



Area 25 Kansas GRAPEFREE PRESS

Vol 56 Issue 2

Anonymity Protected

Summer 2016

Delegate

Greetings,

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be of service to Area 25. I found the General Service Conference to be one of the most spiritual experiences of my many AA service opportunities and I want to personally thank you for your prayers for all of us at the conference and also for me. I hope you received my personal notes from the conference and found the information to be informative. I also want to thank you for sharing that information with your Groups. I am looking forward to sharing my full report with you at the July Assembly.

At the General Service Conference, the committee on public information had an agenda item that really caught my attention and I found it very important as well as interesting. The agenda item revolved around the internet as a medium for public information. I assumed, and I must admit wrongly, that we as a fellowship were farther along in the overall process of public information as it relates to reaching people especially in the internet age.

The discussion on the floor of the conference took many twists and turns, everything from attraction rather than promotion and the fine line that we mustn't cross, to the

need to have *AA and what it is*, at the top of the search field especially when people are looking for help escaping from the grasps of the disease of alcoholism. There was discussion regarding the old standby public information tools like phone books, newspapers and classified advertisements that are no longer viable public information tools. Today people just reach for their phones, tablets and computers and just Google information. Others discussed the fact that if you do an internet search on say "I drink too much," or "how do I know I'm an alcoholic," or "what is an alcoholic," or a search of that nature *a lot of things other than A.A. come up*. People are getting search results, **but not from A.A. itself**. Others discussed the amount of information out there some good and some not so good and we (AA) are not always at the top of the search results and therefore not meeting potential members where they are. In addition to not being at the top of searches perhaps we in turn are not attracting younger people to the fellowship. During the discussion on the floor I bounced back and forth like a ping pong ball. Someone would come to the microphone and make a great point on why we need to move ahead and do it now. Then another would get up and make the point that as keepers of the traditions we need not jeopardize any of our traditions, neither the tradition of anonymity, nor the tradition of attraction not promotion should be compromised. There was a point that I was truly torn over the issue. Seeing both the need to move



Area Assembly Meeting July 15-17, 2016

Quality Inn 2110 W. Crawford Street

Salina, KS 67401 (785) 825-2111



Preamble

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.

forward and not let AA be left behind in the digital age and realizing the ever important need to always maintain all of our traditions.

Discussion also took place regarding the decline in group contributions and that in order to take on such a project the fellowship needs to recognize that more funds would be necessary to continue to address this vital need. At the end of a lengthy discussion however I believe our Loving God expressed himself in the group conscience and the Conference recommended the following.

The Conference Committee on Public Information

A. That a proposal be developed for the implementation of both a Google-for-Non-Profits account for carrying the message of A.A. to the public be developed and brought back to the 2017 P I committee for review.

Recommendation Passed

I want to thank you for your continued financial support to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous as we continue to find new ways and improve our ability to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholics.

I look forward to seeing you in July,

Sue C. N.

Area 25 Delegate - Panel 66
delegate@ks-aa.org

Area Chair

Greetings Members of Area 25

I enjoyed working with all the members that attended the Area 25 Committee Meetings in April. The committee worked together to identify the new business items that will be brought before the Assembly in July. The agenda has been published and you will find it on the website as well as in this GFP edition.

You will note that July's Assembly will begin at 7:30 Friday night, starting with Making Motions Workshop, followed by DCM and GSR Sharing Session. Don G., Past Delegate, will share about Making Motions and answer any questions you may have. Also note if you

ERRATA:

SWRAASA in Rogers, AR is from October 21-23, 2016 instead of reported as the week before in the last Wrap Sheet.

have more questions about motions you can ask other past Delegates throughout the weekend. The DCM's and GSR's Sharing Session will be run by your KAAAI Board DCM, Dennis G., and GSR, Kat M. They will share Board business items and answer your questions. There will also be time for you to discuss other area, district, and group business.

I have invited Don M., Denver, CO, Past General Service Board Trustee to our Assembly in July. He will be doing a workshop Saturday morning as well as speaking Saturday night on Concepts. He has an overwhelming amount of experience and knowledge and I know you will really enjoy what he has to share.

Your State Conference is September 16th, 17th, and 18th. If you have not pre-registered or booked your room you can go to Kansas-aa.org. You can register and book your room on the Kansas Area website or you can print the flyer to mail your registration in.

I look forward to seeing everyone in July!

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Sheri P.

Area 25 Chair
chairperson@ks-aa.org



Alternate Delegate

As I write this, I'm looking forward to the Additional Forum in Denver, Co. (June 3-5); by the time any of you read this, that will be in the past. I will have to wait until the Fall GFP to report on the Forum, but I know I'll be reporting what a wonderful gathering it was. Hope I saw some of you there!

Registrations for the State Conference are starting to come in through the mail and on-line. As of today, we have 152 pre-registered! Some of the district & group events in the state have invited us to set up a table for doing on-site registrations, and I believe about 20 have come in this way. Also, some groups & districts have funded scholarships. If your group and/or district hasn't done this yet, let me encourage you to consider doing so – it's a great way to help AAs get to the Conference! Dates of the Conference are Sept. 16-18, 2016, at the DoubleTree Hilton in Wichita.

A reminder of the biennial SWRAASA (Southwest Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly), Oct. 21-23, 2016, at the Embassy Suites in Rogers, Arkansas. Dick R, Dist. 19 Archivist, will be leading a workshop on Archives at this event, and Rosa M. will be heading up a workshop on Language & Cultural Barriers. Our delegate will give a presentation on "Participation: The Key to Recovery." I know you'll want to come for these, and Area 4 (Ark) is going all out to make this a great SWRAASA.

Thank you for letting me serve Area 25!

David R.

Area 25 Alternate Delegate - Panel 66
altdelegate@ks-aa.org



CPC

Greetings from your Area #25 CPC Chair!

The CPC Committee met at the April Committee Meeting and discussed what was happening in the different Districts around Kansas. District #19 CPC committee had a booth at Wichita State University Health Fair. There are several other districts with upcoming events.

During the Mock General Service Conference there was much discussion on the pamphlet "Is there an Alcoholic in the Workplace" as well as discontinuing the pamphlet "Three Talks To Medical Societies." It was determined that we would recommend to change the wording in the pamphlet "Is there an Alcoholic in the Workplace" and to continue printing the pamphlet "Three Talks to Medical Societies." There were several other agenda items that we did not address due to time constraints.

I would like to thank all who participated during the Meetings. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the July Assembly!

Respectfully,

Galen E.

Area 25 C.P.C. Chair
cpc@ks-aa.org

Conference Chair

Hello to all you beautiful AA members in Kansas, we are having fun working hard putting your convention together. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the area assembly meeting, while there I am going to get you to volunteer.

Mostly we need your support, we need you to show up and enjoy the convention.

Thank you for letting me be of service. Love Ya

Joe C.

Area 25 State Conference Chair

Literature

Dear Fellows,

The committee meetings were awesome, I had the privilege of attending dinner with other Area Chairs and friends, and I had a wonderful time. Establishing new relationships is one of my favorite parts of service work.

The Mock Conference was a good experience. There were several agenda items to discuss but do to time restraints we only focused on one.

Consider developing a plain language version of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

According to the Plain Language Association International, "a communication is in plain language if the language, structure, and design are so clear that the intended audience can easily find what they need, understand what they find, and use that information." We read the background material, discussed the pros, and cons and while we could see maybe some benefit, there really wasn't enough to justify the need. Therefore we unanimously recommended to take no action. The Conference has reaffirmed on several occasions that the writings of our co-founders not be changed.

I had never witnessed this process and was full of fear having to lead our gathering. As always when I trust in God, and walk through the fear, it always turns out to be a rewarding experience.

At our committee meeting there were nine in attendance with Districts 19, 24, 26, 23, and 5 being represented.

District 19 is getting very active in service, they have approved a budget of \$250.00 to have literature available to put in libraries, and schools. They have also decided to keep all district literature and displays in a central location, hoping to make the transition smoother for incoming and outgoing service positions.

District 26 is taking Big Books to schools and libraries, and also having large print literature available for those who want it.

District 5 is making Big Books and 12 and 12's available

in small town High Schools and revisiting to make sure they are still there.

District 23 has a new Literature Chair eager to learn and already has several ideas to better carry the message.

We discussed what grades we should try to reach, and the consensus was to stay out of the elementary grades, but would consult with school boards before taking any action. Taking literature to juvenile detention centers, treatment centers, and children's home is also being done in some districts. Putting local hotline number and new comer packets in the high schools was also discussed. With open discussion and brain storming lots of wonderful ideas can be achieved to better carry the message.

GSO continues to encourage Literature Chairs at all levels of service to order from their local intergroup or central office whenever possible. Otherwise you can go to AA.org or directly to [AAWS online store](http://AAWS.org). It is very easy to order literature this way and my experience is it arrives within a week.

I would like to encourage all groups to order Box 459. It has news and notes from GSO, sharing and fellowship from around the world, and a bulletin board of AA events. One year subscription is \$3.50, or bulk of 10 for \$6.00, very affordable. Also the 75th Anniversary edition is still available.

Looks like a busy summer and I am looking forward to having fun and meeting fellows from around the Area. Let me know if I can help in any way.

In Love and Service,

Pat W.

Area 25 Literature Chair
literature@ks-aa.org

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.

Correctional Facility

It continues to be my pleasure to serve as your Correctional Facility Chair for this rotation. I am learning what a wonderful job AA members "on the outside" are doing to carry the message to AA members "on the inside." Many continue to take meetings into prisons and jails across Kansas without recognition, or even a thank you, for their dedication to AA. I would like to personally thank all of you for your service in correctional facilities. We often say that if this type of service work helps even one inmate into recovery, and helps us to stay sober, then our efforts are worthwhile.

At the July Assembly in Salina, our Committee will be hearing proposals from all districts who are interested in hosting the 2017 Area 25 Corrections Conference. Presentations will be heard during our regular committee meeting at 11:00 am on Saturday, July 16, 2016.

The proposal presented at the July 2016 Assembly should include the following:

- A. The date(s), time, and location (hotel, church, prison, jail etc.)
- B. Format of the conference, i.e., speakers, panels, Q & A, tours, etc.
- C. Meals provided if any.
- D. Methods by which the conference will be advertised statewide.
- E. Reasons why everybody should vote for your district to host the conference.

The members present at that committee meeting will decide by majority vote which district will host the 2017 Corrections Conference. We hope to have a large attendance and great conference next year.

See you in Salina,

Lenny E.

Area 25 Correctional Facility Chair
corrections@ks-aa.org

Answer:
The Mayflower Hotel Lobby

Public Information

Greetings Area 25

I hope everyone is doing good as the weather is starting to look more seasonable. I was asked to bring my display to District 4 Round Robin in Russell last February. Several people were interested in the 2011 census report. It's a good barometer to AA membership, age groups, and collective information of the membership. Also a gentleman mentioned a possible workshop to be done with some civic activities he is involved in.

Ulysses had their annual Health Fair and District 16 had a public information booth set up. I took the PI display to the Sunday Funday that was in held in Ulysses in April. One of the District PI Chairs is considering a PI/CPC workshop in the future. Another group is having PI meetings on Saturday afternoons to inform their members.

I was not at the April committee meetings but Leslie M. chaired the breakout meeting and mock conference. I owe Leslie big time! I was told she did a very good job. Her report was Districts are getting literature and meeting schedules to newspapers, Dr's offices, ER, libraries, hotels, laundry mats, and public transportation. Groups also need to keep current with any changes to their meeting status.

The AA website is also a great resource for information. I learned that the top three searches on AA.org for 2015 are Daily Reflections, looking for meetings, and the Big Book. PI was number seventeen. I also learned that most of the agenda items were of videos on the AA website. Leslie and those in her group were able to view them at the mock conference. A significant amount of information for PI is available on the AA website.

In closing please let me know if you would like me to attend any of your group or district functions.

Thanks in Service,

Jeff D.

Area 25 Public Information Chair
publicinformation@ks-aa.org

Grapevine

Hello everyone in Area 25 from your Grapevine chair.

The Grapevine committee meeting was well attended. We discussed what and how we used the Grapevine in our respective groups. I opened with the serenity prayer.

We had a great time discussing the topics for the General Service Conference. A lot of discussion over how we wanted our Delegate to vote. The group came to a unanimous conclusion.

In our meeting talking about the uses of the Grapevine. We agreed that before the next assembly we would all have the Grapevine Quote of the Day coming to us. Some groups send it out with newcomers, others use it for topics in a meeting. It is a great source of information.

I am looking forward to finding out how the vote turned out at the General Service Conference. Ready to see everyone at the Area Assembly in July.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve,

Tom L.

Area 25 Grapevine Chair
grapevine@ks-aa.org

Registrar

Greetings from your Area Registrar,

Well, the second quarter has been as exciting as the first. I have become familiar with the GSO databases and templates. We began the process of reconciling GSO with our Roster and Meetings database.

District 19 elected a Registrar. I downloaded the active groups for District 19 into the GSO Group Template and the district registrar, Tom T., is reviewing it for accuracy. I also sent District 01 their data and Jim O, the DCM, is contacting the groups for updates. I will continue to send these out to the remaining groups.

Once I have the inputs, I will update GSO and the Area Roster and send meeting changes to our Area Web Chair.

Our goal is to get GSO, our Area Roster and meetings database current and in sync. This is no small task. I want to express my appreciation for the cooperation and support from our Area Web Chair. His professionalism and technology expertise are of great value.

Nancy B.

Area 25 Registrar
registrar@ks-aa.org

Special Needs

Greetings Area 25,

It was great to see everyone at the Area Assembly in January. Thank you to those who participated in the Special Needs Committee. We had twelve in attendance representing seven districts. We discussed what should be considered a special need. Anything that prevents someone from fully participating in Alcoholics Anonymous can be considered a special need. Special Needs addressed in the meeting include deafness, blindness, physical handicaps, learning disabilities, homebound, long-term illnesses, bed-ridden, living in a nursing home or long-term care facility, and mental illnesses. We would like to make meetings and literature accessible to anyone with a drinking problem. We discussed how we can more effectively meet the needs of all members of Alcoholics Anonymous, as well as the still suffering alcoholics who have yet to hear the message. We discussed how we can make ourselves available to nursing homes and other care facilities that may house people who need a meeting and are unable to get there. We would like to encourage each of you to start conversations at your group and district to determine how to make AA more accessible in your town or county.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve.

Yours in Service,

Anissa P.

Area 25 Special Needs Chair
specialneeds@ks-aa.org

Grapefree Press

Greetings members of Area 25,

As the nominee for Grapefree Press (GFP) Editor/Chairperson, pending approval from the Assembly, I am excited and humbled to be asked to serve the Area. My thanks to the previous GFP editor, JC, for being a valuable resource through the transition.

At the last Area 25 Committee meeting, the GFP Committee met and discussed the selection of a GFP identity logo for future editions, began the process of designing the GFP display case, and discussed the distribution of future GFP and Wrap sheet.

GFP is the Area's newsletter. Members are invited to submit information, to the GFP Editor via email, including but not limited to group and district events, news, meeting information, memorials for A.A. members who have passed away, service stories, and sobriety birthdays for three (3) months prior to the current publishing date.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve!

Remi K.

Area 25 Grapefree Press Editor/Chair
gfp@ks-aa.org

Treatment

Hello Area 25 from the Treatment Committee!

We had another great committee meeting in April with a dozen people attending from six different districts. It's wonderful to see the AA message being carried to so many treatment facilities across the state and reaching a wide variety of people, young and old!

District 8 in Topeka held their First Annual Bridge the Gap Seminar in March with 32 participants attending from treatment facilities, corrections facilities and probation offices just to name a few. The event was held in partnership with NA and each fellowship had a speaker and participated in a question and answer panel. The District plans to do this event annually and partner with

CPC and PI committees to reach out to attorneys, judges and others to increase the participation.

District 19 in Wichita shared about the training program they have developed for current AA members to become Bridge the Gap temporary contacts for the patients being released from the detox facility in Wichita. The training is tailored to the needs of that particular facility, but it all came out of Chapter 7 in the Big Book and the GSO Treatment Workbook. Challenges were shared from the District committee members as we helped each other find some possible solutions and realize we are not alone in facing these challenges.

The mock General Service Conference committee meeting focused on reviewing the contents of the Treatment Committee Kit and Workbook. We reviewed the list of brochures included and viewed the Young People's Video DVD included in the kit. Everyone was in agreement that the kit was comprehensive in reaching a wide variety of alcoholics in treatment settings and no changes needed to be made.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in July at the next Area Assembly!

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service to Area 25.

Janet B.

Area 25 Treatment Chair
treatment@ks-aa.org

A Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A.'s future:

To place our common welfare first;
To keep our fellowship united.
For on A.A. unity depend our lives,
And the lives of those to come.



59th Annual Kansas Area 25 State Conference

**Our Spiritual Way of Life: Steps, Traditions, and Concepts
September 16 - 18, 2016**

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel 2098 S. Airport Rd Wichita, KS 67209
(800)247-4458 (316)945-5272

Group Code for Reservations - A25

Friday, September 16

- 3:00pm Registration opens
- 7:00pm Doors open
- 7:30pm Conference opens
- 8:00pm Mike F. (AA) Chandler, AZ
- 10:00pm Jason H. (AA) Little Rock, AR

Saturday, September 17

- 9:00am State of the Area
- 10:15am Clay R. GSO Speaker, New York, NY
- 2:00pm Sandy F. (AFG) Jenks, OK
- 4:30pm Narciso S. (AA) Oklahoma City
- 7:30pm Jane D. (AA) Tallahassee, FL

Sunday, September 18

- 10:00am Nancy K. (AA) Baltimore, MD
- 11:00am Closing Comments

Activities Include:

**State of the Area
Technology and AA**

Workshops

Alateen Speaker

Old Timers Meeting

Sobriety Countdown

Ice Cream Social

Hospitality Room

Marathon Meetings

Questions

About the Conference?

Registration - Dave R. (785) 393-0807

Chair - Joe C. (785) 342-3306

Co-Chair - Justin G. (620) 200-5997

Register online: www.kansas-aa.org

Registration Form

Please detach & mail to:
Kansas Area Assembly
3062 W 8th Lawrence, KS 66049

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Phone _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Badge Information:

Name _____

Group _____

District Number _____

AA Al-Anon Alateen Other

Badge Information:

Name _____

Group _____

District Number _____

AA Al-Anon Alateen Other

___ Pre-Registration \$20.00
(\$25 at the door)

___ Ice Cream Social
(please List # Attending)

I want to fund a scholarship
(for those unable to afford the cost of admission)

I want to volunteer
(We will contact you)

Scholarship amt \$ _____

Total Amt Enclosed \$ _____

(Checks made to Kansas Area Assembly)

I have Special Needs

SWRAASA

Southwest Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly

October 21-23, 2016



"Service, a Labor of Love"

www.SWRAASA2016.org

HOST:
Area 4 - Arkansas

Location:

EMBASSY SUITES Northwest Arkansas - Hotel, Spa & Convention Center
3303 Pinnacle Hills Parkway, Rogers, Arkansas, 72758

Room Rates/ Hotel Reservations/ Group Code:

Room Rate: \$99.00 + tax/ Per Night (Group Code:SWRAASA 2016)
(479) 254-8400

***Hotel reservations may be made After 10/21/2015**

Questions? E-mail us: SWRAASA2016@arkansasaa.org



Registration Form

Registration Fee \$10.00 Each
Online Registration Available

SWRAASA 2016

AREA 4 - ARKANSAS

"Service, a Labor of Love"

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

How would you like to receive your final report?

E-mail U.S. Mail

Please send registration form and check to:
SWRAASA 2016 Treasurer, PO Box 9167
Hot Springs Village, AR 71910

This section is for announcements of upcoming Group's or District's events. Please submit your activities for inclusion in future Grapefree Press editions. Send copy of flyers to Area Web Chair: webchair@ks-aa.org

Unity Service Recovery Unity Service Recovery Unity Service Recovery Unity Service Recovery

Simply AA
12th Anniversary
Celebration
June 11, 2016

Please join us for food, fellowship, and fun!

Come help us celebrate
with Simply AA's 12 year of Carrying the
message

Door opens at 3

4:00 Susan B. (AFG) Broken Arrow, Ok.
5:00-6:45 Break for Dinner (Meal Provided)
6:50 Group History
7:00 Speaker Jimmy D. (AA) Dallas, Tx.

For information please call:
 Steve P. 620-635-5679
 Cam M. 620-960-5164

Pratt Community Center
619 N. Main
Pratt, Ks.


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Principles in a World of Personalities

Newcomers Group would like to invite you to hear Don M., past Class B Trustee, (Denver, CO.) share his experience, strength, and hope with Wichita!

July 2, 2016

5:00-6:30 p.m.—Presentation
 6:30-8:00 p.m.—Dinner Break
 8:00-9:00 p.m.—Story



DoubleTree by Hilton
 Multimedia Room
 2098 Airport Rd.
 Wichita, KS. 67209

District 19 Round Robin
August 14, 2016
9am at
Minisa Park in Wichita, KS
 details to follow

Trivia:
Our fellowship hung in the balance HERE on May 11, 1935.
Where is HERE?
Answer on page 5

