

December 3, 2011

Heber City, Utah

“Anonymity: Our Spiritual Responsibility in the Digital Age”

Greetings Area 69, my name is Keith and I am an alcoholic. It is my great honor and privilege to serve you and our Alcoholics Anonymous Fellowship as Panel 61 Delegate from Area 69 Utah. Happy holidays to all of us. This is going to be a great day! We have an opportunity to take a look at how well we are carrying our life saving message to the still suffering. How are we doing reaching out to the hopeless drunks on the street, the home bound retirees and the very young teenager thinking about taking that first drink? Do they know who we are, where we are, and what we do? And that we have a solution. Let's find out this afternoon. Remember we inventory the process, the service positions and not the individuals. Love and tolerance is our code and principles before personalities.

At the October 27, 2011 Alcoholics Anonymous World Services board meeting, held at the New York GSO, Pam R., chair of A.A.W.S., opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance. The following were noted in the Manager's report: 1) Work continues on the eBook project with a rollout date of early December for the Fourth Edition Big Book and of the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* in English, French and Spanish. 2) The 26th Intergroup/Central Office/A.A.W.S./A.A. Grapevine Seminar was held in Tucson, AZ, September 29th through October 2nd. Chair Pam R. represented A.A.W.S., and in attendance from G.S.O. were the general manager (Phyllis H.), representatives from the Publications Department, and G.S.O.'s staff members serving as liaison to intergroup and central offices. **Communication** between intergroup/central offices and general service was a significant topic of discussion. On a personal note, at the local area level I attended the November SLC Central office meeting and we communicated very well. It is my intent to visit more Intergroup/central offices in the near future. 3) Nonalcoholic G.S.O. Archivist Michelle Mirza participated at the 15th Annual National A.A. Archives Workshop in Helena, MT in September. G.S.O. Archives celebrated its 36th Anniversary on November 3rd. From the Publishing Department the 2011-2012 edition of *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts of World Service*, is now available in English, French and Spanish. This service manual reflects the actions of the 2011 General Service Conference, the best service conference I have attended. Big Book unit distribution for the first nine months of 2011 was 716,084, compared to only 672,524 in 2010; and *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* totaled 299,844, compared to 280,340 last year. This demonstrates the slow but steady rise of our fellowship. Financially, total revenue (contributions, gross profit from literature sales, and interest earned on cash flow) was \$10,488,857, slightly under budget and lower than last year - but okay, since total operating expenses was only \$10,194,978, approximately \$293,847 (2.80%) under budget. It still disturbs me that our

contributions totaled \$4,479,958 and gross margin from literature sales were \$6,008,370. When are we going to be self-supporting?

As the 2012 Cooperation with the Professional Community (C.P.C.) Conference Committee Chair I received a memorandum from Adrienne B. and Mary D., co-secretaries, trustees' Committee on Cooperation With the Professional Community/Treat/Special Needs-Accessibilities. The following highlights from the October 30, 2011 meeting were noted: 1) The committee reviewed and accepted the preliminary list of C.P.C. exhibit events for 2012. All trustees are encouraged to submit suggestions for exhibits at future national conferences to the C.P.C. staff secretary. 2) The committee agreed that it would be helpful to include the A.A. Grapevine or La Vina magazines in C.P.C. Kits. The estimated cost for 500 magazines is \$750 and is reflected in the 2012 preliminary budget. 3) The committee discussed a request from the 2011 Conference Committee on C.P.C. "to forward to the 2012 Conference a draft product and report on replacing the current A.A. Cooperation with the Professional Community DVD with a compilation DVD that includes existing materials." The committee asked the staff secretary to work with Andrea B. and Albin Z. to prepare a report on replacing the current DVD for review at the January 29, 2012 meeting. 4) The committee reviewed the proposal to add the phrase "Non-alcoholics may attend as observers" to the 'Singleness of Purpose' statement in C.P.C. literature. The committee noted that the language in the statement could be updated and will submit their suggestions to the staff secretary. The committee will revisit the proposal and consider possible revisions to the 'Singleness of Purpose' statement at their January 29, 2012 meeting.

On a happy note the *Final Report Pacific "Additional" Regional Forum* held August 19-21, 2011, Woodland Hills, CA (a short 12 hour van ride to the Southwest) is available. I did an e-blast on November 28, 2011 and I have 30 copies here today. Within the *Final Report Pacific "Additional" Regional Forum* is a tremendous amount of valuable information, some of my favorites are the "Ask-it Baskets Questions" "Workshop Reports" and Delegate Presentation Reports, however the Past Trustees Sharing is absolutely incredible. A personal sharing by Suzette C. Panel 60 Delegate Area 03 Arizona of her mother's recent stroke "Special Needs-Identifying Current Challenges" is very moving, a review by Jamie S. Panel 60, Area 92 Eastern Washington of the "The Changing Culture of Alcoholics Anonymous" includes the following quote "...The stories that heal us and bind us to each other's recovery can only be those of one alcoholic talking to another alcoholic. That is what makes us excellent." and my personal favorite Linda C. Panel 60, Area 09 Mid-Southern California "Varieties of Spiritual Experience." Also, on my Delegate Table are plastic pamphlet holders, please take the literature and the holders, it's all got to go nothing returns of Moab. May we all walk in beauty as we pursue our happy, joyous, and free lives in the fellowship of the spirit.

Keith M., Area 69 Utah, Panel 61 Delegate