



March 2006

Meeting at the Wasatch Presbyterian Church, 1625 South 1700 East, Salt Lake City

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 others 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.

(Reprinted from Box 459, vol. 35, no. 4, Aug/Sept 1989)

AGENDA FOR DISTRICT 2 GSR MEETING MARCH 30 7:00 PM

7:00 – 7:20 PM

Open – Moment of Silence

GSR Preamble

Responsibility Declaration (Back Cover)

Concept 3

Tradition 3

Introductions

Officer Reports

February Meeting Minutes – Doug R. (Page 2)

Treasurer’s Report – James H (Published separately)

Corresponding Secretary – Charlie T.

Past event Report back: Pre-Conference Assembly – Pete G (Page 6)

Past event Report back: PRAASA – Walter C. (Page 9)

2006 Post-Conference Host Committee Report – Michaelene R.

7:20–7:30PM

Chair Reports

Archivist – Lanna Y. (Page 4)

Corrections Chair – Jean B.

Grapevine Chair – Dawn G. (Page 4)

Literature - Michaelene R.

Newsletter – Doug R. (Page 5)

PI/CPC Chair – Jim D.

Treatment Chair – Jay G.

7:45–8:00 PM

Old Business

Elections of DCM for sub-districts A, B, C & E

Elections of ALT-DCMs for sub-district E

New Business

Bridging The Gap Coordinator – Thom B.

Table of Contents

GSR Preamble, Meeting Agenda & Table of Contents	1
GSR Meeting Minutes (02/23/2006)	2
GSR Attendance Roster (02/23/2006)	3
Standing Committee Reports	4
Sub-District C DCM Report	5
Report back – 2006 Pre-Conference Assembly	6
Upcoming Events	8
On Cultivating Tolerance	8
Report back – 2006 PRASSA	9
Step, Concept & Tradition Three & Currently Serving	10

February 23, 2005

District 2 GSR Meeting Minutes

The meeting opened with a moment of silence.
Jim D. chaired.
Doug R. stood in as Recording Secretary.
The GSR Preamble was read.
The Responsibility statement was recited in unison.
Thom B. gave an overview of Concept 2.
Tradition 2 was read.

The time was turned over to our Area Delegate Mike O. He reviewed the agenda items of the 56th General Service Conference that mirror those committees that the Area has. His suggestion was that since each group is assigned to an Area committee they should bring those agenda items to their groups for their input. It was pointed out that the group assignments were printed in the February issue of the District's newsletter. He added that there will be presentations on Report & Charter, Finance, and Regional Forums at the Pre-Conference Assembly this coming March. In conclusion he suggested that if there are any questions or concerns about any of the agenda items the Area Standing Committee Chairs had all the background information and would be the best resource to contact.

The next agenda item was the District 2 Guidelines review & vote. Doug R. suggested that we could either vote tonight or wait until next month when the projector would be available. The sense of the meeting was to proceed with voting tonight. The body was asked if they wanted to vote on the proposed changes as a whole or line by line, item by item. They decided to vote on it as a whole. The question was called to accept the proposed changes. They were accepted unanimously, no dissents or abstentions. The approved Revision 8 of District 2's Guideline will be available on the Districts web page on the Area's website.

It was asked if there was anyone willing to stand for the open positions of DCM. Sub-District A, B, and E are vacant. No one stood.

It was asked if anyone was willing to stand for Alternate DCM. Steve C. Stood. After qualifying he was unanimously accepted as an Alternate DCM. Thank you and Congratulations. Thom, our DCMC will determine which sub-district he will serve. There were two open positions, Sub-District A and E.

The minutes of January's GSR meeting were read by Dawn G. They were approved as read.

The Financial report was read by James H. It was approved as read.

Charlie, our Corresponding Secretary asked if there were any new GSRs to please see him so he could record their information. There was one new person present.

Michaelene R. gave her report on the 2006 Post-Conference Host committee.

Pete G gave a report on the Area Committee meeting that was held in Salina. His report was printed in the February newsletter.

The Standing Chairs gave their reports. Jean's, Dawn's, Doug's, and Jay's were in the newsletter.

Wade J. reminded us to make sure that people are serious about being available if they are going to sign up for the Bridging the Gap program. Sign up sheets were available.

Sara N. let everyone know that the Tuesday Night Valley Mental Health meeting was in need of support.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm

February 23, 2005

GSR Meeting Attendance Roster

5:15 Happy Hour	Martin Q., GSR	DCMC	Thom B.
5:15 Happy Hour	Callene H., Alt-GSR	Corresponding Secretary ...	Charlie T.
974 Group	Phil C., GSR	Treasurer	James H.
974 Group	Lori I., Alt-GSR		
Acceptance Group	Doug R., GSR	Alt-DCM Sub-District B	Janet W.
An AA Group	Ryan P., GSR	DCM Sub-District C	Pete G.
Basic Young People	Aaron A., GSR	Alt-DCM Sub-District D	Jim D.
Chapter 5	Glenda S., GSR	DCM Sub-District F	Wade J.
City at Seven	Mike L., GSR	Alt-DCM Sub-District F	J L M
Foothill Group	Zachary K., GSR		
Midnight Miracles	Stephen C., GSR	Corrections Chair	Jean B.
Non-S. Sobriety Hour	Sara N., GSR	Grapevine Chair	Dawn G.
Old Fashioned AA	Tony S., GSR	Literature Chair	Michaelene R
Simply Big Book	Janet W., GSR	Newsletter Chair	Doug R.
Sobriety Hour	Dawn G., GSR	PI/CPC Chair	Jim D.
Tooele Group	Jay G., GSR	Treatment Chair	Jay G.
Tooele Group	David C., Alt-GSR		
Welcome Home	John D., GSR		

If you would like to be listed on the attendance roster please be sure to sign the GSR Sign-in Sheet that the Corresponding Secretary passes around at each meeting.

District 2

GSR Orientation Meetings

District 2 holds GSR orientation meetings every month one hour prior to the district's GSR meeting. (6:00PM on the last Thursday of the month.) If you are a new GSR please plan on attending. These meetings are very loosely structured so bring your questions and we will do our best to answer them. There's also a new GSR packet available. Among other things it contains a pamphlet entitled "The GSR Survival Guide", and a "New to Service Work FAQ sheet". The new GSR will also be given the AA Service Manual and the District's Guidelines.

If you don't has a service sponsor yet, or if you don't know what one is please bring these concerns and questions to the next GSR orientation meeting. We are here to serve you so you can better serve your Groups. Please let us know what we can do to better serve you.

The *District 2 Newsletter* presents news & notes from Utah Area 69, District 2 of Alcoholics Anonymous. Opinions expressed are not those of Alcoholics Anonymous. Please send your comments, suggestions, questions and/or article submissions to dist2_newsletter@utahaa.org or submit them at the monthly GSR meeting.

Standing Chair Report

Why archives are important?

Archives exists to acquire, preserve and make available vital records that document our history!

Historic records help us to sift through our day-to-day experience in recovery and reach back for the shared experience from the past. As we sort out the myth from the facts we ensure that our original message of recovery, unity and service remains the same in a changing , growing, and expanding Fellowship.

What do we collect?

Books/pamphlets about A.A.;
Documents developed locally to support Twelfth Step work;
Photographs;
Directories;
Meeting lists;
Newsletters (particularly those published by area/district);
Tapes;
News clippings;
Magazine articles;
Correspondence;
Minutes of service committees;
Interviews to try to solicit, acquire and accumulate historical material and information about the Fellowship and individual groups since its inception from early members

Our founder Bill W. expressed some guide lines and the reasons for keeping archives:

"It is highly important that the factual material be placed in our files in such a way that there can be no substantial distortion....."

"We want to keep enlarging on the idea for the sake of the full length history to come....." ---- Bill W., 1957

An archive . . .

1. Fosters a deeper collective understanding of our history through the availability of and research into archival records. A history of -- our groups, traditions and landmarks.
2. Ensures our legacy, and all that has been involved in its development and is preserved and made available to future generations.
3. Promotes greater accountability within the AA community.

We've learned that heritage is incredibly powerful and persuasive – when used properly, within the guide lines of our 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts, and in the Spirit of Anonymity, keeping archives show us how we can use the power of our past to impact our future.

Thank You for letting me be of service,

Lana Y
District 2 Archivist
dist2_archivist@utahaa.org

Standing Chair Report

Grapevine Chair

Hey all,

Went to the Pre-conference and was able to speak to the Area standing chair. I stayed with the Public Information round tables without thinking that I am a Grapevine rep now and should probably be hanging with them. Anyway, things have been going well in the grapevine world. I was able to visit one of the meeting at the homeless shelter and share about the grapevine with them, and also learn a bit more about this disease. On those streets it is definitely alive and well.

Love and Light,

Dawn Marie
Grapevine Chair
dist2_grapevine@utahaa.org

Standing Chair Report

Newsletter Chair

The Newsletter does not have a standing committee at the Area level, so I participated in the Area Public Information round table discussion at the Pre-Conference Assembly (March 17-19, 2006). The Area Newsletter chair does the same. The 2007 membership survey was discussed, among other things they want to expand the survey to include a category for sobriety between 10 and 20 years, add 'domestic partner' under the marital status category, and add a new category for sexual orientation. I was personally glad to see that these new categories were being considered.

Several public service announcements (PSAs) were discussed. 2 years ago the conference approved the concept of replacing four PSAs. Last year a new PSA was released, and a new one is being considered for release this year.

It is amazing to see how this fellowship conducts its business! My rotation as my home group's GSR will end this coming May. My involvement as GSR, District 2 Newsletter Chair, and the Area's Web Servant has taken my re-

cover to a new dimension. As I share in meetings, "It just continues to get better and better." Even after 23 years I am still growing and learning, which to me is extremely exciting! The way I see that is that we're never 'done', this Spiritual growth thing is endless! My understanding of who you are, who I am, and who my Higher Power is continues to get clearer and clearer. I am lovin' it!

I got a new computer recently and the e-mail list for the District's newsletter did not come across as well as I had hoped. I would appreciate it if you would take a sign up sheet back to your group. Extend my apologies and ask them if they would sign up again. I will keep the list in a separate file from now on.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service to this incredible fellowship.

Doug R.
Newsletter Chair
dist2_newsletterchair@utahaa.org

DCM Report

Sub-District C

District 2 was well heard at the Pre-Conference Assembly in Ogden this past week. We have sent Mike O., our delegate, to the General Service Conference with the best possible information as we could gather from our groups. That has been the primary focus of my District service since receiving the Agenda items in February. District business involved attending a number of meetings within sub-district C and having the privilege of attending a few business meetings.

The City at Seven group has moved from their old meeting place to a new location at 252 South 500 East - the Salvation Army location. I regret my schedule has not allowed me to

attend this meeting at their new location.

The 17th and 17th 12 X 12 group continues to thrive. At one recent meeting, they were moved to a different room within the church and it was literally elbow to elbow due to the number of members attending. The ensuing business meeting was a model of alcoholics caring about the welfare of other alcoholics. They also have a strong presence at the Central Office business meeting and let their conscience be known in that area as well.

Good News! The Grantsville Good News group, which had been having some difficulties in holding meetings lately has started holding meetings one

night a week again. This is a Saturday night meeting and they wish to offer an invitation to all alcoholics to join them whenever possible. It is a non-smoking meeting and is open-discussion. The address is 151 South Cooley Street at the VFW Club in Grantsville.

The New Way group holds meetings at UNI on Thursday nights. This is an open AA meeting within a treatment facility brimming with newcomers. Even though they have experienced excellent turnout at recent meetings, there is always room for more AA members who have a little time in the program to share their experience, strength and hope with those who are just beginning their journey or re-starting their

journey in sobriety. They also need literature to help carry the message.

As most of you know, I have been given the privilege of serving Area 69 as the standing chair for literature. My original intent was to continue to honor my commitment to District 2 as the DCM of sub-district C and serve the Area as literature

standing chair. After much thought, prayer and guidance from many trusted friends and fellow servants of District 2, Area 69 and Area 76 - I have decided to resign my position as DCM. Folks, it is time for me to get out of the way and support those who would serve the District full-time. You deserve it. Please utilize my service as literature chair to the fullest ex-

tent in order to strengthen your group and to carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic.

I am your servant.

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

Past Event Report Back

2006 Pre-Conference Assembly

Hi, my name is Pete and I am an alcoholic. The Pre-Conference Assembly is on its way into the archive books and our fantastic second-year delegate, Mike O., is as prepared as he can be. Soon, he will be taking the conscience of Area 69 to New York City along with 93 other delegates, trustees and associated servants.

Each Pre-Conference begins with the round-tables for each standing chair. This is where the committee work in AA really has a chance to shine. Mike can not possibly go over every subject by himself with a fine-toothed comb, but he can trust the committee system. Each GSR is assigned to be a member of a standing committee. When these committees meet, it is to strip the fat from all the group consciences and develop a series of recommendations which are presented to the Area during the Pre-Conference Assembly. Once these recommendations are voiced during the business meeting on Saturday, the Area has the opportunity to speak to the subject for a limited amount of time and also to vote to ask Mike to follow the recommendations or to not follow the recommendations. The GSR's have all the power.

Please let your experience and strength be heard at these events. If you did make it to Pre-Conference - good on ya. If you did not, then please plan to attend the Post-Conference Assembly and let your voice and the voice of the groups be heard. It is an awesome process - and it is built around the groups.

My round-table happened to be Literature (ya think?). The main items that I would like to stress from the literature agenda items is that we had the opportunity to remove a pamphlet called 'Letter to the Woman Alcoholic'. It was published from an article written for the Good Housekeeping magazine and was written by a non-alcoholic in 1953. My initial thoughts and the conscience of the groups which I had the chance to review this agenda item was that this pamphlet should hit the road. During the course of the next 48 hours, my feelings and the feelings of Area 69 were to change on this agenda item and we ended up sending the message back to New York that if it still serves some of our number, keep it on hand.

Also discussed was a pamphlet on proving AA was not a religion, a mini-booklet for the Native American's and a Central

Office pamphlet. Literature is always an active part in Pre-Conference Assemblies.

Saturday morning dawned as a fabulous day (if you were a duck) and we rolled up our sleeves and went to work. Julie S. opened the meeting with a moment of silence. It was gratifying to see that there were 9 new servants in the assembly. The minutes from the salina meeting were read and approved. It is important to note that Joanne G., our Area Secretary, did not have the benefit of a recording from Salina and her notes were impeccable.

Sherri P. read the financial report and they were approved.

Archives reports (Janet H.) that a 5th edition 12 X 12 was recently donated to the Archives. The Archives were available at this event and please take the time to review the honorable history of both Area 69, the Skyline Conference and AA as a whole.

CPC - Mike reports that the Nurse-Midwife conference will be held in SLC this year at the end of May. He is looking for volunteers and if you would like to attend and participate, please contact him.

Corrections – Richard B. reported that there is a corrected version of the Corrections sign-up sheet going around – please be sure your information is correct if you have signed up for Corrections. Richard encouraged all who could to participate in the Correspondence program. It is a valuable way to carry the message within the prisons and can reach any inmate who requests contact with the outside. He has been very involved with the Bridge the Gap program and has also attended the Beaver facility on a regular basis.

Grapevine – John Mc. Nothing of substance to report.

Literature – Grahame L. gave his final report as the Literature chair. He noted his committees heavy workload with the Agenda items and that he was pleased with the responses we had provided for this event. He will begin to focus his efforts toward the BTG workshop Area 69 is holding in Price in June. Please plan to attend.

Newsletter – Ruth was unable to attend but provided a report via Email. She needs contributions to the Newsletter (in the form of articles) and has moved back to Roosevelt. Please send all articles to her via snail mail.

PI – Leann reports the new PI kits are available. See Jay or Jim D. to review the new booklet. PI is placing literature racks in facilities and would appreciate help in stocking these racks and for new locations to place racks into. The Web site (as you know) is awesome. Doug R. and James H. have worked up a legacy package to facilitate the upcoming rotation. The Treatment page has been added to the BTG kit. This really is an excellent tool to aid you in carrying the message. She noted that there was a non-AA entity archiving pages from the web site. They have been contacted

and asked to discontinue this practice.

Treatment – Keith report that Sherri and Doug worked very hard to provide an update for the Treatment kit. The new Treatment contact list is confidential so please take care when referencing this list to Treatment professionals, this list is not to be left in the hands of non-AA people.

Bids for upcoming events. District 2 (Thom B.) provided willingness to host the Pre-Conference Assembly in 2008 and we won! Yee-Hah Our very own Michaelene provided an update on the host committee for the 2006 Post-Conference Assembly being held in District 2 in May. Flyers were handed out and all preparations are going along smoothly. Please plan to attend the next planning meeting on March 30 immediately following the GSR meeting. If you are not there, there is no telling what job you may be assigned.

Pete G. was confirmed as the new Area 69 Literature Standing Chair. (If the notes get a little goofy from here on out, it is because I am still shaking).

District Roll Call-
District 12 – DCM, Alternate DCM, GSR, Alternate GSR and one Standing Chair.
District 11 – DCMC, 2 DCMs, 4 GSR's, Standing Chair.
District 10 – DCMC, 6 DCM's, Alt DCM, 14 GSR's, Alt GSR, 4 Standing Chairs
District 9 – 1 GSR.
District 8 – DCM, 2 GSR's
District 7 – DCMC, 3 DCM's, 5 GSR's
District 6 – DCM, 2 GSR's.
District 3 – DCMC, DCM, 4 GSR's.
District 2 – DCMC, 3 DCM's, Alt DCM, 10 GSR's, one standing chair.
District 1 – DCMC, 4 DCM's, 8 GSR's, Alt GSR, two standing chairs.

Jodi E. – Immediate Past Delegate provided an overview of the Area Guideline committee and offered to show anyone interested the guidelines review process. One question was raised concerning whether the Area guidelines were available on the web page and that was left unanswered.

At this point, the agenda items were discussed. I cannot provide a comprehensive overview of all items but I can report that Literature recommended to review the changed portions of the first 164 pages and recommend that we (AA) update all literature referring to the changes to make them correct. It was recommended that we pursue questions pertaining to the development of an AA history book covering the years 1955 through 2000. It was also recommended that we pursue all avenues to carry the message to our Native American members – including audio tapes, a booklet-type publishing to supercede the current pamphlet and languages required for best success. The motion to provide a pamphlet regarding AA as a religion was voted down in favor of focusing our resources toward PI and CPC in order to squash this misconception.

Please note other reports to gather a more comprehensive overview of all agenda items.

Saturday night banquets are generally packed and this one was no exception. It was a joint dinner with Al-Anon attending along with AA's. The total sobriety in the room was 1024 years 9 months and 2 days. The signed copy of the Big Book was handed from eldest to newest and the tradition continues until our next assembly.

The joint speakers were Connie R from Al-Anon and Steve from AA.

The Sunday activities involved report-backs from PRAASA and District 2 was well represented there.

An added bonus was the inclusion of our favorite Moose, past delegate from Area 76 (Wyoming), on the Ask-It Basket. Some very fine experience, strength and hope was shared during this session.

And finally, we were treated to a spiritual speaker who is a former GSR and DCM from District 2 prior to serving the Area as delegate – Rod B. What an awesome finale to an equally awesome Pre-Conference event.

Upcoming Events

Mark your Calendar

Post-Conference Host Committee

Directly after the GSR Meeting

March 30, 2006

Post-Conference Assembly

District 2 – Salt Lake City

May 19 - 21, 2006

Native American A.A. Gathering

Banning, CA

May 20 - 21, 2006

Pacific Region Forum

Seattle, Wa.

June 23-25, 2006

From the Grapevine

On Cultivating Tolerance

During nine years in A.A. I have observed that those who follow the Alcoholics Anonymous program with the greatest earnestness and zeal, not only maintain sobriety, but often acquire finer characteristics and attitudes as well. One of these is tolerance. Tolerance expresses itself in a variety of ways: in kindness and consideration toward the man or woman who is just beginning the march along the spiritual path; in the understanding of those who perhaps have been less fortunate in educational advantages, and in sympathy toward those whose religious ideas may seem to be at great variance with our own. I am reminded in this connection of the picture of a hub with its radiating spokes. We all start at the outer circumference and approach our destination by one of many routes.

To say that one spoke is much better than all the other spokes is true only in the sense of its being best suited to you as an individual. Human nature is such that without some degree of tolerance, each one of us might be inclined to believe that we have found the best or perhaps the shortest spoke. Without some tolerance we might tend to become a bit smug or superior--which of course is not helpful to the person we are trying to help, and may be quite painful or obnoxious to others. No one of us wishes to do anything which might act as a deterrent to the advancement of another--and a patronizing attitude can readily slow up this process.

Tolerance furnishes, as a by-product, a greater freedom from the tendency to cling to preconceived ideas and stubbornly adhered-to opinions. In other words it often promotes an open-mindedness which is vastly important--in fact a prerequisite to the successful termination of any line of search, whether it be scientific or spiritual.

These, then, are a few of the reasons why an attempt to acquire tolerance should be made by each one of us.

Dr. Bob of Akron

Copyright © The AA Grapevine, Inc. (July, 1944). Reprinted with permission.

Past Event Report Back

2006 Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly

My first PRAASA started at the airport on Friday morning. When I arrived at the terminal where my flight would take off, I was happy to see Area 69's delegate and past delegate waiting on the same flight. I felt comfortable going into the unknown since I was traveling with the AA fellowship. When I arrived at the hotel, I saw more AA members from Utah. I felt safe.

I paid my registration fee and received my packet. A Utah AA member sat with me and explained the format of the conference. Since I am a DCM from Area 69, I learned where and when the DCM round tables would be held.

I was told that first time PRAASA attendees are encouraged to attend an open mic session where they can announce that this is their first PRAASA. There was a long line at the mic and I did not feel that I had anything significant or relevant to the subject matter being discussed. So I did not let the conference attendees know that this was my first PRAASA. I will attend PRASSA again and I hope to go up to the mic.

The DCM round table was informative. Some questions that were discussed at the DCM were:

1. What are the guidelines for contacting inactive groups/GSRs in your district?

(ie.: protect individual anonymity, etc.)

2. How can the district help with remote attendance?
3. Do new GSRs stick with us or does turnover and missed meetings seem excessive?
4. How do you get non-GSRs involved in the district?

As I listened to the discussions on the above questions, it became clear to me that the problems affecting district 2 in Area 69 are not unique to Area 69.

The suggested solutions are not unique either. For example, going to the groups you are responsible for and letting them know that you are there to serve them and explaining to the groups that if they are not represented at the area meeting, they do not have a vote (voice) in AA. If you would like more details on the discussions, I invite you to listen to the CDs in possession of district 2.

One subject of discussion that I really liked was keeping the anonymity of inactive group's contacts. For example, if you call the last known contact of an inactive group and you get an answering machine, you should be careful not to break the person's anonymity when leaving a message. Some felt if you gave your number out that you wouldn't mind having someone leave a message which states that it's from AA. I do not know how I feel about that statement. I will let it naturally evolve.

New terms I learned were "dark district" and "dark group". Box 4-5-9 defines a dark district as a district that sends no one to represent it at area assemblies. I learned the definition of a dark group from an Oregon AA member who approached me about attempting to attend an AA meeting in Salt Lake City, only to discover that the meeting no longer existed (dark group). I attempted to suggest some meetings that I felt were good, only to discover that weekday meetings was preferred and I was only familiar with weekend meetings in Salt Lake. I was appreciative that I was with another Utah AA member who suggested active weekday AA meetings in Salt Lake. To help with future questions about meetings in Salt Lake, I plan to carry a meeting schedule with me.

In closing, the PRAASA hosted several panels and round tables focusing on this year's AA theme and service positions. Although all of PRAASA was great, what I enjoyed the most was getting to know the Utah AA members.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Walter C.

DCM Sub-District D
dist2_dcm_d@utahaa.org