

WINTER 2014 WEB EDITION

The Assembly Meeting will be in Salina, Ks.

It will be held at the Quality Inn 2110 W. Crawford, Salina (ph. 785-825-2111),

PREAMBLE:

Kansas Area Assembly

Service shall be Area 25's primary purpose.

All Area 25 activities will be aimed at assisting Kansas A.A. groups to function more effectively. Area 25 will also try to insure that the Area's group conscience is conveyed through the general service structure to the General Service Conference, to help the Conference fulfill its primary purpose of acting as the "true voice" of A.A.

Area 25 shall encourage all Kansas A.A. groups to support the Area in its efforts to carry out this goal.

DELEGATE

Greetings Area 25

Wow what a ride it has been serving Area 25 as Delegate. I want you all to know how much fun it has been sharing my experience at the 64th General Service Conference with all of you. I am looking forward to the January Assembly and meeting the new GSR's and DCM's.

The Southwest Region Delegates Assembly is being held in Oklahoma City on March 14 and

15. There we will work on a Mock General Service Conference, where we will use the combined experience of past and sitting delegates to prepare us for the upcoming General Service Conference.

April will be a very exciting month for me. First the Area Committee on April 10,11 and 12. I am looking forward to our Area 25 Mock General Service Conference, your input on

Agenda items is very important to me. The following week I will be traveling to the 65th General Service Conference. This one will be held in Times Square in New York City. I am looking forward to seeing all of you in January.

Yours in service

Don G.

Panel 64 / Area 25 Kansas

AREA CHAIR

Hello Area 25 Kansas,

Thanksgiving has come and gone, Christmas is right around the corner and 2015 is within shouting distance, and that means Area Assembly is getting closer. Let us talk about the Area Assembly a little. As you all are aware we will be in Salina at the Quality Inn 2110 W. Crawford Salina (ph. 785-825-2111) for the 1st time of our 2 year contract. That means we all have to help this be an affordable move. By that, I mean we need to fill the sleeping rooms, I believe it's 30 rooms a night (Fri.& Sat.) 60 Total for the weekend to get our best break. We need you all to help with this. The Agenda for the Assembly has been out for a while and if you have-

n't seen it, it will be in this issue of the GFP and it is also on the Web (Kansas-aa.org). It is full of info. about Board meetings, Committee meetings, presentations and workshops. Please come and support these, they are full of useful info. Sunday morning we will be voting on New Business items like, 2015 Budget, approve new Committee Chair, elect Past Delegate to KAAAAI Board, elect odd numbered DCM and GSR to the KAAAAI Board and approve or disapprove KASO Manager to be a voting member of the Assembly. All of this info. has been out since the Oct. Committee meeting. Your DCM's should have been sharing this with there GSR's, who in turn share it with the groups. I look forward to meeting the new

people in service and of course the not so new ones. Please come and be prepared for a weekend of exciting service work at the State level. As in the words of my good friend Milton "I Love you all and there is nothing you can do about it." Thank you all for everything you do for Area 25 and AA as a whole. Christmas and New Year "Blessings" to all.

Mike H. A/25 Chair

Reaching out to the Dark Districts

Some of our neighbors do not actively participate at Area 25, nor are their voices heard with in AA as a whole. We encourage you to reach out to those districts without active DCM's, and Groups without GSR's and share your experience of service beyond the home group and carry the message one on one. Area 25 welcomes your ideas on how we can best do this and offer our support.

Grapevine Turns 70
this Year
Join the Celebration



since 1944

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Greetings Area 25, What a great time at the committee meetings We had eight people at our meeting from 6 different districts. We have some active participation in PI. There are some districts really getting out there and carrying the message. They are handing out literature getting psa's on the radio, TV, and, movie theaters. Please remember when you're handing out literature you have the area website on the literature and literature rack also please remember to have contact phone numbers on the pamphlets. From what I have been hearing at our committee meeting participation is on the increase and that is good news. It is such a pleasure to work with all you great people getting out there doing the work and carrying the message. Keep up the great work and thank you for all that you do. There was also a lot of talk about tradition 11 and the anonymity breaks in the social media. It was suggested that if they knew the people doing to please be kind and explain to them the principal of tradition 11 which is self-restraint & humility. In Love and Service, Rich S

LITERATURE

From the Literature Desk:

As has been said, "time flies when you're having fun", and I'm finding that to be so true since retirement from working for Uncle Sam. The cool thing about having this time is that I do get to spend some quality time doing what I'm to be doing as your Literature chair. As was discussed at our October committee meeting, an inventory of the Area's currently held literature items was recommended, so I have been working on that to be prepared for the January assembly when that inventory will be completed by the committee. From this inventory will come what is needed to fulfill the committees responsibilities found in the Area assembly guidelines and if that requirement is beyond the means of the approved budget then a consideration will have to be made as to how we proceed. Due to my daughters family health issues I will be unable to attend the January assembly, much to my regret, but I have asked a very capable individual to fill in for me during this week-end. Eric D. from Hayes, KS will be facilitating the committee and filling in for me, please make Eric feel welcome as I'm sure you will. The new 2015 Literature catalog will be available at the assembly along with the new pamphlets recently released, please plan to come by the display and pick one up, this catalog will have the new literature prices incorporated into it. I've run out of space so must sign off but want to remind you that we will be showing the DVD "Markings on the Journey", on Saturday evening of the January Assembly, so please plan to make that a part of your Saturday evening!!! In love and service Terry H

CORRECTIONS FACILITIES

Greetings from your Area 25 Corrections Facilities Chairperson, It is hard to believe that this year is coming to an end and a new year is just around the corner. I want to thank you for your continued contributions to the Yellow Can Fund. Without your support we wouldn't be able to carry the message to the Inmates through AA Books and Literature along with our meetings to those in Prisons and Jails around Area 25. Nancy E., Treasurer, asks that you always check the "Thank You Contribution Cards" information, making sure the amount is credited to the correct group and district. Also, thanks for putting the group and district numbers on the checks. The Yellow Can address is P. O. Box 67711, Topeka, Ks 66667. The Correction Conference is March 14, 2015 in Topeka at Grace United Methodist Church, 2627 SW Western Ave from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Doors open at 8:30 and Lunch will be provided. Pick up a flyer at January's Assembly in Salina and plan to attend. Pre-Release & Correspondence, Darin S., is looking for volunteers from Area 25 to write to an Inmate or meet an Inmate within 24 to 48 hours after being released and get them to a meeting. Thank you again for your support of the Yellow Can Fund. Sharon F. CFC Chairperson

WEB

Hello Area Members!

The holidays are upon us and I am busy as can be, but sober. The website is constantly changing in new GSR's, new groups, new meetings, its wonderful to get changes to be made on the website. It means AA is still alive and living! January Assembly is just next month and the web chair is looking forward to questions about our website. One thing for sure I hope to help each of you learn a little more about www.kansas-aa.org. Keep this in mind as you visit our site, "What does our site really do for us?" If you or know of someone that does web mastering please come to the Assembly in January or contact me at webchair@kansas-aa.org. Thanks for letting me be of service.

Virgil H. Area 25 Web chair

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

Greetings! We had another great CPC meeting at the October committee meetings in Salina. It was brought to my attention that several districts were short on the blue CPC cards for professionals to subscribe to the GSO newsletter About AA. GSO publishes this newsletter quarterly; there are cards where professionals can fill out their information to receive the newsletter. I have since ordered and received 100 of these cards and have sent them to the districts that were in need of them. Please let me know if you need any of these cards, I'd be happy to mail them to you or get them to you in January at Area Assembly. I also restocked the CPC display with new pamphlets from GSO, so we have a nice, up to date display. Video Resource for the Professional I'd like to take the opportunity to also highlight that we have the full length video, "Hope" that can also act as a visual informational piece about A.A. Here is the link to, "Hope," which is available on the G.S.O. website: http://unikron.http.internapcdn.net/unikron/aa/may2014/DV09_ENG_320x240.mp4 As always, don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, OR if you would like me to come speak about CPC at any of your events in the Area. I had a chance to give a CPC workshop for District 6 in November and have another scheduled for January. Its truly a pleasure to serve the Area. Happy Holidays!
In Love and Service, Josh R, CPC Chair

GRAPEVINE

Greetings Area 25,

I would like to invite you to attend a 30 minute workshop for the Grapevine at the January Assembly. Just a reminder that the 70th year of the Grapevine is about to wrap up and it will be the 71st year in January. I encourage you to take advantage of the free shipping for your he holidays and for your yearly gift subscriptions to the Grapevine and LaVina. Its an honor to be of serve to Area 25 and the Grapevine/LaVina Committee. If anyone has any questions or needs to use the display at their event please contact me and I would be happy to see that it gets to you or to your AA event. I'll see you in January. Andi S.

GRAPE FREE PRESS

Seasons Greetings,

Once again thanks to the efficient notes of the Area Secretary, and the assistance of the Web Chair the Wrap Sheet was composed and posted online within two weeks of the Committee meeting. I hope your DCM's and GSR's are continuing to find this a useful resource in keeping all of Area 25 informed .. Please take the time to view our second edition of the Grape Free Press to be posted on the Area website. The Wrap Sheet and the GFP on line continues to be a new opportunity to inform, educate, and share with the entire fellowship all the work done by our Area Committees to carry the message throughout the state of Kansas. Yours in Service Sue N.

P.S. Don't forget to check out the Winter Box 459 for our own Area Secretary's article. :)

AL-ANON LIASON

I am grateful to report that have been able to attend the 2015 Al-anon State Conference Committee meeting for November. The plans for the 2015 Conference are shaping up. Our AA speaker will be Sue B from Wichita. The Conference will be at the Best Western Wichita North Hotel and Suites, just off I-135 and 53rd Street. The dates will be June 12-14. I would like to see if there is any interest in having a workshop for AA this year. If so please let me know what kind. I look forward to serving. Jerry W.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Greeting Area 25, I hope you all enjoyed your Thanksgiving holiday. I know we all have much to be thankful for. I was unable to attend the committee meetings in October but want to say a HUGE Thank you to Alternate DCM District 17 Terry L. for stepping up and filling in for me on a moments notice. Thanks Terry!!! There were nine in attendance from 6 districts. The different types of Special Needs were discussed but most of the time was spent talking about child care. Remember a special need is anything that keeps a member of Alcoholics Anonymous from fully participating in all areas of AA. It was suggested that a paid babysitter but used at State Conference so more could participate. It was also suggested that Ala-Teens be used to do this as a way for them to make money for their group events. Wishing each and everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! See you in January at the Area Assembly in Salina.

In Service, Raechelle R

CHRONICLER

Greetings Area 25, Hope this finds everyone doing well and staying warm. At the October Committee Meetings we had discussion about moving forward in the digital age. I'm very pleased to tell you that we have taken a big step forward in that area. I recently received a phone call and we have had some members step up and contribute a used laptop computer and a used printer/scanner to the Area Chronicler. This is great news for Area 25 as a whole. Not only will this make us more efficient, it also opens up the door for any member in Kansas to serve as Chronicler (regardless if you have a personal computer, scanner, etc...). Thank you to everyone that attended our October Committee Meeting and THANK YOU to the members that contributed the computer and printer/scanner (your continued service to Area 25 is greatly appreciated). I hope everyone has a great Christmas and New Year and I look forward to seeing you at the Area Assembly. God Bless, Justin G.

Treatment

Greetings Area 25,

At the Committee meeting in October there were 19 members present. The meeting was opened with the Serenity Prayer and then we shared the current Treatment activities that are taking place in each District around the state. Meetings continue to be taken to many treatment centers and the members taking the meetings are distributing the Bridging the Gap pamphlets there. The response has been better when fellow members distribute the information packets rather than just leaving it with the treatment centers to distribute. I shared with the committee my experience of going to the Bridging the Gap International workshop in Kansas City, Mo. There was loads of information, ideas, and experience that was shared and lots of ideas that we as a committee can work on to incorporating into our Treatment work in Area 25. Thanks for allowing me to be of Service. Tom L,

Alternate Delegate

Greetings To All, I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year, and I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Salina January 16,17, and 18th at our Area 25 Assembly. The SWRAASA get together in Corpus Christi was a big success and I wish everyone could have attended, and the Area Committee was well attended. Our SW Regional Forum will be in St Louis next October and I will have all the details for you in Salina and will be sure to get it posted on our web site. In November I attended the District 6 Round Robin and had a great time. I will enjoy meeting all of our new members and seeing old friends at the Assembly. If I can be of service to you, please don't hesitate to contact me. Yours With Love, In Service, Bruce L. Alt. Delegate, Area 25 Kansas

TREASURER

Holiday Greetings to all in Area 25!

The end of the year rapidly approaches, and I hope and pray your Holidays are awesome! It seems out of place to discuss Area 25 finances at this happy time of year. Our financials remain good for the year with the exception of the Conference losses. October was a weak month compared to last year, but for the year we remain ahead by approximately \$1100.00. We have spent about \$1400.00 less than last year and our budget goal is on target. Our loss through October is (\$845.40) which is \$2500.00 less than last year through the same period. Hopefully we will finish strong as we have a significant increase to our proposed 2015 budget just to cover the conference loss of \$4300.00. Enjoy the Holidays, and I look forward to the January Assembly and seeing all of you again.

In Love and Service Ken D Area 25 Treasurer

Upcoming Events in Area 25

**45th ANNUAL
SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE
January 9-11, 2015**

"Celebrating 80 years of Recovery, Unity, and Service -The Foundation of our Future"

Friday 8 PM	Larry H. Slaton, TX AA
Saturday 10 AM	Lori G. Oklahoma City, OK AFG
Saturday 8 PM	Cliff G. Oklahoma City, OK AA
Sunday 9:30 AM	Nancy K. Baltimore, MD AA

Registration opens at 3 pm on Friday and 8 am Saturday and Sunday.

Speaker panel Saturday 2 – 4 pm

The Dodge House Hotel and Convention Center

2408 W. Wyatt Earp Blvd. Dodge City, KS

For Reservations Call Toll Free 877-619-9090

Room Rate \$75.00 Includes 2 Breakfast Buffett coupons

Room Rate is guaranteed until 30 days prior to Conference

Mention you are with Southwest Kansas Conference

Big Book and Al-Anon Raffles

Free Ice Cream Social after Saturday night speaker

Conference Pre-Registration

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

How would you like your name badge to read?

AA AL-ANON ALATEEN OTHER

For Questions Call

Justin G. (620) 200-5997

Harold H. (620) 353-8861

E-mail: swksconf@yahoo.com

Is this your first SWK Conference? Yes No

Pre-Registration \$15.00 (\$20.00 at the door)

Alateen \$10.00

If you would like to fund a scholarship include the amount with this form \$ _____

Total Amount enclosed \$ _____

Make Checks payable to:

Southwest Kansas Conference

P O Box 276

Satanta, KS 67870

Nuts and Bolts Anniversary

When: January 24, 2015 @ 1:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Where: Kansas Union 1301 Jayhawk Boulevard

University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS

Cost: Free

Corrections Conference March 14, 2015 Topeka, Ks.

Turning Point AA

20th Anniversary

Traditions Workshop & Pot Luck

District 6 Manhattan

April 11, 2015

Contact Terry C. 785-565-8612

David Y. 785-410-2396

2015 International AA Convention

When: July 2-5, 2015

Where: Atlanta, Georgia

Why: To celebrate the 80th anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous

Please be mindful of this date as you plan your events for 2015



Biking To Atlanta

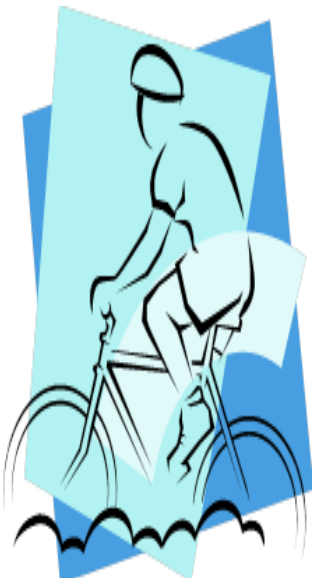
By now, many of you have already registered for the International Convention in Atlanta, Ga, (July 2 -5, 2015), where AA's 80th anniversary will be observed – "Happy, Joyous & Free". Motel reservations have been made, airline ticket prices researched, travel plans are being formulated, buses are being chartered, travel by rail, car, RV, & motorcycle are all being contemplated.

How about biking to Atlanta with me? Yes, you read it right. I'll be riding my bicycle from Lawrence to Atlanta to attend the convention. I love bicycle touring, and this will combine two things I love most – AA & bike touring.

The route will include parts of the Katy Trail, the Mississippi River Trails, the Great Rivers South routes, and the Silver Comet Trail. One of the roads I'll be pedaling on will be the Grapevine Trail Road in Illinois. Seems very appropriate for this trip! Of course, I'll be hitting some meetings on the way down – got to check out how they do AA in Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and of course, Georgia!

Well, if pedaling all the way to Atlanta is a bit much for you, I hope you are still considering going to the convention. However you arrive – hot air balloon, steam boat, covered wagon, limo, whatever, see you in Atlanta!

Dave R. Area 25 Secretary



GSR's

We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of A.A.

We realize that the ultimate authority in A.A. is a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that the group can reach an informed group conscience. Passing along this group conscience we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our fellowship.

Let us, therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our groups and A.A. as a whole.

Responsibility Declaration

"I am responsible..

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help,

I want the hand of AA always to be there.

And for that,

I am responsible"

Fourth International A. A. Convention, Toronto , Canada, July 1965

58th Annual Kansas Area 25 State Conference

"Celebrating 80 Years of
Recovery Unity Service"

September 18-20, 2015

Wichita, Ks

Double Tree by Hilton Hotel

2098 S. Airport Rd

THE GRAPE FREE PRESS is a newsletter published by the Kansas Area 25 Assembly for the members of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is about, by and for members of the A.A. Fellowship. Opinions expressed herein or articles published are not to be attributed to Alcoholics Anonymous, nor imply endorsement by A.A. or *THE GRAPE FREE PRESS*. Please respect the anonymity of the newsletter's published names. This is a communication within the fellowship of A.A. where the use of full names is encouraged. The deadline for information is the 5th day of the publishing month. Publishing dates are the 20th day of March, June, September and December. Send information to THE GRAPE FREE PRESS EDITOR, Kansas Area Service Office, P.O. Box 1773, Salina, KS, 67402-1773. Printing and mailing costs are part of the KASO budget. Copies are available on a subscription basis to members of the fellowship. The cost of the subscription is free

**Please direct your questions or suggestions to your Group
Service Representative or your District Committee Member**