

The Northeast Ohio Recorder

January, February & March 2006

<http://www.aaneoh.org>

Volume XIX, Issue 1

UPCOMING
EVENTS

January 15, 2006 — Area Assembly

January 22 — Mini-Conference Planning Mtg—2pm at Holiday Inn Lakeshore

January 29—Snow delay for above date

February 10-12 — Dels/Past Dels Conf. Kenosha, WI

February 19 ~ Area Assembly

February 26 — Mini-Conference Planning Mtg—2pm at Holiday Inn Lakeshore

March 19 ~ Area Assembly

March 30, 31 & April 1
Area 54 Mini Conference,
Lakeshore Holiday Inn

Gv Denotes Grapevine Sales Days
Lit Denotes Literature Sales Days

**Unless otherwise noted, Area Assemblies & Workshops are held at:
The 12 Step Recovery Club
1480 Pearl Rd.,**

**Brunswick, OH (on US Route 42
about 1/4 mile south of
State Route 303)
330-273-7216**



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from the Delegate:

Hello Northeast Ohio Area 54

We have reached the end of 2005 and are marching into 2006. All of us your Area Officers were and are on that steep learning curve that never ends in Service to the whole, or our lives doing the dance of life the A.A. way.

The Passing of a Loved One and Trusted Servant

It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that I write this. Our Beloved friend and Area Treasurer Bill (William) J. passed on November 16, 2005 he was sober from March 11, 1998. All of us who had the honor of knowing Bill will miss him. The smile the sense of humor, the willingness to be there, and do what was needed of him without looking for personal glory or recognition.

I just want to say thank you again for the gift that was and is Bill he will always be in our hearts...

The following is from an E-mail Bill sent out a while ago it still fits today.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS was saddened to learn this week of the death of one of its members, *Someone Else*. *Someone's passing creates a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Someone Else had been with us for many years and did far more than one person's share of the work. Wherever there was a job to do, an activity to volunteer for, a committee meeting to attend, one name was on everybody's list: "Let Someone Else do it." It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among the largest contributors to AA. Whenever there was a financial need, everyone just assumed Someone Else would make up the difference. Someone Else sometimes appeared superhuman, but a person can only do so much. Were the truth known, everybody expected too much from Someone Else. Now Someone Else is gone. We wonder what we are going to do. We can't depend on Someone Else anymore. Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow -- but who is going to follow it? Who is going to do the things Someone Else did?*

Anonymous

reprinted with permission from the June 2002 AA Grapevine, page 49

I also want to send a word of Gratitude to all of the Past Delegates who have given guidance during this time and throughout the year. In addition, to all the members in Area54 Thank you for being here and all that you do. Your outpouring of love and thoughts for my family and I this last year has made a difference.

We are truly fortunate that Joe H. has stepped

forward and accepted the position of Area 54 Treasurer to complete Bill's term. I had the pleasure of serving with Joe on Panel 53, he was the Treasurer then and I know he will do an excellent job for us.

The ECR Forum was in Houghton, Michigan Bill, Jeff, Rose and I as well Bob Mc and Ed B traveled in a caravan of 3 vans. Skip (Alan D.) Area 55 was the wagon master now that is a job. The van we were in had people from Area 53, 55 and 56 the 3 other Areas in Ohio what a treat.

Rarely do we have the opportunity to be that close for such a length of time.

To say we were all a little slaphappy by the time we arrived would be putting it mildly. As always, the Forum was enlightening as well the opportunity to see our hardworking GSO staff again.

We will start this year with a bang February will find Jeff and me attending the Delegates / Past Delegates Conference in WI. March has The 4 Ohio Area Mini-conferences as well as our third Area Assembly of the year.

Our 31st Annual Mini-Conference will be held March 31-April 2-2006 at the Holiday Inn Select City Centre Lakeshore in Cleveland.

The Theme is "Sponsorship, Service and Self Support In a Changing World"

The Mini-Conference is a valuable tool for all of us and we need your experience, strength and hope in order to make this a success. This also allows me your Trusted Servant to go to the 56th General Service Conference with an informed Group Conscience. Planning meetings are Jan. 22nd and Feb.26th at the hotel. There are many opportunities to participate and it takes all of us to make this a success.

There are many other things coming up this year for all of us to become a part of so show up and sign on to becoming a part of a stronger Area 54 and AA as a whole. Area 54 will again have three workshops in 2006, A Committee workshop, DCM Workshop and GSR Workshop. Many of our committees are committees of one, talk to the Chairs help them become full committees see how rewarding the task is.

I am responsible for helping maintain the program so that the door will always be open. How Grateful am I that the door was open when I crawled in to the program.

Am I a good steward of all that has been given to me?

Live today to the fullest because tomorrow is not promised.

Love and Light to All
Yours in Service
Alice H.

Area Officer Reports

Alternate Delegate's Report

On November 16th, our dear friend and trusted Treasurer, Bill J., passed away. Bill's struggle with another chronic, progressive disease - diabetes - became fatal. It was a sobering moment for many of us; that could've been you or me.

"Yet we had been seeing another kind of flight, a spiritual liberation from this world, people who rose above their problems." - Alcoholics Anonymous, p 55. Let us take comfort in the thought that Bill has received his spiritual liberation from this world and has risen above his earthly problems.

As the Area makes this transition, I am gratified by the outpouring of comfort and support for those of us who were close to Bill. The past delegates have been an anchor in the storm, offering helpful guidance during this difficult time. "Trust the process," I was recently reminded at the East Central Regional Forum. Who knew that we would have such an opportunity to practice these principles so soon thereafter? Yet another good reason to have alternates and additional members on your committees. No one individual member of AA is indispensable, but we all benefit from full communication and cross-training whenever appropriate.

As of this writing, Joe H, our immediate past area treasurer has offered to help out. I know that Joe will work hard to provide a seamless transition. Please be patient, however, if your group's contribution doesn't appear on the yearly record - let us know immediately in a friendly way and we will make amends! Progress, not perfection. Love and tolerance is our code.

In other news, Alice and I will be traveling to Kenosha WI for the annual East Central Regional Delegates and Past Delegates conference. This event is sponsored by our region for the expressed purpose of training our first and second year delegates to be the very best trained delegates at the General Service Conference (GSC). As I found out last year, it's hard to sit and listen to all the past delegates' advice and constructive criticism without answering back, but this is good training for the GSC, when one must listen carefully and not jump to conclusions too quickly as one acts for

AA as a whole.

Remember, too, that we have Area assemblies in January, February and March. Check the Upcoming Events calendar on the front page to see date, times and places.

Area officers will be traveling to other areas of the state during weekends in March to participate and learn from other trusted servants as each area presents it's mini-conference on successive weekends. We are so blessed in Ohio to have this level of cooperation. Our four areas work well together partially as a result of these weekends together. I would recommend it as an inexpensive weekend opportunity to broaden your AA horizons. You can check the area website for details at <http://area54.org>

Our annual mini-conference will be held the weekend of March 31-April 2 at the Holiday Inn Select Lakeshore in downtown Cleveland. This location proved to have very easy to access from I-90, I-71 and I-77. I hope to see standing-room-only sessions every day there. This is the last best chance to give our delegate the input from your group conscience on the pressing issues of AA Worldwide. Don't pass up your opportunity to exercise your voice and your vote in AA!

Yours in Service,
Jeff

Hello-

Due to the death of our trusted servant Bill Johnson, Alice Heath, the Area 54 delegate, has asked me to take over the duties of Area 54 Treasurer. I am willing and grateful to be able to serve AA. I am a school teacher in the Wooster area and served as the Area treasurer of Area 54 for Panel 53 in 2003 and 2004. Any group contributions for Area 54 can continue to be sent to the same address that has been previously published: Northeast Ohio General Service, PO Box 91384, Cleveland, OH 44101

Thanks
Joe H
Wooster

The Passing of a Loved One and Trusted Servant...

It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that we inform you of the passing on of our friend Bill (William) J. Complications of diabetes overtook him on November 16th. He was 38 years old.

Bill served Alcoholics Anonymous well and fully since March 11, 1998. He served as treasurer of his home group, GSR, Dual District treasurer, Area Grapevine Committee chairperson, and most recently, as Area 54 Treasurer.

He was born on March 10, 1967 in Warren, OH. Bill was a graduate of Chalker High School and Kent State University. He was employed at Visions Security in Cleveland and had worked at Premix in Kingsville, Ohio for 13 years. He enjoyed playing the clarinet and repairing computers.

He is survived by his parents, "Bud" and Toby J., of Southington; maternal grandfather, Harry, of Warren; brother, Edward of Columbus and brother, S. Sgt. Eric J. of Valdosta, GA.

Funeral Services were held November 21, 2005, Warren, Ohio. Burial was in Crown Hill Burial Park, Vienna, Ohio.

A Memorial contribution to GSO in Bill's memory will be collected at the January assembly. Contributions to this fund may also be mailed to the Area Treasurer (Joe H.) marked "Memorial Fund". Make checks payable to the Area as usual and mail to POB 91384, Cleveland, Ohio 44101-1384

In loving memory, the members of
Committee 55, Area 54

Alice H
Jeff Y
Joe H
Dan F
Bob D
Rose M

*When anyone, anywhere
reaches out for help
I want the hand of AA
always to be there
And for that ...
I am Responsible*

Area Committee Reports

My AA Family,

Can't believe 2005 is almost over, and what a learning year it has been for me in this important role in A.A. Service. I've watched the rise and fall of our Columbiana County Intergroup, and my own district 13 is on shaky ground. I've come to realize a lot of problems in service work starts with that new person who just crawls through our and reaches out for help. It's all of our responsibility to give that new person the best we can give in A.A. I learned early in recovery, I can never be grateful enough for what A.A. has given me. To be grateful, you first must acquire a grateful heart, so a old timer named Mose told me a long time ago, and it took me a lot of years of pain and a quite a few spiritual retreats before I realized the secret to a grateful heart lies within all of us, by the Grace of God to be grateful for what our sobriety has given us and its better to give than receive!

The point I'm trying to make is, were not passing on everything A.A. has to offer, we have failed as sponsors and trusted servants if we don't get the importance of A.A. Service out from the group level, intergroup, district, region all the way to GSO and AAWS. I'm a third AA generation DCM, and I was taught if it isn't broke don't fix it! Owe it to those who came before us to carry the message of our Three Legacies! My progress has been slow and not a lot of cooperation, however I see a chance to build a couple multi-district in the Youngstown and Canton Area and to bring those dark districts into the light and God willing find some grateful souls to help pick up the torch of A.A. Service. I really feeling this goal could happen soon. also to use this time to talk about plans and ideas for some of the dark districts. I've called for a special district 13 reorganizing meeting, and I've extended a invitation to any area 54 trusted servants and any intergroup trusted servants to offer their input. I really believe this is all of our problem. The meeting is January 14, 2006 at the Alliance Arid Club on 421 Arch St. Alliance, Ohio at 6:00 pm sharp prior the regular Saturday Night A.A. meeting at the club. I urge all area dcms are welcome to attend, all gsr or alternates. We can use all the input we can get!

Well my friends that's all I have for now, I wish you all have a a bless and safe holiday.

Yours in Love and Service,

Walt W. DCM

District 13/Chair of the dark district of Area 54
330-332-5442



Hello

My Name is Dan F. and I am your Panel 55 Area Chair. On behalf of my Family and Myself I want to personally thank everyone who responded with calls of help and support during the period of time when my Mom became seriously ill and up until the time of her passing away on December 20th. I had 28 E-mails alone on my Yahoo E-mail address!!!

The flowers at her Memorial Service which was held on December 27, 2005 in Pittsburgh had visits from 22 AA members, and I haven't lived in that city for four years!!! All of the flowers that came to the funeral home were from our Delegate, the Area, and all others came from AA members (with one exception ,my Employer) in NE Ohio!!! God and Alcoholics Anonymous saved my life, but the support you all gave me during these trying times in my life will certainly help ease my grieving and I love you all for it.

Love and Service

Danny F.

Your Mailing Secretary

Business has been as usual. Two mailings have gone since I have last written. We are averaging 1200 pieces per mailing. Over the last three months, I have received over 150 updates and changes that were included in the November file sent to GSO. GSO has received the redistricting information and updates. However they appear to be backed up in workload and as of this date I have not received the return electronic file. I can't make any more updates until I receive this file. Upon receipt of the GSO file, I will enter all the updates you have forwarded since November.

Just a reminder that GSO updates

will be brought to home groups in January and February by the DCMs. It is important that these surveys are brought to home groups and filled out accurately and returned by the end of March. The information is reflected in the Eastern United States Directory.

In reporting the number of home group members, it is important to count a person only once. If an individual has more than one home group, it is critical that they are only counted in one group. If you have several attendees, in a group but only an active core, count only the active core. Do not count the inactive members on your roster.

The inflated census taken from these updates/surveys in the past has shown large number of members. The census causes a complication when the dollars donated are calculated with the inflated membership numbers and results in Northeast Ohio being second lowest in the US in donations. We in service know this is not true. Your critical attention to the correct unduplicated number of home group members is necessary to get our census accurate.

I do miss my friend, Bill J., who showed me a great deal about principles before personalities.

Thanks to Akron multi-district for hosting Gratitude Sunday and welcoming us all.

Love & Service

Bob D.

Mailing Secretary/Registrar

RECOVERY, UNITY AND SERVICE

These are the Three Legacies of our AA experience. Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern. God, as He may speak in 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, GSR's 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.

Your Trusted Servants Committee 55

Alice H., Delegate
Ashtabula, OH 44004

Jeff Y., Alternate Delegate
Cleveland Heights, OH 44121

Dan F., Chairperson
Bedford, OH 44146

Rose M., Recording Secretary
Massillon, OH 44646

Joe H., Treasurer
Cleveland, OH 44101

Bob D., Mailing Secretary
Orwell, OH 44076

Committee Chairpersons 2005-2006

Committee Name	Chairperson & Address
Archives	Richard U , Chair Geneva, OH 44041
	Bob M, Archivist South Euclid, OH 44121
Correctional Facilities	Rick C Spencer, OH 44275
Cooperation with the Professional Community	Karen F. Cleveland, OH 44103
Finance	Jamie B Cleveland Hts, OH 44118
Grapevine	Ed B. Cleveland, OH 44113
Group Services	Dan M Chardon, OH 44024
Literature	Terry M Canton, OH 44710
Newsletter	Rob S. Akron, OH 44312
Public Information	Klaus K Newburgh Hts OH 44105
Special Needs	David R Cleveland Hts., OH 44106
Treatment Facilities	Clarence G Cleveland, OH 44103

Visit the NE Ohio Area 54 Internet Website at



<http://www.aaneoh.org>