

JANUARY 2005

GSR Preamble

We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of A.A.. We realize the ultimate authority in A.A. is a loving God as he may express himself in our group conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that they can reach an informed group conscience. In passing along this group conscience, we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our fellowship. Let us, therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while other share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our groups as a whole.

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**AGENDA FOR DISTRICT 02 GSR MEETING
JANUARY 27 7:00 PM**

7:00 – 7:15 PM

- Open** – Moment of Silence
- GSR Preamble**
- Concept I** (page 12)
- Tradition I** (page 12)
- Responsibility Declaration** (page 2)
- Introductions**
- December Meeting Minutes** – Nichole, Recording Secretary (page 2)

7:15–7:30 PM **Officer’s Reports**

- Corresponding Secretary – Pete G.
- Literature – Michaelena R..
- PI/CPC Chair – Mark P.
- Corrections – Charlie T.
- Grapevine – Taylor K.
- Newsletter – Doug R.

7:30–8:00 PM

- Nomination for consideration for the Corrections chair in the name of Jean B.
- Nominations for consideration for Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, DCM (E) and Alternate DCM will be considered.
- New Sub-Districts review. (Page 3).
- Host Committee Report – Pete G. (Page 8)
- PRAASA – Thom B.

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GSR Meeting Minutes December 16, 2004

Chair- *Thom*
GSR Preamble- *Matt*
Concept XII – *Martin*
Tradition XII- *John M.*

Treasurer- *Paige C.* Accepted as read
Rec. Sect. - *Thom*

 upcoming events
 Brief last meeting
 March Pre conference Assembly

Correct draft of motions from James
Corresponding Secretary – *Pete*

 Three New Groups

Literature Chair- *Pete*

PI/CPC - *James - Mark P.*

 New pamphlet- being translated into Spanish

Treatment- *Taylor K. – Jay*

 Sign up Sheets, Bridging the Gap
 VOA meetings going well

Grapevine Rep- *Taylor K. –*

 Sponsoring (overseas, truckers, jails) grapevine subscriptions
 Groups who need Grapevine representatives

Corrections- *Charlie*

 Committees doing doing well
 \$50 from Tooele beginners group donated

Newsletter- *Doug*

 Group article submission
 Ask it basket Column
 The Website in Spanish is available!!!

Old Business- *Michaelene* is our new Literature Standing Chair!

Stephanie is a new Alternate DCM!

Mark Pepper is a new Alternate DCM!

Still 1 DCM and 2 Alternate DCM positions available and Corresponding Secretary

New Business- January- Sub districts 5 or 6

 Alternate DCM to Sub 5

DCM Meeting a week prior to GSR meeting;

February 10-13 International AA Women Conference

Starting in January GSR training workshop 1 hour before GSR meeting 6:00

Responsibility Declaration

*I am responsible. When anyone,
anywhere, reaches out for help, I want
the hand of AA always to be there.
And for that: I am responsible.*

District 2 Sub-Districts

By John McG, Past District 2 DCMC

When I was a young cop first assigned to a police precinct in the Bronx I was given a walking post to patrol. I was told I was responsible for what happened on that street. I got to know the people who lived there, the storeowners and the bad guys. I knew where the parking problem was and where to get a good cup of coffee. In AA we elect District Committee Members (DCMs) because, according to the AA Service Manual, "a district is a geographical area containing the right number of groups-right in terms of the committee member's ability to keep in frequent touch with them, to learn their problems and to find ways to contribute to their growth and well being." (s28).

In 2002 when our panel took the job in district two there was a very haphazard method of assigning DCMs groups. Because of the meeting place we had there was also no good way for the GSRs to know who their DCM was unless he/she visited the groups often enough to form a close relationship. It seemed logical, since we already had six DCMs (at least some of the time) to assign a certain amount of groups to each DCM according to geographic area and social interest, e.g. gay groups and women groups. Each sub district was given a letter from A to F. The DCMs and Alternate DCMs were asked to "own" their sub-district and be creative in their responsibility to the groups in their care. So far so good. The one fly in the ointment was creating a group identity. Unfortunately the Fellowship Hall limited space did not lend it's self to the opportunity to form the kind of atmosphere we needed. Only when the district decided to move to the Presbyterian Church at 1626 S 1700 E did we have the kind of environment we needed. We now have six round tables around which GSRs from each sub group sit with their DCM. This allows for nucleus of a community where the business of AA can be done at its most important level, the group. I'm sure, because district two is a healthy organism, changes will refine the process for the greater good of our precious fellowship and God will bless us on our "Road of Happy Destiny".

The following groups have been designated to Sub-Districts A-F

Sub-District A: (George R., DCM) Big Book Thumpers, Bog Irish Big Book Study, Chapter 5, Friday Night Speakers, It's in the Book, No Rules, Primary Purpose, Richard Street Lunch Bunch, Starting the Day, Trying Again Group, Way Out

Sub-District B: (Mary Ann V., DCM) 5:15 Happy Hour, New Avenues and Promises, New Hope Group (Women's), Old Fashioned AA, Saturday Night Alive, Speak Easy Ladies, The Right Stuff, We Care Group

Sub-District C: (Pete G., DCM) 17th & 17th 12 X 12, 6:40 New Yorkers, Brown Bag Big Book Study, City at Seven Group, DNS Group, Early Friendship, Friendship Group, Grantsville Good News, Honey's Breakfast Club, New Way Group, Sizzling Sobriety Group, Survive and Serve

Sub-District D: (Walter C., DCM) 974 Group, Acceptance Group (Gay/Les), Basic Young People, Foothill Group, Group 2, Jordan River Group, Magna Friendly Bunch, Northwest Sobriety, Stonewall Group, Tooele Group, Unity Lunch Bunch

Sub-District E: (DCM vacant)

Sub-District F: (Wade J., DCM) Altrum Group, An AA Group, Downtown Bunch, Boot Straps, Highland Group, Live and Let Live, Midnight Miracles, Non-Smoking Sobriety Hour, Saturday Night Speakers, Sobriety Hour, Weekend Get AA, Windsor Street Beginners

Introduction of the 2005 – 07 Rotation for District 2

In the next few issues of District Two's newsletter we will be presenting autobiographical articles from your District Two trusted servants, as a way of introducing ourselves to the G.S.R.s.

District Committee Member Chair

I am an alcoholic, my name is Thom Boyle. I also am a service junkie. Been doin this in one-way or another as long as I have been sober. When one of the qualifications to "coin out" in rehab was to chair 2 meetings, it gave me a taste of giving a little back. I love this. Having been involved in service has kept me in touch with other alcoholics, and shown me many new ways to become a better person in the "real world".

When asked to contribute this I was enthusiastic. When I started to do it it on a new computer, and no knowledge of cyberspace, it became frustrating. Why do I put myself through so much? I don't turn down a request of A.A. The attitude of doing what I can to serve others has helped me stay sober since 1 March 1998.

My background in service is not unlike most. I am grateful to have found that when I think I know what it is I am doing, either I am wrong, or it's time to learn to do something else. Regardless of what I have done or at what level it has been, serving you has given me more than a drunk could have hoped for.

As to my current position as D.C.M.C., all I now know is what I have read, and seen from others. Personally, the letters don't mean more than it says. All I do is serve you and the District in any way I can. My hope is that we all will be able to do this for those who still suffer. With some fun here and there. I have seen us (district) in all directions. The one I am sensing now is a caring and vibrant one.

My contact info is all over the place. Please feel free to use it. Nothing I, or we, do is a waste of time or energy. Aimed in the right directions, we can do something amazing this rotation. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Love in Service,

Thom B.
District 2 D.C.M.C.
dist2_dcmc@utahaa.org
knot_head98@yahoo.com
(801) 842-6347 cell
(801) 463-1726 home

District Committee Member Sub-District A

Hi, my name is George and I am an alcoholic, in 1960 I had my first drink and did not stop for 26 years. On January 1, 1987 my 3rd wife said I had to do something about my drinking, I had gone too far. So I found myself in the rooms of A.A. and that is when I started my service work. Hopefully I will be in service for a long time.

My sobriety date is January 1, 1987.

1987 – 1988 Chairperson, Treasurer for the Living Sober Group.
1989 – 1990 G.S.R. for the Living Sober Group (full term)
1991 – 1992 Alternate D.C.M (for one year)
1992 – 1993 D.C.M. (for one year)
1993 – 1994 D.C.M. (for 18 months)
1995 – 1996 D.C.M. (full term)
1997 – 1998 D.C.M. (full term)
1999 – 2000 D.C.M. (served the last four months)
2001 – 2002 D.C.M.C. District 2 (full term)
2003 – 2004 Area 69 Literature Chairperson (full term)
2005 – D.C.M.

District Committee Member Sub-District B

My name is Mary Ann and I am an alcoholic. I was brought to the rooms of AA in November 1989 and my sobriety date is March 10, 1990. I got sober in Western Massachusetts at the age of 18. After five years of "doing it my way" and finding complete misery, I was taught that service kept me in the middle of AA at least ensuring that I had some time before falling off the edge. I have a sponsor and she has a sponsor. I am required to attend at least three regular meetings a week, call her during our scheduled call time, read the Big Book, work with others, and work the steps. I served as GSR while living in Phoenix and am grateful to have an opportunity to fill the position of DCM sub-district B, District 2.

District Committee Member Sub-District C

Hi, My name is Pete and I am an alcoholic. My sobriety date is March 18 of 1998. My home group is the Tooele AA Beginners group, which meets twice daily at noon and 8:00 PM in the Tooele Alano Oasis Club. My service work has not only kept me sober but provided me with a peace of mind I never thought I had in me.

I began service work by serving as the group Treasurer at less than four months sober. No one bothered to tell me that normally Treasurers have over two years sobriety, if not more. There were a lot of things nobody bothered to tell me when I first came into the program. I served as Treasurer for over four years, oblivious to a thing called Spirit of Rotation. I also served as group Secretary/Chairperson and alternate GSR when our GSR was unable to attend Area functions. Stumbling blindly again. The job was there and I didn't question it, I just did it.

By virtue of Jodi E., then serving as the Alternate Delegate for Area 69 and a member of my home group, I met rabid AA service junkies like Shirley O. (Delegate Panel 51), Mike O. (Area Secretary

Panel 51 and current Delegate), Mickey and Jim H. and I already knew Rod B. (Panel 47 Delegate) from my home group. They lived for AA service work. I knew if it worked for them, it could work for me.

My first jaunt into General Service came by way of serving as the Standing Chair for Literature for Area Corrections. I admire Bud B. – former Area Corrections Chair, for showing me all it really takes is a love of your fellow alcoholic.

I became aware of two things almost at the same time, one was the Spirit of Rotation and the second was an opening in the ranks of District 2 as the Corresponding Secretary. My new sponsor had convinced me that the Tooele Group could do just fine without me (yeah, I have an ego) and I knew that Jodi, Rod and a few others had served District 2 in various capacities. I met up with George R., then DCMC of District 2, and offered my services to complete another's term as Corresponding Secretary. I was pretty sure that George was going to take one look at me and say 'No thank you'. Guess I was wrong. Later that year, I stood for my own Corresponding Secretary term and was also inspired to stand for District Literature chair. What was I thinking?

For three years I have been proud to serve District 2. Through financial difficulties, growth into sub-districts, newsletters, guideline revisions and moving our service meeting I have marveled that we continue to grow stronger and serve more alcoholics than ever. I almost jokingly stood for Area positions and I got real scared when faced with the real possibility of being granted one. At the last minute, sanity prevailed and Grahmae L. was chosen and I was off the hook.

Serving as DCM, I find myself anxious to do what I can to help each and every group I can. In return, I get to grow – plus hang out with you people. A double blessing.

Pete G.
DCM Sub-District C
dist2_dcm_c@utahaa.org

Recording Secretary

My name is Nicole, I am 23 years old. My sobriety date is April 10, 2004.

I was introduced to alcoholics anonymous through the Haven treatment center, which I graduated on August 1, 2004. I am currently the alternate GSR for the 974 Group, the recording secretary, and the chair for Wasatch girls youth detention center.

What would I like to see in the next two years? I would like to see more involvement from the district in working with newcomers and showing them how they can get involved on a district level (assisting with AA functions and upcoming events)

I am excited to have the opportunity to serve and to work with all of you!

Nicole C.
District 2 Recording Secretary
dist2_secretary@utahaa.org

Literature Chair

Hi my name is Michaelena and I am your crazy and trusted servant. Thank you for letting me serve. It has been an honor and privilege and I am looking forward to my new job.

I came into the program of A.A. lost and alone full of rage and despair. For the first year and a half all I did was go to meetings once a week. At the end of this time I was feeling like either I was going back out or thinking of killing myself when someone in the program said, "Why don't you do the program the way it has been suggested?" It was like a light bulb went off! I said okay and slowly started taking the suggestions of the old timers. My second sponsor volunteered me to help the person in charge of decorations at the 50th birthday celebration for A.A. And I was off and running and I've been doing service work ever since.

I remember the jobs I did but not the exact names of events and dates. I have served as: Chair of Hospitality at a Conference, Chair of a Workshop, Co-Chair of a Conference, G.S.R. for two different groups at different time for a total of 4 years. Alternate D.C.M. for 6 months, D.C.M. for 3 ½ years, Recording Secretary for 2 years, YA-WHOO Literature for 2 years.

Thank you and God bless.

Treasurer

Paige is unable to attend the meetings this month. She wanted everyone to know that she is preparing a 'year end' statement. This as well as the January- February Treasurer's report will be published in February's newsletter.

Newsletter Chair

Hi, my name is Doug and I am an alcoholic. My sobriety date is January 14, 1983 and I'm the GSR for the Acceptance Group that meets Sunday afternoons at the Jubilee Center in Salt Lake City.

My service to this Fellowship began with twelfth step work in my home group. I was told initially that "just showing up to the regular meetings consistently" was an important part of service work too. Eventually I got a little more involved by serving as the group's Secretary/Treasurer for two years. A friend of mine was involved in setting up a committee for the District. I can't even remember what it was for. I was about three years old and all I remember was seeing all of these alcoholic egos clashing with each other. It was not a good experience and I ended up quitting.

That experience left a bad taste in my mouth for 'general service work'. So for the next seventeen or so years I limited my service to my home group. Then last May I heard that the Area had created a website. This is the field that I'm in, computer programming and web development. So I called the contact and asked them what was up. I found out that the site had just been approved by the Area body and that they were going to need a Web Servant. This was all going to take place at the PI Committee meeting that was to be held at the Pre-Conference Assembly in Washington.

At my first assembly I was elected the Area 69 Web Servant. Being the good engineer that I am I immediately took the site and completely revamped it. Not being privy to any of the round table discussions or committee meetings I was not aware of what the approved mandate contained. I searched the web for other Area websites and created ours with most of the features that I liked from other sites.

Not being familiar with how the service structure worked I invited all of the Area Officers and Chairs to 'evaluate' my work. The Area PI Chair and the Chair of the Website ad-hock committee got all kinds of emails asking what in the world was going on with this! It actually turned out to be a good learning experience for everyone, they found out how quickly and easily a website can be changed.

At my second GSR meeting they suggested that the guidelines be modified to create a Newsletter Chair. I volunteered and at my first DCM meeting I was elected to that service position by the DCMs.

General service work, this time around, has rocketed my sobriety to a new level. My recovery used to be "Wow!" Now it's "Oh my God Wow!" I guess the difference this time is that I do have a new set of glasses. Like our friend the Doctor, alcoholic addict I've turned them around and I am looking at it from the attitude of what can I give rather than what can I get. It's made a whole world of difference. Thank you all for allowing me to be of service to this incredible fellowship.

I look forward to working with the new panel. If there is anything that I can do for anyone of you please let me know. *I'm lovin' it!*

Doug R. dist2_newsletter@utahaa.org
District 2 Newsletter Chair

Area Committee Meeting Report

The host committee for the Area Committee meeting met with the downtown Hilton hotel and with the Area Events Chairperson to initiate an agreement to hold our Area Committee meeting at the hotel. Of all the places we looked, the hotel offered equal value and central location.

Current members of the host committee are Pete G., Doug R., Walter C., Thom B., Jon I, and Michaelene R., Wade J. and Stephanie F. Jon is serving as the Hospitality Chairperson. We will need help at Registration, huggers and gophers.

The next meeting for the committee will be February 5. The location will be announced later, although the hotel seems a likely spot to meet.

Rooms are available for this event at a reduced cost. The agenda leaves little time for District participation other than hosting and providing hospitality and huggers. There will be no fee for this event but the rewards are legion.

The Area Committee meetings are one day, non-voting meetings. The agenda is on the next page (page 9), the motions that will be discussed are on page 10. These motions will be voted on at the next voting assembly. Please bring this information to your groups for their group conscious.

Utah Area 69 Committee Meeting Agenda
February 19, 2005, Hosted by District 2
Holiday Inn, 999 South Main, Salt Lake City

- 8:30 AM Registration
9:00 AM Welcome – Julie S
12 Traditions
9:05 AM Minutes of December 3004 Area Committee Meeting – JoAnn G.
9:10 AM 2004 Year-End Financial Report – Ken B.
9:15 AM February Financial Report – Sheri P.
9:20 AM Form Finance & Guidelines Committees – Julie S.
9:25 AM Bid for 2006 Area Committee Meeting – Monte S.
9:30 AM District Reports
9:40 AM Roll Call – Leslie H.
9:50 AM Area Standing Chair Reports
10:05 AM Area 69 Officers Reports
10:20 AM Delegate’s Report – Mike O.
10:35 AM Reports from Upcoming Events
Pre-Conference Assembly – District 7
Post Conference Assembly – District 10
Grapevine/Fall Assembly – Jodi E.
PRAASA – Ken B.
Report back from Past Events
December 2004 Area Committee Meeting – District 8
10:50 AM Report from Bridge the Gap National Workshop – Charlie G.
11:00 AM Presentation on Area Website facilities/use – LeAnn L.
11:10 AM Motion Discussion (see the next page)
11:30 AM Lunch, until 1:00 PM
Reconvene
1:00 PM Welcome – Julie S.
12 Concepts
1:10 PM Preliminary Conference Agenda Items/Voting Issues
3:10 PM Standing Committee Roundtable Discussion
4:10 PM Open Mike
4:30 PM Adjourn

(Source: Utah Delegate Area 69 Alcoholics Anonymous Service Structure Guidelines)
Area Committee Meetings

2.3 Area Committee Meetings – Elected Area Officers, DCMs and Chairpersons of Area Standing Committees are voting participants at Area Committee Meetings. Non-/voting participants may include GSRs, Utah Area Past Delegates, and Central Office/Intergroup Liaisons. The purpose of the Area Committee Meeting is to allow the Delegate to share current information from GSO, to discuss agenda items prior to Area Assemblies so that Districts can be better informed, and to discuss solutions to ongoing problems and concerns in order to better carry the message. Two regularly scheduled Area Committee Meetings will be held each year organized by the Area Committee Officers and rotated among various Districts chosen a year in advance. Area Committee Meetings are one-day events.

MOTION: Leslie H., Newsletter Standing Chair, August 21, 2004: Add to each Area Officer and Area Standing Chair responsibilities: Shall submit a report/article to the Newsletter Standing Chair before the Pre-Conference Assembly, Post Conference Assembly, Fall Assembly and Fall Workshop, to be published in the Area Newsletter. This motion would require a Guideline revision. **Financial impact:** none.

MOTION: Grahame L., Treatment Facilities Chair, November 6, 2004: That the Area 69 Standing Committee for Literature be responsible for the printing and distribution of the Area pamphlet "So you've been told to go to A.A. . . ." Financial impact: None. Unless the need for the pamphlets grossly exceeds anticipation, the cost would come out of the regular literature committee budget.

Grahame L., B-T-G ad-hoc committee co-chair, February 19, 2005 – **The recommendations of the Bridging the Gap ad-hoc committee are as follows:** That Area 69 hold an annual Bridging the Gap workshop. This workshop should be a one-day event, held on the third Saturday in June. The area treatment facilities and corrections facilities chairs be required to attend and will be defrayed. These two area standing chairs will have the joint responsibility for setting the agenda for the workshop. Other area officers and standing chairs are encouraged to attend, but are not required and will not be defrayed. Other members of the treatment facilities committee and the corrections committee (district standing chairs, DCMs, GSRs) are strongly encouraged to attend and the cost would be the responsibility of the districts and the individual groups. The workshop is to be hosted by a general service district and hosting the event will be bid one year out.

Financial Impact: Defrayment (for two standing chairs) could be up to around \$250 per year, depending upon location of the host district and where the standing chairs live. Seed money should be set at \$250 maximum.

Guidelines change: The Area 69 guidelines would need to be amended as follows:

Insert **2.3 Bridging the Gap Workshop** – A Bridging the Gap Workshop will be held each year on the third Saturday in June. This will be rotated among districts selected to host the event one year in advance. The purpose of the Bridging the Gap Workshop is to provide a joint forum for the the Corrections Standing Committee and the Treatment Facilities Standing Committee to share experiences with the Bridging the Gap program and to discuss ways it can be better utilized by the area. The Area Standing Chairs of these two committees will have the joint responsibility for setting the agenda for the workshop. The purpose of the Bridging the Gap program is to help newcomers stay sober by introducing them to temporary sponsors and the AA life style. This workshop is to be a one-day event, beginning at 9:00 am

Renumber 2.3 to read 2.4
Renumber 2.4 to read 2.5
Renumber 2.6 to read 2.6

Inset 4.4e Attends the Area 69 Bridging the Gap workshop and will have joint responsibility with the treatment Facilities standing chair for setting the agenda for the workshop.

Renumber 4.4e to 4.4f
Renumber 4.4 f to 4.4g

Insert 4.9e Attends the Area 69 Bridging the Gap workshop and will have joint responsibility with the Corrections standing chair for setting the agenda for the workshop.

Renumber 4.9e to 4.9f
Renumber 4.9f to 4.9g

MOTION: Michael A., DCMC District 10: That the Area form a new District for the Spanish speaking members of Area 69. **Financial impact:** None.

NAME THE EVENT CONTEST

UTAH AREA 69

in conjunction with

THE A.A. GRAPEVINE IN NEW YORK

FALL ASSEMBLY AND ??????????

September 23-25 2005

to be held in District 1

WIN A 2005 GRAPEVINE CALENDAR

AND ONE DAY AT A TIME POCKET PLANNER

WINNING ENTRY WILL BE CHOSEN BY

GROUP CONSCIENCE AT OUR

FEBRUARY 2005 AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO THE AGENDA/ASSEMBLY CHAIR AT

assembly@utahaa.org

ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL FEBRUARY 18TH, 2005

NOT LIMITED TO THOSE IN GENERAL SERVICE.

Ask-It-Basket

What is a Service Sponsor, why do I need one, and how do I pick one?

Much like recovery sponsors, we also have service sponsors. Just as we needed someone to guide us through our step work, we also benefit by having someone guide us through our service work, teaching us how to better apply the 12 Traditions as well as the 12 Concepts. That is the role of a service sponsor. In the same way my recovery sponsor can't teach me how to work the steps if they haven't ever done them, my service sponsor can't take me somewhere they haven't been. What many of us have experienced in our journey through General Service is that we accept a position we have no idea how to fill, but we try anyway. After awhile, usually about $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way through our term, we finally start to feel like it's making sense to us. Now we can really get some work done. Unfortunately, by this point we hardly have any time left before rotation. As you look for the right person to be your service sponsor, consider their service experience and example. Years ago I realized if I was going to do area service, I needed a service sponsor who was involved in area service. If you're going to be a delegate, you will benefit most from a service sponsor who has been a delegate. Each of the sponsors I've had over the years have helped me move past some of my fears, and shorten my "learning period". My sponsors have also been beneficial in helping me keep a proper perspective when I'm losing my focus. They have taught me that as a trusted servant, one of my responsibilities is to share information – with my home group, my district, and my area. I don't have to agree with what they may choose to do with that information, I just need to pass it on.

Service is gratitude in action, and springs from the spiritual aspects of the program. What type of service you give doesn't really matter. Your sponsor can help you find the type that works for you. In the same sense, you can share your experience and help the newer member find what type of service works for them. All are toward the same end – sharing the responsibilities of Alcoholics Anonymous. One of the most valuable resources of any organization is the experience of those who have gone before. Sharing what we've done right and what we could have done better, can become a solid foundation for continued healthy growth.

Respectfully Yours in Service, Jodi E. Past Delegate, Panel 53