

**June Area 53 Assembly
Agenda – June 4, 2017
Riverview Conference Center
Christopher Inn
30 North Plaza Boulevard
Chillicothe, OH 45601**

Opening of Meeting (Dan H) 10:12 am

Call to Order and (We Version) Serenity Prayer

Twelve Concepts (Short Form) – Don B.

Roll Call (GSR, DCM, Interested AA, Committee Chairs, Area Officers, Past Del, Other Areas)
GSRs-23, DCMs-9, Interested AAs-9, Committee Chairs-4, Area Officers-7, Past Delegates - 6

Agenda - Review & Approval

Don B Motion to Approve, Joel K. Second. Approval Substantial Unanimity.

March Assembly Minutes - Review & Approval

Reviewed of minutes from March Assembly. Elisabeth requests that the spelling of her name to be corrected.

Paul F, Motion to Approve, Bear T. Second. Approval upon requested revisions.

Unfinished Business

Mini Conference Committee Report (Stephen S.)

Stephen S. give a four page handout to those in attendance. The entire report is available at <http://area53aa.org/main/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/MC2017-Final-Report-.pdf>

- Stephen describes how the report is divided into different parts
 - Background Information
 - Facts and Figures
 - Advisory Actions
- Highlights of the report include:
 - The General Service Conference Structure
 - The upside-down organization found on page S16 of the Service Manual.
 - The Service Structure has been around since 1937 with the Alcoholic Foundation
 - The current form of the General Service Conference was started in 1950.
 - The General Service Conference Meeting
 - The Annual Conference Meeting takes place in April and the Delegate attends this meeting.
 - The Service Manual, S55, describes how an idea become an agenda item.
 - Agenda items are assigned to one of 13 conference committees. The committees meet first to review the items and the conference committees then discuss what items should be considered by the full conference.

- The Area 53 Mini-Conference
 - The Mini-Conference is a scaled down version of the Conference meeting. This provides information the Delegate of the sense and thinking of some of the items of the Area and allows participants a miniature version of what it is like.
 - At the General Service Conference there 13 committees and 92 agenda items. The Delegate picked 21 items which were assigned to 8 committees for the mini-conference.
- 2017 Facts and Figures
 - The 2017 Area 53 Mini-Conference kicked off at 7 pm Friday March 10. It adjourned at 10am on Sunday March 12.
 - A GSR School was held at 4 pm Friday afternoon. At the same time, there was a panel presentation on the topic “Having had a spiritual awakening...”
 - Friday evening was introductions and overview of the weekend. Then the committees met Friday night and Saturday until noon.
 - Saturday Afternoon committee reports were presented to the full mini-conference.
 - Steve S, General Service Office Staff Member, gave a GSO status report on Saturday night,
 - followed by his lead. Our Delegate, Frank G, recapped the weekend on Sunday morning. John C, Area 55 Delegate, shared his story to close the weekend.
 - There were 111 paid participants, including 11 scholarships. Registration income \$2,700. Expenses were \$2,800.
 - Supplies and copies were \$200 plus \$500 for Committee meetings. Speaker expenses, meal, travel and room was \$800. We paid \$3.75 for each 8-ounce cup of coffee. A total of 25 gallons of coffee were consumed at a cost of \$735.
 - There were 4 meal events, Participants purchased 147 meals over the weekend, including 62 for the Saturday night banquet. Overall, the meal events were self-supporting.
 - Full meals were made available at the hospitality room. Free or donation only meals were being offered as a way to minimize cost to participants. In addition to the basket being passed, \$500 from the general fund as added for the Hospitality Room. Actual expense on this was \$521. The meals were great and the proposition was within budget. It didn’t seem to affect attendance.
- Next min-conference will be on March 9-11, 2018 at Salt Fork.
- 21 Agenda items were distributed to the committees.
 - 13 were a Consideration. 4 items were recommended to take “No Action”. 9 items were sent to the floor for Consideration, 7 items were passed and became advisory actions to our delegate.
 - Also were 6 Discuss items and 2 Review items.
- The rest of the report gives itemized detail of the committee actions.

Area Inventory (Dan S.)

June Questions

Reflecting on the Area 53 Guidelines (Article IX) is the Area 53 Mini-Conference Committee achieving its “primary purpose?”

From the Area 53 Guidelines:

9) Mini Conference Committee

- a) Shall report regularly to the area assembly meeting.

- b) Shall plan and organize the area mini conference.
- c) Shall be chaired by the area 53 alternate delegate.
- d) Area 53 alternate treasurer shall serve as mini conference treasurer.

What improvements could be considered to make sure agenda items and conference activities have a broader appeal (attract more members to attend)? Improvements must be practical.

How well does the mini-conference committee communicate to the Area membership about why we have this conference and how it works?

How can they better communicate that the mini-conference is more than one weekend in March?

How can we improve the time allotted at the mini-conference weekend for committees, reports, presentations, and “free time” to ensure thorough deliberations that effectively inform our Delegate?

Comments/Suggestions:

Greg G, DCM, District 22 –

- Questions were discussed at the District Meeting.
- Would like to see the meeting be moved to a closer location. (Columbus Area)
- Some people knew of topics for the min-conference, but would like to see topics sooner from GSO.
- Suggestion to hold a GSR School on Sunday. To attract new GSRs that may not be attending the mini-conference.
- One group member emailed the DCM advising that no group member had even heard of the min-conference. A suggestion was to put out an anonymous survey out to group members asking for input on what agenda items that they would want to hear and provide options so that each group member could rank options in order of importance. They also suggest leaving a blank line on the survey so that an inventory topic could be suggested.
- A suggestion for the mini-conference committee to take into consideration that most people cannot attend the entire weekend.
- If the min-conference committee communicated the goal of the mini-conference, in term of “what’s in it for me” or “why should I want to attend” then they would likely have better attendance.

Paul H, GSR, Three Legacies Group –

- Advised that the committee meets the requirements of the Guidelines.
- The cost of the meals were too high.
- The Hospitality Suite was a good idea but a little crowded. The restaurant wasn’t quite as crowded.
- The Assembly on Sunday should be shorter.
- Didn’t like the new schedule with the Friday Committee Meetings. Preferred the old schedule were all the Committee Meeting were held on Saturday. Reason was that some people come just for a day and this would allow them to attend all of the Committee Meetings on Saturday.

Dave C, CPC/PI Committee Chairperson –

- I don’t know how much a cup of coffee is at a motel, but if it is going to cost \$3.75, we may be better of saying “coffee on your own” – maybe that would be a disaster.
- As far as informing people that there is a mini-conference – would it be possible to have a little pre-mini-conference workshop that would give people an idea of the agenda items that will be discussed.

- Maybe have a standing-committee that would show people what would happen at a min-conference by going through some of the background material.

Joel K, Alternate-DCM, District 15 –

- I think that the mini-conference is really good. I take all of that information back to my homegroup. My homegroup knows when it is coming and what it is.
- On Friday night there is a lot of confusion when you get to the meeting. We don't understand what protocol or form to use. Each subcommittee chair should take a little more time to explain the procedure. I didn't understand what was going on during my first min-conference. This could be captured during the GSR school.
- Joel said that he appreciates a job well done.

Maria H, DCM, District 26 –

- Discussed the mini-conference at the District Meeting and advised that it was helpful to have the DCM and a couple of GSRs on the planning committee for the min-conference.
- The committee members would take the information back to the District and the GSRs would discuss the min-conference with their homegroups. The Groups then would give feedback which would find it's way back to the min-conference committee.
- It is important that the DCMs and GSRs get involved in the planning stages.

Frank G, Delegate, Area 53 –

- Frank advises the reason the coffee and meals are so expensive. He said that as long as Area meets the room and meal quotas, the ball rooms and breakout rooms and water is all free. The lodge is attempting to compensate.

Mike Meeks, DCMC, Area 53 –

- Mike said that he understands that the subsidizing room rentals through increased coffee prices. He is wondering if that is the way it ought to be. The expense is Area 53's expense and he believes that the expense is being passed along to the members that are attending. Shouldn't the Area just pay for the rental rooms? We spend a lot of time getting a certain amount of people to rent a certain amount of rooms to offset the costs. He said he struggles with that idea.

State Convention Committee (Frank G)

- Meets the 3rd Monday at New Life Church, 3690 North Stygler Road, Gahanna, Ohio.
- Could use more volunteers
- Preliminary agenda established.
- There will be a GSR/DCM school at 4:00pm.
- Al-Anon and a young peoples organization has been incorporated into the schedule.
- Central Office will have a display.
- Interesting speakers, Panels
- Singer and Songwriter on Saturday night with a lead on Sunday morning.
- Game night in the planning stages.
- AA Information, entertainment and fun.
- *Donna K gives info in registration.*
 - 37 registrations, 28 banquets, 6½ scholarships, \$55 dollars in hospitality donations.
 - Registration will be available on line or by form.
 - The planning committee is hoping to have between 200 -250 registered.

- Frank said that he lives in Springfield. He said that he went to a meeting close by and the group didn't know that there was a State Convention. When promoting the State Convention Frank says that he gets peoples attention when he mentions how money is being saved by using a the hospitality room.
- Frank says that it is important to spread the word on the State Convention by mentioning it at different meetings.

Location of Assembly Meeting – (Donna K)

- At the Area Planning Committee meeting there has been talk about moving the Assembly.
- Donna found a facility in Columbus at Ramada North. Cost including coffee is \$250. Donna also provides pictures.
- Dan H, Area Chairperson, reads from the Area Guidelines, Article IV, Section 2 – “The Assemblies shall be held in a convenient location and may be moved from community to community within Area 53.” Facility in Chillicothe is less than \$250.

Dan opens floor for comments.

Steve D. Dist 19 DCM –

- We are trying to get more people to attend assemblies and mini-conferences.
- If it is supposed to be convenient, then it should be more convenient to everybody.
- It doesn't make a whole lot of different to me. Lancaster was closer and easier to get to.
- Maybe we should consider South Columbus for traffic reasons.
- We can't give willingness to anybody but we can make things more accessible.
- We need to consider a central location instead of just centering everything around Columbus.

Donna K, Treasurer Area 53 –

- Quotes the price for the facility (\$237) and advises that coffee was 40 dollars.
- The Assembly should be held in a central location.
- Donna looked into the south side of Columbus. Other hotels were much higher.
- Chillicothe and Ramada North were the only two that were affordable. Other hotels were 500 to 600 dollars,

Sharon F, Past Delegate –

- We have a lot of people from Southeastern Ohio today.
- Sharon acknowledges a great price for a hotel in Columbus and advises that there are people from other locations than Columbus.
- Sharon suggests that the meeting may be rotated to different locations.
- The Area chairperson should be able to pick the location of the Assembly.

Dave C, CPC-PI Chairperson –

- Dave said that Ramada North is close to where he lives and was concerned that the capacity of the room is 48. Donna K advised that they have a bigger room.

(Name Inaudible) –

- It's once every three months. AA is not about convenience.
- Columbus may have the highest concentration of people. We have to consider that there are other AAs in Area 53.
- We have to considerate of people that don't live in Columbus and I live in Columbus.

Don C, Portsmouth Nooner's Group, GSR –

- Attended 3 Assemblies. The first had 2 representatives, the next 1, today there are 8.
- The southern part of the state is under represented.
- At least once or twice a year, it would be nice to have an Assembly in a place other than Columbus.

Roberta D, District 16, DCM –

- Nice to have Assembly outside of Columbus.
- Consider having the possibility of moving locations.
- We don't have many people coming from my District.
- They lost a few people because they felt that the Assembly didn't have anything to do with "us"
- Roberta says that she knows some people in Chillicothe that have been trying to get people active. It is appropriate to have the meeting here.

Rick B, Past Delegate –

- Discussion has been going on for years.
- If you want to kill attendance at your group, move it several times a year.
- It costs what it costs. \$3.75 for a cup of coffee is not economic.
- People that want to do service will travel.
- Consistency is best if we can find a place that meets our price range.

Paul F, Byesville Group, GSR –

- From District 6. 2½ hour drive today. DCM wouldn't come because it's too far away.
- Centrally located means, centrally located for everyone.
- People that are remotely located don't understand what it is to be "part of"

Joe S, Hand in Hand Group, GSR –

- Approves of the ideal of being centrally located or switching it up.
- He advised that he isn't into technology but bought a GPS. If I want to go there, I can get there.

Mike B, District 18 (Local to Chillicothe)

- The needs of urban areas are different than rural areas.
- Going by dollar amount by 25 gallons, an 8 ounce coffee should be \$1.83

Ed A, Alternate Chairperson, Area 53 ---

- Likes the idea about 2 and 2. (Two here and two there)
- Ed advised that consistency as far as date placement didn't help. Changing the meeting to the first Sunday of the month hasn't changed the attendance of the meeting.
- Ed doesn't mind driving but knows of people that will not make the trip if too far.

Bear T, McCarthy Group, GSR –

- Maybe an analysis of what is a central location.
- Some people just don't want to drive three hours. Maybe locate in Lancaster or Athens.

Shirley K, District 17, DCM--

- Takes an 1½ to Chillicothe or 2 hours to Columbus.
- Bottom Line: Service work has been a huge part of my recovery.

Aaron B, 12/12 Portsmouth, GSR –

- Agrees with Rick B, sees the same people in every location.
- People with willingness are going to show up.

Dan H, Chairperson, Area 53 –

- Gives background on how Chillicothe was selected.
- Looked in Athens at Moose Lodge. The problem with the Moose Lodge, sometimes the guy didn't show up to let us in.
- Started in Service in Zanesville at Radison.
- We need to accommodate everyone in a central location.
- When we look at prices. These places are most economical.
- Beautiful facility. Will take suggestions to Area Planning Committee.

New Business

Election of Web Administrator & Alternate (Kristi H)

- Using Three Legacies Procedure. Page S21.
- Bill Y places the expectations of the Web Administrator on the projector.
- Kristi reads the Third Legacy Procedure.
- Position has been discussed for over a year.
- No one stood for the position. The Area Chairperson will select both Primary and Alternate.
- Area 53 Chairperson will advise

Motion to support Biographies of Past Chairs as suggested by Area 34, Western Michigan. (Warren J. Area 34 forwarded by Ed S, Inter-group Liaison, Area 53)

"Please consider publishing a book of biographies of past chairs of the General Service Board. We believe that this book would provide additional history of Alcoholics Anonymous."

(Ed A begins the discussion)

- Area 34 is requesting additional support from other Areas.
- Area 53 would vote on whether to endorse the idea of having the General Service Office/Grapevine to publish the book in 2018.

Comments

Roberta D, District 16, DCM –

- What does it mean by we support them. Financially?

Frank G, Area 53 Delegate --

- As an AA Member a request can be made to GSO. The request will have more leverage if it has several Areas backing.

Jillena R, Hilliard Sobriety Group, GSR –

- Firm believer in Anonymity. Not sure if she would be in support of the book.

Rick B, Past Delegate –

- Advises that GSO shouldn't publish the book. It will not help the general public in recovery from alcoholism.
- Class A trustees (non-alcoholic) can use their full name. Problem – Class A trustees can become Class B trustees.

Steve D, District 19, DCM –

- Questions why would we want to do this for past chairs and not the an individual alcoholic.

Bear T, McArthur Group, GSR –

- Advised that this may be ego based.

Ed S makes motion that Area 53 adopts the motion to create the book. Don C seconds.

Ed A clarifies that the Area is voting on whether we are adding support of the recommendation.

Stephen S calls the question.

Results from Vote: 12 Approve 28 Against.

Minority Opinion

Ed S, Inter-group Liaison, Area 53 –

- We should support our fellow Areas. If they think this is important, why can't we support them.

No change in vote due to Minority Opinion

Motion Fails.

Any Other New Business?

None

Information Sharing Session – “Why we have an Area Assembly” (Stephen S.)

- Stephen S. provides background information on Why we have an Area Assembly.
- All information comes from the Service Manual or Area Guidelines.
- The idea is to get the information to the Groups in the next three months and then have an Information Sharing Session on how we can improve.
- Stephen hands out a document, “The Role and Purpose of the Assembly. An Informed Sharing Process.” and gives a presentation.
- At September Assembly the Sharing Session will be entitled, “What improvements can we make to the way the General Service Structure functions in Area 53?”
 - How to improve the communication components
 - How we give Guidance to the Delegate
 - How to get an informed Group Conscious
 - The last page of the document describes what a Sharing Session should be like
 - What can we do better?

Lunch at 12:02pm – Return at 1:20pm

Officers Reports

Delegate (Frank G)

- The Delegate has returned from the General Service Conference and shows a Power Point Presentation.
- Statistics of the Delegates to the General Service Conference.
 - Average Age 59, Oldest is 75, Youngest is 37
 - Longest Sobriety is 51, Shortest is 10, Average years sober 23
- Frank said that he left on April 22nd and his trip into and out of New York went very smooth.
- Literature is in three primary languages, English, Spanish and French.
- Delegates from Washington DC, Area 13 have meetings in the White House.
- Sunday Morning the Conference opens with Role Call.
- Frank was assigned to the Correctional Committee.
- Frank said that he studied hard for the Conference but also said that it was important to keep an open mind and remain humble.
- Monday through Friday there was an early AA Meeting with about 50 people.
- 2016 marked a record year for the 7th Tradition. \$7.9 million, up 11% from 2015.
- Percentage of Groups Contributing to GSO have increased (41.5%)
- 7th Tradition Support – 81.4% Groups, 8.4% Specials (Conferences Areas Intergroups), Individuals 7.7%, Other 2.5%
- Due to inflation, it is recommended that two dollars is a reasonable contribution to groups
- Salaries and payroll taxes are the greatest of recurring expenses at 42.9%
- The General Service Conference is the largest cost provided to the Fellowship then Archives.
- New 30 minute video for Corrections cost \$70,000. Everyone who saw the video, felt that it was worth it to carry the message.
- 2016 Literature Sales was at 13.4 Million with the Big Book at 49%
- Grapevine subscription sales continue to decline. Circulation of LaVina is steady, but shortfall is significant. The shortfall is made up by the Reserve of General Fund.

- Dave M who presented the financial report at GSC, “Finance has not importance on and of itself. Finance is simply a way to help carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic.”
- Frank said that Class A trustees are often involved because they have seen how the miracle of AA has helped their families.
- Frank said that we should be sensitive to the customs and traditions of Native Americans. He advised we should look into that in our own meetings.
- It has been several years since AA had a survey. Appears that a question regarding sex was an issue. Question 2 to be changed from Sex: ___Male___Female to “Gender Identity: ___Male___Female [language to include all gender nonconforming] ___ No Response”
 - Recommended to the Trustees Committee on Public Information
- There was a question on whether a committee may met by conference call 60 days prior to the conference. After a long discussion, it was discovered that no rule was needed as the committees already could make a decision to have a conference call.
- The topic for next years conference. “AA a Solution for All Generations.”
- Frank said that he had to place the Area ahead of himself. He used the same principles that helped him to become sober to help Area 53.

Chairperson (Dan H.)

- Dan said that he had a new hip. He is feeling better and was able to look at new meeting places.
- Involved with the mini-conference committee.
- Involved with the State Convention committee and will be on a panel.

Registrar (Nita S.)

- 61 people attended the June 4th, 2017 Area Assembly. 23 GSRs, 9 DCMs
- Current Fellowship New Vision Statistics -- New Groups: 0, Pending Active: 8, Pending Inactive: 10, Incomplete: 14, Unknown: 150, Invalid Addresses: 50
- Continuing to work with the DCMs to get current Group information placed in Fellowship New Vision, New York Database.
- Information on Area 53 website is current.
- Please Note: New Group information submitted to the Registrar or GSO will not appear on the Area 53 page until GSO assigns a Service Number and the Website Administrator updates the Area 53 page. GSO can take several months to assign numbers and the Area 53 page is updated quarterly. If information is incorrect, please be patient.
- Tri-Fold has been updated. If corrections are needed, email registrar@area53aa.org
- Alternate Registrar continues to update the Area 53 page on the Conscious Contact. For changes or corrections email altregistrar@area53aa.org

Treasurer’s Report (Donna K.)

- Area 53 Budget Report handed out.
- Group Contribution envelopes are always available. Please give group name or group number
- Group contributions near \$4000.
- Expenses
 - Paid for Chillicothe facility and the mini-conference.
 - Chairpersons are able to request money for the committees.
 - Post office box rental coming due.
 - We have filed information regarding Area 53s EIN number.

Questions

Paul H confirms that there is no bill for archives storage.

Motion to Accept by Ed A, Second by Bear T. – Unanimous Approval.

Web Administrator (Bill Y. Acting)

- Website report may be accessed at <http://area53aa.org/main/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Area-53-Website-Report-%E2%80%93-June-4.pdf>
- New page added in Spanish.
- Central page for website information and web administrator to use.
 - 15 or 20 question and answers on the website itself and how it works.
- Website has been updated twice since the last Assembly with new Group information
- 11 News items have been posted on the website.
- Calendar is updated as requested. (Meetings, Events)
- Wordpress maintenance updated to 4.7.5
- Bill advises on the newsletter distribution.
- Describes top website IP addresses that are blocked.
- Describes unauthorized login attempts .

Questions

Greg – Could the document that Stephen presented for information sharing be presented on the website? Bill Y responds that requested information will be placed on the website. Placement would be at Stephen’s discretion.

Matt P – Are IP address specific to an individual or is it a country domain? Have we ever attempted a WHOIS check? Bill Y Advises that IP addresses are major service providers that may be unethical in different countries. The IP tool waits for certain IP addresses to become abusive then it will block the country. The IP address are on a global list of people that are “bad” people.

District & Group Reports (Mike M, DCMC)

- Should we put content of the Workshops on Area 53 website. DCMs decided that there would be too much. The template and ideas of the workshop could be used.
- Sharing session by Stephen was something that the DCMs voted to do. At the next DCM meeting we will discuss what worked and what could be improved.
- Attended State Convention planning meeting. There will be volunteers from various Districts to participate.
- State Convention will have a GSR School and DCM College

Reports are in reverse order.

District 34, Paul H, Reporting –

- Workshop on August 19th Picnic and Panel at Gantz Park in Grove City. Pork Sandwiches.
 - 2 Panels - “What is Alcoholism” and “Difference between a Meeting and a Group.”

Paul H, Three Legacies Group, GSR –

- 30th Anniversary on the first Saturday in November. Potluck and Speaker meeting.
- Group contributes to all service entities.
- Workshop in 34 August 19th Grove City Gantz parks. Pork Sandwiches. 2 Panels What is Alcoholism and the difference between meeting and group

District 28, Julie J, DCM –

- Planning of having a panel discussion on Saturday, August 26, 2017, 3:00 to 5:00pm at Crestview Presbyterian Church. Oldtimer's vs Newtimer's discussion panel.
- District is struggling to connect with Groups. DCM has attended various meeting to get individuals involved in service work. Average attendance at the District Meeting is 6 to 7.
- There are 40 groups in District. The District is trying to come up with creative ideas to get people to be engaged.

Elisabeth H, Clintonville Big Book, GSR –

- New Beginner's meeting with 20 people attending.
- Last meeting for the District was successful at Crestview Presbyterian. Viewed Dr. Bob and Bill Wilson video play.

District 26, Marcia H, DCM –

- Average 13 GSRs for their monthly meeting at New Life Church in Gahanna.
- Encourage interested GSRs from other Districts to share.
- Working on a Groups inventory based on the suggested District Inventory in the DCM Kit.
- Get Plugged into Sobriety Workshop took place in March. From evaluations, members are requesting that the District involve themselves in activities that are considered fun.
- June event is a talent show and karaoke night which takes place on June 24th.
- District is serving ice cream on Saturday night of the State Convention.
- September the District will sponsor Rule 62 Day.
- The District is receiving consistent contributions from the Groups.
- All Service positions are filled with Alternates included.

Lara S, Afterwork Group, GSR –

- Chairperson's choice format with any AA conference approved literature.

Jayne C, Women's Sobriety and Serenity Group, GSR –

- Looking for a babysitter. Paid position.

Don B, Southeast Breakfast Group, GSR –

District 22, Greg G, DCM –

- There are 7 GSRs.
- Hosted a movie, "When Love is Not Enough: The Lois Wilson Story. Provided Pizza and Salad. Approximately 30 attended.

Jillena R, Hilliard Sobriety Group, GSR –

- Went over the Area Inventory question, generated good conversation.
- Pitched Web Administrator job to District.
- Group Inventory being discussed, using pamphlet as a guide.
- Offering help to State Convention.

Ed S, GSR Secular Sobriety, GSR –

- New Meeting started at 9:30am, Sunday at Dublin Spring Outpatient
- Now three secular meetings in Central Ohio

District 21, Thomas M, DCM –

- 7 active GSRs. Average attendance 10.
- Have gone to Groups getting people interested in Service. This has increased GSR participation.
- District discussions include, Importance of Singleness of Purpose, keeping the newcomer attracted in becoming trusted servants.

- Recent workshop on May 27th on sponsorship. Also showed the movie, off Broadway production of Bill W and Dr. Bob
- August 19th will be the 3rd Annual Picnic at Shawnee State Park at the Roosevelt Picnic Shelter.

Aaron B, 12 & 12 Group Portsmouth, GSR –

- Recently voted in a new GSR.
- Recently changed the format of the meeting.
- Cell phones are causing a distraction. Asked people to leave if needed to answer the phone.
- Group makes contributions to service entities.

Don C, Portsmouth Nooner's Group, GSR –

- Holds a monthly group conscious

Bo P, Living Sober Group, GSR –

- Average attendance is 8 to 10 members, 3 home-group members

District 19, Steve D, DCM –

- Get more volunteers for jail meetings. The requirements for a jail meeting varies.
- Trying to get more groups involved in Service.
- July 8th beginners workshop on Traditions.
- August 5th is a District Picnic at Paint Creek

Joanne L, Sunday Morning Sunshine Group, GSR –

District 18, Barbara M, Acting DCM –

- Plan to meet with GSRs at next Area Planning Committee meeting
- DCM has made contact in all meetings in Circleville and Chillicothe by email and snail mail to advise that District 18 is not dark and to send a GSR to the Area Assembly. Received 6 responses and 4 are present at the meeting.
- Will continue to contact meeting and to encourage home group meetings to elect GSRs.

Barbara M, South Side Serenity, GSR –

- Just selected as GSR at last meeting.
- Need a new meeting location.

Mike B, Serenity on Sunday, GSR –

- Group gives Big Books to newcomers that need one.

Mark D, Grapevine Group, GSR –

- Currently 15 Grapevine subscriptions
- Contributes to Appalachian Ohio Intergroup Office (AOIO)
- Group Discussion meetings with AOIO is represented.
- End of Month members take magazines home, if not group takes them to jail meeting.

Robert H, Chillicothe Candlelight Meeting, GSR –

- Meeting attendance varies. Last meeting they had 28 attending.

District 17, Shirley K, DCM –

- Positions needing filled. Alternate DCM, Recording Secretary and Alternate Treasurer
- Last event in January was well attended.

Shirley K, Pleasant Valley Group, GSR

- Recently completed a Group Inventory using the literature. Feels that the experience brought the group closer together.
- Discussing on having a workshop, "Amending the Past"
- Group needs a GSR and Alternate
- Hog roast in August with Angie P as speaker.

Rachele D, Out to Lunch Bunch, GSR –

- Currently Open Discussion. Considering changing format.
- A lot of recovery houses in the area creating a large newcomer base.

Dan W, Pomeroy Serenity Group, GSR--

- Annual Picnic, September 16th at Syracuse Community Center, 2244 Seventh St, Syracuse OH.
- Completed a Group Inventory
- NEW Long term treatment and half way house. The group has been providing transportation.

Randy "Bear" T, McArthur AA Group, GSR –

- Upcoming event, August 19th Picnic at Lake Hope State Park

District 16, Roberta D, DCM –

- Discussions locations that literature would be distributed around Athens county.
- Picnic July 4th with a lead from Columbus.
- Planning GSR School in October.
- Telephone book has bad 800 telephone number. Working to correct that.
- GSRs and DCM have gone to meetings that have no representation and distributed an updated meeting schedules and gave a handout on how to do service.
- New District Treasurer. There is discussion on creating a new reduced prudent reserve.

Melinda G, Monday Big Book Study Group, GSR –

- Reading 12 concepts from service manual.
- Voted last month to have a summer meeting program. The group will be reading stories from the Big Book. They will put the title of every story from the Big Book in a basket.

District 15, Joel K, Alternate DCM –

- Discussion Tradition Six, providing literature in racks to step-down facility.
- Anniversary Workshop on Primary Purpose in late August.

Joe S, Hand in Hand Group, GSR –

- Fellowship after meeting at Napolis Pizza.
- Carry the message to meetings at area jail and Behavioral Health Unit at the hospital.

Johnathan C, Woodsfield, GSR –

- Upcoming picnic in August or September

District 12, Ann S, DCM –

- The DCM advised that the meetings in Clark County is willing to send money but not GSRs.
- Need Secretary and DCM.
- Usually have a Spring and Fall program. The spring program. "Safety in AA" was canceled.
- Create own District 12 Schedules and are sold under cost. All meetings are contacted and the schedules are updated. There is a problem with production so schedules are in short supply.
- Because of no spring program, well over prudent reserve. Contributed to Area and GSO.

District 6, Paul F, Reporting –

- Traditions seminar in September.
- Working on master meeting schedule for the four counties in the District.
- Due to lack of GSR participation, the District is trying to demonstrate the difference between meeting and group.

Paul F, Bring Your Own Book (BYOB), GSR –

- September 5th Anniversary.

Standing Committee Reports

Archives/Archivist (Tom Van K.)

Tom gives a written report which was read at the Assembly.

- The Archives are safe and secure. The plan is to move the Archives from the storage facility to COGF Archives Room by June 19, 2017. The move must be done in increments. Because of the sharing of space with COGF Archives, the labeling of the Area 53 items must be done. The orderly move will take several days. Your patience is greatly appreciated.

CPC/PI (Dave C.)

- Since last Assembly CPC-PI has been invited to Health fair in St. Peter's Catholic Church in Columbus, District 26 Workshop and City of Columbus Health and Benefits Fair.
- Special conference on August 2nd to the 4th the Addictions Study Institute
- CPC PI committee is to inform and cooperate without affiliating with health departments, professionals in the field of medicine, law, counseling, the clergy, and the public and they often get drunks to their first AA meeting.
- Dave talked about a young mother who picked up literature for the father of her children at the City of Columbus Health and Benefits Fair. It is hoped that he may become a newcomer to AA.

Group Services (Dan S.)

- Invites anyone who is interested in becoming a member of the committee to contact Dan S. Right now committee of one. Would like to evolve.
- First GSR school at the mini-conference in March. All about fundamentals – about getting the GSR connected with the General Service Office in New York.
- Encourages attendees pick up literature in the rack. Also, Service Manuals are available.
- Another GSR School will be offered on October 15th in Athens.

Intergroup Liaison (Ed S.)

- Attended several IGR meetings: 3/15 Lancaster, 4/8 Central Ohio Group Fellowship, 5/6 Appalachian Ohio Intergroup Office, 5/7 Newark Area Intergroup.
- Warmly accepted at all meetings and explained the difference between Area and Intergroup.
- Plans to attend IGR meeting in Marion on 7/2
- Information on the meetings can be found at <http://area53aa.org/main/committees/intergroup-liaison/>

Comments

Rick B, Past Delegate advises that Area in COGF is limited by the service area they have. Ed S. agrees and advises that different intergroups service different areas.

Mini Conference (Stephen S.)

- The min-conference report was given near the beginning of the Assembly. Stephen advises that the final report appears on the Area 53 website under min-conference and the information segment is available under the Assembly link.

Upcoming Events

- State Convention, July 28th to the 30th
 - <http://area53aa.org/main/sc2017-home-page/>
- East Central Regional Forum in Springfield IL
 - http://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/regional-and-local-forums
- East Central Regional Conference in Indiana.
 - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-indiana-state-convention-east-central-regional-conference-registration-25880713912>
- 1st National Corrections Conference in November 10 -12 .
 - Two Area Panelists from Area 53
 - <http://www.aasanantonio.org/event/national-corrections-conference-2017>

Ask-It-Basket

- What is going on with lawsuit of original manuscript of the Big Book.
 - Frank G (Delegate) responds - Greg T, General Manager of the Service Board. The 1939 original manuscript of the Big Book. The original manuscript was gifted to AA World Service by an AA member who received the manuscript from Lois Wilson. Barry Leach, a friend of Bill W's widow, Lois Wilson, who gave him the book in 1978. No one was aware of the gift. A letter was found in the archive in 2007. The Manuscript was going to go on Public Auction. GSO was granted a temporary restraining order by the New York Supreme court to prevent the manuscript from being sold. Pursuing litigation is not something to be taken lightly. However this is very important. Further information can be obtained from Clay R at AAWS.
- Are District gatherings without AA Workshop, AA speaker and AA Panel in keeping with our 5th Tradition of singleness of purpose?
 - Rick B, Past Delegate responds - As long as two alcoholic talk with each other it doesn't matter if it is organized. If you are gathered to talk about politics or something, then there is a violation. Ed S agrees with Rick. The primary purpose of AA is one alcoholic talking with another.
- Can we look at changing the Assembly start time from 9:30am to 10:00am? Would the chairperson decide or would we simply vote?
 - Ed A, Alternate Chair responds - It says 9:30am on the website. We haven't been starting until 10:00am. Bill Y advises that registration starts at 9:30am. Ed A continues. Registration starts at 9:00 or 9:30. The actual meeting starts at 10:00am.

Question to Frank G from Mike M – Cost of General Services 9.9 million and AA was profitable at 1.2 million dollars from literature sales. Was there any discussion to lower cost of literature?

Frank G, Area Delegate – Not at all. Prices are going up.

Motion to close by Bill Y second Taffy J – Unanimous Approval

Close Meeting – Responsibility Statement