

Delegate's Report

Fall Assembly – 21 October 2012

Good afternoon, my name is Brian and I am an alcoholic. My current service position is delegate Area 31 Panel 62 and I'm serving as co-chair on The Policy and Admissions Committee. It's a delight to share with you this afternoon, as our Service Manual states for a typical non-election assembly, the most recent communications from our General Service Office (GSO).

Firstly, A.A.W.S, Inc. is seeking resumes for trustee-at-large/U.S. to be submitted to the Secretary, Trustees' Nominating Committee, General Service Office P.O. Box 459 Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163. Our Area Chair, Mark, has this under new business on the agenda. Therefore, we'll be discussing the Election Procedure and Third Legacy in detail under New Business.

There are two openings for Nontrustee Appointed Committee Members for Trustees' Committee on Corrections and Trustees' Committee on Public Information. If interested see me sometime today or if you may know of someone qualified have them call me @ XXX-XXX-XXXX or email me @ delegate@area31aa.org. The Area Secretary will also have attachments to these assemblies' minutes, the qualities most

desirable for these positions, the procedure and a blank resume.

The Final Report of The 62nd Annual Meeting of The General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous has been published and released to us. Distribute freely amongst us but avoid getting them in the hands of non-alcoholics. You'll find them on the table over there and you'll to note the word CONFIDENTIAL on the cover. Please treat it as such in accordance with our 11th and 12th Traditions. Full names are used in this report. We don't want to cause harm to anyone and more importantly it'll be an opportunity to practice this spiritual principal of humility.

NERAASA 2013 will be hosted by Area 59 (Eastern Pennsylvania) at The Lancaster Host Hotel in Lancaster, PA from 22-24 February 2013. NERAASA is The Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly with the stated purpose for GSR's, DCM's, Area Officers, Area Committee Members, Intergroup Representatives and other alcoholics interested in service to get together and discuss General Service Conference related issues and concerns affecting AA as a whole, as well as pertinent aspects of recovery, unity and service common to the area of the Northeast Region. Registration forms are here today in

English and Spanish or you may visit the website www.neraasa2013.org to register. The registration does not include the hotel this year. You must contact them separately and the info is in the form or online. My experience was by visiting the hotels website and claiming my membership in AAA I received a better rate. So triple A beats double A!

A positive showing with enthusiastic Area 31 AA'ers will be appreciated as we are going to announce intent to bid on NERAASA 2016 at the upcoming NERAASA. A boisterous crowd hootin' & hollerin' as we announce our intent may be attractive to those casting ballots.

Speaking of regional A.A. events, the next Northeast Regional Forum, better known as NERF, will be in our backyard in Cromwell, CT 7-9 June 2013. NERF 2014 will be in Linthicum, MD and 2015 in Albany, NY.

As a result of hard work from The Literature Committee at the last Conference, new literature is out! The revisions for "**A.A. and the Armed Services**" pamphlet were approved and they are available. This committee also approved and updated the booklet **Living Sober** which changed outdated terms and usages while preserving the real sense of one alcoholic talking to another that is the style of this particular publication. The updated version of the booklet will become available in the

next few months as the current stock is depleted. (Show new booklet with blue & white cover).

The Corrections Committee did an outstanding job of revising the pamphlet "**It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell**" which retains the easy-to-read format and wider layout, but which now can be folded for easy fit into literature racks, showing off-fittingly?- a cover with blue bars.

The Conference also approved the Public Information pamphlet the "**2011 Alcoholics Anonymous Membership Survey.**" This update of the triennial survey has a new look with crisp used graphics to portray the survey responses to different questions, and is useful in presenting a snapshot of A.A. to those who are not familiar with our Fellowship.

An issue of Box 4-5-9 is sent quarterly to each GSR and is meant to be shared with the group and district, possibly pointing out articles of particular interest regarding group issues that are brought to the attention of GSO through phone calls, e-mails and other correspondence. This piece of literature is a fantastic resource for "hot topics" at a district meeting or committee meeting. To all DCM's and Committee Chairs - "feel free to use this publication." If you don't receive it as a perk of your service position it may be purchased for the low annual cost of \$3.50 individually or a

bulk of ten for \$6.00. A suggestion would be for all interested districts to use \$6.00 of their budget on Box 4-5-9.

Lastly, some information on our "Big Book" that some of you may have already heard - or part of. With over 30 million copies sold, and born on the heels of the Great Depression, *Alcoholics Anonymous* is a book that has changed the lives of millions of alcoholics around the world. The Big Book offers a program of recovery that has found broad application across all boundaries of gender, race, culture, language and religion.

Recognizing the Big Book's unique ability to reach alcoholics with a message of hope, most recently the Big Book has turned up in an exhibition from the U.S. Library of Congress celebrating "Books That Shaped America." It was one of eighty-eight books on display that were written by Americans that have influenced our lives. We are here today as a direct result of that influence from the early pioneers, some alcoholic and some not. Let us hope we never forget the sacrifices they gave so we could live. We stand on the shoulders of giants. (Pause) May never waiver nor water down this message to the next generation. So help us God.

As of last July the Big Book has been translated into 67 languages with 14 translations pending. The pending

translations range from Navajo in this country to Inca in South America, Mayan in Guatemala to Dutch/Flemish in Belgium and the Netherlands. With our Seventh Tradition contributions, these translations, this message of hope, will save the lives of many. The Seventh Tradition goes beyond the integrity we reap as our initial reward; it unites our souls with Something greater than us.