

Delegates Report  
Post-Conference June 7, 2019  
Vernal, Utah

Good morning friends. I would like to thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart for the opportunity to serve and represent area 69 as your panel 69 Delegate. I flew in to New York Friday afternoon after a ride from Uber (my first time with Uber kind of scary. But that's another story) I checked in to the hotel and found my room on the 19<sup>th</sup> floor. After unpacking to try to let some of the wrinkles ease on my suits. I left to try to find some food out in Time Square. Time Square has everything. I walked around for a while looking at people and all the lighted billboards, both are amazing. I'm a simple man so my dinner was mc nuggets, a diet coke and more people watching.

Saturday all the other Pacific region delegates meet in the lobby of our hotel to start our walk to the docks on the Hudson River. We had plans to take the circle line tour around Manhattan. This was a true test of Kathi's (our Pacific Region Trustee) skills to keep us from getting lost. These skills would be tested throughout the week. The tour around Manhattan Island was amazing. We saw the statue of liberty up close and Ellis Island. I was able to get some good pictures of the Freedom Tower. As the tour took us around the west side of the island the tour guide pointed out the building that GSO is in, after cheers from us Alkies we were all jumping to our feet to take pictures. In my drinking days I worked in New York and the tour went right by the building that I had spent so many years in. It was strange to see it with sober eyes. I didn't know that I was so close to the heart of AA back then and I'm sure I didn't care.

We chose to sit on the top deck of the boat so we could get a better view, which we got (Teddy area 08, Ronda area 42, and I) but we also got some nice sun burns. I did wear a hat so I'm not completely dumb. After the boat ride we all somehow managed to find our way back to the hotel for a meet and greet with all 93 delegates. This is where we give and receive most of the delegate's pins. Everyone seemed to enjoy our pin from Utah.

Conference started on Sunday with Michele G. welcoming us and trying to make us feel comfortable. Greg T. general manager of GSO started roll call and there is that question of how do you answer present or here? I agonized about that for a while. When my time came I answered "Here". Either one would have been correct because I am both. But I'm trying not to complicate things too much. That moment when I answered the roll I had chills. How can a shy drunk from Bountiful be in this room and be entrusted to carry the collective voice of all the Alcoholic Anonymous members from the state of Utah. It's got to be a GOD thing.

Sunday afternoon we had our first meeting in committees with our corresponding trustees committee. This gave us a chance to ask them some questions, like the plane language big book and the workbook for the big book. They told us that they had appointed an adhoc committee for this to work on them together. After they left to attend other committee meetings we continued our meeting with discussion on the scope and procedure and how we wanted to vote 2/3 or simple majority. We also looked at the workload and chose to start our committee one hour earlier, hoping that would give us enough time to get through all our agenda items, knowing that we could stay late if need be.

Monday morning I gave my area highlights and just like PRAASA I went long and got the dreaded red light. I tried to edit them down after PRAASA but there is so many great things to say about Area 69. Its hard what do I leave out? After area highlights (some other delegates got the red light too) David M gave a finance report. What a whirlwind this guy had 60 slides and he could remember what was on each one. Thank God he gave us a printed copy. One thing that did come out of his report last year we talked about the \$7.40 challenge, well this year we are challenging \$8.06. This is the cost of services provided by GSO to each member for the year. I would love to see our Area get behind this challenge. On August 6<sup>th</sup> lets all send GSO \$8.06.

Wednesday all the Delegates were to tour GSO. They gave us Metro cards for the subway. Another chance for Kathi to work on her cat herding skills. The tour was mind blowing. Everyone that works there are so nice. They would allow us in to there offices to take pictures and ask question. While I was in the Grapevine office I snapped a picture of the cover art for June's grapevine magazine.

Lunch on Wednesday was with the Pacific Region Delegates this is where we are to vote on which Area is to host the 2022 Forum. Three Area were interested in bidding for this event Area 03 Arizona. They went first and said they could host it at the same place they are holding PRAASA next year. Area 08 San Diego went next with their bid. She offered to hold it at the same place they held PRAASA at. I think its Town and Country Resort. She boasted that it had two swimming pools and near a golf course. She quoted \$300.00 a night room rates that shocked most of us. I was next with our bid. With some behind the scenes work from David R. I was prepared with three hotels and two dates for consideration. From the history that GSO had provided me I was able to highlight that California has held 10 Forums since 1975 and is hosting a local forum next month. Arizona has held 2 and has PRAASA next year. I informed them that we have only had one Forum in 23 years. Not a special forum, not a local forum and that I thought it was time that the Pacific Region makes a 12 step call on Area 69. After some questions and two rounds of voting.

We were awarded the 2022 Pacific Region Forum!!! I could not be more excited!!!

I'm sure there is so much that I have left out of my report. Like the smell of New York, the taste of the cheesecake, the excitement of Times Square, and watching singing waiters bring us ice cream. I hope I have conveyed some of what I saw, felt, and heard at conference.

Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving all of you as your panel 69 Delegate

Matt Dyer  
Area 69 Panel 69  
Delegate