

Area 31 Grapevine/ La Vina Committee Meeting
474 Pleasant Street, Holyoke, MA
Tuesday, January 1, 2019
Serenity Prayer
Statement of Purpose
Tradition 1

Members Present:

Mike S. Area 31 Delegate, Guest

Tania H., Chair, Hadley Women's Language Of The Heart Group, Wednesdays

Renée K., Co-Chair, Belchertown, Saturday Night

Ella A. Secretary, Florence, 11th Step Meditation Group

Doug A. Florence, "I" Opener Group, Visitor

Joe K., GVR, Holyoke Daily Reflections

Michelle, GVR, Sober Sunday Group

Signe, GVR, Holyoke We Can and Tues. BBSS

- Chair opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. with a Moment of Silence and the Serenity Prayer.
- Tradition One was read aloud out of *The A.A. Grapevine* by Chair
- "Statement of Purpose" found on the inside cover was read aloud by Co-Chair
- Chair invited everyone to introduce themselves & share what brought them there today.
- Chair shared about how she received in the US mail the Handbook and Area Chair info. packet in English and in Spanish/en español for *La Viña*. She didn't have a formal agenda set for this month. Mike C. rotated out from his Chair position, last month.
- Chair brought the *A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Services*. It has a whole chapter (Chap 12) about the Grapevine and suggested GVRs (Grapevine Reps) read it for tips on how GVRs can talk to their home groups about *The Grapevine*.
- GVRs help plan events. We, the GVRs, drive the committee's direction. GVRs are informers about *The Grapevine* magazine as a 12-Step recovery tool. It was started by six members in 1944. GVRs here are part of a larger group. We are GVRs in Area 31 while there are 93 areas of A.A. in North America!
- New GVRs can sign up to register & receive their kit at <http://www.aagrapevine.org/content/registration-or-change-address> for a starter packet.

- Reminder that a home group can buy a subscription and give it away in a raffle if the group treasury can afford it. (Costs \$28.97/year in print.) Always display the copies for members to take/trade/return.

- Chair person suggested GVRs take advantage of a meeting's announcement section to share their new status and announce GV/LV related reminders learned in the role from the starter kit and our monthly committee meetings and have fun with the position.

- Chair person also encouraged all present to extend the invitation to serve as RLVs to Spanish speaking members of the fellowship.

- Inmates can receive a free 1 year subscription to *The Grapevine/La Viña* by writing to the Corrections Desk at GSO with their name, address and inmate ID number to the Grapevine office in N.Y.

- Co-Chair is newcomer to the Grapevine/La Vina Committee & will get the same info. packet like that of the Committee Chair mailed to her before next month's meeting. She has also done AA service work for the past five-six years. Her position as co-DCM ended and she knew to get another service position. She likes meeting new people and happy to get more people here.

- GVRs Reports –
 1. Deaf member, Joe, has been attending these meetings for the past two years. He likes to learn. He shares info with the Deaf community. Going to NERAASA in February 2019. He is co-chair on the Disability Committee.
 2. Signe, Happy to represent two groups. Her group does a monthly raffle of *The Grapevine*.
 3. Michelle has her new GVR starter kit
 3. Doug, visitor, does outreach in the Hampshire County Jail and would like to learn and share more news about the Inmate Subscription program. He will attend next business meeting to learn if he can become a GVR in addition to his role for this home group on the PI committee.

Area 31 Delegate News

- Chair will be receiving the boards & Area 31 GV/LV manual from previous chair, Mike C, next week.
- Reminder to get the A.A. Grapevine Boards & present them at any meeting which requests it.
- It is Area 31's turn to showcase GV/LV at the November 2019 MA State AA Convention in Framingham, the boards need to be updated and refreshed.

- The new 2019 Conv. Planning Committee is meeting monthly. Rides from Western Mass. to Framingham are arranged by the Alternate Delegate, Paul L. Meetings for the MA State Convention are on the last Tuesday of the odd months (Jan. 29th, March 26th, May 28th, July 30th, Sept. 24th) at 7:30 p.m.
 - NERAASA (Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly) will be in Hunt Valley, Maryland from Feb. 22 to 24, 2019. Look at <http://www.neraasa.org/neraasa-2019.html> for more info. They might get a second van/bus if there are enough people interested. Area servants will be first to get a seat. If interested, let Chair know to get on the list. Goal is for all interested parties to go. The dollar in the basket helps fund area events like this.
 - Area 31 hosts the Concepts Meeting on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. here at Intergroup, 474 Pleasant Street. Welcome to all A.A. members. Remember, the 12-Concepts are one of the sides of the Unity-Service-Recovery triangle. Next meeting will be on Jan. 3rd.
 - The Service Manual Meeting is also held monthly at this site and open to all AA members.
 - The Communication Audit report by the G.S.O. (General Service Office) in New York is available to read online. We can find the report in a hyper-link on area31aa.org.
 - The Trustee-At-Large, Class B (Brian F. O'S.) was nominated last November 2018 at the Fall Assembly. More will be revealed in the Spring Assembly.
- Next Grapevine Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019, 730p, 474 Pleasant St., Holyoke, MA, weather permitting.
- Closed the meeting with the AA “The Responsibility Pledge” and the Serenity Prayer.
 - Adjourned at 8:17 p.m.