

Area 31 Committee Meeting – September 11, 2013

The Area Chair, Mark N., opened the meeting at 7:30 PM with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer and a reading from Chapter 5 of the Service Manual (p. S 44).

Secretary's Report:

- ⌚ Secretary read the old and new business from the 7/10/2013 Area 31 meeting minutes.
- ⌚ Motion to accept: passes.
- ⌚ Asked all present to pick up updates to the new Area 31 Directories after giving their reports.

Treasurer's Report:

- ⌚ Beginning August Balance: \$4,563.65; Group Contributions: \$2,021.71; Other Deposits: \$0; Total Area Expenses: (\$500.00); Closing August Balance: \$6,085.36 plus Prudent Reserve: \$6,000 = \$12,085.36 Total Funds Available.
- ⌚ Motion to accept: passes.
- ⌚ Further comments:
 - Contributions for the month of August 2013 are \$590.27 more than August 2012 and YTD contributions are \$1,156.81 more than for the first 8 months of 2012.
 - 42 contributions were received in August 2013 vs. 22 in August 2012.
 - Remember to request reimbursement for expenses as soon after they are incurred as possible.
 - Districts and Committees should plan to spend their 2013 budget dollars before the year ends.

Registrar's Report: not present

Area Archivist Report:

- ⌚ We continue to sort and file documents in our Archives.
- ⌚ It is my intention to contact the book binder and check on the progress of our First Edition Big Book. It would be great if we had it available for the Fall Assembly.
- ⌚ I went on the bus trip to GSO on September 6th. The GSO Office and the Archives Office never cease to amaze me. One item that they now have on display is the Hazelton Copy of the Original Manuscript of the Big Book. It was in the room with all the literature that is read by members of A.A. where it belongs.
- ⌚ As members of A.A. and the Area 31 Committee of the General Service Structure of Alcoholics Anonymous, it is our responsibility not to stop the purchase of items like this but to educate the newcomer and possibly an old timer on the differences between Conference Approved, Grapevine and all other literature.
- ⌚ Once again please put ***who, what, when and where*** on all documents that will be saved in our Archives.

ADHOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Handbook Committee:

- ⌚ Discussed under Old Business section of this meeting

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Accessibility:

- ⌚ 4 members present at the August meeting.
- ⌚ Application to the Commonwealth for funding of ASL interpreters at the MA State Convention was approved for \$4,000.
- ⌚ Discussed the ongoing effort to recruit volunteers from Berkshire County to transport people with disabilities to meeting sites.
- ⌚ Also discussed asking Intergroup if the toll free Accessibility phone number could be listed in the When and Where.

Archives:

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- Ⓟ 10 people attended the 9/3/2013 meeting including the Co-Chair, Archivist and Alternate Delegate.
- Ⓟ The boards were brought to the Westfield group, Sunrise group and the Greenfield group for their Anniversaries last month. Also what might be a first the Westfield group had the Archives chair and co-chair as the speakers at their anniversary. They spoke about the history of A.A. both local and national as well as some details about area 31's Archive collection.
- Ⓟ Jaime brought some copies of a "Group Anniversary Checklist" in order assess and document the needs/requests for each group. Among other things this check list will help determine which boards to bring, see if they have a group history and make sure we have the contact information.
- Ⓟ We decided to hold another open house on Sat 11/23/13 and a new flyer will be distributed to publicize this event. The event will also be added to the area web site.
- Ⓟ The group had some follow up discussion about how to get the Archive related CD's out to interested AA members and it was agreed that Tom would make 25 copies of some CD's to hand out at the Fall Assembly. We will also give some out at the next open house. The CD's only cost about 10cents so the cost will come out of the Archives budget.
- Ⓟ Each person at the meeting had the chance to either give a brief update and or ask any archive related questions. This conversation appeared to be a very helpful especially for the newer members.
- Ⓟ The next Archives committee meeting will be held on October 1st 2013. At this meeting we plan to discuss developing guidelines relating to sorting Archive tapes/CD's into categories. Tom mentioned three possible categories to consider (Speakers, Area/committee and history).

CPC: not present.

Grapevine:

- Ⓟ Only two of us this month. Disappointing to say the least.
- Ⓟ The upside was I got to spend some time with a relatively new GVR rep and we talked more in depth about the Grapevine, the upcoming assembly, and service in general. The GVR came up with a new idea about how to get the GV boards out in the AA public more often and he is taking the lead in following up with the idea. So despite the poor attendance it was a good meeting.
- Ⓟ Nonetheless, we encourage groups to send GVRs or anyone interested to join the Grapevine meetings on the first Tuesday of the month - for October it is on the 1st.
- Ⓟ In Grapevine news a new book is out - 'No Matter What' is out chock full of AA's experience dealing with adversity in sobriety.
- Ⓟ Boards are available for Anniversary meetings.
- Ⓟ Charlie and Neal are refurbishing the boards.

Public Information:

- Ⓟ All October 2013 Commitments were filled.
- Ⓟ PI Committee will hold its Inventory on September 22, 2013 10 am at 474 Pleasant St. Holyoke, Ma
- Ⓟ Confirmed Paul P. Resignation as Committee Co-Chair
- Ⓟ Steve R was introduced as New Co-Chair.
- Ⓟ Longmeadow High Commitment filled for Monday Sept. 16th
- Ⓟ Many more commitments coming up since new school year has arrived and Jim has contacted about 30 Schools.
- Ⓟ Updated list of schools names and contacts to pass along to future committee for reference.
- Ⓟ Demonstration of commitment by committee member Dan W
- Ⓟ Extensive discussion on Guide to "Speaking at Non-AA Meetings", Guide located in Pamphlet.
- Ⓟ A responsible neat appearance at commitments and Language was discussed at length
- Ⓟ Next Meeting 10/08/13 same place same time.

Website Committee:

- Ⓟ Attending were the Webmaster (Bob), Co-chair (Carl), The Step Group (Sarah), Area chair (Mark). We reviewed District 4 event flier.

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- Ⓟ We discussed the change of the e-mail address from website_chair@area31aa.org to website_committee@area31aa.org. We decided to maintain both accounts for the time being, forwarding the old address to the new.
- Ⓟ The area chair brought up for future discussion the placing of the handbook on the website.
- Ⓟ We re-clarified the definition of the committee for the handbook. The final draft has been written and forwarded to the committee via e-mail.
- Ⓟ Pending refinements this will be forwarded to the Handbook Ad-hoc committee. We decided not to include committee chair description in the handbook, rather to post this on the committee page on the website.
- Ⓟ Our next committee meeting will be September 25, 2013

Webmaster: See report attached at the end of the minutes.

Western Mass Round Up:

- Ⓟ First meeting of the committee for the 2014 Roundup was held 9-11-2013.
- Ⓟ Bill R was elected Co Chair.
- Ⓟ Mary M was elected Secretary
- Ⓟ Fifteen subcommittees were set up and all were filled with the exception of Donations.
- Ⓟ Clarion Hotel is no longer available as a site for the Roundup due to their own renovation plans.
- Ⓟ Six other hotels have been visited and the candidate list has been narrowed down to 2 facilities. The committee will visit one more this coming week (the lowest bidder so far).
- Ⓟ The two candidates both will allow us to bring our own coffee but neither will allow us to bring snacks. These must be purchased on site by their own vendors.
- Ⓟ Please as each District to send a representative to the Roundup committee meetings so that input from the Districts can be incorporated into Roundup planning.
- Ⓟ Next meeting is October 9, 2013 at 474 Pleasant St. Holyoke.

Invited Committees

Institutions:

- Ⓟ 2 New Institutions Reps (IGR's) received Institutions Committee handbook -The Guidelines and Job Descriptions along with Literature In Prisons document.
- Ⓟ \$1,018.10 available for A.A. General Conference Approved Literature -
- Ⓟ BTG - Total # of calls * 10 - Ages ranging from 31-58.
- Ⓟ BTG - New "hand out" cards have been printed and are being passed out at our monthly meeting. The "hand out" card idea was discovered when Co-Chair Chuck and I attended the 22nd Annual NERAASA 2013. We heard and saw yet another opportunity to assist the newcomer in finding help in staying sober through the program Bridging The Gap; which exists between the door of a treatment or correctional facility to the nearest AA group, meeting, or AA contact. These cards are available at our monthly meeting and are being handed out to many excited committee members. We thank our Co Chair, Chuck, for taking on this project and producing a very attractive and simple but effective card. These hand out cards may explain the increase volume of BTG calls - * 10 in August.
- Ⓟ The Liaisons are continuing to make contact and follow up calls with the appropriate staff within the facilities we serve. The last 4-5 months of hard work on the Master List is demonstrating steady progress.
- Ⓟ The Open List is down to one page. A strong show of enthusiastic activity is being seen. We, as a committee, are receiving new inquiries from Home Groups, individual members, and IGRs. Questions and answers are being asked and information is being given so that they may start the process and proceed to Sponsor a meeting within an Institution.
- Ⓟ Come and join us! Many opportunities to be a part of and share with fellow recovering alcoholics who continue to extend a hand to the next sick and suffering alcoholic.

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Western Mass Intergroup:

- ⌚ Picnic went very well as did the Bus Trip to GSO in NYC.
- ⌚ Intergroup elections will be held in November. The positions to be filled are Secretary, Treasurer and Chairperson all of which are 2year term positions. Members of the Steering Committee will also be elected at the November meeting.
- ⌚ The Christmas Alcathon will be held this year as usual. Time slots will be given out at the December Intergroup Meeting.
- ⌚ WMIG will cover the Literature table sales at the Mass State Convention this year.
- ⌚ If your group is not represented at the Intergroup meeting it will not receive a phone coverage assignment. This is an important service of Intergroup that all Western Mass groups should support. Please make sure you have an Intergroup rep and that he or she attends the monthly meeting.
- ⌚ Ad Hoc committee that is writing new Intergroup guidelines is making steady progress.
- ⌚ Intergroup Chair welcomes any comments or questions at the Area meeting, or via email address available on the website.

Berkshire Intergroup (BIG):

- ⌚ BIG always wants to thank the area and district for attending our committee meetings and helping to keep us informed and providing some guidance.
- ⌚ Meet second Monday of each month at 7PM, at 152 North Street, Pittsfield, MA. On September 9, 2013 there were 18 people in attendance, 9 voting with 7 groups represented.
- ⌚ Due to the Treasurer resigning there was no Treasurers report for August. An audit will be performed and an interim Treasurer will be determined. A new Treasurer will be elected in November along with the Co-Chair and Secretary.
- ⌚ Starting on 10/5/13 the BIG office will open on Saturdays from 11:30 to 2 PM.
- ⌚ Joint Committee (District 3 and BIG) continues to visit groups that have no contact information. Info sheets given to Joan, Mark and Larry to bring to identified groups.
- ⌚ Northern Berkshire Group will have a picnic to celebrate their 58th anniversary on 9/28/13 at Fish Pond – Winsor Lake. Flyers have been distributed.
- ⌚ Alkathon committee has been started. Committee meeting dates and flyer to be determined.

WMYPAA:

- ⌚ Held softball tournament at Intergroup Picnic.
- ⌚ Held GSO bus trip on 9-6-2013. Forty nine tickets were sold, 35 people were present. WMYPAA broke even on the event.
- ⌚ Next event is a bonfire to be held on Saturday October 12th, after the Fall Mini Conference. There will be 3 bands and a 2 speakers meeting. Donations will be accepted at the event so that it can be self-supporting.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 1:

- ⌚ Better Life Group GSR reported a Beginners Steps 1-2-3 meeting has been added and meets in a separate room from the speaker discussion meeting at the same time. This has alleviated the overcrowding issue. Detox commitment is going strong. Four or five new members have joined the group. Attendance and cash flow are good and contributions to the pie chart are being made.

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- ⌚ New Hope Group GSR reported that due to the city banning smoking on city property, smokers must go to the bus stop to smoke. The group has changed the setup of the room, using tables on only one side to make more room for chairs on the other side. Attendance is down but contributions and reserve are still good. Pie chart contributions are being made and liability insurance has been paid.
- ⌚ East Springfield Group GSR reported that attendance is still light due to the lack of air conditioning in the meeting facility. Collection percentage per capita is good. Outgoing and Incoming commitments are being met. Pie chart contributions are being made. 29th Anniversary held on Labor Day.
- ⌚ All About We GSR reported attendance is good but donations are down. Group financials are sound. Two new members joined in August.
- ⌚ Second to None GSR reported attendance and donations down. Group is still keeping a commitment to Providence Hospital on the 3rd Sunday of every month. Group Chairperson has been out with a variety of physical ailments.
- ⌚ Serenity Club has a new AC which 2 members paid \$3,000 to install. Collection envelopes are available to help repay these individuals for the cash outlay.

District 2:

- ⌚ 2 new GSRS, 2 new alternate GSRS
- ⌚ District 2 will do their inventory in November. The decision to conduct an inventory was made unanimously. Details of place, time and facilitator are forthcoming.
- ⌚ Election of District officers will be conducted in December.
- ⌚ Tuesday Night
- ⌚ Women's Group brought concerns about childcare liability insurance to the District meeting. The District is tasked with getting information on this subject.

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District 3:

- Ⓟ 5 GSRs attended as well as Area Chair and BIG Chair. Alternate Delegate chaired the District 3 meeting since both the DCM and Co-DCM were on vacation.
- Ⓟ Tuesday Women's Step (Pittsfield)
 - Group has 2 new members
 - 9 attended business meeting
 - Having an issue with a disruptive individual so invited all who attend the business meeting to discuss this.
- Ⓟ I Don't Have a Clue (Lee)
 - Also dealing with a disruptive participant
 - Treasury balance is \$900 and will be making contributions soon.
- Ⓟ Keep It Simple (nooner in GB)
 - \$1700 balance due to an unintentionally lengthy transition to a new treasurer. Contributions to the pie chart will be coming soon.
- Ⓟ Northern Berkshire Group is holding a Pot Luck dinner starting at 3 pm on 9-28-2013 at Winsor Lake. Flyers are available and all are welcome.

District 4:

- Ⓟ GSR reports:
- Ⓟ GSR Alternate for Saturday night beginner's in Northampton reported having trouble within the group with the treasurer. No treasurer's report has been given in a long time. Group is seeking help from the District and the Area. The group has been growing. They are having their business meeting on 8/31/13.
- Ⓟ GSR for the "I" opener meeting reported they have a new lease with the new owners of the building the group meets in. Rent has slightly increased, so they have increased their prudent reserve. They are doing outgoing commitments now, which seems to be going very well. The group has gotten a commitment with the jail through the institutions committee.
- Ⓟ GSR for the North Amherst Making Progress Group - Nothing to report
- Ⓟ GSR for the Amherst Monday Night Group reported they have been displaced from the Grace United Church until at least December due to construction in their normal church. Now meeting at the First Congregational Church. Attendance has gone down, and the rent has gone up. The last Monday in September they are having their 54th anniversary.
- Ⓟ GSR from Conway Monday Night Group. No word when they will be back into the church that they meeting in. Continue to meet at the Conway Elementary School.
- Ⓟ GSR from the Sunderland Security Group. The group made a donation to the Berkshire Intergroup. GSR reports a great discussion ensued and the group conscience was to help those in need in AA
- Ⓟ New GSR for the Greenfield Beginners Meeting on Tuesday Night reported that the Group owes money to the landlord, and they are slowly working towards paying their debts. They want to be able to donate out to support AA.
- Ⓟ GSR for the Saturday Night Live Group that meets in South Deerfield reported attendance has been low. They are now receiving a written report from their treasurer. The group is in the process of discussing their prudent reserve.
- Ⓟ GSR from the Colrain I am Responsible Group reported it is a small meeting. Some of its members are no longer able to come. The group members are discussing starting another meeting to serve the members of AA who cannot tolerate fragrances in a meeting. There is a group member who is severely allergic to perfumes. They are also in the process of trying to get an alternate GSR.
- Ⓟ Discussion took place to help the Northampton Beginner's Meeting. Suggestions such as having a group inventory, having written job descriptions for all positions, and looking into Traditions 7&9 were talked about.
- Ⓟ GSR asked if the WMYPAA Events are AA? If people who are alcoholic put on an event is it AA? Are these social events, or is the purpose to carry the message to another alcoholic? It was pointed out that

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there is no conflict with Traditions or Concepts during these events. Also, that the young people's committee is committed to getting people active and involved in the program of AA.

Ⓟ In old business it was decided that \$30 from our budget for the workshop would be designated for purchasing literature. PJ (alt-DCM) volunteered to do this. The District voted on a flyer for the Workshop. There were 4 options that were brought and presented by GSR's. Flyers to be distributed to website committee, and Area Committee to help get the word out. Discussion about food came to the decision to buy for approximately 50 people. Kim will purchase coffee/tea/sugar/tea. Caitlyn will purchase water and paper plates. Melissa will make a salad. We will purchase pizza from Roberto's in Greenfield. All receipts to be turned into DCM for reimbursement.

Ⓟ Subsequent to the August meeting, the DCM Krista stepped down due to scheduling conflicts. PJ has stepped into the DCM position.

District 5:

Ⓟ Number of registered groups: 69; # of groups represented at mtg: 4 gsr's present - 0 new gsr's

Ⓟ CO-DCM Pauline – chaired the September meeting. District 5 continues discussion of the Service Manual/Tradition, which is taking place monthly at our meetings based on a 2 yr. rotation schedule. Chapter 6 (The Delegate) and Tradition 9 were June's topics. Juan - GSR led that discussion. Service Manuals continue to be provided to new GSR's along with our beginner's packet.

Ⓟ Visitors: Ann (Alt Delegate) ~ Ann updated the district of upcoming events and invited all GSR's/DCM's to participate in the up-coming Fall Assembly.

Ⓟ Old Business: Re: length of office for Secretary and LCM. Motion: To take up a vote for the term of office (Secretary/LCM) to be 2 yrs. ~ After discussion, the district voted. Secretary ~ Motion did not carry (unanimous) ~ Secretary position will remain a 1 yr. position. LCM ~ Motion did not carry ~ LCM will remain a 1 yr. position.

Ⓟ New Business: Re: District 5 Officer's Attendance. Motion: To adopt a new policy stating that "If a person doesn't show up for 3 months in a calendar year – (No call, No show) that position is considered vacated. Motion carried unanimously. (In the event a position is vacated - refer to election procedures).

Ⓟ Needs / Concerns / Ideas for outreach:

Ⓟ So Hadley Fri Nite Group is still trying to get together a group inventory. Cold Springs Group, So Hadley Fri Nite group, and Chicopee Group will all be having elections soon.

Ⓟ Our next meeting will be on Oct 1, 2013. We will be holding District 5 elections – Area Chair to be assisting with 3rd Legacy Voting procedure

District 6:

Ⓟ 7 GSRs in attendance.

Ⓟ Group in Westfield held a Chili night where Chili was served before the meeting. Twenty new members attended although no one gave a donation to cover the cost of the chili. They plan to do it quarterly to encourage new membership.

Ⓟ Women's Group in Westfield is struggling with only 4 members. Their meeting site is under reconstruction.

Ⓟ Men's Suffield meeting had an issue with cussing and cross talk which they brought up for discussion concerning ways to curb such behavior.

Ⓟ Enfield Group is offering a standard package of literature to newcomers.

Ⓟ Enfield Young People's is reporting money issues.

Ⓟ The remainder of the meeting was devoted to planning the Workshop which went very well. It was well attended and the participants were enthusiastic about service.

Delegate's Remarks:

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- ⌚ Delegate announced that there is a procedure to submitting suggestions for General Service Conference Themes and Presentations. [A copy of the letter describing the process, a form for submitting suggestions and a list of previous conference Themes are attached to these minutes].
- ⌚ Delegate announced that the final report of the 2013 General Service Conference is now available and invited all Area Committee members to take copies of the report. He asked that the members relate the importance of keeping the report for AA member eyes only. There are full names printed in this report. Therefore, allowing anyone but an AA member to see the report constitutes a breach of anonymity.
- ⌚ The first planning meeting for NERAASA 2016 will take place on November 20, 2013. More information to follow.

Alternate Delegate Remarks:

- ⌚ September 24th is the next to last planning meeting for the Mass State Convention. Those wishing to car pool, meet at the Plantation Inn at 5pm.

Area Chair Remarks:

- ⌚ Past Delegate Tanya E. will facilitate the Area Inventory at the Fall Assembly.
- ⌚ No service commitments are coming up.

Old Business:

- ⌚ The Area Chair asked if the committee had reviewed the Handbook changes and were ready to discuss and vote on finalizing it. The committee was not ready to discuss. Area Chair tabled the discussion.
- ⌚ Area Chair suggested that the Handbook be put on line so that comments on updates can be posted and changes made in a more timely manner. No vote was taken on this suggestion.

New Business:

- ⌚ A motion was made and unanimously passed to cancel the October 9th meeting.
- ⌚ Area Chair announced that the November meeting will be devoted to the 2014 budget.
- ⌚ Accessibility Chair asked if the Area Committee agreed that the Accessibility Committee should request of Intergroup that the Accessibility phone number be included in the When and Where.
 - Intergroup Chair asked that discussion be postponed until Intergroup examines the logistics
 - Alternate Delegate stated that this is a big question and should be given more thought before any decision is made whether or not to request Accessibility number be published in the When and Where.
 - Others felt that Intergroup can make referrals of calls to Accessibility number when appropriate.
 - Still others expressed the criticality of getting the Accessibility number out and the When and Where is the most widely available publication in the Area.
 - No conclusion was reached.
- ⌚ Area Delegate announced that it is customary for the Hosting Area to sponsor a Hospitality Room at NERAASA. A prudent and reasonable amount for this expenditure is \$4,500. Therefore he made the following motion: Area 31 will budget \$1,500 for NERAASA Hospitality Room in the 2014, 2015 and 2016 budget and donate that amount at the beginning of each of these budget years. All monies not used for the hospitality room will be returned to Area 31. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting closed at 9:30 pm with the Responsibility Declaration.

Website Summary Reported for the first 11 days of September 2013

Summary

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Reported period | Month Sep 2013 | | | | |
| First visit | 01 Sep 2013 - 03:47 | | | | |
| Last visit | 11 Sep 2013 - 07:01 | | | | |
| Viewed traffic * | Unique visitors | Number of visits | Pages | Hits | Bandwidth |
| | 418 | 611 | 2,014 | 7,267 | 130.46 MB |
| | | (1.46 visits/visitor) | (3.29 Pages/Visit) | (11.89 Hits/Visit) | (218.64 KB/Visit) |
| Not viewed traffic * | | | 4,515 | 5,530 | 123.87 MB |

* Not viewed traffic includes traffic generated by robots, worms, or replies with special HTTP status codes.

Visits duration

| Number of visits: 611 - Average: 137 s | Number of visits | Percent |
|--|------------------|---------|
| 0s-30s | 517 | 84.6 % |
| 30s-2mn | 30 | 4.9 % |
| 2mn-5mn | 16 | 2.6 % |
| 5mn-15mn | 15 | 2.4 % |
| 15mn-30mn | 21 | 3.4 % |
| 30mn-1h | 7 | 1.1 % |
| 1h+ | 4 | 0.6 % |

Connect to site from

| Origin | Pages | Percent | Hits | Percent |
|---|-------|---------|------|---------|
| Direct address / Bookmark / Link in email... | 482 | 76.6 % | 738 | 81.9 % |
| Links from an Internet Search Engine | | | | |
| - Google 34 / 49 | | | | |
| - Yahoo! 2 / 2 | | | | |
| - Microsoft Bing 1 / 1 | | | | |
| - search.ch 1 / 1 | | | | |
| - AOL 1 / 1 | | | | |
| - Yandex 1 / 1 | | | | |
| Links from an external page (other web sites except search engines) | 40 | 6.3 % | 55 | 6.1 % |
| - http://www.aa.org/lang/en/redirect.cfm | 56 | 56 | | |
| - http://www.westernmassaa.org/Area31_Service_Committee.html | 6 | 6 | | |
| - http://area31aa.o.macinroy.com/area31aa.org | 4 | 4 | | |
| - http://liex.ucoz.org | 4 | 4 | | |
| - http://malaysiava.org/clean.html | 3 | 3 | | |
| - http://www.westernmassaa.org/site/8b6307b656ab4c7c88fe66ba300fea... | 2 | 2 | | |
| - http://aa.org/lang/en/redirect.cfm | 2 | 2 | | |
| - http://zelpotolok.ru | 2 | 2 | | |
| - http://www.shopuggbootsnow.com | 2 | 2 | | |
| - http://mirskidok.ru | 2 | 2 | | |
| - http://www.qmcmedical.com/about.html | 2 | 2 | | |
| - http://www.fidgetcomedy.com/about.html | 2 | 2 | | |

Our standing in the search engines is basically unchanged, Area31aa.org is within the top four results listed



GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK, NY 10115 (212) 870-3400

(Between 119th and 120th Street)

Please direct all communications to:

Memorandum

GRAND CENTRAL STATION
P.O. BOX 459

NEW YORK, NY 10163
FAX# 212-870-3003

August 19, 2013

To: Area Delegates, Trustees, Directors, General Service Office and Grapevine Staff

Re: Conference Agenda Committee Request for Theme Suggestions

Dear Friends,

The members of the 2000 Conference Agenda Committee, included in their report as an additional consideration that:

"The staff secretary prepares a letter and form to be sent out annually in early August to all Conference members to gather suggestions for the Conference theme, presentations and workshop topics."

Theme, presentation and workshop topics for each General Service Conference are discussed by delegates during the week of the Conference. Please note that there will be *no Conference workshops* scheduled for 2014 to allow for the Conference Inventory.

Theme and presentation topics revolve around basic principles of A.A. and can spark thought-provoking discussion at Area and district meetings as well. Regions, areas and districts may incorporate discussion of these topics into workshops, meetings, pre Conference assemblies, etc. This gives A.A. members involved in service the opportunity to participate and become more informed about A.A.

The 2014 Conference Committee on Agenda will consider suggestions for a theme and presentation topic for 2015. We hope that you will assist us by asking members in your area to offer suggestions for the theme and presentation topics for the 65th annual meeting of the General Service Conference, April 19 - 25, 2015.

Please send by December 13, 2013. A list of past Conference themes is enclosed for your reference, as well as a form for your convenience in submitting suggestions.

In fellowship,

Mary Cummings, Secretary
Conference Agenda Committee

Email Attachments: Suggestion Form (English, French and Spanish) and
Past Conference Themes, 1966-2014 (English, French and Spanish)

www.aa.org

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Area Name & Number _____ **Date** _____

To: 64th Conference Agenda Committee
Subject: Suggestions for the Theme and Presentations Topics for the 65th Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference, April 19 - 25, 2015.

Here are our suggestions:

1

Theme for 65th Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference:

1

Presentation Topics (related to theme suggestions):

2

Print your name _____

Complete Address _____

Daytime Phone _____

Mail this form to:

Conference Secretary
General Service Office
475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor

**THEMES OF THE GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE
1966 - 2014**

The 1966 Conference was the first to have a "theme"

- 1966 - Principles and Responsibility
- 1967 - Sponsorship--The Hand of A.A.
- 1968 - Unity Vital to A.A. Survival, Growth
- 1969 - Group Conscience Guides A.A.
- 1970 - Service--The Heart of A.A.
- 1971 - Communication: Key to A.A. Growth
- 1972 - Our Primary Purpose
- 1973 - Responsibility--Our Expression of Gratitude
- 1974 - Understanding and Cooperation--Inside and Outside A.A.
- 1975 - Unity Through Love and Service
- 1976 - Sponsorship--Our Privilege and Responsibility
- 1977 - The A.A. Group--Where It Begins
- 1978 - The Member and the Group--Recovery Through Service
- 1979 - The Legacies: Our Heritage and My Responsibility
- 1980 - Participation: The Key to Recovery
- 1981 - A.A. Takes Its Inventory
- 1982 - The Traditions - Our Way of Unity
- 1983 - Anonymity - Our Spiritual Foundation
- 1984 - Gratitude - The Language of the Heart
- 1985 - Golden Moments of Reflection
- 1986 - A.A.'s Future - Our Responsibility
- 1987 - The Seventh Tradition - A Turning Point
- 1988 - Singleness of Purpose - Key to Unity
- 1989 - Anonymity - Living Our Traditions
- 1990 - The Home Group - Our Responsibility and Link to A.A.'s Future
- 1991 - Sponsorship: Gratitude in Action
- 1992 - The A.A. Message in a Changing World
- 1993 - A.A. Takes Its Inventory--The General Service Conference Structure
- 1994 - Spirit of Sacrifice
- 1995 - Pass It On - Our Three Legacies
- 1996 - Preserving Our Fellowship - Our Challenge
- 1997 - Spirituality - Our Foundation
- 1998 - Our Twelfth Step Work
- 1999 - Moving Forward: Unity Through Humility
- 2000 - Trusting Our Future to A.A. Principles
- 2001 - Love and Service
- 2002 - Sharing the Steps, Traditions and Concepts
- 2003 - Living A.A.'s Principles Through Sponsorship
- 2004 - Our Singleness of Purpose – The Cornerstone of A.A.
- 2005 - Basics of Our Home Group – Recovery, Unity and Service
- 2006 - Sponsorship, Service and Self-Support in a Changing World
- 2007 - Our 12th Step Responsibility – Are We Going to Any Length?
- 2008 - Communication and Participation – The Key to Unity and Self-Support
- 2009 - Our Commitment to Carry A.A.'s Message – Enthusiasm and Gratitude in Action
- 2010 - Practicing A.A.'s Principles – The Pathway to Unity
- 2011 - We are Responsible for A.A.'s Future – Let it Begin With Us
- 2012 - Anonymity: Our Spiritual Responsibility in the Digital Age
- 2013 - The General Service Conference Takes Its Inventory – Our Solution in Action
- 2014 - Communicating Our Legacies – Vital in a Changing World