

Area 54 Assembly Minutes
March 18, 2012

Opening:

Jay M. opened the Assembly with the Serenity Prayer. Tradition Eight was read and discussed by Jerry P. Concept Eight was read and discussed by David W. Joel F. read the Preamble, Erika B. read the 12 Traditions. Ally B. read the 12 Concepts. Jay M. stated that we will be accepting bids for Gratitude Sunday at our April 15th assembly. This is the first assembly meeting where we have combined with the committee meetings. We will alternate the months in which we do committee reports and DCM/Intergroup Liaison reports. The only exception is September; because this is an election year we will do both. October we will only conduct the election. The Mini Conference drawing will be held today.

Recording Secretary

Jamie B., recording secretary explained the sign-in procedure for all DCM's, GSR's, Area Committee Chairs and past Delegates to establish eligibility for running for office. Remember there is a 2 minute time limit for giving reports. January 18, 2012 minutes were reviewed and accepted as corrected.

Area Treasurer:

Calvin L. – Treasurer presented the Operating Surplus Budget vs. Full Year Budget. Treasurer's report was reviewed and accepted.

Mailing Secretary:

Joel T. Mailing Secretary The mailing party was very successful; it was completed in approximately 3 hours. I would like to thank district 32 for hosting this. The next mailing party will be in April, anyone wanting to host, please see me as soon as possible. If you didn't receive a mailing please check with Dan M. to make sure your address is correct.

Registrar:

Dan M. – Deadline for updates for area DCM's will be April 15, the next area meeting. If you gave me your update and didn't receive a mailing, it could be it was received after the mailing party got their mailing list. We have quite a few of Dark Districts or DCM in name only districts. The south central part of our area is completely vacant. Lakewood area, Painesville, Medina, Mentor. We are in need of a Spanish speaking member to take on the floating district which incorporates all Spanish language groups throughout Ohio. Please see me if you, or anyone you know of who might be interested in taking on this position.

7th Tradition

Introduction of New GSR's
Introduction of New DCM's

Area Officer and Function Reports:

Jay M.: Articles for the Recorder are due to Jeff Y. no later than March 30th.

Jerry P. – The Group Services committee presented the GSR School Workshop on February 19, 2012 here at the 12 Step Club. We had approximately 100 people in attendance. The committee received many compliments. One negative point in regards to the service manuals, we asked that the manuals be returned after the workshop, however, only a few were returned. If you mistakenly took a manual, please return it They do cost approximately \$3.50 each and it certainly adds up to a substantial cost for the area.

David W. Unity Day update - We looking forward to Unity Day May 20th here at the 12 Step Club. It will be pot luck, fun and fellowship.

Alternate Delegate's Report – Mini-conference - Ohio State Convention

Ola P. Our 37th Mini-Conference will be April 6 – 8th at the Double Tree in Independence, March 26th is the deadline to receive the rate of \$69.00 per night. **Sue R. update on registrations** – As of today, we have 60 registrations and 53 banquets. There are also 35 room booked. We will accept walk-in registrations. Also after the banquet there is an open speaker meeting, in which there is no charge for this.

Ohio State Convention: July 20th – 22nd. at the Hilton Beachwood. In order to receive the room rates are \$75.00 + tax per night you must reserve your room by June 29th. Flyers are available. A.A. speakers will be: Friday night: Tina H. past delegate from area 54, Saturday night: Arnold R. from Baltimore Maryland, past trustee, Sunday morning: Dan M. past area 54 delegate and our webmaster and registrar. We will also have a Spanish meeting in the Ballroom. Our next planning meeting will be at 1:00 p.m. one hour before our assembly meeting April 15th.

Delegate's Report – AAWS Area Highlights

Bob D. – I would like congratulate all the new DCM's Alternates DCM's GSR's. At the Past Delegates conference they had an agenda item about the Grapevine, a new secretary was elected – Virginia R. from Indiana. One request that will be discussed at the General Service Conference is the General Service Board is going to ask to approve them to develop a plan to restructure the Grapevine which will not be presented until the 2013 conference. This is a reminder to all moderators and committee chairpersons to please review their materials before the mini-conference in order to be prepared for the committee workshops.

Old Business – Mini-Conference drawing: Winner is Olivia C.

New Business – New Area Guidelines – Review packet you received and we will table it until the April Assembly. Anything underlined is new, anything in red is eliminated.

What's On Your Mind

Diane K. – Reminder for GSR's to attend their Business Home Group meeting and discuss the amount of money being sent to the entities.

Tina C.: Corrections Chair – The Budget report. Why do we pay rent at the Akron Office Intergroup? – Answer: Area 54 has an Archives office there.

NeCee P. – How does a group handle a disruptive person in the meeting?

Dan F. – Mini-Conference is Easter weekend. Please encourage people to attend on Saturday if they don't wish to be there for Easter Sunday.

Bob D. – We continue to need people to write to those incarcerated, both male and female.

Ola P. – At our last assembly we had an abrupt adjournment while someone was still at the microphone. A.J. R. DCM from district 6 was at the microphone.

A.J. R. Wanted to thank those from the area 54 panel that spoke at the workshop on December 4th

Greg J. – General Service Conference Questions were not in mailing that was received. Each home group is asked to answer these questions. Are we going to talk about these or are we going to just put them in a box and never discuss the answers?

Bev F. –Disruption meeting suggestion: Read an announcement at the meeting about disruption.

Jeff Y. – Questions for the General Service Conferences appear in the annual report that comes out around Labor Day.

Joel T. – Mailing Secretary –Papers not included in your mailings are on the table in the back of the room. We aren't perfect.

Quinsetta M. – I don't feel that a dog should be in the meetings, nor at a place where I am eating. Is there anything we can do.

Susan R. – Disruptive meeting, we rewrote our beginnings reading to discourage disrupting the meeting. See me after the meeting.

Denise H. – My home group is small and we do not have a treasurer, our secretary collects the money, and no reports given. What do we do?

Bob D. – I will ask our chairman to check with the club to see if there are rules concerning dogs in the club. We will get back to you with the answer.

DCM Reports

D 13: Gary C. – The district is doing well. We had 6 new people at our GSR workshop. We are doing updates and have 3 new meetings in our district.

D # 35: Ed U. – I received a folder containing information on 22 groups, seven of these are no longer active; one is not I district 35. However, there are 3 new groups in the district that need to register with GSO and Area 54.

D# 39: Tim H. – Things are going good in our district. We are updating group change forms. Many of our groups are having their anniversaries in the upcoming months.

D # 34: Quinsetta M. Recently I contacted many groups and received updated information. Groups Shine On me, Step One East, Payne Ave. Group, Friends of Detox (a closed meeting) are in need of support. Also Ignatia's Way AA group, Mistletoe and League Park are in need of a place to meet since St. John's Cathedral is in the process of renovating. I have expressed the need for all groups to have a GSR; all seemed interested in being represented at the general service level.

D # 10: David W. – We held elections in November for secretary DCM and alternate DCM, the results were: DCM –David W, Alt. DCM- Otis W, and Secretary Otis W. We also updated our district's meeting schedule. Many of our members are planning to attend the Mini-Conference. We are also preparing to participate in Unity Day and the Ohio State Convention. At our regular district meetings we are planning our Annual District 10 Picnic held at Christmas Run Park, in Wooster on August 5th.

D # 6: A.J. R. – We are planning for our Annual Picnic. Our treasurer will be out of town due to his work schedule for four months, therefore we have elected an alternated treasurer to be added to our bank account. We will need two out of three signatures to sign a check. We also have five or six new GSR's coming to our District meetings.

D # 8: Jim S. – There are 32 groups in our district of these at least three have not been registered; 16 have GSR's the other 16 have primary contacts; 5 are what I consider to be active by coming to the Multi-District GSR meetings on a regular basis and are here today.

D # 11: Arthur E – We started a new meeting on Wednesday s called Sober Living. I have been visiting some of the new groups that entered our district in October. We have been discussing solutions to problems, the importance of being active in the groups. We have also been discussing all of District 11 having an information get together on May 29th to share suggestions and concerns that the groups are having.

D # 32: Karl W – There are 12 groups in my district. I did visit some of the groups. Friday Friendship group thanked me for coming out, but said they were not active in service and they were struggling to keep the doors open. . I told them I would come back after they discussed it in order to get their feedback on service. I also updated the contact information. The Nela Park group said they were working on getting a GSR, however, the contact information I had was not accurate so it was updated.

D # 61: Nelson M -I visited the meetings in my district and informed them that we are involved in the Area 54 Open House Picnic. A lot of the people in my district are looking forward to coming to the picnic and some are not. I am also taking donations for the Open House picnic.

D # 1: Bill H - I am happy to announce the addition of two new GSR's to my district. I am also updating group information for my district. I also had the privilege of helping a hearing impaired member of AA with 8 days of sobriety. I am so thankful for being able to be of service.

D # 20C: Patti R. -. In the spirit of rotation, my DCM and Alternate DCM position for District 20C was up for election at the end of last year. No one wanted to become the DCM, so I am still the DCM. Erika B was elected the new Alternate DCM. She has been immensely helpful in updating meetings for our directory.

D #29: Denise H. Alt. DCM - We visited three groups in district 29 that do not have GSR's. They do have people in their group who are willing to step up and become GSR for their group. We are also checking to see if any other groups that do not have GSR's are willing to become a part of General Service.

D #19A: Ellen W. - I represent the East side of Lorain County. I have updated 10 meetings' information.

D # 19A Alt. DCM/24: Bob P. - I am working with Ellen W. she is working with most of the groups, I am working with a few of them. That is going pretty good. In talking with Dan I discovered that district 24 was a dark one. I agreed to be the temporary DCM for 24. There are 18 groups in the district. I have updated 17 of the 18. Four groups are having elections if the near future for GSR positions.

Multi District Reports/Intergroup Reports

Cleveland Northcoast Multi-District: Quinsetta M -We do have a busy schedule; the assigning of vacant DCM positions, the upcoming Service Panel Workshop on May 19th at 3000 Euclid Ave. at 12:00 Noon. Also we have committed to host the Ice Cream social at the Ohio State Convention, followed by our Multi-District Picnic on August 4th at Forest Hills Park Cleveland Heights.

Ashtabula Area Intergroup: Tim H -.Elections were held February 18th results were as follows: Dick W. - Chair; Tyrone B. - Committee Member at Large; Mike S. Co-Office Manager and Treasurer; Nick V. Literature Chair; Tim B. - Co-Office Manager Committee Member; Tim H. - Secretary. We also performed a biannual inventory of our literature and planning for our gulf outing fund raiser.

Akron Intergroup: Ron O -.We are having a Corrections Facility Workshop on Saturday, March 31st at the Paradise Club 12:30 - 3:30, location: 1710 Front Street in Cuyahoga Falls. Akron Intergroup 58th Anniversary is April 29th at Saints Baptist Church 746 Ball Ave. tickets are \$5.00.

Lorain Inter-Group Liaison: Patti R - I was elected Liaison for the Lorain Inter-Group and the Area 54 Assembly meetings. My first few reports have been to the Advisory Board and then the intergroup meetings. I am also chairperson for the Lorain County "Livewire" Newsletter. We have purchased three copies of Microsoft Publisher 2010. The December issue went to the printer in the new format. The printers were extremely happy.

Archivist Cleveland Central Office: Bob McK. - March is Cleveland's Central Office Fund Drive month. If you are in the Cleveland Area and have not been contacted by the office, please feel free to let the office know and they will get someone out to your group. They also have had an annual dinner dance for years, but lately attendance has been so poor that they are dropping the dinner dance for now. They are looking for suggestions for some event.

Motion to adjourn, seconded, passed, followed by the Responsibility Pledge and the Lord's Prayer