at the Maco Building just outside of town. The only upcoming event is the Annual Picnic. This is about the fourth annual picnic --- *(Joel goes off of his written report – and gives a rather heartfelt thanks to Area 53)* I am not going to read this stuff, I am going to basically tell you guys that this is a blessing to be here. I am not only a new AA, I am a first time GSR, in a meeting that hasn't had a GSR since I can't remember. We, like a lot of dark

districts, are actually coming out of the dark as a Group and our Group Conscious is – It's country. We don't really have a lot of Roberts Rules and stuff like that. Who ever shows up, they're in the Group. We really try to have a homegroup member list and anybody that comes in puts their name on it and you may not see that person ever again and their on that list. I don't know how you would have a Group Conscious that way. This has been a fantastic experience for me. I want to say thanks to everybody that put this together. Especially the people that you don't see. The people that made me the omelet in the morning. The people that setup everything out here, whether they're alcoholic or not. You have no idea how much gratitude I have for the program because I was dead when I came here and now I am alive. Thanks! (Loud Applause)

District 16 - Roberta D – DCM – I just became a DCM in January, I am also new at this. . District 16 is in Athens County. Number of Active GSRs are 7 of 9 on our list. This District meeting time is 5:00pm of the first Sunday of the month. The meeting place is at the First United Methodist Church 2 South Collins Street, Athens, Ohio. District Discussion – One of our members is who attended the Correctional Facilities Conference brought back the idea of using the 12 and 12 and the Big Book Dictionary for in the jail meetings. I have been thinking of things that would help our District. We are thinking about producing a list of people that are shut-ins or people who cannot get rides - like informational cards that can be put on bulletin boards. Also been having discussion on getting people to difficult locations like doctor offices or the jail waiting room, sheriff's office, places like that. We are working on updating our phone list. We take the phone list around to all the different meetings and try to keep it updated. We pay for the supplies for our meeting schedules. We may schedule some summer fellowship or picnic. We are making efforts to have GSRs show up at the District. One idea was to show a Group the District Minutes, Schedule and phone lists and make it inviting.

Athens Monday Big Book Study Group - Sam H – GSR – We are proud to donate to GSO and other entities. We have energetic Treasurer. She has encourage the Group to celebrate to any attendees birthday. She bakes the cake. She believes that we could use group unity. The First Saturday of every month we are doing Dinner and a Movie. The money does not come out of our 7th Tradition Basket.

Athens Sunday Lead Meeting - Cate M – GSR – We meeting on Sunday at the First United Methodist Church, 2 College Street. It' s a Lead Meeting. We have a Group Conscience monthly. We have been doing a Step inventory and traditions inventory at the beginning of each of our meetings. We take a meeting in the Southeast Ohio Regional Jail. We recently moved to another church. We have always had a literature raffle. The church didn't allows for raffle. We became very concerned about finances. We are the largest meeting in Athens. A number of treatment facilities attend that meeting. The winner would donate it to anybody who needed a Big Book. We had a Group Conscience and in essence decided to to leave it up to “HP”. We also decided to give a Big Book to anybody who wanted a Big Book. Instead of people buying raffle tickets, people have been throwing money into the basket so there isn't a loss in our intake.

Friday Night 12 and 12 Discussion – Paul P – GSR – Meets 7:00 to 8:00pm at the Athens Church of Christ. We have a focused singleness of purpose. Carrying the Message to the New Person. We are starting to need a bigger room because of attendance.

Wednesday Women's Group – Mary S – Acting GSR – Meets 5:30 pm, Discussion at Christ King Church on Mill Street in Stewart. We have good officer representation. We have a good selection of literature available at our meeting. We have two women's meetings in Athens and from that it appears that we have a strong female presence in the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous. Our Contributions have not been consistent and we need to consider events.

Gift in Recovery and Lasting Strength (GIRLS) – Mary R – GSR – Meets Saturday at 11:00am at Christ the King Church, Mill and Stewart Streets in Athens, Ohio. Group Conscience is as needed. Meeting format is 1st Week – Short Lead, 2nd Week – Step of the Month, 3rd Week – Discussion, 4th Week – Tradition of the Month, 5th Week – Chair Choice. We need more attendees. We are an open Group. A woman from Overeater's Anonymous started attending regularly. After awhile she began participating – We had a Group Conscience and voted to follow the Blue card “Open Meeting.”

District 17 – Allison G – DCM – This year we have four new GSRs and for three this is the first time at an Assembly. District came out of the dark 7 years ago. Bill helped with our District and in our last meeting there was standing room only. Amazing transformation. Upcoming workshop April 16th. Larry C from Marietta leads. In the afternoon we will be talking about Traditions and Relationships. Robert from Morgantown, WV will be presenting. District meeting first Sunday of the month. We had some discussion regarding the CPC/PI outreach. We have kinda gotten away from that. There is an ongoing discussion on the GSRs from the homegroups connecting to AA as a whole. Grateful for the opportunity to serve as DCM. This is the first time in four years that I had a spiritual awakening that I actually enjoyed that I had to do as service. I had a wonderful time. Keep Greg M in your prayers.

Pleasant Valley Group – Shirley K – GSR – Meetings held at Point Pleasant Presbyterian Church on Monday night at 7:30pm, 12 and 12 on Thursday at 7:30pm and Discussion on Saturday at 8:00pm. We don't get a lot of contributions and we have an annual hog roast every year. The cost of this has doubled to 1200 dollars this year. We are going to have a workshop to bring in money for that. We will be raffling off a 50/50. We were doing As Bill Sees It. Changing over to Traditions. We give 12 dollars a year to GSO.

Jackson Monday Night Open Lead Meeting - Jeremy B – GSR – Meets 7:30 to 8:30 pm. We have a small group of home group members. Not a lot of activities. We've had some good attendance since I have been here. It's been a year and a half. No major concerns going on with our Group. It's good to get reconnected with AA as a hole.

Pomeroy Serenity Group - Dan W – GSR – Meets Thursday at 7:00pm, Discussion, Saturday at 8:00pm, Big Book, Sunday at 7:00pm, 12 and 12. at Sacred Heart Church. Annual picnic upcoming. More positions filled then I ever known. This is my first time to the mini-conference and I would like to thank everyone involved with it. We do things outside the rooms.

Gallipolis Tri-County Group - Chad Y - GSR – First time GSR. Meets 8:00pm and 12:00pm at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 541 Second Ave, Gallipolis, Ohio. Group Conscience is the last Tuesday of the month and we haven't had a GSR for over a year and I was nominated GSR. This is my first mini-conference. Grateful to be here.

District 19 – Steve D - DCM – Change location of meeting. We used to rotate that with the other groups. Let them host. The GSR would forget when to schedule the meeting. We have a gone to a set time at the Sabina Municipal Building the third Sunday of month. We have more money than expected this year. Looks like a surplus. District Picnic is August 20th. Things going good really.

Sunday Morning Sunshine Group – Joanne L – GSR – We meet Sunday Morning's at 9:00am. No upcoming events scheduled. We contribute to all entities. Monthly Group Conscience. We are looking at a Concept each month and discussing that. Glad to be here and always enjoy the mini-conference.

District 21 - Greg S – DCM – We have about 9 active Groups. About 21 meetings per week. We have a work shop coming up on April 9th - Bridging the Gap and Sponsorship. Steve D will be a speaker during a workshop at a Community Center.

District 22 – Ed S – Alternate DCM – We are going to be showing the Broadway production of Play of Bill W and Dr Bob on it was played at the International Convention. We are going to show the video on May 7th at the United Methodist Church in Hilliard. There will be free pizza.

We Agnostic Group and Freethinkers Group – Ed S – GSR – We Agnostics meets on Tuesday at 7:00pm in Dublin Springs. Freethinkers meet on Friday.

District 26 – Mike M – DCM – Very grateful to have a large number of people here today. When this GSR report was created, I was under the impression that we were to report on the bottom box only. Our District has been receiving a large amount of donations. We are looking into how to properly spend that. We are looking into more events, maybe getting a sound system. We have a workshop coming up on March 26, “AA Beyond the Meeting.” at the New Life Church in Gahanna from 10:00 am to 2:00pm. There will be a hot dog bar. We wanted an AA Themes hot-dog bar. We are having Chicago Hot Dogs and New York Hot Dogs. Those are easy to find. There are no Akron hot dogs so we invented one. We have a District member that has evolved and is active with the mini-conference. We also have four GSRs that are new to the mini-conference. Thank you.

Free at Last - Alison C – GSR – Meets Tuesday 6:30 at discussion for the first three weeks and a discussion the last Tuesday at the Reynaz Church, 1340 Crest, Reynoldsburg. We have a Group Conscience with a Tradition every month. We need improvement with the GSRs distribution of information. Asks how to make your Group attractive to get more homegroup members. We have only been there three years but we only have five members now.

Womens Sobriety & Serenity – Jayme C – GSR – Meets Wednesdays at 7:00pm. Rotating Format. Meeting at the Church of the Redeemer on McNaughten Road. At Group Conscience we always ask, what is our Singleness of Purpose and what is our Primary Purpose at how did we get there. We are looking into getting more ladies active in serve and advising on the importance of the homegroup.

Westerville Women's Recovery Group – Marcia H - GSR – Meets Thursday at 7:00pm. Rotating Format. Meets at Spring Road Church of Christ. We do have babysitting. We are having problems finding a babysitter in Westerville for the summer. At the last Assembly Dan sung a song about how a dollar ain't a dollar any more. I took that back to the Group and we had a Group Conscience. We decided that each Group member that could would put five dollars in the basket. This has brought up our contributions, so we can make larger contributions to the District, Area and GSO. Thank you to Dan for the pamphlet “Were Spirituality and Money Mix.

After Work Group – Tonya P – Alternate GSR – This is my first time at mini-conference. Meets Tuesday at 6:00pm in Gahanna at the Peace Lutheran Church, 455 Clark State Road. Study AA Approved Literature. Average 35 to 40 members and steadily increasing. About 20 active homegroup members. We have a monthly Group Conscience. We contribute to GSO. Its a fantastic meeting. On the topic of Group Unity, if you ever want to test Group Unity, take your group on a road trip to Akron and we survived.

Southeast Breakfast Group - Don B – GSR – Meets at Mt. Carmel East Hospital, Sunday, 9:00am, Speaker meeting. Our Anniversary is coming up on April 17th. We have good attendance but a small homegroup membership. Service positions need to be filled.

Easy Does It Group - Scott R – GSR – Meets Wednesday 7:30pm at Summit Station United Methodist Church. Anniversary is on April 6th. We haven't been regular to entities outside of our Group. We just came up with a schedule to donate quarterly beginning in April. Personal belongings and moonshine in a jar show up in the church and that was rather curious.

Fellowship Hall Group - Steven B – GSR – Meets Fridays at 7:00pm at 525 Benhard Road in Whitehall. Our homegroup members work well together and we are very supportive of one another. When the meeting started 19 years ago there was no GSR for the meeting until I took it on. Had an great time this weekend. This is my first mini-conference and I am very grateful to GSRs and my District and very thankful for Mike Meeks DCM. We don't have a monthly Group Conscience. Just called when needed. I want to see a Monthly Group Conscious. I will suggest the Friday following the Saturday of our District meeting. I am grateful to be part of this.

Northeast Discussion Group - Joy D – GSR – Meets Monday at 7:00pm at Life Church in Easton. Told my sponsor that Grateful and Alcoholic should never be in the same sentence. Sponsor said to see how you feel later. Perfect example. That is how I feel now. I have been a GSR for three weeks. Most of our positions filled. Every two months for Group Conscience. I would like to see how the Group would feel about having the Group Conscience more often. I joined the Group and they had an emergency Group Conscience to see if I would be GSR and here I am.

Reynoldsburg Women 12/12 – Cassandra D – GSR – Meets 10:00 am at Church of the Redeemer at 235 McNaughten Road. We have a quarterly Group Conscience. I am grateful to be here. We contribute quarterly to COGF. We are having more homegroup members taking up service positions. We need to have more home group member participating in Group Conscience. We are celebrating our 8th Year Anniversary with Speaker Robin R from Chicago. The Group participated in Alcohothon and rule 62. I have just been nominated at GSR and have attended six of our meetings so far.

Creekside Recovery Group – Dominique M – GSR – Meets Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 4:30pm. Tuesday is Big Book, Wednesday is 12/12 and Thursday is Open Discussion. Meetings are at Gahana Congregational Community Church. Bi-Monthly Group Conscience. They are experiencing difficulties with getting full attendance at their Group Conscience meetings due to the meeting taking place several days during the week.

District 28 – Julie J – DCM – This is my first time at this level of service. District 28 is very active. We are going through change. We came up with operating budget for the year along with a prudent reserve. We had to resolve an issue with a bank account where an individual's social security number was being used. This made rotation impossible. Bill Y helped. Bill and the bank manger were able to resolve the problem. The bank required us to get an EIN number. It was a Self Help Group EIN number. Church is going through changes so we made a decision to get a new location for our District Meeting. We will be meeting at Panera Bread, 4519 North High Street, Columbus. . The meetings will be the first Sunday of each month at 5:00pm. In April we will be meeting the 2nd Sunday. District also made a decision to get a PO Box. Which is PO Box 309, Worthington, Ohio 43085, Attn: District 28. Checks should be made to District 28. Our information with the groups is very outdated. We try to figure out which groups are active. We should have a corrected list for our April meeting. I like to

thank everybody for the February 20th event. The movie Bill W was shown with around 50 in attendance. Next event in May. We are still in the planning stages, it was suggested a Meet and Greet. To get reconnected to some of the meetings that don't know about District 28. To encourage them to participate. Thank you to Bill Y. for helping us update the website.

Monday Night Steps and Traditions – Donna H. – GSR – Meets at Meadow Park Church of God on Bethel Road, Upper Arlington, Monday at 7:00pm. We just had our 20th Anniversary in February. All homegroup members have service positions. We can always use the support. Feel free to stop by.

Plug in the Jug - Ed H – GSR – Meets at Holy Name Catholic Church, North Campus. Wednesday at 7:30pm. It is a very active Group. We keep service positions filled. We have Group Conscience as needed. We have homemade sweets with our coffee. We serve good beef hot-dogs, we assist Central Office with Alcoholon. We also are responsible to run the hot dog stand behind Dr. Bobs house on Sunday at Founder's Day. Next weekend, March 18th, we will help with the hospitality room at the Spring Round-Up. The last Anniversary in November had 286 in attendance.

Clintonville Big Book – James C – GSR – Meets 8:00pm at Maple Grove United Methodist Church at 7 West Henderson Road in Columbus, Ohio. We solved the surplus money issue from our Anniversary collection. We are contributing to Central Office, Area 53 and GSO.

District 30 – Kalan C – DCM – Meets the first Wednesday at 6:00pm at St Lukes on 5th Avenue. We are in the planning stages of a September activity. . One group is having problems getting an alternate GSR.

Life Begins at 40 – Kalan C – GSR – Meets 10:00 am on Bethel Road. We have good attendance and a wide range of sobriety. Need to fill the alternate GSR position.

6:15 News Group – Debra R - GSR – Meets Thursday at 6:15 at 2151 Dorset Road, Columbus. I am the only elected anything. I pass.

The Sunset Group – Heather S – Alternate GSR – Meets at Northwestern United Methodist Church at 7:00pm Monday nights at 5200 Riverside Drive. Closed Women's Speaker. . Anniversary is April 25th Katie P from Texas. GIR just resigned but around Anniversary time is when we reset the positions. We have a special needs representative. Group Conscience is quarterly. We send a separate basket so we don't use 7th Tradition funds. We haven't contributed in a long time so I will talk with the Treasurer.

The 164 Page Winners Group - Wendy S - GSR – Meets Saturday 9:30am, Upper Arlington Church, Lytham Road. We listen to Joe and Charlie for half meeting and comment for the rest of the meeting. We just celebrated our 22nd Anniversary. In the past year our Treasurer and GSR died. The Treasurer was the grandson to Reinhold Niebuhr who is credited with writing the Serenity Prayer. We ran into a problem. When the Treasurer died, some of the money was at is house and family wouldn't give us access and we had to let that go. When we went to the Bank, our Treasurer's name was the only name on the account. After quite a bit of negotiation we were allowed to reopen that account. I advised that the dollar didn't go as far as it used to. I think it made a difference. I didn't know about the birthday contribution envelopes and grabbed a handful. I celebrate 27 years tomorrow and plan to be the first to use the envelope.

District 33 – no report

District 34 - Brandy V - DCM – West Columbus and Southwest Grove City. Meets the Fourth Sunday of every month at Hoge Memorial Presbyterian Church. Discussing next workshop topics. We are trying to keep our workshop them to the New York Conference, Spirituality our way of life. Steps, Traditions and Concepts. We had a New Year's Eve dance proceed will purchase literature for Groups in our District that can't afford it. Womens New Hope Group is moving. We also had groups that weren't interested in being part of the District and are now donating. Really big influx of newcomers coming in but not sure of status as to whether they are alcoholic or not. We just love them and discuss alcoholism.

Women's New Hope Group – Pam R – GSR – Soon to be moving at the end of the month. Group Conscience as needed and we are seeing better attendance.

Three Legacies – Donna K – GSR – Meets 7:00pm Sunday at Hoge Presbyterian Church on West Broad. Quarterly Group Conscience. The format is working well, attendance is up. All service positions are filled.

Strong Women in Sobriety – Susan M – GSR – Meets 6:00pm Tuesday, at Hoge Presbyterian Church on West Broad. We are becoming more cohesive as homegroup members. Recently worked together to put on 6th Anniversary Dinner. We have several unfilled positions. Due to discussions at several Group Conscience meetings, we finally got unanimous support on begin supporting AA as a whole for the first time in our Groups history.

Good Morning Breakfast – Preston G – GSR – Meets Sunday 9:00 am at York Steak House. Monthly Group Conscience. They are having problems with getting a GSR to monthly meetings due to health issues. They have solved an issue with contributions to other than COGF.

Steve D - DCMC – I would like to apologize. We brought up a new form in committee and it was approved to use. I didn't explain it well and I thought it was self explanatory. I would like everybody to review the form. I also invite people to read the purpose of the Assembly in the Service Manual on page S-36.

Peggy A - Area Chair – Item of business. I have been traveling a lot. My budget is almost deleted. I have two more events that I need to attend. I would like to ask for an addendum to my budget. I am asking for \$500 dollars.

Dan S – If this item is approved we are still operating above the prudent reserve.

Dave Cornell – Past Delegate. I been to quite a few conferences with Peggy. I move that we give her the 500 dollars. Sharon F. Second. All in favor 44. Opposed 1.

Minority opinion - Donna – I would like to see the budget for the 500 dollars. Is there something that costs that much. I am trying to get an idea of where that money is going to.

Peggy A - I am attending the Area 54 mini-conference and that is for the banquet and my room. Room nights are 95 dollars plus tax. Registration is 20 and the banquet is 35. The State Convention that is going to held in August. Room nights are 92 dollars plus tax with registration at 25. The banquet is 35.

Donna – My next question is just in general. As Chairperson are you supposed to go to all of the events and all mini-conferences.

Kristi H. – Delegate – At least one other.

Peggy A – Has anyone changed position as the result of the minority opinion? No opposition. Vote stands.

Standing Committee Reports

Corrections Committee – Paul H - Chairperson – The annual workshop is on April 2nd. Report is on line area53aa.org. We had over 50 people at our last meeting. 96 percent of literature requests were fulfilled. If you are taking literature into a jail or prison – call us we will give you free literature. Website is area53cfc.org and it's great website. Website less than a year old and we've had 551 visits since last quarter. Vivian K is our new correspondence chair. We elected a new alternate Doc H. We approved \$7,700 in purchases of literature from the jug money. We are being asked to make presentations at a lot of different places. Marietta on April 9th in Delaware on April 16th. We are going to Cuyahoga Falls. That is not in our area, Bob D wanted to go there. On April 7th we are having a meeting with liaison with the Department of Corrections to discuss problems they have with outside sponsors since the change in the DRC rules. This year mental health and and recovery service in one service. If you are taking a meeting in to jail or prison, you should contact Bob D. The number is on the yellow flier. Tell him what your concerns are and he will take that to the DRC. At the last quarterly we talked about adding the 12 and 12 and the Big Book dictionary to groups and we will talk further on the next quarterly on June 4th which is the next quarterly at COGF at 10:00am. Questions?

Dave C – Past Delegate – We had a situation were the Corrections Committee forgot to ask for reimbursement from Area 53. I would like to ask the Treasurer if there is line item.

Dan S – Treasurer - The Treasurer report that was circulated at this Assembly was updated on Tuesday. I got a request. The request was for 125 dollars to go to the CFC committee.

CPC/PI Committee – Cheryl S – Committee Chairperson – Thanks so much. The Area 53 Cooperation with the Professional Community/Public Information (CPC-PI) Committee reaches the alcoholic by informing both the general public about the AA program and “the third person” whose work involves the active alcoholic. The committee also keeps the fellowship well informed so members and groups can carry the message more effectively. I like to remember that. The agenda for this one hour meeting is an inventory of resources and reporting on recent on ongoing projects and information regarding new requests. . We have monthly meetings at 2:00pm on the first Sunday of the month at Maple Grove. January, February and March we refocus on the Committee purpose, increase enthusiasm for service, investigating ways of increasing enthusiasm for service, and investigating ways of increasing knowledge of navigation AA websites. (aa.org, area53aa.org, CFC and COGF.) We are trying to increase visibility of those websites. Other focus is on new member packets. We are working on scripts on announcing what CPC/PI is in homegroups and organizing the packet in electronic format for easy access. Guideline review is ongoing. In January there will be a presentation at Briggs High School and in February there is a OSU Class Presentation. Upcoming events; April 16th there will be a District 10 Workshop and on April 17th a display at St. Peters Church on Smokey Row Road. In ongoing business - Business cards have the email address. We got permission to put the business cards in libraries in Franklin County. Cooperating with Groups and Districts and Inter-groups in the Area continues. My phone is always available – call me. We have 5 to 6 members at the monthly meeting.

Thank you for your willingness to serve.

No questions for Cheryl.

Group Services – Greg S – Committee Chair – On December 26th Group Services facilitated GSR Schools at COGF meeting room. It was sponsored by District 30 for District 33 which is dark. Meeting went well with 15 people attending. Friday at the beginning of the conference, Group Services facilitated another GSR school with 30 people attending from 9 Districts including guests from other Areas. Meeting went well with good participation from attendees and input from out-of-area guests. Both meetings giving by Bill Y., Marcia H. and myself. I'm grateful for their help. Steve D., Bob H. and myself are still picking away at the dark District 18, Chilllocothe and Circleville. We are hoping to have workshops there in the near future.

No questions for Greg.

Liaison Committee-Teri G. had to leave. Peggy reads report. Updates for COGF. IGRs: Interested in a workshop regarding roles and responsibilities for IGRs, GSRs and Secretary. Office Manager: Interested in having a meeting for Group Secretary. For February contributions up and sales down. Requested information from Area 53 Committees regarding the use of the meeting room at COGF. COGF will have a literature table at the Spring Conference. Archives Committee has elected a Chair – Erica. Both Area and COGF Archives materials will be stored at COGF beginning in May 2016. COGF Website: Go-Live date is May 1, 2016. Site will be responsive and have the capability to be updated by the office manager. Unity Day: IGRs were given an update on the past history and encouraged to discuss their Groups “What type of AA Services” the Groups want to focus on for this year's Unity Day – for example, Group Contributions. June's Member Meeting: The membership voted to move the date of the next member's meeting to June 4 at 10:00 am. Submitted by Teri Gardner, Area 53 Liaison.

Question by Cheryl S. - Isn't the Liaison between all of the inter-groups in the Area?

Peggy A. - I am not aware of an answer to that question and I am not sure how many Teri has been to. Kristi might have more to add.

Kristi H – Delegate – I can just say that we only have one other active intergroup in our Area and that is in Lancaster. There is one in Chilllocothe that just got started. COGF is our most active intergroup.

No more questions.

Mini-Conference Committee-Frank G - Alternate Delegate - I would like all Committee members to stand up please. (applause). Sandy and Brenda helped out. Dan and Billy did the hostility room and that's a lot of work. No official numbers yet. Overall a success. New format seem to play out better. Our next Assembly I will have some numbers. Budget for coffee was in line. Thank you for allowing me to chair this.

No questions for Frank

Special Needs Committee – Pam R - Thanks for staying. Please come out we have only 4 active members. If you have members in your homegroup that need a service position we can provide it. We are small but mighty. We meet the first Saturday of the month at COGF is when we meet. Paying for a six month contract for an hearing impaired interpreter who is at the Genesis Group at Central Office the first Saturday of each month at 3:00pm that was \$45 for each month. So it's \$270 for six months. We will be able to renegotiate in June. Paid for spring roundup hearing impaired interpreter for \$275 for 5 meetings. We have purchased braille literature which we distributed to two individuals. Cheryl is making a donation of Spanish literature. We are providing additional literature to the Van Buren homeless shelter on west side. We are working on getting Bus line information into the meeting books. Thanks to Ed S. who talked to COGF who does the meeting books. We will have everything prepared and they will put the Bus line numbers into the meeting books. The Bus line numbers should be in the meeting books by summer. If you have a special needs jug, don't send a money order. We don't have any way to cash it. Bring cash to Assembly. You can contact COGF or me.

Grapevine Committee – Larry B - no report

Treatment - Vacant

Special information

Dan S. - Treasurer – Groups have spoken about banking issues. On our website, we have information on opening a group checking account. Type Banking Account in the search bar.

Peggy A – Area Chairperson – The Committee meeting will be April 10th 10:00am for DCMs. Area officers need to be present at 1:00pm. Peggy reads a statement by Brandy. I would like to get discussion on getting back the Area 53 Convention. I will bring it up in the DCM meeting, but just want to make mention to start to get people thinking about it. Thank you for your help and patience. Can I get a motion for adjournment. Cat R motions. Cate M. seconds. Adjournment at 3:15pm with the “I am Responsible Statement.”