

Spring Quarterly

April 4, 2020

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Western Washington Area Quarterly Minutes

April 4, 2020

Hosted via Zoom Online Meeting

Call to order, Serenity Prayer: 8:39am

Twelve Traditions read by: Lyle N.

Twelve Concepts read by: Bob J.

Permission to record then meeting: Moved by District 46, 2nd by District 44, Approved

Approval of January 2020 Quarterly Minutes: Moved by District 40, 2nd by District 14, Approved

OPENING COMMENTS:

Welcome GSRs and members who do not have to be here. I am thrilled that you are here. We have 140 participants right now and less than 100 of us are actually required to be here!

Past Delegates Present:

Barbara M.	(Northern Coastal CA 06) Panel 41	91 & 92
Jim M.	(Northern Coastal CA 06) Panel 45	95 & 96
Denis F.	Panel 37	87 & 88
Eddie H.	Panel 53	03 & 04
Dave T.	Panel 59	09 & 1
Keith M.	(Utah 69) Panel 61	11 & 12
Astri T.	Panel 63	13 & 14
Darren F.	Panel 65	15 & 16
Steve C.	Panel 67	17 & 18

QUALIFICATION AND COMMITTEE APPROVAL OF THE NEW WEB COMMITTEE CHAIR

Mary T.

Hi, my name is Mary and I am an alcoholic. My sobriety date is November 12, 2005. I have served Area 72 as the Webmaster. I have also served D12 as the DCM and Treasurer. I am currently doing Grapevine and Literature for D12. I also answer phones at the Central Office every Friday. I have been in service since my third day of sobriety when I got a home group, a sponsor, and a coffeemaker position. I am here to make myself available and to help in any way that I can.

❖ ***Approval of Web Committee Chair:*** Moved by District 12, 2nd by District 16, Approved

APPOINTED TRUSTED SERVANT REPORTS

Accessibility - Karen O.

Experiences from the past quarter.

- During our January Quarterly, the District chairs shared their successful and not so successful attempts at setting up ASL translated meetings, elder facility meetings, and generally reaching other alcoholics considered remote and/or underserved. Tom F and Tari B, PI and CPC chairs were our guest speakers. They provided guidance and helped answer the many questions. Accessibility, Public Information, and Cooperation with the Professional Community have many areas in common and it was great to be able to share and brainstorm.
- I was invited to share at the PI/CPC Quarterly in February regarding Remote Communities. It was exciting to hear what these committees are doing in this area.

Hopes for the future.

Some ideas I was given to help bring the districts and groups together. Unity is the key. Helping the other alcoholics.

- Groups adopting other groups - kind of like "sister groups". A group that is "established/participating" helping a newer/smaller/isolated group strengthen and grow.
- Road trips to remote community meetings, potlucks, gratitude banquets, picnics, etc.
- Quarterlies - district and committee quarterlies having their meetings (occasionally) in the remote community. The Islands District - D46 - already does this. Their district meeting travels to different islands in the summer months.

Archives - Don N.

Accomplishments from the past quarter.

The Area 72 Archives had our February Archives Quarterly in Everett. It was one of the best Archives Quarterly I have attended. I loved the active participation and exchange of ideas that went on and look forward to even more in the future.

The Archives Repository was gifted a state of the art computer in February from past Archivist Trevor T. We also began having High Speed Internet in February.

Dean T. purchased some new easels for the traveling display in January so we were able to donate our old easels during the February Archives Quarterly.

We did have our first Zoom Archives Steering Committee meeting on Sunday, March 15th. It started out a little bumpy, but business was conducted successfully.

We reviewed resumes during our February Archives Steering Committee meeting and selected two new members for the ASC, welcome Dylan S. and Robin M.!

I attended PRAASA in March (I think it was the last public event I was at.) I enjoyed the whole event and the opportunity to listen to the goings on within our Pacific Region. I attended a couple of different round tables; one on Newsletter and Web, and one on Archives. I'm happy to report that we, as an Area, are so blessed to have the love for service that we do. Our Area has a respect for its past and a knowledge of how important it is to maintain that rich history both in its Archives and its desire to publish an updated history book.

Problems or issues you are facing or have already dealt with.

Like most folks, we are dealing with the current quarantine that has had us stay in our homes. Steve C. found a survey on the National Archives, National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) that we

can fill out to help us spend our time on something archivally relevant while we are at home. Maryland also sent a document from the Society of American Archivists (SAA) regarding how to be an archivist at home. Thank you to both of you for helping me to keep my idle hands busy with constructive things. We always need consistent volunteers to help us organize and maintain the Area Repository. Work parties are always the third Sunday of the month, at the Repository, after the Archives Steering Committee meeting (around 11:30). Please email the Archives Chair (archiveschair@area72aa.org) to ensure we are meeting.

Please share some goals you hope to achieve or begin work on in the next quarter.

We are hoping to get our new computer hooked up and on-line in such a way as to be accessed remotely so that we can continue to manage our digital archives from remote locations. We have tentatively rescheduled the Regional Archives Workshop to sometime in the Fall. (Pending the outcome of the current health situation.) Just in case you don't have enough to do in your A.A. life; the Area Archives has a Work Party scheduled after each Archives Steering Committee meeting. (Pending the outcome of the COVID-19 health crisis) That is the 3rd Sunday of the month at 11:30 AM. Drop on by the Area Repository (3905 Steilacoom Blvd, Lakewood, WA), there's always something to do! If that is not a good time for you, drop us an email (archiveschair@area72aa.org, or archivist@area72aa.org) and let us know you'd like to help out and what day or time would work for you.

Archivist – Maryland N.

Experiences from the past quarter.

- Received a donation from a member of a rebuilt computer with Win Pro-essential for remote work.
- Attended the International Women's Conference, Indianapolis, IN; the Blending of Time, Tacoma, WA; Pacific Region Service A.A. Assembly, Tucson, AZ-attended to Roundtables (Archives and CSO/Intergroups)
- Purchased Zoom Pro to communicate with A.A.-setting up and attending virtual A.A. group discussion and service meetings
- Communicated with several A.A., County and WA state entities on the definition of "Essential" in COVID-19 era (PowerPoint presentation)

Strengths from the past quarter.

- Checking on members of A.A. and the Archives Steering Committee by phone during COVID19
- Shared info on Remote Communities Communicator ('17, '18, '19) with A.A.s
- Documenting in various formats (oral recordings, Zoom recordings, written formats) my A.A. experience in the rapidly changing of face/methods of conducting A.A. at group, local, and Area level-encouraging other Members to do this also
- Wrote first draft for OSD3 Assembly chapter (2003) and submitted to Editor

Your Hope for the future in your district/committee.

- Get all the computer systems at Repository as capable of remote work as possible.
- Established Comcast and VPN accounts for Repository~still has kinks
- Conduct May 2020 Archives Quarterly via Zoom

Cooperation with the Professional Community - Tari B.

Hello Area 72,

My normally full calendar kind of got canceled last month, but I have been managing to stay busy with Zoom meetings and functions. Prior to our new, hopefully temporary, normal, Tom and I attended the Accessibility

quarterly. It was wonderful to exchange ideas with Karen and the accessibility committee. It is very exciting to see how our committees overlap and we can work together to help the still suffering alcoholic.

Last month the CPC-North America had our second quarterly meeting. A few months back Diana Lewis, the CPC coordinator at the General Service Office in New York, sent out a survey to all the different areas in the U.S. The results from that survey indicated there is a need and a desire to have an annual Cooperation with the Professional Community conference. So, a committee was assembled and they are working towards having our first ever conference sometime in 2021, or 2022. I look forward to seeing this incredibly useful conference come to fruition.

Thank you all for this wonderful opportunity to serve Alcoholics Anonymous.

Corrections - Lyle N.

Accomplishments from the past quarter.

I was able to attend PRAASA again this year, and it was amazing, but this year I knew to pay more attention to what was going on, which made it so much better. I was able to attend 2 corrections round tables which were very informative.

We just had our March quarterly this weekend, we had to do it on zoom, but, we had good attendance, so that was pretty cool, my computer went down about 20 minutes into it, but Tim, our Secretary, was able to keep things going until I was able to get back, which was right at the end, so I'll have to wait for his report to find out what really went on.

Problems or issues you are facing or have already dealt with.

The main problems that we are facing right now is this COVID-19, which is affecting everyone, so we're having to have all our meetings via zoom.

Please share some goals you hope to achieve or begin work on in the next quarter.

My hopes for next quarter is that this virus will be under control so we can get things back to normal, and we can all go to Burien for our next quarterly.

Grapevine & Literature - Randy S.

Experiences from the past quarter.

Our Feb. 1/4ly hosted by Districts 35 & 36 was held in Issaquah. Our area archivist Mary N. spoke on the history of the conference advisory actions in literature and grapevine (1951-1987).

I attended the first Young People committee 1/4ly and was impressed with the enthusiasm and adherence to the traditions that the young people have.

Strengths from the past quarter

I was impressed by the need to spread the importance of literature in our meetings and how we as a committee can share this in meetings by the district chairs.

Your Hope for the future in your district/committee

With the ongoing need for recovery other than meetings I have found a new interest of our literature and I as a member have gone back to basics, dusting off that back issues of the grapevine for that daily meeting.

Language Coordinator - Lupita Y-M.

Accomplishments

There was a lot that got done in the last quarter. With Geene's leadership and partnership there were two GSR schools that were interpreted. One was actually interpreted into English, because beside from Geene, myself and Randy, there we only Spanish speaking members in attendance.

The Language Steering committee met a couple times this quarter. We first discussed the floor item that came from the January quarterly; about the use of the Area translation equipment for non-Area functions. Our discussion evolved to something broader. We started talking about how we operate as an Area, and what our purpose is to our non-English speaking members and groups. Part of this will come up during our discussion today about the equality of context, involvement, and inclusion with non-English speakers.

I attended PRAASA this year and got a lot out of going. I got more out of talking with members in between panels and round tables. I honestly believe the most valuable time (as the Area language chair) was spent speaking with the interpreters and asking about the hardware they use and its benefits. I'm already looking into using the equipment/sound booth they used to help limit ambient noise for both attendees sitting near the interpreters, and for the interpreters to hear the audio without any background noise distracting them. My *personal* most valuable time was spent on water slides, late night talks, goofing around in hotel rooms, and out to eat with other members. There's something amazing about getting together with other Alcoholics. I always leave feeling fed and this time I definitely had a post-conference hangover after spending so much time with so many wonderful people.

Issues:

I continue to work with Brendan D to get the newsletter translated into Spanish. We are working on how to get the newsletter printed and mailed out to the appropriate members. Currently I email a digital copy to the DCMs and other interested members to have and share.

Bob, the Area Sound guy, and I met to resolve some technical sound issues we were having with the interpreters. We think we found a great solution to make the job for the interpreters easier, also perhaps set us up to use other tools and equipment (like a sound proof booth).

Hopes:

Continue to meet with Language Steering committee to best serve the Area, and be as inclusive as we can be with non-English speaking groups. I know there are a handful of groups that speak languages other than English, Spanish or ASL. I look forward to finding them, and when can, going to visit them and encouraging them to participate in the general service structure.

I challenge each of you to not think of Area 72 as an English speaking Area with some events and documents interpreted and translated. Rather, I would like to see us grow to be a bilingual Area where the expectation is that *everything* gets translated and interpreted. That we don't just speak of being inclusive, but that we live it by attending events in Spanish, and partner with Spanish speaking groups and district(s) to have more English events interpreted into Spanish. (Or also as exciting: into other languages besides Spanish and ASL!!)

I find myself more and more grateful for our Area and my Area commitment during this time. I am constantly working to get documents and the newsletter turned around into Spanish. It affords me the ability to engage in a meaningful way with other alcoholics or at least program related content, when I would naturally love to sit at home, check out and isolate.

AA gave me a life beyond measure, and it still continues to give. Thank you.

Newsletter Editor - Brendan D. - No report

Public Information - Tom F.

Hey Area,

Tom here your Area Public Information Chair. As we all know things are a little weird but I'm hunkered down and doing everything I can to maintain with a positive attitude!

As of right now our May Quarterly has NOT been moved to a zoom meeting yet. If something changes Tari and I will email Area right away. Please see the information posted on both Area PI/CPC an Area Websites. area72pi.org or area72aa.org

We canceled our first get together for the AA, Ala-non and Alateen Outreach Dinner. We wanted to wait and see if things would settle but in the case it doesn't we will plan a Zoom Meeting and see how we want to move forward.

I have had some wonderful experiences lately, I have been able to attend many online zoom meetings this is such a wonderful opportunity for all of us. I attend a speaker meeting where our friend Bridget shared her experience, strength and hope 650 members from all over the world! It was so cool. Also just hitting these zoom meetings online I'm seeing friends I haven't seen in a while. What a wonderful tool for all of and a new appreciation for technology.

I also would like to acknowledge our Elected and Trusted Servants who have taken this to the next level, answering hard question, working extra hours and coming up with resources which are being used globally to make sure Alcoholics are up to date on where and how they can attend meetings.

Closing lets be responsible and take the advice of who really know what's going on. Look forward to seeing your Faces on Zoom!

The Joy is in the Journey not the Destination!

Registrar - Kristee M.

Experiences From The Past Quarter:

This past quarter has continued to be a busy one! New groups, new GSR's, service position changes, existing groups getting registered - there has been lots of activity, which is a wonderful thing to see. The WWA72 newsletter mailing list has crossed over 900 entries - I am so proud of us!!

OK, now to what you are probably the most interested in as it pertains to my report.....What's the latest with GSO and the ERP program? As I'd explained in my report last quarter, area registrars were given accessibility to the new GSO database as a read only function. We rec'd training and are able to get into the program's portal, review data and run reports. We are not able to actually change data, which means for registering people into various service positions, or registering groups, or changing information for currently registered and active groups, we are required to forward said info to GSO and they make the changes. It was their hope that the program transition would be further along and that area registrars would be able to start inputting and making changes themselves by March. Unfortunately, and prior to the Corona virus Covid-19 pandemic, the area registrar's rec'd communication from GSO that this targeted hope of March, would not be happening due to some setbacks that they were experiencing on their end, an further, at this point a new targeted start date for registrars had not yet been determined. So, we continue to forward on to GSO's Records department, all registration and change requests. This process was already running significantly slow, as I'm sure you have experienced, as this is an extremely high volume of work for a few people to handle. The GSO records department regularly consists of

four full time employees, though it is my understanding that they did bring in some extra help for this transitional period. However, now adding the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions being placed on New York, just as it has been here for us as well, those same records employees are now working from home and experiencing all the frustrating work restrictions and limitations that we too are experiencing. So, things are and will continue to move slowly, from a registration perspective. I have the utmost faith, however, that although things pertaining to registrations are happening slowly, they will all happen and I truly believe that a lot of people are working very, very hard to make sure this all happens correctly.

There are a few things that you can do, to help me be better able to help you.

1. Mailing address - please, please include the GSR/contact person's mailing address. I am not able to add people to the area newsletter mailing list if I do not have their mailing address. As well, GSO also requires a mailing address as part of their registration process.
2. My preferred method of receiving information is via the use of the New Group or Group Change of Information forms found on the WWA72 website. It goes to both myself and the webmaster and we pick out the items we need. I then forward these on to GSO. I do accept information pretty much in whatever format someone can get it to me, however, this is my most preferred way of getting it. I understand that not always, is this method accessible or easy for someone else and that is why I will take it however you can get it to me.
3. If you have a small amount of info and want to text it to me, that's not a problem, please just maybe tell me who you are as I don't know who everyone is or their numbers.
4. I've said in the past, that with large numbers of people and positions to send information about sending me a spreadsheet is fine. However, I don't really like to keep things on my computer and prefer to get rid of it once I've entered/forwarded the information to GSO and into the newsletter mailing list. If you choose to continue to send spreadsheets as you make your updates to your district database, will you please highlight only the NEW information. If I don't know what is new, then I have to look up everything because I don't want to have missed anything. This takes a lot of time and could be much quicker and easier if you would please highlight the NEW information. I really, really appreciate this.
5. And one last thing, sometimes I get emails from people requesting that a change of some sort needs to be made. I am very happy and willing to make whatever changes for you that I am able to make, but please include the name of the district and the group that is involved. I can get things done much quicker when I don't have to spend a great deal of time researching and/or writing emails asking for more information.

Thank you all so much! You are all a lovely group of people with so much to offer. We each do what we can, in the way that we can, to help make a difference for someone else. Each and everyone one of us is a treasure trove. It is my hope for you, that you can see how lovely and important you are. You are a gift and I appreciate YOU so very much!!

Secretary - Karla L.

Strange days indeed. Many things that I have been involved in this last quarter have been cancelled. Consequently, I have had less to do but somehow I am more busy and in contact than ever before!

I had a nice report written out about how the Pacific Region Hospitality Room at the International Convention of AA is progressing. Unfortunately, the ICAA has now been cancelled. We had decided on flyers, buttons, volunteers and many other aspects. We had not purchased anything yet as we knew it might be cancelled. Area 72 had contributed \$200 and I will let you all know, as soon as I know, when we get the money back.

I was able to facilitate one group inventory in Kirkland and that went very well. But then, because of our current situation, the next inventory I was helping with was cancelled. I have committed to facilitating once they reschedule. I am facilitating a Zoom inventory for a group and that should be interesting! Mute all could be handy there!

I have also been heading up a monthly Zoom meeting with the Area Appointed Servants. We started this even before we were forced to shelter in place because we have members up and down western Washington. It has been a very nice way for us all to check-in with each other and talk about what we are currently doing and help each other where we can.

Thank you to everyone who had sent me a Quarterly report! I will continue to accept electronic reports for the Quarterly for about another week.

Sound - Bob J.

Experiences from the past quarter

During this time of social isolation (Gratefully for us, the spiritual connections are thriving!), and even though we don't get to set up the sound system for this Quarterly, I'm still grateful to be here, that I have this great excuse to stay connected with so many of my wonderful Western Washington Area 72 friends.

Special thanks to Courtney for her Finance and Purchasing prowess, for the portable sound system and translation equipment connector cable.

Purchased a portable sound system – a glorified Karaoke sound system. Alan has it. Others will be able to use it also. Don't know whether we've really had a chance to use it yet given that we've gone virtual zoom, etc. In the longer run, should improve our ability to do more, better service, and provide higher quality sound more easily to more and smaller venues. Also save \$ travel and lodging, etc. and time/energy – don't have to have me or a sound system person there as much. So, it's an improvement in sound services and should save money!

Special shout out to Lupita. Meeting with Language Chair Lupita. High hopes to improve quality of sound and ease of translating for translators and the Spanish language community. This little investment up front, will surely result in tons of improvement to sound and translation!

Strengths from the past quarter. [What new strengths did your district/committee discover in the past quarter? This could be a unique solution to a problem, or the unity of the groups in your district]

Inspired by the translation services at the General Service Conference and Pacific Region Assembly Levels. Progress not perfection. Lupita will probably also mention that we're considering booths as one of many of our next improvement considerations for Spanish Language translation.

Your Hope for the future in your district/committee.

Would like to do a better job at providing better sound access options for the hard of hearing and other communities as well. Will need help doing this.

Question for discussion at some point maybe. Will the Zoom Meeting format have any lasting impact on area sound, and how we conduct our area meetings? Or will we return to our regular meeting formats? We'll see.

And hey! Hope you will consider putting in your resume and consider being the Sound Guy for the next 2-year 2021 to 2022 rotation. Please consider. We've made some improvements – progress not perfections - The Sound Job and the Sound System should be a little easier and better – with plenty of room for further improvements. And I'm always willing to continue involving, orienting, teaching, mentoring, training etc.

Another shout out. I appreciate all the help I've received, including most recently at our last Quarterly in Kent. Our Ad Hoc Sound System Crews wherever and whenever we set up is always awesome. Maybe this might be where people get a taste for the Sound job, and will like it and apply for it, and I'm willing to support and train starting now. Maybe come over to my home in Southeast Seattle when this little Corona thing blows over and I'll show you the system show you all the ropes that this rank amateur has figured out.

And yeah, the wireless mikes still tend to be temperamental but all the mikes, even the infamous blue mike, are working again for now. One of my theories is that the airwaves are filled with all sorts of wireless interference these days, and our mikes are touchy that way, especially Mr. Blue.

Ideas about the Sound System are always welcome.

Treatment - Linda D.

Experiences from the past quarter.

This past quarterly meeting we had an awesome discussion on legality and bridging a minor. I agree to contact Will YP Chair and Alan Delegate to get a good cross-section of views and guidance. I also talked with Corrections as well. The meeting was well attended. I feel we at least have started toward a resolution of the issue. It was noted to be a communication snafu with emails but seems to be fixed. Area Bridge coordinator is back and ready to serve.

Strengths from the past quarter.

We set the next quarterly up on Zoom for 18th Apr 2020 due to Easter Holiday. Things had to be shifted because of the pandemic. Most treatment facilities do not want us in at this time due to the COVID-19 outbreak for our safety and their clients. After this is over we will have to start getting our meeting holders and panel members back to the facilities.

Your Hope for the future in your district/committee.

My personal goal is to create an interactive webpage like CPC/PI so it is easier for districts to get what they need to do work.

Web Chair – Mary T.

Experiences from the past quarter.

The web committee met in January at GSIG and had attendance both in person and via phone. It was a collective discussion over where the committee was at and where we would like to go. Over the course of this past quarter there have been many changes for the districts with the COVID-19 and the closure of meetings halls, churches, meetings and quarterlies. Many of them have moved to online forums like Zoom. I have been able to assist the area webmaster in keeping the information that we have as accurate as possible.

Strengths from the past quarter.

The strength and unity that I find has been in the rallying around making sure that the newcomers can find meetings online, can get the help that they need and that we are able to continue to serve our members as we move through the trying times ahead.

The unique problem we all face has been also moving our area meetings to an online forum through zoom (and other solutions) and helping others to navigate this same process.

Your Hope for the future in your district/committee.

My hope for all of us as we move through this uncharted territory is that we continue to work together to find solutions both as individuals, districts, committees and an area and realize that together we can do what we could never do alone.

Webmaster - Eddy M-M.

Experiences from the past quarter:

It has been a crazy and busy quarter. I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. Over the past quarter we have been moving quickly to help committees host their quarterlies virtually and keeping our website up to date with the latest meetings updates. It has been amazing to watch our area show love and support to each other during these difficult times. I also love to see how we have embraced different technologies in order to keep us all connected.

One major project we have completed is the import of the meeting data from Greater Seattle Intergroup, Puget Sound CSO, Vancouver Intergroup, and SnoValley AA. This will greatly help keeping meeting info up to date and consistent.

We have been learning and growing a lot and continuing to provide support to the meeting, committees, and the area.

Problems or issues you are facing or have already dealt with:

Over the past couple of years, we have seen a steady increase on the workload for the webmaster role. So, we have decided to split up some of the duties. Here is a breakdown of the new structure of the steering committee:

- Meeting & Event Updates: Mary T. (Interim Area Web Chair)
- Google Account Admin: Mark S. (Steering Committee Member)
- Website Maintenance/Security/Updates: Eddy M-M (Webmaster)

Additionally, we have added the Webmaster of Greater Seattle Intergroup to the Web Steering Committee.

One big bombshell we got dealt was with the National AA Technology Workshop. In early March, we were notified that the hotel we had selected to host this year's NAATW was closing its doors. But we move on and don't let this stop us. The host committee is hard at work getting another venue and hope to have one secured in the next few weeks.

Please share some goals you hope to achieve or begin work on in the next quarter:

This next quarter we will be focusing on continuing to support the area with this transition to virtual meetings and we will also be picking up our work on website translation.

Young People's Chair – Will L.

Hi all,

As I think about this report and the unusual time we are in, I feel grateful to have the support system that we have here in this Area and in the program. Over the last few months the committee has been busy and adjusting to the various challenges of being a new committee and the COVID-19 restrictions that we all have been facing.

Our quarterly was well attended and had a great host committee in District 17 that made the day run smoothly. There were many great discussions on juvenile outreach, the future of the committee, various service activities that the district chairs have participated in, cooperating with al-anon, and creating a safe web presence. Our next

quarterly was supposed to be in Olympia but given the uncertainty we have decided to move the quarterly to a virtual format on April 25th from 10:30-4 (link will be below). I have few ideas on how to run this and hopefully will open our quarterly up to people around the country and world.

Some other activities that I have been a part of include a pacific region conference call, a new concepts virtual study, attending PRAASA and working on the newsletter ad-hoc committee. One of the great things about being involved again is the seeing the collective conscious and experience of the servants in AA. It gives me hope for the future and the present seeing people rally together to continue to help the alcoholic. There are many people facing severe challenges still, so the more we can connect the better. I have been fortunate to have some resources from around the country to continue to outreach.

This next month is going to be busy preparing for the virtual Area and YP quarterly as I have some creative ideas brewing for ours. By the end of next month, we should have our mission statement and structure document ready to submit and some fresh ways to be of service! I hope everyone is well and making it through this confusing time, feel free to reach out for any information or someone to talk to.

With Gratitude,

Will Levine

Area 72 Young Peoples Chair

206-678-6077

Topic: YP Quarterly

Time: Apr 25, 2020 10:30 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://seattleu.zoom.us/j/352786282?pwd=K0NhTkJ0WFdqTW0yTzBxMHJ4UTFRUT09>

Meeting ID: 352 786 282

Password: 061411

One tap mobile

+12133388477,,352786282# US (Los Angeles)

+12532158782,,352786282# US

Dial by your location

+1 213 338 8477 US (Los Angeles)

+1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: 352 786 282

INTERGROUP AND CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE REPORTS

Greater Seattle Intergroup – Chair Mike M.

Hello WWA 72,

Mike here grateful to be serving AA as the Chair for your Greater Seattle Intergroup. Needless to say, these are interesting and difficult times for everyone, and I hope all of you and your families are staying safe and doing well. The current challenges we face brought to mind the following passage from pg. 38 of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.

“But dependence upon an A.A. group or upon a Higher Power hasn’t produced any baleful results. When World War II broke out, this spiritual principle had its first major test. A.A.’s entered the services and were scattered all over the world. Would they be able to take discipline, stand up under fire, and endure the monotony and misery of war? Would the kind of dependence they learned in A.A. carry them through? Well it did.”

I have witnessed groups and members continue to preserve, grow, love and support each other whether it is online, via the phone or in person.

Greater Seattle Intergroup began in 1946; about 10 years after AA began in Akron, Ohio, and continues today but we can't do so without continued support from the groups and AA members. We are currently about \$5k under our prudent reserve of 3 months of operating expenses and we currently expect groups' contributions to decline during the coming months. Assuming the following in the coming months

- 50% reduction in current monthly group contributions
- no sales of meeting schedules and literature and
- 50% reduction in payroll costs

Intergroup is expected to have to close its doors by the end of July 2020.

PLEASE consider making a contribution online as an individual AA member, distributing your groups' funds in excess of its prudent reserve, and passing the online 7th tradition basket at your online meetings.

Intergroup is persevering but we have also had to make some tough decisions

- As of March 25, 2020, Intergroup will only be open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm
- We continue to provide 24/7 phone services and in fact our incoming calls have dramatically increased during this time as have the volunteers that are willing to be of service and answer phone remotely
- We continue to update our website almost daily with the latest information that has been provided by the groups including;
 - Hyperlinks to many online zoom meetings
 - About 4 weeks ago several members of our Seattle groups held the first virtual AA meeting. It had about 5 people and an ASL interpreter. Since then, I believe most, if not all, of our over 1300 weekly meetings listed with the GSIG have been closed for in person meetings. Groups have replaced these with online meetings. Right now we have listed on our website over 330 online meetings. That number is increasing daily. Our website now shows the online meetings in a searchable list providing a one click link (one click provided there is not password) accessible from computer and smart phone.
 - How to setup and facilitate online meetings <https://www.seattleaa.org/online-meetings/>
 - Various resources for online meetings including instructions how to set up PayPal accounts for your online group and how to continue to contribute to Intergroup <https://www.seattleaa.org/suggested-resources-for-setting-up-a-temporary-online-meeting/>
- Although we will continue to sell the existing literature that is in stock, we have placed a temporary hold on placing any new orders
- Board and committee meetings will also continue to be held as much as possible on the same regular schedules using zoom meetings, see the Intergroup information for the latest information.

Please be patient with us as Intergroup continues work through this every changing situation.

Snohomish Co. Central Office – Manager David L.

- We are funded a little differently than GSIG and consequently we are not as tight on funds – yet. We will be going over our finances this Tuesday when we will be having our first virtual board meeting.
- We are operating pretty much as normal. We have volunteers who come in for two hour shifts for the phones.
- We have not seen much if any walk in literature sales.

Puget Sound Central Service Office – Chair Johnette

- In January we passed a frugal budget.
- Our prudent reserve was down a bit so we held an “Ides of March” campaign. The fellowship really supported us and contributed to help out with our prudent reserve.
- We have been impacted greatly by COVID-19. We made the decision to close the doors to physical foot traffic. We have a system in place where members can email an order for literature. Then they can then do a curbside pick-up.
- PSCSO has no opinion on outside issues. Wherever you decide to have your meeting, call us we are here to support you.

HOST COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **January 2020 Quarterly Final Report (Everett) - Josh**
 - We had 137 members register – 86 preregistered/51 onsite
 - We sold 104 lunches – thank you to Bill and Erin for preparing the great food!
 - Our expenses were less than anticipated and we had a lot of excess funds. We were able to make an extra donation to the church for working with us and being an awesome facility. We also had \$1200 to go back to the Area.
 - Districts 2, 3, 12, 19, and 56 participated.
- **2020 Assembly Host Committee Reports (Lynden) - Adina**
 - We are still moving forward with the Assembly being in Lynden.
 - We are starting to get registrations sent in online. I do not know if we have received any by mail yet.
 - The host committee will be meeting via Zoom on the third Sunday of April and May instead of the second Sunday (because of Easter and Mother’s Day) People have been joining us from Skagit Co. to be part of our meeting.
- **2021 Assembly Host Committee Reports (Lynnwood) – Josh**
 - The host committee will be meeting a month from now. There is nothing pressing at the moment, the 2021 Assembly is about 18 mos. From now. We had fun in January and look forward to doing it again!
- **2022 Assembly Host Committee Reports (Renton) - Jim**
 - Hyatt Regency Lake Washington - October 7-9, 2022
 - Rooms - Double Occupancy \$145
 - Food - Ice Cream Social, Lunch, Dinner, Spiritual Breakfast - \$139
 - Amenities - Lakefront Boardwalk, Waterfront Park, Shopping, Full Exercise Ensemble, Water Taxi
 - Parking is free after 8:00pm on Friday night.
- **2023 Assembly Host Committee Reports (Longview) - Wesley**
 - The host committee for the 2023 Assembly has not met yet but we do have a deposit down for the venue.
- **2024 Assembly Host Committee Report (Tacoma) - Meghan**

- We are building our committee now and we have not yet met but we have made the deposit to the Murano Hotel.
- **July 2020 Quarterly Report (Bremerton)** – Christine
 - We are going forward as if the Quarterly is going to happen in Bremerton. The host committee cannot cancel now because the cancellation period has past and we would lose our deposit. But, come June, if the hotel has to cancel, we will receive our money back.
 - Please pre-register! We are keeping careful track of who is registering and how much they have paid. We will be able to refund quickly if necessary. Registration is \$55.
 - Flyer is available on the Area 72 website to print out and mail-in to register. Please put your physical address on the registration in case we need to refund you!
- **April 2020 Quarterly Report (Olympia)** – Sue
 - We were able to get our deposit back.
 - We got everything set up this weekend to refund everyone's registration cost. You should get your checks by the end of next week or the week after.

Bids for 2021 Area Quarterlies:

- **January:** District 22
 - January 8 & 9, 2021
 - 7 Cedars Casino, 270756 US – 101 Sequim, WA
 - Two restaurants and a buffet on site for Friday dinner.
 - Ice Cream Social or Dessert - \$10 (estimate)
 - Catered Lunch on Saturday - \$22 (estimate)
 - Catered lunch on Saturday - \$22 (estimate)
 - Brand new hotel! Rooms on site! \$121 single/ \$135 double
- **April:** District 24
 - April 9 & 10, 2021
 - **All of this information is subject to change.**
 - St. Pius X Catholic Church, 22209 58th Ave. W., Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043
 - Or possibly the Mountlake Terrace Senior Center if St Pius is unavailable.
 - Friday night no host dinner at Azteca, 22003 66th Ave W., Suite F, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043, (425) 672-0601
 - Registration: \$15.00 - Includes coffee, tea, water throughout the day and various breakfast items Saturday morning.
 - Ice Cream Social: \$5.00 - An assortment of ice cream flavors along with whipped cream, maraschino cherries, nuts, an assortment of toppings and sauces
 - Lunch: \$15.00 - Choice of: TBD
 - Meal includes beverages, side dishes and dessert!
 - Lodging:

Embassy Suites	Studio 6 – Mountlake Terrace
20610 44 th Ave W.	6017 244 th St. SW
Lynnwood, 98036	Mountlake Terrace, 98043

 - A room discount will apply if more than 10 rooms are reserved for this event!

- **July:** District 18
 - July 9 & 10, 2021
 - New Hope Presbyterian Church, 19800 108th Ave SE, Kent, WA 98031
 - Friday night ice cream social after dinner at a local restaurant. Cost for ice cream = \$5
 - We will block our space at one of our several nearby hotels where the average price is = \$100
 - We will have breakfast items as well as coffee for Saturday. Lunch will have a mix of different types of boxed lunches. Lunch cost = \$15
 - Estimated registration cost without lunch = \$15

❖ *Approval of these Quarterly Bids:* Moved by District 14, 2nd by YP Chair, Approved

ELECTED TRUSTED SERVANT REPORTS:

Delegate's Report - Alan F.

Unofficially for now, but in a week or so I should be announcing via email that the General Service Conference will be happening at the end of May instead of April. This does give groups more time to send in their feedback regarding the Pre-Conference topics.

The Conference, happening via Zoom, will still be dealing with a majority of the items on the original agenda but many of the purely administrative items will be taken off the agenda. The proposals requiring feedback from the groups will remain. So please encourage GSRs to get the feedback from their groups in to me.

70TH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

The theme for the 2020 General Service Conference is: **2020: A Clear Vision for You**

The following will be presentation/discussion topics for the 2020 General Service Conference:

- Recovery – *Who is Missing in Our Rooms?*
- Unity – *Practicing Our Principles*
- Service – *Keeping A.A. Relevant*
- The workshop topic is: *Attraction through Action*

The General Service Conference will be held virtually this year, due to concerns about the coronavirus. Many Areas are holding pre-conferences or conference assemblies virtually, as are committees, districts, and homegroups as we adjust to this temporary situation.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

DCMs, I will soon send out communications to begin scheduling conference reports, which will start in May. Let us combine a couple districts per report so that the total number is manageable but they are still small and intimate.

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE & A.A.W.S HIGHLIGHTS

- Reminder, there is a new Communications Services department at GSO. It launched successfully in November. This department will support other GSO departments in their communications and communications needs.

- The adoption of the new Enterprise resource planning platform has, as you know, taken a long time. A Technology Services Team was created to drive stabilization and continued support for this transition. For those curious, the platform is NetSuite.

2019 Finance:

- For the twelve months ended December 31, 2019, the G.S.O. income statement shows a \$313,530 deficit (loss) for the period.
- Revenues were 1.94% higher than budgeted and 3.79% higher than the twelve months ended December 31, 2018.
- Operating expenses were 6.61% greater than budgeted and 7.93% more than last year. This is partly due to the prolonged struggle converting to ERP.
- Actual contributions for the year were \$8,855,697, 5.62% higher than budget and 5.61% higher than the year ended December 31, 2018.
 - 2019 was the largest contributing year on record, by \$446,000.
- Online contributions were 12% higher than 2018.
- There was a large variance between projected and actual literature sales, comprised by the far less than expected sales of the new book *Our Great Responsibility*. 2019 saw 35,000 sales of this book, however 100,000 was anticipated.
- Total web sales (A.A.W.S. Online Bookstores) for December stand at \$664,262, which accounts for about 63% of total sales for the company.

A.A. GRAPEVINE AND LA VINA

- The new Website is complete. It is much more compatible on your mobile devices. Aagrapevine.org
- YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI9uFLJ_aXT3-At0PIPWUQ/videos The newest videos are explainer videos for GV and LV Reps and audio stories from Women in Sobriety. Soon will be a video on “Carry the Message” project.
- Language of the Heart is now available in Spanish Audio and we have approved moving forward with French Audio as well.
- Upcoming Grapevine Topics:
 - Money (Financial Insecurity) How has sobriety helped you? Are you a group treasurer? (Stories due April 15, 2020)
 - Remote Communities – Do you live far from an AA Meeting? Do you do Remote Community service? (Stories due June 15, 2020)
- Upcoming LaVina Topics:
 - Remote Communities (Stories due April 3, 2020)
 - The Home Group (Stories due July 17, 2020)
- AAGV gross profit for 2019 was approximately 1.9 million and expenses were a little over 1.9 million with a net loss of \$44,000 (a large improvement over 2018)

Did you know? There are currently 225,000 users on the Meeting Guide App.

GENERAL SERVICE BOARD TRUSTEE COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Accessibilities/Loners International Meeting

- Stories are being collected to update the pamphlet “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic”
- This desk is developing audio interviews with military in A.A. for use on the website, with outreach and possibly on YouTube

Corrections

- The holiday edition of Sharing from Behind the Walls and the December Grapevine were sent out, along with requested books and pamphlets, to prisoners across the U.S. and Canada. Over 80 inmates were linked to outside A.A. members, bringing the total for 2019 to 1,790 men and women linked to A.A. members through the Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.).

Public Information

- In keeping with A.A.'s Public Information policy, the P.I. Desk will be sending out a Press Release to Media on the new Young and Sober in A.A.: From Drinking to Recovery video, noting that no matter your age it can never be too early or too late to seek help with a drinking problem. See here: https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/young-and-sober-in-aa-from-drinking-to-recovery

International/Regional Forums

- Local entities such as Intergroups/Central Offices will be able to sell A.A. Literature at Forums where venues allow. They will be chosen by the host committee for each Forum. More information to come.

Literature

- The Big Book, "Twelve and Twelve" and *Living Sober* have been completed in English, French and Spanish. Manufacturing costs for CD sets are being gathered and will be brought to the A.A.W.S. board.

Safety service piece: The board reviewed an updated draft of a proposed service piece on safety being developed by G.S.O. staff. The work is ongoing and additional input was requested to help inform subsequent drafts. It was suggested that information about the service piece could be included in the A.A.W.S. report to the 2020 General Service Conference to continue discussion of this important issue, as well as including it in some form at Regional Forums.

2020 PACIFIC REGIONAL FORUM - West Gate Las Vegas

West Gate Las Vegas, August 21-23, 2020. Regional Forums are weekend sharing and information gathering sessions designed to help the General Service Board, AA World Services, the Grapevine Corporate Board, Grapevine Staff, and the General Service Office Staff stay in touch with AA members, trusted servants and newcomers to service throughout the AA service structure.

2020 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION - Detroit, MI

The 2020 International Convention, and AA's 85th Anniversary, is in Detroit, Michigan, July 2-5, 2020. The theme is: "*Love and Tolerance Are Our Code*". Register online at aa.org – just click on the International Forum link at the top of the page. A.A. members and guests from around the world will celebrate A.A.'s 85th year at this event with big meetings held Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday morning in the Ford Field Stadium. We will be participating with a Pacific Region Hospitality Room at the International.

Alternate Delegate Report - Geene D.

Hello Western Washington AA Family!

I want to start this report off with first a big 'air hug'. I cannot tell you how much I genuinely miss getting hugs from all my AA families.

I want to start off sharing with you what I have been doing as Alt. Delegate.

- Facilitated a few GSR Schools. I have had the pleasure of serving the area in many positions, but this is by far my favorite because of the GSR school. I love the GSR schools because an enthusiastic GSR is where it all starts. The GSRs are the most important person in AA. Remember, be the energy you wish to attract! Coming in the future – GSR School via Zoom. Right? Who ever thought of that? My idea is let's make them short and simple. Perhaps some of the other trusted servants would like to help out?

- Group Inventory – Thank you. It always makes me feel so humbled and blessed to be of service to the groups.
- Participated on an Ad Hoc Committee – Communication – we are using the GSO communications audit as a framework for our exploration. Interesting – one of the items it says we do not do well is communicate electronically. I would like to say to you that during this COVID-19 pandemic I have seen AA embrace virtual technology as a way to keep the “WE” connected when we can’t be together in person. It has been said that alcoholics sometimes do not embrace change well. That could be a little true. This time I have seen us rise to the occasion. I believe that these new times will change how we in AA communicate and interact. While nothing is more precious to me than my time with a real face-to-face human caring the message. I miss the chatter between friends and hugs when we depart. Virtual meetings are pretty good.
- Participated on an Ad Hoc Committee – Newsletter – The newsletter committee examined the newsletter quickly. We were tasked with bringing you a report back to this Quarterly. It is the fastest I have seen an ad hoc committee work. I think given the time constraints we did the best we could. Perhaps once you review the report it will be decided to continue the Ad Hoc Committee or create a new one to dig even deeper into some of the options suggested in the report.
- Pre-Conferences! Oh yes – 6 Pre-Conferences. I had the opportunity to take notes for you for each of the Pre-Conferences. You are amazing. At each one – Alan went over the same topics. Yet somehow each Pre-Conference taught me something new and made me think differently. I love how unique each region of Western Washington is. I am excited to hear from Alan about the report backs.
- PRAASA – Well – where do I start! The weekend started Friday and ended Sunday and I was the most perfect type of exhausted. I was exhausted because the vibration throughout the entire PRAASA was electric and rejuvenated my deep love of AA.
 - Alan gave a beautiful heart felt speech about his experience as Delegate.
 - I attended multiple Alt. Delegate sessions where I was fortunate enough to be able to connect, laugh and develop relationships with the other Alt. Delegates in the Pacific Region. I believe I made a few lifelong friends. I was also the Alt. Delegates roundtables scribe for the weekend. Since returning home from PRAASA we continue to be in touch and support each other during these crazy times. Everyone reached out to each other to share resources and “how to” do Pre-conferences and Quarterlies via Zoom.
 - Meghan – DCM 44 gave an AA talk on the ‘we’ of AA. She was brilliant and inspiring. She reminded us all that the “We of AA is me.” She spoke about “Do we expand our AA through service?” Yes – once we start doing this thing called service it expands to our work, family, and life in general.
 - Oh, and the craziest thing happened at PRAASA. You know in the 12x12 it talks about “when AA girl meets AA boy”. Well last year, this girl and guy met at PRAASA – and this year he went to the mic and got down on one knee and proposed to the girl he had met the year before. It was so beautiful. Oh she said yes.

I’m not sure what talk right now would be complete without mentioning the COVID-19. We are responsible – when anyone – anywhere reaches out for the hand of AA I am responsible. While during these unparalleled times, we still have to be reachable to the still suffering alcoholic or that person who decides now is the time to get sober. I realize that it has been hard – stopping the face-to-face meetings. But we still need to make it easy for people to find us for all who need us. So I ask a favor – for those of you that are not meeting but have shifted to a virtual platform – have you gone back to your meeting location and put a note up so if someone does going looking for us – they know how to find us? Let’s be spiritually actionable and reachable for all until we can return to our old normal.

On a personal note, on February 9, I married my best friend. I have a new last name/initial! Some of you may have seen him with me a few times this year at different events. While he is not one of us, he is in another fellowship. I cannot believe the depth of the relationship because two 12 step programs speak the same language of the heart. So, if you see me smiling a little more these days, just know that love feels pretty good!

You, Western Washington Area 72, each and every one of you amaze and inspire me. Because of you allowing me to serve you as your Alt. Delegate, I have been gifted one spiritual experience after another. Thank you for how much richer my life is because of service to you. I have a treasure trove of memories and for that I will always be grateful.

Chair Report - Heather C.

Hello Friends!

This time I found preparing this my quarterly report quite difficult – so much has happened and I find it challenging to articulate! Here goes.

January-February, Pre-COVID-19

I left our quarterly feeling energized! I felt we had a productive Area Inventory and during the quarterly there was great participation and a robust discussion. Do you realize there were over 100 people at our Area Inventory on Friday night? Amazing!

A few of the highlights from January and February:

- Participated in a GSR Roundtable in Mount Vernon
- Attended Pierce County's Grad School for GSRs aka GSR School 102
- Facilitated district inventories for Districts 8 & 15
- Visited District 14 twice to talk about how the Area can support them and hosting an Area Quarterly.
- Attended the first every Area 72 YP Committee Quarterly
- Facilitated several group inventories – even one for a men's meeting!
- Attended the January Web Committee Meeting
- Attended the first ever Language Steering Committee Meeting

March, COVID-19

In early March, with only an inkling of concern over COVID-19, I went to PRAASA in Tucson. As always – it was an amazing experience. I attended great panels on “hot topics” in AA and I even facilitated a panel. I attend the Chairperson and Remote Communities Roundtables. I especially enjoyed the remote community's roundtable and have been discussing with Karen, Area Accessibility Committee Chairperson, some ways the ideas we heard might work well in our Area and how to best incorporate them within her committee. One of the best aspects and what I now believe is the most valuable part of my attending PRAASA this year was the networking. I spent time getting to know the Chairs and Alternate Chairs of the Pacific Region. What at first seemed like casual sharing of tips and ideas of our roles as Area Chairs/Alt Chairs, in just a matter of days after returning to our respective homes has turned into a support network I am eternally grateful for.

Then...I returned from PRAASA and I felt like my entire world was turned upside down. I won't rehash what happened as we all were there for it. What I will say is I have never been more grateful to be part of the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous in my entire life. Just by the nature of my current service role as your Chairperson, I am able to have visibility to alcoholics all over going to any lengths to stay sober and help other alcoholics. Can't meet

in person? No problem! We'll go virtual! Don't know how to use Zoom? Don't worry! We'll show you! Don't know where to find meetings anymore and need to know the latest info on COVID-19 and how it relates to AA? Chill – we've got you covered! We'll build a website for that! Quarterlies need to go virtual? Don't fret! We can do that! These are just a few of the “big” actions I have seen these past three weeks. Some of the “smaller” and more personal actions I have seen is the reaching out. Those Area Chairs and Alt Chairs I mentioned meeting at PRAASA – we have been emailing and texting all the time sharing ideas and helping each other navigate this unprecedented situation. People are CALLING each other again – checking on each other. My phone actually died last night because I had been using it so much. That hasn't happened in years. I know that because of this experience, your current electeds & appointeds are closer than ever – this is an all hands on deck situation and I am so impressed by how resilient and adaptable sober alcoholics can be. A “perk” of staying home is I've been to Zoom meetings in other states and in meetings with sponsees and AA friends who've moved away. The silver lining I am finding through all of this is the genuine connections I feel to my fellows.

This is not an easy situation – for anyone! On a personal note 2020 has been tough – with things that have nothing to do with the pandemic - my two remaining grandparents passed, I didn't get the promotion I was hoping for and my heart was broken... This is the closest I've felt to being a newcomer, since I was a newcomer. There is so much change, at times, I admit I feel overwhelmed and can't keep up. But then, I remember what you have taught me. In PG language – Snap out of it. Hold your head up. Help others. Do the next indicated thing. Breathe. Pray. Listen – no really, stop and listen for that still small voice. Ask for help. Accept help with grace. Be kind to others.

So thank you. Thank you for all that you are doing to help alcoholics – including me. You have helped save me from myself and for that I am truly grateful.

Alternate Chair Report - Crystal S.

Hello Area 72.

First, I want to address the refunds for the April Quarterly. Because of vacation and work circumstances for the registration chair, the refunds have just started to go out. I am working with her and thank you in advance for your patience. If you have not received a refund by the end of April or you have any questions, please contact me.

The flyer with registration is available for the July quarterly. Please note the cutoff date of June 26th. As the food is provided by the venue, there will be limited meals sold at the door.

We will be talking more about Pre-Assemblies in July but please know when your local Pre-Assembly is now and remind your GSRs of which weekend it is so they don't make plans to leave town on that date! Pre-Assemblies are so, so important for a good experience at the Assembly.

The October assembly flyer with registration is available. Also, you can register on line. When the question asks you “Have you previously registered,” it is asking for this assembly, not prior assemblies. This feature is put in place so that if you register and then you want to add meals later, you can. If you have any questions please email assembly2020@area72aa.org.

At the October assembly, we will be considering bids for October 2025. If your district is interested in putting in a bid, it's not too late, but please contact me!

We will also be holding elections in October. If you are interested in making yourself available for Alt. Chair, please reach out to me. I would love to tell you all about serving Area 72 in this position.

Please remember that all of the Quarterlies in 2021 will be the second weekend instead of the first due to holidays!

If there is anything I can do to help, please feel free to reach out!

2532783462

altchair@area72aa.org

Treasurer's Report – Frank M.

Experiences from the past quarter.

As with all of us, this quarter started with all the usual activities – meetings, workshops, conferences, etc. – who knew it would end with the unprecedented world we now find ourselves!

The past few weeks have been a whirlwind of activity working with groups/districts to start online meetings, establish electronic baskets and other assorted issues surrounding our current situation. We have updated our information on electronic baskets that was presented on the panel last assembly to include additional experiences, some hot off the presses! Zoom meetings, Zoom meetings about how to have Zoom meetings! The list goes on and on.

I've also really enjoyed connecting with groups from other places I've lived over my time in the program, seeing old friends online has brought a greater sense of connection than ever before. Plus, I have seen many members across our Area since the virtual world has eliminated the travel barrier that accompanies getting to and from meetings. One meeting had members from Blaine to Vancouver with many places in between – all while in my recliner and sweats! Yes, I miss the hugs, but the language of the heart is still beating strongly in our Area.

Strengths from the past quarter.

The greatest strength I've seen and experienced is the rapid and heartfelt agility the Area has displayed in insuring that we fulfill our primary purpose in an uncertain time. Fears being set aside to move forward in unity; acting quickly and responsibly; ensuring the group conscience is considered in actions undertaken; these spiritual principles have been clearly displayed throughout our Area during this time of great uncertainty.

Your Hope for the future in your district/committee.

Clearly we don't know what tomorrow will bring, now maybe more so than ever in our fellowship. My hope is that with the guidance of our higher power, expressed through our group conscience, we can continue to come together in unity and continue to be there for those that need the message of recovery.

Alt Treasurer's Report – Courtney S.

Hi all,

I am so grateful for opportunity to serve! It's been a challenging yet inspiring quarter. I know we are all feeling the effects of COVID and are processing this in our own way. I appreciate the support and love I have received from all of you. I am also inspired by the way I've seen the fellowship pull together. I have never seen AA move so quickly to adapt and change! While we usually say AA moves slowly, I am encouraged to see all the adaptation needed to ensure we are carrying the message to others. It reminds me of the part in the book where it says "we match calamity with serenity."

I had some group inventories, 7th tradition presentations and other events postponed due to COVID-19 which was a bummer. Now that groups and districts are getting online platforms setup for meetings and events I am happy to attend and support you in any way possible.

I attended PRAASA about a week prior to the COVID stay at home orders and am inspired every time I attend this event. I attended the Treasurers roundtable with some other Area 72 members. It's continues to make me grateful for the financial support through 7th tradition and availability of past treasurers and delegates that embody our spiritual principles related to finances in Area 72.

A few things that happened I hadn't anticipated included getting a bit of a sun burn while wearing SPF 50 sunblock, going down a waterslide which I haven't done in years and also having brunch with my parents who live in Eastern, WA. I didn't realize they were still going to be visiting relatives in Tuscan! My mom called me after seeing a picture posted online tagging me in Tuscan. She had a few loving words with me ☺ The overall experience of PRAASA filled my heart and continues to reinforce how amazing our fellowship is!

Please let me know if you are interested in a 7th tradition presentation or have questions about my position as we approach the October assembly. I would love to tell you more about the Alt. Treasurer position.

Thank you so much for your love, support and commitment to continuing carrying the message!

Q1 2020 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (Please also see the attached Finance Report Package)

- Contributions were below 2019 but on target with 2020 Budget.
- Expenses were above 2019 but below 2020 Budget.
- Expenses paid in Q1 will be refunded for canceled events.
- Area will cover residual expenses resulting from cancellations.
- Minor additional expenses for online Area meetings.

WESTERN WASHINGTON AREA 72 Q1 2020				
	Actual	Budget	Variance	% Change
Contributions				
Contributions	38,048.17	38,200.00	-151.83	-0.40%
Area Event Execss Funds	1,202.10	0.00	1,202.10	
Service Materials	157.00	0.00	157.00	
Total Income	\$ 39,407.27	\$ 38,200.00	\$ 1,207.27	3.16%
Expenses				
General Operating Expenses	13,848.17	15,830.69	-1,982.52	-12.52%
Assembly Travel	232.30	0.00	232.30	
Quarterly Travel	3,157.73	3,125.00	32.73	1.05%
Delegate Travel	5,594.15	4,550.00	1,044.15	22.95%
Other Travel	902.44	2,175.00	-1,272.56	-58.51%
Standing Committees	847.95	2,804.04	-1,956.09	-69.76%
Steering Committees	5,783.89	5,668.06	115.83	2.04%
On-line Transaction Fees	42.63	90.00	-47.37	-52.63%
Total Expenses	\$ 30,409.26	\$ 34,242.79	-\$ 3,833.53	-11.20%

CONTRIBUTIONS

To make an online contribution, go to: www.area72aa.org “contribute” or make checks to: **Western Washington Area of A.A.** and include the group **name**, **group number**, and **district** on the check.

Western Washington Area 72

1225 Sunset Drive Suite 145-745

Bellingham, WA 98226

REPORTS

Financial reports, including quarterly contribution reports with district and group contribution details, can be found on the area website at <https://area72aa.org/area-financial-reports/> .

THANK YOU! To all the individual members, groups, and districts that support Area 72 with their 7th tradition contributions. Questions - Please feel free to contact the Area Treasurer at treasurer@area72aa.org

Questions:

- Are all of the committees using the Area’s Zoom subscription?
 - Yes, we have been able to add an extra “seat” for a minimal cost. The committees have been coordinating to not create conflicting Zoom meetings.
 - Alan will not be using our Zoom account when attending the Conference.
- Have you been able to look at what will be happening next quarter with expenses changing and a decline of income to make projections for the budget?
 - It is impossible to forecast at this point but we are monitoring things closely for budgeting the remainder of the year. We have a \$25,000 operating reserve which is enough to cover a quarter if necessary. We will not have to shut down Area operations in the near future. We will have a better idea after this Quarterly with the savings of doing an online meeting. Our income will be declining but also our expenses may be declining.
- Will we be getting a refund for the General Service Conference because, obviously, the Delegate will not be traveling to New York? Or will we let GSO keep the money? It would be money coming back to us but if we can afford it, I would like to see us let GSO keep it.
 - At this point, we don’t know what type of costs the Conference will incur. They will need to set up for the online meeting. After we know what their expenses will be, in the next month or so, we can discuss the refund. I agree that it would be good to donate the money if we can as we did already budget for it.

❖ *Approval of Treasurer’s Report:* Moved by District 46, 2nd by District 36, Approved

FIINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Courtney S.

Hi All!

Our Finance committee met via Zoom this quarter. Our Finance Committee received a request for a small portable speaker and mic that can be used for various meetings, ex: conference reports, pre-conferences, etc. when

have smaller groups and will limit travel for our Sound person and reduce travel costs which will pay for itself within a 1 – 2 events.

The main topic of discussion was to update the Electronic Basket document. The updates include feedback gathered by groups and members about the different platforms to collect 7th tradition. We have added a note of “updated 4/2020” next to those sections so you can see specifically the information added. I would like to highlight the Additional resources page:

- Additional payment platform: an intra-bank system, Zelle is an example.
- Includes San Francisco Marin Intergroup. Great table of the various platforms and links to fee structure, how to it up, support, security.
- Added a collection of feedback from groups who have utilize Venmo and a newer platform Zelle.

Please let myself or a finance committee member know if you have any additional feedback or questions!

SPECIAL DISCUSSION

➤ COVID-19/Coronavirus – what are we as an Area, Districts & Groups doing to support alcoholics in our communities? What more can we be doing?

- Our groups are putting notes on their meeting room doors with information how to access the online meetings.
- Our meeting is online but someone waits at the parking lot of the old meeting space and will “share” the online meeting from their car to anyone who shows up for a meeting.
- It’s important for someone to show up at the meeting place at the regularly scheduled time in case someone shows up – in case a newcomer shows up.
- In Pierce County (and other counties) some groups still meet following the Governor’s protocols for “essential” workers. Some people feel that this is a misinterpretation of “essential” workers and actually harmful to AA and alcoholics. Others point out that each group is autonomous and can decide for themselves.
- There has been a lot of unity during the Governor’s “shelter in place” order. There have been full day workshops on how to host online, Concepts workshops, speaker conferences.
- Maybe Area 72 could have a live Google Doc with all of the Zoom meetings and only DCMs could have editing access. GSRs could let the DCMs know about edits to online meetings. Hackers are not targeting AA, they are targeting Zoom.
- My home group meets via Zoom. We have left our meeting info with the church for people who may be looking. We correspond via email and will be having a virtual potluck!
- With all of the new online meetings, we are now reaching more home bound people.
- We haven’t been collecting 7th Tradition but have directed people to contribute to Intergroups, Area, and GSO online.
- A lot of people are calling asking questions. Newcomers want to know how to get their court slip signed; members need to know how to install Zoom; how to do 7th Tradition; questions on the 12th Tradition with people “zoom bombing”; Zoom moderators abusing their power; meetings that are still meeting without safety protocols.
- A lot of us live with or are people with pre-existing conditions. It’s important right now for all of us to be loving and tolerant of one another.

- Zoom has been a lifeline for AA members. Some members who have moved can now check-in with their old home group.
- There has been some contempt prior to investigation of the Zoom meetings and it is too bad. Meeting in person, even following the protocols, can be dangerous. I know how to make coffee, I am not as good at disinfecting a meeting room.
- My first response to being told what to do is to reject it! But now I am sober in AA and I follow the rules. I may not be harmed by this virus but I could harm others if I carry it.
- Our meeting space closed in March. We quickly moved to Zoom and got our info out. Last Sunday, a member from my home group died from COVID-19 and his wife. I want to help alcoholics. I want them to be able to walk free like we can. We have people waiting at the door of our fellowship hall to meet and direct people. My district has discussed having a workshop available for Area 72 to learn to set up online meetings and ask all the questions. We want everyone to have the tools to carry the message.
- Don't hesitate to put your group's Zoom info on the intergroup website! We have people contacting us with one day of sobriety. People are still getting sober and need meetings.
- What did the soldiers in WWII do? What about other crises in or time? In AA we learn to grow up, suit up, and show up. Part of that is being law abiding. I live in a home with immune compromised individuals. What if I went to a physical meeting and brought COVID-19 to them? How would it affect my sobriety? The Grapevine is our meeting in print – meeting when you can't get to a meeting.
- I've seen people focused on what they can do, not what they can't do. Reaching out via phone and online. I think things will come out of this that we can carry forward.
- We are using Venmo for the 7th Tradition.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Area Newsletter – Ad Hoc Committee Report: Looking at how to best serve the Area via the Newsletter content/format/frequency. Discussion, Suggestions? Solutions?

The Newsletter Ad Hoc Committee was formed after the January 2020 Quarterly and was composed of several members:

Bridget S. Dist. 11 CPC/PI Chair, Don N. Area Archives Chair, John B. DCM Dist. 24, Andrew M. Alt DCM Dist.9, Michele Alt DCM District 46, Greene D. Area Alt. Delegate, Will L. Area YP Chair, Astri T. Past Delegate Panel 63, Brendan D. Area Newsletter Editor and myself Tom F. Area Public Information Chair.

The committee met several times over the course of the last 2 months. Once in person and the remainder were through video conferencing. We accomplished quite a bit and have come up with some ideas for the Area body to consider in moving forward.

Our first meeting was held at the Greater Seattle Intergroup Office. We brainstormed ideas and wrote down what we felt, as members of General Service, were the pros and cons of the Area Newsletter. We then opened up to conversation to get a sense of direction.

The purpose of our committee was to make recommendations for consideration by the Area of the content, format, and frequency of the Newsletter. And any other issues that might be brought forth during our meeting discussions and findings.

The Newsletter Current Policy States:

"The policy of the Western Washington Area Newsletter is to provide a communication tool and to communicate the business of the Western Washington Area..."

Regarding content, the majority felt the Newsletter needs to be more eye catching and attractive and that the business/General Service content in it is vital. We also found the policy is wordy and somewhat confusing when reading it.

- Current Policy States

"....This business includes elections, committee appointments, special committee activities and status, motions, elected officers' activities, standing committees' activities and significant events which carry the message of AA to the still suffering alcoholic..."

A possible edit to the policy:

"....This business includes elections, committee appointments, special committee activities and status, motions, elected officers' activities, standing committees' activities and ~~significant events which carry the message of the still suffering alcoholic.~~"

To read instead:

"....This business includes elections, committee appointments, special committee activities and status, motions, elected officers' activities, standing committees' activities and service oriented events."

Reports

Also discussed was the importance of the Area General Servant reports. They should remain as is: Elected, Standing and DCM's

- Consideration: Encourage the addition of Intergroup Reports, General Service Event Chair Reports (such as PRAASA, PNC, El Foro Local, etc., and Ad hoc Reports
- Consider updating Policy:

"...Reports on Service events that ~~were successes or had problems would be helpful to other districts...~~"

To Read Instead:

"...Reports on Service events that are General Service oriented."

Events:

There was much discussion on Area Service Events and Area Fellowship Happenings. They are both important to have in the newsletter.

- Area 72 service events at a glance:
 - GSR Schools, Workshops, DCM Round Tables, Pre Conference, Assemblies/Quarterlies, etc. Throughout Area 72
- Area fellowship Happenings: (Listed in Newsletter)
- Consideration: All Flyers be sent to the Area Website for posting and not be printed in the Newsletter. It was agreed that they are not easily readable and are readily available on the Area Website.
- Current Policy States:
 - ..."Other events i.e. campouts, luncheons, picnics will be noted in the "Area Happenings"...."*
 - c
 - (Links/Hyperlinks to all events on Area 72 Website)

The committee also discussed the Area activities calendar which is already on the website.

Additionally:

The committee had some really creative thinking and input as well as research on what other Areas are doing to make their newsletters flow and be attractive.

- Special Section: “Coffee Corner” Things like: History Pieces, Past Delegate Wisdom, OSD Stories, etc., as well as Hispanic Reports/Stories, to be translated to English.

We all felt this was a good way to make the Newsletter more well-rounded and enjoyable for all.

Format:

Some the committee thought it would be good to have the Newsletter online while others like the feel of the Newsletter in their hand. In the end we all agreed there was a need for both printed and web versions.

- Past Surveys indicated the majority wants to continue print versions
- Remote Communities/No Internet Access
- Elder/ Non-Techies / No internet Access
- NL belongs to AA Group Members
- Option to opt in/opt out would create problems at service rotation. (The incoming may not know the previous opted out for example)

Continue Monthly both printed and web versions!

The newsletter is printed in pages of 4. This is required for formatting and printing purposes.

- Having options as fillers like history or OSD Stories would be helpful to prevent blank spaces.

Quantity must be a 1000 print run at current print source, to keep costs down.

- Consider other print company sources in the future for lower costs.
- Some other Area Newsletters print on 11”X17” paper and fold to 8.5” X 11”. This would possibly be more costly due to the added weight. (Newsprint is lightweight and inexpensive).

Distribution:

Current policy supports monthly distribution:

“...The Western WA Area Newsletter will be distributed monthly free of charge to the elected and appointed officers of Western Washington Area, the DCM;s and Alternate DCM’s all the GSR’s of the registered groups in the Washington Area, Past Delegates, GSO, Pacific Region Trustee, Pacific Region Newsletter that reciprocates and the 15 Pacific Region Delegates...”

- Links to fliers on the website in Area Events, fully interactive with hyperlinks.
- DCM’s “Not receiving correct amounts”
 - Found to be a one-time error between registrar and printer, the Printer had an old list
 - Current editor sends extra copies which are available because of the minimum 1000 order.
 - DCM Should continue to receive the extra copies
- Editor not responsible for the mailing list, list generated by area registrar from info received from districts.

Other Considerations:

- Consider updating the Editor Job description
- Update area Handbook 9.3 regarding current practices
- Consider writing process for training to eliminate editor rotation issues (*Brendan is doing this already*)
- Newsletter Training at DCM Orientation, with live Animated Person ~ with a pulse- PowerPoint Presentation - Done at the begin of the rotation in January. (Committee thought by doing this it

would encourage to the DCM's the importance of submitting their reports and also a way to help the groups GSR's)

Production Problems:

- Compiling articles/reports - late Submissions - 15th is the Deadline. Editor is encouraged to delegate helpers, editing is incredibly difficult and time consuming.
- A couple of our committee members attended the round tables for Newsletter at PRAASA
- Editing Software can be problematic
 - Both Brendan and Geene, who is a past newsletter editor, confirmed that the format and software currently used can be difficult to convert and layout the newsletter.
 - There was some talk at PRAASA about different types of software being used to help layout and edit newsletters
 - Open to suggestions from the area regarding editing software.

Discussion:

- No comments

➤ *Questions and suggestions are welcomed. Contact pi@area72aa.org.*

2. Area Communications Practices: Ad Hoc Committee Report: Auditing our communication practices using the GSO Communications Audit as a guideline. Discussion, Suggestions? Solutions

We held our first meeting February 23rd at the GSIG to discuss ideas and strategy for conducting an area wide communications Audit.

Attendance: Bill (DCM 12), Keith M (past delegate), Geene D. (alt delegate), David L. (Snohomish CSO) John B. (DCM 16), Pauline O (CPC chair District 34)

- Meghan K (DCM 44) & Linda D. (area Treatment Chair) Joined via email in

We discussed the GSO communications audit and how we would utilize the spirit of this document, to guide our endeavor. We brainstormed many ideas and settled on a comprehensive plan of action. We concluded our meeting & agreed to continue our work individually and collaborate via email.

Internal:

We have created a questionnaire and survey to be distributed to the area committee, quarterly appointed meeting, district meetings, group business meetings and individual members.

We have divided up the area into 4 quadrants; North, Peninsula, Central & South, we will ask 4 districts from each grouping to participate, DCM's will distribute the survey at the district meeting. There will be a supplemental Q&A conducted with the district committee at the same time. DCM's will compile a report & return to their contact person on this committee. There will be a separate focus group conducted in each geographical grouping (up to 4).

GSR's will distribute the same survey & conduct the same Q&A at their business meeting & return both a report of the Q&A and the completed surveys, to DCM. DCM will forward to their contact person on this committee.

A member's survey will be conducted at the Pre-assemblies

External:

We will recruit the CPC, PI, Treatment & Corrections chairs from 4 districts in each quadrant to reach out to treatment centers, public entities & professional organizations, institutions & correctional facilities. Together we will develop a questionnaire to ascertain the perception of Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 72 by the agencies we serve.

All of the data will be compiled & rendered into comprehensive, understandable charts & graphing. This information will be presented at the area assembly with recommendations from this committee.

We are currently working on the logistics of distribution so we can maximize participation.

Discussion:

- A survey was attempted during the online Quarterly but it did not work for everyone so it was decided that the ad hoc committee chair, Bill DCM 12, would email the survey to DCMs.
- One of the threats to our communications effectiveness occurs during the rotation of positions. Appointed positions are determined in December for a position that starts in January. That is not a lot of time to get up to speed. Some servants are better at "training" their replacement better than others. Perhaps the Handbook could have a best practices section for handing over a service position to an incoming servant.
- Area 79 has a process called "Transitioning" where the incoming trusted servant is given all the notes and archives for their position going back several rotations.
- The last survey that we were given for our GSRs did not have enough time allowed and the response was poor.
 - That is a good point. This survey will come out after this Quarterly and we will be collecting data until September. That should be enough time to get the data in.
- As a new GSR it is hard to figure out where I belong. There is not enough communication to understand Area and GSO. Perhaps we could do something online to help GSRs with understanding Intergrups, Area, and GSO and how they work.

➤ *If you have questions contact dcm12@area72aa.org.*

3. Discussion Topic: *How do I encourage diversity of opinions and experience, and engage/foster communication at the group, district and area levels?*

- This topic comes from an experience at an Assembly two years ago and also the January Quarterly where I felt a lot of disconnect and condescension from the Area. You can see this information in the January minutes and Inventory notes. I did not feel that the upside down triangle was being represented well in the Area. GSRs and DCMs don't invest enough in voting for the Elected Trusted Servants.

Discussion:

- What is the process for outcomes of an Area inventory like the one we had at the January Quarterly? What happens with the items we identified at the inventory?
 - After the January Quarterly, an email was sent to the entire Area Committee (this includes DCMs) asking if a district or individual wanted to add a discussion topic to the agenda regarding issues raised at the inventory. Or just how would we like to handle these things? No one responded directly to that email. But, the Area has incorporated a lot of elements related to those issues into business, most notably the discussion topic we are addressing right now; the discussion topic on spiritual parity in new business; in the GSR and DCM schools and workshops. More can come along the way and if anything has been missed please speak up and we will address it.
- It is important that we make people aware of the conversations we are having at the Quarterly and district inventories. That is a way to get people interested, keep the conversation going, and hopefully to get people to attend business meetings.
- We need to be sure to make the under-represented voices heard. Call on the Spanish speakers instead of waiting for them to volunteer. Maybe a section for Native Americans in the Newsletter.
- What, as an elected, can I do specifically? I feel like there is dissatisfaction with some members in the Area but I am unsure how to solve that. If I had specific suggestions I would implement them. I want to help and be supportive but I need direction.
- Maybe we need an ombudsman (*an official appointed to investigate individuals' complaints against maladministration, especially that of public authorities.*) for people who feel disaffected. An “official” sympathetic ear. This could be a good position for a Past Delegate.
- We need to emphasize the importance of the minority opinion.
- Area 72 is blessed with the level of dedicated service commitment and communication from the bottom to the top of the Area - specifically, the website, newsletter, and Trusted Servants. I am a Past Delegate from Area 72 who moved to Pennsylvania. It was a culture shock. If I had not been a part of Area 72 I would now be feeling completely disconnected and not a part of AA as a whole. In Pennsylvania, I am welcome to attend business meetings and sit in the back but my experience is not called upon and I am not allowed to participate.
- When I felt I wasn't being heard, it was because I wasn't talking. When I felt like I was being left out, it was because I wasn't participating.
- At our District, even though only the GSRs have a vote, I make a point of going around the room and getting feedback from everyone.
- The DCM workshops and GSR schools have been really helpful as well as the Appointed Chair round table speed dating at the Quarterlies. I have found these to be useful and I appreciate them.
- Go to the mic if you're curious. Sometimes, as I sit in a Quarterly or the Assembly, I think I want to go to the mic but I talk myself out of it. If something is on my mind, I need to go to the mic and talk about it.

➤ *Please continue to discuss this with your groups.*

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Discussion Topic 1:** *In October 2018 a motion was passed to publish an updated version of our Western WA Area 72 history book. The Our Stories Disclose III (OSD III) Committee has been conducting pre-sales since October 2018. We had anticipated meeting our pre-sales target to fully fund*

the book by December 2020 and move to product in 2021. Currently we are at 51% of pre-sales target. We would like to discuss how the Area would like to approach the current shortfall of pre-sales and funding to produce the OSD III book.

The OSD III committee continues to work on production of the book. We currently have collected 392 stories. 125 of those are updates and 267 are new histories. We still have a few Districts that have not turned in histories. Please email those to grouphistories@area72aa.org. We have a wonderful editing team busy editing the histories we have collected so far.

Background:

The motion to publish the book reads, “That Western Washington Area 72 publish the Third Edition of Our Stories Disclose, A History of the Western Washington Area of Alcoholics Anonymous 1939-2002, to be updated through 2018.”

While this doesn’t specifically clarify that that it will be done through pre-sales that was the goal and intention of the OSD III Committee that was communicated to the body.

We had targeted 1,500 pre-sale orders to fund the publication of 3,000 box sets, with a total cost of approximately \$18,000 (at time of quote), to make it fully self-supporting. To date, we have only reached 771 pre-sales, and we have nine months left in the year before the target date of submitting to the publisher in early 2021.

While pre-sales have been gaining momentum recently we suspect that Coronavirus will impact future sales due to restrictions on public gatherings where we get the majority of our presales. We have also considered that the Area may not be receiving funds from groups that are not meeting during this time, and that contributions to the Area may decrease.

We feel there are a variety of options which include:

1. Delay publication of Our Stories Disclose III until we reach the projected 1,500 pre-sales. This means that the book would not be available for distribution at the 2021 Assembly, as planned.
2. Order fewer box sets based on pre-sales money collected. During the 2018 Pre-Assemblies we showed a graph with different ideas including estimated costs at 1,500 and 1,200 books, along with an example of 1,000 books with Area contributions covering the difference.
3. Prepare a motion for the October 2020 Assembly asking the Area to fund the shortfall between pre-sales and the cost of publication.
4. Other ideas from the body?

We ask the Area for guidance.

Thank you,

Carol Hockey

Chair, Our Stories Disclose Committee

Discussion:

- This is not a good time to ask for money. People are stressed out about personal finances. We should delay publication. Why wouldn’t we delay publication?
- We should delay because we are in a historic time and we should add stories of how we dealt with the pandemic.

- This book has been in the works for several years. We accepted stories from 2002-2018. We have received several hundred stories. Chapters are written and being edited.
- A lot of work has gone in to creating a history book. This is not a meeting guide, it is a history book that captures 1939-2018. Those histories have not changed. We should not be afraid to go ahead with that history because of what is happening right now.
- If we push out the publication date, will we need to pass it as a motion at the Assembly because of the wording of the original motion, collecting stories from 2002-2018?
 - There are no plans to change the history collection dates from 2002-2018. We would just be pushing out the date for publication in order to give us more time to do pre-sales, not COVID-19 history collection.
- This is not a discussion about adjusting the content of the book. The content of the book was decided at the Assembly by motion to contain histories from 1939-2018. This body is not able to make any changes regarding the content of the book.
- We could put a small section in the current workings that recognizes COVID-19. We would not have to go back to the groups for this.
- We do not need to be overly concerned over this discussion. We have tried to address that sales may go down and the situation may not come out exactly as planned. If there is a massive shortfall, we can work with the publisher to decrease the amount of books we have ordered to lower the cost and perhaps make up the difference from Area funds. Let us not forget that the current history book has brought several thousand dollars above printing costs to the Area.
- This was never a realistic timeline to be fully self-supporting through pre-sales. Past history books have received financial help from the Area. Every year, after our expenses are paid, this Area gives money to GSO. I am not saying that we should forego sending money to GSO but we could very easily set aside a percentage of our money before contributing to GSO and help with publishing.
- Would the publisher allow pre-sales of an e-book on a limited basis to offset costs on publication?
 - The Area was surveyed and chose a hard cover book.
- Is the book available for purchase online?
 - Yes, if you can afford a pre-sale purchase: <https://area72aa.org/our-stories-disclose-3rd-edition/our-stories-disclose-3rd-edition-pre-sales/>
- How many Hispanic histories have been collected?
 - 11 from D1 and 8 from D57 and a couple more that affiliate with different districts.
- Capturing history is important and we need to move forward with this book but again maybe not through pre-sales at the moment.
- Let's not let fear of finances direct our decisions.

➤ *After considering this feedback, the OSD III Committee will report back in July.*

2. Discussion Topic 2: *How can we improve spiritual parity between the different language communities within our area?*

- This originally came out of the Area inventory and use of the translation equipment by districts and committees. The Language Steering Committee was tasked with solving the problem of equipment available for use. As the Steering Committee talked about it, it became a bigger conversation about spiritual parity and being inclusive instead of the linguistic districts and us – about becoming just us.

We wanted to talk today about how to be inclusive of everyone regardless of language. It is important for groups who speak Spanish, Russian, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean etc. to be able to participate in Area level discussions. By motion, we only provide for Spanish and ASL interpretation. My role as Language Chair is to facilitate translation and interpretation to everyone. The motion as it is will eventually have to be addressed.

The Language Steering Committee did decide that I could lend the interpretation equipment to Districts and events even though that may not be the exact letter of the Language Chair job description, it is the intent of the position and it is appropriate for us to be inclusive.

There are many tools available that can help us not to just translate the English to another language but to make it not an “English” meeting but just an AA meeting. This Quarterly is an example of that with the slide show being in both English and Spanish.

Discussion:

- Online meetings with ASL interpretation make it much easier for deaf members to attend and a much larger deaf population can attend. Are interpreted online meetings a way for us to bridge the language gap created by geography?
- We are in the middle of this transition. When I look back a few years at how far we have come with making translation and interpretation available I can see how far we have come. We need to keep moving forward and become even more inclusive but we have made a good start. I am more aware.
- We need to reach out more. Maybe an English speaking District/Group could host a Spanish speaking District/Group? Are you aware of Spanish speaking groups in your District?
- We have Spanish speaking DCMs. How do we get Spanish speaking Appointed or Elected Trusted Servants?
- Does Zoom allow closed captioning/subtitles?
 - Zoom does have the capability to do cc through a 3rd party plug-in. Zoom itself does not include cc. The plug-in is available and simple to install for minimal cost but you would have to find that 3rd party service. Some other online platforms do have cc and it is fairly good. Zoom does allow for a person to be assigned to do the closed captioning as the meeting is going.
- At the January Quarterly we were all invited to a Spanish meeting with English interpreters. Only two English speakers showed up. In Hispanic culture, when you are invited it is considered an affront if you do not attend. You will be invited a second time but if you do not attend a second time, you will not be invited again because it is obvious you are not interested. If we want more participation from the Spanish speakers, we should be more interested in them and what they are doing.
- Online meetings are classist. Not everyone has a computer and libraries are closed. We need to pick up the phone. Everyone has a phone.
 - Online meetings can be accessed by dial up on the phone.
- As a Spanish speaker, I want to thank the Area Committee. We are getting lot of information in Spanish where we used to only get English.
- It's not about inviting Spanish speakers to English meetings and vice versa. It's about all of us being in this together.
- It can be very difficult, as an English speaker, to contact and communicate with Spanish speakers through District, Area, and Intergroup.
- In my District we are doing okay. We have 4 Hispanic members, we have people of color, Hawaiians, and Indians from India. At Area events, it's important to invite the Hispanic communities to

participate directly. They feel on the side. Like today, we can say, “We want to hear from the Hispanic community.”

- I hope we see this discussion topic at the Assembly because I really want to hear what the GSRs have to say. I really hope at the Pre-Assemblies, the Language Steering Committee can bring us information on what other Areas are doing. I also hope we have people who are non-English speakers on the Language Steering Committee.

➤ *Please take this back to GSRs to discuss this with the groups.*

3. **Floor Motion:** *We move that WWA72 will cohost the Pacific Northwest Conference via Zoom or other online forum in 2020. PASSED*

Existing PNC Motion:

15.1 WWA72 to rejoin the Pacific Northwest Conference by participating in the hosting rotation and financing the participation of The Delegate.

Why? /Background

Diana, Chairperson for Area 92-Eastern Washington, has asked the Areas who are in the hosting rotation for PNC if we are interested in cohosting PNC this year via Zoom or other online forum in 2020.

There was no PNC scheduled for 2020 as PNC is not held on years that the International Conference is held (every 5 years). The International Conference has been cancelled for 2020 due to health concerns.

WWA72 is in the rotation to host PNC in 2022 and if body decides to cohost a virtual PNC in 2020, this would not impact our place in the normal hosting rotation.

Discussion:

- How can we decide when there are other Areas involved?
 - The Areas collectively will decide. We are just agreeing to participate or not.
- Why is this a motion instead of a discussion topic?
 - Because we need to decide now. If we choose to do it, it will likely happen before we meet again.
- Is there enough time to organize it?
 - Yes, because this is online. The only things that need to be done are creating topics for discussion and finding speakers.
- Would we hold this before the General Service Conference?
 - It traditionally occurs after the Conference and we would more than likely keep this schedule.
- This is a great idea! People are disappointed by the ICAA being cancelled and this gives people something to look forward to.

➤ *Motion to join online PNC as a co-host:* Moved by District Area Chair, 2nd by District 46, Passed

➤ *Minority Opinion:* None

DCM SHARING

District 1– (Spanish speaking District South of King/Snohomish Counties) DCM Juan Carlos. – No report.

District 2 – (Camano Island, NW Snohomish County, Arlington, Stanwood) Alt DCM Christine S.

Hello everybody district 2 is obviously going through with the same things most everybody else in the area are. I hope this finds everybody as healthy as possible. We have a lot of our meetings in district 2 set up in Zoom so they can continue to participate as best as they can. We're also getting prepared to do our April business meeting via Zoom.

District 3 (SE Snohomish County, Lake Stevens, Highway 2 Corridor to Steven's Pass) – Alt DCM Miranda H.

We have been doing Zoom meetings like everybody else. We did have to cancel our Gratitude Banquet scheduled for a few weeks ago. We helped host the January Quarterly. We're just trying to stay home and stay safe. D3 has an older population and we are trying to do everything we can to keep everyone as healthy as possible. Thanks to everybody for all of this awesome Zoom stuff.

District 4 – (Skagit County Mt. Vernon, Burlington, Sedro Woolley) DCM Jesse W.

Our quarter was off to a great start, we had a couple of workshops planned, had a member attending the planning session for the upcoming assembly and had committees bringing in outside speakers for our GSR's to hear from. Dormant groups were beginning to send representation to district and actively participate. People were starting to think forward to the next rotation and actively participate in our local service structure. Our unity has been strong.

Then things got derailed by the COVID-19 outbreak. Workshops and meetings have been canceled. Meeting places closed, leaving groups wondering how to proceed. Initially some meetings continued in person with "social distancing" changes or met outside, before more strict orders came down from the state and the reality of the situation set in. I am really impressed with the way members have swiftly adapted to the changes. Groups have started virtual meetings; we quickly made some budget changes and have stayed safe and sober in the process. We have been able to get our meetings listed online, thanks to the help from our neighbors in District 11. People have been understandably reluctant to give up their in person contact with AA, but we seem to have embraced the new virtual and isolated world that we are living in.

I think the main focus of the next quarter will be a return to normalcy if that is possible. We will be replacing one of our elected trusted servants, who is stepping down because of life changes. So conducting elections virtually will be a new experience. But we have already had more interest from members in the position than we had in the last couple of rotations, so that is a positive. With everything so uncertain right now, our main focus will be to just continue forward in sobriety as serenely as possible.

District 7 – (South Clark/Skamania Counties) DCM Jeff C.

We had our business meeting a week ago Thursday via Zoom. I had help from a GSR to set that up.

I attended PRAASA for the first time and it was a little overwhelming with 1500 people in one room. There were three mics and two big screens. The camera was pointed only at the podium and I thought it would be better if the camera could be on whomever was speaking because it was hard to see. It was a great experience with lots of cactus.

Everything's good, we're all on Zoom.

District 8 – (Thurston and Mason Counties) DCM Thomas L.

It's great to be here and to be able to all participate on Zoom.

A lot of our meetings have gone to Zoom. There are a few that are adamantly resistant and continue to meet. I have reached out to them in a loving and kind way about the importance of switching and I think they recently just switched – mainly because the church finally booted them out. A lot of the meetings have come to me to set up the Zoom because my home group was one of the first ones to set up. So, a lot of the info I have received from Area re: Zoom has allowed me to turn around and help them. Thank you.

We're working to get the 7th Tradition set up. Right now our District is not set up to get contributions so we are going to set something up online through our website. We don't have a web servant right now and we have one guy who is getting all the info and knows how to do it. So, he has taken it on for now but things are happening fast and it takes time to update the website.

District 9 – (Central Tacoma, Fircrest) DCM Skot B.

Not a lot to report at the District.

Shout out to Kari K. DCM from D29 who is turning 50 today. Happy Birthday!

District 10 – (Kitsap Peninsula) DCM Christine C.

District 10 is under the same duress as others due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

We have four halls that have voted to remain open for meetings while observing social distancing guidelines.

They are:

Belfair Group

Bremerton Group

Friends of Bill W.

Silverdale

Otherwise people are learning to use Zoom meetings and we haven't heard of anyone "cracking" yet.

District 11 – (Whatcom County, Bellingham) DCM Aaron D.

We are up and running in Whatcom County AA! It's been a crazy month, as I'm sure it has been for all of us. We now have almost all of our physical meetings conducting online meetings, we held our first District Meeting over Zoom, and we have put together a Google Sheets document on our District Website that updates *live* when a new online meeting is added! We have trusted servants in our District looking into how we may still be able to access alcoholics in institutions and jails. A tremendous amount of work has been put in by so many people here and I am eternally grateful for all of the help and support I have received, whether it has been at a District level, or just people checking in to see how I'm doing. I've almost felt more connected now than I did in the before times!

District 12 – (North and East Snohomish County, Everett) DCM Bill W.

We had many servants fall off at the end of the year & many vacant positions at the district. Many fresh & enthusiastic faces arrived to the January Quarterly! We have a handful of new GSR's that have joined the business meeting! We held a GSR School in February along w/ Districts 2, 3 & 19. Thanks to Geene, Randy & Lupita for coming out! We had a death in the family which took both of us to California unexpectedly. Danny V (DCM panel 65) stepped in & chaired the meeting for us, Thanks Danny!

We have shifted gears in response to the virus & our trusted servants have worked quickly to make online meetings available to the district. We have our next district meeting scheduled via ZOOM and look forward to the April quarterly.

It is a VERY interesting time in Alcoholics Anonymous, tradition 10 clearly states that we have no opinion on outside issues, the Covid-19 virus is certainly an outside issue, a global one at that! We definitely have opinions about it, we have opinions about a lot of things but never have I seen it permeate our fellowship as much as this has. It is an outside issue that has become an inside issue, an AA issue, a personal issue, a global issue. An issue that speaks deeply to the core of our humanity and for many their very lives. I am trying to be mindful during this time & carefully considering how I myself respond, as well as how WE, the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous responds. When an outside issue, becomes an internal issue, I must be willing to evaluate this new experience & adjust my perception of my firmly held beliefs. Tradition 10 still applies of course but I suppose in a somewhat subtle and different way.

District 14 – (West Seattle, White Center, Vashon Island) DCM Tim H. – No report.

District 15 – (Downtown Seattle, West Capitol Hill) Alt DCM Marshall R.

Experiences from the past quarter.

We did district inventory.

Strengths from the past quarter.

Even though we have trouble holding onto a few positions, our core group is strong and reliable.

Your Hope for the future in your district/committee.

Continue to try and fill positions. We are holding our next biz meeting via zoom. Marshall, our alt DCM is working on a panel about Transgenders in AA (for fall).

District 16 – (NE Seattle, University District) DCM John B.

Early in this quarter we had a district inventory that invigorated us all. We started by updating our District Handbook and then we had several projects going when it all hit the wall. Then there was a very steep learning curve with Zoom meetings and it all seemed like a moving target at the beginning. We had a lot of paranoia about Zoom bombing and there has been a lot of hand holding. Shout out to our secretary, Ella, who has been a tremendous help in updating our Zoom list at GSIG and with helping several groups get up to speed with their Zoom security.

Can't wait until we get back to the new normal, whatever that is. I think part of the new normal will be to continue with some Zoom meetings because of how many more participants we get via Zoom. All of our groups have either doubled or quadrupled in size. It has been very heartening in that regard. I am sure AA will survive and we will be stronger and wiser for it.

District 17 – (NW Seattle, Ballard) DCM Karen S.

Experiences from the past quarter:

D17 Young People: Our YP Chair Desi brought the enthusiasm and vision to the district and found a venue for and Alt DCM Lisa led the hosting of the first Area Quarterly in at least two decades! "The inaugural Area Young Peoples' Quarterly was wildly successful. At one point we counted nearly 60 people in the room at once. Among them were YP chairs, DCMs, GSRs, visitors, servants hosting the event, and even those from the AREA committee. District 17 was not alone in hosting this event, since service positions were filled by alcoholics from within our district, as well alcoholics recruited from neighboring districts."

D17 Treatment Chair: Elected an Alt- Treatment Chair to assist with the workload – welcome Rose! Since the COVID-19 outbreak, the CUPS program is closed to outsiders. Many people have been asking about setting up zoom for the women there. Due to PHI (protected health information/HIPPA) laws Alex doesn't know if this will be possible as video of any kind is usually prohibited to protect such things.

D17 Web Chair & who also serves as GSIG Webmaster: “Four weeks ago tonight, Friday March 6 - as groups and locations were beginning to shutter meetings - a couple of D17 members held our first virtual meeting as a beta test using Zoom. It had 5 people and an ASL signer. They worked out some kinks, then did it again 6 times the next week. Since then, almost all of Seattle’s 1325 weekly in-person meetings have been closed by statewide Public Health Orders. Members have replaced them with over 330 online meetings, and that list is growing. GSIG’s website now shows these online meetings in a searchable list, providing one-click links to these meetings both by computer and smartphone. We have updated guidance on how groups can start these meetings as well as keeping them secure.

Alt DCM: “On March 6th Lisa hosted Our Primary Purpose, an online Zoom meeting created in response to notification that meetings were starting to close. Through thorough understanding of what could be coming to the world with regard to COVID-19, thanks to frequent conversations with our DCM Karen S., plus work with GSR Seth G. (Abigail’s Ghost), and Lee R. (Web Chair & GSIG Webmaster), something amazing happened pretty quickly: an online meeting presence in Seattle quickly formed. During the past month, I’ve hosted many meetings and have been gifted chairs from several members of D17.”

DCM: Special thanks to Geene for facilitating and to GSRs for participating in District 17’s inventory on January 12th. Worked with venue landlord for YP quarterly and Area Alt Treasurer to meet the terms of the contract and to secure insurance coverage. Traveled to Archives and with Archivist Maryland’s help, researched 65 years of District 17’s history. Attended the February Archives Quarterly. Unable to attend the Central Pre-Conference due to medical reasons. Participated in first Virtual AA meeting – Our Primary Purpose - Beta Tests. In agreement with Alt DCM, hosted D17’s first business meeting virtually on March 12th; our congregational landlord closed its buildings the next day. Compiled two COVID-19 Public Health Updates for district members. Compiled all of the changes at GSO, including GSO office closure, cancellation of International Convention and Virtual General Service Conference due to the New York City Shelter in Place Orders and provided the information to district members and other DCMs. I attended the Friday April 3 rd. training for the first ever Virtual Area Quarterly and participated in the April Area Quarterly on April 4th via Zoom.

Strengths from the past quarter:

D17 Treatment Chair: “The treatment center Alex works at has started setting up zoom meetings without video but where all the patients can see the meeting but are not on video themselves and cannot participate but can at least see the meeting happening on their end and participate in some act of recovery outside treatment. Many ppl in outpatient are using this climate as an opportunity to not attend any meetings or go to treatment and relapse and there has been a very rapid and growing increase of patients going into inpatient. Current concern at this time is that AA members are operating under the function of contempt prior to investigation and continue to attend meetings in person, not abiding by the governors demands thus aiding in one of the causes of the extension of the shelter in place. As a result, it is making it even more difficult for us to reach the newcomer. I would love it if we could use our digital advancements to connect and abide by our traditions which help keep AA whole and intact and find new ways to reach the newcomer.

District Hosting Young People Quarterly: Lessons learned include: (1) the DCM has an integral part in ensuring a proper venue contract and insurance is in place, (2) clarity of roles is vital to success and (3) even when things

aren't going as smoothly as each one might hope, we have a spiritual toolkit that allows us to place principles before personalities. Although we were not self-supporting that day, we remain grateful for the opportunity to have served the Area in this way.

D17 Web Chair & who also serves as GSIG Webmaster: We've transitioned our Intergroup office to serve people remotely as well. Nightwatch has distributed our phones to volunteers on a rotating basis. We've significantly cut back on our office hours to limit exposure, closed our conference rooms to meetings and other groups, and are holding our committee and board meetings via Zoom, just like this Quarterly. Lee is working with Area Webmaster Eddie to ensure the Meeting App is updated as quickly as possible so that people can find us!

DCM: I have served on Cooperation with Professional Community (CPC) Committees in different groups/districts/areas for 30+ years. My career has been in environmental services and public health and I was blessed to serve at senior levels in state government. I currently consult with and organize groups to serve the most vulnerable in our community. I am grateful for relationships with medical, legal and faith leaders in the US and internationally and for the courage of healthcare workers. We are as healthy as the weakest amongst us, especially when it comes to a pandemic. Engaging my public health, government experience, professional networks and clients, we have been able to be on the cutting edge pushing for, influencing and modeling behaviors and policy solutions to help King County and Washington State, deal with the Public Health novel coronavirus crisis & reduce COVID-19 deaths. We have much more physical distancing, handwashing, digitally communicating and moving people safely inside to do! I am concerned when I hear group members not take the public health orders seriously and clean their meeting spaces in accordance with the orders for gatherings. I anticipate such policies will be with us for several more months/years.

Your Hope for the future in your district/committee:

1. Assist groups in securing the tools they need to safely carry out their primary purpose during the COVID-19 global pandemic and comply with Gubernatorial Shelter at Home and Public Health Orders.
2. I love AA. AA saved my life. We are slow to change in AA. I sincerely hope that members/groups work to support one another and get through this public health crisis. We are all going to need one another in the "new normal," which I doubt will look anything like life did before. This crisis presents us an opportunity to lean into our traditions, attend an online concept study, use the telephone to talk to people and hear the tone of their voice, ask if members need help with groceries and to read about and learn from our past in AA Comes of Age.
3. Ditto D17's Treatment Committee Chair's wish: "My wish is that we could reference as a community of recovery the quote from the spiritual experience appendix and apply it to our current public health crisis so we can adapt and learn and still continue to help the still suffering alcoholic. My hope is that we can investigate the new and current function of communication and connection through AA digitally rather than continue to fight the reality of the health crisis we are currently living in. "There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all arguments which cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance-that principle is contempt prior to investigation." ~Quoting Herbert Spencer in the 4th edition of the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 568.

District 18 – (Renton, Kent, Tukwila) DCM Dave V.

I went to PRAASA and it was nice to spend time with people and get to know them. I really enjoyed myself at PRAASA and will be sharing my experience with D18 at our next district meeting.

I am amazed at how the groups in our Area have come together. People have been reaching out and letting people know that meetings are happening online. Thanks to the people who have put out stuff about Zoom. It has been a tremendous help and I have been able to help a lot of people prevent Zoom bombing. We have about 8 meetings on Zoom. Thanks to Jeff (Eddy?) for putting on the presentation for the Quarterly, it has been fantastic.

At our last business meeting, via Zoom. We went ahead and increased our prudent reserve. Thank you to DCMs who shared at the DCM workshops about how their districts handle the prudent reserve because that allowed us to increase our prudent reserve.

Thanks to everybody who has been on this call!

District 19 – (West Everett, Mukilteo) DCM Tom F. – No report.

District 21 – (Grays Harbor County and half of Pacific County) DCM Tami B.
Good to see everybody!

This has been a big adjustment and we actually voted to postpone our next business meeting to give us some time to figure out how we're going to get together because not all of us are able to get together via internet.

We have a couple of meetings every day that people can access via Zoom. We're also spending a lot of time on the phone to check up on folks. We have a lot of remote people and communication can be a struggle. A lot of us have been pulling out the literature, texting, Facebooking - a couple of Facebook groups have popped up. We've really been trying to show up in people's lives. It isn't just about not taking a drink. It is also about, "Do we have what we need to be ok." Love made visible. I have seen a lot of amazing examples of our Steps and Traditions at work.

Thank you to Kelly who does our 12th Step stuff and Trina who helps with our website. Thank you to the Area for all of your support.

Grateful for you all!

District 22 – (North Olympic Peninsula) DCM Lorrie A.

There are so many people to thank. Especially, Jason our web guy and Tambria our district secretary who have been invaluable in getting us all set up with Zoom.

Tonight we are going to have a drive by parade for one of our members who is celebrating his 2nd year birthday. We're all going to meet up at a parking lot with things written on our cars, balloons hanging out and drive by his house.

D22 is doing well with our Zoom meetings. We have quite a few going up right now and they are well attended. We had a special meeting to discuss the Pre-Conference items.

District 24 – (Edmonds, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace) DCM Jerry F.

Wow, what a difference three months makes. When I wrote my report last December, it began "All good news".

Three months later, it is safe to say: "It's all good news." Better yet, as I used to hear up on Tiger Mtn. "Everything is going to be all right in the end. If it's not all right now, that just means it's not the end."

Today at my homegroup, TUG, in our online meeting, we read the FOREWORD TO FOURTH EDITION. On page xxiv it states: "Taking advantage of technological advances, for example, A.A. members with computers can participate in meetings online, sharing with fellow alcoholics across the country or around the world. In any meeting, anywhere, A.A.'s share experience, strength and hope with each other, in order to stay sober and help other alcoholics. Modem-to-modem or face-to-face, A.A.'s speak the language of the heart in all its power and simplicity."

The Big Book is marvelous. Before that, on page xxiii it states: "Like so much of A.A.'s basic text, those words have proved to be far more visionary than the founding members could have imagined." The miracles keep happening.

If you have ever listened to Joe and Charlie talk, one of their messages is that the "higher power" picked out Bill and Bob to carry the message. Just like the "higher power" has picked out you and me to keep carrying the message.

District 24 will have its first Zoom District meeting on Wednesday April 1, 2020 at 7:00 pm. I can't wait to find out from our GSRs what is going on with their homegroups. Are they meeting online? What are people doing to stay connected? Have they set up an electronic basket? Are they staying in touch with their landlords? Are they using the phone to call people they haven't heard from?

Gratitude Banquet: D24 has its gratitude banquet in March at St. Pius X in Mountlake Terrace. This year the gratitude banquet was set for March 14, 2020. On March 7, 2020, D24 postponed the gratitude banquet as the scope of the pandemic was becoming apparent. Thank goodness for service sponsors. I called my service sponsor and he said call as many people as you can and get a feeling for the group conscience. The weight was lifted off my mind as I realized it wasn't my decision it was our decision. I would like to thank all the people who worked so hard to prepare for the banquet. Debbie who stepped in when our banquet chair Michael got sick. Tom L and Brian N. who do the shopping and run the kitchen each year. Claire and Kevin who collect money and sell tickets. Steve C. and Julia who were going to be our speakers. All the people who gave me their names so they could volunteer for set up and clean up.

High School Panels: Our PI Chair Mark S. and our YP chair Piper G. have now got two high schools inviting AA onto their campus: Lynnwood and Mountlake Terrace.

Here is what the teacher from MLT wrote:

"The panel was excellent! I asked my students today what they thought, and they said it was really cool hearing everyone's stories. 3rd period had a little wider variety of speakers because some folks had to go to work, but it was absolutely wonderful. Thank you and thank the speakers for coming in. The school psychologist told me some of the students she works with were raving about it and said it was absolutely wonderful, even with just the two speakers. Feedback from students was that it was insightful, interesting, and they were glad that they came in, even those who would "definitely not" consider themselves alcoholics. Students liked that there were people with a ton of time and people with less time closer to their age."

Lynnwood High School is scheduled for another panel in April but I suspect that may have to be postponed or cancelled.

Accessibility. Bob O. is the Accessibility Chair. He is working with CPC to reach out to some of the remote communities mentioned below in the CPC report.

Archives. District 24 has a four year term for Archives. Our Archives Chair is Annie N. Our Alternate Archives Chair is Rita N. Both Annie and Rita are extremely enthusiastic and attended the February quarterly. They plan to host the May 2, 2020 quarterly at the Mountlake Terrace Senior Center. They have also been busy creating enthusiasm for the Archives monthly work parties which I think are now on hold. Finally, they are trying to get people to submit photos of their meeting places to Grapevine. Boy, a lot changes in a month.

Corrections: Judy S. is our Corrections Chair. If you have been part of Corrections, you know Judy. She is a fierce advocate for making sure that meetings happen in the jails and prisons and she personally takes meetings into the jails and prisons. She walks the walk. More volunteers are needed. She also needs more donated grapevines, new or old. She is able to take them into the prison and share them with the AA's inside the walls.

CPC. Our CPC Chair, Jeff K., went to the quarterly. Jeff is really on fire. He brought back a report on remote communities. Remote can mean geography remoteness or remote from society like senior centers. Our Alt. Chair, David M., worked in the senior home industry and is really interested in this issue. Jeff volunteered District 24 to host the January 2021 quarterly. CPC is working on outreach with accessibility.

Detox Coordinator: John H. is our chair. Terry R. is our brand new co-chair. John is moving to Whidbey Island. Lucky District 46. John is a rock star in our AA community. John, thank you for your service brother. I'll miss you. The good news is that Terry R. gets a promotion. Woo hoo! The king is dead. Long live the new king. D24 takes panels into a local Detox center six times a week. The detox coordinator changed the commitment from 1 year down to 6 months. We are going to be emphasizing the spirit of rotation so that more people can volunteer.

Event Coordinator. Skye is our new event coordinator and Debbie is the co-chair. Their next big project, if the gods are willing, will be the Picnic in August. Thank you, Skye and Debbie.

Grapevine. Carol V. is our Grapevine Chair. Carole was at the February quarterly. Carol and D19 are planning on co-hosting the June 13, 2020 quarterly.

Newsletter. D24 has a Newsletter! It's fantastic. Thank you to the newsletter committee: Newsletter Chair, Tasha L., Alt. Chair, David C., committee members Eliot K. and John H. This month will be an online only newspaper since we are not meeting in person. We have also successfully uploaded the January and February newsletters to the District 24 website.

Public Information. Mark S. is our PI Chair. Debbie met with Mark and learned about distributing literature to the Lynnwood Library. Mark is also involved in taking panels to high school. See above. Finn has agreed to be our "go to GSIG" for literature guy. Thanks Finn.

Registrar. Jamie M. is our registrar. Thank you Jamie. She has worked hard to make sure that everyone has their blue packet from GSO.

Schedules. Barbara S. is our schedules chair. We cooperate with several other districts to put together a schedule every six months. Our next scheduling party is April 19 from 1-5pm at Snohomish Alamo Club. Another big if?

Third Legacy: Our Third Legacy Chair is Joyce B. Our business meeting starts at 7pm but we have a Third Legacy/potluck meeting that starts at 6pm. We are placing this on hold, especially the pot luck part, while we see what happens.

Treatment and Bridging the Gap. Lori E. is our Treatment Chair. Lori has been on fire. She has hosted a quarterly. She has kicked down doors at treatment centers and established new meeting and panels. She sends out bridging the gap forms. She does it all. She finally made contact with Evergreen Treatment Center in Lynnwood. They are willing to let D24 bring a panel to their clients, on a one time basis. Then they will “see how it goes” and think about additional panels coming in. She also broke through, due to her perseverance, with NorthPoint Recover Center and now has panels three times a month at that facility. Great stuff.

Web. John K. is our Web Chair. Jeff K. is our Alt. Chair. Send John your flyers and announcements. We also post our old newsletters on our website. It’s our own little archive of D24 history.

Young People in AA. See above about High School Panel. Piper G. is our Young Person Chair. She is fantastic. She lined up our speaker for the gratitude banquet (Julia) and also lines up our young people for the high school panel. Sam just volunteered to be our alt. chair. This means Sam will be working with Piper and Mark to keep the high school panels going. Thanks Sam. Welcome my friend.

SnoKing Intergroup Rep. Geoff B. is our SKIG liaison. SKIG lost their lease because the landlord is remodeling. They have placed a new location on hold during the pandemic and have rented a storage locker to hold their coins and literature. They have coins and literature for sale. They are volunteer staffed so please call 425 672 0987 to arrange a buy!

Greater Seattle Intergroup Rep. Kimber is our GSIG liaison. Check out their website at seattleaa.org. GSIG has a banner across the top of page that includes “Meetings”. Place your cursor on “Meetings” and two more items appear “online meetings” and “Suggested Resources for Setting up a Temporary Online Meeting”. They have an online meeting posted for every day of the week.

The Greater Seattle Intergroup (GSIG) has updated the website with a listing of both closed meetings and new online-only meetings.

Closed/suspended meetings information: - <https://www.seattleaa.org/2020/03/06/meetings-that-are-postponed-due-to-covid-19/>

Online-only meetings information: - <https://www.seattleaa.org/online-meetings/>

If you wish to announcing meeting closures or new online meetings, please contact Lara (lara@seattleaa.org) or Lee (webmaster@seattleaa.org) with your updated information.

Please also don’t forget the 7th tradition during all of this. Intergroup is working hard to keep everyone informed on what’s going on and to make all of this possible. For information on supporting Intergroup, visit: <https://www.seattleaa.org/2020/03/07/how-to-support-intergroup-during-covid-19-closures/>

As I learn over and over, the enemy is me. I can choose to think online meetings won’t work for me, which I did for a week. Or, I can choose to be grateful for online meetings and the people who put in the hard work to get them started. I choose gratitude. It just takes a while sometimes. I need AA. Thanks to everyone for being there for me.

District 27 – (Cowlitz and Wahkiakum Counties, Longview, Kelso, Ilwaco) DCM Wesley R.

Accomplishments from the past quarter.

D27 hosted a presentation and discussion with reps from our nearest Intergroup in February. Thank you, Vancouver Intergroup, for your service along with the members of D27 who helped start the discussion.

I have been attending ZOOM workshops so that I may share with my District to help facilitate alternatives for in-person meetings. At least one group that I know of has already transitioned to ZOOM. Another is setting up a call tree to stay in contact with members.

I'm impressed with, and grateful for, the outgoing attitudes I have seen so far.

Problems or issues you are facing or have already dealt with.

COVID-19. I am doing what I can to assist groups/individuals. Mostly just passing along information from GSO, ZOOM, Area72, etc. Our most recent District business meeting was cancelled, and I feel uncertain about setting up a Virtual meeting for April, if necessary. Been getting a lot of help in this field, more is always welcome.

Please share some goals you hope to achieve or begin work on in the next quarter.

To keep as many in D27 as possible informed and included during this challenging time; not everyone interfaces with technology at the same level/proficiency. It is easy for me to forget my capabilities do not extend to those around me.

District 28 – (Lewis County, Centralia) DCM Derek S. – No report.

District 29 – (Puyallup, Eatonville, Orting) Kari K.

We had last month's district meeting via Zoom and it went really well. I have been trying to keep in contact with people from my district; helping people get set up on Zoom; reading literature and all that good stuff. We're just trying to stay safe like everyone else.

District 31 – (Burien, Des Moines, Tukwila) Alt DCM Larry B.

Can we still remember when things were boring and normal a couple of weeks ago?

At past district meetings we would ask our GSR's "What's new at your home group?" Many times we see the strain of trying to remember anything unusual or out of the ordinary that has happened in the last month followed by "everything is ticking along, all seems ok, doing fine."

In the first two District meetings, we have had reports of Groups that have had a group inventory, had invited guest speakers to their home group meetings, decided to have a first step study that would split from the main body at their meeting, have an increase or decrease in donations, how to better work with Seattle Intergroup to allow Groups to vote at Board meetings, Group attendance exceeding room capacity, introducing a timer for sharing and action on existing Group service commitments to 12 step programs.

It was the third district meeting on March eleventh when our district gathering was first affected by the Covid-19 outbreak. We were allowed to meet face to face at our regular meeting place which is a meeting room in a local church.

The church disallowed the sharing of food or beverage, encouraged distancing of six feet and required a disinfecting of all surfaces we touched. The attendance at this meeting was markedly reduced. We had two GSR reports and five trusted servant reports. The attempt was to have a regular district meeting, for the most part we did but I felt a general strain and uncertainty as to how we were going to proceed with that days meeting, and into the next day. Things were changing so fast around people so aware of one day at a time.

The AA fellowship is currently in the Covid-19 pandemic period of one day at a time. I imagine are of the districts all looking for a way to make a daily routine that was familiar before, familiar and simple again.

During Covid our meetings have generally been offered through zoom. This quarterly is offered through the internet as well. Accessibility has changed. Now anonymity and security are more than ever at the forefront.

Our local hospital/treatment center is working with our treatment committee to make bridges available for patients willing to speak to an AA over the phone once discharged. A conversation has been started regarding involving patients in online meetings once brought into the building via the internet while conforming to current regulations. The 12th step dispatcher program where nurses ask for an AA to meet with a new patient that is interested in recovery is still in place, we just meet via phone call rather than in person.

Our next district business meeting is scheduled for six-thirty, Wednesday April eighth via Zoom. I have volunteered to moderate as to allow the DCM to lead the meeting. I thank everyone that participates in advance. I am excited to hear about what is going on in our district groups over the last month, half of which is time where the new normal directly affected our meetings. Just today I learned about “zoom bombing” and its potential to harm meeting participants and accessibility to the new comer.

There are so many things about this progression of our fellowship into the virtual realm that hold the promise of great success as well as discouraging setbacks along the way

As we grow accustomed to finding a safe virtual shelter where we can utilize the drive provided by our common goal and the shared intellect of the body to exchange ways to inform each other of ways to use this new tech to chart a course, helping us all avoid the certain trials and low spots ahead, we will see a new clarity and ease in effectively carrying our message of recovery to the still suffering alcoholic.

District 32 – (Auburn, Federal Way) Alt DCM Nick

We had a fruitful district inventory this quarter. We’d like to thank Tom for coming out and facilitating that. We found quite a few actionable items.

Thanks to our brilliant webmaster we had our last business meeting via Zoom and plan to continue doing that. Our website district32aa.org has become an invaluable resource for people to find meetings not only in our district but all around. We’re currently looking to find some 7th Tradition solutions for our website.

Our goal is to continue to carry the message in the same manner we always have and I think that is possible. I am proud of how our district has quickly adapted to the situation we find ourselves in.

Thank you for allowing me to be part of this and share my experience.

District 33 – (East Kent, Maple Valley, Black Diamond, Summit) DCM Janet T.

We are no longer having in person meetings. A handful have gone online. We are still grappling with a few issues around accessibility for people who are not well connected already vs. security. I appreciate all of the information the Area has been sharing and the discussion today regarding ideas around that.

We will be having our district meeting via Zoom in about a week and a half. We are waiting to see what the world looks like in June and July because that is when we do a PI booth at Maple Valley Days and Covington Days.

Happy to be here today and thank you guys for all your work.

District 34 (Bellevue, Redmond, Mercer Island) – DCM Dominique T.

Hello Area 72,

I want to thank everyone for coming together and making this online quarterly possible. There have been so many home groups collaborating with each other and making a difference during these times with online meetings. District 34 will have their first District Business Meeting online and I look forward to the change. In my report in January I had some topics that I would still like for us as an Area to discuss.

I would like to focus on Women Leader's. The last District 34 meeting we had, we started a conversation about Women in AA and how we are represented. We as an Area have been talking about diversity and why are Women a diversity? I would like to see this topic discussed more through all channels of A.A. and have a discussion about making our Big Book more inclusive to all people.

I would like to see changed, how we do business at the Assembly. I would like to see the agenda reflect the group's first with the discussion topics and motions being first on the Agenda as to represent the inverted triangle.

I would like to see the seating at the Assembly and Area Quarterlies reflect inclusivity by having the electeds not on a podium. I believe this makes the electeds positions more important than the rest of its members.

Area 72 had an Area Inventory in January and it would be nice to see us consider some of the ideas that came forward to create change.

I hope in the last year of my rotation there are other member's that would like to see some of these practices changed. I have spent the last three years talking to our District about the importance of our 12 Steps and our 12 Traditions. I hope as a fellowship we can do different to foster unity amongst our groups and make women important.

District 35 (Issaquah, Sammamish) – Alt DCM Jennifer C.

This past quarter District 35 has only met once and that was in February.

In January our meeting was not held due to the weather.

In February there were some changes in our Committee chairs.

Our Treatment Chair stepped down, having plans to move to Tennessee. Fortunately someone who had heard that the position was open, attended the meeting, made themselves available and was elected.

Our Events Chair had to step down for personal reasons and the Alt-Chair stepped into the position.

Someone who had been told to get in the car, made themselves available for the Alt-Chair position and was elected.

We also filled our CPC Chair which had been unfilled for this rotation.

In March we co-hosted a Pre-Conference with District 17. I am grateful that we were able to do so before the restrictions on public gatherings started.

We had scheduled to take a Panel into Lakeside Milam Issaquah's IOP and that was cancelled. The last meeting taken into Issaquah Jail was in the second week of March and those meetings are on hold for the foreseeable future.

Two workshops that we had planned for March and April have been put on hold.

No District meeting was held for March

Our DCM, had attempted to poll our District Members on how they would meet and he received very little responses on how they would like to proceed.

I reached out to some of our committee chairs for information for this report and received limited responses. For this report I also queried our GSRs on what their groups are doing to discuss the Conference Agenda items, what steps their groups are taking if any to meet in general, and what solutions their groups have come up with for keeping in touch with newcomers and making sure newcomers can find them? I received no responses.

I'm concerned for District 35, but I'm hopeful that this lack of participation by our Committee Chairs and GSR's is just a blip related to the challenging times and this too shall pass

Thank you for your service.

District 36 (NE King County, Duvall, North Bend) –DCM John B.

Our free showing of Bill W. was successful

- 100% booked
- 50% showed up
- The event was self-supporting
- We canceled our free showing of When Love is Not Enough: the Lois Wilson Story due to Coronavirus
- A third of our meetings are online. The others are temporarily closed
 - We've been busy training meetings on how to safely use Zoom
 - Area resources are great. We've referred a lot of groups to them.
 - New York Intergroup (<https://www.nyintergroup.org/>) also has some great guidance. We can learn a lot from them
 - They're office supports some 5,000 meetings
 - Their site has some helpful suggestions
- Our next business meeting will be conducted via Zoom of course.

District 37 (North Clark County, North Vancouver, Woodland) DCM Joyce K. – No report

District 38 (Kirkland) Alt DCM Leonard T.

Most of our meetings have gone to Zoom. We are struggling with the Zoom bombing and everyone is trying to figure out the right Zoom settings.

We have an extensive archives collection in D38 and for the last few years we have been trying to determine how best to handle it. We have had a long time archivist. Our DCM had some discussions at PRAASA about it the discussion ramped up again in D38.

District 39 – (Kenmore, Bothell, Woodinville) DCM Michael G. – No report.

District 40 – (East Capitol Hill, Madison Beach) DCM Ford S.

We did not meet in January due to snow. In February we meet and were super excited because we had our first trans/non-binary group join the district. We then did not meet in March because of COVID-19. We will be meeting next Tuesday for our first ever Zoom business meeting.

We did participate in the Sponsorship Workshop with D34, D35, and D57. There was very good attendance.

All the groups have been starting Zoom meetings. I have not heard from Cherry Hall whether they have Zoom meetings.

Thank you.

District 41 – (North Downtown Seattle, Magnolia) DCM Dan G.

We are having a heck of a year. We started out the year really great because the second year of the rotation everyone has a little better idea of what they are supposed to be doing. So, right away we approved many things we wanted to do. Now many of those things are in jeopardy. Our PI booth at Pride Fest may not happen. We rented a picnic shelter at Magnolia Park for July 18 and that may not happen. We were going to try to get a PI booth at Bumbershoot and are in the early stages of making that happen but it may not.

On March 11 we had our first Zoom business meeting thanks to help from Seth at Abigail's Ghost.

Thanks to everybody! We are struggling with all of the same problems you are. Reach out to people you haven't seen or heard from because we are all losing out marbles.

District 42 – (NW Seattle, Shoreline, Lake Forest Park) Alt DCM Julie A.

Experiences from the past quarter.

So much has happened since the January quarterly. Our DCM resigned and Julie A. moved into the DCM position and the district nominated Sarah M. as the Alternate DCM.

On February 29th the Phoenix Club held a fundraiser to support the district's ASL interpreted meetings. The event was a huge success and the turnout was phenomenal.

Saturday Ladies Study got a group together and completely redecorated the nursery with fresh paint, carpet, and new toys for the children.

The majority the district's meeting spaces were closed the week of March 16th due to COVID-19. Many groups have been venturing out into the land of online meetings via the Zoom platform.

Strengths from the past quarter.

February was an exciting month for the district and we had a very powerful and productive business meeting. Multiple positions were filled including: alternate DCM, recording secretary, Seattle Intergroup liaison, PI/CPC, and corrections!

Julie A. attended PRAASA in March and was so excited to share the highlights from the assembly with the district however the meeting was canceled at the 11th hour due to the Phoenix Club's closure resulting from COVID-19.

District 42 will conduct the April district meeting via Zoom on the 9th.

District 43 – (Gig harbor, Purdy, Port Orchard) DCM Steve A.

The whole world is going through this whole COVID-19 thing together so I don't feel sorry for myself and I try not to let others feel sorry for themselves either.

We had to postpone our district business meeting because of the county closing down our building. Hopefully, we will meet either in person or via Zoom next month. I almost poo-pooed this whole thing and didn't want to

participate because I am kind of a closed minded jerk. But then I got involved in an AA meeting and I thought it was the coolest damned thing ever. So here I am! I am seeing a lot of faces I have not seen in a long time.

As DCM I attended the Pre-Conference in Sequim. Thank you to Alan and Geene for putting that on. I am looking forward to bringing that information back to my group.

Prior to COVID-19 I had been making the rounds to every AA meeting in my district trying to drum up interest in district service positions. I created a flyer with the tear off tabs at the bottom.

As a district we are holding it together. We have a lot of meetings via Zoom now.

Our district meeting is the first Wednesday of every month at 6:00pm and we'd love to see you. I look forward to seeing you all in person some day! Hopefully, in July.

District 44 – (North Tacoma, Gig Harbor) DCM Meghan K.

Experiences from the past quarter.

This last quarter flew by so quickly. In January, I attended the Area quarterly meeting, and participated in the Area inventory. I also got to participate in my very first steering committee (the Language Steering Committee) and an ad-hoc committee meeting for communications. Lastly, I attended PRAASA, and had the opportunity to present. It was really cool to meet DCMs and other service nerds (like myself) from all over the Pacific Region.

On a less fun note, in February, we said goodbye to our alternate DCM Angie C., who moved from Washington to Arizona, and we all miss her so much. At that same district meeting, we had elections to fill our open positions, and we've filled them all!

Strengths from the past quarter.

District 44, like most of the districts in the Area, faced the same challenges in March of 2020. In response to these challenges, District 44 hosted its very first virtual district meeting. This was such a great experience! We had over 20 people in attendance, and excellent participation. I'm really proud of how our GSRs quickly adapted to the new changes we've had to adopt in the last month.

Your Hope for the future in your district/committee.

In the next quarter, I hope to continue facilitating virtual district meetings with a special guest each month (check your email). I also plan to continue work on end-of-rotation forms. The goal of these forms is to provide a way for our district trusted servants and GSRs to share their experience for our incoming trusted servants, as well as for our archives.

District 45 – (SW Pierce County, JBLM, Steilacoom, Spanaway) DCM Donna Hills

I learned at the last Area Quarterly just how important it is to share & listen to all of the reports, both District & Committee! As I sat at the end of the meeting listening to the other DCMs share about their districts I began to relate. They weren't just sharing about their banquets and workshops, they were also sharing that they had trouble filling positions and keeping them filled. I realized that our district was not alone and I began to feel even more a part of the Area. As alcoholics we tend to overlook the trials that we share in common and focus on the triumphs. When we only share the good parts of our sobriety and hide the ordeals, we negate those that would be able to relate and feel a 'part of'. So please, SHARE...all of it. The good & the not so good; someone may need to hear it, I know I do!

I attended the Archives Quarterly in Everett on February 1st. There was some great sharing and fellowship and a lot of useful information was shared by several District & Intergroup/CSO archivists and our new Area Archivist, Maryland N.

Our district, (along with D-9, D-29, D-44 & D-54) are now known as 'The 5 Families' of Pierce County because of the close way we share and accomplish our duties. We came together to host The GSR GRAD-SCHOOL on February 15th in Puyallup and had a great turnout with great discussions and fellowship. The following weekend (Feb 29th) we took part in the Pre-Conference hosted by District 8. The turnout from our District was unexpectedly good and again the participation was excellent.

Our District 45 Picnic date is set for August 29, 2020 at Wapato Park in Tacoma and our Gratitude Banquet location is set for St John of the Woods Parish Hall in Parkland on November 21.

I was overjoyed to attend my 1st PRAASA in over 30 years. So much information shared in so little time! Of course upon my return, we went immediately into COVID-19 mode and I did not get a chance to review all my notes; so I am looking forward to going online and reviewing some of the panels I missed while I am 'distancing' from my fellows!

Within a week after returning from Tucson every one of our regularly scheduled meetings were closed. Many of them have started online/Zoom meetings and our CSO, Area Archivist, Meghan from D-44 and other members went into overdrive to get this information out to our members. I have sent out reminders to the GSRs & the membership to please not overlook those that don't have the skills &/or availability to take part in online meetings. I have been encouraging members to reach out by phone, hang out in their meetings parking lots (while we still could) to be available to those that now find themselves in a 'remote' situation. I posted on FB that I would be in a local park's parking lot during specified hours and a lady drove 20 miles just to sit in her car and talk across to my car. She was new to the program and needed to see another face.

I did not hold a District meeting in March but instead emailed and sent texts to the GSRs to update me on what their group is doing to overcome the obstacles we are facing. Most were positive and moving forward, some have a good deal of fear for retaining their meeting venues because of lack of 7th Tradition funds. I have sent out the information that Frank, our Area Treasurer passed to us regarding 'virtual baskets' hopefully this will be of some help. Our District is financially stable right now with no expenditures until July but I have also reminded groups that our GSO, Area & CSO still has the same bills and expenses to pay during the shutdown and that they might, as individual members think about sending checks directly to these.

SO...What's Next??? I have been encouraging the GSRs to give some thought to where they might serve next and to look around to see who might step up to be available for the position they currently hold. Some of the suggestions I put out there: If you are sober and enjoy being of service it's not too soon to begin exploring the possibilities. Ask questions of those currently serving, attend a committee meeting and Quarterly or two, take someone with you to get them interested and to show them that service can be fun and that the fellowship at service commitments can be SO fulfilling! In my years in service I have made many lifelong friends and the caring shared at the next level of service is beyond imagination! This is where we truly can 'trudge the road' together!

Hopefully we will see each other in person in July!

District 46 – (Whidbey, Fidalgo, San Juan islands) DCM Linda L.

We had a successful pre-conference via ZOOM. There were about 70 people there. Following that, we moved our District meeting to ZOOM.

Most of the meetings in my District are now ZOOM meetings. One group is meeting via teleconference. Prior to the groups deciding to change to distance groups, I had a lot of questions about where are our trusted servants. I told each group who their GSR is and offered guidance on ZOOM meetings or teleconference meetings. In my report to my District in March, I stated that this is a time for the trusted servants to be servant leaders. At that time some decided to remain open. The Eastsound Group talked about their decision to move to ZOOM meetings. They said that part of their discussion was about Our Common Welfare. We talked about how to reach the still suffering alcoholic. We will keep our schedule updated on our website, each group will post information about how to attend either a ZOOM or teleconference meeting on the doors of their respective meetings.

One of the advantages of this type of meeting is that we have a trusted servant who cannot attend District meetings because she is not able to leave her home. She sends her reports in every month. But now she can actually participate. We may decide to keep this going simply for that reason. Right now, we are paying for the app on a month to month basis.

District 54 – (Enumclaw, Buckley, Bonney Lake) DCM Collette F.

Hey! This is Colette from District 54. We are all doing our best to Zoom into meetings, and stay connected. I personally haven't done a Zoom meeting as I do not feel comfortable with the technology. I can barely email let alone Zoom. That being said, I am grateful to Alexander Graham Bell who created the technology of the telephone. I don't get panic attacks or anxiety using this sort of thing. Maintaining my sobriety through this device has helped me remove myself from doomsday depression and sadness over the state of my isolation and financial loss. I do forward all connections via Zoom to my district as I get the information daily.

I am praying for a miracle and taking one day at a time.

God bless all you tekkies out there!

District 55 – (Sequim area) DCM Dana C. – No report

District 56 – (East Jefferson County) DCM Anthonie C.

Hello all,

I know that this comes at a really pressing time, however, I will be stepping down as DCM for District 56 due to extenuating circumstances. Please consider this my letter of resignation.

Thank you,
Anthonie Cullen

District 57 – (Spanish speaking groups north of King Snohomish Counties) DCM Angel R.

We are not having physical meetings. We are staying home until we receive notice. We are hoping you are all healthy. We are having Zoom meetings every night at 7:00pm.

I keep encouraging GSRs to come to Quarterlies and participate. I hope to put together a Zoom District meeting to report back from today's Quarterly.

We do have some groups that continue to meet and I don't know why but each group is autonomous. Most of our groups are closed for now.

Thank you for all of the material in Spanish.

Adjournment: Moved by District 45, 2nd Newsletter Editor, Approved

Closed with Responsibility Statement at 5:58

Respectfully Submitted,
Karla Linder
WWA72 Secretary