

June 27, 2009

## **REPORT OF THE AREA CHAIR**

### **Today's Agenda**

Today's Agenda includes the Panel 59 Post-General Service Conference Delegate Report. In addition to the normal committee breakout sessions and reports, per John's request, it also includes a presentation of the new Young People video.

The business portion of the Agenda includes the election for the vacant Alternate Literature Chair position, acceptance of a bid for the 2010 Big Book Conference and nine motions. Motions by the Corrections and Treatment Facilities Committees each seek to add service activity items to the Primary Purpose Register. These additions would cover reimbursement of expenses incurred in conducting workshops those committees are proposing to hold. The Report & Charter Committee seeks to amend the Service Structure Guidelines to specify election procedures and voting responsibilities for the position of Alternate Area Registrar. Four other motions reflect recommendations by the Finance Committee to take certain actions it deems necessary as a result of the adoption of the Primary Purpose Register. In addition, your Area Delegate has proposed a motion to add an Activity Item to the PPR to reflect the Southern Illinois' request for participation by Area 20 in panels for the upcoming State Conference in Peoria. Finally, the Treatment Facilities Committee has a motion to cover expenses related to participation in a national "Back to Basic" conference.

The Public Information Committee has withdrawn the motion to add a "members-only" section to the Area website, so it can be reconsidered at the service committee level.

### **Illinois State Conference/East Central Regional Conference**

The 36<sup>th</sup> Illinois State Conference/29<sup>th</sup> East Central Regional Conference, hosted by Southern Illinois, will be held August 7-9 at the Holiday Inn – City Center in Peoria. Flyers are available here and on the Area website at [www.nia-aa.org](http://www.nia-aa.org). Hotel registration at special conference rates is available through July 20. Please register early and come join us for what promises to be a great weekend.

Earlier this month, we received the attached preliminary program for the State Conference and a request for participation. The program will include main speakers, roundtable discussions, topical panels and alkathons. The roundtable discussions, scheduled for Friday night or Saturday morning, will include the following: Delegates, Chairs, Treasurers, Secretaries, Registrars, Newsletter Editors, DCMs, GSRs, CPC, Corrections, Public Information, Treatment, Grapevine, Archives and Intergroups. Volunteers are needed to serve as Chair and Reporting Secretaries for each of these roundtables. Topical panels will include Young People's (30 years of age or younger) and Oldtimer's (30 years of sobriety or more) panels, as well as the following:

- Preserving our Future – The Traditions
- Gratitude in Action
- The Grapevine – 65 Years as our Meeting in Print
- Our Basic Guide to Twelfth Step Work – The Traditions

- Hope and Purpose from Defeat and Despair
- Democracy in AA Through the Twelve Concepts
- Carrying the Message
- The Big Book Turns 70
- Protecting AA's Principles The Pathway to Unity

The Southern Illinois Area Program Chair is seeking volunteers to participate on these panels and serve as moderators and timekeepers. Please let John or me know if you are willing to serve in any of these capacities.

### **Fall Election Assembly**

At the Fall Assembly to be held on September 12 in Mt. Morris -- and in three fourths of our Districts -- elections will be held to determine those who will serve our Fellowship for the next two years. In the spirit of rotation, we will ask members of the Fellowship to stand for or be nominated to positions from GSR to their Home Group to Delegate to the General Service Conference. This rotation compels those of us in general service to step away from the position we have held for two years allowing another to step forward to grow in service. It also challenges each of us, guided by a loving God and the direction of our sponsor, to examine our hearts and look to how we may next be of service to the Fellowship.

In 1962, Bill W. wrote that "[G]reat care needs to be taken by the groups as they choose their Representatives. Hit-or-miss methods should be avoided. Groups who name no GSRs should be encouraged to do so. In this area a degree of weakness tends to persist." (Twelve Concepts for World Service pp. 36-37) I hope each of you will join me in encouraging those many fine candidates for service within the Fellowship to step up and stand for positions at the group, district and Area levels in the upcoming rotation.

### **Upcoming Events**

The Summer Committee meeting, hosted by the "Delegate's committee," will be held here at Lord of Life Church on August 1.

The 16<sup>th</sup> NIA Big Book Conference, hosted by District 22, will be held on October 10, at the Hemmens Cultural Center in Elgin. Flyers in English and Spanish are available here and online at the Area website. You may register on line at [www.aadistrict22.com](http://www.aadistrict22.com).

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Finally, I want to thank the volunteers from District 23 for their efforts on behalf of the Area in hosting this Summer Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Mengler  
NIA Chair  
Panel 58 Area 20

Friday, August 7, 2009

All meetings in Salon C, except roundtables

7:00 p.m. - Flag Ceremony

7:15 - Traditions or Concepts Play

8:00. - Speaker Meeting  
Cliff B., Springfield, IL

9:30 - Young People's Panel

10:30 - Roundtable sessions

11:00 - Karaoke?

Saturday, August 8, 2009

Meetings below are in either Salon C or B

8:00 **Preserving Our Future - The Traditions - B**

- a. Tradition One - Unity panelist
- b. Traditions Two and Four - An informed group conscience and what affects other groups or A.A. as a whole - panelist
- c. Traditions Nine and 12 - Rotating Leadership and principles before personalities - panelist
- d. Traditions 11 and 12 - Anonymity - panelist

8:30 a.m. **Gratitude in Action - C**

- a. Enthusiasm and gratitude panelist

b. Humility and sacrifice panelist

c. Maximum service - Our spiritual benefit - panelist

9:30 **The Grapevine - 65 years as Our Meeting in Print - B**

- a. Six ink stained wretches - The history of the Grapevine panelist
- b. How the Grapevine carries the message today. - panelist
- c. La Viña - panelist
- d. What is a G.V.R.? - panelist

10:00 - **Our Basic Guide to Twelfth Step Work - The Traditions - C**

- a. Traditions Three and Five - Membership requirement and our primary purpose - panelist
- b. Traditions Six and Ten - No affiliation or opinion on outside issues - panelist
- c. Traditions Seven and Eight - No dues or fees and no professional twelfth steppers - panelist

11:00 Oldtimers' panel - Salon C

12:30 p.m. - lunch break and Delegates/Past-

Delegates' luncheon in Salon D

1:30. **Hope and Purpose from Defeat and Despair - C**

- Dealing with:
- a. Grief

panelist

Physical illness

Judy C., Peoria, IL

Job loss

panelist

Grave emotional problems

panelist

2:00 **Democracy in A.A. Through the Twelve Concepts - B**

- a. Concepts One and Two - Final responsibility in the groups through the General Service Conference - panelist
- b. Concepts Three and Nine - Good service leadership at all levels and the right of decision panelist
- c. Concepts Five and Seven - Right of appeal and the power of the purse - panelist
- d. Concept Ten - Service responsibility should equal authority - panelist

3:00 Al-An on Speaker Meeting - C

Patty S., Marengo, IL

4:15 **Carrying the Message to: - C**

- a. Professionals panelist
- b. The general public panelist
- c. Prisoners panelist

Delegates & Alt. Delegates - Conf. I  
 Area Chairs & Alternates - Conf. III  
 Area newsletter editors - Plaza Suite  
 C.P.C. - Front of Salon A  
 Treatment Facilities - Back of Salon A  
 Intergroups - Front of Salon B  
 Grapevine - Back of Salon B  
 G.S.R.s - Salon D  
 D.C.M.s - Hamilton Room

**Saturday**

8:00 - Archives - Salon A  
 8:30  
 Public Information - front of Salon D  
 Registrars & Alternates - back of Salon D  
 9:30  
 Correctional Facilities - front of Salon D  
 Secretaries & Alternates - back of Salon D  
 Special Needs - front of Salon A  
 Treasurers & Alternates - back of Salon B

Alkathons will start at 4:00 p.m. on  
 Friday in the Madison Room

Al-Anon meetings, except the speaker  
 meeting will be in Conference Room I

Movies will be in Conference Room III.

The Plaza Suite will be available for the  
 Conference treasurer to use, except when  
 there is a meeting listed in that room.

panelist

10:00 Speaker Meeting  
 Tina H., Waukesha, WI &  
 Pam R., Beverly Hills, MI

11:00 Regional Trustee's Report  
 Pam R., Beverly Hills, MI

11:30 Ask It Basket or What's on Your  
 Mind?

A panel of current delegates from the  
 East Central Region will be available to  
 answer questions that people have  
 written on a slip of paper and put in a  
 basket over the course of the weekend.  
 Then the meeting will be opened up for  
 people to go to the mike and talk for up to  
 two minutes about whatever is on their  
 mind.

Noon - Conference ends

1:00 p.m. - Preliminary wrap up meeting  
 and sharing session for Conference  
 Committee members and members of  
 future Conference Committees.

Final Committee wrap-up meeting to be  
 scheduled by the Conference Chairperson  
 for sometime between mid-August and  
 late September.

**Roundtables**

**10:30 Friday Night**

d. Treatment facility patients  
 panelist

4:15 Spanish language meeting - Salon  
 A (if there are enough Spanish  
 speaking attendees)

4:30 **The Big Book turns 70 - B**  
 a. The birth of the Big Book,  
 panelist

b. Origin of the Twelve  
 Steps - panelist

c. Changes in the Big Book  
 since 1939  
 panelist

Break

6:30 Banquet - Salons C & D

8:00 Speaker meeting - C & D  
 Inez Y., Sacramento, CA

9:30 Dance - Salons C & D

Sunday, March 28, 2003

All meetings below are in Salon C

8:30 a.m. **Protecting A.A.'s  
 Principles - the  
 Pathway to Unity**

a. Practicing the principles in all our  
 "service affairs."  
 panelist

b. Setting an example - attraction to  
 service. - panelist

c. Unity through inventory

# NORTHERN ILLINOIS AREA 20

Alternate Delegate Report

To: NIA Summer Assembly

June 27th, 2009

Serving as Alternate Delegate, there have been abundant opportunities to participate in fulfilling our purpose as a Delegate Area:

*The principal function of the Area is to be a forum for effective communication between the Groups and the General Service Conference through its Delegate. In addition to counseling its Delegate about the collective Group Conscience of the Fellowship in Northern Illinois, NIA will assist its Districts, Groups and members to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers in a broad variety of ways, including but not restricted to conducting workshops, sharing sessions and seminars in all fields of general service.*

## Service orientation and Post GSC Workshops

As you may have heard from our Delegate, a power greater than us has intervened in our plans to hold the first Delegate Workshop. We are working to deliver another plan to implement the canceled event. The committee has two other dates in place for the reporting of our Delegate to you all. Flyers for those are here at today's Assembly. As soon as the dates and places emerge for the northwestern NIA, and Southeastern rescheduled event, they will be posted to the NIA Website and delivered to DCMs via e-mail and/or snail mail.

The Ad Hoc Committee is following up on possible dates for Fall Service Orientation Workshops. This depends on when the members of the Ad Hoc Committee working with local Districts, considering themselves to be participants would like to see it happen. The sooner the better would be my understanding. We should be finishing Delegate reports by the end of July. The date of September the 26th looks like a good one after reviewing the NIA and Concepts Calendars. October 3rd, 24th, and 31st, assuming Saturday morning is the best timeframe, look good too. Also the dates of August 15th and 29th are not out of the question depending upon the input of others. Hopefully we can generate some unanimity. We can feel free to choose dates in November as well such as the 7th, 21st and 28th. The 14th is the Forum in Kalamazoo, Mi. In December, the 5th is realistically the only good date.

Our goal is to have an opportunity for everyone in NIA trying to effectively serve his/her group, committee, or District to get a quality orientation to General Service as well as participate in a Delegate Workshop. Then and only then will we as a committee feel like we have prudently served to do our part in helping NIA fulfill its purpose.

By the way, check out the current issue of Concepts for a more detailed report on Service Orientation Workshops and Delegate Reports. Also, a big thank you goes to the folks down in Districts 51 and 52 who participated in our most recent Service Orientation Workshop, the 3<sup>rd</sup> of the year, in Manhattan. Their feedback provided us with some direction for future workshops.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dean Glosson  
NIA 20 Alternate Delegate