



Area 25 Kansas GRAPEFREE PRESS

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Anonymity Protected

Winter 2016

Delegate

Area Chair

Greetings Area 25,

I want to express my gratitude for the experience of this past year. I have had the opportunity to travel across the state and personally experience local AA in many different parts of Kansas. I have been afforded the opportunity to meet numerous AA members that I would have never otherwise had the opportunity to meet. I also want to express my thanks to each and every one of you for your service to alcoholics anonymous. Your dedication to carrying the message of recovery from alcoholism to the still suffering alcoholic is inspiring.

I am looking forward to the next year continuing to serve Area 25 as Delegate.

Sue C. N.

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

Greetings Members of Area 25,

Area 25 October Committee Meetings went very well. There was some great discussion not only regarding current business, but also regarding where we would like to see Area 25 in the next 5 years. Under New Business in the October minutes you can see what was discussed regarding "Were would you like to see Area 25 in the next five years?" One of the ongoing concerns noted; was that we need to work on how to increase participation of voting members during Assembly's and Committee Meetings.

The agenda has been published and you can find it attached to this GFP addition. Join us Friday night and listen to your Area 25 committee members share their experience at SWAARSA and SW Regional Forum. Area 25 had their Delegate, Alt. Delegate, Area 25 Chair, 6 Committee Chairs, 6 Past Delegates, and one area member who presented with one of your chairs at SWAARSA in October. This was an amazing turn-out. Thank you for your support and vision allowing your Area 25 Committee the opportunity to attend these functions. Thus, giving the Area 25 Committee the experience needed to grow and learn how we can be of service to our members. We have



Area Committee Meeting January 20-22, 2017

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.

added time to the GSR's and DCM's Orientation / Sharing Session to make sure we meet the needs of these incoming members. Conley B., Past SW Regional Trustee, will be speaking on Concepts 9 and 12 as well as sharing his story Saturday night.

I look forward to seeing you all at the January Area 25 Assembly, January 20th-22nd. Have a safe and joyous Holiday Season!

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Sheri P.

Area 25 Chair
chairperson@ks-aa.org

Alternate Delegate

Greetings, Area 25! Hope everyone had a good holiday season. Staying sober during the holidays was the topic at a number of meetings I attended, and the 12 suggestions from Box 459 were mentioned each time. Of course, #12 – carry the message – is my favorite. I was privileged to do that in the Jefferson County jail on Thanksgiving Day along with my district's incoming corrections chair. My family never questions me doing some 12th Step work on a major holiday – I think they're just so grateful for our recovery!

I'm looking forward to the Area Assembly in January – in addition to being part of important work we do, it's always good to see friends from around the state and to catch up on what's happening in your neck of the woods – or to be more accurate in most of our state – your corner of the pasture.

I plan to be at the SW Kansas Conference (Jan 6-8, 2017) at their new location. I wasn't able to attend in 2016 as I had rotator cuff surgery a few days before, so it will be good to get back to this event. Great way to start the New Year!

Feb. will bring Sunflower Roundup at the other end of the state, and then in March, I'll join Sue and several past delegates for the SWRDA in Ok. City. That'll be followed the next week by the Area 25 Corrections Conference,

being hosted by Districts 23 & 9 in Lawrence. And the next week it's on to Wichita for the Spring Roundup. And I was worried about what to do with all my free time when I sobered up!

Yours in love & service

David R.

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

Correctional Facility

At the October Committee Meeting in Salina, your Area 25 Correctional Facility Committee decided to start a new statewide project called "Grapevine Recycling in Prisons and Jails". The project involves collecting old grapevine magazines from members on the outside and donate them to members on the inside. As you know, Grapevines are timeless so it doesn't matter how old they are; the inmates enjoy reading them regardless of the date on the cover.

We are urging Corrections Chairs in all districts to collect as many back issues of Grapevine as you can and bring them with you to the Assembly in Salina in January, 2017. Our committee will then distribute them to people who are taking meetings into prisons and jails. This project will continue at least through 2017 so please share this information with the districts and groups all over Kansas. District 23 will host the next Area 25 Corrections Conference in Lawrence in March, 2017. More will be revealed.

Lenny E.

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



CPC

Greetings Area #25

This year has gone by so fast I am uncertain how it happened. It was great seeing everyone at the Committee Meetings in October. There were eight people in attendance. The discussion for the meeting centered on the C.P.C. Workbook. Because we had a majority of new Spanish Speaking DCM's and GSR's from the Linguistic Districts we covered how the C.P.C. Committee was formed and who are target Professionals. We also discussed the Literature (Spanish and English) that is available for Professionals and how to order. There was a great deal of participation on how each of us can develop a relationship with Professionals. The following weekend it was off to Arkansas for SWRSSAA. As always this Service Assembly was EXCELLENT. Chris P. from Area #39 gave an informative Presentation on what is available from GSO to help carry the Message to the Professional. One item made available is a PowerPoint Presentation targeting Professionals as well as members of the Fellowship. There was much sharing of personal experience in communicating with the professional. It was good to listen to the challenges that other Area CPC Chairs face. Most of the challenges mirror what happens in Area #25. I hope everyone has a safe and blessed Holiday Season!!

In Love and Service

Galen E.

Area 25 CPC Chair
cpc@ks-aa.org

Registrar

Greetings Area 25,

I've been making updates to GSO, Grapefree Press Distribution and maintaining the Roster. All is progressing well. There have been no business calls on the Area 25 business phone since it was installed in August and tested.

I attended SWRAASA in October. As always it was a

wonderful experience with numerous workshops on the Concepts, Traditions and many other topics. I attended the workshop for Registrars. Many Areas operate differently depending on the size. Colorado has their own database similar to GSO. Some are very formal with check in by Group with ID to verify GSRs or Alternates. Some are more informal with just a sign in sheet.

Thanks for allowing me to serve,

Nancy B.

Area 25 Registrar
registrar@ks-aa.org

Grapevine

Hello everyone in Area 25 from your Grapevine chair.

Hope you all had a great Thanksgiving. We had a good meeting on the 16th. We had 5 districts represented. I started the meeting with the serenity prayer. Then I talked about what's going on with Grapevine and LaVina. Hope everyone has signed up for the quote of the day. It gets my day going. Keep in mind the Grapevine is a great tool for meetings and also the archives with the electronic subscription. District 27s La Vina chair created a new display and is taking it to meetings. This is helping get subscriptions. They are also buying books. District 5 uses the purple can to buy subscriptions for the newcomer. District 10 uses money from the display at Sunflower roundup to get subscriptions for detox and 1 year birthdays. District 23 takes old subscriptions to the women's treatment. District 19 is planning to buy subscriptions for 1 year birthdays. I had a great time in Rogers at SWRAASA! Remember to send your stories in.

Again I hope you had a great Thanksgiving and that you have a great Christmas and New Year. I'll see you in January!

Thanks for letting me serve,

Tom L.

Area 25 Grapevine Chair
grapevine@ks-aa.org

Literature

Had 7 in attendance from districts 3, 5, 8, 10 and 26. New service manuals are available online, will have some available at the assembly in January. They are actually dated 2016–2018 as Sue mentioned in her conference report. Still need stories for the Young People’s pamphlet and still have until December 30 to get them in. The pamphlet “Young People and AA” will be changed to “Young People in AA”. Literature is going into nursing homes, libraries, schools and satellite book bins. Large print literature is being utilized for those who need it. Service manuals are being given to incoming District positions. Newcomer packets are being distributed and put together by the districts for the groups in their districts. New service piece called “Your Seventh Tradition Contributions, carrying our message beyond your home group.” Phone numbers are being placed on the literature so people can contact AA. District 5 now has literature in every high school library in its district. A holiday gift set is coming out. For \$30.00 you get the 75th Edition Big Book, Pass it On, Dr. Bob and the Good Old-timers and A.A. comes of age.

Hope everybody has as Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

In Love and Service,

Pat W.

Area 25 Literature Chair
literature@ks-aa.org



Treatment

Hello Area 25 from the Treatment Committee!

Hello from the Treatment Committee. I had the privilege of attending SWRAASA in Rogers, Arkansas in October and really enjoyed all the informative workshops and presentations! It was great to learn more about the concepts from several past Trustees and to meet all the Delegates and Alternate Delegates from each of the areas in the Southwest Region, along with so many other people excited about service in AA! I attended the Treatment Committee workshop and heard lots of ideas shared by other people involved in taking meetings to Treatment centers. There was also some discussion about the Bridge the Gap program and how it is organized a little differently in each area. It was a great weekend with several other Area 25 officers/chairs who also attended. I’m looking forward to sharing what I learned with all of you at the Area Assembly in January! Hope you all have a safe, peaceful holiday season as 2016 winds down. Thank you for this opportunity to be of service to Area 25. See you in Salina next month!

Janet B.

Area 25 Treatment Chair
treatment@ks-aa.org

Grapefree Press

We’ve incorporated a couple of ideas to the Area newsletter. Starting with this edition, there is an article from an Area member describing his experience with service within the A.A. service structure. Please share this with your fellow homegroup members. We will be soliciting for articles for future editions

The latest Area Wrap Sheet was translated into Spanish, for the hispanics districts in our Area. It is an experiment translated roughly via Google Translate. Please help us improve by giving us feedbacks!

Remi K.

Area 25 GFP Chair
gfp@ks-aa.org

Member's Corner

I'm Pat W. and this my experience with service.

What it was like.

My whole life has been geared toward service. The problem was, it was geared to serving me. That service has caused all the problems in my life, as well as others. In the process of being self-serving I managed to spend forty five days in jail, hit a parked car, numerous bar fights, not to mention the fights with my wife. Somehow I managed to keep my job, my wife, and two cars in the garage.

What happened.

One night on my way to a job out of town, which was the norm towards the end, God slapped me upside the head and I was overcome with a tremendous fear. I suddenly realized that if I were to continue on the way I was, I was going to lose everything. I worked step one right then and there. But that was still self-serving, I was going to lose everything. No thought of the damage done or how to repair.

Somewhere along the wake of my destruction I heard about AA, but knew nothing about it. I started going to meetings, got a sponsor, we worked the steps, I started making amends. About this time I was going to meetings every day. In doing so I could kind of tell if a meeting was going to be good or not judging by the people there.



Suddenly just like before, God slapped me upside the head and said, you are there to give not receive. That is where my service work started. I try to take this attitude to every meeting, I said try, not always willing or able.

I finally found a home group. This group was active in everything. I started getting involved. My group has several opportunities to serve. We have a warehouse manager and assistant (cups and coffee), literature chair, secretary, audio tech (tape recorder dude), Grapevine rep., GSR, Alt GSR, meeting greeters and treasurer. We also have an anniversary committee, and a steering committee. At some point of my service I have done them all except treasurer and a couple of positions on the anniversary committee. The hardest one for me was warehouse manager, when you are out of something, people let you know.

Serving as GSR was an exciting experience. At this time the Area Meetings were in Great Bend, four to four and a half hours from Lawrence where my home group is. Usually two or more of us would pile into a car and head out, listening to speaker tapes, fellowshiping and really getting to know each other. A truly rewarding time. There is a stretch of highway through the wetlands where literally you would see tumble weeds as big as pickup trucks roll by in front of you. They were long trips, but I always had fun.

At the assembly I was lost and overwhelmed and full of fear. I always had great examples to follow which made it is easier. At one point my sponsor was the Delegate, a brother pigeon was Chairman and I was GSR, or DCM, not sure which. I learned a lot about the process of AA and the Roberts Rules of Order. When my sponsor was elected to Delegate, it went to the hat, I was so excited when his name was pulled out. I learned to take notes, report back to my home group, set agendas and lead meetings, all of which helped me in the "real world."

The Assembly was a lot of fun. Sometimes a group would be going out to eat and ask me to go along. I would pile in hardly knowing these people, but it didn't matter.

Everyone was so nice and helpful. I met drunks from all over the state. There was this one bar that we would take

over, twenty or thirty sober drunks going out eat. They served steak on paper plates, it was really quite comical if you think about it. This was truly some of the best times of my life, one which I would have missed if I wasn't involved at the Area level.

As the DCM I had the privilege of attending all the groups in District 23. Each group has its own personality, and each one does things a little different. I also got to lead a group inventory. This group was having issues with cross talk and I mediated. One of the other experiences were the quarterly district speaker meetings. Always tried to get speakers involved in service. Learned a lot attending these meetings.

What it's like now.

A few years ago I took a little break from service, as a matter of fact I took a break from AA. It turned into six years, nearly killed me, but I won't go into that. When I came back, I got a sponsor, worked the steps, made some amends, and started giving at meetings not expecting to receive. It is amazing how quickly your life will change when you apply the spiritual principles of AA in your life.

Went to hear my sponsor give a talk on the Traditions, one of the best Tradition talks I ever heard, might be the only one. Ha Ha. Anyhoo, after the meeting I was talking to friend about service, saying yeah maybe I'll get back into it some time. Wasn't more than two weeks later I was asked to serve as Area Literature Chairman. Now my sponsor has said service is for those who want to do it. Honestly I did not want to do it. Told Mike I would think about it and get back to him. As I was driving home I started thinking, the point of AA has been always to get me to take actions I don't want to take. Got home called my sponsor, he suggested I pray about it for three days and make a decision. Honestly I already made the decision and said what I have been taught say to any AA request, I would be happy to.

Wasn't long and I was at the Area Assembly, lost, overwhelmed and full of fear. I was amazed of the people who still remembered me and welcomed me back. I was also amazed at the amount of literature there the Area has. I was loaded up with about six large tubs of books, pamphlets, CDs, VCR tapes, and even a few floppy discs.

Wichita Spring Roundup 2017
March 24-25, 2017
Church of the Magelen
12626 N. 21st Street
Wichita, KS 67206
Springroundupwichita@gmail.com

Yes I said floppy discs.

While I was scared and overwhelmed, I have learned a thing or two over the years. Trust God and just do it. I am always amazed going into situations not having a clue what I am doing and after wards people say good job. I know most the time they are just being nice, but I don't have to be the best, I don't have to be good, I just have to suit up, show up and try, God does the rest. It really is a trip.

Over the past year I have made some new friends at the Area, got reacquainted with some old friends, and have fell back in love with AA and the drunks in it. It is truly an honor, blessing and privilege to be a part of this.

Managed to stay sober a few years now, and I know my service experience has had a big part in that. Suit up, show up and trust God, walk through the fear, sit back and enjoy the results. It really is a trip, maybe I will be asked to do more someday, or maybe not, but either way I will cherish the experience.

Earlier I said I learned a lot to take back to the "real world". When I was involved in service a few years back, I managed to go to school, AA taught me to take notes and report back. Managed to keep a 3.8 GPA. I had the privilege of being the President of my congregation, AA taught me to set agendas and lead meetings, I actually had old timers at church say the liked the way I led the meetings. AA taught me to have patience and tolerance, and to lead by example. To listen and practice some sense of humility, all are great assets in the "real world".

I hope those of you who get involved have as much fun and excitement as I have had. It truly is a privilege, and an honor to do anything in Alcoholics Anonymous.

Kansas Area 25 Assembly
 January 2017
 Agenda
 “Supporting Our Future”

January 20th, 21st, and 22nd

Quality Inn 2110 W. Crawford, Salina, Ks. (785) 825-2111

Friday, January 20, 2017

| | | |
|----------------|--|--------------|
| 8:00 – 9:00 pm | Area Committee Chairs share experience from SWAARSA, and SW Regional Forum | Regency Room |
|----------------|--|--------------|

Saturday, January 21, 2017

| | | |
|-----------------|--|---------------------------|
| 8:00 – 9:00 am | KAAAAI Board Meeting | Duke Room |
| 9:15 – 10:30 am | DCM Orientation / Sharing Session GSR Orientation / Sharing Session | Duke Room Regency Room |
| 10:45 – 12:00pm | Committee Meetings | |

| <u>Committee</u> | <u>District</u> | <u>Chair</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Chronicler | 1, 4, 15 | Rosa M. |
| Corrections | 9, 12, 20 | Lenny E. |
| Cooperation w/Professional Community | 14, 16, 31 | Galen E. |
| Grapefree Press | 10, 23 | Remi K. |
| Grapevine | 5, 18, 27 | Tom L. |
| Literature | 3, 24, 26 | Pat W. |
| Public Information | 11, 21, 30 | Jeff D. |
| Registrar | 2, 19 | Nancy B. |
| Special Needs | 6, 7 | Anissa P. |
| Treatment | 13, 22 | Janet B. |
| Web | 8, 17 | Chris H. |

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------|--|
| 12:00 – 1:30 pm | LUNCH BREAK | |
|-----------------|-------------|--|

| | | |
|----------------|---|--------------|
| 1:30 – 2:30 pm | Concept 9 and 12, Conley B., Past SW Regional Trustee | Regency Room |
| 2:30 – 2:45 pm | Q & A with Conley | |
| 3:00 – 3:30 pm | 2017 State Conference Report - Darin H. | Regency Room |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 3:30 – 5:30 pm | Chair Reports | Regency Room |
| Al-Anon Liaison | | Dawn D. |
| Chronicler | | Rosa M. |
| Corrections | | Lenny E. |
| Cooperation w/Professional Community | | Galen E. |
| Grapefree Press | | Remi K. |
| Grapevine | | Tom L. |
| Literature | | Pat W. |
| Public Information | | Jeff D. |
| Registrar | | Nancy B. |

Dist. #4 Round Robin

February 18, 2017

**Fossil Creek Hotel & Suites
1430 S. Fossil
Russell, Kansas**

10:00 am **Doors Open**

11:00 am **Al-anon Speaker Lindsey M, Coldwater, KS**

12:00 pm **Lunch**
 Chilli and drinks provided
 Please bring a covered dish or dessert

1:00 pm. **AA Speaker Cam M. Coldwater, KS**

Raffle & Silent Auction through the day

Come for the fun and fellowship

See you all there!

Questions? Please call Rich S 785-259-9845

**47th ANNUAL
SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE
January 6 -8, 2017**

Speakers

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Friday 8 PM | Talia P. Tulsa, Ok AA |
| Saturday 10 AM | Susan B. Broken Arrow, Ok AFG |
| Saturday 8 PM | Steve S. Guthrie, Ok. AA |
| Sunday 9:30 AM | David B. Broken Arrow, Ok AA |

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

Saturday Afternoon Work Shops 2 – 4 pm

**Dodge City's United Wireless Conference Center
4100 W. Comanche Dodge City, KS 67801**

For Reservations Call Hampton Inn. at 620-225-0000

Room Rate \$89.00 Includes Continental Breakfast

Room Rate is guaranteed until 30 days prior to Conference

Mention you are with Southwest Kansas Conference

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?

For Questions Call

Harold H. (620) 353-8861

Jeanette R. (620) 649-7296

E-mail: swksconf@yahoo.com

Is this your first SWK Conference? Yes No

Pre-Registration \$20.00 (\$25.00 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