

The Northeast Ohio Recorder

January, February, March 2015

<http://www.area54.org>

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"Let us remember that great legion who still suffer from alcoholism and who are still without hope. Let us, at any cost or sacrifice, so improve our communication with all these that they may find what we have found - a new life of freedom under God."

A.A. Co-Founder, Bill W., February 1961, From: "The Shape of Things to Come", *I Am Responsible: The Hand of A.A.*, © A. A. Grapevine, Reprinted with permission

A Word From Our Delegate

Grateful

I am truly grateful to the members of Area 54 for giving me the opportunity to serve as your Panel 65 Delegate. I know it is a great responsibility and I will do my best to serve you. There is much work for us to do in the coming two years. The Panel 65 officers, Committee Chairs, DCMs, GSRs and members of Area 54 have an opportunity to do great things.

This year we will hold the GSR School in February. The 40th annual Mini-Conference is in March and we need as much participation as possible. This Conference gives your Delegate the conscience of the area on real General Service Conference Agenda items. It is important that you participate so that your Group's voice is heard. In May we will have our Unity Day and the results of the General Service Conference will be shared in addition to other activities. In June we will host our annual Open House Picnic. Perhaps your District or Multi-District would like to host the picnic. In August we will hold our DCM College which allows all members to get a glimpse at what the District Committee Members do. This year we will be hosting the National A.A. Archives Workshop in September. There should be some great opportunities to see and hear about A.A. history. In November we will come together to express our Gratitude. This is also an opportunity for a District or Multi-District to host an event. While all these things are going on we must also be planning for The Ohio State Convention which our area will be hosting in 2016. In addition, there are many Dark Districts to light up. There is much to do and many Service opportunities available to us all. None of these things can happen without



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you. We are Grateful to have received this gift of Sobriety. We have lived in the kindness of others and now we have an opportunity to give back. *"I Am Responsible..... When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible."*

Calvin L., Panel 65 delegate,
Area 54 — Northeast Ohio

GRATITUDE IN ACTION

In this issue of the *Northeast Ohio Recorder*, we focus on Gratitude for our recovery through unity and service. Our new delegate, Calvin L. shares his gratitude for all the service opportunities the area service structure provides. Jamie B., your alternate delegate, reflects on the Spiritual Principles she needs to live by on a daily basis.

Action is the key word in all of this. Page 14 of our Basic Text (*Alcoholics Anonymous*) reminds us,

For if an alcoholic failed to perfect and enlarge his spiritual life through work and self-sacrifice for others, he could not survive the certain trials and low spots ahead.

Gratitude in A.A. is a noun AND a verb. The oldtimers taught me "Don't just tell me about your gratitude, show me..." and "Your actions speak so loudly, I can't hear what you're saying."

All groups have a right to a say in how A.A. operates. You express that right with the election and participation of a General Service Representative (GSR). But without that voice and vote, the A.A. group is powerless to participate in A.A. as a whole; "Every A.A. member has a right to be involved with how A.A. is run through the well-informed group conscience."

Speaking of which, our area conscience is best informed when YOU participate in the structure of Northeast Ohio A.A. Before we know it, spring will be slowly pushing winter's icy blast back from our doors and it will soon be time for the Area Mini-Conference.

WHY SHOULD I ATTEND THE NORTHEAST OHIO MINI-CONFERENCE?

Here are just a few good reasons why everyone, whether you are involved in General Service work or not, is encouraged to attend the Northeast Ohio Mini-Conference.

Exercise your voice and vote in A.A.-as-a-whole. Don't let others make decisions for your group! Express your opinion on the items of business that will be discussed and voted on by your elected delegate at the General Service Conference in New York City at the end of April. The mini-conference provides a forum for understanding the issues concerning the future of A.A. that will be decided, on your behalf, whether you choose to participate in General Service or not.

Learn about service beyond the church basement steps.

Every service job in A.A. is important. Ranging all the way from the Twelfth Step itself to a phone call and a cup of coffee, and to A.A.'s General Service Office for national and international action. The sum total of all these services is our

Third Legacy of Service. An A.A. service is anything whatever that helps us to reach a fellow sufferer, whether sponsorship of a new member or sponsorship of A.A. in a new country just getting started.

Why can't we just 'keep it simple'? These services, whether performed by individuals, groups, areas, or A.A. as a whole, are utterly vital to our existence and growth. Concerning any given service, we ask one question: "Is this service really needed?" If it is, then maintain it we must, or fail in our mission to those who need and seek A.A. The most vital, yet least understood, group of services that A.A. has are those that enable us to function as a whole, namely: the General Service Office, A.A. World Services, Inc., The A.A. Grapevine, Inc., and our board of trustees, known legally as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. Our worldwide unity and ... our growth since early times are directly traceable to this cluster of life-giving activities.

Meet your Regional Trustee and a staff member from your General Service Office in New York City. Oh, and your delegate will be there, too. He'd like to meet you and hear your views on the pressing agenda items of the day. He will carry your ideas and the conscience of the whole area to the General Service Conference.

Meet other A.A.'s who are interested in service beyond the group level. Having trouble at your home group? Other General Service Representatives (GSR) and District Committee Members (DCM) have already faced those same difficulty and have great ideas to share with you.

See how your generous contributions are being used to help carry the message. New literature has been released in recent months, new public service announcements and DVDs, too. These will be shown or will be available for sale.

Where else can you go for \$15 and get three days worth of sobriety, service and fellowship? Come find out what you've been missing.

~Your editor,
Jeff

We welcome your service-related contributions, comments and questions. Send topic ideas or complaints to: newsleter@area54.org



Area Officer Reports

Happy New Year to all in Area 54. I have once again been blessed with the opportunity to continue on the journey that my Higher Power has planned for me. When using some of the suggestions that A.A. has given me, I believe that there are some things I must do in order to keep it simple and not complicate things

Spiritual Principles I need to Live by on a Daily Basis

Some of them seem like common sense, but I need to understand that reading these principles and actually practicing them in my day-to-day life are two entirely different things (and that the latter requires vigilance and willingness). The phrase "easier said than done" applies here.

ACCEPTANCE — There's this thing called The Serenity Prayer that goes something like this: "God, grant me the Serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the Courage to change the things I can, and the Wisdom to know the difference." What painful, awful thing in my life am I accepting that, in all truth, can actually change? Once I deeply accept that only I have the power to move forward in my life, then I can take the action to do it. But there are also things I cannot change, and the work here is to accept that I can't manage that situation or this person or that thing. There is power in powerlessness also, because it frees me from conflict and allows me to enjoy the rest of my life with real ease.

REMAIN GRATEFUL — I am so very grateful for all the Blessings I have received. If I begin to think of things, I think I don't have, I make a list of the things that I actually have and I realize that I have everything I need and then some!

BE OF SERVICE — I also need to remain teachable. Each stage of my life has its challenges and rewards. I look forward to serving as Area 54's alternate delegate; this certainly will be a rewarding challenge.

How exciting to know that life's lessons are unfolding. How wonderful that each day inspires

new growth.

Yours in Service Always,
Jamie B., Area 54 Alternate Delegate

Treasurer's Report 2014

As of the first week in November, our group contributions are only \$2,496 less than 2013 and 83% of our group contributions budget. At this writing we have a few weeks left to finish the year strong. Our individual contributions are slightly above budget and above the 2013 numbers. The other entities are above our expectations in the amount of \$1,173.74. The other entities are: Cleveland Multi District, District 58, District 6, B.B. M.P.R., Ohio Roundup Steering Committee, Punderson Park Conference, and Ohio Young People in A.A.. This allows the overall income-to-date to be 88% of our budget. Thanks for all your continued efforts.

Our expenses have continued to be close to budget. We have been a prudent group. I personally feel that the groups should continue to shoulder the burden of financing the work of our Area Committees, Delegate, Alternate Delegate and the other members of the Panel (officers). Since the members of A.A. are the bosses in A.A., the groups need to finance the work of A.A..

We are continually receiving requests from Treatment/Rehab centers, mental health professionals, and correctional professionals to help the suffering alcoholics. Our committees and officers are on the front line of this vital 12-Step work. Please continue to encourage your groups to



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Area Officer Reports

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include the Area in the distribution of A.A. monies.

Thanks for your support of me personally. Your smiles and encouragements have made a difference. This job has stretched me as a person and made me more aware of the hard work being done by the GSR's, DCM's and Area Chairs.

I thank my fellow officers in keeping my fingers on the keyboard. Thank you past delegates for your suggestions. Thanks Ola and Calvin for your leadership and support. You have taught me enough for me to find the answers.

I am excited for journeys of 2015 and the challenges it will bring as well as the rewards of serving.

Love and Service,
Susan Robinson, Area 54 Treasurer, Panel 63

Area Chair Panel 65 Report

I have started to review the Area Guidelines for Area Chair. At first, I was overwhelmed.

Area Chair

Sometimes referred to as the "stay at home delegate," the Area Chair is responsible for the smooth operation of the Area Assembly, which are held six times each annually, except for the Election Assembly, which is chaired by the seated delegate or a past delegate. In Area 54, the Area Chair's responsibilities include:

- Works with the other Area officers to develop the Assembly Agenda and submits it to other officers for review at least one week in advance of the meeting.
- Acquires a working knowledge of Parliamentary Procedure by reviewing *Roberts Rules of Order*, acquires a working knowledge of Third Legacy Procedure and other Conference practices by reviewing the *A.A. Service Manual*.
- Becomes familiar with the role of the delegate and alternate delegate, and is prepared to act in their absence or if called upon.
- Responsible for the set-up, refreshments, and cleanup of the Area Assembly and Area Committee meetings; provides an adequate supply of agendas, sign-in sheets, and nametags at these meetings.
- Secures reservations for Area Assemblies and Events at the 12 Step Recovery Club no later than November and acts as liaison with management of the Club.
- Appoints various chairpersons for Area Workshops and Unity Day and insures the chair of these events understands the duties of the position.
- Assists in securing bids for the Area Open House and Gratitude Sunday by encouraging district to bid.
- Oversees security of Area office located at the Akron Intergroup Office, which may require occasional inventorying and locating missing equipment.
- Insures that Area videos and video equipment are in working order (with assistance of floor manager).
- At the Mini-Conference, takes an active role in planning and execution and stands ready to assist wherever needed; will chair the voting session.
- Is responsible for the master copy of the Area Guidelines and each year reviews the Area Guidelines to insure all motions or other changes have been incorporated. With the assistance of Area Officers and past delegates, reviews any changes before presentation to the Area Assembly.
- In keeping with the role as chair of all DCMs, appoints an ad-hoc committee each year to review dark and inactive districts in order to return them to active status.
- Participates in Ohio State Planning Committee, including attending planning meetings in May and November in Columbus, Ohio and at the Ohio State Convention.
- When Area 54 hosts the Ohio State or East Central Regional Convention, participates in the planning committee.
- When Area 54 hosts the East Central Region Forum, participates in the planning committee.
- Act as a liaison to a standing committee(s) as assigned by the delegate.
- Respond to communications with officers and the Area Committee in a timely manner.

Then I began to realize what an opportunity for me to get to know the DCM's better and to work more closely with their victories and struggles. I am already looking for YOUR ideas for Unity Day and ask you to email suggestions, etc. I have begun to talk about the need for districts to combine together for hosting our Open House Picnic. I am excited to say I have been attending the Ohio State Planning Meetings and realize that Northeast Ohio will be hosting in 2016. NE Ohio let's put on those thinking caps.

And finally I am reading and learning the Parliamentary Procedure by reviewing Roberts' Rules of Order. In addition, Bob McK. has volunteered to will help me with his "Rules."

Thanks for your faith in me to do this job but I will need YOUR help to get it done.

Love and Service,
Susan Robinson, Area Chair, Area 54, Panel 65

GROWTH THROUGH SERVICE

Hi, I am Ron O, and, by the grace of God, I have been sober since October 19, 2006. I entered the rooms of A.A. in a wheelchair and on oxygen. One of my very first A.A. acquaintances encouraged me to attend other meetings and get active as much as possible. He attempted to instill his enthusiasm in A.A. in me. He told me that service work would set me free. A few months later, I was using a walker, and later, I got off of oxygen. He taught me to stop looking down at the ground—to look up, to look around at nature's miracles. Soon after, I was able to put away the walker.

As I began to attend different meetings, I kept hearing about service work and all the different initials—GSR, IG Rep, DCM—but I didn't know what they meant I asked one home group about it, and they said they had an Intergroup Rep, but not a GSR and they didn't know what it was. They said they thought it was politics and they didn't deal in poli-

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Area Officer Reports

tics.

So I asked my other home group about a GSR and they said they would find out about it. Then I broke my right foot, was out recuperating, and during that time, I received a phone call from our treasurer telling me that I had been elected the GSR for our Y.O.U.R. Group. They then sent me to the Mini Conference and told me to come back and tell them what they did at the Conference.

That GSR position was the beginning of my personal growth in A.A. Service work expanded my ability make social contacts. I had been so isolated in my home for so long that I had lost the capability to make friends. Everything I did seemed to open up one service opportunity after another: volunteering at St. Thomas, chairing meetings at Glenwood Jail, opportunities to chair meetings at Glenbeigh Treatment Facility, becoming a DCM. Eventually, I became Co-Chair of the Special Needs Committee for Area 54, and Chairman of Akron Multi-District. The more I did, the more rewarding it was. Each situation provided an opportunity for me to learn more about myself.

I have learned about the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts.

The Service Manual describes how A.A. works on a daily basis, using the Twelve Concepts and the Twelve Traditions.

As each opportunity has presented itself, I attempted to learn as much as I could about the position and its responsibilities, how it fits into the A.A. structure, and how to work with people in related positions. Service work is a terrific opportunity to see A.A. at its best ... it is the wheels that keep the A.A. machine moving.

There is a place in A.A. service for anyone and everyone. From serving your local meeting making coffee and setting up tables, as the meeting chairperson, the GSR (General Service Repre-

sentative), at the district level DCM (District Committee Member), as a committee member in Area 54, or as a volunteer at St. Thomas. There are other service opportunities in other areas of A.A., more than enough to go around, to suit any and every ability and interest. If you want to grow in sobriety, get into service! It not only helps others, it helps you, too! Believe me, it will pay rewards you can't even imagine.

Ron O., Area 54, Panel 65
Mailing Secretary

Let me start by saying Happy New Year to everyone. I am very excited to begin my next journey in General Service serving as your Area 54 Recording Secretary. Also, I am equally excited to start working with the new panel and past panel members. I believe this opportunity to continue my service work will help me greatly as I continue to grow in my recovery.

I do have to have to admit that I am a little nervous, but I have a lot of support to call upon at the Area level, for instance, my service sponsor is very active at the Area level being the outgoing Delegate and now committee chair for Group Services. I know that the outgoing Area Recording Secretary will be a good support for me as well, and many others.

I want to thank everyone for their trust in my ability to do the job as Area Recording Secretary. I look forward to serving Area 54 Northeast Ohio and the whole of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Love and Service,
Tina C. — Recording Secretary
Panel 65, Area 54 — Northeast Ohio

Expanded Content (12pages!) and a Color-Enhanced version of this newsletter is now online at <http://area54.org/NEOHRecorder.html>

Northeast Ohio-Area 54 Elects New Delegate and Area Officers

Area Election Results

The Panel 65 Delegate and Committee of officers for Area 54 was elected on October 19th, 2014 in Brunswick, OH. These officers will serve for a two-year term, beginning January 1, 2015. Congratulations to all! A heartfelt thanks to all who were willing to stand for office.

NAME and POSITION

Calvin L. , Panel 63 Delegate	Susan R. , Area Chairperson	Tina C. , Recording Secretary
Jamie B. , Alternate Delegate	Shyrl B. , Area Treasurer	Ron O. , Mailing Secretary

Vote Tally from the Third Legacy Procedure

Standing for Delegate		Mailing Secretary		Recording Secretary	
Calvin L.	without opposition	Ron O.	39	Tina C.,	without opposition
		Gary C.	18		
Alternate Delegate					
	1st Ballot	2nd Ballot	3rd ballot	4th ballot	HAT
Jamie B.	30	28	27	28	Jamie
Susan R.	32	34	34	33	
Area Chairperson			Standing for Treasurer		
	1st Ballot	2nd Ballot		1st Ballot	
Nelson M.	5	3	Nelson M.	2	
Susan R.	37	44	Shyrl B.	43	
Tina C.	18	14	Wellington R.	16	



UPCOMING DATES FOR THE AREA AND BEYOND

NOTE THE DATE

January 18, 2015 **GV Lit sales**
Area Assembly **2:00 pm**

January 25 and February 22
Mini Conference planning meetings
DoubleTree Independence **2:00 pm**

February 13-15 — Bay City, MI
Conference of Delegates Past and Present

February 15
Workshop **2:00 pm**

March 6-8 — Mt. Sterling, OH
Area 53 CSEOH Mini-Conference

March 13-15 — Perrysburg, OH
Area 55 NWOH Mini-Conference

March 15
Area Assembly **2:00 pm**

March 20-22 — Dayton, OH
Area 56 SWOH Mini-Conference

March 27-29 **GV Lit sales**
40th NEOH Mini-Conference
DoubleTree Independence

April 19
Area Assembly **2:00 pm**

April 19-25 — New York, NY
65th General Service Conference

May 2—Columbus, OH **11:00 am**
Ohio State Convention Planning Meeting

May 17 **Lit sales**
Unity Day—Delegate's Conf Report **2:00 pm**

June 12-14 **GV sales Saturday only**
Founders' Day at Univ of Akron

June 21
Area Open House Picnic **TBA**

July 2-5—Atlanta, GA
80th anniversary International Convention of A.A.

July 19 **GV Lit sales**
Area Assembly **2:00 pm**

August 7-9—Cincinnati, OH
59th Ohio State Convention

August 16
DCM College **2:00 pm**

September 20
Area Assembly **2:00 pm**



September 24-27 — Independence, OH
National A.A. Archives Workshop

October 18 **GV Lit sales**
Area Assembly **2:00 pm**

November 7 — Columbus, OH **11:00 am**
Ohio State Convention Planning Meeting

November 13-15 — Milwaukee, WI
East Central Regional Forum, hosted by GSO and
Area 75 (S. Wisconsin)

November 22 **GV Lit sales**
Gratitude Sunday **TBA**

Unless otherwise noted, Area Assemblies & Workshops are held at The 12 Step Recovery Club, 1480 Pearl Rd., Brunswick, OH (on  about 1/4 mile south of route  Phone: (330) 273-7216



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.

Confidential Contact List

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 Visit us at <http://www.area54.org>

Summary of the General Service Conference Treasurer's Report and Literature Price Increase

At the Spring Assembly our Delegate, Mary Jo, asked me to review the finance presentation that was given at the 2014 General Service Conference (GSC) by the General Service Board Treasurer (GSB). I finished that daunting task and here is my report which at the end I will connect to the recently announced literature price increase and the very meager and selective literature shipping decrease.

At the end of 2013 our fellowship contributions were the highest in history to the GSB surpassing \$6.9 million. By the way this surpassed the previous highest amount which was set in 2012 of over \$6.5 million. Percentage of Groups contributing continues to decline reaching an all-time low of 42.5%.

Our General Service Office (GSO) provides two functions to our Fellowship. The first is the publishing of our literature through Alcoholics Anonymous World Service (AAWS) and services on behalf of the GSB and the GSC.

We will first look at the group services provided by GSO which are listed in the "A.A. Service Manual". In 2013 the costs of these services to the Groups were roughly \$9.5 million which was up about 2.7% from 2012. The 2013 group contributions fell short by about \$2.6 million in covering these costs or by about 27%.

On the other hand AAWS had net sales of \$12.6 million of literature in 2013 with costs associated to publish, distribute, and other services of about \$9.98 million. This resulted in excess revenue over expenses of about \$2.6 million. This excess was applied to the expenses of GSO, AAWS, and AAGV which resulted in a net profit for 2013 of about \$204,215 against a budgeted loss of \$726,340.

The pension benefit obligation plan had quite a few changes in 2013. The change in the discount rate from 3.88% to 4.76% during 2013 resulted in \$4.8 million reduction in the projected ben-

efit obligations or liabilities. In addition, the positive upward movement of the stock market in 2013 resulted in an annual investment gain of \$3.6 million or 18% growth. The combination of these two items resulted in the reduction in the unfunded status from \$10.4 million in 2012 to \$3.6 million in 2013. Further the Trustees Finance and Budgetary Committee recommended to the GSB that \$1.5 million be transferred from the Reserve Fund to the Pension Plan Asset Fund. This will further reduce the unfunded liability and has reduced the expense in 2014 to the asset plan fund by \$600,000.

The General Service Board Reserve Fund ended 2013 with a balance of \$15.3 million, equal to approximately 10.9 months of operating expenses. Giving effect to the transfer out of \$1.5 million to the Pension Plan and inflow of the Grapevine's contribution of \$260,000, the adjusted reserve Fund balance would be \$14.0 million, which translates into a reserve coverage ratio of 10.0 months. The 2014 GSB budget projects the ratio will be 9.4 months at December 31, 2014.

The GSB 2014 budget projects a 2014 profit of \$248,101. The GSB Treasurer concludes in his report to the GSC that based on the actions both taken and proposed, the operating organizations, Reserve Fund, and the outlook remains positive for the upcoming year. In the AAWS Highlights dated July 31, 2014 the total unaudited net income for AAWS for the first six months of 2014 is \$627,817. This profit is as a result of many things including the unbudgeted profit from the sale of the 75th anniversary edition.

On July 3, 2014 Bill N., AAWS Board Chair, and Phyllis H., General Manager of GSO, announced a literature price increase that will be effective October 1, 2014. The rationale given in their letter was "Our last price increase was on July 1, 2009, five years ago. We have had several reviews since then and were able to delay any action until now." On August 4, 2014 another

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Summary of the General Service Conference Treasurer's Report and Literature Price Increase

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er letter was received from Bill N. and Phyllis H. with further explanation of the price increase; "As you know, literature prices help to cover costs for services provided by the General Service Office. As we strive to become more self-supporting it is necessary for the Board to raise prices to maintain the level and quality of those services and the financial health and stability of the office." The new pricing schedule for October 2014 has been released and every piece of our literature has been increased, some by as much as 20%. If you include the price increase from 2009 the combined increase can be as high as 39% on certain pieces of our literature with the highest increases being applied to our "Big Book", "12x12", and "Daily Reflections"; our largest sellers to those of us doing 12 step work.

In the August 4th letter there was an announcement that shipping on orders up to \$50 would remain the same (\$10), but those orders of \$51 - \$500 would be lowered by a trivial 4%. Orders over \$500 would continue to be shipped at no charge to the purchaser, with the costs being absorbed from the profits of the literature.

After considering the budget presentation given to the Delegates at the GSC the question that comes to mind is; does it seem that our Office is in need of financial stability and help in maintaining the level and quality of services that a literature price increase of this scale is warranted? The GSB Treasurer very clearly pointed out that the Groups have increased contributions to the highest levels in history in 2012 and 2013. For the last two years there has been "excess revenue over expenses" or what we might call profit, even though losses were budgeted for each year.

The pension benefit obligation fund is in great shape, as is the Reserve Fund even to the point that an extra \$1.5 million could be applied to the Pension Asset fund from the Re-

serve Fund. In the closing remarks of the Treasurer's report no financial problems were acknowledged.

With the profits from the sale of the 75th Anniversary Edition (cost to produce is about \$3.54 vs cost of the book being \$12.00) and the increase of all literature sales that traditionally occur before a price increase goes into effect, the amount of unbudgeted excess revenue should be quite substantial at the end of 2014. If we sell one million Big Books (average over last five years) in 2015, the profit from those sales alone could be an additional \$1.5 million. Questions that could be asked are: What is the stated purpose for this additional profit and, Where will this money be used to help the alcoholic who still suffers?

The new GSB "Self-Support of the World Services of Alcoholics Anonymous" recently approved at the February Board meeting in 2014 states in part: "It is the policy of the General Service Board that income from literature sales should only be in amounts required to allow continued provision of vitally needed services and maintenance of a Reserve Fund." Does this literature price increase follow this Policy? Our "Big Book" talks about "spiritual progress will always come before economic security". *Has our General Service Board begun to adopt a "corporate" type of thinking to find economic security for our spiritual based Fellowship?* Our co-founder Bill W. warns us on many occasions that we should maintain an attitude of "corporate poverty".

My hope is that the Groups in Area 74 will use this information to discuss the literature price increase and was this price increase needed? Will this price increase help the A.A. member in Area 74 carry the message to the still suffering Alcoholic in Northern Wisconsin and the U.P. of Michigan? If this is a concern to the Groups then your GSR's should be bringing their questions and concerns to our Assembly for a full discussion and possible action.

With Love and Service to A.A.,
Contributed by Bob M., Area 74 (Northern Wisconsin and UPMI)