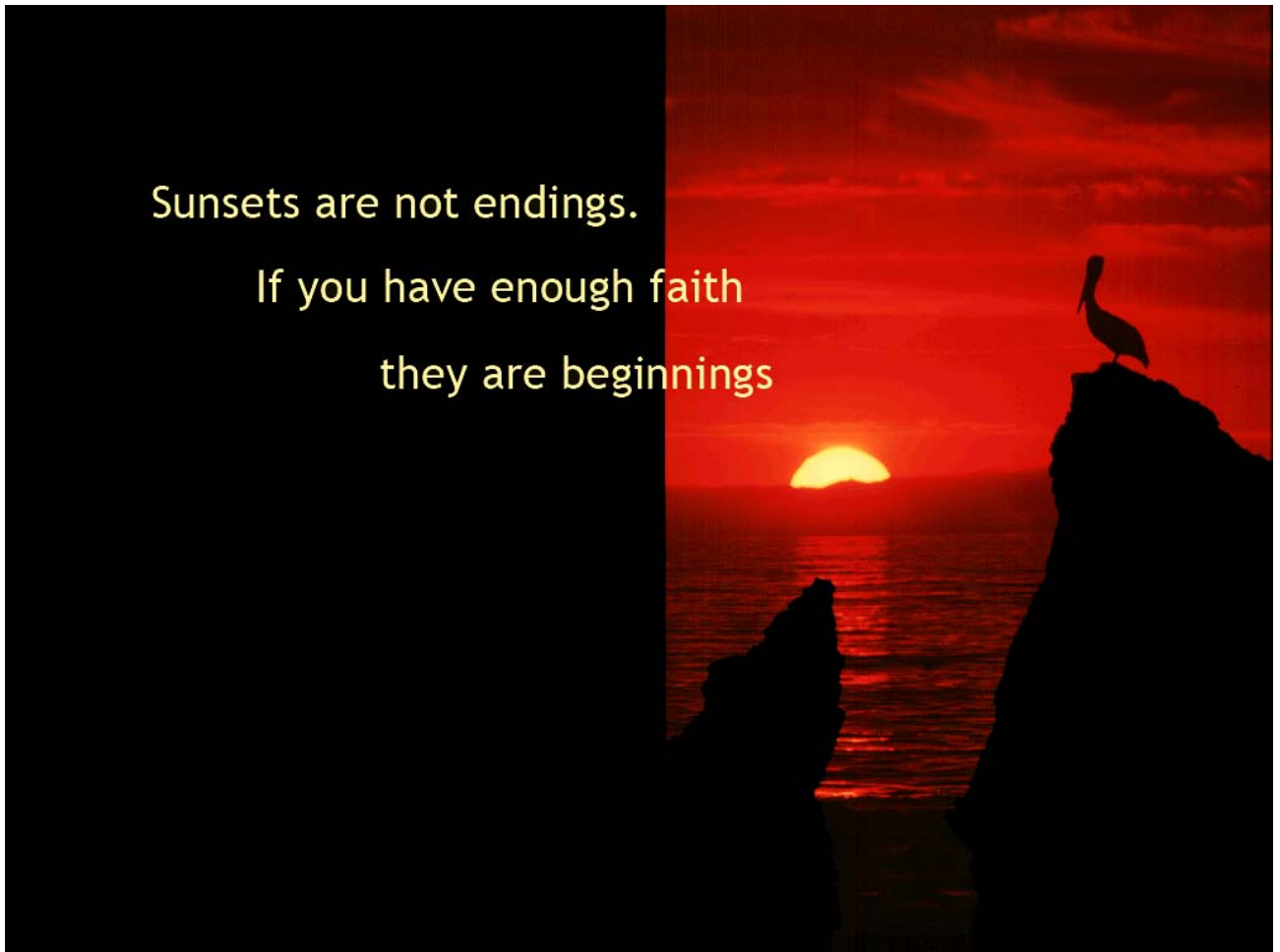


District 2 News and Notes

Please note: That this newsletter contains confidential information intended for its
MEMBERS USE ONLY!!!!

April 2007

Meeting At
Wasatch Presbyterian Church
1625 south 1700 east
Salt Lake City, Utah



GSR Preamble

We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with General Service Conference and the World of A.A. We realize in the ultimate authority in A.A. is a loving God as he may express himself in our 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

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Agenda for District 2 GSR Meeting

May 2007

7:00 – 7:25

Open-Moment of Silence

GSR preamble

Concept V (Zack)

Tradition V (Andrew)

Introductions

Officer Reports

April Meeting Minutes (Dawn)

Treasurer's Report (Walter)

Corresponding Secretary (Vard)

Pre-Conference Workshop Report (Walter)

DCM reports

Post-Conference Report Back (Dawn)

7:25 – 7:35

Standing Chair Reports

Archives (Lana)

Corrections (Tony)

Grapevine (Dawn)

PI/CPC (Ryan)

Treatment (Dena)

Newsletter (Dawn)

7:35– 7:55

Old Business

Election of 2 DCMs

Election of 4 Alt. DCMs

Election of BTG Coordinator

Motion to raise the defrayment of gas mileage

Concept V: (Zack) "Throughout our world service structure, a traditional 'Right of Appeal' ought to prevail, thus assuring us that minority opinion will be heard and that petitions for the redress of personal grievances will be carefully considered." Alexis De Tocqueville, in his 19th century examination of America, insisted that the greatest danger to democracy would always be the "tyranny" of the apathetic, self-seeking, uninformed, or angry majorities. Have we ever seen this at Area, District, or Group business meetings? May haps. One solution is to protect and conserve minority rights and opinions. We see this in AA's General Service Conference usually refusing to make important decisions unless there has been extensive discussion and at least a two-thirds vote. Certainly, we cannot ensure that everyone's desires will be carried out, but we can make sure that everyone's voice is heard, vociferously at that. Indeed, I have been known to gripe to those sitting next to me when a line of people approaches the microphone at Area Assemblies, often to simply reiterate what the person in front of them has just said. However, it is important to make the bullhorn of such voting assemblies available for any member whose conscience begs they disagree with the overwhelming majority. An Orange County district newsletter, which I consulted, gave the example of a district voting to shut Central Office down simply because a lackadaisical majority insisted upon it. Those in disagreement would be so appalled if such a motion actually passed that they confined their retorts for the duration of discussion. When the majority passed the vote, a minority opinion holder would have the opportunity to speak to the many downsides of passing such a motion and thus persuade the majority to recant. Unfortunately, as we see in District 2 here in Utah, it is a mere minority of members of AA that attend district meetings. We might then think of ourselves here tonight as the tyrannous minority ruling the Salt Lake AA service structure, unless we continually inform our groups and invite others in AA to attend such meetings where voting occurs. "Right of Appeal" permits any person in the service structure to petition the General Service Board directly with any complaint he may have. Thus, even outside the arena of a business meeting, a minority opinion can write a grievance to the GSB regarding a motion that has already been passed. As with any tradition or concept, our goal here is to make everyone in AA feel welcome. In the words of Bill W, "The well heard majority is our chief protection against an uninformed, misinformed, hasty or angry majority."

Easy Does It,
Zack

Tradition V: (Ryan)

Tradition Five

"Each group has but one primary purpose-to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

"Better to do one thing supremely well than many badly" [12x12 pg 150]

"The very life of our Fellowship requires the preservation of this principle." [12x12 pg 150] "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism." "Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety." [Preamble] "The feeling of having shared in a common peril is one element in the powerful cement which binds us. But that in itself

would never have held us together as we are now joined. The tremendous fact for every one of us is that we have discovered a common solution. [Big Book pg 17] Alcoholics Anonymous does one thing, and we do it very well. The moment we abandon our singleness of purpose and try to take on the the worlds problems, we will be abandoning our own recovery. This is not a theory; it was born out of experience, our own experience and the experience of many others. I hope I never lose sight of what my purpose is, to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety, nothing more and nothing less. Andrew R.

Meeting Minutes from April (Dawn)

Opened with a moment of Silence for the Alcoholic who still suffers, Tony read the GSR preamble Walter read Concept 4 Dawn read Tradition 4. The meeting minutes were passed. GSR orientation will be starting in May. Tony mentioned that this meeting is announced on the website but that, Central Office did not know about it. Ron said it should not be a problem to get it announced in the meeting list. Steve C. has been taking the meeting into V.O.A. detox and has not had a lot of time to hit his meetings. Andrew has agreed to step up and take the meeting in to V.O.A. detox for the month of May. Steve C. mentioned that the meeting held at the Salvation Army on Fridays is in need of outside support. Tony our Corrections chair is working on figuring up how many hours we have spent at the prison he is required to do this quarterly. We are still in need of 2 DCM's and 4 Alt.DCM's no one stood. We asked if there was anyone willing to stand for BTG Coordinator and again no one stood. Wade challenged everyone at the meeting to bring an interested AA next month to see if we can fill our gaps in Service. UCYPAA came down and announced that the next event will be held over Memorial Day weekend in Provo and could really use support. Tooele has started a total of 6 new meetings out at the Treatment Centers and Detention Centers. The Pre-Assembly Workshop committee meeting will be held out in Tooele the following weekend. V.O.A. is in need of big books it was agreed that the district pay for 5 small versions and take them to the next meeting. We closed at 8:00 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer.



| 2007 Treasurer's Report | March | April | Year to Date |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| OPENING BALANCE | \$2,441.38 | \$2,194.90 | |
| INCOME | | | |
| Contributions | \$144.00 | \$350.08 | \$1,770.21 |
| DCM Meeting Basket | \$21.00 | \$16.00 | \$59.00 |
| GSR Meeting Gasket | \$39.00 | \$56.00 | \$68.00 |
| Workshops | | | \$24.94 |
| PINK CAN (treasurer) | \$37.30 | \$10.00 | \$1,097.65 |
| PINK CAN (Chair receipts) | | | |
| Basket/Other | | | \$708.37 |
| Total Income | \$204.00 | \$422.08 | \$3,050.52 |
| EXPENSES | | | |
| PI/CPC | \$71.65 | | \$71.65 |
| Correction (Budgeted) | \$174.28 | \$254.64 | \$428.92 |
| Correction (Pink Can) | \$338.62 | | \$1,038.33 |
| Literature | \$34.55 | \$35.55 | \$102.10 |
| Treatment | | \$35.00 | \$35.00 |
| Accessibilities | | | \$75.00 |
| Grapevine | | | \$51.31 |
| Newsletter | | | |
| Archives | | | |
| Committee subtotal | \$280.48 | \$325.19 | \$763.98 |
| Workshops/Assemblies | | | |
| Hotels | | | \$190.00 |
| Registration | \$125.00 | | \$125.00 |
| Mileage | | | \$279.00 |
| PRAASA/FORUM | | | \$300.00 |
| DCM Expenses subtotal | \$125.00 | \$0.00 | \$894.00 |
| GSR Expenses | | | |
| Office Supplies | \$45.00 | | \$45.00 |
| Photo Copies | | \$33.34 | \$33.34 |
| Postage | | | |
| GSR Coffee | | | \$75.00 |
| GSR / DCM Rent | | | \$40.00 |
| Post Office Box | | | |
| Corresponding Secretary | | | |
| Treasurer | | | \$15.00 |
| Recording Secretary | | | |
| Other Expenses subtotal | \$45.00 | \$33.34 | \$175.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$450.48 | \$358.53 | \$1,866.32 |
| CLOSING BALANCE | \$2,194.90 | \$2,258.45 | |

Pink Can not included in
TOTAL INCOME

| Budget | Balance |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| \$200.00 | \$128.35 |
| \$500.00 | \$71.08 |
| \$1,097.65 | \$59.32 |
| \$300.00 | \$197.90 |
| \$100.00 | \$65.00 |
| \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| \$200.00 | \$125.00 |
| \$0.00 | -\$51.31 |
| \$200.00 | \$200.00 |
| \$1,500.00 | \$736.02 |
| \$150.00 | \$150.00 |
| \$1,800.00 | \$1,610.00 |
| \$300.00 | \$175.00 |
| \$1,150.00 | \$871.00 |
| \$650.00 | \$350.00 |
| \$4,050.00 | \$3,156.00 |
| \$50.00 | \$50.00 |
| \$20.00 | -\$25.00 |
| \$150.00 | \$116.66 |
| \$10.00 | \$10.00 |
| \$30.00 | \$30.00 |
| \$300.00 | \$225.00 |
| \$90.00 | \$50.00 |
| \$35.00 | \$35.00 |
| \$50.00 | \$50.00 |
| \$30.00 | \$15.00 |
| \$765.00 | \$590.00 |
| \$6,315.00 | \$4,448.68 |

| Group Contributions | April | | Year to Date |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------------|--------------|
| | Regular | Corrections | |
| 5:15 Happy Hour | \$50.00 | | \$40.00 |
| 5:30 Sobriety Hour | | | \$240.00 |
| 974 Group | | | \$67.06 |
| An AA Group | | | \$11.00 |
| Acceptance Group | | | |
| Basic Young people's Group | | \$10.00 | |
| Bog Irish | | | \$12.00 |
| Castaway | | | \$58.00 |
| Chapter 5 | | | |
| City at Seven | | | |
| DNS Group | | | |
| Downtown Bunch | \$100.00 | | \$100.00 |
| Early Morning Friendship Group | \$32.33 | | \$32.33 |
| Foothill | | | |
| Friday Night Speaker's Meeting | | | \$39.76 |
| Friendship Group | \$31.00 | | \$200.00 |
| Honey's Breakfast Club | | | \$10.35 |
| It's in the Book | | | \$60.00 |
| Magna Friendly Bunch | | | |
| Midnight Miracles | | | |
| Monday Night Woman's IITB | | | |
| New Way | | | |
| No Rules | | | |
| Non-smoking Sobriety Hour | | | \$375.00 |
| Off the Cuff | | | |
| Old Fashioned AA | | | |
| Restore us to Sanity | | | |
| Richard's Street Group | | | |
| Serenity Now! | | | |
| Six-Fourty New-Yorkers | | | \$40.38 |
| Speak Easy Ladies | \$18.91 | | \$20.00 |
| Stonewall Group | | | |
| The way out | | | |
| Tooele Beginners | | | \$45.50 |
| Trying Again | \$31.00 | | \$31.00 |
| Unknown | | | |
| Unity Lunch Bunch | \$36.00 | | \$76.00 |
| We Care | \$50.84 | | \$113.11 |
| Women Stepping Up | | | \$13.00 |
| Tuesday Night L&L ??? | | | \$15.72 |

\$350.08 \$10.00

DCMC Report (Wade J)

Hi family

My name is Wade J. D.C.M.C. District 2

The Post Conference Assembly was great as is all the assemblies and Conferences. I was so excited to see the turnout at the assembly and District 2 was very well represented and I would like to thank all of you for showing up. And hope to see more of you at the upcoming events. Last month's G.S.R.

Meeting was a little concerning to me it was the smallest District meeting that I have attended. I know when summer gets here all of us, me included get busy.

Me as your D.C.M.C. would like to know how we as trusted servants can help to get more people involved and to help all of you in service positions. Once again I would like to thank all of you for all the work you do for District 2 and A.A. as a whole.

Thank You for the life that you have given me.

Love in service Wade Jensen/D.C.M.C/ District 2

DCM Reports District 2

Rebecca DCM sub-district B

Dearest Family and friends of AA I am so amazed always by the commitment and love I receive through this program. I learned so much about the structure of our program. I am on the grapevine roundtable the decisions were finally made for the two publications: A. the humorous group of stories, and B. The book of old-timers stories. Also the decision to put the gray pages back in the book (which stirred up a lot of controversy). These decisions were talked about for a long time, and now is the time of fruition for much talk and voting throughout our country. I want to thank you all for trusting that I can do my job. Wade, you always are a pure source of love. Please know that without you District 2 wouldn't be the same. Thank you District 11 for the fun, incredible hospitality room, and I can't say enough about the speakers. I used to live in layers of fear, doubt, misunderstanding and self-loathing. Today I am surrounded with people that don't get paid to care, teach me how to love, and receive love, layers and layers of understanding I never could have dreamed about. Thank You AA, Thank you all those who came before me, and Thank you Dawn for taking this job s I could be A DCM. I love it. I have much work to do the job is just starting to make sense. Eek, Help Thank you HP for you love and kind care.

Miss Money penny (Rebecca)

Steve DCM sub-district A

I want to apologize in advance for not being able to attend this month but I am at a group conscience meeting with one of my other groups. This last month I have been busy working with the 5:30 Sobriety Hour (smoking) they are having difficulties getting a GSR that will suit up and show up and was able to attend their group conscience meeting

and let them know that they needed to elect a new GSR to serve their group and also to inform them that Post-Conference was coming up. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Steve Crawford

Andrew sub-district D

No report submitted

Sara DCM sub-district E

Dear Fellow Servants,

I'll be short, sweet and to the point. I had a good time at the Post Conference Assembly. It was great to hear back from our delegate about everything that took place back in New York and to see some old friends. I thought that there was some good discussion that took place and I was glad I could be there. I would have liked to have seen more of my GSRs there; I emailed the delegate's remarks and the new theme to my GSRs (whose email addresses I have). I want to thank Zack for volunteering to co-chair the GSR Orientation meeting with me tonight and for making some copies of the GSR Survival Kit. I have made an appointment with Central Office to make several copies of the survival kit packets so that we will have some on hand for future GSR orientation meetings. I am looking forward to the Bridge the Gap workshop on June 16th.

Yours in Service,

Sara L., DCM

Ryan DCM sub-district d

No report received

Old Business

We are still in need of 2 DCM's and 4 Alt. DCM's as well as a BTG Coordinator

There is still a motion to raise the defrayment of gas mileage if the financial information is available.

We need a volunteer to go in and chair the V.O.A. detox meeting held every Sunday at 7:00 p.m. The facility asks that you have two years continuous sobriety and a background in service work. They ask that we bring at most two people in to the facility. This is a one month commitment.

New Business

The Newsletter Standing Chair would like to step down. She is feeling quite constrained without a budget and the proper equipment but is more than willing to help the new person and stand in until someone else steps up.

Post Conference Assembly Report

Hello fellow servants,

The Post Conference Assembly was held not to long ago at the Holiday Inn and I would like to take a few moments to report back on this event. I got there Friday night at about 7:00 and was happy to see all of my friends and few new faces. Friday was pretty laid

back they had a panel presentation on the past Conference topics and I was charged up when they discussed the Singleness of Purpose. As most of you know I recently wrote an article on the topic that was printed in the Central Office Lifeline. It was good to know I was not alone in my feelings and thoughts. Then they did a skit called double a 7 and our very own DCM Rebecca played Ms. Money Penny. It was delightful. It was great to have some entertainment and fun before we all got to work the next day. Saturday was pretty normal for our business meetings. They started with the minutes, financial report and role call. (Most of our district showed up right after roll call). But it was good to see such great attendance from our district. I was a little disappointed that there were not more GSR's there from any district and I am hoping in the coming months we can change that. When I was a GSR it was truly an honor and a privilege to be able to represent my group and carry their voices, I truly hope we can get that same fire I feel back into service. That was a lot of the open mike discussions, was how do we get the same fun and excitement back into service that so many of us have felt before. There are not near as many people in the service structure as there was even 3 years ago. One member pointed out that at the Post-Conference Assembly there use to be 150 to 200 people that would attend and on 05-19-2007 there were only 87 people. That is a pretty big decrease and a lot of people feel it's because there just isn't the fun in it anymore that there use to be. Now we all know it's going to be a long weekend and a lot of information stuffed into our brains without much of a break or very few laughs. So there were a few suggestions like getting the marathon meetings going again, doing a dance Saturday or other things of that nature. So I am sure there will be a lot of discussion on this in the coming months. It was great to hear the new delegate's report and to hear her put her personality and real experience in the report. I only hope that it goes a little better for her next year. There were a couple of motions that were called to the floor and one was that they make the Agenda Committee Meeting an Assembly in hopes to get the message to the GSR's more efficiently. This passed. Then there was a motion to create an Ad-Hoc committee with the Area to help the Host-Committee's plan their events. I felt this was a great idea, just recently Steve C. and I chaired the Pre-Assembly Conference and it would have been nice to hear the Area's side of things as well. Andy saw the importance in this and it also passed and an Ad-Hoc committee formed. I don't want to take up too much more time but I want to thank all of those who participated in this weekend and thank you all for being here tonight.

Love and Light,
Dawn Marie

Officer Reports

Archives (Lana)

Hi I'm Lana and I'm an alcoholic, and your trusted servant as Archivist of District 2. I want to thank all of you for your support over the past few months. My heart and my head have been in some what of a mess lately. My mother passed on April 20th and was ill for a short time before that. AA and Archives have been the one stable thing in my life and for that I thank my Higher Power. As soon as my mom's estate is settled I hope to be back on the ball and able to better serve you and District 2. Again thanks for your love and support in my time of need.

Lana Young

Corrections (Tony)

Hi my name is Tony S. And I am an alcoholic and I serve this district as the standing chair for corrections. At the post conference round table we discussed getting all of the jails, halfway houses listed. Find out what the requirements where to get into each facility, time that meetings are taking place in each jail or halfway house. Then get this information to our standing for corrections for the state of Utah. From there we can get to work on finding what areas are not getting any support or areas that need some help. Am making sure that all new volunteers are going to the programs meeting before being able to go the jails for meeting. Need to have GSR's pick up sign up sheets for outside AA's to sign up to help alcoholics how are going to be released from jail or prison. Get to have the opportunity for the "at-will" programs to have a voice in how resources from the Prisoner Services Funds are spent on the June 14th at 2:30 p.m. at ADC in Salt Lake City, Utah. Was able to attend the Smoking Sobriety Meeting and thank them for their donation to the pink can. Thanks to all of the groups how support this worthy cause. Still working on my workshop for Corrections. The theme that I want to work from is How We Can Get Others Interested In Jail And Prison AA Meetings. Received information from our delegate on what was discussed as the GSO Conference on this topic.

Love in service

District 2 Standing Chair for Corrections, Tony Sperle

Grapevine (Dawn)

Hello fellow trusted servants. I am very excited to report this month that I was able to attend the Post-Conference Assembly and do the report back for the Grapevine Round Table. I learned a lot and got a lot of great ideas. I was able to meet the Standing Chair for District 10 and to get a few ideas from her. She puts a packet together to give to the GSR's that attend their GSR meeting and also has literature for sale at the GSR meeting. So I bought a bunch of books and a couple of CD's to sell at our GSR meeting if your interested in any of it please let me know and we will get you hooked up. At the Post-Conference I also learned that the Grapevine will be publishing two new books. One with stories from old-timers and one just on funnies. I am really looking forward to this.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Love and Light,

Dawn Marie

PICPC (Ryan)

No report submitted

Treatment (Dena)

No report submitted

Newsletter (Dawn)

I am sad to report that I will be stepping down as your newsletter chair. As much as I enjoy putting this together and I am very proud to see it when it goes to print it is just too hard for me without a budget and the proper equipment. There have been several ideas of how to do this without too much money one was using the Central Office printer but with my job from 8 to 5 and the Central Office hours as well as when the agenda is set and the

GSR meeting is scheduled it is virtually impossible for me to use that. Then Zack has offered to print the newsletter with the donation of one ream of paper to replace what we use which I will be taking advantage of this month. I will stay on until the District finds someone to step in and am willing to help in any way I can with this project. Thank you for allowing me to have this opportunity though it truly has been a wonderful experience.

Love and Light,
Dawn Marie

Literature (Zack)

Hello all,

So far I have gotten literature racks to the Wiggins' Center and the VOA. I have been corresponding with Richard who began the meeting at the Wiggins' Center as far as supplying him with pamphlets and the like for people who attend that meeting. Other than that I am open to suggestions as to meetings and places around District 2 that are in need of literature they cannot themselves supply. I do have new GSR packets available as well for any new GSRs or old ones that do not have a service manual, GSR pamphlet, Bridging the Gap pamphlet, and Circles of Love and Service pamphlet. Do not hesitate to see me if you are in need of these or any other items. Thank you for letting me serve.

Easy Does It,
Zack

**2008 GENERALSERVICECONFERENCE THEME,
PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION TOPICS WORKSHOP TOPICS**

1. The theme for the 2008 General Service Conference is:
“Communication and Participation – The Key to Unity and Self-Support.”
2. The presentation/discussion topics for the 2008 General Service Conferences are:
 - a) Communication and Participation:
 1. Sharing the Message of Service
 2. Our Key to Keeping A.A. Strong
 3. Leadership in A.A.: Building Communication
 - b) Unity:
 1. Our Common Welfare Should Come First
 2. Principles before Personalities
 3. Diversity: Reaching Out to All Alcoholics
 - c) Self-Support

1. Self-Supporting Through Members' Voluntary Contributions Only
2. Contempt Prior to Investigation
3. Responsibility to Communicate and Participate
4. The workshop topic for the 2008 General Service Conference is:
"Love and Tolerance, Now More than Ever."

Upcoming Events:

WORKSHOP!!!

Participation in a Home Group

Home Group Responsibilities

What Does A GSR Do?

To be held on June 2, 2007 At Valley Camp! **Hosted by: District 1**

BRIDGING THE GAP WORKSHOP

June 16 2007

American Legion 80 So. Main St.

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Fillmore Utah

Barbecue Lunch hosted by Dist. 4

Guest: Tom I. 50 yrs. Sobriety, Former Warden

Panel discussions with Law Enforcement &

Corrections Administrators

Additional info: Contact: Area69BTGworkshop@utahaa.org

SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTION \$15.00

UTAH AREA 69 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 2007 - May 2009

June 16 2007 Area Bridge the Gap Workshop District 4 (D. 10 host)

Aug. 18-19 2007 Pre Assembly Workshop District 2 Tooele

Sep. 21-23 2007 Fall Assembly District 10 Salt Lake City

Nov. 3-4 2007 Fall Workshop District 7 St. George

Dec.1 2007 Area Committee Meeting District 1

Feb. 16 2008 Area Committee Meeting District 8

Mar. 7-9 2008 PRAASA Anchorage, Alaska

Mar.14-16 2008 Pre Conference Assembly District 2

APRIL 2008 General Service Conference NYC, NY

May 16-18 2008 Post Conference Assembly District 1

June 21 2008 Area Bridge the Gap Workshop TBA

Aug. 16-17 2008 Pre Assembly Workshop TBA

Aug. 29-31 2008 Pacific Regional Forum Spokane, WA

Sep.26-28 2008 Fall Election Assembly District 10

Nov.1-2 2008 Fall Workshop TBA

Mar 6-8 2009 PRAASA Oakland Ca.
Mar.20-22 2009 Pre Conference Assembly District 7 – St. George
May 15-17 2009 Post Conference Assembly District 10

For more information on any of this please visit the website
www.utahaa.org

The communications committee also asked if we would announce that you can now access www.utahaa.org through your mobile phone utahaa.mobi

**What's coming up in the Grapevine?
An inside look at the new issue from www.aagrapevine.org**

Cruise Control

a strange thing happened when he slowed down -- he enjoyed the ride!
"Slow Down!" George exclaimed. We were traveling back from Pennsylvania to Ohio in a rented truck after helping my old sponsor move there. George was his sponsor and I inherited him as my new sponsor.

George had asked me how fast I was traveling. I told him, "The speedometer says 56 MPH." That's when he told me to slow down because the speed limit was 55 MPH.

I tried to explain that speedometers are often set with a bit of a positive error so you will still not be speeding even if you have high tire inflation (which we didn't), but George exhorted, "We'll take the speedometer's word for it. Slow down!" I started to think that this new sponsor was not going to work out.

The toughest thing I was ever asked to do in AA was to stand up and admit I was an alcoholic, but slowing down this one mile-per-hour was a close second. I did not want to do it, nor could I see any reason to do it. It seemed to me my sponsor was being unreasonable. George went on, "You may not know God's will for you all the time, but the State of Ohio makes theirs known in numbers this tall," gesturing with his hands about a foot apart.

Well, maybe I should try this out. I usually followed my sponsor's suggestions -- after exploring all available alternatives, that is. So, I tried slowing down to the speed limit or at least very close to it, and a strange thing happened -- I started to enjoy the ride! Gone was the apprehension of getting caught. I started noticing scenery with the same eyes that had been watching for police cars. "Life is a journey, not a destination," has been often quoted in AA circles, and suddenly the ride itself, instead of just the anticipation of the destination, had new meaning.

AA never asked me to obey all the traffic laws; indeed we make it clear that we are not saints. But it seems to me that our principles are saying the same thing that an old TV show used to say: "Don't do the crime, if you can't do the time." I had come to realize

there was a cost to my spiritual condition for the need to speed because I'd left late. My serenity came to be too high a price to pay for the few minutes saved. I also explained in turn to a fellow I sponsor that I didn't think an "Easy Does It" bumper sticker and a radar detector belonged on the same car.

I brought this topic up at a discussion meeting. A long-timer explained that speeding is a form of impatience, and impatience is a failure to live life "one day at a time." Another spoke of a sermon he had heard. His minister had traveled home to see his brother. His brother asked him how his trip was and he replied, as always, "I made good time." The minister later reflected on this and surmised that some day when he met Saint Peter at the golden gates and was asked how his journey was, he did not want to say "I made good time."

Well, it is now twenty years later. I'm still sober and still have George as my sponsor. I cannot say I always follow the speed limit exactly; it seems dangerous to do that on some roads. But I keep it down to where I need not worry about it. Cruise control helps. And I've found that the same patient attitude helps greatly when I am in a doctor's office, for example, or with my old nemesis, a touchstone of my spiritual condition: the grocery store checkout lane. And all I had to do was to slow down a little!

Bob M., Cleveland, Ohio

Currently Serving



DCMC - Wade J
1-801-703-7689
dist2_dcmc@utahaa.org

DCM – Stephen C.
1-801-596-7199
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BTG – Open Position

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Treasurer – Walter
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**Responsibility Statement:
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**

