

Minutes Utah Area 69 Fall Election Assembly September 21-23, 2012
Hosted by District 6
Quality Center * Quality Inn
Richfield, Utah

Welcome – Renae H., Area 69 Chair: Meeting was opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer, AA Preamble and Anonymity statement. Newcomers to their first General Service meeting were welcomed. Area Officers and Past Delegates were introduced. The term service sponsor was defined and those willing to be service sponsors were identified.

12 Concepts: Read by Melvin, District 5.

Minutes of the 2012 Post-Conference Assembly – Sheryl T., Area Secretary: Approved as read.

Financial Report, Doug R., Area Treasurer: Approved as read.

Proposed Budget for 2013 – Doug R., Area Treasurer: Budget discussed, voted on and approved as amended. The changes were: 1) Literature annual budget decreased from \$600 to \$400; and 2) The line item in the budget for Workshop/Assemblies (\$2,500) was omitted.

Upcoming Events

Fall Workshop, November 3-4, 2012 – Matt D., DCMC, District 11: We are ready to host this year's Fall Workshop. We have a lot of fun in our committee meetings. To watch a new member tackle putting together a flyer in a short amount of time or to see a new Hospitality Chair come up with a budget that is lean but still has some room for sweets – watching the members around me grow are the things I enjoy seeing. The workshop will be held at the Bountiful Elks Lodge. Don B. will be barbecuing steaks with all the trimmings for the Saturday evening banquet. Monte S. will be the Saturday evening speaker. Somehow, Mary H. talked the priest who married Kristen and me into telling his story. We have some flyers here today. Our Treasurer is here this weekend also, so anyone who wants to pre-register for the Fall Workshop can do so this weekend. Come and join us for all the fun!

Area Committee Meeting, December 1, 2012 - Mel, District 10: Verbal report given.

Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (PRAASA), March 1-3, 2013, Boise, ID - Monte S., Immediate Past Delegate: Verbal report given. The telephone number for the host hotel in Boise is (208)333-8000.

Reports from Past Events

Area Bridge the Gap Workshop, June 16, 2012 - Kristen D., DCM, District 11: I was the Chairperson of the Area 69 BTG Workshop. District 11 was excited to be able to host this event. I had never attended a BTG Workshop, so I found myself feeling nervous and in the dark. I read the guidelines and asked the Area Corrections Chair for help. I was told I needed to find a facility and was given the \$250 in seed money. I tried several different churches, but none were available. We were able to secure the Bountiful Elks Lodge. In April, we formed a small but strong committee of four. Matt D. would do the registration and be the treasurer; Devon would be the Hospitality Chair; Carrie A., District 11 BTG Chair, would do flyers; and I would chair. The night before the event, I received a phone call from Mary B., the Area Corrections Chair, who said she would not be able to attend the event. She had contacted Pete G., Area Treatment Chair, and asked him to conduct the workshop. The morning of the event, we arrived to set up and our brand new volunteer came in, full of excitement. Watching his eyes during the day was priceless – he had a wonderful time. When our friends from the Area came in, the feeling of “being in the midst of the dark” went away. I know I can trust the people of AA to pull together and share their experience, strength and hope. Everything will be just the way God wants it to be. I am always amazed when my Higher Power teaches me these things. I walked away with a new dose of humility and understanding. We had a small crowd of 29, but the message was strong. We had members share their own experience. This always brings a tear of joy and happiness to my heart. They had a presentation on the workbook that is used in bridging the gap between institutions and people behind bars with AA on the outside. If a person in a treatment center or jail/prison can make a connection with an AA member on the outside, the chance of that person staying sober increases dramatically. My responsibility is to help anyone that puts their hand out for help and to trust the process. I really believe that some of the best lessons I have learned have been from those people willing to put their hand out and help.

Pre-Assembly Workshop – Teri W., District 8: This event brought in \$957.28 and District 8 is returning \$1,457.28 to the Area. Typically, this is a 3-day event. It turned into a one-day event due to venue availability issues.

Bid for 2014 Fall Election Assembly – Charlie G., Area Agenda/Assembly Chair: District 10 won the bid.

Bid for 2013 Utah Bridge the Gap (BTG) Workshop – Charlie G., Agenda/Assembly Chair: District 5 won the bid.

Roll Call – Sheri P., Area Registrar: In attendance were Area Officers: 7; Area Standing Chairs: 8; Past Delegates: 4; District 1: 3 GSRs, 1 Standing Chair; District 2: 1 DCM, 2 GSRs; District 3: 2 DCMs, 3 GSR, 2 Alt. GSRs, 2 Standing Chairs; District 4: 1 DCM, 1 GSR, 1 Alt. GSR, 1 Standing Chair; District 5: 1 DCM, 1 Alt. GSR, 1 District Officer; District 6: 1 DCM, 3 GSRs; District 7: 2 DCMs, 3 GSRs, 1 Alt. GSR; District 8: 1 GSR; District 9: None in attendance; District 10: 1 DCMC, 4 DCMs, 1 Alt. DCM, 12 GSRs, 1 Standing Chair; District 11: 1 DCMC, 1 DCM, 2 GSRs; District 12: 1 DCM, 1 District Officer; CO Reps: 1; Interested AAs: 3. Total in attendance = 82. Voting members at time of roll call = 65.

Motions - Discussion and Vote:

1) Appendix F – Area 69 Standard Accounting Practices: Renae H., Area Chair, read Appendix F. There was discussion on the motion and then a vote. Appendix F passed by substantial unanimity. Pete G. spoke to the minority opinion. Keith M. made a motion to re-consider this motion. LeAnn L. seconded the motion to re-consider Appendix F. Keith M. then made a friendly amendment that line 1.2.1 be changed as follows: Put a period before “or individual contributions...” at the end of 1.2.1. This friendly amendment was then voted on. The amended motion (Appendix F) passed with a vote of 53 for and 1 against. The member against did not wish to speak to the minority opinion.

2) Mileage Defrayment – Discussion, vote. Motion failed. The mileage defrayment for Area Officers and Chairpersons of Area Standing Committees will remain at 25 cents per mile.

3) Area 69 Workshops – There was not sufficient time remaining to discuss and vote on this motion.

Delegate Report – Keith M., Area 69 Delegate: “The General Service Conference Takes Its Inventory – Our Solution in Action” - Greetings fellowship, my name is Keith and I am an alcoholic. It is my honor and privilege to serve you as the Area 69 Utah Panel 61 Delegate. There are some very good things going on in our fellowship. First, I want to recognize the upward growth of our Area 69 7th Tradition contributions. We as an Area fellowship have been communicating our needs to carry our message, and the fellowship is responding. We are a unique organization, we do not accept outside contributions, we do not need them, we do not want them. Our message is carried by humble basket donations in our local meetings. I believe starting back a few years ago with a gradual consistent growth, our Utah Fellowship is speaking loud and clear. We as an Area Committee are very frugal, stretching each dollar to its maximum spiritual potential. Our treasurer, accompanied by an outstanding financial committee, has led an incredible effort to create a balanced realistic budget. We now know what we have and where it is going. The current issue of our Area 69 News and Notes has an article from Rod B., our Pacific Regional Trustee, about spiritual solutions of our three legacies we can all communicate through simple discussions in our home groups. Another article in News and Notes is a reprint of the talk I was privileged to give at the recent Pacific Regional Forum. The article reflects on changes in the ways we carry our message of recovery over the past 75 years. I believe that our program of recovery as outlined in our basic text, the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous, was spiritually inspired and as close to perfect as any document that exists. My entire spiritual belief, the core of my being, is founded on the truth of the 12 Steps. Change does not come easy to me. It appears that at least for part of our fellowship we are now content to wait for the newcomer to walk through the doors of our meetings. Are we carrying the message or do we wait and tell them after they have arrived? For the next three years we will be inventorying our Conference Process and our Service Structure, I hope we can also look at the ways we carry our message to the still suffering. Wow. What an incredible spring and summer. It has been my absolute privilege to have completed over 20 Delegate Reports to Area 69, both Walter and Renae each presented at one district, thanks to you both. These have included hour long detailed reviews of the conference process and agenda items. The review of agenda items focused on both the ones that passed and ones that did not pass, the reasons and ramifications of both, and potential future effects to our fellowship. These reports have also included brief 3 to 5 minute summaries at recovery meetings. I am overwhelmed by the value of sharing the joys and accomplishments of General Service with our whole fellowship. A few highlights of the July 2012 board meetings. The trustees’ Committees on Cooperation With the Professional Community (C.P.C.), Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities, Corrections, and Public Information (P.I.) appointed four subcommittees: 1) C.P.C. to explore options for providing information about A.A. to professionals; 2) Corrections to review a section “A.A. in correctional facilities” in the pamphlet “A Message to Corrections Professionals” and to review the pamphlet as a whole; 3) Public Information to explore all aspects of the social media Facebook page and, if feasible within our Traditions, provide the 2013 Conference Committee on P.I. an implementation plan that addresses the implications of such a page; and 4) Public Information to consider the survey

methodology for “A.A. Membership Survey” and how the survey information is used as a P.I. tool. All of these subcommittees will report to the October board meeting. Good news from A.A. Grapevine, June year to date sales are performing ahead of projections. Cash inflows are \$1,714,000 which is \$310,000 ahead of projections, specifically, magazine sales were \$217,000 ahead; GV Online was ahead by \$18,000; and other products were ahead by \$60,000. As a result there have been no draw-downs from the Reserve Fund. AAGV.org’s web subscription source is the largest for GV with a renewal rate of 32%. As noted in my last report, A.A.W.S. gross sales through the end of May 2012 were budgeted at \$5,530,240 - with actual sales of \$5,462,710. Print book units distribution for this same period totaled 754,897 units; non-A.A. purchases accounted for 130,055 units, or 17.2%. Since December 9, 2011 the launch date, a total of 6,018 e-books have been sold. Speaking of the eBook project, Phyllis H., G.S.O. General Manager, reported to the fellowship that the Board has made a decision to discontinue the development of an eReader App for Android phones; however, there will be an update to the Apple iPhone App and continued exploration of the best way to make eBooks widely and easily available for purchase through existing eReader vendors. The Board will begin working toward implementation of the distribution process, with a planned release of A.A.W.S. eBooks following the 2013 General Service Conference. Contributions for the first six months of the year were \$3,105,695, \$120,400 more than the same period of 2011. Total revenue year to date 2012 was \$7,171,211 against total expenses of \$6,981,665 for a net profit of \$189,556. A.A.W.S. has published three new or updated pamphlets (Alcoholics Anonymous 2011 Membership Survey, A.A. and the Armed Services pamphlet and It Sure Beats Sitting In A Cell) and the revised Anonymity Wallet Cards, I have provided these today with a few extras to the DCM’s for their districts. Please take a few minutes and review the incredible valuable pieces of literature. Gayle S.R., GSO staff from the Literature Desk, sent a friendly reminder about the incredible value of our Box 4-5-9. She makes three important points 1) An issue of Box 4-5-9 is sent quarterly to each G.S.R. or other group contact for A.A. groups in the United States and Canada. This issue is meant to be shared with the group, possibly pointing out articles of particular interest regarding group issues that are brought to the attention of G.S.O through phone calls, e-mails and other correspondence; 2) The articles of interest to group life may be used as topics for discussion in A.A. meetings; and 3) The Winter 2012 issue will cover Gratitude Month in A.A., along with a myriad of other ways that the topic of self-support in A.A. can be addressed. Issues of Box 4-5-9 are available on the A.A. Web page all the way back to 1990 and all A.A. members can digitally subscribe online. 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 your sharing via email to Publicinfo@aa.org or postal mail. The deadline for this sharing is December 31, 2012. Rick W. from General Service Office announced a G.S.O staff opening, if you are interested in working in New York for our fellowship, please see me I have the application. Also, it’s time for your suggestions for a theme and presentation topics of 2014 General Service Conference, I have a few blank forms. Well, last weekend was the 2012 Pacific Regional Forum held way up north in Fairbanks, Alaska. In brief, I spent 12 days frolicking in the 4th dimension with my General Service friends. Some of these friends were from Utah, the rest were either from the Pacific Region or New York. Yes, a drunk from Moab has friends from New York City, Wow! The single best way to summarize a Forum is informing the Fellowship. The trustees both A and B’s, Grapevine and A.A.W.S. directors, GSO staff, and the General Service manager shared the joys of working within the service structure of Alcoholics Anonymous. Visualize our inverted service triangle with all of you at the top, area delegates in the middle, trustees, directors and staff at the bottom and Ward Ewing, the chairman of the board, occupying the very tip. I am very pleased to say I’ve hugged people from the low places, well for that matter, I’ve hugged people from throughout the service triangle. What happens at a Forum? Lots of information about what our trusted servants do for us. A real big one is publishing our literature, A.A.W.S. takes care of our Conference approved stuff like the Big Book, the 12 and 12, a wealth of pamphlets and all our service pieces and the committee workbooks. Grapevine handles our recovery sharing in a monthly magazine and anthologies of past sharing, like Language of the Heart. Another part of the Forum included presentations from the Pacific Region Delegates which were both humorous and thought provoking. The Delegates were the facilitators of the Saturday night workshops which got everyone involved. The Alaskans were spectacular hosts and the autumn colors contrasted against the snow-capped mountains were incredibly pretty and very spiritual. Okay, yes, a few salmon were also caught. A splashing 15pound silver salmon will create a joyous smile. Look - Monte is still smiling! Thanks for my incredible life. May we all walk in beauty on our spiritual path to the 4th dimension.

Adjourned for lunch at 12:00pm.

Reconvened at 1:30pm.

Area Elections

Introduction of Pacific Regional Trustee – Keith M., Area 69 Delegate: Keith M. introduced Rod B., Pacific Regional Trustee. Rod B. read the Statement of Procedures and conducted the Area Elections.

Area 69 Candidate for U.S. Trustee at Large – Monte S.

Area 69 Panel 63 Officers who will begin their 2 year term January 2013 are as follows:

Delegate	Walter C.
Alternate Delegate	Doug R.
Area Chair	Wade J.
Area Secretary	Wendy W.
Area Treasurer	Renae H.
Areas Registrar	Sheryl T.

Area 69 Panel 63 Standing Chairpersons who will begin their 2 year term January 2013 are as follows:

Archives	Athlene M.
Repository Archivist	Janet H.
Agenda/Assembly	Matt D.
Communications	Charlie G.
Cooperation with Professional Community (CPC)	Rachael F.
Corrections	Pete G.
Grapevine	Mark B.
Literature	Kurt J.
Public Information (PI)	Treesa J.
Treatment	Andy B.

Adjourned at 5:45pm.

P.S. I received the following report in writing that was not given at the meeting due to time constraints:

Area Corrections Report – Mary B., Corrections Chair: Aloha Trusted Servants!!! It is with a heavy heart that I embark on this endeavor to write a letter to you all. It is definitely a bittersweet experience. First of all, I would like to thank you for the trust you gave me when selecting me to serve as the Area Corrections Chairperson. It filled my heart to overflowing! It truly was everything I hoped it would be! The opportunity to service with this panel of officers and standing chairs was amazing. They truly love Alcoholics Anonymous, service and you! I do too. For those of you who do not know, I am currently serving family in Hawaii. I have a new baby granddaughter that needs her grandmother for a time. Thanks to Alcoholics Anonymous and you, I am a sober grandmother and mother with the ability to show up and assist and support my family. I can never repay you. Thank you. I have done my best to continue fulfilling my responsibilities from afar. With the help of friends, my daughter, and other Standing Chairs, I have attempted to carry on. I will return in November to finish out the year and pass the gavel to the awesome standing chair you elect to fill my position at this assembly. A special thanks and hugs to Pete G. for his stepping in and helping with the roundtable discussions and BTG workshops, both locally and BTG in Minneapolis. Love you Pete!! I am unable to stand for another position due to my inability to be attending this assembly. I do look forward to serving the Area at the next opportunity. I will serve you in the best way I am capable of throughout the next two years in other positions. Since we last met, I have able to assist Districts 4, 6 and 9 with education, information, and literature in their efforts to establish new meetings at correctional facilities in their respective districts. I have attempted to give them any help I was capable of giving. I want to thank those district servants for their desire to serve, and the time and energy they give to Alcoholics Anonymous. I sent literature to BTG and was able to obtain some great literature in Spanish. My prayer is that the literature was a great help to those who were able to receive it. I have given information to several people to help them get in touch with contacts to fill out the necessary paperwork to help with meetings in other correctional facilities. I know our Higher Power will assist you in electing the very best servants, hand-picked by Him, to serve you and the State of Utah this panel. Thank you, I miss you and love you so much. Till we meet again, ALOHA.