PNC 2022 Host Committee Report

Hello Area 72! How’s your R.U.S. doin?

Area 72 will be hosting the PNC in 2022 on June 24, 25 in Vancouver WA at the Heathman Lodge.

In February of 1948, Bill W. was In Seattle, WA, and spoke to a standing-room-only crowd of AA’s and their families. Following the meeting, Bill and some other members from Seattle were driving to Vancouver B.C. when Bill elaborated on his plan for a world conference.

The First Pacific Northwest Conference (PNC) convened in Vancouver, BC, Canada Area 79 in May of 1948. The oldest continuing conference in AA still provides an opportunity for AA’s from the Pacific Northwest to gather together and share, learn, reach out and have fun. The conference typically includes panels and a speaker – please join us!

The Pacific Northwest Conference membership includes Area 72, Area 92 (Eastern Washington), Area 58 (Oregon) with participation from Area 18 (Idaho). It is a service-oriented conference, similar to PRAASA in feeling, only much smaller and more intimate.

Facts so far:
- The PNC 2022 Host Committee (comprised of Alan F., Lisa S., Frank McI., Lupita Y.M., Shalia A., Julie U., Don P., Keith C., Kari K., Maryland N., Karla L., Keri S.) has met three times prior to the 2021 Area Assembly.
- We have established our bank account and nearly finalized using Stripe (for online registration).
- We are targeting January for online registration at pnc1948.com.
- Final registration cost will be around $40 according to our current budget, however this may change due to two motions we will discuss and vote on at the assembly. These motions are for Spanish and ASL interpretation at the event.
- We will have a souvenir PNC2022 hats for sale!
- The program will tentatively focus on the next year’s General Service Conference (TBD no promises).
  - There will be several panels on the above and a guest speaker.
- June 26 2022 will be the PNC business and handoff meeting.
- Venue Address: The Heathman Lodge, 7801 NE Greenwood Dr. Vancouver, WA 98662.

- Want to volunteer? Contact Julie at dcm37@area72aa.org.
- Contact: pncchair2022@area72aa.org.

And now for some history from our Archivist Maryland N.

FROM THE PAGES OF THE PNC BOOKLET:

The story of the Pacific Northwest Conference begins in 1946. Bill W. always the visionary, began searching for a method for the groups blossoming all around the continent to be able to participate in the decision-making process required to keep functioning with a large organization that didn’t want to
be organized. With a touch of grandiosity, Bill envisioned a Worldwide Conference. In his correspondence with old-timers scattered around the country, none of them had more than 10 years, Bill began to outline his plan. North America would be divided up into four quadrants each of which would develop a structure that allowed the groups in that quadrant to elect representatives to the Worldwide Conference. In this grand scheme, all groups West of 95 degrees West longitude and north of 45 degrees latitude would comprise the Northwest Quadrant. That would mean that the Northwest Quadrant would consist of all of Canada west of Manitoba and the northern tier of states from the Dakotas west to the Pacific.

On February 27th, 1948, Bill W. was in Seattle and spoke to a standing room only crowd of AA and their families. Afterwards, Sam G. from Spokane remembers riding in a car with Bill to Vancouver, BC., as Bill eagerly elaborated on his World Conference plans with Dale A., one of the original quartet of Alcoholics that had founded the first Seattle group, and Bill W. also from Seattle. At that time, as he had discovered around the country Bill found that Seattle AA couldn’t see the need for such an organization; AA was running so smoothly why change it? Bill knew that it wasn’t feasible, however, to rely on he and Dr. Bob to keep a running. As he was to emphasize for the next several years in all his writing and talks, with the growth and maturity of the fellowship the membership would have to take responsibility for its own maintenance and well-being. By the time Bill left Vancouver, Bill and Dale and a few members from Vancouver had become convinced of the necessity of Bill W.’s ideas.

A few months later, Oregon, British Columbia, and Washington had been convinced of the need for the quadrant system that on May 25th, the lower B. C. Mainland chapters of Alcoholics Anonymous hosted what became the first PNC. The specific purpose of this gathering, which was chaired by Seattle’s Dale A. and Charlie B. from Vancouver, B. C., was to discuss, the best method by which appointments of representatives for the area in which we are concerned, to attend the proposed Worldwide Conference, as suggested by Bill W., could be accomplished.” Dale went on to explain, “that this particular conference had resulted out of a visit of some of the Vancouver members to Seattle on Good Friday last during which time the matter of Bill’s plan received much discussion and it was felt that some immediate steps should be taken in the matter of the selection of representatives in the area laid down by Bill and referred to as the Northwest Conference Quadrant.” There were 58 members attending this historic conference. During three sessions over two days, Dale and Charlie outlined the suggested implementation of bills proposal for the Worldwide Conference.