

# News & Notes

## Area 69

### GSC: Keith M. reports from NYC

The 2011 General Service Conference occurring any time soon. During my visits around the staff offices, accompanied by Monte S. and Gay W., I learned that Susan O. has recently listened to the audio tapes of the first 10 General Service Conference (Panel 1 to 10) and has gained a profound respect for the civility, trust, and dignity of these early delegates, trustees, and GSO personnel. They created and used our committee system to carry our life saving message of recovery. Irene was recently hired on as part-time staff to explore all aspects of our publications copyright / registration problems. Through past misunderstandings we have lost the rights to our first and second editions of the Big Book and the 12 Concepts. Irene's understanding of incredibly complex United States and international laws was very impressive. I am very grateful for her

dedication and knowledge. I am confident that our intellectual properties are in good hands.

The conference began Saturday afternoon with the presentations and workshop on Remote Communities, which was very moving for me since I started and still live in a remote geographic community. The first three days of the 2011 GSC were filled from morning to late evening with presentations and committee meetings. I believe the last 18 years of my participation in General Service in Area 69 was preparation for the 8.5 hours spent in the CPC conference committee meetings. What an absolutely joyful experience. There were eight passionate delegates and a beautiful talented GSO staff person creating Additional Considerations to be heard in the General Session and potentially for the trustees committee to implement.

On a personal note, the Sunday night opening dinner was very special for me since there were four past Utah Delegates at my table. The depth of Utah General Service history made for very interesting conversation. The second half of the conference week was spent in the General Session with the delegates, trustees, directors and GSO staff making policy decisions which will direct A.A. as a whole in the future. My heart soars with joy knowing the depth of passion and commitment of so many talented people in AA General Service.



*Bill & Lois' home  
183 Clinton, Brooklyn, NYC*



# PRAASA revisited *Area 69*

## 2011 PRAASA AREA 69 Chairperson Report

The 2011 PRAASA weekend was nothing short of WOW! This is what General Service is all about. Hundreds of people gathered together to share, learn and grow from each other's experience, strength and hope; to continue working toward improved and more effective ways to carry the A.A. message of recovery to the alcoholic who still suffers. I've heard others refer to their PRAASA experience as a "Booster shot in the arm for service", and I certainly can identify with that!

Friday afternoon's activities began with the Panel of Delegates from the 15 Delegate areas that form the Pacific Region and one Delegate from BC/Yukon (Area 79) Canada. Each was given two minutes to share a glimpse of their area's A.A. highlights with the body. Of course, the Utah Area (69) attendees were not a quiet lot and "whooped-it-up" loudly when Keith M. stood to deliver our area bright spots! Great job Keith!

This panel was followed by Panel 2 — "An Informed Group Conscience: The Voice of A.A." — including 5 sub-topics derived from the

2011 61st General Service Conference Theme — "We Are Responsible for A.A.'s Future—Let it Begin With Us". Our Area 69 Agenda/Assembly Chair, Charlie G. had been invited to participate in this presentation as the timer, responsible for keeping the presenters on task by switching the timer lights from green, yellow and to red when the allotted time had expired. PRAASA is serious about staying on time, and no one wants to get the red light!!! Charlie did a great job. This panel presented on "Humility: Accepting the Group Conscience"; "Leading by Example not Promotion"; "How Does a Group Conscience get to GSO?"; and a review and discussion of deadlines for GSC Agenda Items, and discussion of the "Concept V Appeal" to the General Service Conference.

Panel 3's topic— "Alcoholics Anonymous in a Digital Age"— consisted of five sub-topics as well, focusing on "Practicing Our Traditions in A Digital Age", "Carrying A.A.'s Message Online", "Tradition Eleven: Reaching Out to All Alcoholics", the "Grapevine, La Vina; Delivering our meeting in print via new media", and "This We Owe to A.A.'s Future; In a Digital Age" in which I was invited to participate in and had the privilege of presenting.

(Note: The full body of Keith M.'s and this topic presentation, as well as a number of wonderful reports given by our local Area 69 PRAASA attendees, can be found in the 2011 March Area 69

Newsletter or online at [www.utahaa.org](http://www.utahaa.org) .)

Friday evening wrapped up with Roundtable discussions beginning at 8:00pm and concluding at 10:00pm, followed by two separate A.A. Discussion meetings, each starting at 10:30pm and concluding at... "o'-dark-thirty"??

I attended the Area Chairperson's Roundtable discussions and found that many areas are experiencing the same type of issues, to one degree or another, that we are currently encountering or have met and solved in the past. These roundtables are such an important and useful dynamic to discuss and share what's happening and working in the Pacific Region's Delegate Areas and within the local A.A. Service structures. And also, to identify what might not be working, as well, and how to improve and develop those "soft spots" into better communications and effectiveness in reaching out and getting the A.A. message of recovery to the alcoholics still suffering today.

Another thing that I found interesting is the varying ways that each area conducts and elects their panel of Trusted Servants at their Fall Election Assemblies. For example, Area 69 uses the Third Legacy Process as outlined in the A.A. Service Manual Combined With the Twelve Concepts for World Service, where the Delegate and each Area Officer is elected by written ballot requiring a 2/3's majority vote by the area assembly for election. If after the 4<sup>th</sup> ballot a candidate does not have a

2/3's majority, the chairperson will ask for a motion to conduct a 5<sup>th</sup> vote. If the motion is defeated, then the two remaining candidate's names will go to the "hat" to be drawn by lot. If the motion to go to a fifth ballot vote prevails and is conducted, not resulting in a 2/3's majority required for election, then the remaining 2 candidate's names will go to the hat and be drawn by lot. The Area Standing Chair Committee members are elected by a simple majority vote that can be conducted either by the raise of hand or written ballot. What I learned at the PRAASA Chairperson Roundtable is that some areas elect their Delegate, Alt-Delegate and Chairperson by Third Legacy, and the remaining Officers and Standing Committee Chairs are appointed by the Chairperson. Others elect Delegate, Alt-Delegate, Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Registrar by Third Legacy, and then the Chair selects and appoints the Area Committee Standing Chairpersons. (Which is also outlined in the A.A. Service Manual as possible options/ suggestions, as each area is autonomous in such matters.)

I recently learned through a conversation with one of our "new to the area" trusted servants who was in attendance at last year's Area 69 Fall Election Assembly held in Richfield, how refreshing it was for her to watch our election process where the excitement of "who will be elected Delegate", and the following excitement as we move upward the Inverted

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triangle electing each service position. She shared with me how the area in which she had just moved from conducts its election assembly. The most exciting position to be elected to is the one that "opens up" or is "vacated" based upon an "downward rotation understanding" system, which by nature, would definitely yield a very experienced future Delegate! But the election to this "open" area committee position is but a beginning of one's service journey within this particular area.

Based on the wide variety of experience and the information shared in these roundtable discussions, I feel very confident in the direction our area is heading. A.A. is alive and well in Utah!

Saturday's events began with three more Panel topic presentations. Panel 4—"Diversity In A.A.- We are responsible for A.A.'s Future", including the following sub-topics: "The Language of the Heart Is Spoken Here"; "The Hand of A.A.-Inclusive Never Exclusive"; "Tradition Five: Our Primary Purpose"; "Safeguarding our Unity"; and "Special Needs: What are they? How to reach out? What is the role of our committees?"

Panel 5—"Sponsorship". Sub-topics: "Importance of the Home Group"; "Self-support: Where do Money and Spirituality Mix—additional ways to communicate about self-support"; "The Role of Past Delegate in Area Affairs—Elder Statesman or Bleeding Deacon"; "Money, Property and Prestige in Service—Warranty One"; and finally, "Service Sponsorship".

Panel 6—"Around the Fellowship": Presenter topics: "Showing faces of actors portraying A.A. members in A.A. Conference Approved videos", presented by none other than our own Keith M., Utah

Delegate, who did a marvelous job by the way! (As I mentioned earlier, his full report can be found in the March 2011 Area 69 Newsletter.) (P.S. He didn't get the "red light" either—Utah scores!) The next topic presented was, "Understanding Anonymity: What do I tell my family members about A.A. members they may meet?" The next topic presentation was selected from one of the Literature Committee's 2011 Conference Agenda Items as follows: "Motion to Re-consider Pamphlet on Spirituality". There was some confusion surrounding the discussion of this item as to what this motion was about...just as we had experienced during this item's discussion at our Area 69 Pre-conference Assembly this past March. I'm looking forward to Keith M.'s report back from the 61<sup>st</sup> GSC to learn more about this particular item and the results from the conference. Topic 4: "Grapevine, La Vina, La Vigne—Should they accept donations? What is the best way to support our meeting in print?" And wrapping up with the final presentation of this Panel, "A.A. Members and Other Drugs Pamphlet—Why is the revision taking so long?"

The Panel topics and presentations at this 2011 PRAASA were some of the best I have yet to experience. They were all very engaging, informative and thought provoking, inviting participation from the attendees at the microphone where many views, ideas and comments were shared following each panel.

Saturday afternoon wrapped up with the Trustee's Report delivered by Rod B. (our very own home-grown Elected Pacific Region Trustee...we are so proud of Rod and so honored to support him in his endeavors as a General Service Board Trustee!) This was then followed by the PRAASA Business Meeting

chaired by Madeleine P., Past Pacific Region Trustee. I sat next to Keith M. during this meeting and he whispered to me that this would be an awesome experience for me, as a newly elected Area Chair, to learn about and watch in action, the modified Robert's Rules as it pertains to conducting a business meeting which is likely to have motions, discussion, vote, etc. Now, if you don't know Madeleine P., she is as quick as a pistol and as sharp as they come—funny too! She did not let us down! It was a very good learning experience for all. The 2012 PRAASA will be hosted in Eastern Washington (Area 72). Keith M. presented a bid for the 2015 PRAASA to be hosted by Area 69, state of Utah. More shall be revealed as to the results of this bid when our Delegate returns from the conference.

Saturday evening began with a wonderful banquet and then we were lulled into a state of spiritual tranquility as Rod B. shared his story as that evening's speaker. Then it was back to 10:00pm Roundtable meetings followed by the "optional" and "die-hard"—"o'dark-thirty" A.A. meetings.

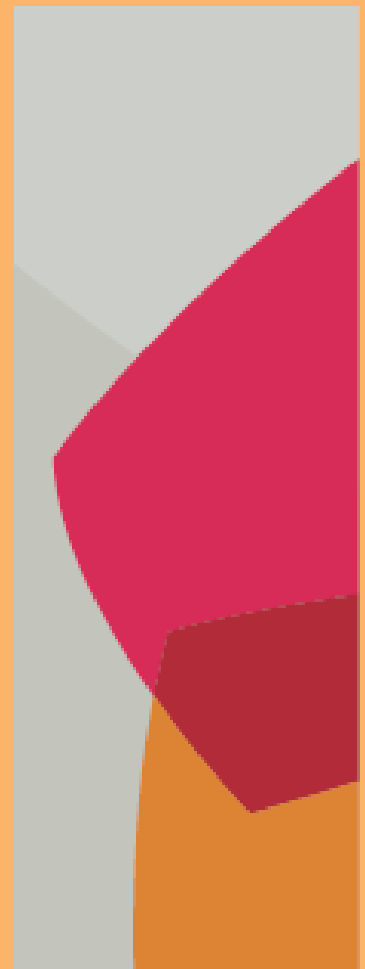
Sunday morning began with an 8:00am "Sharing Session—What's On Your Mind?" Next was my favorite PRAASA Panel Presentation—panel 7—"Past Trustee's Experience, Strength and Hope". Concept I "Group Conscience of the Fellowship"—Jim C.; Concept III "Right of Decision"—Madeleine P.; Concept V "Right of Appeal"—Ruth J.; Concept IX "Leadership"—George D.; Concept XII "Warranties"—Greg M. The abundance of experience and the humility through service that was brought to these presentations was palpable in the room—at least to me. I experienced an electric essence and state of being, just

one alcoholic amongst many, drawn together in love and gratitude of Alcoholics Anonymous for the restoration of our lives. What a sense of unity and deep understanding for the need to preserve our fellowship; that it will be available to future generations saving many, many lives yet to reach our doors. "We Are Responsible for A.A.'s Future—Let It Begin With Us".

The Delegates "Ask It Basket" session brought us to the conclusion of our 2011 PRAASA weekend experience. I am so grateful to A.A. and to Area 69 for the honor and privilege to have sobriety and service in my life today... words are hard to express... thank you.

In Love and Service,

Rena H.  
Area 69 Chair  
Panel 61



# PRAASA revisited

## Area 69

"Around the Fellowship"  
3-22-11

Aloha, and Mo halo for allowing me to serve, hope you are all doing well and hoping we win the bid for PRAASA 2015. I would like to focus on one of the one of the most important issues that was discussed this year when we all had the privilege and honor to meet in Hawaii. A special thanks should go to Vernon & his committee as most all of the Agenda topics were presented.

One of my favorite discussion topics at PRAASA 2011 centered around Anonymity, & it was Awesome!, our very own Keith M., Panel 61 Delegate gave one of the finest presentations on his panel #6 Saturday afternoon. There were a lot of HOT topics this year on the Conference Agenda which I am sure made for much heated debate and loving discussions in New York. That is why I like PRAASA and it is an excellent experience to help us stay informed about what is going on.

The first afternoon panel was: "Showing Faces of Actors who are portraying A. A. members in A. A. conference approved Videos." this item has been around for a while and will be discussed with the 2011 Panel 61 & Panel 62 Delegates under P.I., Public Information committee, there are over seven items now produced that have this included which could be affected. This item came about from a Conference advisory action to form a sub-committee requesting creation of policy on ,

Should we have full faces or not? Do you think the conference should Approve the policy of not using full faces? And more importantly, what do you think your group conscience would be on this topic? At the Pre-conference Assembly we had the right of decision through our trusted servants, based on the information presented to participate and we informed our Delegate on a sense of Area 69. Should we use actors or real members ? The videos with actors don't have the same effect yet using members we can not show full faces, names etc. This is an interesting and intriguing discussion, it will be very informative to see what was discussed when Keith shares what happened with this at our Post Conference Assembly.

Topic 2 was, Understanding anonymity, what do I tell family members about A.A. Members they may meet? Presented by Fred D. Oregon Area 58. This topic is concerned with just on facet of anonymity, and even though there is currently not a lot written about this in our A.A. literature, this still is an issue that is close to our hearts. How do I introduce a friend, an A.A. member to family & friends? I do not have the right to break anyone else anonymity as stated in "A.A. at a glance" & the spiritual principles in traditions 11 & 12 as in all traditions, are far more important than any personality within our fellowship . Fred mentioned that in the pamphlet A. A. at a glance has an assurance that our founders established that a

members involvement with our fellowship is to be protected and it is likely that a newcomer would see this in our literature racks also the word Anonymous is ½ the name of our fellowship and we should Remember what Bill W. said on Anonymity "We have denied ourselves personal government, professionalism, and the right to say who our members shall be. We have abandoned dogmatism, reform, and paternalism. We refuse charitable money and prefer to pay our own way. We will cooperate with practically everybody, yet we decline to marry our Society to anyone. We abstain from public controversy and will not quarrel among ourselves about those things that so rip society asunder—religion, politics, and reform. We have but one purpose; to carry the AA message to the sick alcoholic who wants it." from Bill W., The Language of the Heart, p. 211. Another discussion went on about what should we tell our loved ones about breaking the anonymity of members at the public level in when they pass away? Even though we as members have to honor our traditions, family members and friends do not. Do we explain why our traditions are so important to them or do we just let them go?

The third topic was shared by Linda McD. She is Delegate from Hawaii, Area 17. I really enjoyed her topic it was on the motion to reconsider our pamphlet on Spirituality... this item came from a conference advisory

action motion requesting the inclusion of stories from Atheists & Agnostics who are successfully sober in A.A. In our literature. Requests went out for stories, the 2011 Conference got to act on this. The Literature committee will review this, but it appears that this might be a bit misguided or at least that is what she said. "We should never change our literature to satisfy a specific group of members in A. A. as this would appear exclusive not inclusive and could violate our traditions". There were 198 stories submitted for consideration on this request. One of the conclusions for not changing our literature is the fact that many Atheist & Agnostic Alcoholics have gotten and stay sober without such literature therefore this would appear unnecessary. Our founding fathers debated on an acceptable concept of God or higher power and in the end let it be up to the individual members to personalize their own beliefs within the framework of the A. A. program. One thing is certain we all have but one primary purpose to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

The people from the floor Mic. brought up a lot of interesting points of view... several people from the floor came and expressed their concerns and opinions about how we address atheists & agnostics with these pieces of literature and throughout the fellowship in general, I could sense a lot of strong feelings from their comments and it will be very important what the outcome

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is from the conference on this one .

Our Fourth topic was: Grapevine, La Vina, La Vinge (French)- Should they accept donations? What is the best way to support our meeting In Print? Christelle L. DCM from ID, Area 18 spoke about this and General Service Board currently the magazines are supported by subscriptions only. She even went and bought a subscription to the Grapevine after she found out what her topic was. There were 20 pages of background material on this topic and The delegates were asked from a conference advisory action to share within their Areas that the Grapevine does not accept contributions that it is subscription supported only for operating expenses. Since the Grapevine and La Vina have not been self supporting, they have taken draw downs from the reserve fund to keep producing the respective fellowships magazines. Accepting contributions from members would allow another way to meet the expenses. The Grapevine in print carries the message to over 250,000 readers each

month not counting digital and audio versions. In it's 66 year history it has only been covering expenses 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the time. Hence the consideration for other alternatives of self support. The Grapevine has updated it's web page as well as audio and digital formats. What can be done to help improve it's financial health? Do you subscribe to the Grapevine? Does your group? I am sure that if each of us spreads the word about the Grapevine we will go a long way towards better self support. If you have not been to the web site lately you might want to check it out, you can order securely on line now.

The Final topic on the panel was about the pamphlet A.A. Members and other Drugs-Why is the revision taking so long?. Carolyn T. Altemate Archivist from Las Vegas, NV. All items for consideration in revising this pamphlet are confidential and only available to those on the committee so this is really about the blind leading the blind... The pamphlet is 22 pages long & was copyrighted in 1984. In 2007 the General Service conference advisory board

asked that the Trustees Literature committee, along with the publications department review/update this to include members current experiences. The committee determined it needed a lot of work. It went back to the review committee then back and forth several times all the way to the 2010 committee that was voted on and swayed by minority opinion to redo it yet again to include stories from sober Physicians ? Things do take a long time and Kleth will have more info on whether or not they have decided to republish this. On the A. A. clock 4 years in committee is not a long time the exact opposite of dog years. They are asked to work on it some more. We will look forward to how the process works with such controversial issues as medications and drugs.

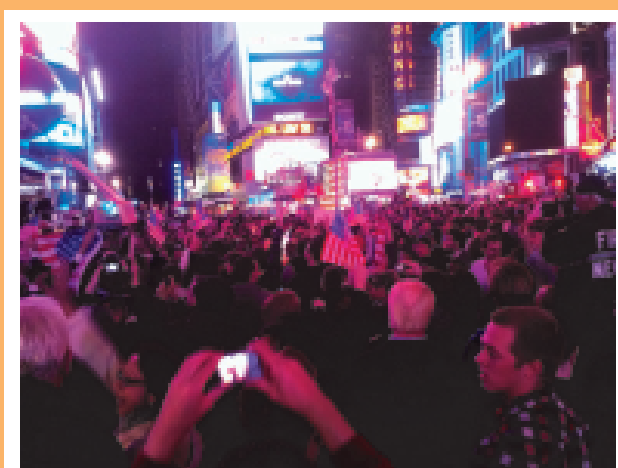
I hope some of these synopses and questions have piqued your interest on Anonymity and maybe helped share a little of what went on at PRAASA this year. Early in my third legacy journey some service people pulled me aside and thank goodness they shared their experience, strength and hope with me in

a way that was easy to understand... I was told early on in service that it keeps getting better if you just stick around and keep putting one foot in front of the other, at the time I didn't know if or how it could. It was difficult to understand all the lingo let alone what we were doing.

After the PRAASA in Honolulu we were invited to a Sunday birthday party on top of a high-rise hotel, Diamond Head to our right, a beautiful Pacific Sunset, watching Whales surface Laughing and sharing, eating fresh caught fish with pineapple off the grill alongside my family from the Pacific Region I just don't know how things could get any better than this, although they say if you keep coming back, it will... I guess this is what they mean by saying A.A. isn't something you join, it's a way of life!

Yours, in love & service, always...

Charlie G.  
Panel 61 Area 69  
Assembly/Agenda chair



## Times Square, NYC

# PRAASA revisited *Area 69*

PRAASA 2011  
Honolulu Hawaii

First things first, I personally want to thank District 3 for letting me represent our District as one of the Districts DCM at PRAASA 2011—a BIG THANK YOU . And yes this is my First PRAASA

The theme for the 44th Annual Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Services Assembly PRAASA, " WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR A.A.'s FUTURE-LET IT BEGIN WITH US." Now here comes the cool stuff. The purpose of PRAASA is to develop greater unity among the members, groups, and Areas of the Pacific Region; to encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences; and to provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of AA. The Assembly and the PRAASA committee should always foster the Recovery, Unity

and Service legacies of AA. At this PRAASA and in order of importance to a total of 812, GSR's, DCM's, Area Committees, Area Delegates and the Regions Trustee were all ready to serve these Three legacies of service. I was amazed when PRAASA took off with the welcome committee of Linda McD. host Delegate, Hawaii area 17 and Rod B. Pacific Region trustee this place was packed and remained packed to the closing on Sunday By Keith H. PRAASA Chair, Thank you Area 17. Now just a short run down of event Friday panel 1-Delegates Introduction, Area Services Highlights. Panel 2-An Informed Group Conscience. Panel 3- Alcoholic Anonymous in a Digital Age. Then round tables till 10:00 pm. and at the round table I was chosen to be the timer, personal Humility one more time got to love it. Saturday 8:00 am

panel 4-Diversity In AA we are responsible for AA 's future. Panel 5-Sponsorship. Lunch Break it suggested at PRAASA to Mix with others and share with them as they share with you that alone was worth the hole trip. Went to lunch with Shane a local Area 17 GSR to the food court in the Mall he was a great help in ordering a Traditional Hawaiian Meal thanks Shae it was great except the poi .Back from lunch and on to Panel 6-Around the Fellowship this is were Keith Area 69 Delegate Talked on the showing of actors faces who are portraying AA members in AA Conferences approved videos, Great Job Keith M. Trustee's Report By are own Rob B. Pacific Region Trustee and then PRAASA Business Meeting. Dinner Break ,Speakers Meeting- Rod B. Pacific Region Trustee. 10:00 pm round tables

till 12:00 am. Sunday 8:00 am Sharing Session - What's on your Mind- Thats funny by now my Mind had exploded lol. Panel 7-Past Trustee's Experiences, Strength and Hope. Delegates Ask it Basket. Closing Keith H PRAASA Chair. What a great experience not all was PRAASA we took a tour of Honolulu went to local AA meeting and the Fellowshiping with others was the best, I know what it's like to do meeting around here for me, but what it takes for you to do a meeting over there is always great news. My Experience form PRAASA 2011 is for you and others if you have any questions or concerns and you see me out and about please fill free to ask them and if I can I will. Thanks again for letting me be of services LILAIS California Dave.



## **PRAASA 2015 PRELIMINARY TIME LINE**

The PRAASA 2015 bid was awarded to Utah Area 69 during the Pacific Region Luncheon at the 81<sup>st</sup> General Service Conference. The next step in the hosting process is for us to sign a Letter of Intent with the Davis Convention and Visitors Bureau, site for the 2015 PRAASA. Next year, following PRAASA 2012, area 69 will start receiving seed

money from the next 3 PRAASA's. At that time we will need to open a checking account so that we can deposit and distribute those funds for acquiring facilities and related PRAASA preliminary expenses.

At the September 2013 Area 69 fall Assembly we will elect our PRAASA 2015 Committee. This will give us plenty of time to establish a web site; outline committee duties and responsibilities and fulfill other requirements of the PRAASA guidelines for hosting PRAASA. At the time we elect our PRAASA committee the 2015 bid commit-

tee will be disbanded. Until then the bid committee shall serve as liaison with other PRAASA hosting committees, area 69 and with the Davis Convention Bureau.

On behalf of the 2015 Bid Committee we thank you for this extraordinary opportunity to serve. Monte S.

Members of the PRAASA 2014 & 2015 bid committee are:

**Monte S.  
Keith M.  
Jodi E.  
Sheryl J.**



# GSC NYC 2011 Area 69



Host Hotel Crown Plaza



Friday 11 am Meeting Room at GSO



After Hours Club for Conference Members to load up on ice cream



Roosevelt Hotel Site of GSC from 1951 through 1980 something



Grapevine Display at General Service Conference, NYC



Shopping anyone?

# News & Notes Area 69

## Public Information Committee Report

Greetings, District 10!

It is my pleasure and honor to serve as your new Public Information chair, thank you for your vote of confidence. I have some experience with PI, and I'm looking forward to getting started, the rewards are indescribable.

Step 12 – Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

Public Information (P.I.) in Alcoholics Anonymous means carrying the message of recovery to the still-suffering alcoholic as our 12<sup>th</sup> step suggests, by informing the general

public about the A.A. program. We carry the message by information and education: who we are, where we are, what we do, and what we don't do.

As our co-founder, Bill W., wrote:

"Public Information takes many forms—the simple sign outside a meeting place that says "A.A. meeting tonight;" listing in local phone directories; distribution of A.A. literature; and radio and television shows using sophisticated media techniques. Whatever the form, it comes down to "one drunk carrying the message to another drunk," whether through personal contact or through the use of third parties and the media."

I'm hoping to establish a monthly PI meeting at the Salt Lake Central Office where we can begin forming ideas and plans of how to effectively reach those who need us. I'll be making a proposal to use a room on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month for an hour, at the next Central Office Board meeting, tomorrow night, and if approved, will begin distributing invitations to the first meeting.

If you are curious about Public Information and want to know more about the ways we carry our message, go to [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org), click on "For Groups and Members", click on "Public Information" and click on "PI Workbook". This is the main guide this committee will be using to carry our message.

Or come to the meeting. There are no requirements or limits to participation, except membership in AA. More importantly, there are no limits to the number of alcoholics who can be helped by our actions. It is impossible to guess how many lives can be changed by the simple act of reaching out.

Thank you for letting me serve, feel free to contact me at any time, I look forward to carrying this message with you....

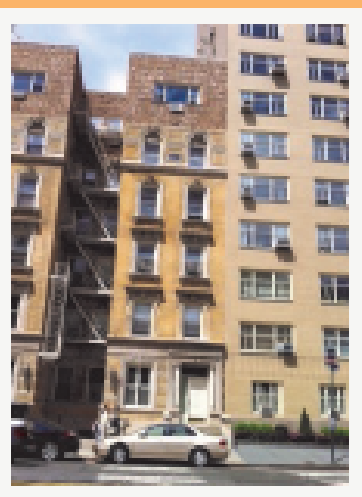
In loving service,

Wendy

Wendy White – chair  
971-235-5240  
[wwhite58@comcast.net](mailto:wwhite58@comcast.net)



*Photo hanging in GSO of history display from 75th International Convention*



*Formerly Towns hospital/ sanitarium where Bill sobered up numerous times, paid for by his brother in law, Leonard Strong.*



*Roosevelt Interchurch Center GSO Headquarters 475 Riverside Drive corner of Reinhold Niebuhr Pl (Reinhold authored the Serenity Prayer) & Riverside Dr. Riverside Church Spire in background*

# News & Notes *Area 69*

## GRAPEVINE

"It's never the wrong time for a meeting"

The Grapevine printed it's first issue in June 1944. The Grapevine is our meeting in print and is completely self-supporting through subscriptions and sale related items. These items include: The Best of Bill, Spiritual Awakenings, Emotional Sobriety, The Language of The Heart, AA Around the World, Best of the Grapevine I, II, III and IIII, pocket calendars, wall calendars, and numerous CD's. The Grapevine does not receive any of the contributions to GSO.

Ways a member or group can support the Grapevine:

1. Group Subscriptions: An individual or a home group can purchase a Grapevine /LaVina subscription. A home group can have the subscription mailed to the group grapevine representative, the group literature person, the group chairperson, or treasurer.
  2. Display Issues at meetings: clearly display and have subscription forms/catalogs available.
  3. Share arrival of latest edition.
  4. Use Grapevine in 12<sup>th</sup> Step activities: sponsor subscription(s) to newcomers, for someone's anniversary, a community center, a library, a hospital(s), a treatment center(s), a prison(s), or a doctor's office.
  5. Encourage participation: members are encourage submit articles, jokes, photos, etc. This is "our" meeting in print.
- Grapevine AA Meetings: there is a topic list in every issue that can be used to build meeting discussions.

In the fellowship, subscriptions are about 1 in 12 members. In Utah, recent numbers show a decline in member subscriptions.

<u>Grapevine</u>		<u>LaVina</u>	
Jan 2008	573	Jan/Feb 2008	20
Jan 2009	582	Jan/Feb 2009	31
Jan 2010	557	Jan/Feb 2010	21
Jan 2011	488	Jan/Feb 2011	6

You can access the Grapevine at [www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org). You can sign up for digital subscriptions at [www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org). Last months digital magazine debut enables subscribers to receive their digital magazine 2 weeks earlier than the print edition and the cost is \$19.97. The print subscriptions are \$27 for a year and \$51 for two years. You can convert your print edition to a digital edition and your subscription will be extended accordingly, enjoying more for less AND simultaneously help reduce Grapevine production and postage costs. The March 2011 issues will be on "Sponsorship" and the April 2011 issue will be on "The Road to Emotional Sobriety."

Treesa J.

### **NEWS FLASH: GRAPEVINE IS NOT A SINKING SHIP!!**

**FACT:** If 4,500 print subscriptions were added in addition to current print subscriptions, Grapevine would close the budget gap and become fully self-supporting this year. That's only 48 extra print subscriptions per area. Come on my fellow trudgers. We can do this!!!

March 2011 launched the official Grapevine's Digital Magazine in addition to existing print and audio formats. If each area added 65 new digital subscriptions, Grapevine could close the budget gap.

Now is the time to **SUPPORT YOUR GRAPEVINE!!**

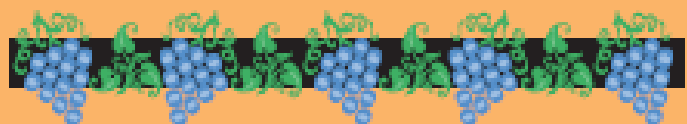
### **NEWS from AA Grapevine, Inc.:**

Grapevine Digital Magazine's Baker's Dozen: Receive 13 issues for the price of 12 at the introductory price of \$19.97. Discounts are available: \$10 off the total of any two versions, \$15 off the total of any three versions and \$20 off the total of any four versions.

Want to convert from print to a digital or audio subscription? The change is just a phone call away; 800-631-6025 or 818-487-2091. Your print subscription term will be extended accordingly.

**This Just In:** The first shipment of the paperback edition of "The Language of the Heart" Bill W's Grapevine writings with a new cover. The price is \$12.95 and the Product Code: GV11. Order at [www.AAGrapevine.org](http://www.AAGrapevine.org) or by calling 800-631-6025.

In Service, Treesa J., Area 69 Grapevine Standing Chair



# News & Notes

## Area 69

**Dixie C.O. -  
St. George, Utah**

**A. AA Approved Literature for Jails, Prison, and Treatment Facilities:** We now have the capability to take booklets, pamphlets, and other material into these facilities by removing the staples and replacing them with garment tags. This is a very low-cost, inexpensive way to "carry the message". We have located a supplier of the garment 1/2" barbs and tagging guns. Any old Grapevines with staples were not accepted but by removing the staples, and tagging with nylon barbs, WOW....we can really get creative. This procedure has caught the interest of the Corrections Desk back in NY. We plan to bring this to the table at the up-

coming Annual AAWS C.O./Intergroup Seminar in Phoenix this September. Anyone that's interested, they can contact me direc @ 801-918-9966, or email me @ bo-hicarl@gmail.com.

**B. Helping to Reduce Costs.** Recent news about the drop in Area Contributions leaves us with finding alternatives to help lower expenses and improving on our ability to step up with new ideas and ways to help our AA community to meet our financial obligations.

A couple of ways to reduce necessary expenses can be achieved by utilizing the printing services at our local Central Offices. I'm sure that contributing a donation for printing services keeps those donated dol-

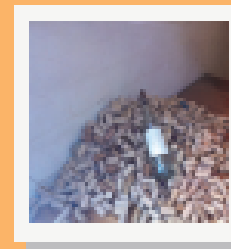
lars working for the good of AA. Try donating a case of paper that most office supply stores put on sale periodically. We know that's not economical in some locations because we just don't have those kinds of services available geographically....but we can certainly try and take advantage of price shopping for printing services. Passing the basket more than once at a meeting can help, so can a home group Weekly/Monthly AA Book drawing.....

**C. And What Can the Groups, Districts, and Area do?** I know this subject has come up before, and it's worth approaching again. As AA members, we have that responsibility to try and help by coming up with our ideas and

questions that can be directed to the Area, Districts, and groups. We can voice our opinions and suggestions through our service representatives.....Why have contributions dropped off?.....What is the Group/District/Area doing to be more efficient or supportive?.....There's allot of questions out there but just needs some folks to begin asking them.

Appreciate you're courtesy,

Ron L.  
DCO Treasurer  
St. George



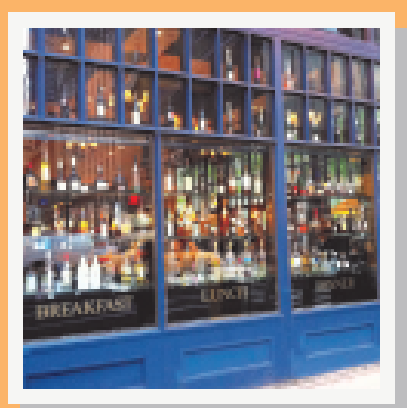
*One bottle is too many and a thousand cores is not enough.*



*Challenges for Superman*



*FAST FOOD in a New York Second*



*Booze - Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner & Brunch*

# Request for help *Area 69*

## Archive Repository

There are 33 different categories within the repository all with various uses.

What most members seem to think of first are the displays. These are done/presented to help inform the fellowship and so that members have the opportunity to view some of the historical items and memorabilia.

But information from our past is vital to have complete records.

There are three main classes of material: Literary and historical, that which is archival i.e. administrative, legal, financial. Memorabilia or artifactual items which include material having a display value but not necessarily of an historical value.

99% of all items in the repository were acquired by donation. Donations are vital to the archives and can come from any area of the state. This may include districts, individual persons, an area event or fellowshipping event, information from the Pacific Region, or information when someone has traveled to a special workshop or event out of our area.

There are gaps in our past history due to many factors which may never be corrected or completed. Your help is needed to help fill in gaps and to make the future archives more complete.

Having information in the repository is crucial! Our history is only as good as the information that has been submitted. So far I have always been able to locate information requested, but one day that may not be the case.

How can you help??

Ask your district secretaries to email your district minutes, or mail a copy to the archives, also your district guidelines, etc. When you attend an event within your district or elsewhere, pick up an extra copy to pass on to the archives, and take some pictures, with the information on the back, or with a note. If you know someone who has items to donate pass on the information. Talk to long timers in your area and see if they have any items or information they would like to donate. The archives will be happy to pay or make copies of items that might need to stay with someone or in a district. Thanks!

Interested individuals or if you have questions please contact me.

Archives – Repository area69archivist@utahaa.org or jhafen@scintemet.net  
Janet Hafen, PO Box 235, Hurricane, UT 84737  
435-590-8245

In fellowship and service





# From Monte *Area 69*

## Message from the Editor—Monte S.

How do you give back what was freely given to you? How do you spread the message of hope, recovery and unity to those beyond your home group? Are you ready to be of service on an area level? Contributing to the Area 69 News and Notes publication is a rewarding way to be of service and to share with fellow members around the state. Simply contact your newsletter editor, with your article or photo by emailing : [area69immediatepastdelegate@utahaa.org](mailto:area69immediatepastdelegate@utahaa.org).

Area 69 News and Notes newsletter is published by Area 69. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and not necessarily those of A.A.W.S., nor does publication of any article imply endorsement or affiliation by A.A.W.S. or Area 69. Contributions from A.A. members are welcome and will be printed as space allows. Submissions must be e mailed and include the writers' contact information. Submissions may be signed with first name and last initial. Anonymous submissions will be published but the author's contact information must be included. The editors reserve the right to edit contents

for length, clarity and their relation to the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous. An effort will be made to contact the author regarding content changes.

*This e-mail/Newsletter including any attachments are confidential.*

*Please respect the anonymity of others when sharing this publication.*

Thanks to those that contributed to the writing, editing, and production of this edition.

Monte S.



## Upcoming Events:

# [www.utahaa.org](http://www.utahaa.org)

<i>May 30-22, 2011</i>	<i>Post-Conference Assembly</i>	<i>District 11</i>
<i>June 19-25, 2011</i>	<i>Utah School on Alcoholism</i>	<i>U of U, SLC</i>
<i>June 18, 2011</i>	<i>Utah Bridge the Gap Workshop</i>	<i>District 8</i>
<i>August 13-14, 2011</i>	<i>Pre-Assembly Workshop</i>	<i>District 10</i>
<i>August 19-21, 2011</i>	<i>Regional (Additional) Forum</i>	<i>Woodland Hills, CA</i>
<i>September 23-25, 2011</i>	<i>Fall Assembly</i>	<i>District 2</i>
<i>November 5-6, 2011</i>	<i>Fall Workshop</i>	<i>District 12</i>
<i>December 3, 2011</i>	<i>Area Committee Meeting</i>	<i>District 3</i>
<i>February 25, 2011</i>	<i>Area Committee Meeting</i>	<i>District 9, Moab</i>
<i>March 2-4, 2012</i>	<i>PRAASA</i>	<i>Bellevue, WA</i>

