

**March Area 53 Assembly  
Agenda – March 12, 2017  
Salt Fork State Park**

**Opening of Meeting (Dan H) 10:30am**

**Call to Order and (We Version) Serenity Prayer – Dan H**

**Twelve Concepts (Short Form) – Elizabeth H**

**Roll Call**

GSRs 39, DCMs 13, DCMC 1, Delegate 1, Past Delegates 4, Area Officers 4, Interested AAs - 10

**Agenda - Review & Approval**

Motion to Approve, Allison C, Second, David C. – 54 Approved, No Opposed

**December Assembly Minutes - Review & Approval**

Motion to Approve, Steve D, Second, Paul F. - 54 Approved, No Opposed.

**Unfinished Business**

**Area Inventory (Dan S.)**

Area 53 continues to embed Inventory Action into all gatherings.

- Taking inventory in the best sense of the word is a fundamental aspect of AA's program of recovery. As program co-founder, Bill W. reflected in AA Comes of Age on page 231. “Just as each A.A. must continue to take his moral inventory and act upon it, so must our whole society if we are to survive and if we are to serve usefully and well.” A.A. General Service Conference Inventory, 2015 (page 3).
- The 10<sup>th</sup> Step talks about a continuous inventory which means without cessation.
- It gives us the opportunity to find out where are the gaps and where we need to fill the gaps. All towards the end of serving the alcoholic usefully and well.

**Background of the Area 53 Inventory**

- It has been one year since the introduction of Area 53's plan to begin to take a continuous inventory.
- Plan was in put in place a the March 2016 Assembly and Inventory Questions were first asked at the June 2016 Assembly.
- June questions are related to the Mini-Conference.
  - One of the challenges of the mini-conference was the need to have a written report of what takes place.
    - This request was accepted by the mini-conference committee.
    - This year's mini-conference shows that it is a challenge to have the report.
      - Although not 100% successful, we made progress.

## **Background on the Area 53 December Inventory and Actions taken by the Area Planning Committee.**

- The December Inventory questions had to do with the Election.
- Two items were discussed regarding in regards to the Election procedures.
- 1. Reflecting on the Area 53 Guidelines (Articles II & XII), is our Area attracting alcoholics from different backgrounds to available service opportunities?
  - Area 53 is hosting the State Convention. The Area Committee decided to contact Bob D of Area 54 because they are good at attracting a diverse population for Service Opportunities.
    - Area 53 is requesting that Bob D have a workshop on how to attract diverse populations at the State Convention.
- 2. The Area Planning Committee also looked at the Third Legacy Voting Procedure.
  - There was feedback on how individuals didn't understand the Third Voting Legacy Procedure.
  - The Area Planning Committee decided to communicate the Third Legacy Voting Procedure throughout the year.
    - A sheet with information regarding the Third Legacy Procedure was available at the registration table.
      - It is Area 53's hope that people that know the Third Legacy Procedure will share the information.
      - The information will be available at every registration table until September.

**March Assembly:** Reflecting on the Area 53 Guidelines (Article VII), is the Area 53 Committee achieving it's "primary purpose?" In a general way, is it possible for it to improve?

From the Area 53 Guidelines:

### 1) Composition

a) Delegate, b) Alternate Delegate, c) All current Officers & Alternate Officers, d) District Committee Members, or their Alternates, e) Chairpersons of the Standing Committees, or their Alternates, and f) DCM Chairperson.

### 2) Purpose

- a) The Area Committee will serve as the steering committee of the Area 53 Assembly
- b) The Area Committee will assist the Area Chairperson in setting the agenda for the Area 53 Assembly
- c) The Area Committee will assist the Area Officers in conducting the day-to-day business of the Area 53 Assembly

### 3) Meetings

- a) Meetings shall be held on the second Sunday in January, April, July, and October
- b) The agenda set by the Area Committee will be communicated to all Area Assembly members at least one month prior to the Area Assembly Meeting

- Reflecting on Concept Ten, how can the assembly members ensure that the authority we delegate to elected officers is commensurate with the responsibility we have entrusted to them?
- Concept X: Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

## *Question/Comments*

Kristi H., Past Delegate –

- Are these the most recent Guidelines? "Meetings shall be held on the second Sunday in January, April, July, and October" – that is the Area Committee.

Dan S – *That is correct.*

Chris J, Correctional Facilities Chair –

- I would like to say that our service experience with the Correctional Facilities Committee has been that we have been given Service Authority that is commensurate with our responsibility.
- This Service Committee is not in anyway micromanaged by the Area or suffering from what some may call “over-reaching” from Area Service.
- We feel well supported without being over-managed. We are grateful for that.

Greg G, DCM, District 22 –

- We spent a meeting looking at this and felt that we didn’t have much to contribute as far as evaluating it, but we felt it was an interesting process because it forced us to look at Guidelines and handbook. It was a nice practice.

Dan S – *Part of the intention of the inventory design was to encourage people to look into the Guidelines.*

Stephanie –

- Are we talking about how we can improve the mini-conference?

Dan S – No. We are looking at the Area Committee. We are asking ourselves, in a general way, how can we improve? The Composition and Purpose of it. Are we meeting our charge in gathering as we are scheduled to...

Mike M, DCMC –

- We talked at our last DCM meeting about why we are here. It turns out that is a rather nebulous question. As a committee we voted to walk down that path as to why we are here.
- Some of the answers to why we are here have been established in Service Manual and the Area 53 Guidelines. But those aren’t law.
  - If the Guidelines don’t reflect why we could be here, then we need to talk about that and figure out how best to serve the Districts, Groups and members of AA.
- I am excited to be part of that Committee – as part of a DCM movement right now to try to answer and figure out the questions. I think it is an ongoing communication and that is probably something that we can’t answer today. This is something that will evolve and we will figure out. What is the best purpose for why we are here and what we are doing.

Sandy D, Alternate Treasurer –

- Transition from one panel to another.
  - When I took over as Alternate Treasurer, I just stepped in and got my feet wet and had no clue. Still not sure if I have a clue but I am working on it.
  - If something happens to Donna I couldn’t step into her place. I am not on the Area’s checking account and she is not on the mini-conference checking account.
  - We don’t have an interfacing (transition). I think that is something that needs to be looked into. Especially Treasurer as there is a checking account and paypal. All those things need to be set up

Kalen C, Alternate Secretary –

- Reflecting on Concept 10, there should be better communication on Tradition 10. It is described just once and it doesn’t quite get the message out.
  - We should get more communication on that at our Assembly.
- Regarding the Area Standing Committees
  - We should have better communication outside the choir. We hear about them but it’s just the same people. It would help our Primary Purpose because it would help new alcoholics with their Service work.

Stephen S, Alternate Delegate –

- Guidelines are established by substantial unanimity of the Assembly.
  - The Guidelines playback from what is gathered from the Service Manual regarding the General Service Structure.
  - Stephen makes reference to Chapter 5 of the Service Manual under the Area Committee
    - Stephen asks the question - are our Guidelines consistent with Chapter 5 and are we performing these functions as well. He then reads the following, “Perhaps more than any other group of people in A.A., the area committee is responsible for the health of the Conference structure and thus for growth and harmony in the A.A. Fellowship. If G.S.R.s are lax, if there is lack of harmony in a district, if there are difficulties in public information or some other service area, the committee member knows it and can turn to the full committee for help. An active committee deals with all kinds of service problems: Is experience being shared among groups? Is the A.A. message getting into hospitals, prisons, jails, and rehabilitation centers? Are news media and professionals who deal with suffering alcoholics well informed about A.A.? Are new groups and Loners being visited and helped?” (The AA Service Manual, S44)
  - We may want to consider adding another purpose, “The Area Committee Supports the work of our Standing Committees.”
  - We need to make sure that we are giving the proper support to the Standing Committees – I believe that we are.
  - Stephen says that we should make sure that our Guidelines are as consistent with the Service Manual as the Area believes they should be.
    - They are Guidelines and our choice.
    - They don’t have to emulate the Service Manual exactly.
      - The Areas can organize itself differently. We can choose the functions we want.
  - Stephen encourages that in future inventories the Area makes reference not only to the Guidelines but also to the the AA Service Manual.

Ed S, GSR –

- I suggest that we have copies of the Guidelines at our Assemblies and that everyone bring a copy to the Assembly.

Dan S – *Reminds everyone that the Guidelines are available in pdf form on the website.*

Bill Y, Website Administrator –

- If you visit the Area53 Website, in many places at the top of the page, that the relevant segment of the Guideline is available.
  - The context of the Guidelines is where you are on the website.
  - We can bring up the appropriate section of the Guideline during the Assembly.
  - Bill advised that he will continue to take suggestion on adding Guidelines to the web pages.

Dave C, CPC/PI Chair –

- Commends the Area Committee in regards to the Inventory process.
- The word Committee is used several times in the Guidelines. I came to Area with a jaundice view of what Committee was.
  - I learned that God is working through our Groups. A committee is just a Group.
  - My homegroup is a committee that asks itself questions like, What we are doing? Where do we need to get better? - and to take care of business matters as well.
- In our GSR School we used our AA Group pamphlet.
  - There is a drawing in the pamphlet that shows the Service Structure inside the AA Group.
  - It all starts with the Group, and hopefully the GSR will request that the DCM pass along a request regarding the information segment at future Assemblies.

*Dan S goes over the Inventory Schedule.*

*Topics are March - the Area Committee, June - The mini-conference, September - the Assembly, December - The Election and Finances. The questions can be changed as we examine ourselves. Dan then reads from A.A. General Service Conference Inventory, 2015 (page 3). He reminds that we will post questions for June which will look at the mini-conference. Hard copy is already available.*

### **Proposed Guideline Change for Digital Communications –**

- Motion to Untable – Judy Y, Second, Kalen C.
  - Simple Majority exists to open for discussion.
- Ed Amos – Advises a correction to New Officer Guideline Change Document
  - Under subheading Alternate Web Administrator, under Duties, under number one, “*Support the duties of the Website and Communications Officer as requested*”, should read, “*Support the duties of the Web Administrator as requested*”

*Discussion (limited to two minutes)*

Donna K, Area53 Treasurer

- According to the Guidelines the description of the officer position should be mailed out to 15 days before the voting of the Assembly. Was this done?

Ed A, Alternate Chairperson

- It was emailed to all of the voting members. Several times.

Kristi H, Past Delegate

- I am in favor of this motion. Having been involved in the Area for a number of years – watched the development of this. If the membership doesn’t use this, the officers certainly do. The Delegate certainly does, The Chairperson certainly does. It’s a really big job that we rely on. So, I am in favor of this Guideline Change and this new officer. I personally believe that this is the best solution to the situation we currently have in regards to the technology. In order for us to do our jobs well, we need this kind of support. It’s kind of like the old equivalent of the Secretary. We need that administrative support to do our jobs well. Thank you.

Ed A, Alternate Chairperson

- The reason we tabled this is to give the opportunity to take it back to the Groups and discuss it.

Greg G, District 22 DCM

- What a process this has been. The first meeting I came to was about voting for this. I was asking around about this – what is the real issue here, what is going on. Still not sure what is going on. I went on the website and got the Website Communication Officer notes from the task force. I found that to be very interesting because it seemed like there was this debate about. It seems to be the way it has been, there has been no problem.... I was trying to figure out, what was being replaced. When I look back over these minutes – In Panel 53 there was no committee. It was launched but there was no committee. For Panel 55 there was an ad-hoc committee. Panel 59, there was a webmaster resigned with no notice, Panel 61, we have a current volunteer that is taking over. So as far as what it is replacing, I don’t think there was anything official. This task force went on to look at some other groups and Area 51 recently created an officer position. So, reading this really helped me and I am in support of this. I printed this out if some of you would like to look at this. , There was a debate. I wanted to know what is being Panel 55 ad hoc – Panel 59 resigned Panel 61 volunteer. Replacing nothing official. Area 51 recently created an officer position. Reading this help and I am in support.

Molly M, GSR

- We are talking about adding an officer. When I downloaded the Guidelines and read over it. I remember we talked about this last time and it got voted down – tabled. It got tabled. I was one of the people that argued to table it and I am going to argue now that we had time to look at these things. We talked about this at the last meeting at length. So not having the information for anybody – I don't think this should even be an issue. Everybody should have it and even have a kind of heated conversation. That should have been looked at well before we ever got here. We are changing calling it from Web Master to Web Administrator. We are just flushing out some more of the responsibilities that need to be done. Before these guidelines were written – all of this wasn't necessary or was probably impossible at the time. Now as technology was changing and we are relying on website information, There needs to be somebody doing all of this work and if you look at that and review it – This is very, very reasonable and I completely support this change. I think this is necessary and we need to move forward on this.

Gary D, Interested AA

- I only have a concern over this. Having served in two other Areas. I haven't served in this Area. I saw this happen in Arizona. They made this fall under the guise of PI. This position as an officer position, wouldn't be able to be filled by anybody that is a GSR in this room, unless they have web experience. This is technologically difficult to do. Anybody that sits as an Officer. Anybody that walks in as a GSR, no matter what their background, should be able to serve the Area in that capacity. It should be able to be done by anybody. By putting it as an officer, that person must have a specific set of abilities to be able to do this. If it still falls under PI or CPC or whatever other committee you want to put it under. Anybody who is able to do it could serve under that committee and still be funded there. That is my concern.

Frank G, Delegate

- We did have an ad-hoc committee appointed and we have had many Assemblies on this. We do need to follow our Guidelines and we do need to give notice to Area voting members and we haven't in the past. We have been discussing this for a very long time. We need to give notice. We need to move forward with this. The man that is doing this wishes to pass it on and we need to respect this. This position is was in PI – and still is. We need to move forward and we can always adjust this if needed and if a member is fulfilling his obligation, we can ask him to step down. – just don't use that one on me.

Steve D, District 19 DCM,

- Concerning qualifications, each position has suggested qualifications. There would have to be the ability to be able to do some things. The Treasurer has suggested qualifications. I wouldn't be a candidate because I have no computer skills whatsoever. Any position in the service structure there are suggested qualifications. He have to have to abilities to handle certain duties.

Debbie R, Interested AA

- My experience has shown there is often a huge disconnect when transferring from one position to another. It is imperative that we pass on our experience. Its not about what we are replacing but it's a who. We don't have any positions in Alcoholics Anonymous that the next guy or gal should not have the opportunity to sit in an participate. We allow fear to step in and say we cant to this. There has to be a connection so that if something were to happen. I have to have the right say I don't' want to do this anymore. I have done it well for a long time, and now I want to move on. We are in a position were one of our members can't do this anymore. I am in favor of finding something to put in place. We have in Alcoholics Anonymous the Spirit of Rotation.

Mike M, DCMC

- We have been grateful for Bill Y for several years. He has notified the Area that he is not going to be able to do that anymore. It came update the area to ask, Is this important? – It is. Do we need to fill that and how do we fill that. Kicking it down the road is no longer a viable option. We have tried the committee approach in the past. Like some of our other committees we have to be honest with ourselves, we don't always have good response from our committee activities. The option we have are somewhat limited by that. There is concern over having a certain level of expertise on the the committee. I was on the ad-hoc committee and kind of stripped out the, you need to have this kind of information. We talked about, here are the things that you would do. If you look at Service Manual regarding the Area Treasurer... It says it would be helpful to have a background in Accounting, but it doesn't say that the Area Treasurer needs to be an accountant. The Area Treasurer could be any one of us. This is the same for the Area Web Administrator. It would be helpful if you had these kind of skills, but you don't have to. We can transfer and pass that information along to these people. Having this as an Area Officer, I believe, give the Area more of an ability to be involved and to have more say about what happens on the website and the oversight on it. Your Groups and help direct it more if it's part of the Area. The website is the reality, the information is being passed along through the website – it takes that change and we need to embrace that.

Peggy A, Interested AA

- A couple of facts. When this first came to light. Last September... I was Area Chair. There were five interested people. Four have taken other positions. I am just saying that there are people interested in doing this job.

Elizabeth H, GSR

- I was taught early in sobriety to clean coffee pots, to sponsor and do the work by willingness and action. When there are empty holes in volunteer work, I am called to fill them. That was the structure of Alcoholics Anonymous taught to me by my sponsor. When those empty hole exist, I slide into them. When I am called to a bake sale for baseball, I fill into them when I am called to do that, but when I don't make the muffins, I don't feel that somebody has to replace me for that kind of thing. I don't ask anybody to fill that slot. I believe that there are Guidelines that are already called upon were the position is in PI or whatever hole that volunteer that spot is already laid out within. If that volunteer wants to stop, then they can stop when they feel their volunteer work is done. So, I don't feel that this is necessary to have a new officer selection in the Guidelines with an explanation of what the position is because there are no jobs. It already states that there are not jobs, positions and no government – within our Traditions. So I don't feel that their should be a specific position called.

Dave C, CPC/PI Chair

- I have support for this position. With what little experience I have had in interacting with the website and the administrator. The website administrator, is kind of like a general service traffic cop. He is going to part of the Registrar's job, part of the Treasurer's job, Mini-conference Treasurer's job, State Convention Treasurer's job – It's almost like a committee of secretaries. There are so many demands that we are putting on the website that make others jobs smoother. There is a demand of accuracy there. I just really feel that this is not a person that we are going on an island and let him go. So that is my reservation. There has to be a lot of support for that person. More support than we ever thought that the position ever needed. If your voting for it, be willing to help your DCM and your standing committee and help keep that thing going.

Sharon F, Past Delegate

- I have been part of the Area Committee. The support that comes from the Area Committee is important. I think the person that does this will have the support of the Area Committee. We have had several of these people and they just never came back. Being part of a committee makes people more accountable. I think being an Area Officer will make people more accountable. They will know what is going on in the Area. I think that is real important. If you have a chance, the Registrar has qualifications and they do suggest that. I now that GSO would like to have the registrars to have qualifications. To possess some practical computer working knowledge and be comfortable in relaying information via email to GSO and within the local area. I didn't think we should have that, but now I think we should.

Ed A, Registrar

- Calls out a point of order in regards to what the Service Manual has and in Area 53 Guidelines, "d) Shall maintain and post on the Area Website a calendar of events related to General Service within Area 53." So we already have have some cross-training established in our Guidelines.

Chris J, Correctional Facilities Chair

- I recognize that in AA if you are willing to do something, you will be asked and if you have skills, you will be asked a lot. My friend Bill has a lot of skills. This website has morphed into something which includes a lot of officer functions which Dave was pointing out. The first item is a Group Services and secretarial function. The second item is a Registrar and tech kind of function. The third is a tech function and the fourth is a secretarial function. The fifth is a planning committee and Treasurer function and you have Registrar functions again. I believe that it is time to return those responsibilities to the officers that have those job descriptions. What has happened, is that the job has become overwhelming for somebody that has a very high end of technical skills. Bill has a very high end of technical skills. To facilitate the spirit of rotation would mean that we would have to have people in line behind him with those high end technical skills and I doubt that we have enough of them dependable to perform the functions of this position. I am also concerned that this description as it is now provides for no WE in Alcoholics Anonymous. This is essentially a committee of one. If you read this last part. Prepare and give a report to the Area Assembly on the user and plans for improvements to the Area website. Where is the policy coming from that shapes the plans and uses of the website. I believe that needs to come from this Assembly or from the Area Committee.

Sandy D, Alternate Treasurer

- Wanted to make note of duties under 5 and 6. "6. ) To ensure the privacy of member data stored at the website." We need to look into how important that really is. What we are storing and who is in charge of it. An officer would be answering to the Committee and the Assembly and would be in charge of that information, as well as the event registrations and Group contributions. A lot of that now goes through PayPal. It is our web administrator that sets that up. That is some really sensitive information. With the mini-conference, in the beginning, when we were struggling and not getting many registrations, we wanted to send out and say, hey register for this. My suggestion was to take the people that we had from last year and send out emails. Bill stepped up and said, no you can't do that. You can only use emails of those that are already on the website. This is a privacy issue and Bill was aware of that and me I would have sent out emails...I would have sent emails to whomever. That is what I think is important, that we have someone in charge of that information and is answerable to the Assembly, not necessarily to the Committee. I might point out too, Standing Committees are important – pay attention to how many Chairs are here today.

Ed A, Alternate Chairperson,



- Point of order. Everybody should have the opportunity to go to the mic before we allow the second comment.

Donna K, Treasurer

- Donna asked about past web administrators and why it seems that they would be performing the position for 6 to 7 years at a time. It was also noted that some people in the past advised that they would volunteer for the position and then not do the work.

Matthew P, Secretary

- One of the things that I have experienced – I have put together a District website. At the time I did that, I had cold, hard HTML programming to do that and at that time it was a difficult thing to do. There has been a lot of technology that has come out since that time. The Area 53 website is governed by Word Press. I have taken some of my websites and converted them to Word Press. It is fairly easy to use. A person that can run other software would be able to tackle this and produce some nice stuff for the Area if they wanted to. Not to be too fearful.

Peggy A, Interested AA

- *Calls the Question. Nita S. seconds the motion*
- *Simple Majority approved the motion*

*Ed A, Alternate Chairperson – Rereads the original motion*

- *The Area 53 Guidelines to be Amended.*
  - *1. Remove item 2E, under Article IX – Standing Committee Areas of Activity.*
  - *2. Add Article V, Area Assembly Officers*

*Ed A, Alternate Chairperson requests a vote from the Assembly.*

- *All in Favor of the Motion – 52, Opposed – 7*
  - *Motion Passes – Substantial Unanimity*
- *Minority Opinion – No one approached the microphone.*
- *Officer Change Passes.*

### **State Convention Committee (Frank G)**

- According to State Convention Committee Guidelines, states that the preceding Delegate chairs the State Committee. I was told that I need to incorporate past experience.
- Frank advises that the State Convention Guidelines are important to the convention and he asks how he can best serve as a Committee member.
- He advises that he is inexperienced and that it is part of the Spirit of Rotation.
- Although not set in stone, Frank said there is a very interesting speaker from Pennsylvania scheduled to speak. He is currently an Area Chairperson.
- They are in the process of scheduling a professional musician and songwriter for entertainment on Friday night with a possible lead on Saturday.
- Kristi H is the Co-Chair and is responsible for much of the progress.

*State Convention Committee Continued (Kristi H)*

- Committee meets the third Monday of the Month at the New Life Church in Gahanna at 6:30pm.
- Committee page is available at Area 53's website.
- Registration on-line is available.
- Registration flier is also online.

- Requests assistance in getting registrations for the event.
  - Emphasis given to Columbus members to register as going to the event helps with attendance numbers. May be more economical if staying at a motel is not a problem.
- Members interested in In serving on the Committee should let a Committee member know or just show up at a Committee meeting.
  - Members that reside in outlying areas may participate by video or teleconference call.
- Donna K, Area 53 Treasurer, is setting up the registration.
- Additional assistance is requested from the Districts.
  - District 34 is assisting with Registration.
  - A District is needed for the Hospitality Room
  - There is room for Greeters.
- Dates established are July 28 to 30, Double Tree Inn in Worthington

*A card was passed around for Greg S as he has fallen ill.*

- Kristi H makes mention on a topic that was discussed during the mini-conference sharing sessions. On the topic of Safety in AA.
  - Advised that we can't look to GSO as a source of guidance. The guidance must come from the Groups.
  - Districts should have workshops or presentations.
  - Legal liabilities would prevent GSO from responding.

### **New Business**

#### **Request from Area 34 - Concerning a new book about Past Chairmen. (Frank G)**

- Frank said that he is passing on a message from a past delegate. He then reads a message from Jeff W, Area 34
  - "At our December Area Assembly, Area 34 presented and passed a motion to send a request to the General Service Board to create and publish a book with the biographies of our Past Chairmen of the General Service Board. On 1/22/17, we presented this idea at our quarterly Statewide Service Committee meeting to ask for support from Area 32 & Area 33. The Delegates from those two Areas have agreed to take it back to their Areas to see what their members think of the proposal. We are now bringing it to the attention of the remaining Areas in the East Central Region and asking for your support and input regarding this project. The more support we have behind this, the more the likelihood that this project would be considered. We request that you take this back to your Area and see how your members feel about this idea. If the support is there, we would appreciate it if you could possibly send a letter stating your Area's support. You can email the letter to Warren J at \*\*\*\*\*@gmail.com. We feel that this book would provide some additional history and documentation at the General Service Board level. We also believe that a book like this could be a source for potential Class A's to read and learn about previous Class A's. Thank you for your thoughts and consideration in this matter."
- Frank advises that we can make a decision regarding the book as an Area, District or Individual.

### *Questions/Comments*

Sharon F, Past Delegate

- I don't think we have ever had any Class B, Chairwomen. But a Class B can be a Chairman. It's one of my pet peeves anyway.

## **Any Other New Business?**

- **Stephen S. moves that the Area 53 General Assembly requests the Area Committee Meeting schedule a vote for the position of Web Administrator at the June Assembly.**
  - Molly M. Seconds
  - Simple Majority Established.

### *Minority Opinion*

Ed , Alternate Chairperson

- I voted against this for the June Assembly for a couple of reasons. That is our lowest attended Assembly. I don't feel that we will get the most qualified candidate at that Assembly due to representation.

*No change in vote due to Minority Opinion.*

*Motion Passes.*

**Break for Lunch 11:35AM**

**Return from Lunch 1:00PM**

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

*This has been postponed to the June Assembly.*

## **Officers Reports**

### **Delegate (Frank G)**

- Frank advises he will be going to the General Service Conference in Rye, NY from April 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup>.
  - He says that he feels prepared due to work from mini-conference.
  - Frank is participating in the Corrections Committee.
  - Area 53 is sending to GSO \$3,000 to assist with the cost of going to the General Service Conference. GSO requests \$1,600.
  - Frank says that he is as ready as he can be for New York.

### **Area53 Chairperson (Dan H.)**

- Dan plans to attend the Area 56 Mini-Conference
- Attended the CPC/PI Committee in February
  - Dave C was elected as Chairperson
- The Treatment Facilities Standing Committee is still without a Chairperson
- Location for Area Assembly is undecided
  - Prices at former Blue Moon Conference Center have gone up
  - Moose Lodge is being considered
  - An unspecified location in Athens is also being considered
  - As soon as a decision is made notification will be on the Area Website
- April 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am is the Area Planning Committee.
  - The Area Officer Committee will be at 1:00pm

## Registrar (Nita S.)

- Nita reads that attendance statistics for the March Assembly
  - Delegate – 1
  - Alternate Delegate – 1
  - Area 53 Panel 65 Officers – 5
  - District Committee Member Chair – 1
  - Alternate DCMC – 1
  - DCMs – 12
  - Alternate DCMs – 1
  - GSRs – 38
  - Alternate GSRs – 2
  - Interested AAs – 6
  - Area 53 Past-Delegates – 4
  - Standing Committee Chairs – 4

*Total = 74*
- Fellowship New Vision Statistics
  - 5 Groups that have not been assigned a Group Number
  - 13 Incomplete Groups (Information Missing)
  - 154 Unknown (groups probably not meeting but haven't notified Area)
- Registrar is in charge of the Tri-fold that lists Area 53 position information.
  - Alternate DCMC's is not on the Tri-fold
  - If information needs to be updated on the Tri-fold contact Registrar or the Alternate
- Regional Directory is being produced.
  - Deadline is May 12<sup>th</sup> to get information into the document.
    - Please check to make sure that Group Information is correct on the Area 53 website
- Registrar would like to see more accurate meeting information on the Area 53 Website
  - Meeting information on Area 53 website comes from Fellowship New Vision.
    - If information on Area 53 website is wrong, then it is also incorrect on FNV.
    - Districts should check the Area 53 website to be sure that the information regarding their meetings is correct.
    - Missing or unexpected groups appearing on the Area 53 Website should be brought to the attention of the Registrar.
    - Nita advised that within 30 days after the Assembly, she will download the information from FNV and then update the Area 53 Website.
    - DCMs should pay particular attention to the update date on the Area 53 Website.
    - Green check marks near the Group name on the website indicates that the listing is in the Eastern US Directory.
- Madeline H. Point of Order on the Attendance Statistics.
  - 4 Standing Committee Chairs listed – there are actually 6 (two didn't sign in)
    - Statistics were updated.

### **Treasurer (Donna K.)**

- Corrections on the Treasurer's Report
  - Date was not changed from January to March.
  - Line 31, Correctional Facilities, should be updated to \$900
- No Committee Chairs have requested money from their budgets.
- Balance as of 3/8/2017 is \$9,185

#### *Questions/Comments*

Dave C, CPC PI Chairperson

- Under GSO Expenses, according to Frank, the standard payment was 1600. The Budget shows 3000.

*Donna K. – The standard payment requested by GSO is \$1600. A \$3000 dollar check was sent to GSO as approved by Area 53.*

Stephen – Has the \$3000 check cleared yet?

*Donna – as of 3/8/17, no*

Frank G – When I quoted \$1600, you advised \$3000

*Donna – That wasn't two check. It was one check and I sent that check out on Tuesday and I notified New York that the check was on the way.*

Dave C – As a Chair for CPC/PI can I ask for about half of our allotted budget for this year in a check for today?

*Donna – yes.*

*Donna makes a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report.*

*Motion to Accept by Judy, Second by Sharon F.*

*Unanimous Approval.*

### **District & Group Reports (Mike M, DCMC)**

*Ed A, Alternate Chairperson introduces Mike M, DCMC for District and Group Reports.*

Mike M, DCMC

- Reporting on District Committee Member meeting
  - Voted to have an information sharing session on the topic of "Why Do We Have an Assembly"
    - Not able to have the information topic at this Assembly will be discussed in June.
    - It was decided that the information sharing session would be a good idea for DCMs and GSRs and as an Area
    - Guidelines and information are to be discussed and considered
    - The next DCM meeting is April 9<sup>th</sup> at COGF at 10:30am the Area Planning Committee follows.

**District 6** – Marcie D, DCM – Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Belmont Counties

- Upcoming Event is a Picnic in June
- Recent uses of District Funds is to buy Literature.

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

- Big Book study group with about 25 to 30 attending.
- New group – about a 1 ½ years old
- Beginner's meeting created.
- Contributes to entities
- 34 Big Books given away in the last six months.

Sandy D, GSR – Thursday Night West Side Group in Steubenville

- Planning a 35 year Anniversary in September
- Group hasn't had a GSR for awhile. They are getting active in Service work again.

**District 10** – Corby K, DCM – Delaware County

- Attendance seems to be up-ticking at the District Meetings.
- Topics include increasing Group Participation
  - To increase participation, the District will send a mailing to all groups with a known address an annual publication of meeting schedules.
- New years eve bash was held.
  - Good Attendance and good sobriety. Plenty of fellowship, DJ. Not a glum lot.
- Spring event planned for late April.
- Receiving good contributions.

Cindy T, GSR – Wednesday Night Discussion Group in Delaware

- The Group has been studying Tradition 5.
- Anniversary coming up on the third Wednesday of the Month. Will be a potluck lunch.
- Cookout scheduled for a Sunday in May for District 10

Patrick M, GSR – Solution Group in Westerville

- Thank you for allow me to service and be part of the process.
- Most Service positions filled with a new Treasure just voted in.
- It has been brought up to raise our own rent. We are going to talk with management to see if what we are paying is a fair rent.

Brian U, GSR – Westerville AA in Westerville

- Decided to divert some funds that were going to Area to District because the District is now active.

Scott C, GSR – Big Bird Big Book Group in Ashley

- Planning a Euker tournament on March 18<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:00am

**District 11** – Dark District – Northwest Central Ohio

Judy Y, GSR – Friday Night Closed Discussion in Marysville

- Election of Officers in October. Seeking Secretary and GSR.
- Game night March 22<sup>nd</sup> in Ostrander, Ohio featuring Pot Luck, Raffles, Limbo and Twister.
- Founders day in June.
- Every Friday we go to a restaurant in Marysville then the meeting at 8:00pm.
- At end of month for individual anniversaries we have a cake or cupcake.
- 50/50 drawing every Friday night with attendance ranging from 17 to 30.

Brenda B, GSR – Way Out Group

- About 6 members.
- Going through the Big Book

**District 12** – Ann S, DCM – Clark County

- Recruiting more GSRs.
- Hoping for a District event in May.
- New Schedules for Clark County to go to print .
- Finances are healthy.

**District 15** – Bruce W, DCM, Washington, Noble, Morgan, Monroe Counties

- Getting between 7 and 10 GSRs at District meeting.
- New Officers elected in January. New DCM, Alternate DCM, Secretary and Treasurer
- In November 2016, CPC/P I workshop and we now have a CPC/PI committee.

- Alcohoton held from 8:00pm Christmas Eve to 8:00pm Christmas Day. Well attended.
- Finances include a District prudent reserve.
- Regarding Finances, purchased literature which is distributed at courthouses, doctors offices and other locations. Meeting schedules were purchased as well and assisted individuals with lodging for the mini-conference.
- Possible event to be scheduled later in the spring.

Johnathan C, GSR – Woodsfield Sobriety Group in Woodsfield

- For many years we didn't have GSRs. My sponsor got me around people that were into Service Work. I didn't know that this was out there – it's a whole new side to AA. It's really interesting and I am glad you guys let me get to do this.
- The Group will take literature to courthouse.

Heather R, GSR – GPS Group in Belpre

- The Group follows a 12 and 12 format with the fourth Sunday an Article from the Grapevine is read with a discussion following. Fifth Sunday is a lead.
- We have done away with Styrofoam cups. Cost effective and environmentally sound.

Tamara T, GSR – 2 for 1 Group in Marietta

- Thursday evening 12 and 12 format with a Saturday morning Big Book
- 29<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on April 8<sup>th</sup> with a breakfast
- In keeping with a Group Inventory, the Group will request professionals from the medical field, educators and the new judge plus members that provide service to the correctional facility to offer their experience at the meetings.

Tim S, GSR – Serenity Group in Marietta

- February 11<sup>th</sup> was the 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for Saturday Night Live 12 and 12 meeting
- Serenity House is home to 8 meetings a week
- Monday noon meeting will be a “As Bill Sees It” format. They are testing this now, may become permanent.

Joe S, GSR – Hand in Hand Group in Barlow

- Recent discussion on 7<sup>th</sup> tradition fund and working with others.
- Recent events included the 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary on March 18<sup>th</sup> to held at the Porterfield Baptist Church in Little Hocking. 5:00 Fellowship, 5:30 Dinner, 6:30 Anniversary Lead.
- Service Activities include bringing meetings into two area jails and the Behavioral Health Unit at Camdem Clark Memorial Hospital.
- The Group considers themselves a “Meeting of Solutions” and also has fellowship at Napolis Pizza after the regular meeting.

**District 16** – Roberta D, DCM – Athens

- 7 Active GSRs.
- Discussing Prudent Reserve and also discussing public information and activities.
- A District Inventory is in experimental stages.
- Recent Activities include the New Year's Eve Alcohon and updating phone lists to have all meetings represented
- Passing out Service Sheets to unrepresented groups.
- In the planning stages of a GSR school in the fall.
- 400 dollar prudent reserve is being discussed.
- Group Contributions are generous.
- Sponsored the New Year's Eve Alcohon plus Lodging and Registration for the mini-conference.

Melinda G, GSR – Monday Big Book Study Group in Athens

- Reading “Working with Other” resulting in good discussions
- Anniversary scheduled in November
- Read a story from the First Edition of the Big Book

**District 17** – Alison C, DCM – Vinton, Jackson, Gallia and Meigs

- 6 Homegroups, 4 active.
- New GSR present, her first Assembly.
- Young Guns group has disbanded. The group brought the District their literature. The District voted to take the literature to the two recovery houses.
- February Workshop in went well. Over 100 attended. The Workshop cost around 100 dollars. Profit went back to the church.
- Meeting Lists are provided by the District for the Groups.

Shirley C, GSR – Pleasant Valley Group in Point Pleasant, WV

- All meetings are closed.
- At next Group conscious will be Group Inventory which is held the last Monday of every month.
- When a Homegroup member is speaking out of town, the Group members will go to support that person..
- August is a hog roast at the Mason County Farm Museum
- Possible workshop on Amending the Past
- The Group donates to all entities quarterly (AOIO, Lancaster Intergroup, COGF, Area 53, District 17 and GSO)

Dan W, GSR – Pomeroy Serenity Group in Pomeroy

- Meets at the Catholic Church on Mulberry Street
- Three meetings held. Discussion, Big Book and 12 and 12
- All positions filled elected a New Treasurer at the last Group Conscious.
- In process of completing a Group Inventory.
- A result of the Group inventory the group is now listed in the local paper.

Rachele D, GSR (new) – Mason County Out to Lunch Bunch in Point Pleasant, WV

- New location at 714 Main Street, Point Pleasant – Presbyterian Church
- Group Conscious is not consistent but is held as necessary.
- Topics include literature and staying on topic.
- A lot of newcomers in the area. When newcomers show we try to stick to the Primary Purpose and Steps 1 2 and 3.
- Money for events is raised with the help of an Events Can.
- Planning a workshop to be schedule in late Summer/Fall.
- Group is traditionally an Open AA Discussion.
- Rent is paid for the year

**District 18** – Dark District – Ross, Pickaway Counties

Barbara M, GSR – Serenity on Sunday in Chillicothe

- 20 meetings in the Chillicothe area.
- Meeting is an Open 12 and 12.
- Meeting monthly to read from the AA Group pamphlet.
- Contributed in November and will likely contribute in March to Service Entities.
- There are 7 Homegroup Members. About 15 to 20 members attend.

*Mike M invites GSRs without DCMs to attend the DCM meeting in April.*



**District 19** – Steve D, DCM – Cinton, Fayette and Highland Counties

- District 19 has three county jails. There are meetings but not consistent. The jail allowed anybody to attend. 109 people attended and it didn't go well. Starting a committee to communicate with the Jail to come up with a solution. We want to take meeting to each county with consistency.
- Trying to get Groups that are dark more involved.
- Workshop committee is trying to get another workshop underway. A successful workshop was held in January with five speakers on sponsorship. A very positive response.
- Picnic to be held August 5<sup>th</sup> at Paint Creek State Park

Joann L, GSR – Sunday Morning Sunshine Group in Hillsboro

- Monthly Group Conscious and Business Meeting.
- March 26<sup>th</sup> is the Groups 28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a potluck breakfast.

**District 21** – No DCM present – Scioto and Lawrence counties

- Don C advises that District 21 recently had elections and a report should be filed with Area 53 soon.

Don C, GSR – Monday - Friday Nooners Group in Portsmouth

- Meet 5 days a week at noon with an alternating format.
- Last Group Conscious they voted to make a monthly contribution to Area 53.
- Three new homegroup members.

**District 22** – Greg G, DCM – Franklin (Dublin, Hilliard)

- Recently discussed court rulings on religious status of AA Groups.
  - In US and in Canada AA Groups are considered religious groups under court rulings.
- Discussed whether a Group needs to pay for a meeting space if an organization provides it for free. The District decided to agree to disagree.
- Next event is to have a panel discussion on Tradition 5 on a Saturday in May to be determined.
- Thanks Bill Y for assistance on Area53 website. Two people have contacted the DCM by email link. People see it, they use it and it works.
- Thanks Diane and Jillena for coming. It is their first and second Assembly.

Jillena R, GSR – Hilliard Sobriety Group in Hilliard

- The Group is divided in half and they have two discussion groups
- A lot of newcomers at the meeting so a newcomer pamphlet was developed.
- Attendance is steady or rising

Diane A, GSR – New Freedom Group in Dublin

- This is a discussion meeting with two topics. Also, 12 and 12 and Big Book.
- February 20<sup>th</sup> was the Group's Anniversary meeting. About 50 people attended and catered by Bob Evans.
- The Group has a Secretary and a Treasurer.
- Attendance is between 20 and 30 people.
- After one year of sobriety the Group asks the individual to give their lead.

Ed S, GSR – Secular Sobriety AA Group in Dublin

- Decided to change name to Secular Sobriety an open discussion meeting; are not required to designate as an alcoholic or addict; and moved to St John Lutheran in Dublin. Discussed that after pressure from GSO New York, Toronto Intergroup came to agreement with the We Agnostic groups in Toronto that the groups will be listed in the IGR directory as long as they either acknowledge or adopt the twelve steps.

**District 26** – Marcia H, DCM – Franklin County (Gahanna, New Albany, Reynoldsburg, Westerville, Whitehall)

- Marcia asked the GSRs to introduce themselves at the microphone. Alison B, Alternate DCM also introduced herself.
- District discussions include a safety workshop discussion in collaboration with Districts 34 and District 10 to provide a one day workshop.
- Also planning on having a District inventory. They plan to have a third party come in to facilitate the discussion. Modeled after page 29, AA and the Group
- Get Plugged into Sobriety Workshop on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm at Whitehall UMC. Includes a Service Panel who will share their stories on being active in Service has enhanced their sobriety. The District also invited the Standing Committee chairs to talk about their Committees. COGF will be there to talk about volunteer opportunities and also about the “Night Owls” telephone service.
- Have been invited to host the Ice Cream Social at the Ohio State Convention.
- District Finances are doing good. Considering additional events in light of this.
- Use of funds include the Alkathon, New Year’s Eve and Day. The event has a great turnout.
- All District positions are filled along with Alternates

Jayne C, GSR – Women’s Sobriety and Serenity Group in Reynoldsburg

- Recent discussions include focusing on what is meant by a “Closed Meeting”
- The Group plans to participate in the District 26 Workshop
- Meeting offers babysitting

Jennifer R, GSR – Westerville Women’s Recovery in Westerville

- Group Conscious is held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month with a dinner held before the meeting.
- May 11<sup>th</sup> is the Group Anniversary. Food at 6:00pm, with an Open Lead at 7:00pm

Dominique M, GSR – Northeast Discussion Group in Easton

- No additional comments

Doug M, Alternate GSR – Rise and Shine Group in Gahanna

- Planning a trip to Akron and to a Columbus Clippers Game

Lara S, GSR – After Work Group in Gahanna

- Service positions filled
- New format going well
- Nice attendance

Terri C, GSR – Creekside Recovery Group in Gahanna

- Growing and healthy
- Recent discussion included a proposition to change the meeting format. This was voted down.
- Purchasing literature.
- Side note: This was Terri’s first mini-conference

Don B, GSR – Southeast Breakfast Group in Columbus

- 41<sup>st</sup> Anniversary planned in April

Steven B, GSR – Fellowship Hall Group in Whitehall

- No additional comments

Ed A, Acting GSR – On the Way Home Group in Whitehall

- Moved to new location. Breaking Point Recovery, 4040 East Broad in Whitehall
- Handicap accessible and along the bus route.

Joy D, GSR – Gahanna Early Bird Group

- no additional comments

**District 28** – Elisabeth H, obo Julie J, DCM – Clintonville, Oakland Park, OSU

- April 8<sup>th</sup>. Movie being presented Bill W and Dr. Bob (Broadway Version)
- District meetings are held at Clintonville Panera Bread with 6 to 8 attending

Nita S, Acting GSR – Meditating Peacocks in Clintonville

- Elections are at the end of the month for Secretary, Treasurer and GSR
- Anniversary is in July

Elisabeth H, GSR – Clintonville Big Book in Morrison Heights

- About 25 homegroup members with attendance around 50
- Regular contributions to Service Entities 50/30/10/10
- Starting a new beginners meeting weekly starting in April
- All Service positions are filled except IGR and CPC/PI

Diane N-H, Alternate GSR – Women’s Early Bird in Columbus

- 30 to 35 Women attending
- Group Conscious involved discussion on increasing rent
  - Also voted to increase GSO and Intergroup contributions
- Elected new Alternate GSR and GSR
- Anniversary coming up on March 21<sup>st</sup> at Overbrook Presbyterian Church in Clintonville

**District 30** – Kalen C, DCM – Franklin (Upper Arlington)

- All Service positions are filled
- Recent discussions include participation, fiscal responsibility to AA (Tradition 7)
- Events include the April 1<sup>st</sup> Game Day “Not a Glum Lot”

Cassandra M, GSR – Trinity Noon in Columbus

- Noon meeting Monday through Friday with a rotating format.
- Every Wednesday is a recorded Lead
- Quarterly donations for Corrections have amounted to 600 dollars
- 37<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on April 21<sup>st</sup>. 6:00pm Fellowship, 6:30 Dinner, 8:00pm lead

Martha C, GSR – Women’s Sunset in Columbus

- 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary featuring a lead from California, Georgia B. 5:30pm Fellowship, 6:00pm Dinner, Lead at 7:00pm. (Babysitting Available)
- Regular contributions to Service entities.
- Service positions include GSR, Alternate GSR, 3 Secretaries, Treasurer, IGR, Special Needs, Grapevine Representative.. Elections on the first Monday of April.

Molly M, GSR – Life begins at Forty in Columbus

- Last Tuesday of the month is a lead meeting.

**District 34** – Tony B, DCM – Franklin (west Columbus, southwest Franklin County)

- Recent conversations include use of the literature fund, upcoming workshops, reaching out to Groups and updating Group information in the District
- Participating in the registration process for the Ohio State Convention
- Finances are stable

Tony B, Representing – Men’s Westside Men’s Closed Discussion in Columbus

- Homegroup members serve in detox centers and correctional facilities
- The Group takes responsibility for newcomers

Paul H, GSR – Three Legacies Group in Columbus

- Rotating Format – Step, Tradition, Lead, Living Sober on the 5<sup>th</sup> week
- Group contributes to COGF, GSO, Area 53 CFC
- 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is first week in November

**District 37 – Ossian M, Acting DCM Franklin (southeast Franklin County)**

- Still in process of lighting up.
- In process of getting the Groups registered with GSO.
- Recent discussions involve how GSO operates, why we need to have a voice in the process.

**Ossian M, GSR – German Village Sunday Night in Columbus**

- The Group sponsored the room for mini-conference attendees by themselves
- Anniversary on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Doors Open 5:30pm, Dinner at 6:00pm, Lead 7:00pm
- 22 Active members. About 30 attending

**Closing Comments, Mike M, DCMC**

- Mike encourages the Districts to support one another by attending different meetings and by bringing newcomers.
- DCMC emphasizes several comments.
  - How to get people involved
  - How to become fully self supporting
  - Paying more in rent and distributions
  - Working with the community (Service/Professionals)
  - Changing the format of the meeting in response to keeping it interesting to the attending members and in respect to helping the new alcoholics
  - Events Can
  - Quarterly donations to the committee

**10 minute break – Returned at 2:48pm**

**Standing Committee Reports**

**CPC/PI (Dave C.)**

- GSO sent Dave a workbook and letter. He said that GSO is very supportive of the CPC/PI representative.

*The CPC workbook says "Cooperating with nonalcoholic professionals is an effective way to carry the message to the sick alcoholic. Non-alcoholic professionals often meet the alcoholic in places where A.A. is not present. Through professionals, alcoholics may be reached who might otherwise never find the program, or they may be reached sooner with the help of informed non-A.A.s."*

*A professional can be a family doctor or other health care professional, a member of the clergy, a law enforcement or court official, an educator, a social worker, an alcoholism or other counselor, or anyone who deals with problem drinkers in the course of their work. Many of these people often encounter the suffering alcoholic, and in spite of public awareness, many of them simply don't know what to do with a drunk.*

*On January 6th committee members shared their story and spoke to five classes at Briggs High School in Columbus. And on February 13 members spoke at an O.S.U. food science class.*

*In practice your Central and Southeastern Ohio C.P.C. committee members inform professionals and future professionals about A.A. - what we are, where we are, what we can do, and what we cannot do.*

*We do things like go to a district or group event and tell how C. P.C.-P.I. carries the message in Area53.*

*This weekend we had a great response to our table top display. March 19 we will go to St. Peter Roman Catholic Church in Columbus. On March 25 I've been asked to talk about service in Area 53 at the District 26 Workshop in Whitehall.*

*We try to help any local C.P.C.-P.I. committees too. This weekend we were able to give a starter pack of literature to a newly started committee from Byesville in District 6.*

*We could not do as much as we are doing without a helping hand. Thank you to groups of Area 53 for your group contributions. Thank you to the Intergroups, especially the Central Ohio Group Fellowship for communication assist and for cooperating in countless ways.*

*Your C.P.C.-P. I. committee meets at 2 p.m. the first Sunday of each month, at Maplegrove Church at Henderson and High street in Columbus. Next meeting April 2nd*

*Dave C, Chairperson*

### **Correctional Facilities (Chris J.)**

Quarterly Meeting March 4

- All positions now filled (14)
- Received donations \$7142 Appropriated \$7000 for literature.
- 2016 Total Literature Purchased \$24558.40
- All groups are invited to participate in Area 53 CFC through a Group Institutional Representative. Forms Available.
- *Workshop 2017 – Planning on track*
  - Date and Time: April 22, 2017, 8am – 2:45pm
  - Location: Maple Grove United Methodist Church  
7 West Henderson Rd., Columbus, OH 43214
  - Agenda developed; Highlights include speaker from London Correctional. Warden to speak on professional panel. Also a GIR School!

Difficulty with Area 53 Website and Area 53 page in Conscious Contact

- Attempted to post CFC Meeting Schedule and Workshop Info on Area 53 page of Conscious Contact.
- Apparently these items do not meet current criteria for publication. I am told that this was a decision of the Area Committee so intend to raise the issue at the next meeting.
- In the process of trying to find Officer responsible for Area 53 page in Conscious Contact, I was frustrated by the limitations inherent in the website. All efforts to reach officers through website are essentially e-mails. Since I was working near a deadline, this obstacle to direct communication created lots of stress.

### **Grapevine (Larry B.)**

- New Secretary and Treasurer
- Account stands at \$85.00. Committee paid rent. Account is at 5/3rd Bank
- In discussions regarding a writers workshop. Nothing specific yet.
- If interested in learning more about becoming a Grapevine Representative for your District or Homegroup attend the Quarterly meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> at COGF at noon.

### **Group Services (Dan S.)**

- First GSR school at the mini-conference which went very well.
- District 16 and District 11 is requesting GSR schools in their Districts.
- Planning on having a tabletop display for the GSR helpdesk at the Assemblies.
- General Services Chairperson provides coffee and hospitality at the Area meetings.

### **Intergroup Liaison (Ed S)**

- Ed was just appointed that the Intergroup Liaison so no formal report was present.
- Ed gives the job description as described in the Area Guidelines
- 7) *Liaison Committee*
  - a) Shall work to establish and maintain communications among central and intergroup offices and Area 53.*
  - b) Shall seek to prevent unnecessary duplication of efforts and conflicts arising from service work by the Area and central or intergroup offices within the Area.*
  - c) Shall seek to keep Area members informed of all central office and intergroup office activity within the Area.*

### *Questions/Comments*

Dave C – AOIO isn't mentioned on the website. Dave wanted to know why they are not on the site.  
Stephen S - suggests that Dave gives the information to the Liaison who would then request an update to the site.

### **Mini Conference (Stephen S.)**

- Held mini conference this weekend.
- 110 participants at the mini-conference with 6 committees and 21 agenda items.
- Mini-conference newsletter will provide more information.
  - The report is available by email when a member subscribes by visiting the mini-conference website.
  - A preliminary report will recap committees and the agenda items. The report will be presented to the Area Planning Committee. A more finalized version will be available by the June Assembly.
- Mini-Conference Committee meets the first Monday of the Month at 6:30pm at New Life Church in Gahanna.
  - Debriefing of the mini-conference.
  - Discuss what can be improved.
  - Discuss how the mini-conference can be better structured and organized.
- The GSO Conference is a year around function. We are going to try to incorporate this into Mini-Conference structure.
  - Better communications – Possible workshops

### **Treatment Facilities (OPEN)**

- Ed A – Open due to Greg Stepping down due to health reasons.
- Contacted about a new treatment facility in Whitehall known as Breaking Point Recovery on East Broad Street.
  - There are 3 locations. First in the Columbus Area. Already located in Youngstown and Warren.
  - Would like to have meetings brought into their facility.
  - Ed’s homegroup elected to move to the location as there was opportunity to work with new people, handicapped accessible and was on the bus route.
  - Looking to start more meetings in the area. Two other Groups are considering moving to the facility.

### **Web Administrator (Bill Y Acting)**

- “No report - It takes what it takes to get to a certain point. Thank you for being deliberate for getting to a point which leads us to place we need to be in five year from now in respect to technology. I will do what I can to help a person wants to come in and do this job. I wanted to get to a point were I could see the next individual that I would be able to help. I want to thank you for all of the nice things that you have said from time to time – probably all of the criticism. It all helps us grow. The website is a palette for Committees and Districts – possibly Groups and Officers to communicate the way you want to communicate going forward. I don’t think the next web person has in mind what that is for you. Use your imagination as a committee servants and officers to imagine what this should become for you. Thanks for the privilege to serve.”

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **DCM/Area Planning Committee on April 9th**

#### **Motion to Close the Assembly**

Peggy A make motion to close. Sharon F. seconds.

Closed at 3:17pm

#### **Closes Meeting with the Responsibility Statement**