

The Northeast Ohio Recorder

July, August, September 2000

www.aaneoh.org

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UPCOMING EVENTS

July 16 2pm
DCM Workshop
August 20 2pm
GSR Workshop
September 17 2pm
Third Legacy Meeting
October 13th-15th
State Convention
Sandusky, Ohio
October 15th 2pm (approx.)
Third Legacy Meeting
Elections of Delegate and
Officers
To be held immediately
following State Convention
November 19th 2pm
Gratitude Sunday
Location to be announced

(unless noted) All 3rd Legacy
Meetings and Workshops are held
at:
The 12 Step Recovery Club
1480 Pearl Rd., Brunswick, Ohio
(on State Route 42 about 1/4 mile
south of State Route 303, next to
the Bowling Alley)



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from the Delegate

Hello Northeast Ohio:

The fantastic experience of the International Meeting will be a thing of the past by the time you get this newsletter. This will have been my first opportunity to attend one and the anticipation is like a natural high for me as I write this article.

Several of us from Area 54 have been honored to be selected to speak at several functions of this International. Plus we will be manning the East Central Region Hospitality room as well.

My health is improving, even though I had to have an additional surgery in May. As I write this we have two other Panel members in poor health. Helen injured her knee and has been out of commission since April. Bob 'Who' has had another eye surgery but has gotten an infection in the eye so he will be laid up for 4 to 6 weeks as well. He hopes to be able to see when this is all over with. Please keep them in your prayers and maybe send them an encouraging e-mail as well.

Intensive planning for the Ohio State Convention has begun in earnest. Committees have been formed and are looking for workers to assist in making this an event to remember here in Northeast Ohio. There are three more major planning meeting

yet to happen. They will be the last Sunday in each month, July, August and September. The July meeting will be in South Cleveland and the other two will be held at the Holiday Inn in Sandusky.

The Phone numbers and e-mail addresses of all involved are found on the back page of this newsletter. So you can call or write for more information on when and where we will be meeting. There is a flyer for the State Convention in the mailing with this newsletter. Please register early and often.

July will mean a DCM Workshop on the 16th at Brunswick.. In August there will be the GSR Workshop as well on the 20th. The Third Legacy Meeting will be in September in Brunswick and the October Election Meeting will be at the Hotel in Sandusky immediately after the closing of the Ohio State Convention.

Hope to see you all at any of these functions. Enjoy the summer!

**In Love and Service,
Rob Sebastian
Delegate Area 54, Panel 49**



Alt. Delegate Report

Hello Northeast Ohio

By the time you read this article, the International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous will be over. I am proud to say that your Area 54 was well represented. Rob Sebastian, Bob McKimm, and Bob Ellenberger will be part of the hospitality crew for the East Central Region. Bob McKimm will be speaking for the Region. Carolyn Nolden of Cleveland VA Saturday Group will be speaking on the panel "Women in AA", and I have the honor of chairing the panel on "The African American or Black Experience in AA". Bob and Gail will be presenting Archives. Loads of us will be attending and wishing that all could be there. Look forward to an exciting report upon our return.

Being of service has been the greatest sustainer of recovery for me. Helping others and allowing others to help me has proven to be awesome in that it allows me to remain humble and grateful for this wonderful fellowship. Our three legacies, Unity, Recovery, and Service live inside of me today and have allowed me the opportunity to share myself with others worldwide.

Bill W. says it better than I ever could. He says in As Bill Sees It:

"Faith without works is dead." How appallingly true for the alcoholic! For if an alcoholic fails to perfect and enlarge his spiritual life through work and self-sacrifice for others, he cannot survive the certain trials and low spots ahead. If he does not

work, he will surely drink again, and if he drinks, he will surely die. Then faith will be dead indeed."

Enough said!

May you all continue to have a wonderfully sober summer.

**Humbly,
Tina Hobson, Alternate
Delegate**

District News

Akron Area Multi-District

There will be no Akron Area multi-district meetings held throughout the summer. The next meeting will convene in September. The multi-district is seeking interested parties to fill all service positions, including Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.

Please email me at:
marchwind77@hotmail.com

I will resign at the September meeting as Chair.

**In Service,
Dawn Deinzer
Chair and Treasurer**

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

Committee Reports

Corrections

Hello NE Ohio

To any one who may be interested in the participating on, learning about or assisting the Correctional Facilities Committee, we will meet on July 16, 2000 at 1:00 pm, just prior to the DCM Workshop in Brunswick. Please try to attend.

**In Service,
Rob Watling
Correction Facilities Chair**

Special Needs

Hello, everyone!

I have set up a java chat room for the online meetings, until I can get a chat room setup that everyone can use. If you want to attend meetings in the AAWOL meeting room, your web browser must be java-enabled. The URL, address of the room is:
<http://thunder.prohosting.com/~jill84/aawol.html> .

Meetings are held Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 8:00 pm ET. Thursday night is a step study. If you arrive early, please wait, there is usually someone there for all meetings.

Hope to see you soon! Consider yourself hugged!!

**In Service,
Jill Siegel, Chair**

Committee Reports

Archives

Hello NE Ohio,

We're completing an Ohio project board for general functions, related facilities events, etc. It will be first displayed at the East Central Regional Hospitality room in Minneapolis June 29th through July 2, 2000.

Three of us, including: Gail La Croix, Bob McKimm and Rob Sebastian, will be filling 2-hour stretches as volunteers at the GSO Archives display at the International Convention in Minneapolis the same weekend.

I participated in the Founders' Day tours at the Akron Intergroup Office. I shared a history of the events leading up to A. A.'s beginning in 1935 to the 600 visitors who visited the office. Each group consisted of about a dozen people.

Press releases went out to four of the area's major newspapers about the upcoming Minneapolis/St. Paul International Convention, contrasting it with the 1st Convention held in Cleveland 50 years ago.

I have nearly completed indexing the state archives display items. Additional submissions and/or additional help is always appreciated. For anyone interested in assisting the Archives Committee, or just to sit in and listen, we meet one hour prior to start each of the area assemblies.

**Yours In Service,
Bob McKimm
Archives Chair
Past Delegate, Panel 47**

Finance

Greetings NE Ohio,

This month I will try to cover Group Finances. Probably one of the most forgotten offices in an AA Group is the treasurer. This should not be true. The treasurer usually gets less input about what their responsibilities are than any other position. Sometimes we make it too tempting for the treasurer by not requesting reports, or accounting, not rotating the office, and occasionally allowing the treasurer to take the attitude, "I am in control of the money". This is primarily due to the fact that there is no guidance. A good pamphlet to read is The AA Group, in which the duties of the treasurer are described. Another good reading is the AA Guidelines entitled Finances.

We should remember that when people put money in the donation basket they are expecting the money to go for the good of AA. I personally choose to put a little more in a group's basket if I know they are struggling, yet still using their money for AA purposes. I have been known to hold back a little if I know the group hardly ever contributes anything to the various AA entities outside of the group itself. This is an individual choice. Bill W. always stated that: "ultimately the groups control the various entities of AA, as they hold the power of the purse."

At a recent Area Conference a suggestion was made in a Finance session that the groups should take a close look at how money is divided up. Maybe the

50/30/10/10 plan is not best for each group. Some of the Intergroups and Central Offices in NE Ohio are struggling to keep their doors open. Some have enough to pass on to other AA entities. Some districts fund answering services, picnics, provide jail material and also need extra funds to carry the message. NE Ohio only budgets \$200 per committee per year. The only way for a group member to be aware of this activity and need is an active GSR and Intergroup Representative. If these are not working, a small committee can be formed in the group to learn about these needs and how to contribute.

Last, once a group has decided on a donation plan **after** group expenses are met and allowance of a prudent reserve fund, the treasurer should distribute this money on a regular basis. These amounts can be adjusted by the group as necessary whenever the need arises. Please remember that more groups have been ruined by too much money than not enough.

This being my third article, I have yet to receive a comment. If you have any comments please call me (330) 336-2308. Remember each group is autonomous so long as they follow the traditions of AA and do not effect other groups or AA as a whole.

**Yours In Service,
Briar Adams, Finance Chair**

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

Your Trusted Servants Committee 49

Rob Sebastian, Delegate
261 Schrop Avenue #1
Akron, OH 44312-1204
Home: (330) 733-7319 Fax: (330) 733-7365
E-Mail: rsebas@aol.com

Tina Hobson, Alternate Delegate
7830 Harvard Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44105-3939
Home: (216) 271-3411
E-Mail: CleveAA89@aol.com

Helen Kowalski, Chairperson
2812 Cleveland Avenue SW Lot #88
Canton, OH 44707-3666
Home: (330) 484-0991
E-Mail: grandmaski@neo.rr.com

Bob Ellenberger, Recording Secretary
109 Mackey Street
Hubbard, OH 44425-1650
Home: (330) 534-2944
E-mail: Bobewho@aol.com

Emmett Spears, Treasurer
3634 East 112th Street
Cleveland, OH 44105-2535
Home: (216) 341-7544
E-mail: ESpears208@aol.com

Dan Mix, Mailing Secretary
P.O. Box 283
Huntsburg, OH 44046
Voice Mail: (216) 670-4397
E-mail: danmix@nls.net

Committee Chairpersons 1999-2000

Committee Name	Chairperson & Address	Telephone E-Mail
Archives	Bob McKimm, Chairman 3378 Washington Blvd. Cleveland, OH 44118-2541	(216) 321-2534 bobmckimm@compuserve.com
	Sandra Stack, Archivist 1220 Donald Ave. Apt #18 Lakewood, OH 44107-2861	(216) 228-6444 SStack086@aol.com
Correctional Facilities	Rob Watling, Chair 354 Cloverdale Ave. Akron, OH 44302-1615	(330) 434-1232 RWATLINGJR@aol.com
Cooperation with the Professional Community	Judy Durham, Chair 1364 Rosa Parks Drive Cleveland, OH 44106-1414	(216) 761-7142
Finance	Brian "Briar" Adams 4273 Greenwich Road Norton, OH 44203-5435	(330) 336-2308
Grapevine	Mo Mosyjowski, Chair 218 Swartz Road Akron, OH 44319-1115	(330) 724-5115
Literature	Chuck Kirby, Chair 103 Woodland SE Massillon, OH 44646-8159	(330) 837-9663 cmd@raex.com
Newsletter	Dan Mix, Editor P.O. Box 247 Chagrin Falls, OH 44022-0247	(216) 670-4397 danmix@netzero.net
Public Information	Mike Tomlin, Chair 4570 Hawthorne Ave. Sheffield Lake, OH 44054-1353	(440) 949-5664 mustangmike@centuryinter.net
Special Needs	Jill Siegel, Chair 355 Solon Road #409 Chagrin Falls, OH 44022	(440) 247-7664 jes1126@access.webcombo.net
Treatment Facilities	Joey Ruffin, Chair 846 Broadway Apt 104 Bedford, OH 44146-3663	(440) 439-6865

Visit the NE Ohio Area 54 Internet Website at



<http://www.aaneoh.org>