

**Minutes Utah Area 69 2009 December Committee Meeting December 5, 2009**  
**Shephard House Christian Church**  
**Lakepoint, Utah District 2**

**Welcome Charlie G., Chair** – Declaration of Unity , Responsibility Statement and Anonymity Statement. Welcome newcomers to their first General Service Meeting.

**12 Traditions** read by Philip W., DCM, District 11.

**Minutes of the “2009 November Area Committee Meeting” November 7 to 8, 2009 – Walter C., Area Secretary** – Approved as read.

**Financial Report – Pete G.**, Treasurer, Approved as read.

**Registrar, Doug R.** – I know the current DCMCs know that they are to notify me of meeting changes. My question is to the Districts that do not have a DCMC. I haven't gotten any updates from District 3 or 12. It's even more important that I have this information since the Area Communication Chair resigned. We have redistributed their duties and the Area Registrar will be keeping the website meeting list updated.

**Roll Call – Doug R., Area Registrar** – In attendance were 5 Area Officers – Area Standing Chairs 9 – Past Delegates 4 – District one 1 DCM, 1 GSRs –District two 1 DCMC, 1 DCM, 1 Alt DCM, 1 GSR, 1 Standing Chair – District three None in attendance – District four None in attendance – District five 1 GSR – District six 1 DCM, 1 Standing Chair – District seven 1 DCM – District eight – None in attendance – District nine None in attendance – District ten 1 DCMC, 1 DCM – District eleven 1 DCM – District twelve 1 DCM, 1 GSR, 1 Standing Chair – CO Reps None in attendance – Interested AAs 4

**Delegate Report – Monte S.** – Every other year at our December meeting we do an Area Inventory. We are collectively searching for better ways to serve our fellowship and carry the A.A. message of hope and recovery. The Alcoholics Anonymous World Service General Service Board met for their quarterly meeting October 30-November 2, 2009. Madeline P., our Pacific Region Trustee, provided her report from the GSB weekend to Pacific Region Delegates for us to share in our reports to you. This report illustrates the year around ongoing process of the General Service Conference. It contains some preliminary information that Area 69 will be discussing in detail early next year as we develop our area conscience on agenda items as part of the 2010 General Service Conference. **Literature Sales and Distribution**—Through September, 2009, 1,852,873 books were distributed, up 14.9% from the same period in 2008. Total A.A. purchases through September, 2009 were 1,379,096 units, while non-A.A.s accounted for 473,777 units, or 25.6% of the total purchases. The increased numbers reflect purchases being made in advance of the recent price increase for literature. **Contributions** through September 2009 were \$4,371,000, \$303,000 less than budgeted and \$277,400 less than the first nine months of 2008. **A.A.W.S. Nominating** – The A.A.W.S. Board approved the nomination of Joseph D. of Kingston, Ontario to be a non-trustee director on the A.A.W.S. board and Roberta L., currently serving non-trustee director, to be their nominee for General Service Trustee on their board. Roberta is a Pacific Region Past Delegate. **Archives** – Michelle M. was appointed Archives Director effective November 1, 2009, replacing Amy F. New staff member on Corrections, Jim M., began work on September 1 and Mary S.C., started as a new staff member on CPC on October 5, 2009. Valerie O’N, who was on the International assignment, was promoted to the position of Publications Director. **AA Grapevine/LaVina** – Year to date, circulation of the Grapevine averaged 103,300 (106,099 in print and 1,143 in audio), an increase of 3.3% over budget. Circulation of La Vina was 9,775, a decrease of 717. The Grapevine distributed A.A. stories in 87,283 books, CDs and other items. The Grapevine financial results through September 2009 reported a loss of \$95,500. La Vina realized a net loss of \$36,780. Frances B., Class A trustee, has agreed to serve on the A.A. Grapevine Board. We received reports from Phyllis H., General Manager, GSO, Don M., Trustee-at-Large US, Jo-Anne L., Trustee-at-Large Canada, Warren S., staff secretary serving on the International desk and Valerie O’N., Publications Director, on the following international trips: XVI REDELA (Meeting of the Americas) in **Arequipa, Peru**, 15<sup>th</sup> European Service Meeting, held in **Frankfurt, Germany** and the 8<sup>th</sup> Asia-Oceania Service Meeting in **Bangkok, Thailand**. **Literature** – The committee reviewed the report and suggestions from the Publications Department on the pamphlet, “The AA Member – Medications and other Drugs” and asked for a new introduction and a final draft be brought to the next quarterly meeting. They agreed to forward new changes and suggestions to the subcommittee on the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship” and have a final draft from that subcommittee presented for review at the next quarterly meeting. The committee agreed to forward to the Conference Committee on Literature the request from an area to change a sentence in the pamphlet, “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A”. The committee agreed to forward the suggestion that the Conference Committee on Literature consider a revision of the pamphlet “AA and the Armed Services” that would include new stories reflecting recent experience and a review of the title to reflect past and active duty. **Public Information** – The committee agreed to forward to the 2010 Conference Committee on Public Information the following text for inclusion in the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity” under Facts About Anonymity: “A.A. members generally think it unwise to break the anonymity of a member even after his or her death, but in each situation, the final decision must rest with the family. A.A. members, though, are in agreement that the anonymity of still-living A.A. members should be respected in obituaries or in any type of printed remembrance or death notice.” The committee also agreed to forward the following items to the trustees’ committee on Public Information: Request that no voices of recognizable public figures be used in either audio or video productions; Request that music used in either audio or

video productions will not have a recognizable melody or lyrics, regardless of whether the performance is by the original artist or not. The committee also forwarded a request for a table top display of the upside down triangle to the A.A.W.S. board for consideration. The A.A. Young People's Video will be released the week of December 7, 2009. **Corrections** – The Trustees Committee on Corrections is seeking applications for an Appointed Committee Member to work on the subcommittee for the revision to the pamphlet, "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell." (Area 69 had one past delegate request an application for this opportunity.) **Special Needs** – A progress report was given regarding the story submissions for the proposed Special Needs pamphlet and after suggestions were made, an updated progress report will be made at the next quarterly meeting. **Treatment Facilities** – The agenda topic of "full faces in videos" was forwarded to the trustees' committee on Public Information. **Cooperation with the Professional Community** – The revised information service piece for drug court professionals was approved and will be included in the workbook. **General Service Conference** – The following suggested changes to the agenda for the 2010 GSC have been preliminarily approved: The GSC will start earlier on Sunday, April 18, 2010. Registration and the opening session will start before lunch. The trip to GSO/Grapevine offices will be alternated for every other year. The Remote Communities Meeting will be on Saturday afternoon. **Pacific Region** – In keeping with Bill W.'s vision for Alcoholics Anonymous, (8) out of the (15) Delegate Area's in our region have recently elected Panel 60 Delegates, Area Officers and Standing Committee Chairs. Their rotation brings new energy and experience to our Fellowship and the General Service Conference.

### Area Officer's Reports

**Area Chairperson, Charlie G.** – I had the honor and privilege to attend District 2 GSR meeting. The Area has received the official resignation of the Communication Chair (James H.). Some of the Area officers met to discuss steps on how to proceed until the vacant position is filled. I ask that the DCM's and others take this information to your groups and ask if there is anyone willing to fill the position. I will email my physical inventory to Renae H. (Alt. Delegate).

**Alternate Delegate, Renae H.** – We all have suited up and showed up here today to take an even closer look, through inventory, at how we, as an Area and as individuals, can better serve the new comer and the still suffering alcoholic yet to pass through the doors of Alcoholic Anonymous. The Guidelines Review Committee (GRC) met in November and discussed a number of items relating to the current guidelines and has been working on recommendations that clarify and address the concerns that have been brought forth. The activity and responsibility of the GRC is a continual work in progress, as new discussion and motions often affect multiple service positions and cross referencing throughout the guidelines. I was able to go on a little road trip to District 5 with our Delegate Monte S., and the Area Treatment Chair Bruce, to attend a 12:00 PM open meeting on November 15th. District 5 has a nice and cozy Alano Club where meeting are held daily. I enjoyed meeting new people and visiting with members at the "meeting after the meeting." Thank you District 5 for making us feel so welcomed. I look forward to attending your December 13th service/speaker meeting and potluck luncheon. Anyone and everyone are welcome to come and join in the fellowship and food. (The only requirement for entrance is a side dish of your own choosing) I have also had the experience to meet with some of the existing Communications Committee members and the current Area Officers at a "special" meeting called by the Area 69 Chair Charlie, to review and discuss new ways to assist in carrying out the current communications Chair Responsibilities and the three sub-committees that fall under that umbrella. The scope of this service position has always been weighted in terms of necessary and vital work needing to be done in somewhat of a time sensitive fashion. The three sub-committees under Communications are the Newsletter Committee, the Website Committee and the Translation Committee.

**Treasurer, Pete G.** – To date, this Panel has welcomed 31 new contributors that have contributed \$3,321.01 to the Area. One out of every six dollars we received from groups this past year has come from groups who hadn't previously contributed to the Area. District 8 returned the seed money along with \$895.77 over the seed money. A contribution arrived from Grupo Hispano (District 12) Utah. Area 69 met its responsibilities this past month by seeding the Pre-Conference Assembly with \$1000.00, we paid for web hosting services and domain registration, secured the PO Box for another year and communicated with the groups with mailings and the Newsletter! Some excellent suggestions by members have been incorporated this time and it's up to you to keep what you like and leave the rest. Since February, each group that contributes has received a copy of the Area financial statement in addition to their receipt. In this recent Area mailing, a copy of the approved 2010 Area budget was sent via snail mail and email. This allowed us to contact at least 120 more groups than by simply bringing these documents to these events and hoping that everyone gets a copy. Plus it is hoped that this will reduce any waste by not printing too many documents hand having unusable extras. The document containing all of the Area contributions from the groups was not printed in mass for this event. That document costs more than 30 cents produce and I always ended up with extras from each event. I will not bring 25 copies of this document for the DCMs, DCMs, Area Officers and Standing Chairs and any others who request it. DCMs, DCMs and any others - please feel free to copy and distribute this document where it is appropriate. Please refrain from posting this document where it can be accessed by non-members. On the receipt that I mail back to each group when I receive a contribution, I now include that group's year-to-date total. If a group, GSR, DCM or whoever has a question about their group's contribution - please note that I keep a hard-copy and a digital copy of every correspondence from the groups. I have quite a few pen-pals and I look forward to more! Today, we will share a lot about the 7th Tradition. I pray we continue to be vigilant in watching the line between use and misuse, attraction vs. promotion, and most of all - spiritual vs. material. If there is any way you can envision improving the information that gets back to the groups, please let me know in person, by email, by snail mail or by phone.

## Standing Committee Reports

**Archives, for Treesa J., Archive Standing Chair** – I really have no report. However, I am turning in the balance of my receipts to Pete today and I have inventoried my travel box.

**Assembly/Agenda, Keith M., Chairperson** – Upcoming events are on schedule and event facilities are chosen for the next 6 to 9 months. Committees are formed and meeting on a regular interval, in most cases monthly. All of our events are a lot of work. Thanks everyone. The Agenda/Assembly Committee forms and outline suggesting are available on the area website page.

**Bid for “December Pass the Gavel” 2010 – Keith M., Assembly Agenda Chair** – District 9 won the bid.

**Communications** – No Report.

**Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC); Sherrie P., Chairperson** – I talked with the new CPC contact (Mary) from GSO and verified that we will be doing the "School on Alcoholism" at the University of Utah in June. I am excited to be part of this inventory today.

**Corrections, Wade J., Chairperson** – I had the pleasure of meeting with some district BTG chairs. We are in great need of volunteers to be temporary contacts. I am pleased to announce we now have female meetings at Decker Lake and will be starting male meetings on January 12, 2010. I am currently working on permission to propose our BTG program to parents, clients, and case managers before they are released. District 5 will be having a workshop on the 13th on Service, please join us.

**Grapevine, Rona C. (for Lauana H.), Chairperson** – I apologize, for being absent today. I am once again fighting some sort of bug. This is one thing I do not want to share with the fellowship. At this time I am in the process of ordering 4 Grapevine subscriptions for Tony D. from Kenelworth, UT. In the past, Tony has taken old Grapevines to the tribes in his area and to what you would call lone AA members, ones who do not have access to meetings. There is a special holiday for Grapevine subscriptions, until December 31, 2009 one can get two gift subscriptions for \$40.00. That is \$14.00 off the regular price. NEWS FROM GRAPEVINE DATELINE: "AA Grapevine is experiencing some hardship itself right now. Like everyone, we have been doing everything to keep expenses down. We knew with the downturn in the economy and the expected decline in circulation (after the long delayed price increase and the increased costs by going perfect bound to help with our prison mission) that this would be a challenging year. But we did not anticipate the sudden 40% drop in the purchase of subscriptions and other items in October that impacted our ability to cover costs. AA Grapevine does not accept group contributions; it is self supporting through the sale of magazine subscriptions and all Grapevine items. All Grapevine materials are mailed in packaging that protects anonymity." The new RLV handbooks are being mailed out. An updated GvR handbook will be mailed out some time this month. The new La Vina Traditions CDs had an incorrect product code on the press release, there should be an "S" in front of CD in the Code. SCD-14 FOR Volume 1 and SCD-15 for Volume 2. I will see you in February.

**Literature, Sheryl T., Chairperson** – I've had some interesting opportunities in the Literature arena, mostly requests for books and other literature to be sent to remote areas of Utah. Another large literature order has been completed. I have several copies of the book "Experience, Strength, and Hope" available for purchase if you need a nice gift for a sponsee, sponsor, oldtimer, etc. They are still only \$5.00! I also have new service manuals (2009/2010) for \$3.50 each. I look forward to the growth we'll all experience by participating in the process of our Area 69 inventory.

**Public Information (P.I.), Andy B., Chairperson** – Because I am back at work, my plan to go to a lot of the Jr. High and High Schools in the South Salt Lake Valley and Offer to put a poster up has been delegated. My work hours do not allow me to get there during school hours, so a few GSRs have taken up that task, and are greatly appreciated.

**Treatment Facilities, Bruce I., Chairperson** – A few weeks ago I was fortunate enough to travel with Renae and Monte to Price and visit our friends in District 5. We went down to attend their Sunday noon meeting at the Price Alano club. It was good to be there and meet a few new friends. Last month I reported we were working on some new materials for use in making BTG presentations to Facilities. That work is now complete along with a presentation for use with GSR's. We have revised and made corrections to the BTG guidelines and workbook presented last June and they are ready for the web site. We are pleased to be working with Doug in order to get them posted. There have been many requests for the new materials and some confusion about why they haven't been available online yet. I've contacted almost all of the District Treatment chairs. We now have a total of eight. District one elected Jason H. as their treatment chair last month. I haven't met him in person but I have talked to him twice on the phone. He's energetic and ready to do business up north. The Treatment Committee is working on an inventory of what's being done in Utah so we can make a meaningful start at the beginning of next year. This week I received two copies of the newly revised video "Hope" from the General Service Office. They are available to the Treatment and BTG committees for making presentations. Next week Wade and I have been invited to visit District 10. We spent time with their BTG Coordinator John S. last Sunday. He says he is afraid he will be

getting more requests for “Bridges” than he has volunteers. We will be making a presentation to the GSRs to inform them of the need for help and what the volunteers would be asked to do.

## **District Reports**

**District 1 – Teddy H., DCMC:** We are happy to report that since we last met with you, District One has filled our Treatment Standing Chair position. Jason H. stood for the position at our November District meeting. Jason has great enthusiasm for the position. Within a few days he was out making contacts with facilities. We put our proposed 2010 budget into the hands of our GSR’s last district meeting. They will be bringing their groups vote on the budget back to us at our December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Right now we are a little above our prudent reserve. We are grateful to Cache Valley intergroup and our groups who have shared their 7<sup>th</sup> tradition with District One. The Young People’s posters have been well received in our District. Our goal is to get a poster into the hands of every counselor in the High Schools and Jr. High Schools with the hope that these counselors will be willing to display them in their offices. With one DCMC and only two DCM’s in our district, visiting each group once a month can be a challenge. Frank and Gunnar do a fantastic job of getting to our groups. A District One workshop is being planned for early 2010. The Cache Valley A.A. folks have a new meeting hall. There are three groups meeting there now. They hope for some new groups to start up there. The PSA that the district purchased for the television stations in Logan land are in the process of getting air time. Cache Valley intergroup will be hosting another workshop in February. More information will be out and about soon. The standing chairs for Cache Valley intergroup will be rotating out at the end of the year.

**District 2 – Charlie T., DCMC:** District 2 continues to seek more servants. We have 3 DCMs and 3 Alt. DCM positions open. This is half our DCM slots. We have Treatment, PI/CPC, and Grapevine positions open. Correction continues to collect Pink Can contributions and take Big Books into Metro Oxbow, Decker Lake and 1 other youth facility which I am not sure which one. Bridge the Gap continues to grow; we are sending in information, inside Metro and Oxbow; we’ll see how big this gets. We had our District 2 Treasurer step down and we replaced him with Austin. District 2 has a very fine core of servants and we hope to expand. Contributions are down and Pink Can - stays the same or has increase - District 2 is yet to pass our budget for 2010.

**District 3 – No Report.**

**District 4 – No Report.**

**District 5 – Brent:** The district will have a Pot Luck and speaker meeting on 13 December 2009. The district would like to thank Monte, Renae, and Bruce for visiting District 5.

**District 6 – LeRoy:** District 6 has reviewed their budget and guidelines. They were approved or appropriate changes were made. We are still having a hard time getting all groups involved. Any help would be appreciated. I apologize for missing our last workshop. District 6 is looking forward to hosting the Committee Meeting in February. The Sanpete County Jail has 3 meeting on Thursday -a women meeting, a county meeting - a State meeting. The CVCC has 2 meetings on Tuesday - with good attendance.

**District 7 – Don P.:** District meeting will be on December 12 at 1:30 PM at the Dixie Alano Club in St George. Will have Potluck - Inventory and possibly a movie (if equipment can be found). Started district inventory at District meeting (November 14th) in Kanab. I had to be out of town so I am not informed. New meeting in Kanab. Meets at 6:00PM Wednesday at library has GSR.

**District 8 – Keith M., Assembly Agenda Chair (for John G., DCM):** District 8 is doing Great! We're still jazzed that we got to host the Fall Workshop for the Area. It created a lot of interest in Service and opened some dialog at meetings. We're grateful to still have all our Standing Chairs filled and active. New GSR's are taking an interest in the District; it's neat to see interest at the district level. Also, it is neat to have the Area come to Vernal to do a workshop and get together. This really helps with a sense of being connected to something greater. Thanks to all that came out! We really are getting healthy out here, and we're set to do our District inventory at our next district meeting on the 13th. The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly. We love it!

**District 9 – No Report.**

**District 10 – JoAnn, DCMC:** At our GSR meeting on Monday, 7 December, we will be pleased to have Bruce (Treatment Chair) and Wade (Corrections Chair) to discuss and outline the Bridge the Gap program. Our Bridge the Gap coordinator (John) is working very hard to get this program started in our District and we are very excited to have this program under way. Their guidance will be an immense help to us. We are still looking for help from our groups to step up to be DCM's and Alt. DCM's. All we can do is to encourage them to get involved in service work. It seems strange to have all our Standing Chair positions filled and be hurting for other service positions. Our District is doing okay financially. We have two people going to PRAASA; we are defraying one DCM and one Standing Chair. Our District will be discussing ideas for the theme for 2011. We are hoping that we can come up with a theme that will be accepted. The theme suggestions need to be to GSO by 19 December 2009.

**District11 – Phillip W., DCM:** All meetings in district 11 are represented by a GSR at present; some have alternates as well. All committees chair positions are filled; many of these have alternates. We have completed a full year with a vacant DCMC positions. We are especially strong in the area of corrections and bridging the Gap. District 11 is financially viable as contributions have exceeded budget. A committee was formed to revised budget for 2010 and they recommend dispersing excess funds.

**District 12 – No Report.**

#### **Past Events**

**Fall Workshop – Keith M (for John G.):** There were 11 pre-registration and 47 registration at the door (total of 58). The committee sold 81 Spaghetti Diners. The committee returned funds totaling \$1,395.77. After deducting the \$500.00 seed money, the area will receive \$895.77 in excess funds.

#### **Up Coming Events**

**February Committee Meeting – LeRoy:** District 6 has secured the same facility as we had last year. I hope to have a committee form after next district meeting.

**PRAASA, Delegate, Monte S.:** The event will take place the first weekend in March 2010 in Los Angeles, California. Registration is \$20.00 and the Banquet is \$52.00. The hotel rooms are approximately \$115.00 with tax. online registrations open @ [www.praasa.org](http://www.praasa.org). **Note:** Tony S. talk about his experience at the last PRAASA.

**Pre-Conference Assembly, District 10, JoAnn, DCMC:** We have secured the Best Western Landmark Hotel in Park City for Pre-Conference. Our committee will be meeting after our GSR meeting on Monday and set a regular meeting schedules so we can invite Keith to attend and give us his expertise.

**International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous, From Delegate's Report** – Registrations as of the end of October were reported to be over 26,000 with nearly half the registrants purchasing a copy of the souvenir, soft cover edition of “AA Comes of Age.” **The anonymity protected Flag Ceremony will be available over the internet through Monday morning following the convention.** Our convention consultant, Greg, told us we had over 84% online registrations which is a first for conventions. Madeleine reported that San Antonio has had a sober second look and is sitting up straight and taking our approaching visit to their city with shock and amazement! **Note:** Charlie G., Area chairperson, gave a verbal report at the committee meeting.

#### **Motion discussion:**

**Presented by Pete G. – seconded by Mike W.:** Add responsibility to the Area Treasurer to contribute excess contributions received by the Area throughout the calendar year onward to GSO. This to be done after the Area Committee Meeting in December to make certain all Area expenses have been met. Excessive funds shall be defined as balance in the account being twice the amount of our prudent reserve, while not including the prudent reserve. This action to take place only after all Area expenses have been met, (December 15 - December 31). Financial Impact: Varies, depending upon yearly contributions. Also, could be zero.

**What's on Your Mind:** The discussion centered around what to do with the duties for the vacant communication chair .

**Close Business Meeting at 12:09 PM**