

# The Northeast Ohio Recorder

July, August, September, 2009

<http://www.aaneoh.org>

Volume XXI, Issue 3

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**June 21**

**Area Committee Meeting 2:00**

**June 28**

**Area Open House Picnic 12:00**

**Huntington Beach**

**Bay Village, OH**

**July 19**

**Area Assembly 2:00**

**September 20**

**Area Committee Meeting 2:00**

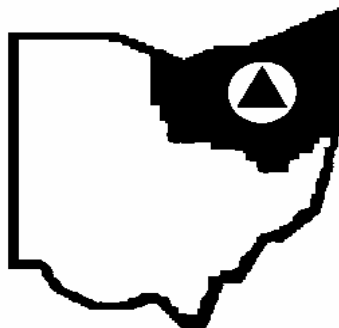
**Unless noted, Area Assemblies & Workshops are held at**

**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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## Delegate's Report– The 59th General Service Conference

Hi everyone, my name is Danny F. and I am an alcoholic. I serve you in Area 54 as your panel 59 delegate. I want to personally thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve and to be a part of the longest General Service Conference held to date (although your Box 459 “early bird editions” don’t reflect that). This conference was one of the most important events that ever occurred in my life. It is my personal wish that every one of you have the opportunity to see why I believe AA is the “greatest show on earth” for alcoholics like you and me. As your delegate, I went to the conference with all of your love and thoughts of how we feel about Alcoholics Anonymous and as busy as I was that week, when I took the time to pray and meditate in the morning and the evening, so many of you came to my mind.

My plane touched down on Friday afternoon at LaGuardia airport and I knew that I had one hour to kill before I met with our trustee, Bob M., as we agreed to split a cab to the hotel. As I waited for my baggage, I assisted a couple with a luggage cart dispenser and decided to buy one myself in case Bob had a lot of luggage also. The couple thanked me for helping them and I exclaimed “Brogue! I say folks, may I ask, are you from Ireland?” They said yes but now they live in Connecticut. About 30 minutes later Seamus and Fiona O’Leary would join me at the food court in the airport. I told Mrs. O’Leary where my grandfather lived in Ireland and she not only knew the village, she knows two of my cousins! Bob arrived shortly and it was off to the hotel during rush hour. While in the cab, I thought I was on an amusement park ride at Cedar Point. Bob and I split the cab fare, \$52....

On Saturday, we rented a small bus and took an AA history tour. Our guide was George D., a former General Manager at the General Service Office.

Continued on Page 4...

## Anonymity and Area Standing Committee Work

As I reflect on my first few months in service as a standing committee chair, one thing that stands out is the relationship of our tradition of anonymity as it challenges me in carrying the message through working with what I call “front-liners”. A “front-liner” is a person on the “front line” who through his or her work may have first contact with a sick and suffering alcoholic. Many of these “front-liners” are people who are likely to be in a position of trust to individuals who need help. In particular, I’m talking about people such as preachers, teachers, doctors, lawyers and other such professionals, but in general a “front-liner” could be any member of the public.

Allow me a glimpse back to my own first admission of powerlessness and unmanageability. I went to a “professional.” I felt comfortable with this professional because I knew that I could have a confidential conversation. During the course of a professional relationship such as doctor/patient, priest/parishioner, or lawyer/client such professionals are required by law to maintain confidentiality. A feeling of relief immediately came over me. But the professional had very limited information about Alcoholics Anonymous. I was referred to treatment instead – where I ultimately found AA.

Continued on Page 5...

## From the Editor...

### Young People in AA (YPAA) and General Service- Unity through Cooperation and Support

One of the common misconceptions about YPAA (Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous) Conventions and Committees is that they are separate from AA as a whole, serve only to isolate young members of AA from the general body, and exclude the general body from their events, meetings, and conventions. This couldn't be further from the truth. A large reason that YPAA conventions and committees are in existence is so our younger members can see that there are many people their own age who are getting and staying sober in Alcoholics Anonymous. Conventions and committees help advance our primary purpose: to carry the message to the still sick and suffering alcoholic. Panels at conventions focus on the steps and traditions, as well as other recovery topics such as relationships, carrying the message into hospitals, treatment centers, and correctional institutions, old-timer panels, and topics about AA slogans.

What I have found is that the underlying motivation of all of the Young People's committees that I have been involved with is to introduce young people to the service structure. To demonstrate how this works, I will tell the story of Jill, an 18-year-old, who has been sober in AA for two years. She has worked the steps and is sponsoring other women, but hasn't really gotten into the service structure. Her homegroup has a GSR, but general service has always seemed kind of boring and not very relevant to her recovery. She is content just to go to meetings and do service at that level.

Recently, Jill heard that some members of her homegroup have formed a bid committee to bid on the International Convention of Young People in AA (ICYPAA). They are trying to get members around her area to sign up for the bid committee. The ultimate goal of the committee is to bring ICYPAA to her area. Jill has been to a few conventions before and has always had a blast. She really wants to be involved in bringing one to her hometown, though she's never been on a committee before. Jill shows up at the first bid committee meeting and is amazed at how smoothly everything is running. The temporary chair is using Robert's Rules of Order to run the meeting. He goes through the proposed bylaws for the bid committee, and everyone present votes using 3<sup>rd</sup> legacy procedure, a voting process that Jill is entirely unfamiliar with. Her homegroup votes on items using a simple majority. A member hands her a Service Manual, which he says will explain the voting procedure. Next, the committee elects officers like chair, secretary, treasurer, hotel chair, intergroup liaison and general service liaison. Jill is surprised when she is asked if she is "willing and able" to stand for chair of the committee. She says that

she has no idea how to be chair and that she would prefer not to be. She is told that as long as she is willing and able, then she can stand for chair. Through 3<sup>rd</sup> legacy procedure, Jill isn't elected chair. Another member with much more experience is elected. Jill is elected events chair, which means that she will be responsible for organizing events for the bid committee throughout the year.

During the year leading up to ICYPAA, where her committee will bid to host the following year, Jill is exposed to all sorts of things in AA that she's never heard of before. The general service liaison has Jill go to the area assembly to meet people from around the area and outreach the bid committee events. The entire bid committee hosts the hospitality room at the State Convention. Jill attends a panel about trustees and is surprised to learn that there are some non-alcoholic trustees on the General Service Board.

Throughout the year at bid committee meetings, the traditions and concepts are talked about often. Whenever major items are brought up for a vote, they are voted on using 3<sup>rd</sup> legacy procedure. Once, there was a discussion as to whether or not the bid committee should allow a local coffee shop to donate coffee for use at their events. Initially, the measure passed, but then someone spoke for the minority. Jill was surprised to hear that the 12 concepts allow the minority to have a voice and give the majority a chance to change their vote. The gentleman that spoke for the minority talked about the committee being fully self-supporting, and thus they shouldn't affiliate themselves with any outside enterprise. Accepting free coffee would be in violation of those traditions. Jill, who initially voted in the majority, was pleased when she learned that she had an opportunity to change her vote.

The time finally came to present their bid to the convention. The Bid Committee had been working really hard all year, and even though it was their first year bidding, they had a lot of confidence in their bid package. The ICYPAA Advisory Council, which was composed of members of past ICYPAA host committees, was charged with selecting the location of the next ICYPAA. During the bidding process, the Advisory Council asked the Bid Committee how many of their members were GSRs. The Council also wanted to know what their relationship with the local service structure was. Were they involved and active in area service or were they operating separately? Were they supporting area events? Jill knew that the Bid Committee's general service liaison had been slacking throughout the year, and they hadn't been very involved with their area. The conference was awarded to another city.

Continued on Next Page...

Throughout the next year, the Bid Committee tried harder to strengthen their relationship with the area service structure. Jill became her homegroup's GSR and through that she learned all about general service. Over the next few years, the Bid Committee grew stronger and Jill formed amazing bonds with her committee members. She learned how to deal with others: to agree to disagree, to put principles over personalities, and to admit when she's wrong. These skills served her well on the area committees she served on. She found that she could easily navigate these committees and deal with all sorts of personalities and issues that threatened to divert them from their primary purpose.

After a few years, the Bid Committee was finally awarded ICYPAA, and the committee became the ICYPAA Host Committee. Jill was elected treasurer, and throughout the year, she learned all about how to be financially responsible and how to abide by the traditions when it came to money. She truly learned "where money and spirituality mix." The conference went off really well, and they ended up being fully self-supporting. Jill was amazed to see all of the work she had done over the last four years culminate into a spectacular weekend where thousands of young people from all over the country came together to celebrate life and sobriety in Alcoholics Anonymous.

After the convention, Jill was elected to serve for five years on the ICYPAA Advisory Council. She was entrusted, as a member of the council, to make sure that the convention survives the certain trials and low spots ahead. Jill learned that she had to allow the Host Committee to make and learn from their mistakes. She was only to share her experience, strength, and hope with the Host Committees. As a result of her experience serving as treasurer for the Host Committee, she was elected treasurer for her area. With so much past committee experience under her belt, Jill found it easy to filter the principles through the personalities, and was a very effective member of her area panel.

Variations of this story are quite common among our younger members who get involved in YPAA committees. My own story is quite similar to the one told above. Though I was involved in general service before I was involved in YPAA, my YPAA experience opened me up to a whole new world of service and helped further my understanding of the service structure as a whole.

While many younger members attend the conventions and events and never participate in the committees that organize these events, there is still value in merely attending the conventions. Most YPAA conventions include panels on service and the traditions, and last year's ICYPAA featured the first Young People's Forum, an all-day event sponsored by GSO which included many staff members and trustees, including former General Manager, Greg M. and Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Leonard Blumenthal.

My experience as a member of Alcoholics Anonymous who is active in general service and YPAA committees (I currently serve on the Advisory Council for the Eastern Area Convention of Young People in AA) is that there isn't one "right" way to carry the message. Some people, like Jill, need to get involved in YPAA to see how important general service is to AA as a whole, while some people, like myself, needed YPAA to solidify and enhance my already existing journey in general service. As active members of Alcoholics Anonymous, we are responsible for encouraging other members of AA to participate in service at any level: the group, the area, YPAA committees, hospitals, correctional facilities, CPC, etc... I am ever grateful for the many people who came before me and gently pushed me in the direction of general service and service in Young People's AA. I hope that I can follow them in helping to show our younger members that their lives in sobriety and recovery are filled with endless possibilities in and out of the service structure.

Dave S.  
 Editor, Northeast Ohio Recorder

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★  
 ★ Overheard at the 51st ICYPAA in ★  
 ★ Atlanta, GA: ★  
 ★ "We (young people) are not the fu- ★  
 ★ ture of AA, we are the now of AA; ★  
 ★ the future of AA is still drinking!" ★  
 ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★



## Delegate's Report Cont'd

We saw two locations where Bill and Lois lived. We saw an apartment where they lived in the 20's and the home on 182 Clinton Street where Bill's drinking got progressively worse. Incidentally, Lois was born in this home and Ebby made his famous visit to Bill here and exclaimed "I've got religion!" We saw the office building where Bill dictated the Big Book, a former General Service Office location, and Calvary Episcopal church where Rev. Sam Shoemaker was pastor. Our last stop was Town's Hospital where Bill met Dr. Silkworth. I took many pictures of that location. The former hospital and treatment center is now an apartment building right across the street from Central Park. At dinner on Saturday evening I was invited to attend mass on Sunday morning at St. Patrick's cathedral with a Michigan delegate and his wife. I remembered there was a Remote Communities meeting scheduled on Sunday morning. The conference was to begin on Sunday afternoon with "roll call." I kept remembering Jeff (our panel 57 delegate) saying how he enjoyed that meeting, as he had met a delegate from Yellowknife, Canada. I decided to attend that meeting and learned that the criteria for reaching alcoholics and doing twelfth step work in remote communities are based on language, culture, and geography. I really enjoyed the sharing from the Canadians regarding the work with the natives that live in northern Canada. When the meeting was almost over, the chair asked if anyone would be interested in standing for next year's committee. Someone pushed me out of my chair! I received a letter after the conference from Warren S., a staffer at GSO naming me the elected chair person for the Remote Communities Committee next year. The delegate from Nova Scotia will be my alternate. The committee gives their reports just prior to the opening of the GSC. We exchanged ideas and the delegates from southeastern New York and Connecticut will print our reports. I am now going to chair two committees in 2010 (so far): the Past and Present Delegates Conference and the Remote Communities Committee.

On Sunday evening the Finance Committee met with the trustees, CFO, and even the CPA who issued the profit and loss statements we reviewed. No stone was left unturned. Being a businessman, I had read numerous P&L's in the past. As a result, I now have a good idea of what the financial status of AA looks like. The Finance Committee meetings operate much like they do at our Mini-Conference. A chair runs the meeting and a secretary prepares the conclusions and recommendations based on our voting and sharing. This information is then presented to the conference at the designated time.

The trustees will probably poll the fellowship again in 2010 regarding financial matters. We only had 36 areas respond to the agenda item that dealt with fully funding the general service functional expenses with

voluntary contributions only. Also, we voted against a 7<sup>th</sup> tradition poster, which was our 2<sup>nd</sup> agenda item.

On Tuesday we had to elect a chairperson for the Finance Committee. The next thing I knew elections were held and I was in a tie with the North Florida delegate, who happens to live only 10 minutes from my son in Orlando! The two of us were ushered out into the hotel lobby and two minutes later I was chair of the Finance Committee! I firmly believe that God wants to keep me busy these next few months. I will now be chairing three (3) committees!

On Wednesday I saw trustees get elected both on a regional capacity (Southeast & East Central) and a US trustee at large. Our new trustee Pam R. is from Michigan.

The committee sessions lasted for many hours. One committee was at the dais for 6 hours. Another met so many times they said they totaled 14 hours in committee sessions! The conference was supposed to end on or about 5pm Friday evening, but that was not happening. We had one hour to eat dinner and get back to the conference. I logged the first floor action at 12:10 am and the 8<sup>th</sup> and final floor action at 2:02 am. We closed the conference at 2:22am. My new found friend, the Yukon delegate, went with me to find a pizza place (which we did) at 2:30am because we didn't want to go to bed hungry. New York is truly the city that never sleeps, though it was probably the last time we will see a GSC there. The 2010 conference will be held in New York in a town called Rye where we are going we'll hear the crickets and the frogs.

That agenda item we submitted to the conference in regards to the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" passed unanimously. "The committee recommended that the trustees' Literature Committee undertake a thorough review of the pamphlet 'Questions and Answers on Sponsorship' and eliminate or revise outmoded ethnic, cultural and vocational references. The committee looks forward to reviewing a progress report or a revised draft pamphlet at the 2010 conference."

Then came the anticipated condemnation over raising literature prices: floor action #5 that was submitted at 1:07 am on May 2, read as follows "that the price increases proposed by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services in a letter dated March 20, 2009 be withdrawn and the current pricing structure be maintained." Submitted by the northern Illinois delegate (Area 20), the votes went 8 for, 114 against, motion fails.

To those of you who don't know, I am now an Akronite. I want to thank those of you who hung in there with me, and again I want to reemphasize that I sincerely hope that someday each and every one of you have an opportunity to attend a GSC.

Love and service, Danny F. (59)(54)

## Anonymity and Area Standing Committee Work Continued...

Having gotten a cursory understanding of A.A.'s Steps and Traditions, I returned to life sure that I must – at all cost – maintain this thing called “anonymity.” I heard the stories about the early anonymity breakers and read Bill W.'s Grapevine writings on the topic. So I went about living life without letting anyone know about these meetings, unless I ran across another alcoholic.

Then I came to General Service, and accepted an assignment to do committee work. My first thought was that if I have to carry the message to folks other than alcoholics then what would come of my anonymity? I believe that the answer lies in a better understanding of our Eleventh Tradition.

Our Eleventh Tradition, in addition to reminding us of our public relations policy, informs us “we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and film.” Somewhere I read a statement I believe was attributed to one of our founders that “personal anonymity at the level of press radio and film” means exactly what it says: *at* that level – not *above* that level or *below* that level. Thus, I need not be concerned about breaking the anonymity tradition by admitting my membership in A.A. to anyone I come across, alcoholic or not, who asks for information about A.A., so long as the person does not publish my name.

Speaking to a member of the public about my experience in A.A. so as to provide a way for such a person to help a sick and suffering alcoholic find A.A. is not breaking personal anonymity at the level of press, radio or film. If I were anonymous at such a public level, I would be maintaining personal anonymity above – not at – the level suggested in the Eleventh Tradition. Both you and I have the privilege of maintaining personal anonymity above the media level if we choose. But if we choose to maintain personal anonymity at that higher level, let us not attribute it to the Eleventh Tradition. In other words, I should not use the Eleventh Tradition as an all-out cloak of secrecy. Maybe you are like I was - struggling with a perceived social stigma. Now that I have experienced carrying the message through CPC/PI work, I have come to understand that the stigma is only a perception, not a reality. The stigma may be part of the problem, but it has disappeared since I began living in the solution.

Recently, I approached my pastor to let him know that if he happened to run across people he perceived as having a problem with alcohol, he should know that there is hope through A.A. I left him with a local schedule booklet and the Conference approved pamphlet “Members of the Clergy Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous.” He responded by inviting me to speak to a group of his colleagues. Fear cropped up; I knew that some of his colleagues knew of me as a music minister, but I did not have

a personal relationship with them sufficient for them to know me as a recovering alcoholic. Reluctantly, I agreed to speak. After all, I had accepted the responsibility of doing area C.P.C. work. I informed my service sponsor, who made a few suggestions. I reviewed the Conference approved pamphlet “Speaking at Non-AA Meetings.” I called the C.P.C. desk at G.S.O., thanking God that I had already developed a personal rapport with the staff person on that desk. Somehow, with the help of God and the fellowship, I made it through the event without promoting A.A. or myself, but just providing interested individuals with accurate information. Experiencing the meeting with the pastors provided me with a renewed strength to continue carrying the message in this way.

We now have an upcoming opportunity to carry the message through a booth at the Cuyahoga County Fair. It has been asked, “Isn't that promotion?” No, it is not. It is carrying the message through literature and information to anyone who might be attracted. The key is to be low key. Sitting quietly at a discreet booth to provide information about A.A. to those who ask is not the same thing as yelling through a megaphone “Get you're A.A. material here”. But sitting at a discreet information booth under a banner that identifies the information as coming from “Alcoholics Anonymous” does require the booth staffer to connect his or her face with the Fellowship at a public level. Just remember, the Eleventh Tradition does not say anything about maintaining personal anonymity at the public level; instead, it speaks to the media level. Nonetheless, G.S.O. suggests that we only present ourselves by first name and last initial, which takes us to the spiritual aspect of anonymity. It is important for me not to take personal credit. After all, ego can kick in at any moment.

The next time you are asked to assist one of your area standing committees please come out from behind that Eleventh Tradition veil and get involved. The rewards are more akin to, than different from, the rewards we receive when we share the message one-on-one with another still sick and suffering alcoholic. Remember, Bill went out to find Bob. And he had to go through a non-alcoholic professional to get there. If we are only helping individuals who have already found their way to a meeting, then are we really extending the hand of A.A. when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help? If we truly want the hand of A.A. to be there then we must also be there, regardless of whether it is a meeting, a treatment center, a prison, a doctor's office, a pastor's office or the county fair. And we must be there in a way that is accessible not only to “Joe the Alcoholic” but also to his sister who might be confined to a wheelchair, or his best friend who may be blind or deaf.

James T. (54)(59) CPC Chair

## Area Officer and Committee Reports

To all of my friends in Area 54, I wanted to thank you all for the opportunity to serve as the Area 54 Mailing Secretary. Our folding parties continue to be a great success. Thanks so much to the folks in Districts 7, 8 and 48 in the Youngstown area and the Youngstown Intergroup Office for hosting. At one point we had 24 people there and we folded, stuffed and trayed 1,284 pieces in a bit less than two hours! Wow!

I also appreciate the Panel 59 Officers joining us. It gives GSRs and others a chance to meet them and talk about service work. Many of these folks never make it up to Brunswick so it is an important piece of outreach for the Area. On June 14, District 10 in Wooster hosted folding the mailing you are currently reading. Thanks!

Coming up will be the September and year-end mailings. The North Coast Multi-District has expressed interest in hosting the next mailing in September and the final one will be year-end. If your District or Multi-District is interested in this great way to get GSRs and others involved in service, please let me know. I can be reached at 330-631-2604 or come find me at any of our meetings.

The cooperation with the Akron Intergroup Office to do our printing has worked out great, we are saving a significant amount of money and we should all be grateful for their cooperation and help.

Also remember that we are happy to mail a flyer for any District events. One sided on white paper only costs \$25 and is a great way to get the word out!

Jay M., Mailing Secretary

GSO's web-accessed Fellowship New Vision (FNV) area registrar's interface has been around for a few years now and is pretty stable. A few notes for you primary contacts (the folks we mail this newsletter to) are

in order;

1. Our area54.org website has downloadable "group change" and "group add" forms designed for area54 and aligned for FNV. The aa.org site forms have not yet been revised. Please use our forms! Also please only use the add form for never-registered group and the change form for already-registered groups.

2. While GSO and our area only mail to the primary contact for a group, and we only print the secondary contact's name and phone number, I cannot enter either contact without a full mailing address.

3. Our 12th Tradition suggests that we not name a group after any person, living or dead. Our 6th Tradition suggests we ought never name a group after the facility in which it meets. Some groups got named before 1950 when we accepted the 12 traditions. And some other groups got named when GSO Records Department and our registrars were more lax about these good ideas. GSO Records, as well as this registrar, are more attentive now. Please comply! No, I have NO intention of asking King School, Borton, or any other currently registered group to change their name. I would balk, and GSO Records object, to registering any NEW group in violation of tradition.

4. While this update is web-based, it is quite safe. It is on a secure server. I had to install a time-limited certificate on the machine I use to access it. I have to enter a username and password to get initial access to the site. Finally I have to enter a PIN number when it comes up. Plus I am the ONLY person in our area with this access.

Please also realize that the mailings to you, as contact for your group, are mailings for your group and not exclusively for you. Please get the mailings to your group and tell them about some items in them of

general interest. Truly carrying our message depends on this crucial communication link.

Bob McK., Registrar

Greetings to one and all, my travel schedule has lightened up a bit.

I am busy fielding service questions and sponsoring new GSR's in service.

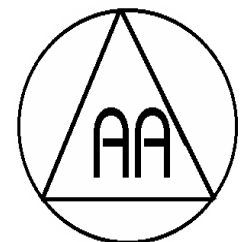
If you did not attend Unity Day in May you truly missed an enlightening and informative experience. Beverly and Joe shared their personal view of what UNITY meant to them. Well Done. Jay M. presented a PowerPoint presentation on some of the trials and tribulations of the beginning of our conference structure. It was extremely interesting and educational. The grand finale was our delegate, Dan Fitzgerald, with his 59th General Service Conference report. Dan was so well prepared for the conference, he was elected to chair two committees for the next conference. We are proud of Dan.

At the State Convention planning meeting, Bob M was elected to be the state archivist. Congratulations Bob. We are looking forward to attending this event July 10, 11 & 12, 2009 in Columbus. Make your reservations early.

I have met with several representatives of dark districts. Hopefully, we can share the need to develop informed and active districts.

I am working with multi-districts, 7, 8 & 48 to develop a district mailing.

Bob D. Alternate Delegate



## Area Officer and Committee Reports Continued...

Jeff B. of Wooster, District 10 has a committee, and after meeting with the Steps treatment facility staff, a Bridging the Gap program will begin. Jeff will be using the "Hope" DVD.

Several people have taken leadership in their districts or multi-districts to make calls to persons leaving a treatment facility and requesting a temporary contact. Just a phone call to the recently released individual who has left the safety of a treatment facility and come home to reality makes a difference.

Thanks for all your efforts in this important 12-step work.

We are still in need assistance to make calls to persons requesting a temporary contact in the Cleveland, Parma, Lakewood, Avon and other suburbs.

I am catching up on distributing requests for temporary contacts. I hope by the June Area Committee meeting to report more improvements in our effort to assist. Anyone working on this committee who would like to talk about the work in their area (or needs) is encouraged to come to the June meeting and share.

Susan R.  
Treatment Facilities Chair



### What is the Birthday Plan?

-The Birthday Plan, as our co-founder Bill W. put it "provides a way for members to celebrate their personal and group anniversaries by setting aside a dollar or more for each sober year and sending it off to the General Service Office for A.A. services worldwide."

-Another option for the Birthday Plan is how you, as an individual, can support General Service. A penny a day for a year of sobriety—\$3.65 plus one dollar per year of your sobriety.

-In some area groups, a member celebrating an anniversary is presented with a medallion, and a Birthday Plan envelope along with it. As for the envelopes, they can be had by asking the Area 54 Finance Chairperson (Jamie B) or the General Service Office.

-The Birthday Plan gives us an opportunity to express personal gratitude and at the same time support A.A. A.A. is self-supporting through its own contributions -- and that's us.

-There has been talk about how effective the Birthday Plan used to be, how it's another place in the A.A. hat where spirituality and money can mix, as our co-founder, Bill W. put it -- and how maybe we need to remind our members, especially newer ones, about using the plan -- "Thanks, A.A."

**WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO EXPRESS YOUR GRATITUDE FOR THE WONDERFUL GIFT YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN -- PASS THE WORD ALONG.**



Yours in Love & Service,

**For Sale:**

Area 54's non-digital TV with built-in VHS player. The area no longer needs this. It will be at the July 19th area assembly at the 12th Step Club in Brunswick Plaza. Open to the highest bidder.

## 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.

### Confidential Contact List

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e-mail: mailingsecretary@area54.org

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<b>Archivist</b>	Richard U. 6454 North Ridge East Geneva, OH 44041	(440) 466-4476 archivist@area54.org
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