

**Area 69 Fall Assembly
September 25-27, 2015
Farmington, UT District 11**

Welcome Matt D., Chair: Meeting opened with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer, Preamble, Anonymity Statement and Responsibility Statement. Several newcomers (7) attended the meeting. Defined Service Sponsor and identified those willing to serve in this capacity. Introduction of Panel 65 Area Officers and Area Standing Chairs.

Minutes of the 2015 Area 69 Pre-Assembly Workshop – Treesa J.: Approved as read.

Treasurer's Report Kurt J.: Passed with two changes after passionate discussion.

Approved CHANGES: \$600 @ for Forum but explain the \$1800 instead of \$900 (even years only) AND do not separate Workshops/Assemblies.

Guidelines Review Committee Report – Wade J.: More information next Area Event.

Assembly & Agenda Report Pete. G.: My name is Pete and I am a very grateful alcoholic. I am privileged to serve as the Assembly / Agenda chair. Thanks to the District 11 host committee for hosting this event. It has been a busy 6 weeks. During the time since the Pre-Assembly Workshop, I have attended the closeout meeting for District 2. The Pre-Assembly Workshop introduced the Area to a new venue in Salt Lake City that is very accommodating to us and I hope to see us return to the Sons of Utah Pioneers whenever possible. The banquet on Saturday was a pleasant addition that has been missed. The planning meetings for this Fall Assembly have been absolutely great but it will be nice to get back on my diet. I appreciate how well-organized this host committee is and look forward to a great Fall Assembly. I have met with the host committee for the Area Inventory and the location for that lends itself to being exactly what we need for that event. Although I have not met with the committee for the Fall Workshop, I have talked with members of the host committee. The venue is set. I hope to have more opportunity to get together with the committee in the coming weeks. There is a flyer for this event on the back table. The International Bridging the Gap Workshop was held in Park City on September 11-13. Our committee chair – Frank B. has a great report for you and there is a complete report for this event in the Area Newsletter. I will say that there should be time to actually breathe now. The Districts and Groups which participated and attended were truly great. I want to use this opportunity to say what a privilege it has been to be a part of the host committee with Frank, Kristen, Andy and Matt. However, I am glad it is over. Phew! I like to sleep for a week straight when it was over. It is now time to bid for the 2017 Fall Assembly being held the 22-24 of September.

Bid Results: District 2 won the bid to host 2017 Fall Assembly slated for September 22- 24, 2017.

Reports from Upcoming Events

Fall Workshop – District 1.: Erin B. We are going to hold our event at the Ogden Alano club, November 7 & 8, 2015 (680 24th Street). Registration for the event is \$5.00. The committee set the registration cost so low to encourage local participation. The Ogden Alano Club will be serving dinner @ \$12.00. I have been talking to the kitchen manager and I'll make sure it's a good meal. We're hoping for a turkey dinner but it may be chicken. The Alano Club is really excited to have us and have contacted me a few times with offers of help. The Alano Club is also hosting a dance Saturday evening @ 9 pm so our workshop will close a half hour early. However, anyone interested in attending an old school dance. Please plan to stay for the dance.

Area December Committee Meeting – Area Inventory District 11.: Hello, Friends, My name is Devin and I am an alcoholic. The Area 69 December Committee Meeting/Area Inventory will be held December 5, 2015 at the Clearfield Community Church, 525 East 200 South, Clearfield, UT beginning at 8:00 AM. We have the venue arranged, the flyer available and various committee assignments made. The committee is currently assembling volunteers to be moderators and note takers for each of the discussion topics. As in the past, the moderators and note takers for each topic will rotate through the assembled groups so as to avoid excessive shuffling of bodies. We will be holding a few more planning meetings between now and the event to make sure we have everything in order. We look forward to seeing you all in December. Thank you for serving and allowing me to serve, Devin C

Reports from Past Events

Pre-Assembly Workshop – District 2.: Rick

National Bridge the Gap Workshop.: Shawn C., Area 69 Treatment Standing Chair.

2015 Post Conference Assembly – District 9.: There has been no contact with Danny G.

National Bridge The Gap Host Committee Report – Kristen D.: Love and Tolerance is our code. It is always good to remember who is in charge and that things happen the way they are supposed to. A person who was recently released after serving 18 years in the correctional system attended and spoke about being bridged. The story was so touching there wasn't a dry eye in the room. This event was well attended and there was participation making it a success. Thank you for letting me share.

Roll Call – Kristen D.: In attendance were 7 Area Officers, 8 Area Standing Chairs, 4 Past Delegates; District 1: 1 DCMC, 1 DCM, 4 GSR, 1 alt-GSR; District 2: 1 DCMC, 4 DCM's; 4 GSR's, 1 Standing Chair; District 3: 1 DCMC, 3 GSR's, 1 Interested AA; District 4: 1 DCMC; District 5: None in attendance; District 6: None in attendance; District 7: 1 DCMC; District 8: 1 DCMC, 1 GSR; District 9: None in attendance; District 10: 1 DCMC, 2 DCM's, 11 GSR's, 1 alt-GSR, 2 Standing Chair; District 11: 1 DCMC, 1 DCM, 4 GSR's, 1 Standing Chair, 4 Interested AA's; District 12: 1 GSR, 1 Standing Chair; **Total = 75**

Registrar Standing Chair – Kristen D.: My home group is Primary Purpose Group. We meet Mondays in Layton. My job is to try to keep updated records of the trusted servants in Area 69. This is a huge task for the following reasons. 1) you fellow members move a lot and I need your current contact address 2) Everyone is always changing service positions, 3) I cannot read your writing when I get home and try to decipher what appears to be doctor handwriting. When I don't have the proper address or email, the flow of communication that is so vital gets lost. This last mailing had over 15 letters returned with address corrections. Please let me know if you are not receiving your snail mail or email minutes and agendas. If you have new contact information or a new service position, please see me so we can keep you and GSO better informed. I have also heard workbooks or kits from GSO have not been received. Please come see me and let's figure out what is wrong. DCM's and DCMC's if you know someone has moved, please come update their information with me. In love and service, Kristin.

Remaining Area Officer's Reports

Alt. Delegate's report – Wade J.: Since the last time we met I have had the pleasure of participating at the National Bridging the Gap Workshop. I would like to thank all of the volunteers who helped make it such a wonderful event. I would also like to thank all the districts who donated money and please tell all your district members Thanks for all they do. Love in service

Chairperson report – Matt D.: Since we last met I have had the opportunity to serve with the host committee for national bridge the gap workshop. I was the hospitality committee chair (the cookie man) what a great position. This committee as most of you know had no seed money to buy supplies with and a motion failed at Area 69 for seed money to help fund the hospitality. My co-chair and I started traveling the state to as many districts and groups as possible to beg for donations. I was humbled and amazed by willingness that the members of Area 69 jumped in to help. We had bakers from Ogden to Salt Lake and groups as far away as Vernal that donated some of their 7th tradition monies. Without the love and support of these members and groups, I don't think this workshop would have turned out as well as it did. A huge thank you to: Districts 1,2,7,8,10,11, Sunlight of the Spirit, Thursday Step Study, 12 o'clock High Group and also District 10's BTG Chair. Last weekend I also was able to help with a retreat. It is usually held at the monastery up Ogden canyon. We held it at the Bountiful Elks Lodge. If you know me that's the small part I did to help. Most of the weekend Gary J. and Kim K. were helping this alcoholic stay right sized. We went through the 12 steps with plenty of time for sharing. The weekend helped me to see that I needed a new sponsor and I asked him to sponsor me Tuesday. I have had conversations with our Delegate and other members of the committee about the future. We are looking at a date to bring our Pacific Regional Trustee out to attend one of our assemblies. Unfortunately his schedule will not allow him to be available to preside over our election in 2016. So that opens it up for another trusted servant to be asked if they could help us out. Thank you for the opportunity to serve this wonderful area.

Break for lunch

Archives – Trina B.: Good morning everyone, I will be filling in for the Archive Standing Chair, Trina today. I would like to share her report first. I would like to thank area 69 for helping to defray my costs to the annual archives national workshop in Ohio that is being held right now!! That is why Janet is filling in for me. I was so excited that this dream of attending this conference has been a goal of mine all year and it happened. I hope you are all enjoying the Fall Assembly you are attending; we will exchange information at the next area meeting. I will bring back a bit of what I learned last time we met. I left after the area business meeting to go enjoy the rest of the weekend at Maple Grove. Little did I know a fall would happen and ambulance rides to follow as I shattered my ankle and have been unable to bear weight since then. I was just given Dr. approval and support for my ankle., also I am taking a scooter. So I am asking for all your prayers as I attend the workshop. Thanks again for allowing me to be in service love always Trina.

The repository report: thank you Walter for the topic District Boundaries you ask me share about in the newsletter. It was interesting to do. I have the area maps on display today for anyone who would like to look at them. Also on display is a copy of the **National Historic Landmark Designation** at Stepping Stones, this also is in the area newsletter. There is a photo showing the foreign language pamphlets at the Heartland center which serves refugees and immigrants. There was one request for information in the last month and that has been fulfilled. There was a lot of items donated to the archives at the Aug. Workshop: CD's from BTG 2015, CD from BTG 2013, a Pamphlet "They Needed a Book" also here today, 56 cassettes, verity of Area documents and report from 2009-2013, 3 –VHS, 4 different cassettes sets, supporting documents for the area financial 2010 and the written report for this year's BTG.

Communications – Rachael F.: *When an entity creates an email using AA, please be aware that is trademark break. We do not want to lose the AA trademark like we did with the Circle/Triangle. Please research on GSO website www.aa.org.* Hi my name is Rachael and I have the pleasure of serving as the Area 69 Communications chair. Thank you district 11 for hosting this event. The Utah AA Website is working as it should providing information to those who visit the site. Nothing new to report. Thank you for the emails about making corrections on the schedule. If you see something that doesn't look right on the schedule for your area please send me an email and I will get it fixed. We have been able to get some help with Spanish translation and today we will be voting on a motion that will hopefully create the position for on going translation help. During my round table today we are going to explore ways to make navigation throughout the site easier. I know I mention this on all my reports but it is important that I receive meeting updates (cancellations, additions or changes) from the district DCMC, secretary to registrar. If an email comes from someone I don't know I will need to verify with someone in the district who has the authority to confirm the change. Also a reminder that when sending documents to upload to the website please send them in PDF format. There are times that I have received a document that is not in PDF and when I try to upload it the layout changes. If you have questions about this please let me know. At each area event we have a Service Orientation. The outlines for those Service Orientations are now available on the website under Service Materials. You can use these materials to explain to your district service members what happens at each event. Thanks for letting me serve

CPC – David R.: I serve as the standing chair of the Cooperation with the Professional Community. Since we last met, I attended Salt Lake's Recovery Day where we set up a booth to represent AA. A lot of pamphlets were given out. A recovery/wellness center and a sober living facility asked to have meetings in their buildings. Also, an out patient treatment company asked for a literature rack. I also attended the Recovery Day's in St. George where Dixie Central Office had a booth. I visited with the other booths and found 2 treatment facilities that wanted literature racks. I was able to go to the Utah Fall Substance Abuse Conference where I visited with and met lots of professionals. Back on the PI/CPC display table today, I put some pamphlets and some newsletters. I'm grateful for the chance to be of service. Thank you for 12 stepping me and letting me serve Area 69.

Corrections – Sheryl T.: There has been a lot of activity in Corrections and since we met a month ago, mostly regarding Bridging the Gap. Earlier this month, I received a call from Danny, the DCM for District 9 in Moab. Danny had a home group member who was very interested in getting information about Bridging the Gap. I was able to give him some basic information and sent him some printed materials. I also put him in touch with Mark B., BTG Coordinator for District 10; Dan B., BTG Coordinator for District 2; and

Shawn C., Area 69 Treatment Chair. I was able to attend most of the 25th Annual Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend in Park City two weeks ago. Bridging the Gap is another tool we have to serve the still suffering alcoholic. It was informative and interesting to hear how AA members across the country use Bridging the Gap in their individual areas. Several of our own Area 69 AA members participated in the workshop as speakers and panel presenters and did a wonderful job. The week after the Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend, I was contacted by Frank B., Area 69 Grapevine Chair. Frank had been the chair of the Host Committee for the BTGWW. Frank had been contacted by the delegate from Montana about an incarcerated member there who was returning to West Jordan, Utah and was seeking a BTG contact here. I contacted Mark B., BTG Coordinator in District 10, who contacted the delegate in Montana with men in the West Jordan area. This is what BTG is all about!! I love being a link in the chain helping to carry the lifesaving message of Alcoholics Anonymous. Thank you for our service and thank you for allowing me to serve Area 69.

Treatment – Shawn C.: Thank you District 11 for hosting the Fall Assembly. As a result of my presentation at Red Pine Treatment Center, the current Monday Night Treatment Center meeting that was not self-supporting is now assisting the basket to pay for use of the room. Meeting is only a meeting until a strong membership, then we can register the meeting. August 28, 2015 I attended (Phoenix Treatment) an open house and briefly explained to the counselors that I am the AA Treatment Chair for Area 69 and I can be contacted for future presentations to their staff. Jill H. District 3 Treatment Chair is coordinating between Central office and District and mailed letters to treatment centers letting them know of District Area Treatment services and distributed pamphlets to Treatment Centers & Hospitals. Thank you for letting me serve. **Bridging The Gap Workshop Report:** The Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous offers a program designed to assist new members after their release from treatment and correctional facilities. This service is commonly referred to as the “Bridging The Gap” or “Temporary Contact Program”. The 25th Annual workshop meeting was held in Park City, Utah at the Best Western Inn September 11-13, 2015. The workshop is held every year in different states but the first was held in Des Moines, Iowa in 1991. Pete G., Renae H., Rob B., were the main speakers for the weekend. Each speaker did a great job sharing their experience, strength and hope. Andy B., Debbie A., Lisa B., Heather C., shared their experience as part of the Treatment Panel. Wade J., John R., Charlie T. and Gary J., took part in the Corrections Panel. Each presenter did a great job. Members from other states were also part of different presentations. Sunday morning, Pete was elected alternate coordinator. Rob B. assisted the BTG committee on how best to make changes in the service manual. The weekend workshop was a huge success and informative. Thank you for letting me serve.

Grapevine – Frank B.: Due to an unfortunate circumstance at work, I am unable to attend the Fall Assembly this weekend. I sure miss each and every one of you fine Area 69 Trusted Servants. What an honor and privilege it is to serve as your Area 69 Grapevine Standing Chair. I have contacted 2 district GvR Standing Chairs and hope to get to go to each one of those districts business meetings as well as pass on any information that I have received from Grapevine Inc. At the NBTG Workshop Weekend I compiled four short stories from some of our local trusted servants that sat on our Corrections panel. I have submitted the short stories to the Grapevine for publication. I hope to see what was submitted in a future issues?! I seem to be giving out a lot of subscription forms at the meetings that I attend and other events in a local level meeting up in district 1. I put a little rack at the local Club House and have filled it once with subscription forms. There is a new book out that focuses on relationships that is titled “Forming New Partnerships”. I should have a couple of issues soon and it is now available through Grapevine Inc. always I ask for any ideas and help that will allow me to magnify my service position and to be of service to the Utah Area. Lastly, thank you Matt & Pete for picking up my commitments this weekend. As well as thank you District 11 for your fine work hosting this event. Love and service always Frank B.

Literature – Doug R.: As you all found out last night, we now have plenty of service manuals. The area guidelines are also at the Literature Display. I owe the area an amends. Several books that I stored in my garage were water damaged. I will personally replace those. I also talked to Janet about a better storage methods. I'll be getting plastic bins to store the books in. The Literature desk at GSO sent out a reminder that they are still gathering sharing for the new and revised AA Conference Approved Literature. Which are: AA for the Woman, AA for the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic and the new pamphlet on members with Mental Health issues. The deadline is October 15, 2015. Please bring this back to your groups.

P.I. - John W.: Good day fellow servants. Has been a long month. Thanks to our previous P.I. Area chair's assistance, we have successfully registered to support the BYU Mental Health Awareness Night. Eric M. has volunteered to set up the booth October 29. There has been a lot of requests since our Pre-Assembly Workshop. Public Awareness seems to be increasing. This past week I assisted District 7 at the Recovery Days in St George. It was well attended. Various professionals and facilities were interested and requested much information from our Area 69 servants. District 7 now has much more work to do at the request of their community. We have had several requests for representation at health fairs/recovery day events however most are not within the P.I. Budget. Treesa J. did advise about an event at Utah Valley Community College held in February. I have been in touch with the coordinator for that event and hope District 3 will be able to assist serving that event and carrying the message of recovery. A few districts have new P.I. Chairs. Please contact me if you would like assistance and information. As I get clarification on events and programs, I plan on working with district P.I.'s and DCM's to man booths in their communities and or district boundaries. District 12 appears to have more interest in the smaller communities I have been visiting. Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Delegate's Report – Renae H.: Greetings Fellow Trudgers, It's such a pleasure to be with you today and to be a part of Alcoholics Anonymous in action through the General Service Structure. Although the details of our lives may be vastly different one from another, there are two common and critical facts that regularly bring us together in A.A.---our desire to *“not”* drink, and our commitment to helping the alcoholic who still *“is”*. Steps One and Twelve...simply stated. Thank you not only for your service here today, but for the A.A. service acts you perform every day while living in the “details” of your sober life. Some of this report will include information that was shared in the August Pre-Assembly Workshop Delegate Report as well as updated and new information. But I would like to first share about a consistent challenge and concern of the General Service Office (GSO), and an equally growing challenge we have here in Area 69 as it relates. Each Delegate in the U.S. and Canada receives the GSO Quarterly Contribution Reports for their areas. These reports detail each area's number of listed groups with GSO, individual group's contributions sent to GSO, and a percentage of an area's group participation in the Seventh Tradition contributions to GSO using those figures as a comparative basis. The Area 69 Quarterly Contribution Report for the 7 months ending July 20, 2015, showed that Area 69, Utah, has 319 active groups listed with GSO, with 23.79% of those groups sending contributions to our General Service Office, compared to 2014's 33.25% of area 69 groups contributing at this same time last year. Overall, the average percent of groups that contribute to GSO from the U.S. and Canada is currently under 42%. Our General Service Office in New York is always very grateful to the fellowship for all of the group and individual contributions it receives... small and large. These donations make GSO's many services possible and as close to becoming the self-supporting movement that we strive to be. However, a lot of the expenses of providing these vital and necessary services, are being paid for in part, from revenue received through the purchase of A.A. Literature, the “Big Book” and other Conference Approved publications, some of which is purchased by outside vendors, i.e.; book stores, treatment centers, etc. According to the July 2015 quarterly board meeting financial report, net revenues for the first six months of 2015 were about \$7.5 million, which is about 8.5% less than budget; expenses of \$7.7 million were about 5% less than budget. (Note: Approximately \$300,000.00 *more* in expenses than incoming revenue.) A feasibility study was launched earlier this year by the trustees' finance committee to focus on addressing our ongoing financial challenges. The feasibility sub-committee reported that it has a goal of having something that can be forwarded to the 2016 Conference for input. Areas of focus include apparent lack of growth of the Fellowship, apparent decline in literature sales, and increasing operating expenses. A question we might consider asking ourselves and our groups is, “Are we, as the Area 69 Utah fellowship, participating in all of A.A. *as a whole*, through the spiritual and fundamental nature of the 7th Tradition of “Self-Support” through our own contributions to our GSO?” (There are a number of helpful resources (pamphlets, etc.) to support this kind of discussion with our groups at www.aa.org under the “Contributions and Self-Support” link.) I received 272 (25 Spanish and 2 French) copies of the 2015 Final Conference Report on September 21, and it is available today for your distribution and your reading pleasure! On pages 88-89 of the Final Report, you will find a listing of the “2014 Contributions from Groups, Individuals, Specials, Special Meetings---by Delegate Area (*in U.S. Dollars*)”. Note that the final reported percentage of Area 69 Utah groups contributing in 2014 was 41.4%. I enjoy looking over this report and seeing how other U.S./Canada groups are participating in the Seventh Tradition. This report also shows “Membership” figures as well as “Contribution Per Capita” figures,

among others. Page 89 shows the “Contribution Comparison --- 2014-2013 --- (in U.S. dollars)”, where the final # of groups reported, compared to the final # of groups contributing to GSO from the US/Canada, was 41.6%. This percentage is slightly down from 2013’s 42.5%. The following is an overview of some of the many activities our GSO is constantly engaged in, which includes highlights shared from the July/August 2015 Quarterly General Service Board Weekend Report.

GSO

Phyllis H., our current GSO Manager, will be retiring in October after serving our beloved fellowship as for almost seven years. This was her last Board Weekend as GM. Her parting words expressed her gratitude for having had the opportunity to serve. She encouraged us to look to our General Service Office as the reservoir of our A.A. history and shared experience. (Personal Note: Phyllis is the first woman to serve Alcoholics Anonymous as a General Manager and she is a wonderful example of experience, strength and hope in A.A. leadership for future generations to come. Thank you for your undying dedication and service to A.A. Phyllis!)

General Manager Search -- We are delighted to share that Greg T. has been appointed to serve as the next General Manager of the General Service Office. Greg currently serves as A.A.W.S. Publishing Director, and is a past General Service Trustee of the General Service Board. His professional background is in book publishing, both as an editor and as a manager. His combination of solid service experience and relevant professional background promise to serve him well in carrying out this demanding and unique position.

Staff – “GSO Staff Assignment” rotations took effect September 14, and can be found on the aa.org website. (I have copies of the new staff assignments available today.) GSO is delighted to welcome two new A.A. staff members, Jeffrey W. and Sandra W., to our General Service Office family. Jeffrey will start work on October 5th on the Corrections Desk, and comes to us from a long-time career in advertisement and creative writing. Sandra will be assuming the responsibility for the Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities Desk starting November 2nd. During the last three years Sandra has been working at G.S.O. as the Executive Assistant to the General Manager.

A.A.W.S. (Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.)

GSO/AA Grapevine Co-Location Project -- The construction process to bring AA Grapevine, Inc., onto the 11th floor of 475 Riverside Dr. and to remodel and upgrade the AAWS/GSO offices began August 10th, and construction is expected to be completed in November. Large groups won’t be able to tour during the construction period; other visitors will be welcomed but will have limited access.

International Convention – Approximately 57,000 attendees took part in the 2015 International Convention in Atlanta. “80 Years---Happy, Joyous and Free.” Almost all of the post-Convention mail and phone calls received to date from members who attended the Convention have been positive. Members have consistently expressed their joy at having gathered in Atlanta with tens of thousands of other sober alcoholics to celebrate A.A.’s 80th anniversary. The agencies and professionals we worked with have already made comments on how “happy and especially nice” our membership is.

Archives -- The Archives staff completed the project of preserving Bill W.’s hand-written draft of the Twelve Traditions and created electronic files of the documents for future access. There is new Archives content on aa.org, including a digital exhibit on “A.A.’s 10th Anniversary,” updates to the A.A. Timeline, and a 9 minute clip of a talk by Sister Ignatia given at the 1960 International Convention added to the Audio Archives Library. The Archives staff completed the project of preserving Bill W.’s hand-written draft of the Twelve Traditions and created electronic files of the documents for future access.

Website/Services -- The A.A.W.S. Board approved the following recommendations from the Technology/Communications/ Services Committee (TCS). That a new sort page be added to aa.org to help visitors navigate to the appropriate A.A.W.S. online store portal. That the posting on aa.org of the new Anonymity video developed to accompany the annual Letter to the Media in close time proximity to its distribution to media professionals. That A.A.W.S.’s Policy on G.S.O.’s Website be updated to reflect new technologies by expanding the first bullet under “Additionally:” to read as follows (**additions in bold**): “Oversite of the Website, **including new releases of apps, website or any other additional G.S.O. technology**, will be the responsibility of the Alcoholics Anonymous World Services Board (A.A.W.S.), acting through its Technology/ Communication/Services Committee and in accordance with the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous.” And last, that G.S.O. management develop a plan for consistent delivery of all service workbooks and kits in the most efficient and cost effective manner and bring back reports to the A.A.W.S. TCS committee beginning in March 2016.

Publishing – A.A.W.S. Literature is currently translated into 89 languages worldwide. The Big Book has been translated into 69 languages and translation into 15 additional languages is pending. The Navajo translation project is back up and running. This project had slowed down earlier this year, but has gained momentum again thanks to a strong Navajo-speaking committee effort. Copies of the Final Report of the (2011 Conference Advisory Action) three-year “General Service Conference Inventory”, detailing the results of the 2013, 2014, and 2015 Conference Inventories, will be sent to all delegate areas in late Fall.

2015 Gross sales to date – For the first six months of 2015, sales were substantially below the estimate. In May, gross sales (including digital books) were \$967,096 vs. the budgeted of \$1,138,176 (a 15 % negative variance). June sales were slightly above budget at \$1,114,706 vs. \$1,105,572. For the first half of 2015, sales stand at \$6,567,068, which is \$1,002,988 (or about 9%) below the six month estimate of \$7,570,056. Total print unit sales continue to be

below the levels of 2014 and 2013 in the aggregate and specifically the Big Book and the 12 & 12. Unit sales of titles in all major print book categories---e.g., Big Book and the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions---were lower than budget and lower than last year.

eBooks Unit Distribution – For the first four months of 2015, total ebook sales were \$93,993.55. It is anticipated that gross sales in May (ebook sales not yet included) will also be below budget, but preliminary figures indicate that June will be better.

Financial -- Net revenues for the six first months of 2015 were about \$7.5 million, which is about 8.5% less than budget; expenses of \$7.7 million were about 5% less than budget. (Note: I have a copy of the unaudited financial report for the six month period ended June 30, 2015, if anyone wishes to review it.)

Grapevine

“The Language of the Heart” is now available in audio as an MP3 Download and as an MP3 CD. This audio is ideal to download and listen to on those long AA road trips!

The Carry the Message effort has forwarded 593 subscription requests to the areas for possible fulfillment at the local level. Please convey the gratitude of everyone at Grapevine for the efforts to get subscriptions into the hands of those who have reached out for help.

The Subscription Challenge numbers are available on aagrapevine.org so we can see how the states, provinces, and territories are responding to this effort. (Note: As of September 23, 2015, Area 69 is currently in 4th place with a percentage increase of 21.66% of *new* A.A. subscriptions! Missouri currently leads with 29.27%, followed by Rhode Island at 27.08% and Hawaii coming in third at 22.9%. The subscription challenge deadline is December 20th, and the state, province

or territory that has the highest % of an increase in new* paid subscriptions or subscription gift certificates, will have a special section in a 2016 issue of Grapevine or La Viña featuring members' stories from that state, province or territory. * A new subscription is one that hasn't been active in the past 6 months. (The A.A. Grapevine strives to be self-supporting through the sale of subscriptions and other items.)

Grapevine Circulation is 77,734. This is a decline from the average circulation in 2014 of 79,954, but it is better than the budgeted circulation of 76,061. La Viña circulation is 10,310, compared to an average circulation in 2014 of 10,515 and a budgeted circulation of 10,607. Total Grapevine income for the first six months of the year is about \$945,000 compared to a budgeted income of about \$950,000. Total costs and expenses were about \$854,000, which is about \$138,000 less than budget. The overall result is a net profit of about \$92,000, compared to a budgeted loss of about \$42,000. The La Viña shortfall is about \$18,000 lower than expected for the first six months of the year. Subscriptions still continue to decline, although slower than expected.

The AA Grapevine Board and staff continue to focus on the future, including working to deliver a “mobile friendly” version of the magazines and exploring the possible use of SMS (Short Message Service) text messaging as a way to engage the Fellowship.

Trustees' Committees

The main focus of the trustee's committees of board weekend was review and follow-up on the 65th General Service Conference advisory actions and additional committee considerations. The following are selected highlights from some of the committee reports.

Conference

- A subcommittee was formed to follow up on Conference agenda committee input regarding the agenda item selection process.
- A subcommittee was formed to follow up on the Conference advisory action to create a plan to translate all Conference material.
- The committee forwarded a request to AAWS for the development of an A.A. Guideline “that lays out what YPAA is, how it operates, what its relationship to the fellowship and service structure might be, and how young people would go about finding and joining their area YPAA.”

Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities

- After discussion of a Conference CPC additional committee consideration, the committee voted to remove the pamphlet, “Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W.,” from the CPC Kit due to concerns about language and relevance as a CPC tool.
- In response to another Conference CPC additional committee consideration, the trustees' committee formed a subcommittee to review the current selection of pamphlets in the CPC Kit.
- In response to an additional committee consideration from the Conference Treatment/Special Needs/Accessibility (TSNA) committee regarding how to better realize the commitment to make A.A. available to all, as well as the need to focus on the concept of overcoming barriers in accessing, receiving, and carrying the A.A. message, rather than the limiting concept of identifying “special needs,” the trustee's committee asked staff to explore options for renaming the committee and formed a subcommittee to revise the trustees' committee's scope and to move forward on revising and reorganizing the Special Needs-Accessibility Workbook.

Finance

- See the AAWS and AA Grapevine, Inc., sections above for a summary of financial results for the first six months of 2015.

- Mid-year budget adjustments required as a result of Conference actions total \$184,000, bringing the budgeted net profit down to about \$13,000.
- The Reserve Fund had a balance on June 30, 2015, of about \$15.5 million, which represents about 10 months of operating expenses. The upcoming construction project, which is to be funded through the Reserve Fund, will bring the total down.

International

- Members of our General Service Board (usually the trustees-at-large) and/or the GSO general manager visit other AA service structures when invited to share experience. Upcoming trips for the balance of the year are the Annual Italian Convention, the 19th Meeting of the Americas (REDELA) in Mexico City, the 18th European Service Meeting in York, England, the 11th Asia-Oceania Service Meeting in Dubai, and the 44th Polish General Service Conference.
- The committee considered the idea of an interactive international A.A. data map that could include information by country about A.A. presence, available translations, zonal meeting, and World Service Meeting participation, and asked for additional information for consideration at their next meeting.

International Conventions/Regional Forums

- Registration for the International Convention held last month in Atlanta was approximately 57,000, including 784 registered attendees designated ASL.
- 93 flags were displayed at the flag ceremony, in addition to the Eagle Staff representing Native American/First Nations.

Literature

- Subcommittees have been formed to work on three literature projects: the revision of the pamphlet, "A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic" to include the entire LGBT community; revision of the pamphlet, "A.A. for the Woman"; and development of literature for the alcoholic with mental health issues. Joel C. will be chairing the subcommittee on the revision of the Gay/Lesbian pamphlet; and also serving on the subcommittee on mental health literature.
- For follow up on the Conference committee's additional committee consideration regarding systematic review of recovery literature, Michele Grinberg, class "A" trustee, has been appointed to work with staff to develop a plan.

Nominating

- A subcommittee has been formed to review options for filling an unexpected vacancy of a regional trustee with a full-term replacement.

Public Information

- Staff reported that the new P.S.A., "Doors," is performing strongly. The final version has been posted on aa.org. The AAWS Board approved the recommendation from the Publishing committee that the Public Service Announcement (PSA) "Doors" be priced at \$10.00
- A subcommittee was appointed to review and develop the P.I. Comprehensive Media Plan. Included in the discussion that led to this action was the additional committee consideration regarding potential uses of social media and social networking platforms.

I know this is certainly *a lot* of information to try to digest in just one reading! I hope that you will have the opportunity to sit down and read it at your leisure, to determine what is interesting to you that you would want to share with your groups and districts. I am *happy* to---and *look forward* to, visiting with you to answer any questions you or your group may have about the information I've presented in this report. You can always contact me at area69delegate@utahaa.org. I am filled with so much gratitude and humility---to have the incredible opportunity to serve Alcoholics Anonymous as your Area 69 Delegate trusted servant---it's an absolute blessing in my life! Thank you...Renae Harkness, Panel 65 Area 69 Delegate

Motions

Motion: Change Guidelines from Alt. Communications to Alt. Communications/Translation.

Current Practice: Area 69 Guidelines Section 4.4:

Purpose: Duties will include 1) promote unity in Area 69, 2) assist in coordination needs in Area, 3) assist Assembly Agenda Standing Chair with translation at events, 4) attend Assemblies and submit report, 5) assist Alt-Delegate in communication with Spanish community, 6) assist Communication Chair keeping Spanish portion of the Area website updated, 7) assist in the translation of Area reports,

Funds: defray \$600-\$700 per year (.25 a mile and \$40 night lodging) plus \$200 year operating budget.

Proposed: August 15, 2015 **Motion by:** Rachael F., seconded by Kristen D., Area 69 Registrar

Motion: Area 69 lend Area 18 (Idaho) our translation equipment for their Fall Assembly being held in Burley, Idaho October 2-4, 2015. Area 18 contact is Doug H. from District 12. He will pick up

equipment after our Fall Assembly and return it after their Fall Assembly (October 4, 2015).

Current Practice: Area 18 is considering purchase of similar gear and would like to see it in action.

Motion to be retroactive to include permission that we lend our equipment to PRAASA when they had the need to use it. Amended to remove retroactive request by Pete & Josh 09-27-2015.

Funds: No financial impact.

Proposed: August 15, 2015 **Motion by:** Pete G., seconded by Josh

AMENDED MOTION: PASSED 09-27-2015 (Trusted Area 69 Servants volunteered to Transport.)

District Reports

District 1 DCMC – Erin B.: District 1 participated in the National BTG Workshop held in Park City Sept 11-13, 2015. Our Treatment Chair, Lisa B., spoke on one of the panels. In addition Erin B. and Jan N. managed the hospitality room. We picked up locally grown produce, peaches and watermelon from Perry. They were a huge hit. We also received a ton of cookie donations. We had a lovely weekend and met many fellows from around the country. Our DCM, John A., who is also our unofficial P.I. Chairperson received another invitation to set up a booth at the Health Fair in Ogden next month. Dave F., another DCM and Lisa B. our Treatment chairperson attended the Forum in Cheyenne, WY. They were particularly concerned about the financial needs of GSO, needs generated by services provided to the still suffering alcoholics. They shared that GSO has a wish list of services requested by the fellowship that GSO is unable to provide due to lack of funds. This led to a discussion regarding 7th Tradition splits. Many groups in District 1 have voted to send money earmarked for Area 69 to GSO. It is the general consensus that we would prefer to support the primary purpose.

District 2 DCMC – Linda R.: District 2 is alive and well and growing. Our DCM got a current list of groups/meetings in our district from Central Office and discovered 13 meetings that have been added since the beginning of the year. We consistently have new GSR's showing up each month at our GSR orientation....thanks to the dedicated work and enthusiasm of our DCM's (43% of groups have an active GSR). Last week Rebecca J. was voted in as our P.I. Committee Chairperson. We are still looking to fill 2 DCM, 4 alt DCM, Archivist, corresponding Secretary and recording Secretary. On October 27 @ 7pm we are having a GSR workshop titled "Party Like a GSR". We will be discussing and answering the questions the GSR's told us they need help with or don't understand. Provide pizza and they will come!! All districts are welcome to attend. We have fliers here and it should be on the utahaa.org website and Salt Lake City Central Office website. Thanks for allowing me to serve!

District 3 DCMC – Doug L.: Good Morning. I'm proud to serve District 3 as DCM. We are busy at District 3 with Financial audits, planning a Christmas Gala and general organization. We are financially sound with ample prudent reserves. Our district is struggling with maintaining traditions in meetings with the influx of non-traditional rehabs overrunning meeting. We've devoted 2 full meetings for discussion and solution. I'd like to thank Renae for coming down and being part of our process. Another issue we are struggling with is service participation. In short, recovery is alive and well in District 3. BAM!! Thanks for the opportunity to serve.

District 4 DCMC – Mike G.: District 4 is doing well.

District 5 DCMC – Mike McG.: The Traditions Workshop was quite successful. There was food and fellowship. Thank you to Renae and Wade for their participation and support. The District has started forming committees for the Pre-Conference and have generated interest from our groups. We hope to have Pete join us at our District Meeting. We are on solid financial ground due to support from the groups.

District 6 DCMC – Jim.: Not Present.

District 7 DCM – Bud A.: It is an honor being here today representing district 7. The district is functioning well and is self-supporting thanks to the generous contributions from the groups over the last two months. At our September district meeting in Kanab on September 12th we had an ending balance of \$1,654.21 and after our prudent reserve of \$700.00 had an operating balance of \$954.21. Carrying a decent operating balance at this time of the year is important for we will need new supplies for our new service members coming on board at the end of the year. We currently have 102 meetings per week in District 7, give or take. There are currently four officers serving the district and five district standing chairs. We are looking forward to the October elections in Cedar City and hope to fill all of the remaining positions. Essentially all positions in the district are open with the exception of the NW DCM position. There are currently open positions and others that will rotate out on January 1, 2016. We conducted a workshop in conjunction with our September district meeting in Kanab in September. The various workshop topics including: anonymity and the internet, roles of the GSR and the AA Group and how it functions were

presented by our district GSR's. All eleven presenters were very well prepared and the presentations were informative. A lot of discussion was held among the participants. There was also a pot-luck and several local members attended showing interest in service for the district. The meeting also generated several ideas to make district service work more appealing such as more workshops, fun events, service presentations at each meeting and a district inventory. As stated above the district elections will be held October 10th in Cedar City at the KKCB Meeting Hall. We are extremely pleased that our Area Delegate Renae H. will be facilitating the elections and presenting her delegate report. Once again it is a pleasure being here this weekend. Thank you for letting me serve.

District 8 DCMC – Bonnie H.: We had our district meeting September 13, 2015. All our groups are doing well. Financially we are sitting pretty well. Woman's jail meetings have started up again. Our Grapevine raffles have increased and now we are raffling other books from the Grapevine. Sad to say, our GSR participation is not doing well. I have been continually reminding them that they are the voice of our groups. Thank you for letting me share.

District 9 DCM – Danny G.: Not Present.

District 10 DCMC – Kevin S.: Good morning Area 69 trusted servants. Welcome to the fall assembly and thanks District 11 for hosting this event. I am an alcoholic Kevin S. I am District 10 DCMC. District 10 is doing good we still have section 1,2,3,5 DCM open and we have three alt DCM position opening they are section 1,2&3. We had someone step up for PI chair and still have CPC chair open. We had our Budget Committee meeting for district 10 and we'll be presenting it to our GSR at our next GSR meeting in October. At our next GSR meeting we will be forming a committee for next year Post Conference in May 20-22, 2016 and also for Bridge the Gap Workshop. Thanks for allowing me to serve.

District 11 DCMC – Devin C.: Hello Friends, My name is Devin, and I am an alcoholic; currently serving District 11 as DCMC. I am the door greeter for my home group; The Serenity Happy Hour Group. We meet on Sundays at 10:00 am at the Davis Hospital in Layton. Please come by for a hug when you're in the area. We'd love to have you. Thank you all for joining us this weekend for the Fall Assembly. Thanks to the committee for putting this together. After seeing a growth in attendance in most of our groups, we are seeing many of those who have joined us sticking around. We sometimes see a falling off of attendance during the summer months as vacations and other summer activities make meeting attendance a bit spottier. Attendance seems better than average to me. Some of the excellent ideas from last night's panels and round tables will definitely help us in getting out the AA message of recovery in Davis County. The new meetings we have taken in to a local treatment facility and Job Corps seem to be doing well. Job Corps works with troubled youth, mostly inner-city and mostly from out of out state. For many, this program is a last chance before incarceration. It's a challenging environment in which to take a meeting. Faces are constantly changing and the people are so young. The volunteers are making progress on how to best facilitate the meetings there. Information from the discussion topic on carrying the message to the next generation of AA is particularly relevant to us in this case. I appreciate our District 11 Treatment Chair and the people who have volunteered to take on this service. Our district is financially sound. The District 11 Finance Committee presented 2016 budget recommendations at our August GSR meeting. We'll be working on suggestions and hope to have that approved over the next few months. Those in General Service know it's always an interesting ride where money and spirituality mix. Our planning committee is on track to host the next Area 69 Committee Meeting and Area Inventory in December. We're excited to have you join us at the Clearfield Community Church, for that event. Doug, from District 3, paid us a nice compliment last night when he invited people from District 11 to move to his district. Sorry, Doug you can't have them. I know I need to practice a genuine humility in my own AA program, but I have to tell you, I'm proud of the spirit of service I see in AA members from District 11. It's contagious and it's fun to be a part of. Thank you for your service and allowing me to serve, Devin C

District 12 – Tito R.: We are still working in our District to sponsor new members of the different Committees. We did have an election meeting on September 6, 2015. We covered all the committees in that meeting. We meet every Sunday at 4:00 pm in the different groups. We are also working with people to cooperate with the deaf and hard of hearing. We are also working with our Annual Convention which will take place October 23,24,25. Charlie T. came to our district meeting to explain the Purple Can. We all agree to take one to our groups.

Adjourned: 5:00 pm.