

Minutes Utah Area 69 Fall Election Assembly September 24-26, 2010
Quality Center * Quality Inn
Richfield, Utah District 6

Welcome Charlie G., 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 Concepts: Read by Joe A, District 9.

Minutes of the 2010 "Post-Conference Assembly" 14 to 16 May 2010 – Walter C., Area Secretary: Approved as read.

Financial Report, Pete G., Treasurer: Approved as read.

Proposed Budget for 2011, Pete G., Treasurer: Budget voted on and approved with amendments.

Up Coming Events

Fall Workshop, District 12: The workshop will take place 5 to 7 November 2010 at 2029 N. Main Street, Sunset, UT. The host facility is a metal sports court/karate studio. Registration will be cash only at the door. The registration fee is \$10.00 and hospitality is by donation. No meals will be provided but there are restaurants and cafes nearby in either directions. The Hi-Hat just down the street offers home cooked breakfast at a reasonable rate, according to locals.

Area Committee Meeting, 4 December 2010, Joe A., District 9: Progress on hosting the Area Committee Meeting is preceding wonderfully. Meeting will be 4 December 2010 and will be held at the Triangle House. We strongly encourage attendance in order to carry the message of service to Moab and District 9.

Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (PRAASA), 4 to 6 March 2011, Charlie G., Area Chair: The purpose of PRAASA is to develop greater unity among the members, groups, and Areas of the Pacific Region; to encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences; and to provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of AA. The Assembly and the PRAASA committee should always foster the Recovery, Unity and Service legacies of AA. Hawaii Area 17 is pleased to host the Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (PRAASA) being held 4 to 6 March 2011 in Honolulu, HI. Forms for registering for PRAASA by mail and Online registration through PayPal are now available. There are English and Spanish registration Form Link. PRAASA 2011 hotel room reservations are now available online at the link: Ala Moana Hotel PRAASA Reservation Page. You may also contact the Ala Moana Hotel by calling toll free (800) 367-6025 (U.S. and Canada), (800) 446-8990 (Neighbor Islands), or directly (808) 955-4811. When making your reservation use the group name "PRAASA" to receive the group rates. Registration is now Active on the website. PRAASA Registration available at <http://www.praasa.org/2011>.

Reports from Past Events

University of Utah School on Alcoholism, Sheri P., Area CPC Chair: The school this year was great as always. There was much willingness and support this year from the people in the area; the energy and spirit was especially wonderful. It has been great working so closely with Andy (PI Chair). When it came time to set up the schedule I was amazed. Practically everyone who had their name on the list was serious about giving time and I was getting phone calls and names right up until the day the school started. We had enough volunteers to have 2 or 3 people at the table most of the time. Last year, District 1 volunteered to take one full day. They got a motor home and drove down from Ogden and just hung out. It was a lot of fun for them. This year we had District 11 take another day. I want to thank all of the volunteers for serving and following through. Some volunteered did more than 1 day. This year we sold Big Books for \$5.00. We used this money to help pay for parking for volunteers and turned in \$106.00, (PI \$53.00, CPC \$53). Monte S., Steve R, and Shirley O were the chair people for the open meetings at night. On Wednesday night, Al-Anon had their own chair and opened their portion of the meeting with their speaker and then turned the meeting back over to AA. I asked Keith to chair that meeting and he was extremely grateful and delightful. Julie S. our Past Delegate was our main speaker on Wednesday night and as always I personally enjoyed her sharing her story with us.

Pre-Assembly Workshop, District3: No Report.

Bid for 2012 Fall Election Assembly, Keith M., Assembly/Agenda Chair: District 6 (LeRoy B.) won the bid.

Bid for 2011 Utah Bridge the Gap (BTG) Workshop, Keith M., Assembly/Agenda Chair: District 8 (Nadine N.) won the bid.

Roll Call – for Doug R., Area Registrar: In attendance were 6 Area Officers – Area Standing Chairs 10 – Past Delegates 8 – District one 1 DCMC, 1 DCM, 5 GSRs – District two 1 DCMC, 4 GSR – District three 2 DCM, 9 GSR, 1 Alt. GSR – District four None in attendance – District five 1 DCM – District six 1 DCM, 1GSR, 2 Alt. GSR – District seven 2 DCMs, 5 GSRs – District eight 1 DCM, 1 GSR, 1 Alt. GSR – District nine 1 Alt. GSR – District ten 1 DCMC, 3 DCMs, 10 GSR, 1 Alt. GSR – District eleven 1 DCMs, 2 Standing Chairs – District twelve 1 DCMC, 1 GSR – CO Reps None in attendance – Interested AAs 4

First Motion Discussion and Vote:

Presented by Keith M. – seconded by Wade J.: *Forum* (Occurs in even years only): the Delegate is fully defrayed, the Alternate Delegate has defrayment of \$300.00, two additional trusted servants to be drawn out of the hat who will be defrayed \$300.00. The following positions will be placed in the hat: Area Chair, Area Treasurer, Area Registrar, Area Secretary, and Area Standing chairpersons who are available and willing to make the commitment to attend the Pacific Regional Forum. PRAASA (Occurs every year): the delegate is fully defrayed including Delegate's working luncheon, the Alternate Delegate has defrayment of \$300.00. For Odd years: The Area Chair, Area Registrar, Area Treasurer and the following Area Standing Chairpersons: Communications, CPC, Grapevine, Literature, and Treatment will receive \$300.00 defrayment. For even years: Area Secretary and the following Area Standing chairpersons: Archives, Assembly/Agenda Coordinator, Corrections and Public Information. The overall financial impact of this motion is \$0.00. After some discussion, this motion passed.

Delegate Report – Monte S.: The 60th General Service Conference Final Report is here. We publish the Final Conference report so that each of us can be informed about what happened at the General Service Conference and the status of A.A. The first thing you can do as you decide how to share the Conference Report with your group is to become familiar with what's in here. You can start at the Table of Contents and get a good overview of the report. The first section contains a summary of the entire meeting and transcriptions of the greetings and keynote addresses. Then there is a complete list of Advisory Actions that came out of the Conference, arranged by Conference Committee. Next is a section entitled Presentations and reports. Here you have all of the reports that were given at the Conference. It includes the Finance report given by the Treasurer of the General Service Board, Terrence B. Each Trustee's Committee gives a report at the Conference and those reports are included here also. There are reports from A.A.W.S. (our publishing company); the A.A. Grapevine and LaVina (our magazine publishing company); the World Service Meeting. Also in the report is information about worldwide A.A. activity and presentations on the theme of the Conference. There are reports on how much literature was distributed over the year and how much Grapevine literature was distributed, including LaVina. Each of the first-year Delegates gives a report on their Area and those reports follow the literature and magazine distribution reports. After the Area reports, the Additional Committee considerations are listed. These are items that the Conference Committees discussed, but upon which no action was taken. It is good to review these periodically because some of them will likely become agenda topics in the following year. Finally, after the full financial reports, there are listings of all of the people that participated in the Conference. Luckily, the layout of the report doesn't change from year to year, so once you become familiar with where things are in the report you will be able to find what you need pretty quickly each year. So, what do you do with your new knowledge of the Final Report? Again, this is where some knowledge of your group comes in. Some groups like financial information particularly information about contributions and literature sales. They love to have discussions about whether we are truly self-supporting or not. Find what your group enjoys and share it with them. Get a few copies of the report; highlight the different sections in the Table of Contents in different colors, then place matching colored tabs in the books. Over 4-5 weeks, you can review the final report with your group in some detail. Some discussion groups use the sharing session material as leads for their meetings. They will read one of the sharing sessions and then hold discussions on that topic. To summarize, get to know your group and what is in the report itself. Figure out what your group will accept in terms of hearing the information from the Final Report and then figure out a way to stretch them to accept a little bit more. The Conference Theme - "We are Responsible for A.A.'s Future – Let it Begin with Us" - serves as a wonderful reminder of the importance of our efforts to carry our message of hope and recovery. The work we do is only as effective as the leaders we choose. Concept - 9 emphasizes the importance of electing qualified and willing leaders. Choosing our leadership, from Delegate all the way up to G.S.R. is the most important responsibility we have in Alcoholics Anonymous not only those we serve but to the still suffering alcoholic. Our gratitude goes out to those who are here today with a desire to serve Alcoholics Anonymous. We pray that God will guide and direct us during our Assembly today.

Area Elections

Introduction for Rod B. – Our Regional Trustee conducted the Area Elections. Elections starting with nominating Delegate, and Alt Delegate.

Adjourned for Lunch 12:10

Reconvene at 1:30

Continued on the Elections.

Area 69 Panel 61 Area Officers who will begin their 2 year term January 2011 are as follows:

Delegate	Keith M.
Alternate Delegate	Walter C.
Area Chair	Rena H.
Area Secretary	Sheryl T.
Area Treasurer	Doug R.
Areas Registrar	Sheri P.

Area 69 Panel 61 Standing Chairs who will begin their 2 year term January 2011 are as follows:

Archives	Lauana H.
Repository Archivist	Janet H.
Assembly Agenda	Charlie G.
Communications	Kurt J.
Cooperation with Professional Community (CPC)	Wade J.
Corrections	Mary B.
Grapevine	Treesa J.
Literature	Rachael F.
Public Information (PI)	Bruce I.
Treatment	Pete G.

Second Motion Discussion and Vote:

Presented by Doug R.. – seconded by Kurt J.: Remove from the current Area 69 Guidelines Section 3.6g, which reads "Prepares and copies an Area Directory to be distributed at the Post-Conference Assembly" and replace it with "Updates the Area Directory after each Area Assembly and distributes it to those on the Area's e-mail list and print copies as requested". Financial impact savings of \$250.00 to \$275.00 annually. After some discussion, motion passed.

Adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

P.S., I received the following updates in writing that were not brief at the meeting due to time constraints:

Grapevine, Lauana H., Chairperson – Since we last met I had the privilege to attend District 1 district meeting and share all that the Grapevine has to offer. Then on Saturday morning, I provided a display at the district workshop that was held at Valley Camp. News from "Dateline Grapevine": 1) They want to thank everyone who participated in the readership survey. 2) Asking for people from our area to contribute their own stories. 3) Themes for upcoming issues are a) January "We Admitted we were Powerless" b) February "Gay Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered in AA". 4) The newest Book out is "Spiritual Awakenings II" can be purchased by calling (800) 621-6025. 5) There are still a few issues of the International Convention Commemorative issue. 6) 2011 Calendar and pocket planner are available for purchase. Also, I sent back issues of Grapevine and Grapevine catalogs to Tony D. in Kenilworth, UT. Tony is a real boon to our fellowship; he is still getting out these and sharing our message.

Local FORO Report, San Diego California, Monte S., Delegate: Sunday August 22nd 2010, G.S.O. hosted a Local FORO for Spanish speaking members in San Diego California. The event chair (Rafael) explained the importance of Local FORO saying that FORO's connects the groups to G.S.O. - Guests from headquarters included A.A.W.S. Board Chair (George M.) and G.S.O. staff member (Eva S.). Over 200 A.A.'s were registered for this FORO Locale. We heard a presentation from Linda C.(Area 09 Delegate) about the history and struggles of Spanish speaking women in A.A. who were often prohibited by husbands and fathers from attending A.A. meetings. We learned that today 6 of our 21 Trustees are women and 33 out of 93 Delegates are women. During questions from the floor about young people in A.A., we learned that the definition of young is "young at heart." There was a day when 50 and 60 year olds were considered young people in A.A. Today 2.3% of our Fellowship is under 21. Groups with members under 30 are more likely to have a G.S.R. who is under 30. Young people are doing a great job of welcoming other young people and embracing the 12 Traditions. We were cautioned about sectioning A.A. into sub-groups; sometimes it helps integrate newcomers into A.A. more easily. A presentation on Grapevine/LaVina from Mike P.(Area 05 Delegate) taught us that only 5% of English speaking A.A.'s subscribe to Grapevine compared to 15% of Spanish speaking A.A.'s subscribe to LaVina. To keep the price affordable it was suggested to do away with color pages and encourage more people to submit their stories for submission. A more interesting magazine could produce more subscribers. George M., read his presentation about the services G.S.O. provides in Spanish. He brought translated handouts which I shared with District 12. He reminded us that headquarters does for us what we cannot do, such as publish Big Books. He said that sharing our collective worldwide experience requires offices, staff and considerable time and money.

To date we have produced 30 million copies of the Big Book. He told us that the office is working towards putting our literature into digital format. He reported that the Corrections desk receives 6,000 letters annually. George shared that G.S.O. is the clearing house for Traditions questions and application and they are careful never to express an opinion. That Regional and Local Forums/FOROs are organized gatherings where we can talk about current A.A. topics and connect G.S.O. to the A.A. groups. Eva S, talked about A.A. history and how the Riverside church, next door to G.S.O. in New York, helped A.A. She said we have 84 full time employees and 11 staff member assignments. She said that staff members are required to be A.A. members. They are assigned to geographical areas of the U.S./Canada to answer correspondence and phone calls that come in 24/7 via FAX, telephone, e mail and letters. G.S.O. is not a central authority. When an opinion is sought, the policy is they have no official opinion. Area 69 Delegate (Monte S.) talked about "Getting Back to Basics". He shared some advice learned from Joel C.(Area 08 Delegate). Joel said that "Sometimes we get so caught up in service that we overlook the Steps, but we will serve a lot better if we are actively doing inventory, letting go of defects, making amends and seeking conscious contact with our Higher Power." I shared that the 12 Steps cannot be taught but they can be learned. The Spiritual process of sharing with my sponsor, one on one, drunk to drunk, saved two lives. Nothing is more basic than this simple foundation. Caesar F.(Area 08 Alternate Delegate) gave a presentation on the 7th Tradition and reminded members that spending money on food, cakes and Mariachis is not prudent use of 7th Tradition. He said that he has learned humility through the structure of his Home Group. There were several question and answer sessions and roundtables. The day closed with the Serenity Prayer in English and Spanish.

Pacific Region Forum, Torrance California, 27 - 29 August 2010, Monte S., Delegate: This Forum is particularly historical for Utah because Rod B., chaired the entire weekends meeting. Rod is the newly elected Pacific Regional Trustee and lives in Salt Lake City. Congratulations Rod and thank you. Rod opened the Forum on Friday evening by welcoming all of us and introducing Ward E., our Class A (nonalcoholic) Trustee, chairman, General Service Board. Ward with his Southern drawl said "welcome y'all." He said "Together we can be a beacon of hope for those who still suffer". He encouraged us to share our experience with the Directors, Trustees, and staff; many who had traveled cross country to be with us, so they will better know how to serve us. Next, Rod B., gave a presentation on the role of Class B Trustee (alcoholic) in maintaining A.A.'s world services. He told us there are 11 Trustees Committees; 21 Trustees, 7 class A (amateurs). Of the 14 class B (boozers) 4 are General Service Trustees, 2 are At-Large and 8 are Regional Trustees. Terrence B., Class A Trustee, gave a financial presentation. Terry reassured us that our finances are stable and there are lots of checks and balances. To date we are on track with the projected G.S.B. budget. We have 61,581 Groups; 1,358,879 members and that during 2009 43.6% of the groups contributed to G.S.O. He said he was first exposed to A.A. in 1975 when he was working as a counselor in the Armed Forces. He said he witnessed the saving of lives and spirits and the reuniting of families. He shared that all trustees are concerned with the health and growth of the Fellowship but most of their duties are custodial. The trustees rely on the General Service Conference for direction. Terry said he learned that words in A.A. often times have different meanings, for instance the word inventory. He said he learned about rule 62 and didn't know there were 61 others. He was informed early on that we are glad to have non-A.A.'s tend to our money as we have more important things to do. He (or someone) said that anonymity is more about preserving the Fellowship than protecting the members. His words reflect keen insight from a non-alcoholic Trusted Servant. Mary D., G.S.O. staff on the nominating services desk told us that the G.S.O. building, lovingly referred to as the God Box, because many faiths have offices in it, was built in 1955 by Rockefeller. She told us the 11 staff members rotate every two years. Mary said each staff member is assigned a geographical region to handle questions like how to start a new meeting; questions on Traditions; personality conflicts. She said there are a lot of disappointed members when G.S.O doesn't give an opinion. G.S.O. has no authority over A.A. members or A.A. Groups-they are not the A.A. police. Comments from the floor, which lasted until 10 pm on Friday night included a complaint about the price discrepancies on literature for the visually impaired. We learned that a draft of the Special Needs pamphlet is almost ready to be presented to the Conference. Saturday morning Rod opened the session introducing Albin Z., A.A. Grapevine, Inc. Board Director. Albin discussed the history of our magazine and gave an overview of the composition of G.V. board members. He reminded us that the Grapevine is where the idea of the General Service Conference was first introduced to the Fellowship and said that Bill's 150 articles to the Grapevine still guide us today. See Language of the Heart (LOH) for a compilation of all of Bill's G.V. articles. Albin said that LOH is a great resource book when you are looking for ammunition to support your side of the argument and it is written by Bill W.! He called for articles from members about the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and stories from newcomers. There are 1395 less subscribers to the Grapevine in the Pacific Region alone since January 2010. We have been running in the red the past three years but hope to be in a positive position in 2011, IF subscriptions are restored. La Vina Editor, Irene D., said that La Vina began in 1991 as a one Spanish written article per month in the Grapevine. The first issue of La Vina was the July-August issue of 1996. The 15 year anniversary is in July of 2011. She said the magazine tries to express the diversity and concerns for the Hispanic alcoholic community. She said there is a growing sense of ownership and the board is looking to make improvements to the website. Irene is being invited to Spanish events throughout the U.S. and Canada. Questions from the floor focused on the \$288,000 deficit for our magazines. Nancy H., treasurer for G.V. Inc. said that Grapevine is costing more than budgeted for and the magazine reorganization was not budgeted for. Again, subscriptions hold the key to self-support of our meeting in print. We learned that the G.V. is in the process of changing delivery system and billing. A recent change in vendors caused delivery delays and service disruptions. In the near future all of these problems should be resolved as the new providers will be up and running by November of 2010. Currently there are 92,000 G.V. subscribers and we need 110,000 to break even. Teddie H., from Utah suggested giving a G.V. subscription on sobriety anniversaries to sponsees. Anyone want to be a G.V./L.V.R.? Other questions, one for Ward E., board chair, he was asked why he is called "The Most Reverend, Ward E.," he assured us that those words are a title, not a description of him, given by the Seminary where he works ©. We learned that the Final Report from the International is not

available yet and that the sign-in book from the Pacific Region hospitality room in San Antonio is missing in action. Again roundtables went until 10 pm and ranged in topic from Concepts to Unity Between Group, District, and Area (Spanish). There were presentations on “Working with Wet Drunks”; Anonymity in a Digital Age” and “Bridging the Gap Between English and Spanish Speaking Districts”. Sunday morning there was an ask- it-basket; sharing from 1st time attendees (including Irma and Harry from Area 69) and sharing from past trustees. 829 people registered- 590 1st timers, 2nd highest attendance. There were 10 people registered from Area 69. Eva S., commented, “The future of General Service in Pacific Region looks very promising with those kinds of numbers”. We closed at noon after remarks from Ward E. The Utah area had allocated a onetime defrayment of \$500.00 for the Delegate and Spanish speaking members to attend the FORO in San Diego. At the last minute the Spanish speaking members were unable to arrange transportation and were unable to attend. I did gather information from the FORO for District 12 and Area 69 Archives. I have made arrangements with our treasurer to return the defrayment advance for FORO. Thank you Area 69 for this opportunity to attend both the FORO and the Forum. Thanks too to our hosts in California; the FORO/Forum committees; G.S.O. staff; Trustees and Group Coronado, along with Alicia, Joel, Linda, Jim, Larry, Gail and the A.A. Angel. All of you share our deepest gratitude for your hospitality and service to Alcoholics Anonymous. P.S. Thank you Harry S., from Price, Utah for taking Shelleice and I to lunch on Redondo beach and teaching us more about being willing to go to any length.

Pete G., Treasurer: The Pre-Assembly Workshop was an excellent event. My report at the Workshop had a number of corrections that were made. I received a check from District 10, which I assumed to be the return of the seed money for their event. It was pointed out that it was in fact a contribution and the seed money plus extra was sent less than a week later. Thank you District 10 for the contribution and the successful event. Less than a month later, I received a call from Charlie T - DCMC for District 2, stating that District 2 was attempting to get their seed money and contribution to the Area but that they were having trouble sending certified to a P.O. Box. We live in the wonderful age of electronics and the entire amount was sent electronically. That notwithstanding, it marked the first time that funds were sent electronically. This seems to solidify the importance of electronic aid and communication in AA today. A number of new digital tools are at our disposal, with GSO accepting Online Contributions since June of this year, a survey regarding what literature our members want to be available electronically (PLEASE remember to get your survey form turned in to either Charlie G. or myself no later than October 5). Utah is a huge geographic area, with over 85,000 square miles of territory with all manners of fellow AA members needing to stay in touch with other alcoholics in order to stay sober and grow. We are responsible to use every means at our disposal to carry the message and new ideas are always welcome. We had a new contributor join the ranks of the giving since we last spoke. The Moab group sent in a contribution making it the second group from District 9 to contribute this year. We had two other groups from District 10 join in and contribute also during the time since we met in Provo. I attended my first Forum in Torrance, California at the end of August. I was so impressed - alcoholic and non-alcoholic alike - that spend so much of their time in helping those who have not yet walked through our doors. What a thrill to see Rod B. conducting the event as the Pacific Region Trustee. My time at the Forum was spent concentrating on Grapevine and Remotes. I gathered much information on both topics - financials from Grapevine and ideas from other Areas regarding remotes. I placed an abbreviated report in the Area Newsletter and will incorporate many of the other items I learned in the weeks to come. One more word on the Grapevine, this past year, subscriptions in the Pacific Region have dropped by over 1300 subscriptions and some of the discussions in the breakout sessions I attended centered on how to cut costs. I wonder how many of us have a subscription to the Grapevine and/or the Digital Archives. Use the gift subscription, encourage your pigeons to subscribe, talk about it at your meetings and remember to subscribe yourself! Contributions are ahead of time last year. Overall, we have less contributions but group contributions are the life blood of our Districts, Areas, and GSO. Let's keep it going.

District 12, Julio D., GSR: I want to thank you for your cooperation on the third FORO of General Service, District 12 in Park City last month. Charlie G. did a wonderful job. We learned a lot about AA history and its development. I am glad to announce our 5th Utah State Spanish convention to be held on the 15 to 17 October 2010 in the downtown Salt Lake City, Red Lion Hotel. Registration fee \$15.00. Opening meeting Friday 15 October 2010 from 6:30 to 9:00 PM. Public Information Saturday, 16 October 2010, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Workshops Saturday 16 October 2010, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. Table 1 is Intergroup Functions, Table 2 Districts Functions, Table 3 is Conventions Purposes, close meeting. Sunday, 17 October 2010, 9:00 AM to 11:30 PM.