

The Northeast Ohio Recorder

January, February & March 2008

<http://www.aaneoh.org>

Volume XX, Issue 5

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 20 1:00 PM
ECR/Ohio State Planning Meeting
Area Assembly 2:00 PM

January 27 2:00 PM
Mini-Conference Planning Meeting
Westlake Holiday Inn
1100 Crocker, Westlake, Ohio

February 17 1:00 PM
ECR/Ohio State Planning Meeting
GSR/DCM Workshop 2:00 PM

February 24 2:00 PM
Mini-Conference Planning Meeting
Westlake Holiday Inn
1100 Crocker, Westlake, Ohio

March 16 1:00 PM
ECR/Ohio State Planning Meeting
Area Committee Meeting 2:00 PM

April 11-13
33rd NE Ohio Mini Conference
Westlake Holiday Inn
1100 Crocker, Westlake, Ohio
The Area Assembly will follow at
2:00 PM at the same location

Unless 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 . . .

A phone call recently reminded me of the spiritual significance of practicing these principles in all of our affairs. The caller was upset about our Fellowship. He stated that our Traditions were being trampled in groups and at his local intergroup office and he asked, "What was AA going to do about it?"

As carefully as possible, I shared with him about Traditions Three and Four – the only requirement for membership and autonomy. However, this did not satisfy him. His main concern is the presence of addicts in meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous. It would seem this is his only concern as well. In fact, he wanted an AA Police Force established which would roust out the addict from meetings and throw them to the curb with the prohibition not to return to that group. No amount of reasonable conversation would satisfy his anger and we were not able to come to a meeting of the minds that evening, sad to say.

I reflected a long time on this man's dilemma. He had contacted the local intergroup office, the General Service Office and the area delegate. No one had solved his problem and his concern affected me because I understand what he is feeling. Our Twelve Traditions were originally published by Bill W. in the April 1946 Grapevine as "An Alcoholics Anonymous Tradition of Relations -- Twelve Points to Assure Our Future." Bill W. introduced that article with these words:

Nobody invented Alcoholics Anonymous. It grew. Trial and error has produced a rich experience. Little by little we have been adopting the lessons of that experience, first as policy and then as tradition. That process still goes on and we hope it never stops. Should we ever harden too much the letter might crush the spirit. We could victimize ourselves by petty rules and prohibitions; we could imagine that we had said the last word. We might even be asking alcoholics to accept our rigid ideas or stay away. May we never stifle progress like that!

Herein lay the crux of our fellow's

dilemma. He has under taken a single-handed crusade. Failing to recognize that we have no disciplinarians in AA, he asked me to police our fellowship for heretics and free-thinkers. Bill W. addressed this concern in an AA Grapevine article in 1953:

*Unless each AA member follows to the best of his ability our suggested Twelve Steps to recovery, he almost certainly signs his own death warrant. His drunkenness and dissolution are not penalties inflicted by people in authority; they result from his personal disobedience to spiritual principles...Unless there is approximate conformity to AA's Twelve Traditions, the group too can deteriorate and die. So we of AA do obey spiritual principles, first because we must, and ultimately because we love the kind of life such obedience brings. Great suffering and great love are AA's disciplinarians; we need no others. **

In my drunkenness, I was a victim and a blamer. In sobriety, my zeal for orthodoxy in A.A. and conformity for the sake of comfort can drive this 'bleeding deacon' to the brink of martyrdom. Like the actor on page 61, "if only people would do as he wished, the show would be great." When we pursue the expression and absolute conformity to one of our Traditions to the exclusion of the other eleven Traditions, are we not setting ourselves above and apart as a self-appointed judge and jury of our fellows? This is indeed a dangerous position to aspire to. No one of our Traditions can be held in primacy over any of the others.

Dr. Bob reminded us in the AA Grapevine in 1946 that *our 12 Steps, when simmered down to the last, resolve themselves into the words love and service.** The very love to which Bill and Bob refers must be our guide as we seek to deal with the person who is slightly off the beam. If they will not accept our loving appraisal, so be it. Ours is not the role of final authority or discipline. King Alcohol, or whatever brought them to their knees, will eventually win out. Let us learn from this poor unfortunate's fate and correct our own errant ways with honesty, open-mindedness and willingness.

Yours In Service,
Jeff Y. Area 54 Panel 57 Delegate

Area Officer Reports

I am experiencing one the most exciting and serene periods in my recovery. Being what some folks would call a sponge for learning and information, I feel I have entered a new plateau in my participation, as a trusted servant in Alcoholics Anonymous.

Throughout 2007, I delved into the Twelve Concepts and Six Warranties. I attended all of the Area-hosted mini-conferences in Ohio. As the result, I have a better idea of what happens at our annual General Service Conference. I enjoy seeing how the committee structure for addressing agenda items works. I enjoy witnessing another member attend their first committee meeting and share their thoughts on how we carry the message, to watch them become a part of the "greatest show on Earth" for alcoholics. The icing on the cake was attending the East Central Regional Forum, held in Chicago in November. This was my second forum and I absorbed more information this weekend than I did the first time I attended. On Friday evening, we listened to reports from many holding different roles in service to our Fellowship. These included two Class A non-alcoholic Trustees, Bob M., our East Central Regional Class B Trustee, and Irene K., GSO Staff member on the Public Information desk in NY. After watching the video *Markings on the Journey*, Greg M, General Manager at GSO, chaired a general sharing session. On Saturday, there were presentations on the role of the A.A.W.S. Director, how the AA contributions are invested in carrying the message, and *Service Doesn't Have To Be A Secret*, which included Jeff Y, Area 54 delegate. All four of the Ohio delegates gave talks on a variety of AA topics. Additional presentations continued throughout the evening and workshops were held after dinner. On Sunday, after closing workshops we held, we left with more knowledge on how and why it works.

Please plan to attend the East Central Region Convention planning meeting at 1:00 PM on January 20,

2008, just prior to the Area Assembly. The convention is being held in conjunction with the Ohio State Convention in July 2008. We will need everyone's help in making the event a success, so grab your pigeons and get to the 12 Step Club an hour early.

As for the serene period of my sobriety, God has given me so many gifts and sound reasoning. The greatest gift that was given back to me is forgiveness. Occasionally, we encounter people who push our buttons. If we react with a harsh thought or word, we must remember we cannot afford the luxury of resentment. My sponsor taught me that asking God for help either at that moment or at the end of the day would help bring about the serenity and peace of mind we have witnessed in our old timers. God is Love.

Yours in Love and Service,
Danny F., Alt. Delegate

I received a phone call last week from a person I have known since I came into the program in 1990. He had helped me out when I first began working the Steps. He was in-and-out of my life the first five years I was in the program and helped me a great deal. I have not seen him much lately because he has had health issues. He did visit my home group a few months ago. He told me he was upset with A.A. members spreading rumors and questioning his use of health as an excuse for not attending meetings regularly. He was upset that no one called on him or sent cards from the group. I apologized to him for not calling and told him I was unaware of his health issues.

While facilitating a meeting behind the walls, several inmates complained that they did not get responses when they wrote letters to correctional volunteers. After some discussion, I came to realize that there are members that are incarcerated or ill that are forgotten in our everyday lives. We need to find ways to let people know

there are people in need of the hand of AA that seem forgotten. I am appealing to all members to stop procrastinating and consider those in need, behind the walls or homebound.

We have made a commitment to make a "shut-in" list available through the Shut-In Committee at the Lorain Central Office. We are making an Area 54-wide appeal to visit or call member that are homebound, in hospitals or confined for any reason. Help insure that the hand of AA is there for everyone in need.

In Service,
Russ W., Mailing Secretary

I am writing this in November, commonly referred to as Gratitude Month. I can only attempt to share some of the things I am grateful for due to Alcoholics Anonymous and being a part of service. I attended the East Central Region Forum in November that was hosted by Area 19 in Arlington, Illinois. Once again, I learned a little more about myself and have a greater appreciation for Alcoholics Anonymous. One of the past delegates stated he felt a closeness and comradeship with the four areas in Ohio that he had not felt in a while. Being relatively new in this service role, I felt this from the beginning. The forum was very informative for me the entire weekend, but the 6-hour drive was where I felt a true friendship with my colleagues, getting to know each other at a deeper level. I am so grateful for these experiences, feelings I never imagined I would have experienced. Just as the twelve promises suggest, "If we are painstaking about this phase of our development, we will be amazed before we are half way through."

These experiences will help in preparation for our hosting the 28th East Central Regional Convention and the 52nd Ohio State Convention in July, 2008. They are lessons as well as my higher powers' blessings. I love Alcoholics Anonymous.

Yours in Service Always,
Jamie B., Recording Secretary

Area Officer Reports (cont'd)

Walking the walk?

“On the A.A. calendar it was Year Two. A newcomer appeared at one of these groups, knocked on the door and asked to be let in. After talking frankly with the group’s oldest member, he soon proved that his was a desperate case, and that above all *he wanted to get well*. “But he asked, “Will you let me join your group? Since I am the victim of another addiction even worse stigmatized than alcoholism, you may not want me among you. Or will you?”

There was the dilemma, what should the group do? After much discussion, Dr. Bob asked the question: “What would the Master do?” Not another word was said.

On page 142 of Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions we find the rest of this story:

“**Overjoyed**, the newcomer plunged into Twelfth Step work. Tirelessly he laid A.A.’s message before scores of people. **Never did he trouble anyone with his other difficulty.** A.A. had taken its first step in the formation of Tradition Three.”

Sadly, many in our fellowship today have not followed this man’s example. The fact that “he never troubled anyone with his other addiction” is a clear indication of his gratitude, his unselfishness and his honesty.

The discussion of “problems other than alcohol” within our fellowship is a long standing conflict, I feel, because so many who have suffered problems other than alcohol, refuse to follow or are unable to digest this truly spiritual example of acceptance. Instead, they allow, to a degree, selfishness, egotism and an inability to be honest to control their thoughts and actions.

In the booklet *The Four Absolutes* it states, “honesty is not a concept, it has to be a conscious state of mind.” When we come into A.A., we are

asked only to meet one requirement, “a desire to stop drinking.” Yet once the fog has lifted some of us began to trouble everyone in the fellowship with their other difficulties. We surrender and turn our life and will over to the care of God as we understand Him, yet with comments about other difficulties, aren’t we continuing to fight everybody and everything?

Maybe we see ourselves as being rid of selfishness and self-centeredness, but how does our discussion of these other difficulties affect both those new and old in A.A.? You may even feel that someone listening needs to hear about this other difficulty, but there are other meetings where everyone can identify with these problems other than alcoholism.. Our basic text, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, states that “our stories disclose in a general way”. Yet the moment we say, “I know this is A.A., but I have to tell my story, not only have we ceased to be “general”, but that old egotism has taken over.

Those of us in general service must be especially careful not to engage in these discussions because, as trusted servants, we are responsible for guarding our traditions,

our steps and our concepts. We must be mindful of the newcomer who is listening not to introduce ourselves as “alcoholic and a...” By using terms such as “drinking and drugging, fairy dust, side dishes, smoking alcohol, solid alcoholic, etc. when speaking at a meeting or convention, aren’t we decreasing identification instead of increasing it?

Webster’s dictionary defines gratitude as “a thankful appreciation of something that has been given.” It is indeed an action word.

In Love & Service,
Ola P., Treasurer

Group News

West Side Picnic

I was part of the planning for the Westside Picnic held July 29, 2007. I was amazed that planning began in mid-winter. Little did I know the amount of time, energy and love it takes to plan the picnic. We had to be prepared for the thousands that would attend. We would need to decide how much food and the color of t-shirts after all. Because this was our 14th annual picnic, some of the planners knew how important each decision was.

The day of the picnic, the setup crew began site preparation at 5:00 AM. I was excited to meet the thousands of people who brought family and friends together in celebration. Being my first sober picnic, I was able to share this experience with my husband, teenage daughter and 10-month old son. I also brought my niece and sister-in-law. It was one of the best days in my sobriety. I saw some old friends and made some new friends.

After the picnic, my husband and I pitched in to help clean up. All of the tasks performed, from serving soft drinks, sponsoring games for and cleaning up, were very important to the success of the entire event. Often times, we leave our families at home when we attend meetings, so the picnic was a great way to show my family how AA was helping me learn to have fun. I look forward to many Westside Picnics in the years to come. The energy put into the picnic was worth it, with repayment in smiles and laughter shared at the picnic.

In service,
Tanya, Arch to Freedom Group



Area 54 Group Contribution Report 3rd & 4th Quarter

D	ID	Group/Entitiy	3rd QTR	4th QTR	YTD	D	I.D.	GROUP	3rd QTR	4th QTR	YTD
		Akron Intergroup Assoc.			\$ 8,133.67	20C	637983	Sunday Mens Open Discussion	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00
		Ohio State Round-up	\$ 105.57	\$ -	\$ 105.57	20C	657366	Wellington Wednesday Morning Disc	\$ -	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
		Ohio State Convention		\$ 776.22	\$ 776.22	21	648724	Bainbridge Big Book Study	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00
		Cleveland N.Coast Multi-District	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	21	125126	Bainbridge Friday Night	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22.00
		Individual Contributions	\$ 76.00	\$ 78.00	\$ 659.00	21	131903	Bainbridge Mens Group	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00
	110882	Flame Group	\$ -	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	21	170756	Barely Awake Discussion	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00
		Olmsted Falls Monday Disc	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	21	168929	Burton Responsible	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 25.00
		Safely Home to Serenity(???)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15.73	21	110946	Chagrin Falls Group	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00
		St. Eugene's Mens Closed Disc	\$ -	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	21	131487	Chagrin Monday Group	\$ -	\$ 268.00	\$ 268.00
		Thurs Nite 7:30 Step Meeting	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	21	131902	Chagrin Valley Men's	\$ 125.00	\$ -	\$ 125.00
		Women United As One (Cleveland)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20.00	21	612240	Chardon Tuesday Night	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 25.00
01	110888	Akron General	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 64.50	21	131900	Chesterland Saturday Night	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 85.00
01	674979	St. Sebastian Sat Sunset Disc	\$ -	\$ 84.75	\$ 84.75	21	608734	Hiram Straight Talk	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125.00
01	170081	Wednesday Nite Mixed Disc	\$ 42.60	\$ -	\$ 42.60	21	131894	Middlefield True Friends	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 420.00
02	671188	Akron Beginners	\$ -	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00	21		Nelson Circle (nelson)	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00
02	123282	Canal Fulton Big Book Study	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 56.88	21	110862	Solon Pioneer Womens	\$ 30.00	\$ -	\$ 30.00
02	166566	Nesmith Lake	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250.00	21	603994	Newbury Sunset	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30.00
02	126228	One Day At A Time	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45.00	21	671171	Twelve to One	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20.00
02	145520	Serenity B.B.	\$ 35.00	\$ -	\$ 85.00	21	649637	Women To Women Back to Basics	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 75.00
02	171416	Steps and Beyond	\$ 15.00	\$ -	\$ 15.00	22	111313	Club 21 AA Group	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25.00
02	151402	The Turning Point Group	\$ 40.00	\$ 41.00	\$ 141.00	22	648548	One Paragraph At A Time	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25.00
02	160668	Norton 24 Hour Group	\$ 69.00	\$ 99.00	\$ 304.50	22	662811	Serenity Step Disc	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
03	656945	Morning Meditation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	23	111126	Conneaut Friday Night Group	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 25.00
03	637986	Temple Square Group	\$ 17.50	\$ -	\$ 43.45	23	163269	East Side Serenity	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 30.00
03	110900	Waters Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00	23	675678	Friends of Sobriety	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40.00
04A	111284	Mogadore Thursday Morning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80.00	23	111216	Jefferson AA Group	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
04B	658436	Akron Mens B.B.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18.00	23	126367	Orwell Sunday	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 70.00
05A	637984	Cover to Cover B.B. Study	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00	23	603281	Saturday Morning Grapevine	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15.00
05A	127162	Kent Monday Nite Young People	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ 35.00	23	614411	Singleness of Purpose	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
05A	647085	Streetsboro A.M. 12x12x4	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00	23	166571	Wednesday Morning AA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5.00
06	629743	Candle Light Serenity	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45.00	24	130273	Honest Desire Group	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00
06	659183	Last Call Group	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00	24	145649	North Olmsted B.B. Study		\$ -	\$ 20.00
06	655967	Saturday Morning B/B Study Group	\$ 59.00	\$ -	\$ 59.00	25	131736	Lakewood Mens	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 97.50
06	121422	Newton Falls Thurs Filwshp Group	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00	25	655064	Lakewood Thurs Morning Disc	\$ -	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00
06	129420	Saturday Morning Group	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150.00	26	162322	Strongsville Saturday Mens Disc			\$ 200.00
06	162209	Sunday Morning Serenity	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300.00	27	631782	Big Book 8:15 Richfield	\$ 15.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 60.00
06	167512	Sunday Night Big Book Study	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20.00	27	131810	Padua Variety Discussion	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00
06	174074	Tuesday Night We Care	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00	27	672962	2000 and Beyond	\$ -	\$ 20.00	\$ 40.00
06	129702	Vienna Thursday Night	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150.00	29	635260	A Place to Be	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00
06	110817	Womens Care & Shre Clsd Disc	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60.00	29	110883	Kaiser East AA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25.00
07	175076	Big Book Closed Disc	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00	29	176393	Living In Sobriety	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15.00
07	672173	Dazed & Confused (wed)	\$ -	\$ 80.00	\$ 200.00	29	110805	Mustard Seed Friday BB	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
07	111200	Girard Monday Night	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ 20.00	29	119184	Mustard Seed Monday	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
07	603475	Hubbard AA Discussion	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00	29	128166	Mustard Seed Tuesday	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
07	111208	Hubbard Wednesday Nite	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 150.00	29	647394	Together We Can	\$ 15.00	\$ -	\$ 15.00
07	673202	Monday Night Big Book Study	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	30	671185	A Change In Us Big Book Stdy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00
07	137369	North Jackson Sun Nite Felshp	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25.00	30	175860	Euclid Sunday Non-Smoking	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 85.00
07	656631	Saturday B.B. Discussion	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00	31	131803	Four Absolutes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00
07	137369	Sunday Night Fellowship	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00	31	629368	New Freedom	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35.00
07	137061	Tuesday Luceon Group	\$ 60.00	\$ -	\$ 140.00	31	130636	Windermere Sunday	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
07	660679	Tuesday Night Boardman	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30.00	32	110998	Borton Group	\$ -	\$ 11.00	\$ 11.00
07	647223	Tuesday Night Mahoning Ave	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	32	168987	Celebrate Sobriety	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00
07	111453	West Side Monday Nite	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25.00	32	121146	Easy Does It (Aurora)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 26.50
08	662935	Living In The Solution	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25.00	32	131708	Faith Hope and Love	\$ 21.80	\$ -	\$ 21.80
08	160422	Saturday Morning Discussion	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 151.00	32	671182	Heights Young People	\$ 142.80	\$ -	\$ 376.20
09	161884	Grapevine Group	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00	33	110853	St. James AA Group	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00
09	150302	Womens Caring and Sharing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00	33	133318	King Kennedy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00
10	668472	Booze Down Thrusday Night	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00	35	122428	Apthorp AA Group	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20.00
10	172277	Dacton Mens Closed Disc	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40.00	35	110798	East Side Saturday Morning V.A.	\$ -	\$ 80.40	\$ 80.40
10	135456	Doylestown Big Book Study	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00	35	110794	Friends Of Glenville	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12.50

Area 54 Group Contribution Report 3rd & 4th Quarter

10	135247	Doylestown Group (wed)	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 155.00	35	141857	St. Phillips AA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4.00
10	145058	Easy Does (Creston)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00	35	140064	St. Thomas Aquinas AA	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
10	111187	Fredericksburg AA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00	35	605205	Sisters In Recovery	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00
10	638242	Friday Nite Focus	\$ -	\$ 10.50	\$ 43.41	35	118356	Springbrook Group	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 400.00
10	131887	Orrville Friday Night	\$ -	\$ 20.00	\$ 43.20	35	674329	12 Steps to Freedom	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
10	111309	Orrville Serenity Group	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 112.00	35	627951	12 Steps Up	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
10	150700	Rittman B.B. Study	\$ -	\$ 20.00	\$ 50.00	39	138637	Geneva Freedom Thurs Sobriety	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80.00
10	654307	Saturday Night Serenity	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00	39	165746	Grand River Closed Mens	\$ -	\$ -	-
10	150702	Sunday Night Pathway	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30.00	39	131737	Madison Living Sober (fri)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 185.00
10	123281	Tuesday Night Big Book Disc	\$ -	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	39	131744	Perry Tuesday Group	\$ 50.00		\$ 50.00
10	131865	Thursday Early Bird Disc Group	\$ 10.00	\$ -	\$ 10.00	39	120940	Rock Creek Wednesday Nite			\$ 10.00
10	648046	Turn A New Leaf	\$ 20.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 40.00	39	161475	There Is A Solution	\$ 20.00		\$ 70.00
10	660364	Women In Sobriety	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5.00	41	111017	Friday Afternoon Womens	\$ -	\$ 120.00	\$ 240.00
10	111440	Wooster Monday Night Group	\$ 20.92	\$ 40.00	\$ 60.92	41	111017	Friday Afternoon Womens	\$ -	\$ 120.00	\$ 240.00
10	675676	Wooster Wednesday 1-2-3	\$ 15.00	\$ -	\$ 15.00	41	111028	Lee Wednesday	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150.00
10	654307	Wooster Saturday Serenity	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00	41	135257	Thursday Men's Fellowship	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
11	158904	Lodi AA Group	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	41	131814	Tues Non-Smok Disc Womens			\$ 50.00
11	151066	Lodi B.B. Discussion	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 155.00	41	131814	Tues Non-Smok Disc Womens	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00
11	610956	Seville 12 Steps Up	\$ 30.00	\$ -	\$ 80.00	41	664486	Wednesday Discussion	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150.00
11	171481	Wadsworth Fresh Start	\$ -	\$ 23.00	\$ 42.00	42	149409	Beachwood Thursday Noon	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80.00
11	111415	Wadsworth Group (thrus)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80.00	42	161462	Friday Wake UP	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00
12	603466	Briar Patch	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00	42	131719	Tuesday Beachwood Noon	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00
12	169217	But For The Grace B/B Disc	\$ 87.72	\$ -	\$ 226.50	43	161457	Easy Doesn't Do It	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25.00
12	118359	Classroom Discussion	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00	44	111436	Wickliffe Group (of AA)	\$ -	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00
12	111246	Louisville Group	\$ -	\$ -	-	45	626166	Everyday Language	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36.00
12	122906	Mens Hilltop South	\$ -	\$ 24.10	\$ 57.70	45	122835	R.A.F. Group	\$ 146.95	\$ -	\$ 146.95
12	144642	Sobriety with Grace	\$ 75.00	\$ -	\$ 75.00	46	174305	Happy Hour Discussion Group	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45.00
12		Young At Heart	\$ -	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	47	125139	Cove Sunday	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
13	135102	Alliance Monday Nite Disc	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 110.79	49	111008	Chrysler Twinsburg	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00
13	618765	Atwater Serenity Group	\$ -	\$ 66.00	\$ 141.00	49	674681	Peninsula 12 + 4	\$ 40.00	\$ -	\$ 40.00
13	137350	Columbiana Tues Closed Disc	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 87.00	49	660349	Twinsburg Sunday Sundown	\$ -	\$ 115.00	\$ 115.00
13	150867	Salem Legacy Breakfast Grp	\$ 90.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 135.00	50	628925	Cigar Smokers B.B.	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 40.00
14	111283	Minerva Group	\$ 205.00	\$ -	\$ 415.00	50	129464	Fresh Start (akron)	\$ 40.00	\$ -	\$ 40.00
14	111155	Tuscarawas County	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	50	110887	King School	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00
14	129657	Waynesburg Group	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00	50	110892	St. Anthony's Cisd Womens	\$ 52.00	\$ -	\$ 52.00
15	110934	Canal Fulton 74 Group	\$ -	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	50	110885	St. Pauls Tuesdy Night Mens	\$ 32.50	\$ -	\$ 32.50
15	129846	Fresh Start	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 63.00	50	132190	Sunday Womens BB	\$ -	\$ 69.40	\$ 69.40
15	626384	Friday Night B.B. (Mercy Hall)	\$ 30.00	\$ -	\$ 90.00	50	612412	Three Legacies	\$ 100.00		\$ 225.00
15	642865	Massillon As Bill Sees It	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12.50	51	138647	Falls Thursday Discussion	\$ -	\$ 28.00	\$ 28.00
15	170513	St. Joe's Thursday Night B.B.	\$ -	\$ -	-	51	140057	Wednesday Morning Big Book	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 75.00
16	672319	Brewster Mens Hilltop	\$ 23.65	\$ 6.73	\$ 101.18	52	164453	Bay Sunrise	\$ -	\$ -	-
16	131913	Navarre Non-Smoking	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00	52	166572	Dawn Patrol	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36.00
16	123038	Perry Heights Group	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75.00	52	471197	Entirely Ready	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
16	145373	Stonewall AA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75.00	52	167153	Forgiveness B.B. (bay village)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00
17	111302	Norwalk Wednesday Group	\$ 10.00	\$ -	\$ 10.00	52	177630	How It Works B.B.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80.00
18	637674	Big Book Study Group (tues)	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ 20.00	52	130699	Kean Group	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150.00
18	618724	Huron Wed Night BB Group	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	52	132899	Womens New Beginnings (wstlk)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6.00
18	111338	Vacationland Group (sat)	\$ -	\$ 30.00	\$ 65.00	53	111431	Bay West	\$ -	\$ -	-
18	111212	Venice Friday Nite Group	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00	53	655117	Gay and Sober Mens Disc	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00
19A	662808	Avon Lake Saturday 12 Step	\$ 9.14	\$ 17.87	\$ 27.01	53	130351	Then and Now	-	-	\$ 40.00
19A	110909	Friday Night Avon Lake	\$ -	\$ -	-	53	111064	Westshore Wednesday Night	-	-	\$ 50.00
19A	131889	North Ridgeville Mens	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25.00	55	165743	11th Step Meditation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30.00
19B	119768	Monday Night Lorain Group	\$ -	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	55	161488	Serenity Sunday Group	\$ -	\$ 18.00	\$ 18.00
19B	667879	Sunday Acceptance (olmstfalls)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00	55	161521	24 Hour Book Discussion Group	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ 20.00
20A	135412	Attitude of Gratitude	\$ -	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	56	166563	Medina Womens Closed Disc	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52.50
20C	651639	Friday Night Amherst	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25.00	56	637684	Medina High Noon	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36.68
20C	111304	Oberlin Group	\$ 30.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00	56	136561	Medina Mens Thurs Disc	\$ -	\$ 45.00	\$ 140.00
20C	131888	Oberlin Breakfast Group	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 25.00	57	175859	Brunswick Friday Disc Grp	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
20C	633467	S.I.O.G.A.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00	57	674694	Brunswick Wednesday Mrng		\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
20C	637991	Sat Morning Recovrng Womens	\$ 5.00	\$ -	\$ 5.00	60	170755	North Hill Mens Big Book Stdy	\$ 90.00	\$ -	\$ 196.40

Total Contribution thru Nov. 30, 2007

\$ 26,759.41

Area Committee Chair Reports

Letter to PI Committee

Hello Klaus K and Area 54,

I am writing to thank you, or whoever is the "person from Cleveland" who left the Public Service announcements at one (or more) of our local radio stations in Mansfield. I have had several people comment about how nice it was to hear them, usually thinking that I had something to do with them as our local PI Chair. I would have to explain that it wasn't me, but that I was very glad to have the assistance. If it wasn't you, then perhaps you could pass this along. Whoever it was, I want them to know how very much we appreciate having them here.

My second reason for writing is to introduce myself so you know that we exist here, and to keep me in mind if you have any Area-wide PI meetings/conferences, etc. I would like to broaden my horizons a bit, and see what goes on in Area 54 and help where I can. Right now I am a committee of one, and most of my efforts this past year have gone into getting our website up and maintaining it. Please check us out at: <http://mansfieldaa.org>. Beyond that, we have done a couple of school programs and would like to do much more. For example, we've been thinking about a u411fl program, that might also be useful to our local court, with whom we have had a number of meetings in the hope of doing something different and better with the "paper" situation.

I am from Cleveland originally, and am a frequent visitor. I volunteer at the Cleveland Clinic every Friday in the Drug and Alcohol Center, and have other reasons to get there frequently.

All the best,

Bill A., Mansfield Area Intergroup PI

Web site

In 2007, the Area 54 Web site celebrated its **tenth anniversary online**. The Web site provides information to members and non-members alike. It is available to districts and Area Committees to provide additional information about

their work to carry the message. The Web site provides current copies of the GSR Fact File, the Area Schedule, contact information for the Intergroups and central offices in Area 54. We do host meeting schedules for Intergroups that don't have Web sites. We receive inquiries from individuals looking for meetings for themselves or others. The Web site has proven to be a worthwhile investment in carrying the message of Recovery and Service in Area 54 for ten consecutive years.

In service,

Dan M, Area Web master

11th National Archives Workshop

Several years ago, I heard a report given by Archives chair, Kevin S., after he attended a National Archives Workshop. His enthusiasm for AA archives was quite inspiring to me. Although most of the things he spoke of in his report were beyond my comprehension, I now understand a whole lot more of the things he said.

Today, I can tell you about the various archives displays I have seen throughout my life in AA, but, that in itself, cannot possibly measure up to experiencing it for yourself. The displays I speak of all were started by someone taking the time and space to store some of the nostalgia of their own AA life. I am sure most of you have a small collection at home of your own experience, strength and hope.

Behind each item is a very personal story about recovery. The unfortunate thing about these stories is that it is locked up inside someone's head. In most instances, they go to the grave with that member. There is more to archives than storing memorabilia. Many in AA can benefit from personal histories if it were available to them. That is what this workshop was designed to do. Train and inspire interested members in archival methods that can preserve and share

AA history at all levels. Just like each member, each group has its own history. When a founding member of a group passes-on a portion of that group's history is subject to being lost or distorted.

At the National Archive Workshop, we were provided training and "hands-on" practice including "What Are Archives? What to keep and What to Throw Away," storage repositories, disaster recovery, preservation and protection, and handling. These workshops were appreciated by all attendees and future workshops plan to provide these "hands-on" style workshops at future events.

GSO Archivist Amy F. attended and presented historical photographs and sound bytes from early members, including Dr. Bob, Bill W., Nell Wing, Ebby T. and others. Ten people, including me, received a newly updated AA Archives Workbook and the brand-new AA Archives Guidelines. Some current projects at the GSO archives include an illustrated timeline that will be incorporated on the Web site. GSO has traveling Archives displays that can be requested for use at regional forums and other events.

This workshop rekindled by interest in serving Area 54 in the archives role. Our Area Archives committee is also seeking to develop ways to allow appropriate access to important items of interest to our members for the sake of preserving our history for generations to come. As Carl Sandburg stated, "Whenever a society or civilization perishes, there is always one condition present; they forgot where they came from."

It is my belief that if but only one person from each group could have such an interest in their group's heritage, then that AA group would never cease to exist. If we were to extend that out to the district and Area level with a similar conviction, AA.

In Service,

Richard U., Archives Chair

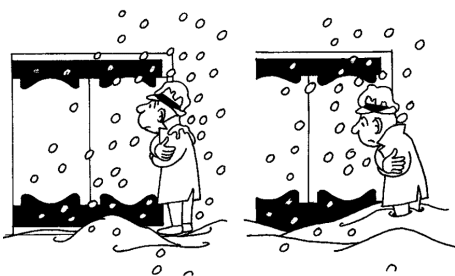
Treatment Facilities

I would like to thank the Panel for the opportunity and privilege to chair the Treatment Facilities Committee. I have served as Chair under Clarence G. and Selena S. I learned a lot from these two members. Selena S. has graciously volunteered to be co-chair of the committee, further offering her much-needed assistance.

I learned that a committee of one person could not get the job done. In 2008, I would like to create a list of AA contacts in various cities throughout NE Ohio. In a fifty-mile radius of Akron, Ohio there are nearly 150 treatment centers with newly recovering alcoholics being discharged daily. It is crucial that we contact these individuals soon after discharge so as to increase the opportunity to stay sober. Ten volunteers from the Area have volunteered to help in bridging the gap for these individuals. I hope to contact all the Treatment Facility and Bridging the Gap committees at the Intergroup scattered throughout NE Ohio. I also hope to host workshops so that we can share ideas on carrying the message to treatment facility personnel, highlighting how we carry the message within the Twelve Traditions. We want to provide more literature related to carrying the message to Treatment Facilities and have the video "Hope" on hand for individuals desiring to lend a hand.

We need volunteers to make this happen. Please contact us to help carry the message to insure the hand of AA is always there!

In service,
Mike S., Chair



The Voice of the Group

Alcoholics Anonymous is set-up in such a manner that it runs from the bottom up. This means that the groups run A.A. Each group in A.A. has an opportunity to have a voice in the Fellowship. This is done through an informed group conscience. What happens with the informed group conscience?

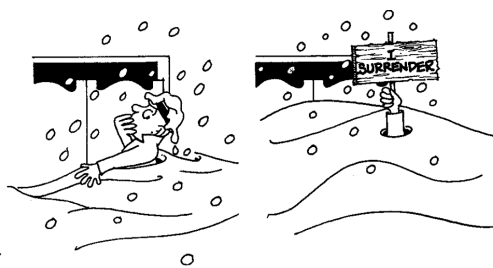
It is the responsibility of the Group Service Representative (GSR) to report these thoughts to the District Committee Member (DCM) and/or the Area Delegate, who passes it on to the General Service Conference.

However, if your group has no GSR, then your group has no link/voice in A.A. as a whole. The GSR not only communicates the group's informed conscience to the DCM and the Delegate, they deliver communication from the Conference, the Area and their district about AA-as-a-whole.

The GSR is a vital communication link for their group. If your group does not have an active GSR, who is informing the Group and relaying the group conscience, then your group has no voice in the matters of Alcoholics Anonymous.

GROUPS, please do not sit around complaining about what is happening in A.A.! Elect a GSR who knows what is happening or willing to find out. More importantly, let your group have a **VOICE** in matter concerning the future direction of Alcoholics Anonymous

In love and service,
Calvin L., DCM District 29, Chair,
North Coast Multi-District



District 8

I am just beginning to learn about service, another phase of my personal recovery. I have concerns about waking up my "dark district" in Youngstown. I have been exchanging information with meetings in my district, trying to motivate members about General Service. We need to get every one on the same page so that AA can continue to flourish and grow. I have contacted several meetings and they are becoming self-supporting with all AA entities. As the result of attending the Area 54 GSR Workshop, I have a better understanding about the process and the importance of the DCM, as well as the GSR. I would recommend more people attend these workshops because they are informative.

In love and service,
Jenny O., DCM District 8

District 30

We held the first District 30 meeting with 15 in attendance. There are 57 AA groups in the district located on the eastern border of Cleveland and Euclid. At the meeting we provided information about General Service, updated contact information for the groups attending and discussed activities related to reviving the district. Area 54 Delegate Jeff Y spoke about the role of General Service as it related to AA as a whole and he took time to answer questions. Serena S. shared her work on the Area Committee and highlighted how it has enhanced her personal recovery.

We have set goals for 2008 to update all the group information with Area 54, hold monthly district meetings, communicate with the two clubs located inside the district, encourage our GSRs to attend Area functions and participate in the Height Hub Multi-district.

Our district meetings will be held the first Sunday of the month at the Just For Today Club at 2:00 PM.

In love and service,
Carrie R., DCM District 30

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.

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 Visit us at <http://www.aaneoh.org>