

# The Northeast Ohio Recorder

April, May and June 2005

<http://www.aaneoh.org>

Volume XVIII, Issue 2

## UPCOMING EVENTS

April 1-3 - 30th Mini-Conference  
Holiday Inn Lakeside *Gv Lit*  
1111 Lakeside Ave.  
Cleveland, Ohio

April 17 - Committees Workshop

May 15 - Area Assembly *Lit*

June 10 - 11 *Gv* - 12  
Founders' Day Weekend  
Akron University, Akron, OH

June 26 - Open House Picnic  
Location **TBA**

*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

These first few months have been a learning time as well as busy. I will be serving on the Treatment Facilities Committee at the 55th General Service Conference in New York later this month. Jeff Y. and I attended the Delegates/ Past Delegates Conference in Detroit, Michigan. Mary B. Past Delegate Panel 39 rode with us and I was able to gain a lot of insight and information as well as a calming effect from her. Bob McK., Panel 47, Rob S., Panel 49 and Dan M., Panel 53 also attended and they too are a wealth of information. This was not the first time I was there, however I felt so humbled and overwhelmed when introduced as Panel 55 Delegate for Area 54 looking up and seeing them allowed me to continue and reminded me of all the lessons yet to learn.

Your Area Officers Jeff Y., Dan F., Rose M., Bill J., Bob D. and myself have traveled to Areas 53, 55 and 56 to attend their Mini-Conference.

We will have held our 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Mini-Conference by the time you receive this mailing. You will have given me the best possible informed Area Conscience. In addition, you have had the experience of meeting and sharing with the 11 standing Committee Chairs. My hope is that a new understanding of the crucial role that is fulfilled by these Committees will prompt some to join them in carrying the AA message of HOPE.

The following are Area 54 Highlights that I will present as a first year Delegate at the 55 General Service Conference.

Area 54 consists of 20 Counties and over

10,000 square miles; the largest and smallest Geographic Counties in the State are located here. We are home to over 1450 registered Groups in 62 Districts, including a Spanish district at large, also 10 intergroups & district offices. The Area also has a website, with a GSR fact file, scheduled events, districts & boundaries and how to reach any of the officers or committee chairs. Of the 11 standing committees 3 have Past Delegates as the Chairperson; The newest Committee is Group Services, we believe this is going to be a valuable tool not just for the Area but the Service structure as a whole, by informing and teaching about the Third Legacy we can only grow stronger. (We don't know what we don't know) The challenge remains to get and keep groups active as well as practicing the Seventh Tradition. Each of our six Area Officers serves as a liaison to two or more of the 11 Committees. We offer 3 workshops, Committee, DCM and GSR in addition to our 6 Area Assemblies, there is also an Area Open House Picnic and in November a dinner to express our Gratitude to the program, and these 2 move around to various Districts in the Area.

We are hosting our 30th Annual Mini-Conference based on the General Service Conference. It allows all AA members an opportunity to see the process at work using some of the actual Agenda items, more information leads to a better understanding. This also allows your Delegate to have an informed Area group conscience when they attend the Conference We also get to hear reports from our invited guests usually Past Delegates and the East Central Regional Trustee who covers 14 Delegate Areas in 5 states including the 4 in Ohio as well as a speaker from General Service Office.

I feel so honored and grateful (a drunk like me) to serve Alcoholics Anonymous and Area 54 along side all the dedicated Committees, Officers and Past Officers. Thank you for my life

Yours in Love and Service  
Alice H.  
Panel 55 Delegate

## Area Officer Reports

### Report on 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Delegates and Past Delegates of the East Central Region Conference, February 11-13, 2005 – Southfield, MI

I accompanied Alice H. to the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Delegates and Past Delegates Conference this past weekend in Detroit. Past delegates in attendance from our Area were Dan M, Rob S, Bob McK, and Mary B.

Background materials in handbook format were passed out to each of the Panel 55 incoming delegates and their alternates. I learned that our first delegate in our area was Bill D (the “man on the bed” – AA Number 3). Our second delegate was Ethyl M, whose story “From Farm to City” appeared in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> editions of the Big Book. Friday evening included presentation of the area highlights from each of the eight incoming Panel 55 delegates and conference highlights from each of the region’s six Panel 54 delegates. Saturday we heard reports from Eva S, and Dorothy M, our ECR trustee. Eva presented a report on the recent activities of all the GSO staffers.

CPC desk (Rick W) is coordinating 60 exhibits at professional conferences around the U.S. this year. Our website is receiving 60-75 inquiries from professionals every month.

PI desk (Gail S-R) is working on the 2004 Membership Survey in preparation for approval at the 55<sup>th</sup> GSC. Our area was selected as one of the survey samples and late last year, I had the privilege of surveying two groups in my neighborhood. There has been a multitude of inquiries to Gail around the 2005 International Convention from the media. She will be staffing a press room at the convention, setting up interviews with Class A Trustees, issuing press releases, and briefing the press on our policy of anonymity at the level of press, radio, film and other electronic media. 2005 International Convention (Doug R) reports that over 25,000 AAs and AI-Anons have registered for Toronto from 70 countries, including for the first time, members from Cuba, China, and

Mongolia.

Literature desk (Mary D) with our newest staff member, Mary D, reports that Croatia has opened its first Central Office. A Latvian translation of the Big Book is at the printer. A translation in Zulu is in distribution.

Treatment Facilities and Loners Internationalists Meeting (Irene K) reports that three groups have registered from coalition force military bases in Iraq. Conference desk (Eva S) reports that this year, delegates will have the option of receiving the Conference agenda on CD-ROM. The full printed agenda is 493 pages long.

Introductions of the candidates for ECR Trustee and Trustee-at-Large U.S. were made by the delegates of their home areas. There are seven candidates for our regional Trusteeship and five candidates from ECR for the US At-Large position. Election of these trustees will occur at the 55<sup>th</sup> GSC in April. Our own Robert McK.(47/54) was introduced by Alice H and given two minutes to address the body. Bob reminded us that “Ours is not a business doing spiritual work, but rather [ours] is a spiritual entity which must, of needs, conduct some business.”

Saturday evening, Eva S was the speaker after the banquet. She shared a wonderful combination of experience, strength and hope for all present.

The Ohio State Convention planning committee comprised of officers from Ohio’s four delegate areas met over breakfast and reviewed plans for the 2005 State Convention to be held in Columbus, August 12-14, hosted by Area 53.

Sunday morning was given over to a mock conference experience complete with committee recommendations, floor mikes and friendly amendments. I realized how well our own mini-conference mirrors this experience. Northeast Ohio will be hosting this conference in our Area in February 2007. As we learned from one of the delegates on Saturday,

Jeff Y., Panel 55 Alternate Delegate

## Area Chairperson

Hi Everyone,

My name is Danny F. and I am your Area 54 Chairperson (Panel 55). This is a busy time of the year on the AA Service Calendar!! The springtime gives us all an opportunity to review the Agenda Items that are brought to the floor at The General Service Conference.

With the Agenda Items you were provided with, as well as the Mini-Conference we held in April, you were given all the tools and ammunition you needed to take back to your Groups and make them an “informed Group Conscience “

I have been very fortunate to surround myself or gravitate to the “Winners “in AA the past few “24 Hours” as a member. I am grateful to my AA Service” friends” who have tried to help me understand the Traditions and how they work. I think Bill W. said it best when he described our 12<sup>th</sup> Step and carrying the message is our principal aim and the main reason for our existence .

I realized a long time ago that our “two “ greatest paradoxes in AA are that you have to” Surrender to Win” and you have to” Give away your Sobriety in order to Keep It”.

Love and Service  
Danny F.  
Area Chairperson

## Area Committee Reports

### Message from Mailing Secretary

The group change forms were at the February Assembly. I hope you picked some up. I have received several but really expect to receive more.

All group changes must be in by April 1 to be included in the next edition of the Eastern United States Directory. It would be disappointing if someone from out-of-town looked in the Directory and did not have the correct information to get to a meeting or to talk to another alcoholic when they were in need.

I want to thank all the people who have continued to helped me in this new endeavor. Thanks to Dan, Jeff, Rob and Alice.

The Dual District of 23 and 39 supported me in my tenure of DCM and I leave Dual District in good and capable hands. Thanks for your continued support.

Love and Service  
Bob D.,  
Mailing Secretary/Registrar

## Committee Workshop

April 17, 2005

All Committee Chairs will present useful information on how to painlessly get involved in Area Service Meets at the usual time in Brunswick

### Grapevine Chair

My name is Ed B. and I am the new Grapevine Chairperson for Panel 55. I would like to thank Area 54 for allowing me to serve in this position. My sobriety date is May 1, 1989. I started attending the Area Assembly Meetings when they were being held in Mantua, OH. My Homegroup is the Springbrook Saturday Night Group where I first became the GSR and started attending the Cleveland Multi-District Meetings. I started coming back to the Area Assembly Meetings in Brunswick, OH. In 2003 I attended the East Central Regional Forum in Columbus, Indiana where I sat in on a workshop about the Grapevine. I decided at that time that I wanted to become more involved with the Grapevine - I began working with the Area Grapevine Chair to see what I could do to help, I began helping set-up the Grapevine display, reading the Grapevine Handbook, and I began my training for the position that I have today. I am not a committee of one and I will be continually seeking your support and help with Carrying the Message of the Grapevine.

Yours in Service,  
Ed B.  
Grapevine Chair

If you were on trial for being a member of AA;

Would there be enough evidence to convict you?

### Public Information Report

Happy New Year to all!!

With this being the new year, there is little to report. However, I have received my PI kit from GSO. The kit contains everything I need to serve you in the capacity of which I have been chosen.

The kit contains literature, workbook, and other useful information such as Box 459, website information, Public Service Announcements (PSA) information, PI and CPC Guidelines, General Service Conference Actions and PI history.

My responsibilities to this Area are to investigate anonymity breaks, to inform the public on what AA is and is not, to work with local television and radio stations, and to receive, answer or forward Area website inquiries.

To date this year we have received a handful of inquires, most are asking for meeting locations, some are more in depth, asking "what is AA and what good does it do". Answering the questions is fun; however, some more serious issues are sometimes passed on to GSO or Trustees for accurate and detailed replies.

Remember, that all of our committees are closely linked, so Committee chairs please take advantage of other committees and the wealth of information that they can share with you.

Thank you,

Ray S.  
Area 54  
Public Information Chairperson

## 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

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### Committee Chairpersons 2005-2006

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