

AREA 60 4TH QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

December 7, 2014 - Comfort Inn – Penn Hills, PA

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson, John K opened the meeting at 10:15am with the Declaration of Unity:

"This we owe to A.A.'s future: To place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives and the lives of those to come."

READING, Erik K, Alt. DCM, Dist. #19: "The General Service Representative," S26, *The AA Service Manual*.

ALTERNATE CHAIR'S REPORT, John R.:

- John attended the PA State Convention planning meeting, took Teresa K to familiarize her with the process. Always an interesting convention, adding more and more all the time. Hoping to add more service oriented panels. Thanked Area 60 for electing him new Chair of Area 60.

ROLL CALL: Becky C. Panel 65 Recording Secretary.

5 Elected Officers: Delegate, Alt. Delegate, Chairperson, Alt. Chairperson, and Treasurer

12 Service Committee Officers and Coordinators: Archivist, Alt. Treasurer, Registrar, Alt. Registrar, Archives, Alt. CPC/PI, Grapevine, Literature, Newsletter, Treatment/Special Needs/Accessibility, Website, and Alt. Website.

3 Past Delegates: Panel 51; Panel 57; and Panel 61

24 DCM's from Districts: 6, 7, 8, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 31, 40, 41, 45, 62, 65, 71.

14 Alt. DCM's from Districts: 6, 7, 12, 14, 16, 19, 23, 27, 28, 41, 44, 51, 62, 70.

40 GSR's from Districts: 2[1], 3[3], 6[1], 7[1], 8[1], 11[5], 12[1], 18[1], 20[1], 23[4], 24[3], 27[3], 28[3], 29[4], 40[1], 41[1], 45[2], 51[3], 70[1].

19 Interested persons from Districts: 5[1], 14[2], 17[1], 19[1], 20[1], 24[1], 27[3], 28[1], 51[1], 61[1], 65[2], 70[4].

ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT, George K.:

- George asked how many people were present for their first area meeting. A number of hands raised. George reminded them that this is their area, not just a meeting for those who take the podium. He encouraged the reading of the Service Manual.
- Relocation Committee met: John R., John K., Jay P., & Walter G. were present. The committee finalized requirements for the facilities, defined district responsibilities in order for the area meeting to be held in other geographical areas, and decided upon a budget. The committee will write a report & present it to Officers/Coordinators meeting at the end of the month and then bring the recommendations to the Area at the 1st Quarterly Meeting on January 18th.
- George spoke on his term as Alt. Delegate ending. George remembered Ted G., former Grapevine Coordinator who passed away. He summarized his service by speaking of what it meant to be the Chair of Getaway Weekend and how the Area listened to the membership and changed the format of GAW according to feedback it received. He emphasized how important it was that the membership were involved in making it a successful weekend, as evidenced by the feedback from this year's GAW.
- He thanked Panel 63 for coming together and cooperating so well together, making his term as Alt. Delegate a pleasure.

DELEGATE'S REPORT, Yvette N.:

- Yvette delivered her final Delegate report. Yvette has been busy speaking often around Area 60. Spoke at an Anniversary/Gratitude meeting in Morgantown, VA, asked by a fellow Delegate, as well as many other meetings in and out of the area. She also referred to the trust placed in leadership, the humility necessary, and the responsibility that goes along with it. Spent her vacation in Northern California and visited meetings there, speaking on the Unity from place to place.
- Yvette pointed to AAWS Highlights she'd placed on the tables. She encouraged membership to read them and ask for extras if anyone needed them. Sales of the BB in September were 49% higher than expected (attributed to price increase effective October). Phase I of the co-location of Grapevine with GSO offices is complete, there are job

openings at GSO in IT. Talked about the Seventh Tradition and self-support, asking that members consider increasing their contributions. Online contributions are now possible, including recurring contributions. Talked about the Birthday Plan. Birthday envelopes available free from GSO.

- NERAASA (Northeast Regional AA Service Assembly) fliers on the table (Feb 20-22 in New Jersey); NERF (Northeast Regional Forum) in Albany, NY (May 29-31). All AA members are welcomed and encouraged to attend.
- International Convention in Atlanta, GA, July 2-5: 10,000 registered on the first day for International Convention. At end of October, 27,000 were registered. Planning for 50,000. Area 59 & Area 60 will host a hospitality room for Pennsylvania. Yvette has fliers that she will bring in January for DCMs so that districts and groups can make contributions to fund it.
- 23rd Annual Area 60 GAW fliers are available (March 27-29). Registration is to be sent to PO Box 266, Monroeville, PA 15146, though the address on the flier will be active for the next six months (either will work; former is preferred). Yvette says, "Get your registrations in!" When asking who'd been to a GAW, many hands raised.
- Yvette welcomed PENNSCYPAA (Pennsylvania State Conference of Young People in AA) members and encouraged them to "keep coming back!"
- Email from Andrew W. Class B Trustee & Grapevine Chair thanking everyone for joining Grapevine's 70th Anniversary Celebration. Invited the Area to join the 2015 Subscription Challenge: the state, province, or territory with the greatest % growth in new GV or La Viña subscriptions will be featured on the cover of a 2016 issue with a special section highlighting local members' stories of recovery.
- Yvette submitted Past Delegate Jean M's resume in application for NE Regional Trustee. Yvette thanked the fellowship for allowing her to serve and received a standing ovation upon leaving the podium.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT, John K.: John K expressed his feelings "flooding up" at giving his last Chair report. He thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve in his position. He said he has learned that service has strengthened his sobriety.

TREASURER'S REPORT, Barb D.:

- Put new contribution form with new Treasurer Mario D's address (PO Box 266, Monroeville, PA 15146). Barb assured the membership that anything sent to the old address would be received for the next several months, after which time, Barb will set up forwarding to Mario's address.
- Barb chaired a Treasurer's Roundtable for District 14 to educate incoming treasurers.
- Treasurer's reports were put on the tables for the period 8/15 through 12/5/14. Asked membership to review it and asked if there were any questions. Starting balance: \$26,821.85. Total expenses (YTD): 40,284.72. Total Income (YTD): 42,826.94. Ending balance: \$26,767.11. Reserve balance beginning: \$9,323.96. Ending reserve: \$9,324.36. A motion to approve made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report. In absence of voting procedure, John K gave an abbreviated version. Treasurer's Report approved unanimously.
- Barb thanked the membership for allowing her to serve as Treasurer and Registrar before.

MINUTES, Chairperson John K. took the podium and asked for a motion 3rd Q minutes to be approved.

- **Amendment to the minutes:** Becky C, DCM 27, her 3 GSRs were not counted in the 3rd Q minutes. Correction will need to be made. With correction, motion made and seconded, minutes were approved unanimously.

APPOINTED OFFICERS & COORDINATORS REPORTS, INVITED GUESTS

- **NEWSLETTER, *Seeds of Service***, Barb G.: Barb announced Districts 1, 4, 10, 11, 36, & 43 have not yet picked up their newsletter packets, encouraging someone from the districts to pick them up and save postage in mailing them. Barb thanked the contributors to the newsletters. She pointed out that the newsletter topic, *Inventory – A Guiding Tool to Our Future*, generated a lot of good sharing. *Diversity in AA, Our Heritage of Inclusion*, is the topic for the next newsletter and submissions need to be turned in by December 31st. Barb said it would be great to receive submissions from outlying districts. She reminded folks that the Seeds of Service is a great resource for generating meeting topics and as a tool for GSRreports. Reminded the fellowship that the newsletter is available online at <http://www.wpaarea60.org>.

- **REGISTRAR**, Teresa K: Teresa said, "Just as I figured out my job, I'm done with it." Five districts have been relit in her tenure. She encouraged submission of accurate and current information, as she had to clear many bad emails and addresses. This is the means by which districts, groups, and individuals receive communication from Area. She cannot change district officers & coordinators because she is "locked out" while GSO does its necessary rollover to the next panel. She still can do GSR changes. She will take care of GSR changes if given to her today & district change of information will go to Jay, who will make the changes when he receives his certificate which gives him access to the databases. Teresa spoke on what her term has meant to her. She thanked the membership for support in making her Alt. Chair for Panel 65. She spoke on her first trip to Harrisburg to familiarize her with her new job as liaison to the State Convention.
- **ARCHIVIST**, Al C.: Participated in Dist 19's panel, purchased a 3-in-1 printer, a copier/scanner, and a back-up hard drive for the digital storing of archive records. Oct. 9-11th, he attended the 18th National AA Archives Workshop in King of Prussia near Philadelphia. He took side trips to Stepping Stones in Bedford Hills, NY, home Bill W. & wife Lois; toured offices of GSO & its archives. He attended workshops, some with hands-on experience. Al was budgeted \$1,000 for the trip and used \$667.94 of it. A detailed report of his trip is available in the current issue of *Seeds of Service*. Next year's workshop will be held Sept. 24-27 in Independence, OH.
- **PENNSCYPAA LIAISON**, Brian H.: PENNSCYPAA conference that works w/in guidelines of GSO. Goal is to help younger alcoholics to get into service in mainstream AA. Encourages members to get involved and support PENNSCYPAA, the newly forming PAYPAA committee, and to visit PENNSCYPAA.org and pittsburghbid.com for more information.
- **ARCHIVES**, Dennis M.: He has been working w/groups on their histories, helping those who are trying to build up their archives or establish one and reminds the membership that he's available to help with the establishing of an archive. Went to last DOS in Warren. Is working w/Al, the Archivist on various aspects of archives. Asks that individuals who have historical documents, literature, books, etc. that they would like to donate to the area that they contact him.
- **CPC/PI**, Alt CPC/PI, Eric K.: Mike wasn't feeling well. He delivered Mike's report: "I don't have a lot to report. I'd like to thank everyone for allowing me to be of service as the PI/CPC of Area 60. I really enjoyed going to all the Days of Sharing and look forward to being of service for the next two years." Erik thanked everyone for allowing him to serve as Alternate, and as he has been elected to DCM for District 19, he will not be continuing as in an area coordinator position. He also thanked PENNSCYPAA for their presence and said that he came into AA at age 16 and is now 24.
- **CORRECTIONS**: Vacant – the position has been filled for the upcoming year by Maresa S.
- **GRAPEVINE**, Joe L.: Joe was Alternate, appreciates the help in transitioning to Coordinator after Ted G's death. Thanked Jean M especially. Expressed appreciation for the quality of the display that has been created in past years. Talked about new book, *Sober and Out*, the Quote of the Day (subscription via email, free), free shipping special on Grapevine materials. Discussed audio Grapevine, which has been around for about a year. Joe would like district/group GV reps to get in contact with him at grapevine@wpaarea60.org.
- **LITERATURE**, Rick O.: Rick discussed the type of service material available, including signing instructions to communicate with deaf members. Mentioned a Braille BB is about the same price as a regular BB, which affirms that AA is available for everybody. Rick reminds folks that he puts in orders regularly and is happy to take orders from districts/groups.
- **TREATMENT/SPECIAL NEEDS/ACCESSIBILITIES**, John C.: Thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve. Has been preparing for the past three months. Main goal: improve communication through treatment service. He would like to meet with representatives from every district. Has met with four so far. Would like to be invited to every district and asked that they call him at [REDACTED] or email him at treatment@wpaarea60.org or [redacted]. Text, email, or call to set up a time for him to come to your district. He is available to help districts set up a Treatment/Special Needs/Accessibilities committee. John would like to update display to digital and asked for people (specifically younger people) to help with him. Wants to have a visual display of each district, and also would like volunteers to help with that. He is also looking for Alternate and someone to focus on Special Needs aspect. Showed an H&I contribution can that is appearing around the area. John talked about the Pittsburgh H&I Committee offering free literature to anyone taking meetings into hospitals, institutions or jails. Meets at Church

of the Ascension, 2nd Monday of every month. Offering free literature to anyone taking meetings into an institution. Contact John for details.

- **WEBSITE**, Mario D: Mario attended District 21's GSR meeting w/Rick, Literature Coordinator. Thanked Patrick for inviting them. Feels website is more up to date than it's been in awhile, thanks to the input from districts and groups. Thanked Teresa for all her work in helping to get website updated. Hubert will be new Website Coordinator; Mario is Panel 65 Treasurer. Reminded membership that all of the forms & guidelines are available on the website. Asked that districts send their new meeting lists to Hubert to get them posted (in Microsoft Word or .PDF). Asked that events be emailed to website coordinator for posting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Review of 2014 Area 60 Calendar

NEW BUSINESS:

- Review of Calendar for 2014
 - December 21st, Officers/Coordinators Meeting
- Review of Calendar for 2015
 - Jan. 11, GAW Planning Meeting; Jan. 18, 1st Q Meeting; Feb. 8, Officers/Coordinators Meeting/GAW Planning Meeting; Feb. 20-22, NERAASA, Somerset, NJ; March 15, GAW Planning Meeting; March 27-28, Area 60 Get Away Weekend; March 29, Pre-Conference Assembly;
 - April 12, Officers/Coordinators Meeting; April 19-25, General Service Conference, NY, NY; May 17, 2nd Q Meeting; June 7, Officers/Coordinators Meeting; June 28, Post-Conference Assembly;
 - July 2-5, International Convention in Atlanta; July 19th, Officers/Coordinators Meeting; Aug. 16, 3rd Q Meeting; Sept. 13, Officers/Coordinators Meeting;
 - Oct. 18, Fall Assembly; Nov. 8, Officers/Coordinators Meeting & GAW Planning; Dec. 6, 4th Q Meeting; December 20, Officers/Coordinators Meeting.
- **CORRECTION TO NEWSLETTER:** January 18th First Quarterly, **NOT** January 8th as listed.
- Bids for Day of Sharing 2015
 - One District wanted to make a bid but did not have a flier available yet.
- John R, Alt Chair recognized the incoming Panel 65 officers. Delegate: George K; Alt Delegate: John K; Chair: John R; Alt Chair: Teresa K; Secretary: Jody L-K; Recording Sec: Becky C; Treasurer: Mario D; Alt. Treasurer, Kathy R; Archivist: Al C; Archives: Dennis M; CPC/PI: Mike J; Registrar: Jay P; Corrections: Maresa S; Literature: Rick O; Treatment/SN – John O; Website: Hubert H

DCM REPORTS

- **D65:** Bobbi G, DCM. 9 active groups & 10 meetings in district. Mix of speaker and discussion meetings, including 12&12, Big Book, and Grapevine discussion. Recently elected a new H&I Coordinator, Ken S. In search of a new District Treasurer. The Monday Beginner's Big Book group celebrated 24 years on Nov. 10 w/35 in attendance. Ray of Hope is having their annual Christmas party on Dec. 17 beginning at 6:30pm at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 122 N Water St. in Kittaning. Tuesday AM Grapevine Group is having an anniversary meeting on Jan. 20th at Grace Presbyterian Church, N. Jefferson St., Kittaning.
- **D61:** Marsha, incoming DCM. No report.
- **D52:** Corky M, DCM. Western Mercer County. 20 active meetings, good mix of discussion, Big Book Study, 12&12, lead meetings. 8-12 GSRs attend district meeting. District answering service, in conjunction w/D18, had their annual spaghetti dinner, which was a success. Able to generate enough revenue to keep going through this year. Alcathon at Fatima Hall on Dec. 24th from 5pm until Dec. 25 at 5pm. Starting at 6pm, groups will sponsor a meeting on the even hours. Midnight 11th Step candlelight meeting. Information on website: wpadistrict52.org.
- **D51:** Larry, DCM. Held elections last month. Groups all doing well. Three groups have moved locations and are adjusting to their new locations.

- **D41:** John, DCM. Johnstown. 13 groups. Average meeting size is 40 people. All district positions filled. Active meetings in jails and treatment facilities. New activities committee. Lot of active young people. New website – wpaadistrict40.org.
- **D40:** Robert, Alt DCM incoming DCM. "We're growing. It's been a black area for some time, but we're finally getting various groups attending District Meetings. We're having a lot of fun. Come up and visit."
- **D31:** Doug, DCM. District meetings 1st Wed, 1st Presbyterian Church, 25 W. Main St., North East, PA at 7pm. Working with Erie Area Central Committee in Erie for DOS in February, getting information to local doctor's offices, schools providing Big Books and literature.
- **D28:** Greg N., DCM. 26 groups, 16-18 attending district meeting. 5 or 6 contribute "generously." 3-4 years ago, treasury was depleted, and now making regular contributions to Area, GSO, Pgh Central Office, "trying to figure out how to get rid of money." PI/CPC distributing a lot of literature to Magistrate offices, treatment facilities, support other districts in their treatment facility work. 2015, doing DOS w/Districts #6 & #8 in the fall. Looking to coordinate a trip to Dr. Bob's house & Central Archives in Akron. Great folks rotating in.
- **D7:** Nancy P., DCM. Literature workshop on 11/17, 45 present, panel of 4 speakers spoke on the pamphlet, "The Group: Where the AA Service Structure Begins." Good feedback, great light dinner. Active in treatment. Added 2nd meeting at St. Claire Hospital. CPC/PI participated in a forum called "Living Better" on 11/12 sponsored by Mount Lebanon Community Relations Board.
- **D8:** Barry, DCM. 34 groups. Take a meeting in to Eastport Hospital on Sundays at 6pm. Filled all district officer positions. Monday night, East McKeesport will be celebrating its 47th anniversary. Tuesday Early Nighters will celebrate its 43rd anniversary.
- **D11:** Ron, GSR. Had elections at last district meeting. ALL NEW officers! New DCM is John L from Parkway West. New Alt is Don B from McDonald. Have a lot of participation at the district level (20-25 people). Active calendar: Greenbriar, Gateway Greentree, Bradley Adolescent Group. All commitments have been met!
- **D6:** Pat H, DCM. Rotation of four new officers. Mary Jane O will be new DCM. Henry W will be new Alt. DCM. Thanked the area for their service and allowing him to serve.
- **D12:** Maresa S, DCM. Thanked Teresa K for help in relighting the district. Thanked members of her district as well. Thanked Frank, Jay & Tony B for helping keep the district meeting going. Frank will be new DCM. Maresa will be new Corrections Coordinator. Has been involved in women's meetings at Allegheny County Jail.
- **D27:** Becky C, DCM. 32 groups holding 35 meetings per week with a good mix of formats. Monthly meeting is held the first Sunday of the month (except on holidays and Superbowl Sunday, when it is held the second Sunday). Our new DCM is Terri H, Alt. DCM is Kurt S, Treasurer is Tom M. Secretary is vacant, confident it will be filled at tonight's meeting. Annual Family NYE Party will be held at Trinity Methodist Church in Tarentum beginning at 7pm. Dancing for adults, arts & crafts/movies for children in a separate room. All are welcome. Becky thanked all who have made her term as DCM rewarding and enjoyable. Learned much about Traditions and Concepts & how they work for the betterment of the fellowship. Looks forward to serving as Area 60 Recording Secretary for the next two years. Becky tendered her resignation as "The Muffin Lady." Sounds of dismay were heard throughout the room.
- **D15:** Paul L, DCM. Includes Clearfield & Jefferson counties, 26 groups, 2 jails, have an answering service, long list of volunteers to take calls. Recent elections – all positions have been filled. Annual NYE celebration in DuBois. Flier on website (district15wpa.org). Thank you for the opportunity to serve. Thanked all who sent cards after his recent surgery.
- **D25:** Tim T., DCM. South Beaver County, 21 groups, all participating at the district level. Elections held, all officer positions filled. District meeting 3rd Thursday of the month, 25-30 participating. Corrections & Treatment strong, service 12 locations. Strong Literature committee, large inventory of literature. Website connected to Beaver County AA. Functions committee does 2-3 events a year. Annual 24-Hour Christmas Celebration/Alcathon. Starting Christmas Eve, 9am until Christmas Day, 9am.
- **D16:** Rich, Alt. DCM. Have a lot of confusion in the district & need help from the area to get things straightened out. Active w/a lot of young people coming in. Has issues with corrections meetings – jails won't allow them to bring in literature or books for security reasons. We're trying to change that. Activities coming up. Fliers will be available. Thanks for allowing me to serve and thanks to my sponsor for pushing me to get involved.

- **D24:** Betsy Mc, Alt. DCM. Beaver Falls. Filled all positions in recent election. Even have alternates! Appreciates the resources still available to those who do not use computers. Several groups are without GSRs. Have our district meeting the first Thursday of the month at 6:30pm. Told story about using the confidential list to find resources for a new person and was able to contact a DCM in another district to get her to a meeting within two hours. We are working very well with District 25.
- **D17:** Walter G, DCM: Bedford & Blair County. About 50 weekly meetings of various types throughout two counties. Many groups are struggling w/low membership. Corrections Facilities coordinator has moved. Looking for someone to fill his position. Treatment Coordinator is putting together a committee to bring meetings into different treatment centers. Literature & Grapevine Reps are doing a good job keeping the district supplied with books, pamphlets, subscriptions, etc. Our Club House provides a space for many meetings throughout the week. Looking forward to Christmas and New Year's Alcahons (starting at noon until 9pm, meetings on the even hours, food/fellowship in between). At Thanksgiving Alcahons, we had 250-300 people.
- **D23:** Lisa "Lame Duck" DCM. Monthly meeting on 1st Fri of the month with workshops prior every other month. Unity Day, a 12 Traditions study, went very well. 60 people in attendance. 12 home groups sent members to do presentations on each Tradition. October elections filled all but two positions, which were filled in November. Margie S., new DCM; Leslie E., Alt. DCM; Cliff F., Treasurer; Monica T., Newsletter; Bernie S., H&I. Grateful for the opportunity to serve, very good for my sobriety.
- **D18:** Charlie G., DCM. 12 groups, 50% attendance at GSR Meetings, 2nd Wed. at Pine Grove Community Center, 8:15pm. Purchased Big Books for high schools, public libraries, colleges; Sent mass mailing to doctors, churches, rehabs, & counselors containing meeting list & cover letter; purchased PO Box for three members to communicate with 6 members in prison; formed Sober Events Committee to plan social events through the year; NYE Gathering at Masonic Hall in Grove City. Tickets \$12/person or \$20/couple at the door.
- **D22:** Jim B., DCM. 12 groups participating in the following programs: Family Links (women's program), ACTA, Mercy Behavioral, Female Offenders (Oakland), Liberty Station (Juvenile program), Mercy Detox.
- **D19:** Jay P., DCM. Election results: Erik K., DCM; John W. Alt. DCM; Tracey T., Secretary; Joe A., Treasurer. 16 Groups in district, 12-13 present at district meetings. NYE dance in the planning stages, close to deciding on a date.
- **D21:** Patrick B, DCM. Dec. 20th, Ugly Sweater Dance to support PENNSCYPAA's bid for a convention.

OPEN MIC

- **Jean M.**, Past Delegate., Panel 61: would like to remind membership that ANY AA member is welcome to attend NERAASA.
- **Leslie**, New Alt. DCM Dist 23: Suggested a break during the meeting to cut down on the number of people going back and forth.
- **Yvette N.**, Delegate: Meeting decided no breaks, but feel free to take one if you need one. Thanked everyone who stayed through the end of the meeting. Reminded districts that the Area is there to help them to problem solve and provide guidance. Yvette spoke of her experience in area service. Spoke of the Spirit of Rotation.
- **Barry Y.**, DCM D8: Talked about the newcomer & how it's important to explain what the various abbreviations, such as NERAASA mean.
- **Fred B.**, Dist 65 "Hostage" – Came to AA at age 19, reminded the PENNSCYPAA reps to stay young, don't forget where you came from.
- **Walt G.**, D17: Asked that the minutes be emailed so that they can be taken to the districts before the next Quarterly meeting.
- **Jody K**, Incoming Area 60 Secretary: Stated the goal is 2-3 weeks turnaround for minutes.
- **Becky C:** "Last chance for muffins."
- **Cindy:** As a young person, thanked "spiritual giants" who have passed the message along to people her age.

ADJOURNMENT, Chairperson John K. adjourned the meeting at 12:52pm with the Responsibility Statement.