

Utah Area 69 Pre-Assembly Workshop
August 16-17, 2008
Hampton Inn Provo Utah

Welcome Andy B., Chair – with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer, Preamble and Anonymity Statement. Welcomed newcomers to their first General Service Meeting. Introduced Area Officers and Past Delegates.

12 Traditions

Minutes of February 23rd Area Committee Meeting read by Sheri P., Recording Secretary. – Approved as read.

Secretary Report – Sheri P. – I was asked to give a presentation at the Dist 10 GSR meeting on “What Service has done for Me.” Thank you District 10. It’s always good to have the opportunity to reflect and remember with Gratitude. I have had the opportunity of sharing in another miracle of someone’s life. Our friend Dayne has received his new liver and is doing well.

Financial report read by Nadine N., Treasurer – Approved as read.

Presentation of Proposed 2009 Budget by Nadine N. Treasurer – The \$200 increase in Archives was for the new Standing Chair position. The \$500 increase in Officer’s Expense and Standing Chair Expense was proposed due to higher gas prices.

Delegates Report – Julie S.- Copies were available

District Reports

Dist 1 Teddie H., DCM – I’m an alcoholic named Teddie. We are excited to report that we have had some people stand for our open positions. Frank stood for a DCM position so that brings us to 4 DCM’s. Tory stood for Treatment chair. A district workshop is in the planning. Flyers will be available in the near future. Our Central Office is hosting their annual Founders Day celebration at the Harrisville Log Cabin. Gay and Patti will be the speakers. We had the pleasure of having Julie, Cheryl, and Ranee visit our District meetings to share about their positions and their experience, strength and hope. We are sending 2 DCM’S to the Forum. Thank you for allowing those of us at District 1 to be of service to all.

District 2 – Wade J., DCMC – Dist 2 is doing well financially, and attendance is up. We are very busy preparing for the Fall Workshop & a Dist 2 Bridging the Gap workshop on Sept 4, 2008. It will be at 1700 So & 1700 E from 6 to 9. The Dist servants are working very hard fulfilling their commitments. Thanks for allowing me to serve.

District 3 – Ramsey D. - Thank you for joining us this weekend. Thanks to the workshop host committee. All is well in Dist 3. Upcoming are Dist 3 elections. Sept 3rd at 6:30 P.M. at St Mary’s in Provo. A Xmas Party tentative Dec 13th. Our business meeting Sept 14th at Lions Park in Provo.

District 4 – No Report.

District 5 – Harry S., GSR – Price meetings are doing well. “Nooners,” “Coal Sober,”. “East Carbon” “Keep it Simple” has had their doors open for over 15 years. Happy to report that the town of Emery is holding meetings at City Hall Mon thru Thur 11:0 AM. Myself and a friend or two of Bill W’s have been trying to keep “Helping Hands” of AA in Helper alive Tue and Fri 7 P.M. I also understand that Huntington was of interest reopening the group and has more to come.

District 6 – No Report

District 7 – Lauana H., DCMC – Our district is slowly but surely having more groups with GSR's. We have our committees for Pass the Gavel & the Pre-Conference up and running. At our last district workshop we held elections for the up coming rotation of elected district positions. Had a low participation. Only had 3 positions filled. So we have a lot of work to do to raise awareness of the value of service work & get people to step up to the plate.

District 8 – No Report

District 9 – No Report

District 10 – Rogers S., Alt DCMC – District 10's DCMC; Karen C, and Secretary, Dayne A., have been ill. Karen expects to be able to return in the near future and we hope to have Dayne back by year's end. The district has begun a new Newsletter, being scribed by our new Literature Chair, Ron L. The newsletter, currently volume 1, issue 2 is a great help in getting district and area information plus articles written by the membership to help the GSR's keep their groups informed. One of our most active Standing Chairs, Pete K. of Corrections has been busy bringing meetings, workshops concerning the Big Book and Traditions and supplying Big Books to the inmates of both Male and Female prisons. We are continuing work on the September Area 69 Fall Assembly to be held at the Best Western Landmark Inn, Park City on September 26-28. Love in Service.

District 11 – Bruce I., DCMC – We've had a much lighter turnout at District meetings this summer. We have 4 active sub-committees. The guidelines bunch is slowly grinding and polishing what they hope to be an effective and useful document.

We have another District Workshop in the works. The topic will be the Twelfth Step. It will be in October or November. We'll have a flyer by the Fall Assembly. This time it will be hosted and presented by groups and individuals from District 11. I want to thank all those who helped us with our last 2 workshops. We benefited by attracting new members to our District Committee. Everyone is invited to the workshop, so please come and join us. We have formed a finance committee which has reviewed our current budget. The Area 69 2009 Fall Assembly committee has been meeting at least once a month. We have a dedicated group of volunteers making preparations and we can all be assured it will be an event worth attending. Last month we passed a motion to extend our District meeting to an hour and a half. It was exciting to see the support we received from members of the committee who felt it was worthwhile to do something like that. They passed a motion to do a silent roll call by passing around a printed register for everyone to mark off as a means of saving more time. It's exciting to see new energy and ideas begin to surface. We have another new group. We want to extend a warm welcome to the "Serenity View Group as they join our District and Area 69. Thank you and district 11 for allowing me to serve.

Area Standing Chairs

Achieves – Janet H. – All had been pretty quiet this summer. There have been a few requests for information that I was able to supply. There have been a couple of donations to the archives since the Post Conference. Julie donated her t-shirt and Moose hat from the PRAASA in Alaska. The others were documents and pictures. A fellow member who had received some old Grapevines contacted me this summer. I sent the list of what we have in the archive repository and he is checking to see if he can fill in some of the gaps. I will bring the final archive display boards for Northern Utah to the Fall Assembly for distribution; these are for the Alano Club, Fellowship Hall, Magna West, the Price Club and District 12. I have purchased through Pete the new CD of Markings on the Journey. Thank you for letting me be of service to you.

P.I. – Mike A. – I do not have much to report. I did receive the Public Information Workbook and have spent some time reviewing it and reading all the literature to become familiar with the contents. Thank you for letting me be of service.

CPC – No Report

Treatment – John M. – I was able to visit districts two, three and ten. Each is healthy and the treatment chairs is willing to work for AA. District 2, has a treatment chair and a BTG chair. Both are new and learning the ropes. District 10 and 3 are doing well. District 3 has found that doing panels at treatment centers solves a great deal of problems. I was already to go the BTG workshop in district 8 when I fell over my big feet and cut my hand open and bruised my ribs. I spent Friday in the hospital and was in no shape to go on Saturday. All those days at dancing school wasted.

Literature – Pete G. – I regret to say I was unable to attend the BTG workshop this year. At the Post Conference we got service literature into the hands of those new to service and the not so new. The 3rd edition of the Spanish Big Book was well received and I am optimistic that many of our Spanish speaking members now have a copy of this book. I have visited meetings in District 7 and District 10 since our last Assembly. I attended the elections for District 7. I have been focusing the majority of my time in District 7 these past few months. District 7 is very active in Corrections and Treatment and a recent order for four Corrections packets with over 1600 pieces of literature was recently received. District 7 recently ordered a case of Big Books and a case of 12 and 12's for the jail. A portion of this order was Spanish. As our Literature changes very little, I must be excited about the format by which we are now receiving Literature from GSO. The DVD's are coming, We have 4 selections – Hope, Bill Discusses the Twelve Traditions, Bill's Own Story and markings on the Journey. We have had AA in Correctional facilities on DVD available for a while and the 4 additions are very exciting. I have Display copies of these playing on a DVD player for you to view. Audio CD's are also a convenient way to listen to your favorite literature on the way to work or to play at a meeting. Available on CD's are the Big Book, 12 and 12, AA Comes of Age, living Sober, and A Brief Guide to AA. Our Discussion Topics of Humility and Sacrifice, Enthusiasm and Gratitude, and spiritual Program in Action will not walk out of this room on their own nor find their way into our groups by any single more effective form of conveyance than the people in this room. We are the messengers – that is our responsibility and privilege. Please let our literature help you carry that message back to those who are not able to attend these meetings.. Thank you for letting me serve.

Grapevine – Sheryl T. – Since our last gathering, I've had the opportunity to correspond with Grapevine Chairs in Dist 1,3,5,6 & 10, and a new group GVR in Dist 10. I continue to be amazed at the enthusiasm and level of commitment our new (and existing) trusted servants bring to their Grapevine service positions. The common thread I see over and over is a deep love for the Grapevine magazine and what a wonderful tool the magazine can be in all areas of service work. Passing on back issues of the Grapevine magazine is a common practice in our fellowship. The question was raised as to what the Grapevine office would do if a member sent in an old subscription form using an outdated price. I called the Grapevine Customer Service number in New York. The answer was a surprise – they actually pro-rate the number of issues based on the amount of money sent. For example, if you sent in \$18 for a one-year subscription with the price currently being \$20, you would receive 11 issues of the magazine instead of 12. I was told that was the simplest way the staff could handle these types of concerns. The amount of correspondence to straighten these things out would otherwise be overwhelming to the staff. The only way an order and payment would be returned is if the person sent in an order form from the '70s, when a subscription was about \$5. I have boxes of back issues of the grapevine available. I was given an opportunity to speak at the GSR/DCM meeting in District 1 on July 10. There is a strong commitment to general service and I felt I was in the presence of several of our next District 1 committee members and some of our new Area 69 officers as well. The latest count on Utah Grapevine subscriptions: May 567 and Sept 581 – Net increase of 14.

Communications – Doug R. – We have been very busy, keeping the Area's meeting list synchronized with the various Central Offices and Districts. We elected an Alternate Web-Servant; LeAnn L. She has been doing full monthly backups of the website, she has also learned how to add, edit and delete meetings within the database. I want to thank LeAnn for stepping up and filling this position. LeAnn is an inspiration to a lot of people, including myself. Thank you for being so supportive! We visited 2 District GSR meetings and were able to give our Communications presentation. At District 2 we gave a 52 page Power Point presentation. I cut the presentation down to 12 slides for District 10 and of course I left the actual presentation at home. Thank goodness I had the print outs. That actually worked out better. The point of the presentation was to let people know what the Communications Committee does, and to get people excited to stand for this

position in September. One of the things that LeAnn shared is worth repeating, “we won’t just drop this committee onto whomever is elected for the next panel, we will be there in the transition as well as available as a ‘technical committee’ throughout the next panel. Thank you for allowing me to serve this incredible Fellowship.

Assembly Agenda – Jim N. – Please take a moment of silence for our fellow trusted servant Tom B. who passed away. I have traveled to Dist 3 a few times for the committee meetings, and Dist 10 for the Fall election Assembly. I also attended the Area 69 BTG Workshop in Vernal and that is always a treat for me.

Bid for Pre Assembly Workshop 2009 – Teddy from Dist 1, and Wade from Dist 2 both stood for the bid. Dist 1 Won.

Corrections – Ranae H. – The third annual Area 69 Bridging the Gap Workshop hosted by District 8 was held in Vernal Utah on June 21, 2008. The BTG Program was developed to help newly released AA members who have been confined in treatment or correctional facilities, transition smoothly into the program of Alcoholics Anonymous within their own community. The workshop was well attended. I was invited to District 12’s Monday night GSR meeting to share more information with them on Correctional committees and how they function within the districts. I had the help of Lucy S in translating and communicating their questions and answers. I had the opportunity to meet with administration of the Bonneville Correctional Center to discuss what would be required in order to get an AA meeting started in their facility. The Bonneville center is a Half-way house for men located in SLC> I am looking forward to attending the Special Forum in Spokane Washington. As always, it is an honor and a privilege to be of service.

Remaining Area Officers Reports

Registrar – Charlie G. – Welcome my Fellow trusted servants & interesting AA’s. We only got back twelve of the mailings & our email list just reached 114. Let see if we can have a reasonable goal of ½ of our mailings from email by year end. We have received & recorded all group changes for District 3 & 7. Partial information has been received from 6, 10 & 12. You can snail mail, email or give them to me if you have any changes this weekend. It is important as soon as your Groups & Districts hold their respective elections to get these changes in to either your Secretary & or me directly as this will make it easier for your next Area Registrar as we will be rotating out in a few more months & want to keep the record bases as current as possible. I just received copies of the Western Regional, Eastern Regional & Canada Directories from G.S.O. Thanks to all those districts & secretaries for getting their group info in time to be updated for this New Fellowship Directory publication. As taken from our last meeting it was a unanimous sense of the meeting to make some CD’s available of our Area Directory. I have one for each of the 12 districts, so I will be handing them out this weekend to see how they go. If you would like me to attend any of your district or G.S.R. monthly meetings please let me know as much as you can in advance. If there is anything else I can do to be of service to your group in my Registrar capacity, please let me know. Thanks to you all for allowing me to grow in love & service.

Roll Call – Registrar – Charlie G. – Area Officers 7 - Area Standing Chairs 8 - Past Delegates 5 - District 1 – 1 DCM, 2 GSR – District 2 – 1 DCM, 1 GSR, 1 ALT GSR, 1 STDG CHR – District 3 – 1 DCM, 4 GSR, 3 STDG CHR – District 4, 5, 6 No Attendance – District 7 – 1 DCMC – District 8 – 1 GSR, District 9 – No Attendance – District 10 – 2 DCM, 2 GSR – District 11 – 1 DCMC, 1 GSR – District 12 – 1 GSR – CO Reps – 2- Interested AA’s 10 – Total 56

Alt Delegate – Monte S. – This past June district 8 hosted their first A.A. Service meeting for most of us, that included current occupants of the local jail. To have a couple of prospects wearing their white with black stripes uniforms, sitting in the room was extra special for those involved in BTG 12th Step Work. Our Area again hosted the AA meeting for professionals at the University of Utah School on Alcoholism. Mike O did a great job of telling his story. There seemed to be more people at the AA meetings which is a good sign as most of us come in contact with a professional on our way to AA.. I am baffled as to why local AA’s don’t fill the room during this special opportunity. In the early years Bill W. arranged these types of meetings. We met Julie in Districts 1 & 3 as she gave her Conference Report Back. In June Julie & I attended the first ever Spanish FORO in SLC. Six dedicated AA’s drove to SLC from So California to help. FORO’s were developed about 30 years ago as a place for Spanish speaking AA’s to learn about the General Service Structure. Jose F. gave a brief history of the FORO and the different types. Jose shared that, “Home Groups are not social clubs, they are a

place to learn about how the Concepts compliment our Steps and Traditions,” & “We don’t do service because we are told to, but because of our gratitude.” We have continued to collect and compile suggestions for the ad-hoc guideline committee and will be meeting this afternoon to share those results and determine where to go from here. Thom B. another of our Area’s service workers died this summer. Thom will be missed by all of us. He was devoted to AA and Thom always called us his family. Till we meet again, Brother. Headquarter reports that Amy Filarial, our Archivist will be accepting a job with a University. Those that have met Amy are aware that her professionalism will be greatly missed and difficult to replace. We hope to see you at next month’s Area election assembly where we have a chance to get involved with AA general service, “not because we are told to, but because of our gratitude.” Thank you for the opportunity to service.

Area Chair – Andy B. – Life has been very good since the last time we met. Lots of traveling, lots of AA, lots of service at a lot of levels, either general service, campout service, sponsorship, & sponseeship. I’ve also been busy at work. I’ve attended Dist 10’s GSR meetings, come planning meetings for a few up-coming events. Thank you everybody for your hard work in service. I am looking forward to the up-coming Fall Election Assembly in Park City. I hope to see all of you there, and please bring a friend or a sponsee. I have learned over the last few years “Service is Sobriety.” I want to thank everyone for the gift you have given me, the gift of being allowed to serve at any level & of my recovery. If I can be of assistance, please let me help.

Reports from Past Events

BTG Workshop – Ranae H. Corrections Chair – June 21, 2008 District 8 hosted the BTG Workshop in Vernal Utah. The BTG program was developed approximately 18 years ago with the first National BTG Workshop weekend held in St. Louis Missouri. It is primarily the 12th step work that started in 1935 at the Towne’s Hospital with one man helping another to recover from the disease of alcoholism. The day began with a warm welcome from District 8 followed by District 10’s Corrections Standing Chair Pete K. sharing his experience, strength and hope and how he has seen through his own service as a volunteer at the Utah State Prison how the program of Alcoholics Anonymous has literally changed people’s lives in a profound and meaningful manner. The most important thing a newly released AA member can do is to attend an outside AA meeting within the first 24 to 48 hours. This is the effort and purpose behind the BTG Program. The hope is that the newly released member is encouraged to find a Sponsor of their own choosing, work the Steps, and to help others recover from the disease of alcoholism. Thomas K. from Ogden Utah, shared his very personal story of his path to recovery via incarceration at the Utah State Prison. He attended the inside meetings and the Twelve Step workshops held at the Promontory facility. Thomas shared how impactful the workshops were and how he was able to work the steps on the inside and able to help sponsor other inmates. He was on parole supervision when he spoke with us at the BTG workshop. He has since been released from all supervision and is living as a free man, not just physically, but also free from the torment and ball and chain of his alcoholic disease as he continues to work his program on the outside. The Area 69 Corrections Chair shared information specific to BTG. Area 69 Delegate Julie S. spoke about her personal experience and rewards of being an AA volunteer at the Purgatory Facility in So Utah. We also heard from our immediate Pat Delegate, Mike O. reverberating the value and importance of the BTG program and his personal experience as our Panel 55 Delegate being involved and assigned to the General Service Conference Committee on Corrections. A local Rehabilitation Center Professional shared her personal recovery story and how the BTG program can be of huge benefit to folks struggling with alcoholism. It was a great workshop and we hope to see more of you next year as we “grow” our Area 69 BTG program awareness and activity. Love and Service.

Post Conference Assembly – Teddie H., DCM – I did not receive a report by voicemail or text from Lewis J. I don’t know what the totals are so I don’t have figures for the amount we are returning back to the Area. This was a learning experience for all of us. I know that we didn’t sell all of the banquets. We did announce throughout the morning that we had a number of them to sell, but had few takers. One of the things that would help committees for future events would be to pre register. This helps host committees plan better. Also please pass on your report to the assembly chair so that he or she can share this with the host committee of the next event. This helps them to better plan. Thank you for allowing District 1 to be of Service.

Reports from Upcoming Events

Fall Workshop– Walter C., Co-chair – The committee was finally formed. The following service positions were filled. Chairperson Sarah L., Hospitality Christine M., Treasure Steve C., Registrar George, Co-Chair Walter C. Hope to have flyers completed within the week. The location has been chosen: Dow James Recreation Facility in Tooele, Utah. I thank you for allowing me to serve.

National BTG Workshop – Ranae H., Area Corrections Chair – The BTG Workshop is being held in Kansa City, Mo Sept 5-7. Area 69 Corrections chair is unable to attend this year, but encourages representation from Area 69 to attend and bring back information. It's a great place to share & receive information & ideas on how to carry out this important 12th step work.

Motion Discussion

Lunch 12:00 PM

Adjourned at 1:30 PM
Workshop Began