

The Northeast Ohio Recorder

October, November, December 2005

<http://www.aaneoh.org>

Volume XVIII, Issue 4



November 4-6 in Houghton, MI
East Central Regional Forum

November 12—Columbus, OH
Ohio State Convention Planning Mtg

November 20—Gratitude Sunday
Hosted by Akron Multi-District
Interval Brotherhood Home
3445 Main St, Akron 1:00 pm
Speaker: Mary B. Gv Lit

Happy & Sober Holidays, Everyone!

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

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

A few thoughts and feelings on being a part of the program of Alcoholics Anonymous and this wonderful way of life.

"I am Responsible"

2005 International Convention:

Over 44,000 A.A.'s returned to Toronto, Canada to celebrate A.A.'s 70th Anniversary under the theme "I am Responsible". Forty years earlier on July 4, 1965 in Toronto's Maple Leaf Garden 10,000 A.A. members, family and friends joined hands with co-founder Bill W and his wife Lois and repeated for the first time "I am responsible". There were more than 200 meetings and workshops with over 800 Speakers and Chairs. Meetings were also held in several languages including Farsi, Portuguese, German, Spanish, Polish, French, Italian and Japanese to name a few. What a sight it was when so many countries walked in holding their flags so proudly sometimes at great risk. At the Old-timers Meeting 12 young people (under 20) sober from 1 day to 4 years drew the name out of the hat of an old-timer with over 40 years sobriety to share his or her story.

The 25-millionth copy of the Big Book was presented to a Friend of A.A, the Warden of San Quentin. The first AA group behind prison walls was pioneered by Clinton Duffy in 1942 the warden of San Quentin at that time. Why do we

have a convention every 5 years? For rededication to the primary purpose of A.A. to celebrate the success and growth of A.A. around the world, to let anyone who needs our program and support know that A.A. is available and for that "I Am Responsible".

Our General Service Staff worked long and tirelessly to ensure this was a grand celebration; my hat is off to them. The Archives, Literature and Grapevine displays and presentations were also well served by countless volunteers.

When I first received the loving invitation from our General Service Office to speak on a panel at this wonderful celebration of sobriety, it was with a feeling of wonder and awe that I talked to some of you and then gratefully accepted. Then along came the topic: "A Selfish Program" and OH BOY! Once again, I was calling and e-mailing because I did not believe that I knew what to say. Of course, that was the first of several major incidents.

By now, you have noticed that a few too many ego-tripping I's had crept in along with fear. So you, lovingly or not, told me to get out of the way; to trust and remember the why and how. To ask for Guidance and let the "Language Of The Heart" you have taught me do the speaking. Thank you all for loving me enough to remind me what really matters, the WE, and for that I Am Responsible.

There are not enough words to thank Area 54 and all its members for the support and Love that made

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Area Officer Reports

Alternate Delegate's Report

It may seem like it's been a quiet summer, but service work continues year 'round. The dark district committee has been very active. Walt W, DCM District 13 has been spearheading this initiative. We have seen some progress and then setbacks in other areas. This remains a top priority of the Area officers. Take a look at Walt's report in this issue.

Since we last had an area assembly, the DCM and GSR Workshops have been a success with a nice turnout for each. The area officers attended the Ohio State General Service Convention in Columbus in August. Almost 300 people enjoyed the fellowship of a weekend together to share their experience, strength and hope around Service. Andy T. (53/53)* hosted a rousing game of "AA Jeopardy" on Friday night. The teams from Area 54 performed well. Yours truly was one of the 'celebrity judges', along with Rick W., GSO staffer and Toni S., Ohio state archivist. I had the opportunity to hear and then meet Bob M., the new East-Central Regional Trustee (Class B). We will be returning the favor this November when area officers from northeast Ohio travel to Houghton, MI to the East Central Regional Forum in Bob's home area, Area 74 (Northern Wisconsin/Upper Peninsula of Michigan). In late breaking news as we go to the printer, Alice has been extended a loving invitation to speak at this Forum on "The Minority Opinion"

As we put together the schedule for next year, keep in mind these early dates and mark your calendars now. Trifold schedules will be distributed at Gratitude Sunday.

January 15 - Area Assembly (Grapevine & Literature available for sale), 2 pm, Brunswick

January 22 - Mini-Conference planning meeting at the Holiday Inn Lakeshore, 2 pm (Snowstorm cancellation make up date - Jan 29)

Speaking of the Mini-conference...mark your calendars now for the very last day in March (31st). That's the weekend we give our Area group conscience to our delegate as she prepares to attend the 56th General Service Conference. The mini-conference will be held again at the Holiday Inn Lakeshore in downtown Cleveland beginning Friday, March 31st through Sunday, April 2nd. Featured speakers this year will be Adrienne B., GSO staffer and Dorothy W. (52/44), our newest Class B (alcoholic) trustee, who serves the U.S.-at-Large. Adrienne is rotating on to the Literature Desk, so it should be a lively weekend. Dorothy served as delegate on Panel 44 in Area 52, North Dakota, but has since relocated to our region. It is fortunate that she can join us for

the Mini since she represents the whole country on the General Service Board. Do extend each of these our warmest welcome from northeast Ohio!

*The designation (53/53) behind a Delegate's name is a shorthand method to say "Area 53, Panel 53". This is the convention used at the East-Central Region's Delegates & Past Delegates Conference.

In love and service,
Jeff Y., Alternate Delegate
Area 54, Committee 55

Ohio State Convention

Hi everyone ,my name is Dan Fitzgerald, and I am your Panel 55 Area Chairperson. I am reporting to you on the 49th Ohio State Convention which was held August 12-14 ,2005 in Area 53 at Columbus Ohio. There were 278 attendees with a large contingency of from our own Area 54!

Friday Evening featured a Speaker Meeting chaired by our own Alice H. (Panel 55 Delegate) and after an Ice Cream Social we had AA Jeopardy! Both AA Jeopardy rounds featured 2 Teams from Area 54 but alas and alack, the "Big Book Thumper" who was dispatched for Round Two from Area 56 prevailed. The AA jeopardy is a great idea for any of you who are planning a District Function or Workshop in the future.

Saturday opened with a Panel from all the Areas presenting the AA Traditions. Our own Christine McG. (DCM District 23) did a wonderful presentation on Traditions 1,2,and 3. Later in the Morning Sessions our Panel 55 Mailing Secretary Bob D. gave a well prepared report on Concept One. There were a total of Three(3) Speaker Leads including our new East Central Regional Trustee Bob M. from Michigan.

Sunday featured Committee Presentations from Area 53 and a Speaker from (you guessed it) Area 54! James P. from Cleveland, Ohio was the finale to a weekend where we all learned a "little bit more" about this God given gift that we all call Alcoholics Anonymous .

Love and Service
Danny F.
Area Chair

from the Delegate:

Continued from front page

this journey possible. It is with a Truly Grateful heart that I thank you for allowing me to serve you.

I continue to keep busy, and in the past few months there have been your Homegroup and District meetings as well as Intergroup meetings, Anniversaries, picnics. There was also a really great Traditions Workshop hosted by District 4B, Gayle L. and Company were the presenters. It truly made the heart and soul sing. In addition, the DCM and GSR Workshops were excellent and always an opportunity to learn and grow. I look forward to seeing you at the Area Assembly and perhaps you will find a place to be at home with us and share what has been so freely given.

**Yours in Love and Service
Alice H.
Panel 55 Delegate**



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

DARK DISTRICT REPORT

As I work my way around the area carrying the message to the dark districts, and trying to bring groups back into the main stream of AA, I find I can't do it alone so I seek the help of my AA family.

It's not just getting the dark districts active, we need to appeal to the groups everywhere to strengthen AA service at all levels from the home group up, at the district level and Intergroups/Central Offices, at the Area level and even our GSO. A.A exists internationally now and there should be interest in AA beyond our own groups. We need groups to start electing GSRs, intergroup reps. We need districts to elect DCMs and alternates.

At the recent international convention in Canada, our theme was "We Are Responsible!" Well, my AA family, charity starts at home. Our three legacies are Unity-Recovery-Service. The 12 Steps of the first 165 pages of the Big Book are Recovery. The Traditions and the Concepts are Unity and Service. The three legacies are like a three-legged bar stool. All three legs need to be strong and sturdy for AA to continue to survive. We owe it to those that came before us, those that are here now, and those that are yet to walk through the door, for that all of us are responsible!

I ask you pass this message on to all you know in AA and share it at your home group, or get it to groups that are in the dark districts. They are 14, 8, 48, 12, 5-B, 57, 56, 40, 42, 24, 52, 19-B, 44, 35, 55, 47, 36, 53. These are the districts that have no representation in Area 54. That's about 4,700 members who have no voice in AA. If you or your group cares and has any questions please feel free to contact me or any of our trusted servants of Area 54.

How Grateful am I for my own sobriety and what AA has done for me?

Yours in Love and Service,
Walt W.
Area 54 Dark District Chair
DCM. District 13 of Area 54
Phone:330-332-5442
Cell Phone:330-429-5272

Grapevine Committee

It's been a very long lazy summer, I really haven't done much since Founders' Day. I still make the calls I have to make to New York to get the new books and the new **2006 One Day At A Time Calendar**, and it really looks good. **The Best of Bill**, the large print edition is going to be a hot seller, and so will the new **I Am Responsible**. By the time this is printed I'll have the new edition of **The Home Group: Heartbeat of A.A.** in plenty of time for Gratitude Sunday.

The **Grapevine** does offer a way for alcoholics to get through each day, this has also been a great tool for me, I just do what I can and so far it's been real fun, and now all the fears I had when I became the Chair are gone. I was at our last workshop, and I was surprised that Dan M. asked me to be one of the Chairmen there. I wonder why he did it, but I am really glad that he did. One alcoholic helping another, right? That's what A.A. is really about, and I am finding I still have to do my part to stay sober.

Love & Service
A.A.-4-LIFE
Ed B.
Grapevine 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 55

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