

The Northeast Ohio Recorder

Jan / Feb / Mar 2022

<http://www.area54.org>

Volume XXVIII, Issue 1

A Word From Our Delegate

With the first Recorder of 2022, I wish you all a very Happy New Year.

The Yellow 2022 Schedule you may have received at Gratitude Sunday is not correct. The Revision will be in Green and is included in this mailing.

I am excited to talk about the 47th Mini-Conference. The dates are March 25 – 27, 2022 and this will be an in-person meeting. We will not be having any virtual programming. The Mini Conference will be at the Radisson Airport West just off I-480 and across from the Great Northern Mall. I hope you all will find a way to come. As a GSR, your group can pay for your registration and help with the room cost. For the DCM's, the district should pay your registration and help with the room cost. If the budget 2022 is passed it should have a stipend for each Standing Committee chairs. Your opinion counts. Come share your opinions for the good of AA.

We will have our East Central Regional Trustee attending and giving us a report on what is happening in AA as a whole. Our literature will be on sale and so will Grapevine. All the Committees will have a display as to what their committee is doing and a sign-up sheet for you to be part of that committee.

Each attendee will be giving a Committee Folder. We randomly put each person on a committee just as the delegates are randomly assigned to a committee for the General Service Conference. Each Committee will have 3 or 4 agenda items to discussion and make recommendations. You will be a "delegate" for a weekend. You receive your folder upon your arrival at registration at the conference.

Our first planning meeting for the Mini-Conference will be January 23 at 2pm at the Radisson Airport West Hotel. We need as many members to attend as can. We will be signing up the Greeters, the Bell Ringers, setting up a Hospitality Committee. We need a GSR, a DCM, Committee Chair and a Panel member to sign up to share their experience and explain what their job is. We plan the program for the weekend. There is always the Ice Cream Social to plan for. For information about the Mini-Conference checkout the Mini Conference Guidelines on our website (www.Area54.org).

Just as an FYI, the Agenda Items will not be published until February. Our plan as usual is to send out the agenda Items to

time, but we should be able to discuss several of them

All the four areas in Ohio will be having in person conferences too. The General Service Conference will be April 23 – 30 in Brooklyn, NY. I am excited to be able to attend. I understand that 170 agenda items have been submitted.



I need to ask each GSR or member of a group to make sure your group has notified your Intergroup or District Office if the meeting is open. And if it is in person, or virtual or hybrid. Also, the location and day and time of its meeting. If it is in the same location, confirm that with your intergroup / district office. In addition, contact our Registrar at registrar@area54.org with the contact person (phone and email and address), the group name, the location and the name of the GSR. The next important item is that your group is represented at the district meeting or if your district does not meet that you attend the Assemblies that meet six (6) times a year. We meet on the 3rd Sunday of January, March, April, July, September, and October at 2pm at the 12 Step Recovery Club in Brunswick. Make sure you group is represented. Your group has a vote and please take that opportunity to vote. In February at 2pm in at the 12 Step Recovery Club in Brunswick, we have the GSR School, you do not need to be a GSR to attend. We have a potluck too. It is a great opportunity to have a crash course in how your group and we in Northeast Ohio fit into AA as a whole.

The 3rd Sunday in May is the Unity Day workshop with the 2022 General Service Conference Report from our delegate. June 26th is the Area Picnic and August 21 is the DCM College workshop with a potluck too. Gratitude Sunday wraps up our 2022 year on November 20th.

Thanks for helping me throughout this year of learning and change. Without this great group of officers and committee chairs and all of YOU, I might have pulled out all my hair. As a group, WE can get through anything together. My thanks for a good 2021 and for my sobriety.

Yours in service,

**Susan R. - Delegate
Area 54 - Panel 71**

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you in a mailing in February to share them with you. Of course, we will not be able to discuss all of the agenda items at our Mini-Conference due to

FROM THE EDITOR

Too Busy? No Such Thing!

My dad once told me, “if you want to get a job done, ask the busiest person you know. If you ask someone who actually has time on their hands, you will find out why.”

Many years ago, I worked as a bank teller. You would expect that most mistakes would have been made during the rush period, usually the lunch time rush, or an hour before closing on Friday afternoon. (Back then, banks were not open on Saturday, lobby hours were from 9am until 2pm Monday through Friday, and there were no ATMs.) But that was not the case. It was during the down time that most mistakes were made.

When my son was just a toddler, he was always getting into something. The problem was that he had too much idle time on his hands. I found a job for him to do. His responsibility was to take all the canned goods out of a cabinet, and put them back in a particular order. When he finished that task, he was to take all the pots and pans out and put them back in a particular order. That might sound like “busy work,” and it was! But being busy kept him out of trouble.

The same is true for me. Being busy keeps me out of trouble. If I have too much time on my hands, I get too far into my own head, and too many thoughts like that for me, just might get me into trouble, for left in my own head for too long just might lead to thoughts of taking a drink. By the way, some of us might say, “I don’t think about drinking anymore.” Well, that is a lie. People who don’t think about drinking would never say such a thing.

Some of us may have heard the expression “Idle hands are the devil’s workshop.” A play on that expression for us is “idle time is an Alcoholic’s nightmare.”

Then, for some of us, we fill our idle time by going to meetings. After all, they say “meeting makers make it. (Unless, as a Past Delegate used to say, you happen to be “a seat polishing, coffee guzzling donut vulture!”) (Thanks Bob) That just might be why many of us were so lost when the Pandemic shut meetings down.

But there is a solution! It’s called Service. There is always more to be done in Service, and never enough Alcoholics to get the job done.

I recall early on in my General Service walk, I was given the responsibility of being the Floor Manager while Area 54 was hosting a combination State Convention and East

Central Regional Conference. Talk about busy! My hotel room became a sign shop. Back then we posted signs throughout the hotel directing people here, there and yonder. As floor manager, my responsibilities also included insuring that enough chairs were properly placed in the various meeting rooms, making sure the coffee pots and water pitchers were freshened, making sure an “Anonymity Card” was at the podium of each meeting room, updating the main podium notebook, testing microphones and recording equipment in each of the meeting rooms, etc., etc., etc. Now you might think some of that stuff (like chairs and coffee and water) ought to be the responsibility of hotel staff. And you are correct. But someone had to be on hand to serve as liaison to the hotel staff. I was pretty busy the entire weekend. And when the weekend was over, it was back to my regular 8 to 5 job. But guess what, **I DIDN’T DRINK!**

It actually did not start there. Before I even knew of General Service, there was Group Service. My home group was small and nearly non-existent. But someone told me it was my responsibility to “Keep the door open.” That meant coffee had to be made and donuts picked-up, chairs had to be arranged, literature and coins had to be purchased, and the room had to be cleaned.

Nor did it end when I rotated from Floor Manager (13 years ago). At the Area level there was CPC Chair, and Archivist, and now Newsletter Chair. At the District level, there was DCM, Multi-district chair and treasurer. At the group level there was (and is) GSR, Intergroup rep, and Alternate facilitator. At the Intergroup level, there was (and is) Operating Committee.

Every Tuesday evening I drive about 20 miles in the opposite direction to pick up a home group member, and as I close these musings, I just noticed that it is 3:30 A.M.!

So what is the point? Simple: “Our real purpose is to fit ourselves to be of maximum service to God and the people about us.” (B.B. pg. 77) And guess what? **I HAVEN’T HAD A DRINK!**



Too busy? No such thing!

Submit your service-related contributions, comments and questions, or ideas and complaints to:
newsletter@area54.org

AREA REPORTS AND ARTICLES

TREASURER'S REPORT

ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT

Greeting's

As the year approaches an end we need to start thinking about next year's events. At our assembly on January 16th our chairman Jim S. will be entertaining bids for Unity Day which will be held on May 15th, and our Area 54 Open House Picnic which will be held on June 26th. Your district or multi-district can bid on hosting these events.

Unity Day is a potluck event where your district can do a 30 minute presentation on a topic that is related to service and unity, and we will also hear a report from our delegate Susan R. about the General Service Conference. The Area 54 Picnic is a fun day of fellowship with a panel or lead relating to General Service. You will need details about a park or other place to hold the picnic, and a flyer about the event would be helpful.

We are also holding an in person Mini-Conference at the Radisson Hotel in North Olmstead March 25th-27th. We will need a district to host our Hospitality room, greeters, bell ringers and actors for our skit. Any member can attend and let your voice be heard by our delegate Susan R. during our mock conference Saturday afternoon. We will be having planning meetings on January 23rd and February 27th.

Hopefully, attendance at our Assemblies will pick up. They are held at the 12 step club in Brunswick on the third Sunday of January, March, April, July, September, and October. You can join us in person or on Zoom. Details are on the Area 54 website.

And now to talk about money and spirituality. Our contributions are way down this year as our groups and districts struggle to get back to meeting in person again. So any help your group can give would be truly appreciated.

I have enjoyed serving you as your alternate delegate I hope to see you at assemblies and our other events in the coming year.

Yours in service,

Tim H. - Alternate Delegate
Area 54 - Panel 71

Wow, what a great North Central Regional Forum. It reminded me of why my journey through service is so important to my sobriety and that of the fellows around me. It gave me hope and gratitude in our service structure. I was amazed at the "Ask it Basket" and open question portions of the conference. The answers that followed were insightful and made sense in relation to the traditions and 12 concepts.

The General Service Office treasurer's report especially resonated with me. It seemed to mirror my experience with Area 54 and our group contributions. I am truly grateful for my service position in AA and how Area 54 has stepped up during this time with the contributions to the fellowship and our area. We are solvent even with the lag in the number of contributions because the amounts of the individual group donations has increased.

I thank you and the groups and individuals of Area 54 for supporting our area and the important service work we provide to Northeast Ohio.

Thank you,

Mark P. - Treasurer
Area 54 - Panel 71

MAILING SECRETARY'S REPORT

Gratitude Sunday 2021 and East Central Regional Forum

November has been very busy. Multi Dist. 7, 8 & 48 were the host District for Gratitude Sunday. We had approximately 80-90 people. We had so much food we offered it to some of the sober houses who attended our event. Kitchen crew and servers were headed by Steve K. They were awesome, keeping everything on target and the food lines moved quickly. We had a Panel presentation regarding service to AA. Service at the Group level presenter was Mike W. Our presenter on district service was Jim S. and the presenter on Area Service was Jeff Y. The panel presenters shared from the heart of the importance of service work and not only how it helps AA, but also how it helps them and their recovery by giving back to the fellowship that saved their lives. They gave everyone a clear picture as to why we need our service structure and how each one builds into the other one. Everyone enjoyed the presentation.

The East Central Regional Forum was held November 19th - 21st. I was able to attend the Saturday morning event and attend the General Service Board Treasurers Report "Around the Picnic Table." This is a very easy PowerPoint to read and understand. It included everything from finances to what GSO does for the fellowship. What I learned is GSO has two basic function: publishing and outreach services, which include

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AREA REPORTS AND ARTICLES, CONT.

Public Information, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Treatment, Accessibilities, Correction, Overseas services, Regional Forums, Archives, Spanish Services, Communication, LA Vina. The sales for Grapevine magazine decreased slightly but online subscriptions increased slightly. Although they are experiencing a loss for 2021 their service to our fellowship is very important to the membership utilizing it. What we need to do as a fellowship is promote Grapevine and La Vina. What I did learn is that we set another record for the 2nd year for 7th tradition contributions. Group contributions were down in 2020 vs 2019 40.6% to 34.8%. Individual contributions are up 4.3 million vs 1.9 million in 2019. Online contributions doubled from 2019.

According to the member services and statistics for 2020, costs not covered by self-support is .53 cents for members and \$7.73 for groups. 34.8% of groups contributed which is equal to 24,779 groups out of 71,190. This is only a snapshot of what the pandemic and decreased contributions and sales has done to our fellowship. After reading the PowerPoint, in my opinion the fellowship has done great with individual contributions, but we/I can do more. We need to get our groups to donate - including those online - and we need to promote our literature, our Grapevine and La Vina, and increase those sales. This is just one alcoholic's opinion. Please seek out "Around The Picnic Table" and read it for yourself.

Love and Service,

Tina C. - Mailing Secretary
Area 54 - Panel 71

RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT

Service equals Gratitude

Gratitude month is every month, not just November. I know I can never repay Alcoholics Anonymous for the life I have been given. The gratitude I have for this life of recovery is not able to be put into words. I can start by serving AA through general service. It is one small action that has a great impact on our miraculous Fellowship. Gratitude is an action. My sponsor told me this for years and I hear it in meetings all the time. I never realized that being a part of general service was something that would make such a difference in my sobriety and AA simultaneously. Here are some suggestions that helped me:

- Look at becoming a GSR or DCM.
- Attend area assembly meetings.
- Learn about the service structure and get busy.
- Learn about the 12 concepts and 12 traditions and then teach the people you sponsor how they affect Alcoholics Anonymous.
- Get a service sponsor.

Grateful drunks don't drink. The holidays bring up emotion, memories and opportunities to change, serve and love, so we have a hyper focus on gratitude. Every month is gratitude month for us members of AA. We don't have the luxury to single out any month as gratitude keeps us connected to God, AA and each other. Service equals gratitude. Gratitude equals sober. I am grateful for all of you that have touched my life and kept the hand of AA out no matter what.

Katie S. - Recording Secretary
Area 54 - Panel 71

A PAST DELEGATE SHARES

Hello to all in Area 54.

This past November I had the opportunity as a past delegate of area 54 to attend the 36th Annual International Past Delegates Reunion in Las Vegas Nevada. It was so exhilarating - what a way for us to express our gratitude of being able to participate in the whole of Alcoholics Anonymous.

I met many new friends and became reacquainted with those I had previously met at other various AA events.

Alcoholics Anonymous occasions like this show how service and fellowship actually coincide with each other. The importance of attending events like the East Central Regional Forum, the East Central Regional Conference, Mini-Conferences, and other AA events allows us to not only visit with each other but also to actually learn to work with one another.

Service in AA constantly confirms, for me, that being a part of Alcoholics Anonymous has been and continues to be awareness to what life is truly all about. I believe "Service is the Key" to continuous growth in learning more about myself in order to better accept life on life's terms.

"When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that **I am responsible.**" Being active in service is one of the methods that allows me to achieve this goal.

Yours in Love, Service & Gratitude,

Jamie B. - Past Delegate
Area 54 - Panel 67
(216) 548-5410

East Central Regional Forum

SHARING SERVICE WORK

I chose the topic “Sharing Service Work” because I thought it would be easy to convey my thoughts and experiences. It became trickier than I thought. I was suddenly faced with “do I share what I know about service...or am I sharing the workload or am I sharing what service has done for me?” I am left with the conclusion that it’s all the above.

Sharing What I Know: One evening several years ago, a man who was very active in General Service came to my homegroup. That night we happened to be discussing the 11th Tradition and he told us about a recent agenda item which would have changed the wording of that tradition. I listened to him explain the drama and difficulty in making a change like that in A.A. My mouth dropped open and I said, “I didn’t know about that.” I kept pondering why my group and I had not heard about that because, after all, we were a step and tradition meeting. I kept thinking, “How do people know these things? Where does that information come from?” There was a mysterious aspect to A.A. but I soon learned that the reason I did not know these things was because my group was not connected to A.A. We did not have a GSR. We did not attend district or area functions. Yes, we did have a group service number, but we did not follow up with action. This man, who shared that information with us, had no idea that he stimulated the interest of our group and a future elected Delegate.

I love page S23 in the Service Manual with the heading STIMULATING INTEREST IN GENERAL SERVICE. The first paragraph is as follows: “Most A.A. members are primarily interested in their groups, in their own sobriety, and in helping other drunks one-on-one. And that is as it should be. While the work of general service has precisely the same objective—carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers—the connection is not always direct or obvious. Some stimulators are usually needed to get the attention of A.A. members—to show them that service can add a rich dimension to their sober lives and Twelfth Step work, and that their participation is vital to the future of A.A.” Eventually that stimulated interest our general service friend provided us was followed up with action.

Sharing the Work: I can’t begin to count the number of times I have been given a project and found myself carrying the whole load. After all, isn’t it easier to just do it myself rather than having to explain to someone how to do it exactly like I would like? For example (in my mind) “I would like you to feel free to make decisions, but my hope is that your decision will be based on what I want so it’s important that you understand me and wish to please me.” Funny, I know, but how far from the truth is that from how my mind works? Our program has helped me see some of the traits I didn’t realize I owned and how they may have affected other people’s ability to serve. Page 94 in our book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* reminds me that, “...rationalization, has stepped in and has justified conduct which was really wrong. The temptation here is to imagine that we had good motives and reasons when we really didn’t.

Not long ago I found myself flailing over a situation which I could no longer deal with. Our, at the time, soon to be elected Alternate Delegate/Area Chair immediately said, “What can I do to help?

Would you like me to make the phone call and take care of the situation?” I paused for a few moments and then surprised myself by saying “yes.” I let go of the situation and the relief I felt by giving the problem to a willing, helpful person was indescribable. This also served him by giving him the chance to be of service.

Sharing How Service Has Helped Me: There is an A.A. saying which says, “you may be the only big book that person will ever see.” I can relate that to service when I think, “I may be the only General Service that person will ever see.” I hope to convey the love and service that was so freely given to me, and how it helped change my attitudes and behaviors so that will be evident to those I know or those I meet along this road of happy destiny.

**Andrea H - Delegate
Area 56 - Panel 72**

YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE NEWCOMER IN SERVICE

I am not young and not a newcomer, but I want to share the stories of inspiration of folks that have been examples to me in General Service. Attraction rather than promotion is what this presentation strives to be. I am not a writer but a story teller. So I will tell you some stories today.

They said “Welcome to General Service the pulse of AA.” I thought it was going to be boring and political and wanted none of that. But she said to me, you are needed. Oh, I said as I attended my first district meeting as an alternate GSR. “I am really over committed right now, I said but I will get more active when I can.” I really meant that. I did keep my promise.

I was not young when I came to AA. But I drove my teenagers and their friends to meetings. I watched the “young peoples’ meetings” thrive and the excitement and enthusiasm of the members was contagious. I usually dropped them off and attended a meeting of my generation nearby. But one very cold and snowy night, the girls convinced me to come in with them to this young women’s meeting. I knew several of these women. My house, at that time, was a “safe” house for young people to gather. One summer, we have at least 10 for dinner every night. I learned so much from these young people. But back to the meeting. I met a young female rabbi who gave me so much spiritual direction that night when we all shared. My sobriety is better because of young people in AA and the newcomer.

Now back to General Service:

In my journey in General Service, I met two past delegates and heard their stories. One was a little lost as a newcomer in AA and was told to be a group representative and go the

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East Central Regional Forum, CONT.

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Assembly. He did and got busy in committees and other General Service work and became a delegate at 28 years of age.

Another past delegate attended OYPAA and other young peoples meetings and became active. His sponsor told him he needed to be a representative for these groups and attend the Assembly. He was new and in his early 20's. Over the years our Area and AA benefits from his service.

A young woman got sober at the age of 15 in California. She became active in AA. With sobriety she finished high school, was a single mother, studied and received a BS and a MS in Chemistry. With over 35 years of sobriety and lots of General Service work, today she is giving back as staff member for GSO.

If you are new in AA and if you are a teenager or in your 20's or just young at heart or any age, You can be a representative of your home group and communicate what your group is doing and go back to that group and let them know the events and news from General Service Office and what agenda items are coming up. You can learn about monies in the basket are not the group's money but AA's money. You can be a caretaker of AA.

BUT General Service is not just being a Group Representative or a District Committee Member. It is joining a committee such as Public Information, Cooperation with the Professional, Corrections, Accessibilities, Archives, Technology or what interests you. Maybe that sponsee or friend might be interested in it too. Bridging the Gap for folks coming out of treatment or a correctional facility and needing a temporary sponsor, that needs help getting to meetings in their hometown. Getting AA pamphlets for the professional into medical offices and community centers. And much, much more.

Just over a year ago, a female member of AA in our Area was asked to be an officer in our Area. She had about 20 years of sobriety. She found AA as a teenager. She is so excited in General Service work that she wants to invite every teenager to jump in too -- the water is fine.

One day a younger member of AA and a DCM walked into an Assembly. He realized that we were struggling to set up our first hybrid meeting. We had all the equipment, but we were having some difficulties. He said I can help, if you would like. Yes, we said. He helped and today he is our Technology Committee Chair (a new standing committee in our Area).

If you are new and/or young in AA, we welcome you to attend a district and the Area meetings as a visitor or as a group representative. Chances are we need help with something. There is always an Ad Hoc Committee for some item of concern.

The AA Group pamphlet is very informative and if you have questions about the money there are pamphlets for that too. One is: Self Support - Where Money and Spirituality Mix.

We need YPAA Liaisons in our assemblies and in our district meetings.

This presentation was to share experience strength and hope. Attraction rather than promotion. I was not young when I arrived, but I have been inspired by the younger members of AA. I have watched how we AA's of all ages can have fun and help each other and AA as a whole.

**Susan R - Delegate
Area 54 - Panel 71**

2021 East Central Regional Forum Report

I attended the Forum on the weekend of the 19th of November thru the 21st. The event was supposed to be hosted by area 54 at the Doubletree in Independence but due to GSO cancelling travel for the year, it was held on zoom format.

There were around 700 attendees during the weekend with 375 attending their first meeting. The forum was called to order at 6:30 pm on Friday by our newest East Central Regional Trustee, Cathi C. from Indiana. That was followed by a regional forums video from AA. Our General Service Board Chair Linda Chasem welcomed us with opening remarks followed by our new GSO general manager Bob W. with greetings and opening remarks, followed by a video about our general service office (G.S.O.), the Grapevine and the general service structure.

We then had presentations from regional delegates - Fun in Service/ How to Encourage Service Work: Communication and The Informed Group Conscience. There was a presentation by Sherri S. "Accepting Virtual Groups in the Service Structure," followed by "What's On your Mind by Linda Chasem General Service Board chair, and the Archives presentation of Markings on the Journey.

Saturday had presentations by delegates "How the Group Conscience is Heard; a presentation by area 56 delegate Andrea H. "Sharing Service Work," and a presentation by our Area 54 Delegate Susan R. on the topic Young People in Service.

A "What's On Your Mind" session was followed by "Around the Picnic Table," a report by our GSB Treasurer Kevin Pryor. This report gave us a thorough breakdown of contributions that 60% came from groups and 40% from members with only around 35% of groups contributing. A "What's On your Mind" session was then followed by workshops: What are we doing to Radically reach out/ increase participation; How to reach anyone anywhere; and, Keeping the newcomer and those on the fence. There was another presentation of Markings on the Journey, a history video.

Saturday afternoon sessions included AA Around the World and workshops "Who's Missing from our Rooms, and "Tradition 10 and Singleness of Purpose." A video called "Your General Service

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UPCOMING DATES FOR THE AREA AND BEYOND

NOTE THE DATE

January 16- Hybrid Area Assembly **Gv Lit**

January 23 – 47th Mini-Conference Planning Meeting
at Radisson Cleveland Airport West, 25070 Country Club Blvd, No. Olmsted, 2pm

February 20 – Hybrid GSR School (Potluck)

February 27 – Mini-Conference Planning Meeting at
Radisson Cleveland Airport West 25070 Country Club Blvd, No. Olmsted - 2pm

March 20 – Hybrid Area Assembly
and MC planning snow date

March 25 – 27 -
47th NEOH Mini-Conference at Radisson Cleveland Airport West 25070 Country Club Blvd, No. Olmsted

OUTSIDE OUR AREA

February 11-13, 2022 -

Conference of Delegates, Past & Present, Appleton, WI

March 4 & 5 2022

Area 55 Mini-Conference

March 11-13, 2022-

Area 53 Mini-Conference

March 18-20, 2022 –

Area 56 Mini-Conference

Gv = Grapevine sale days

Lit = Literature sale days

EXCEPT AS NOTED, Area Assemblies & Workshops begin at 2:00 pm and are held at The 12 Step Recovery Club, 1480 Pearl Rd. (in Brunswick Plaza), Brunswick, OH 44212. The club is on US Route 42, about 1/4 mile south of State Route 303.

Phone: (330) 273-7216

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Office (GSO) was also presented, as well as presentations on “The Grapevine,” “The General Service Structure,” and “The AA Service

Manual-Old to New.” Evening sessions included “It’s A Class Act, our Class A Board Members, and finally a Jeopardy AA history game with our own past Delegate Shyrl B. and Karen W. representing Ohio.

Sunday morning had sharing by past East Central Regional Trustees, two of whom are from Ohio Bill F. and Mark E, an Ask It Basket question and answer period by GSO office manager Bob W, and a first time attendee sharing session.

It was a great forum as were the other 4 I have attended, but I enjoyed the live ones better. We will hopefully be hosting this forum in 2023 in Independence Ohio.

Yours in Service

Tim H. - Alternate Delegate
Area 54 - Panel 71

Area 54 Northeast Ohio General Service of Alcoholics Anonymous

An area is a geographical division within a state or province. There are 93 Delegate Areas in the US & Canada. One General Service Conference Delegate comes from each Area. In Ohio there are four Delegate Areas, including Central & SE Ohio Area 53, NE Ohio Area 54, NW Ohio & SE Michigan Area 55, and SW Ohio Area 56.

The NE Ohio Area Committee consists of six Area Officers, DCM's from 62 geographically defined districts that includes a Spanish speaking "floating" district, and ten Area Committees Chairs. The Area Committee is responsible for the health of the conference structure and thus for growth and harmony in the AA fellowship.

An Area 54 Assembly is a meeting of GSR's and the Area Committee. There are six Area Assemblies per year. Voting members of the Assembly include all GSR's (or their alternates), Central Office/Intergroup liaisons, Past Delegates and all members of the Area Committee. During the Area Assembly their are reports from Area Officers, Committees, District Committee Members (DCMs), Central Office & Intergroups. The assembly also takes action on proposals presented the Area Assembly from AA members. The Area Assembly is an integral part of the Conference structure, the democratic voice of the members expressing themselves. Assemblies are the responsibility of the Area Committee, and are conducted by our Area Chair.

RECOVERY, UNITY AND SERVICE

These are the Three Legacies of our A.A. experience. Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern. God, expressed through our group conscience, is our sole authority. World Service is the heart of our Third Legacy. Our meetings are informative and educational. They are held so that the Committee Members, GSRs and all interested members may be better equipped to carry the message of World Service back to their home groups and individual members, thus giving a better understanding to our purpose, our hopes, and our work.

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