

**Minutes Utah Area 69 Area Committee Meeting
December 1, 2012 – Hosted by District 10
St. James Episcopal Church
Midvale, Utah**

Welcome Renae H., Chair: Meeting opened with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer, Preamble and Anonymity Statement. Welcomed newcomers to their first General Service meeting. Defined Service Sponsor and identified those willing to serve in this capacity. Introduction of Area Officers and Past Delegates. Julio, District 12, read the 12 Concepts, short form.

Secretary's Report – Sheryl T., Area Secretary: Thank you District 10 for hosting this event. The chairperson, Mel, and her committee have chosen a great venue for our meeting and the treats are excellent! Since our last event, I had the opportunity to participate in a "bridge" involving an AA member from Colorado who was visiting in Vernal, Utah, and needed meeting information. A call was made to a member in Moab, who called one of his sponsees in Vernal. The sponsee in Vernal contacted the visitor from Colorado, and the visitor was able to make the last 15 minutes of a meeting that same evening. Thank you for allowing me to serve!

Minutes of the 2012 Area 69 Fall Workshop - Sheryl T., Area Secretary: Approved as read.

Treasurer's Report – Doug R., Area Treasurer: Verbal report given.

Financial Report –Doug R., Area Treasurer: Approved following questions and discussion.

Delegate's Report – Keith M., Delegate: "The General Service Conference Takes Its Inventory – Our Solution in Action"

Greetings Area 69, my name is Keith and I am an alcoholic. It is my great honor and privilege to serve our fellowship as the Panel 61 Delegate from Utah Area 69. Well, it has been an incredibly fast two years, it seems like it was just a few days ago that I was waiting for my committee assignment for my first conference. The Panel 61 delegate term for me has been a life changing event, of which all of you have played a major part. You have put the Joy in Happy, Joyous, and Free. Come December 31 at midnight I will know a new meaning of freedom. After three trips to New York I can report that our fellowship is healthy and incredibly well organized. Our staff is the best of the best, these wonderful folks include volunteers and special workers, alcoholics and non-alcoholics. I understand the passion of the alcoholics, our lives depend on complete dedication, however these non-alcoholic Class A volunteers are simply amazing. They seem to love drunks, well may sober drunks. Some in our fellowship are troubled that we are not growing, I am not. If we are carrying our message daily to the best of our ability, then we are ok. It was never my plan to save the world, those that need us will find us, if the hand of A.A. is there. About money, I am simply amazed that our home group basket donations totally support all we do; well almost, we still need the profits from our literature sells. I love to be part of an organization with no outside contributions. Our local area contributions have been on the rise, thus meeting our needs. Could we use a little more? Probably. Do we need twice as much? Probably not. Monte and I took a recent road trip down to Florida to attend the Southeast Regional Forum. Yes, visiting with Gay and Patti and supporting Rod B., our Pacific Regional Trustee, was a very pleasant bonus. The floor and ask-it-basket questions were very similar to ours in the Pacific Region. Divisions and concerns of power with our service structure were expressed – Principles before Personalities? Specifically, why A.A.W.S. created an app for Apple without conference input and why did A.A.W.S. cancel the development of the Android app. The explanation from Phyllis our General Service Manager was incredible. Understanding our history of being a publishing organization from the beginning, controlling our own destiny is a core value for our fellowship as a whole. Therefore, having our own app is very important to us; however, after cost analysis, in a rapidly changing techno world, it became obvious that we simply could not afford the expense. What we want and what we can afford are two different things and I applaud our GSO leaders for knowing the difference. As you may remember the Public Information committee put forth an additional consideration that "...A.A. establish a presence on Facebook for the purpose of providing information about A.A. to the public. ...". A trustee sub-committee was formed and the work began. Bill N. a non-trustee director for A.A.W.S. and a member of the sub-committee reports that the committee has determined that having a presence is not feasible. Part of the problem is that Facebook will not return our inquiries about how the page could be created. I am sure Walter will have more information for us soon. Mary C. GSO staff secretary for the Trustees' Public Information Committee has requested Area sharing on an Additional Consideration from the 2012 General Service Conference, specifically, your ideas about "regarding the effectiveness of the language of the Short Form of Tradition Eleven in addressing the needs of the Fellowship today." You can send sharing via email to Publicinfo@aa.org or postal mail. The deadline for this sharing is December 31, 2012. Phyllis H., the GSO general manager, reported that the 22nd World Service Meeting took place October 21-25, 2012 in Rye, New York, just prior to the board meeting and the arrival of Hurricane Sandy. Delegates from over 30 countries and international entities attended. The Fall 2012 issue of About A.A. was mailed, made available for digital delivery, and posted to the website. This issue features an article about the 2011 A.A. Membership Survey, Frequently Asked Questions about Anonymity, and a few other articles. Also, longtime staff member, Warren S., retired on November 1 and Valerie O'N., Publications Director, will be leaving at the end of the year. Let's all wish them happy retirements! I ask for your thoughts and prayers for loving guidance as I trudge along our spiritual path into the 4th dimension. May we all walk in beauty as we pursue our happy, joyous, and free lives in the fellowship of the spirit.

Registrar's Report – Sheri P., Area Registrar: I have received several emails and some paperwork from the districts with information changes that need to be done. I will do those updates as soon as possible. I want to thank Kurt for having my back the last month or two. He has been a tremendous help to me.

Roll Call – Sheri P., Area Registrar: In attendance were 7 Area Officers – 8 Area Standing Chairs – 3 Past Delegates – District 1: 1 DCMC, 3 GSRs; District 2: 2 DCMs, 1 GSR, 1 Standing Chair; District 3: 2 DCMs, 1 Alt. DCM, 1 Alt. GSR, 1 Standing Chair, 1 District Officer; District 4: 1 DCM; District 5: None in attendance; District 6: 1 DCM, 1 Standing Chair; District 7: 1 DCM; District 8: None in attendance; District 9: None in attendance; District 10: 1 DCMC, 3 DCMs, 1 Alt. DCM, 3 GSRs, 1 Standing Chair, 1 District Officer; District 11: 1 DCMC, 1 DCM, 3 GSRs, 1 Alt. GSR, 1 Standing Chair; District 12: 1 DCM, 1 GSR, 3 District Officers; CO Reps: None in attendance; Interested AAs: 2 **Total = 60**

Remaining Area Officer's Reports

Alternate Delegate, Walter C.: It has been approximately 30 days since we last met. There has not been a lot going on in that short time period. So, I have only been doing tasks like the Spanish translations. I would like to get the Area Officers and Standing Chairs to turn in their inventories to Janet and me. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Area Chairperson, Renae H.: Verbal report given.

Bid for 2013 December Area Committee Meeting

Charlie G., Assembly/Agenda Chair: District 11 won the bid.

Report from Past Event

Fall Workshop - District 11 - Matt D., DCMC: We had a good turnout for this event, with 14 members pre-registered and 41 more registered at the door. We held this event at the Bountiful Elks Lodge. District 11 has hosted three other events at the Elks Lodge and has helped two other districts host events there as well. Things seemed to go off without a hitch. After the Area business on Saturday, our workshop began. Our committee had decided that the Area Standing Chairs throughout the year never got enough time with their committees, so we dedicated the better part of the day to them. We asked each of them to share what they felt they had accomplished or what they hoped to accomplish. This was very informative to me and I got some good feedback from other members. After the workshop adjourned, Don from the Backstreet Club catered a steak dinner for us. It was good but we had a few complaints about the plastic silverware breaking. I will have to make a note to provide stronger utensils for cutting steak! We had two great speakers this weekend. Don P. spoke Saturday night and Monte S. brought the house down Sunday morning when he shared his experience, strength and hops. Monte always has something to say that touches my heart. I would like to thank my host committee. I had a great time working with them planning this event sitting over coffee at our kitchen table. Wow!

Reports of Upcoming Events

2013 February Area Committee Meeting – David R., District 4: Verbal report given.

PRAASA 2013 – Boise, ID – Monte S., Immediate Past Delegate: Verbal report given. Online registration for this event is up and running. The website is www.praasa.com.

PRAASA 2015 - Utah – Monte S., Immediate Past Delegate: Verbal report given.

2013 Pre-Conference Assembly – Mark B., District 10: Verbal report given.

District Reports

District 1 – Frank B., DCMC: As of November 8, 2012, District 1 has a prudent reserve of \$2,000 and a balance of \$19.43 after all expenses have been paid. Thank you to all groups that contribute your 7th Tradition funds to District 1. A District Budget Committee was formed to review the district budget. A proposed budget was presented to the body and now it will go back to the groups for review and discussion. The final vote on the budget will occur at the December business meeting. Cache Valley Intergroup Chairwoman reported a very important message to the district that I would like to share. The message is to challenge ourselves to share our experience in General Service with three other people. It is my goal to attract more people to become involved in General Service. Cache Valley Intergroup is trying to implement an all-groups meeting, patterned after the meeting held monthly at the Salt Lake Central Office. On the third Saturday of each month, a different group hosts the All Groups meeting in Salt Lake. There is a potluck dinner at 6pm, followed by a meeting at 7pm. Ogden Central Office will be having an open house potluck on December 8th. District 1 has several positions open: DCMC, 3 DCMs, and Standing Chairs for Corrections, CPC, Grapevine and Literature are needed. The next District meeting is December 13th at the Brigham City Alano Club. A ham dinner will be served. Thank you for my sober life. I love each and every one of you here today that put your lives on hold for this special program. My thoughts and prayers will be with you all until we serve again.

District 2 – Anthony V., DCM: Last month, District 2 held elections and a number of positions were filled. One position that really needs to be filled is the newsletter chair. John M., our Grapevine Chair, has been instrumental with helping to change the format of our GSR meetings. They are more in the form of round table discussions so the DCMs and GSRs will be able to get to know each other better. We are very optimistic of this format change and hope it will create a more fun and comfortable atmosphere. Hopefully, this will result in more interest for involvement in service for District 2. We are looking forward to 2013!

District 3 – Cory S., DCM: District 3 has filled the following positions: Corresponding Secretary, PI Chair, and Treasurer. Positions still available are: 1 DCM, 1 Alt. DCM, Recording Secretary, and BTG Chair. The host committee for the Post-Conference Assembly is meeting monthly for one hour before the regular district meeting. District 3 would like to thank Panel 61 for all their help and we welcome the new trusted servants for Panel 63.

District 4 – David R., DCM: District 4 is excited to be hosting the February Area Committee Meeting on February 23, 2013. We have had a lot of help from Janet H. in getting our committee up and going. The theme for our last district meeting was treatment. Pete G., Area Treatment Chair, came to Delta to attend. We invited the three small treatment centers to send someone to our district meeting, and one of them actually came. I think they left with a good feeling and a little more knowledge about AA. I want to thank Pete for coming. Our district Christmas party and speaker meeting will be on December 15th. Keith M., Area 69 Delegate, will be in attendance. District 4 is very grateful for the Area 69 service structure and for all the wonderful people. Thank you for allowing us to be part of AA once again.

District 5: No report given.

District 6 – Bert S., DCM: Meetings have more attendance with the cooler weather than in the summer. We had our elections in September and filled all positions. Our DCM-elect, Becky, called me and said she would have to step down due to medical issues. I talked to our Alt. DCM-elect, Denzel, and he thinks we should keep Becky in her position and he will cover for her until her health gets better. I would like to say that it has been a pleasure serving as DCM for the past two years. I have met a lot of great people in the Area. I will be serving as District 6 Treasurer and will try to get to Area functions as often as possible. You haven't seen the last of me! I would like to thank the outgoing Area Officers and Standing Chairs for all of your great work and welcome the new people who I know will do a great job too. Thank you, Keith, for being an outstanding Delegate. It has been a pleasure working with you and I know Walter will do a great job as well. Thank you so much for letting me be of service.

District 7, Northwest Sub-District (Cedar, Parowan, Beaver, Milford) – Allen B., DCM: Greetings my friends and family my name is Allen and I am an alcoholic. My sobriety date is August 9th, 2005 and my home group is the "Speaking from the Heart" meeting. We meet at noon on Mon., through Saturdays at the Keep, Keep Coming Back meeting hall in Cedar City. District 7 is doing all right, our finances are stable and we were able to defray 2 DCM's to this event. We are excited for the New Year to come in as we filled all 4 of our DCM positions and our DCMC position. That's something I haven't seen since I have been in service. We are having a workshop next Saturday at the Dixie Alano club to go over our proposed new district guidelines in hope to get them approved and active for the New Year rolling in. Pete G. and Deanna O. put on a 12 step call workshop Nov. 17. I was invited, but thought I was going to be busy on that day, so I didn't go. I went hiking as a mentor for a treatment facility. Turned out I hadn't paid attention and the workshop was a week later. I apologize for not making it and I feel bad because I heard from a few different people that it was really good. A 12 step call phone number list was generated and Dixie Central Office phone line and the District 7 phone operator has copies of the list to provide help to 12 step calls coming in. Now that summer is over meeting attendance in Cedar City is starting to pick up again. That's about all I have to say now other I am truly blessed with the gift of sobriety. And that I get the honor to meet people I would have never met before. And I treasure all you wonderful kind loving people I have had the opportunity to know and love you. Keep on trudging!

District 8: No report given.

District 9: No report given.

District 10 – Rick V., DCMC: I would like to thank Mel and her committee for hosting this event. It is an honor to serve as DCMC for District 10. I am grateful for the opportunity I've been given to learn, listen, delegate and, hopefully not "govern." Thanks so much to all of you in District 10 for your love, tolerance and patience with me and for all of your input and support. We voted on and passed the new District 10 Guidelines for 2013-2014 and passed the new budget for next year as well. At our DCM meeting on Thursday, we discussed having a workshop in March to discuss the Conference agenda items. We want to become better informed on them so we can relate the information to our groups. We still have some open positions in District 10: 5 DCMs, 5 Alt. DCMs, Treasurer, and Archives Standing Chair. Thank you for letting me serve.

District 11 – Matt D., DCMC: It is with great sadness that I give this, my last report as DCMC of District 11. It's been such a great job! I have grown so much, thanks to the love and support of the AA members in Davis County. District 11 is currently doing well and there are some very excited trusted servants ready to continue to carry the message of sobriety. The Finance Committee met to prepare a budget for 2013. There was a lot of travel outside of the Wasatch Front to assemblies and workshops, so our expenses were a little high. Kristen mad a suggestion that we leave some money in so we could try to defray standing chairs for Area workshops. We will present this proposed budget at our next district meeting and see how the members feel.

District 12, Jose B., CPC Chair: Verbal report given.

Presentation Regarding Area 69 Email System

Kurt J., Area 69 Communications Chair: Kurt distributed an email about the Area email system and gave a brief presentation on this topic.

Motions Discussion

1 – Area 69 Workshops

Questions, comments, discussion.

2 – Past Delegates

Questions, comments, discussion.

What's on Your Mind?

Mary B., Corrections Chair: Mary presented a new motion regarding Area 69 Bridge the Gap. Karin F., District 1, seconded the motion, which reads as follows:

Motion: That an ad hoc committee be created to address how Area 69 can best serve Utah regarding how and when to implement Bridge the Gap information.

Rationale: An ad hoc committee could discuss and explore various options regarding BTG in Area 69.

Financial Impact: The annual budget for Area 69 Bridge the Gap is \$250.00.

Adjourned for lunch at 11:30am.

Reconvened at 1:00pm for the Pass the Gavel portion of the meeting.

Formation of Ad Hoc Committee

The new motion (above) regarding the formation of an ad hoc committee to discuss and explore various options regarding BTG in Area 69 was read by Renae H., Area Chair. The motion was discussed and a vote was taken as to whether the motion should move forward. The assembled group voted that, yes, the motion should move forward and that an ad hoc committee should be formed. Renae then asked for volunteers for this ad hoc committee. The ad hoc committee members will be: Pete G., Area Corrections Chair; Andy B., Area Treatment Chair; Mark B., Area Grapevine Chair; Wendy W., Area Secretary; Karin F., GSR, District 1 (901-604-5971); and Sharry J., Alt. GSR, District 1 (435-201-0629).

The meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.

Pending Motions – 2013 February Area Committee Meeting

1 – Area 69 Workshops

Motion: *“That the Area 69 Pre-Assembly Workshop held the 3rd weekend in August and the Area 69 Fall Workshop held the 1st weekend in November, become one day events held on Saturday. The Travel Defrayment for “lodging”, outlined in the current Area Guidelines 7.5 Item d. --specific to “Area Committee Meetings”---, would apply to both the Area 69 Pre-Assembly Workshop and the Area 69 Fall Workshop.”*

Date of Motion: May 19, 2012

Presented by: John McG., GSR, District 2

Seconded by: Scott, District 11

Rationale/Background: The Finance Committee discussed some options in regard to both Area Workshops with much consideration and reflection of past Workshop attendance, particularly the decline of participation on the Sunday portion of these events. This motion was made in an effort to maximize Area 69 Workshops participation, functionality and effectiveness while exercising responsible financial prudence and budgeting.

Financial Impact: A savings of one night’s lodging defrayment expense of the Area 69 General Service Committee, and potential savings to the Area on the amount of mileage defrayment incurred by the Area Committee as a result of reducing the event to one day.

2 - Past Delegates

Motion: *“That, as a small token of appreciation, the Past Delegates need not pay registration fees when attending Area 69 events.”*

Date of Motion: November 3, 2012

Presented by: Doug R., Area 69 Treasurer

Motion seconded by: Irma B., District 10

Rationale/Background: To bring awareness and appreciation for the continued participation of all of our Past Delegates. They are not defrayed at all when they attend Area events.

Financial Impact: Between \$60 to \$80 annually **per Past Delegate.**