

The Northeast Ohio Recorder

April, May & June 2003

www.aaneoh.org

Volume XVII, Issue II

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 4, 5, 6
28th Mini Conference
Hudson Holiday Inn
Hudson, OH

May 18
Area Assembly Meeting
Brunswick, OH

June 6, 7 & 8
Founder's Day
Akron University
Akron, OH

June 22
Area Open House
The West Woods
Russell, OH

Unless noted, Area Assembly Meetings & 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)



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from the Delegate:

Greetings NE Ohio,

Upon receipt of this edition of the newsletter I will be in my final preparations for attending the 53rd General Service Conference in New York City. I've been invited a day early to present the City of Cleveland for consideration as a host of the 2015 A.A. International Convention. This is part of a bidding process that takes many months of research and planning on the part of our General Service Office and the Cleveland Conventions and Visitors Bureau. I would personally like to thank the members of the bidding committee, the staff at Cleveland CVB, the Cleveland District Office, Akron Intergroup and Lorain County Central Office for their assistance making this bid possible.

My assignment at the 53rd GSC is the Conference Literature Committee. Traditionally this committee has had the largest agenda, and this year is no exception. As a first year Delegate I will have an opportunity to present highlights of Area 54 to the conference attendees. Here is the presentation of highlights I will make on behalf of the members of NE Ohio:

Area 54 is composed of nearly 1400 groups in 64 districts, an estimated 22,000 members. In addition to the Delegate and Alternate Delegate there are four Area officers and ten standing committees. We are very fortunate to have many active Past Delegates who offer their guidance and wisdom. Each year we hold six Area Assemblies, a GSR workshop, a DCM workshop and a Committees workshop to conduct business and share our experience, strength and hope. We have a summer picnic

and a fall dinner to celebrate sobriety and express our gratitude for this way of life. Just prior to the General Service Conference we hold a Mini-Conference to give our Delegate the informed group conscious on selected agenda items and to allow our members to personally experience the committee system and a voting conference.

The NE Ohio Recorder is our quarterly newsletter aimed at keeping our groups updated on service activities and contact information. Our website (<http://www.aaneoh.org>) provides information to members and meeting schedules for new prospects. Along with the other 3 Delegate Areas in Ohio we participate in planning and hosting the Ohio State Convention. We also participate with the 14 Delegate Areas of the East Central Region in planning and hosting the East Central Regional Convention.

There are eight Central Office and Intergroups in NE Ohio. In the past few years we have seen barriers between the Area and these local offices removed through cooperative efforts. Our greatest challenge is keeping our groups active in service and practicing the Seventh Tradition. This fact is plainly illustrated by the low contribution rate of our groups to GSO. This Area Committee stands prepared to assist groups in addressing problems and fostering harmony amongst our groups. I am honored to have the opportunity to represent the groups of NE Ohio and grateful to be a member of AA, the fellowship that saved my life.

In Love and Service,
Dan M, Panel 53 Delegate



Hello Family:

I have had the opportunity to travel to some neighboring cities and states for work related purposes. I find myself in hotels in strange cities and all the people are strangers. Ah-ha - that is not really the case at all.

The Eastern Regional Directory has been a wonderful gift to me in my travels. I have found planning for these business trips may still have me in hotels in strange cities but now I have AA family at the dial of a telephone.

I went to a meeting once by taxi because I didn't know when my first day of my business trip would end. When I got to the AA meeting and introduced myself as an out of town guest everyone after the meeting came up to me and offered me rides, their telephone numbers and invited me to return the next day. I returned the next day in a taxi. I have to tell you, I knew I was home then, because everyone was very disappointed I didn't call them for a ride and they made sure I knew that. I can assure you the following day I used the telephone numbers I was given, and I arranged for a ride to and from the meeting from a wonderful AA.

Just a few weeks ago I had the good fortune to attend an AA Mini-Conference in Area 53. It was a weekend event similar in format to the Mini-Conference we in Area 54 host. Again, the AA family there welcomed me, shared their experience, strength and hope. The love for AA and Service was an overwhelming feeling. By practicing patience, kindness, tolerance and love among ourselves we were able to agreeably disagree on matters, whether resolved we remained open minded and willing throughout the weekend.

The experience I shared at the beginning about traveling to out of town is an example to me as to WHY service is so important in AA. What if we didn't guard our traditions and there was no more unity? What would I have found when I went out of town?

Service is so important. Not only for the newcomer, but for each and every person that is looking for a solution to the common problem - alcoholism. Just because we have recovered doesn't mean we can stop. We have to maintain our sobriety in order to give it away. And for me, the experience, strength and hope those that have walked ahead of me have shared proves we must be in personal recovery, strive for group unity so that we may serve AA as a whole.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Mini-Conference at the Hudson Holiday Inn on April 4th, 5th, and 6th.
Peace & Serenity,
Linda S.

Finance

Report on Area 54 Group Contributions to GSO 2002

Even though the percentage of Group Contributions in 2002 was up to 23.2% from 21% in 2001 we are still well below anything like self support.

As of the end of December 2002 of the 1395 Groups Registered with GSO only 317 Groups contributed to GSO.

If you believe your group contributed but it isn't shown it may be that not enough info was provided.

One very important thing to remember is to put the correct Area 54 District # and Group service number for your group on the check as well on the place provided on the envelopes.

Today as you hear the number of groups per districts that had participated in contributions to our General Service Office, think of the many valuable services that we are not helping with. If you are a multi District Chair or Officer of Multi District and some of the DCM's in your districts are not here today please pick up the reports for those Districts.

If there is not a DCM or Alt. DCM here from the District you are in and you are an Officer of that District or a Committee Chair or GSR please come up and look at the Groups in your District that are practicing the Seventh Tradition.

Pick up the Pamphlet *Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix* and some envelopes to take back to the groups.

Go back to your groups and ask them about your contributions to GSO, Area, Etc.

Alice H.
Alternate Delegate

General Service Workshop

The Multi Districts of 29, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36 & 45 are proud to present ***Your General Service*** in a Workshop atmosphere.

Carl B. Stokes
Social Service Mall
6001 Woodland Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio

**Saturday
May 17, 2003**

1PM until 4PM

Bob McK will present *The History of the Twelve Traditions*.
Lewis E. will present *The responsibilities of a Chairperson*.
Carolyn C. will present *Coming into Service as a GSR*
Michael T. will present *Moving from GSR to DCM*.

Refreshments will be served

For additional information please call:

Greg J. 216-346-0733

Or

Clarence G. 216-426-0366

Come one and all and learn something about giving back what was so freely given to you.

Service Is The Secret



Corrections

Officer Reports

Archives

Thanks to those who attended the Committee meeting this afternoon MaryAnn W., Tina H., Russell W. and Peter McH.

The Bridging the Gap Workshop will be held September 12-14, 2003 in Rosemont, IL.

The Brighton Hotel chain has been contacted to supply information needed for the 2005 BTG Workshop that we will be bidding on.

Cleveland P.O. Boxes are at a premium, I have made attempts for two months to secure a CFC P.O. Box, I will keep trying

Plans will begin soon for the 2nd Annual CFC all day workshop to be held later this summer or early fall.

Please see Maryann W. or me if you would like to volunteer to help out.

To help cut down on hotel expenses we will need volunteers to provide pastries.

GSO has referred one NEO inmate to us. Kevin S. has contacted the inmate that is at the Grafton Correctional Institution.

Persons who are involved in going to prisons or jails should let the committee know so that you can be recognized for your efforts.

The Turning Point Group in Mansfield is doing extremely well, at the direction of Peter M., Peter is doing a marvelous job of bringing in speakers for the guys. He is even doing 5th steps with them. Peter thanks for a job well done especially since my job has prevented me from traveling with you the past few months. Let the guys know that I really miss them.

New volunteer forms and guidelines are now being distributed for entrance into Mansfield. Contact Peter or me and we will mail you a packet or email Bradley W. at Bradlev.Wise@odrc.state.oh.us Brad is our friend in need and indeed at the prison.

We request that the CPC Committee put together a packet for us to present to Correctional Facilities administrators and staff, something compact that we can carry around with us.

The committee will most likely submit a request for GSO to update the current video "Sure Beats Sitting In a Cell" to reflect our current population.

The Cleveland Corrections Workshop will be held at the Forest City AA Club on Saturday May 17, 2003.

Russ is going into: CBCF, Grafton, Lorain County Jail, Northcoast Correctional and Treatment, Elyria City Jail.

Our newest committee member Dennis P. is currently corresponding with an inmate at St. Clairesville. He also has shared his ESH at the Stark County jail, Indian River and Faircrest Institutions.

Greeting to Northeast Ohio Area 54

First I want to thank you all for the support you have given us, as we learn the positions of trusted servants that you elected us to serve in for Area 54.

As your trusted servant I have had the opportunity of traveling to and meeting with some of the Districts, DCMs and GSRs in the Area.

I am really looking forward to seeing and meeting more of you at the Third Legacy meetings. Please remember that I am only a phone call or email away.

We have a lot of exciting things coming up in the next few months. The Mini-Conference in April will be over by the time this is published. Our Delegate Dan Mix will be better informed of Area 54s conscious when he attends The General Service Conference in New York.

In June we will have our Area 54 Open House Picnic great food, fellowship and Speaker. The Committee Workshop is June 29th. July 13th brings the DCM Workshop and the East Central Regional Forum July 18, 19 & 20th in Columbus Indiana. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more. August 17th is our GSR Workshop. There will also be a Correctional Workshop coming up.

As an Area we have improved a little in contributions however only 317 Groups of 1395 made a contribution to GSO. Please remember that we are all part of the whole. It isn't the amount as much as it is in the action.

If we contribute Five Dollars (\$5) or the Birthday plan One Dollar (\$1) for each year of Sobriety or \$2 for each year our Home Group has been a part of Alcoholics Anonymous. Then we will truly be on the road to **Self Support through Our Own contributions.**

How Grateful am I?

Alice R. Heath
Alternate Delegate

Our Archivist, Bob M., has been busy organizing the storage shelves to make more room to better hold the Area's Archival Holdings. If anyone feels up to volunteering to assist Bob, he is always very entertaining and very educational to be around.

We have posted new area and regional maps of US & Canada outside the office. People touring the Inter-group may find the maps educational.

Oral histories are keeping us busy. We are setting up voice recognition software to help speed up the transcribing process. If anyone has experience they would like to share with us, we always try to remain teachable.

Last but not least for this newsletter, we are trying to get the 2015 International Convention in Cleveland. That is history in the making.

Yours in Love & Service,
Kevin S.
Archives Committee 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 hopes and our work.

Your Trusted Servants Committee 53

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Visit the NE Ohio Area 54 Internet Website at <http://www.aaneoh.org>