

Committee Meeting
October 18 & 19th, 2024
Webster Center Salina, KS

Friday, October 18, 2024, 7:00pm

Melissa B., Area Chair opened the meeting by welcoming all in attendance. She opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer and then introduced Scott O. to share his story. The meeting closed with the Lord's prayer.

Saturday, April 6, 2024

8:00am Mellissa B., Area Chair, welcomed everyone to the Committee Meeting and opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.

The members of the Assembly split off to attend Committee meetings.

10:30M-11:30am Committee and DCM Reports

Area Chair: Mellissa B. opened the business beginning the Committee Chair Reports.

Committee Reports:

Accessibilities – Chelle F.: 6 District represented with 6 in attendance.

Districts 5,7,13,23,27.

Opened with the Serenity Prayer. D23- focus on Autism awareness and increasing welcome and belonging through monthly elections for greeters. Request for Spanish speaking meetings.

Needs/Concerns: Translation, ASL, Shift worker off time in person meetings. Experience, strength, hope: Increasing the reaching out concept through promotion of workshops at groups and districts. Sponsorship, Service, Concepts. Spanish speaking liaison: Abimael A. from District 27 stepped up to represent.

Closed with the responsibility statement.

Chelle F.

Al-Anon Liaison – Brenda G.

I am part of a committee that is planning the 2025 Kansas Annual Al-Anon State Conference. The conference will be held June 13,14, and 15 at the Double Tree Inn in Wichita, KS. The theme will be "All in the Family". We are making a list of potential speakers now. The committee would like to have a family speak that has AA, Al-Anon and Alateen members. Please support Al-Anon and Alateen in your districts. Being a child of an alcoholic myself, I wish I'd been a part of Alateen. I'm a grateful double winner (AA and Al-Anon) today. I highly recommend Al-Anon if you were raised in an alcoholic home or have loved ones with alcoholism.

Brenda G.

Chronicler – Eric D.: 5 Districts represented with 8 in attendance

The chronicler committee sent requests for group histories from Districts 5-8. We are sending histories and requests for histories via mail and sending these to either GSR's if listed or DCM's. I traveled to SWRAASA in Dallas on the weekend of Oct. 11-13 in order to set up our display. It was very impressive and there are very nice more permanent displays from other Areas. They also have items in their archives. I would like to request all of your group's histories. You can fill out a group history form on the website. Please let me know if you would like to see group histories. Also, I traveled to Ulysses in Sept. and took some histories to them.

Eric D.

Corrections – Jeramie S.: 5 Districts represent with 9 in attendance.

All debit cards are turned in.

Discussion on the KAAAAI wanting to post Yellow Can funds on the Area website. Decided to vote next time we meet to allow people time to discuss it at their local meetings.

The current balance for the Yellow Can is \$15,191.06.

Area 25 still needs more corrections volunteers.

Darin S. is getting close to having a Zoom meeting started in Stockton Correctional Facility.

District 8 to host 2025 Corrections Conference. Talk with Tagan E. for more information.

Still working on the tax exemption status.

Ken J. made a motion to pre-order \$2,000 (pre-tax) worth of Plain Language Big Books.

Yellow Can continues to slowly drop its average balance. 2025 - \$21,000. Current average - \$15,000.

I traveled to SWRAASA and learned a lot from 5 other Corrections Chairs.

Jaramie S.

Cooperation Professional Community – Sallie T.: 3 Districts represented with 4 in attendance.

The last quarter has been quiet at least on the Chair's. We passed around ideas on the legal profession, nursing, and the trucking industry.

I've reached out to several professionals and have not received any feedback. Some contacts I've made are with the KS School of Nurses Association, as they have a conference every July in Wichita, KS. I was informed that AA was missed as we didn't have a booth set up. I am currently checking into that to pass it on to Dist. 19. I was able to attend the Conference in Great Bend and had a great time with sharing with members from KS. I was so grateful for that opportunity. Michael R. from GSO was one of the speakers. He's currently seated at the CPC desk in New York. We were able to sit down and review the American School Counselors conference in Kansas City, MO. I was happy to be able to report to him regarding our experience and even had some suggestions.

I wasn't to thank the Assembly for allowing me to serve. I'm looking forward to the upcoming year.

I'm open to whatever is on the horizon, ODAAT.

Sallie T.

Grape Free Press – Kim H.: 2 Districts represented with 2 in attendance.

Questions posed:

How many people knew of the GFP before coming to Area?

What do you want to see in the GFP?

New Articles?

Should the GFP continue?

Should it change to only 2 times per year?

December/June

Talk at Assembly

View of outgoing DCM/GSR

Experience Strength and Hope

I went to SWRAASA, there were great speakers and good information.

Kim H.

Grapevine & LaVina – David M.: 4 Districts represented.

Opened with the Serenity Prayer. Shared the new price for LaVina beginning January 2025.

1 Month: \$18.00

2 Months: \$34.00

3 Months: \$45.00

District 14 has raffles. Some members have a difficult time with the app's technology.

I asked if the District and groups have displays. Some did and others did not.

District 19 shared that they have a display with the Grapevine and also had a box they call the “Take One, Leave One” box.

District 10 Have a workshop for the Grapevine, and they had a raffle. They had a picture of the display and suggested it be sent to the Grapevine so they can update it on Instagram and on the magazine.

We talked about the podcast and YouTube.

I showed a way to receive complimentary materials.

On YouTube there is a new play list called Sober Women.

The AA Grapevine has a half hour podcast that has been there for 3 years. There will be an anniversary special that will be Season 7 Episode 15.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

David M.

Literature –Ann S.: 4 Districts represented with 7 in attendance.

There was discussion on how groups/Districts use literature. Partnering w/CPC.

Taking literature to police stations, courthouses, hospitals, libraries, etc.

Groups in Dist. 13 loan Big Books for those that are unable to afford them. They even come back.

Also have a literature display.

We discussed conference approved literature. The difference and referred to a link on the website for more information.

The “Plain Language” Big Book will be available Nov. 1st.

A new literature workbook is available for purchase and can be accessed online.

Copy of Back in AA: New Pamphlet

Discussed cards with QR codes that have newcomer pamphlets and a meeting guide. A simplified handout.

2025 Catalog of AA literature is available online. Print copy will be available later.

I went to SWRAASA. I attended a literature presentation by Jimmy C. District 10.

Ann S.

Public Information – Ben S.: 5 Districts represented with 6 in attendance.

We discussed what everyone was doing for PI. WE talked about various way and ideas to make our jobs easier. We talked about post cards, QR codes, PSA’s, bill boards and various locations for information. We also discussed how different districts have different circumstances.

Ben S.

Treatment – Rich S.: 3 Districts represented with 3 in attendance.

We had 3 people from 3 different districts. Dist. 10 is carrying meetings into the treatment centers and working on getting into the state hospitals. Dist. 8 is getting meetings into treatment centers.

We also had a good discussion on our singleness of purpose and what it meant to us.

Rick S.

Web – Brett G.: 4 Districts represented with 5 in attendance. Opened with the Serenity Prayer. We reviewed the website statistics – 3,110 visits with 294 visiting for the first time over the last month with 75% coming from mobile devices. Meetings are the primary use with 1/6 of all website visits for Wichita meetings.

There was discussion around adding notes/comments to meetings if they are difficult to find. GSR’s please update/add notes to help people find your meeting. Uptick in meetings reported as dark/not meeting. There were options discussed for sharing passwords, 7th Tradition, and how districts/Area handle Ein.

Brett G.

DCM Reports:

Mellissa B. reminded all DCMs to turn their reports into the Area Secretary.

District 1: No Report**District 2:** Steve R. DCM

There are 7 active groups in our District. I was able to visit with 6 of them. There was a District meeting planned with only 1 GSR in attendance. No business was discussed. No activities are planned.

District 3: No Report**District 4:** Sam S. DCM – 7 Groups

District 4 includes the counties of Ellis, Ellsworth, Lincoln, and Russell. The District had its annual campout at Lake Wilson in early September.

We have quarterly meetings that rotate across our 4 counties. The District meetings are held an hour before or after a group's regular meeting as a way to increase visibility and participation. Our District will have its Annual Round Robin Feb. 8 in Russell, KS. We'll have flyers circulating soon.

Thank you, it is an honor to be here with you!

District 5: Bryan P. – 12 Groups, 3 women's groups

We have made contact with doctors in the District and left cards with our QR code for them to hand out to problem drinkers. I encouraged others to do the same.

The elections are Nov. 9th, 2024.

Members need to step up before the District goes dark!

The website is going well. Corrections Chair is going to the Ellsworth prison and attendance is 15-20 members.

November 2nd at 4pm there will be a Service Panel with Q&A. Tacos will be served at 5pm. The Panel will be at 5:30pm.

District 6: Cheryl H. DCM – 22 Groups

District 6 is alive and well. We include Riley, Geary, Marshall, Washington, Pottawatomie and Clay Counties. We have 22 groups. Attendance at District meetings, average 8-10 groups.

The District hosted our Fall Bonanza October 3rd. Even though it wasn't well attended it was a great time for those of us who did attend.

We are still working on having a District website.

An Ad-Hoc committee has been formed to work on a proposed budget for 2025.

I am having a great time being DCM for District 6.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

District 7: Jessi M. 5 Groups

All groups have had fun this year with events. Campouts and feasts. There are a few yet to come, see the front door for flyers.

One of our groups, Valley Falls AA has celebrated their first anniversary – 3 months late.

Nothing moves fast in AA.

District 8:

District website includes surrounding groups – some events may occur in neighboring Districts.

Live and Let Live will have their quarterly speaker meeting on October 27th.

Carbondale's 49th anniversary is November 3rd.

District 8 will have a marathon meeting starting 12/31/2024 from 9pm to 6am 1/1/25.

District 8 has submitted a bid for the 2025 corrections conference. The weekends approved for the corrections conference would be 15th or 22nd.

District 9: - Greg A. DCM

Currently 7 groups in District 9 are participating in GSR meetings.

Meetings continue to rotate locations every 3 months. We are meeting at Primary Purpose Group (Kansas City) for the next 2 months. We will discuss the rotation schedule for 2025 at the next GSR meeting.

Most groups are doing well, but a couple are reporting lower attendance.

District 9 continues to lack support at the committee level. There is only one person on committee chair person for literature.

After having been shut down for a few years by Covid, District 9 was able to hold a Round Robin on October 12th in Leavenworth. There was an Alanon speaker and an AA speaker. The food spread was one of the best I have ever seen, lots of meat, sides and desserts. The event was well attended.

Elections for all positions will be held at the next GSR meetings. It has been an honor to serve as DCM of District 9 for the last two years.

Thank you for letting me be of service.

District 10: - Tom L. DCM District 10 has 28 groups with 22 active in the district.

Our committees continue to be active within the district and all of our D10 service positions are filled with the exception of Chronicler. We have identified an interested candidate for that position who we hope to install at our November meeting.

Our Accessibilities Chair was invited to and attended an Overland Park Police Department Accessibilities conference where he gave a presentation on the activities of the committee. Over 70 people attended the conference, and the presentation was well received.

CPC has been looking into connecting with union groups and organizations consisting of lawyers and judges.

Our Corrections Chair contacted and spoke with the 2 candidates for Johnson County Sheriff to inquire about their feelings about having AA bring meetings to the county jail. Both expressed a desire to have AA start taking meetings once again. The incumbent sheriff (who did not survive the primary election) would not allow AA to take meetings for reasons known only to him. That said, we have struggled over the past several months staffing volunteers for the Gardner Corrections Adult residential center after losing several regular volunteers. Excess district funds were used to purchase grapevine literature for Correction facilities.

Grapevine conducted their annual "Grapevine Extravaganza" on August 25 which was well attended. D10 has purchased Grapevine 2-year subscriptions for the Johnson County Library system (16 libraries in all).

Our previous PI chair stepped down to take on a new role at Area and had the good fortune of confirming a new District PI chair at our September meeting.

Our Treatment committee has begun to bring newcomer packets to treatment centers. Currently looking for a group to volunteer to take meetings to the Osawatomie state hospital.

D10 decided that having an alternate web chair was a good idea and voted to create the position which has already been filled.

Additional items:

- In August D10 voted to send \$2000 to Area earmarked for the 2030 SWRAASA Conference after completing our annual review of funds in excess of our prudent reserve. D10 also voted to purchase literature for a detox unit, Grapevine literature/books for corrections facilities (not part of the yellow can fund) and Grapevine subscriptions for libraries.

The submission of Items for the agenda at the 75th CSC to be held in April 2025 were completed in late August. These are the items discussed and voted on at the July Assembly.

District 11: No report

District 12: No report

District 13: - Charles L. 9 Groups

There are 9 active AA groups in the District. 6 of those groups send a GSR to District. GSR participation at District meetings has been as high as 5 recently.

GSR's report most meeting attendance has remained steady. Some of the 7:30pm meetings of the Newton Group have not happened.

St. E's Sobriety Society has a literature cabinet in the meeting hall with AA literature for sale and to loan out.

The Newton Group hosted a Sponsorship Workshop that was well attended by home group members and from AA groups within the District and neighboring Districts.

Committees are very active although Accessibilities and Treatment have no chairs.

Literature and information about AA are distributed to the public; AA meetings are taken into treatment centers in Harvey, McPherson, and Reno Counties as well as a psychiatric nursing home in Marion County; AA meetings are taken into county jails in Harvey and Reno Counties as well as the Correctional Facility in Hutchinson.

Archives for the District are up to dat.

District AA birthdays, events and memorials are sent to the Grape Fre Press.

Daily recovery devotions and AA thoughts are sent to the District members.

District elections were held on 10/13/2024. We still need an alternate DCM, secretary and Alternate Secretary.

District 13's 28th annual Fall Fellowship Fiesta happens on 11/02/2024. We have one memorial.

District 14: - Rachel B. DCM 9 Groups

(Morris, Chase, Lyon, Osage, Coffey, Woodson Counties)

District 14 reports a healthy treasury and 9 active groups. Most groups report good attendance with newcomers. We had our District picnic in September, Bridget B. Area 25 Delegate, shared and it was FANTASTIC! As a District we decided to purchase copies of the Plain Language Big Books for all the groups, so they can have them available. One group is going to do a side-by-side Big Book study when the new book comes out. No contempt prior to investigation here! Most members feel like a book coming out will not change the way they sponsor. Deal with things as they come, not as we fear.

Upcoming events include: The Carbondale 49th Anniversary on November 3rd: Flyer on the Area 25 website.

Have a great day, unless you make other plans.

District 15: No Report

District 16: - Jeff D. DCM 6 Groups

District 16 is the 9 Southwest counties in Area 25. There are 6 groups, and they all participate in District meetings and events. Since July Assembly, we had our annual Summer Round Up in August and District 16/17 Delegates report. The 12 Step Group in Garden City had their annual End of Summer Picnic. The 12 Step Group also had a sponsorship workshop on October 12th. All events were well attended. Sobriety birthdays have been celebrated within their respective groups. Upcoming events are the Garden City Round Robin in December and the Southwest KS Conference in January. For more information and events go to our website at www.swks-aa.org.

District 17: - John B. 6 Groups

We are preparing for our 39th annual Round Robin on November 9th and 10th in Dodge City, KS. We are still the only group active on a District level, but we are working on it. Our numbers are up in meetings and our home group has grown. We are still taking meetings to the treatment center and speaking there.

District 18: No Report

District 19: - Robyn G. DCM 30 Groups

Began elections and now have officers elected. All chair positions will be open, with exception of Accessibilities which will roll into 2025 and 2026.

Ad Hoc for review District 19 Guidelines has been completed. Have made recommendations to the District and will have discussion and vote.

The Spring Roundup is November 8-9 with the Delegate attending. There will be fliers available.

District 20: - Samuel H. DCM 20 Groups

Hello everyone, my name is Samuel, I am an alcoholic, and I am the DCM of District 20. We have 6 active groups, 5 of the groups meet 7 days a week from 7-9:30pm and also Saturday from 12-1:30pm and Sunday from 10-11:30am with only 2 GSR's.

The New Ark City group meets 4 days a week, Tuesday 9-10:30am, Thursday 8-9:30pm, and Saturday and Sunday 2-3:30pm. For more information you can call (316)708-6215.

There was also rotation in the Public Information Committee. Leaving Fernin R. as Coordinator and Roberto as the Alternate PI. The committee continues going to the radio and Higher round Institution to carry the message. The PI phone number is: (316)284-7727.

Group Emperadors will have its Christmas celebration on December 21 with a PI meeting. On October 20 there will be a workshop with the Accessibilities Coordinator.

This was my report. Thank you for allowing me to serve and Happy 24 hours in sobriety.

District 21: No Report

District 22: No Report

District 23: -Karma L. DCM – 19 Groups

Group elections will be held November 9th.

We are doing well financially.

Quarterly District meetings are on the 2nd Saturday of the month.

The Saturday Morning Eudora Miracle group will have Craig C., with 20 years, speaking.

The Nuts & Bolts 36th Anniversary is January 25, 2025.

6pm Speaker will be Christina G. from Akron, OH

7pm Speaker will be Paul G. from Akron, OH

Birthdays: Karma L. October 7 with 27 years

District 24: - Hunter W. Alt. DCM – 4 Groups

We have 4 groups: Maple Hill, Paxico, St. Mary's, and Siver Lake. Attendance has increased greatly in all 4 groups, especially Siver Lake. We had a very successful District picnic on September 14th. Attendance was down from normal though due to conflicting events. Silver Lake is currently planning their 50th anniversary.

Fred ward H. accomplished 129 months of sobriety yesterday.

District 25: No report

District 26: No Report

District 27: - Idelfonso S. DCM – 14 Groups

We are working with 14 active groups.

We continue to have meetings on Wednesdays every other day from 7-8:30pm.

We have audio meetings on Wednesdays every other day with different themes.

The corrections committee continues to visit the Lansing KS Correctional Facility meeting from 6-7pm, they have opened a group in Spanish within the correctional facility.

The La Vina Committee is working with the groups through their GSR.

District 27 has its Meetings 2 times per month with reports and general business.

The Intergroup continues to work on Step 12.

The district has a beginner meeting 2 times per month.

District 28: No report

District 29: No report

District 30: No report

District 31: - Jesus R. DCM 7 Group

I send you greetings from the DCM of District 31 hoping that you are well.

District 31 continues to have seven active groups and continues to have its workshops and meeting rotating between the groups.

The Legado De Amor group continues to have the PI committee. It is going well with newcomers coming into the groups.

District 31 is hosting the next Encuentros Hispano.

For the moment that is all. Have a happy 24 hour of sobriety.

Memorials:

District 2	Bob Bell	Hill City	49 Years
District 13	Tom S	St. E's Sobriety Society	Unknown (Long time member)
District 16	Mike C		8 Years
District 17	Eddie Day	Minneola Group	Unknown
district 19	Scott W.	11 Step Group	15 Years

Officers Reports:

Secretary's Report – Dee Y.:

Read the minutes from the April 2024 committee meeting. Motion to Accept: Jessi M. District 7 DCM/2nd Robyn District 19 DCM

Treasurer's Report – Scott O.:

There have been questions regarding a line item under “unrestricted net assets” that shows a negative value that the purpose for is unknown. They were there when Scott became Treasurer. The explanation was that it had something to do with office equipment that we no longer have. It has no impact on the report and we just need to find a solution to remove it. Scott explained that just removing it could affect the Treasurer's report.

On the P&L statement the conference income versus expense for this year shows there is a deficit of \$2000. Last year's conference had an income and this year's conference started with seed money that carried over from the previous years conference. Scott explained that with the seed money it would make the conference's shortage at \$115.

Bridget B. explained that each conference should be evaluated separately. That the seed money would continue to carry over to the next conference. She pointed out that this year's conference was actually not self-supporting by \$2000.

There was discussion about having the conference expenses broken out separately in the report to show where expenses were distributed. Scott stated that the accountant would be responsible for that, and we should expect to see that next year.

Sheri stated that the seed money amount that was approved for the conference is \$3000. She explained that anything over that amount will go back to the Area account and anything under the approved \$3000 would come from the Area and go to the Conference.

It was explained that the Area and Conference money are accounted for separately yet held in the same bank account.

Delegate expenses YTD shows it is \$4906.30. Bridget's expenses at the beginning of the Assembly this year had to be approved over the budget from last year. The way accounting is done they had to fall into the budget this year. There is no way to place those expenses back into the previous years budget. Bridget still has funds in her budget available.

Cheryl H. posed the question that we get the CD's clarified to know what each one is for and asked if the money had been moved to bring up to the suggested \$12,000 per Ad Hoc's request. Scott stated that he will be moving the money that week. He also stated that the CD's we had acquired had different renewal dates. He met with the bank and was able to negotiate having the fee's waved and acquire new CDs with a better rate that will renew at the same time. He stated he believes the CD's can be renamed. It would need to be done in Quick Books. He will need to find out what they are for in order to rename them. Cheryl H. also asked if the Area has made any contributions to GSO. Scott stated that we have not this year, however, they are set to be made.

Motion to accept: Jeremy S. Corrections Chair A25/Tom L. DCM District 10 Motion - passed

KAAAAI Board Report David P.:

Melissa B. opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.

Minutes were read by Dee Y. Approved

Treasurer Report: Scott O.

500550- Delegate expense showed an over budget expense. Was the result of the previous Delegates expenses captured in FY 2024, not 2023.

416000- Conference Income

539050- Conference Expense

The A25 Conference did not show a profit

The board would like to have all the conference activities broken down as mentioned by the Ad Hoc Committee for Finances.

Scott mentioned the updated Board status of the Ad Hoc for Finance recommendation.

To complete this will require the Area allocate additional monies to the account service for This work. It was mentioned that this will be addressed in next year's budget.

The report was approved.

The Committee received a report from Jeramie S. regarding the yellow can fund:

As of September 30, the yellow can balance was \$15,191.06.

Jeramie mentioned this amount is consistent with following months and previous Years.

Jeramie mentioned that he is expecting significantly higher expenditures due to updates to the literature. He is not concerned that these additional changes will leave the fund at a concerning balance.

There was significant discussion around why this report was asked for including discussion that the Board was engaging in overreach. Sherri P. mentioned that this was meant to increase transparency and the board is not interested in suggesting or dictating any action to the Corrections Committee.

The board acknowledged that in the past they engaged in undo oversight

Mission Statement:

The board approved unanimously the following:

The Area is legally incorporated and is served by the Kansas Area Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc (KAAAAI) board. The board exists to serve the Area as being the legally incorporated entity as required by not-for-profit regulations, providing general financial oversight and supporting the Assembly when called upon.

The Board said that this mission statement will be presented for the approval of the Assembly at large in January 2025.

By-Laws:

Melissa expressed a desire to consult with the attorney, who previously worked on the by-laws regarding confusion in the by-laws and the need to modernize the by-laws.

Melissa will report to the Board in January.

Motion to close the meeting: Melissa B./Second Scott O.

Delegate – Bridget B.:

Grapevine – People are continuing to download the app (48,903 for Grapevine and 2052 for LaVina). However, the subscribers are much less than that (14392 Grapevine and 440 LaVina). The Grapevine Insta has 12,666 followers and the YouTube channel has 13,600 subscribers. The Podcast averages 868 downloads per day and is on track to exceed 1 million downloads in 2024 budget but 11% above last year. Overall budget – wise both Grapevine and Lavina are operating at a loss. But the circulation counts are increasing, and they have found areas to reduce expenses.

CPC – A pamphlet for mental health professions is still in progress. It will contain FAQ and other relevant information on how to inform professionals about our program. The CPC committee and Corrections committee have been coordinating when attending national exhibits to make sure there is no duplication of efforts.

Treatment – Still in the process of revising the “Where Do I Go From Here? F-4 pamphlet.

Accessibilities – The committee reviewed progress report in collecting shared experience from neurodivergent alcoholics for including in the flyer “Serving All Alcoholics – Making AA message More Accessible (F-108). It was noted the sharing from neurodivergent alcoholics will also be helpful in the CPC pamphlets for mental health professionals currently in development.

Corrections (best committee ever) – As recommended by the conference correction committee – staff is collecting the experience from the membership on how local corrections committees work to encourage and engage members in corrections service. A survey has been emailed out to the membership. There is also a draft service piece “Facilitating Online Meetings in Correctional Facilities” that they are adding to the Correct5ions workbook and kit.

Finance – Our YTD budget as of June 30 has an operating revenue of 9.7 million which is 5% more than YTD budget of 9.2 million. Total operating expenses before depreciation are 9.4 million, which is 5% less than the YTD budget of 9.6 million. The reserve fund currently sits at 6.33 months, less than the target range of 9-12 months. As for the budget reforecast which is done after the July board meeting the operating expenses were reduced by \$64,901 due to position vacancies and a slight revenue increase. Literature sales per unit are up from the budget. However, the budget was based on a 50% margin for gross sales, and it is currently at 47.7%. So, YTD contributions are 4.8 million as opposed to the budget which was 4.1 million.

Reserve fund assets totaled 11.7 million (including the deduction for unfulfilled grapevine subscriptions).

Conference Committee – After discussion, the deadline for potential agenda item submission was set at Sept. 30 for this year. They also discussed what could be helpful with communication with the fellowship and noted that the fellowship can receive information from the following avenues: The meeting guide app, the AA Grapevine appl “what’s new” page on aa.org, The Quarterly Finance Report, AAWS Highlights, AA Grapevine Board report, GSO Quarterly report, and box 459. They also discussed the timing and content of regional trustees reports and whether developing templates would be an opportunity to assist in ongoing communication. There also was a long discussion about translation and the lack of material that was translated into all three languages. There has

been an increase in requests over time. They are working on it. I do know that in addition to the PAI that Area 25 submitted about this issue there were other areas that also submitted the same general item as well as conference surveys where many of us pointed out the lack of translated material.

International Conference – Registration is up. Room blocks seem to have filled up quicker than expected. They are getting more room blocks but if you are going and have the opportunity to make other arrangements please do so.

Literature – Plain Language Big Book will go to print November 1, and the cost will be \$11. Other new literature items that have gone into production include large print Reflexiones Diaria for \$12.50, \$6 for the new literature committee workbook, and \$.75 for the pamphlet “Black in AA”. The new literature catalog is also out in digital form and the print version is coming.

For development for the 2 new pamphlets for the Asian and Asian American alcoholic and the transgender alcoholic they will be requesting ACM from these communities. It is anticipated the pamphlet AA for the Native North American will be concluded and ready for the 75th GSC. The 4th Edition Spanish BB and the 5th edition English BB is still in progress. The twelve steps illustrated was provided to the committee in draft form and the illustrations were received with excitement.

Public Information – In development of a GSO podcast. They are doing a lot of work on search engine optimization to help get the AA YouTube channel better placement. The CMP was developed last year and they review annually. Again, I would encourage everyone to watch the young people’s video project. There are currently two videos available and more in development.

Alt. Delegate – Ken S.:

The Area 25 Kansas State Conference was held in Great Bend again this year. I had the privilege of serving with Lisa and her committee and all I can say is, “You guys did a great job!” I’m looking forward to next year with Kaylon and his crew. If you’ve never been to a conference, make plans to be there September 19-21. It’s always a good time.

SWRAASA, the South West Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly was held in Richardson, TX this past weekend. The Southwest region consists of eleven areas in seven states: Area 4 Arkansas, Area 10 Colorado, Area 25 Kansas, Area 38 East Missouri, Area 66 NW Texas, Area 67 SE Texas, and Area 68 SW Texas.

It’s an incredible time with other service people across the region. Area 25 was well represented with our panel and workshop speakers. Bridget gave a Delegate panel presentation on Self-Support – It’s Not Just About the \$\$\$, where she spoke about the importance of self-support by participating in meetings, your groups, and the service structure of A.A. I would like to recognize Dave R. and Rich S. who were going to present workshop topics but were unable to make the trip. Thank you to Lisa S. for your workshop, and to Melissa B. and Jessi M. for stepping up and filling in for Dave and Rich at the last minute. I was privileged to participate with the other region alternate delegates in the Traditions panel Friday night. The next SWRAASA will be October 9-11, 2026, at the Hyatt Regency, Baytown – Houston, TX. If you’re involved in service or want to be, this is an event you don’t want to miss. Next year, 2025, the Southwest Regional Forum will be held in Albuquerque, November 14-16 at the Marriott Uptown. Think of a GSO road show, it’s where the General Service Office comes to us and brings information on the operations of our GSO and Grapevine. Save the date info can be found on the events calendar at ks-aa.org.

The Area 25 financial audit was conducted this morning. It was mostly routine. There were a couple of items identified that will need attention and we look forward to a progress report at the January Assembly 2025.

January 10-12 is the 54th Annual Southwest Kansas Conference. It will be in Garden City and is the oldest conference in Kansas not sponsored by Area 25. In the spirit of our legacy of Unity, I’d like to

encourage folks from across the Area to support it. Hotel and even details can also be found on the ks-aa.org website calendar.

Thank you for allowing me to serve Area 25.

Ken S. P74/A25 Alternate Delegate

Alt. Area Chair – Will H.:

If you need anything facility related such as more chairs and/or tables or there are any issues with the facility that need to be reported please let me know so I can reach out to the facilities manager.

I had received an email from Webster Conference Center after last July’s assembly meeting regarding people going into areas that were designated as OFF limits. People were going into said areas and pulling out additional table and chairs. WCC was not happy about this as it is more work for them when breaking down and cleaning up. Additionally, they bill us for cleaning and by how many tables and chairs we use. So as previously mentioned, if you need anything facility related, regardless of the facility, please let me know so I can contact the facility’s manager.

At our last assembly this past July there was a motion passed on the floor that stated in 2025 Kansas Area 25 would have a budget where spending did not exceed our forecasted income...in other words, a balanced budget. I am part of the 2025 Financial Ad-Hoc Committee and in our attempt to do that we have to find areas of spending that we can cut. One of the main expenditures that we have and areas where we can do this is our annual building and facilities expense. We have made the decision that Kansas Area 25 will no longer be using Webster Conference Center as our designated meeting location moving forward. All future Kansas Area 25 assemblies and committee meetings will be held at the Quality Inn & Suites at 2110 W Crawford St, Salina, KS 67401. Most of us are familiar with this facility as we have used it in the past for committee meetings when we have had scheduling conflicts. We also used to hold assemblies there as well. In addition to this, we will no longer be using the Comfort Inn & Suites for our hotel room block. Our new meeting location at the Quality Inn & Suites has its own attached hotel and we have secured a room block there so it is all in one location.

Our initial buildings and facilities expense was budgeted at \$4300/year. In 2023 it was set at \$5000/year and in 2024 it was set to \$6000/year, and it continues to trend upwards. Here is a breakdown of our actual 2024 building and facilities expenses for WCC. That is followed by what the cost and savings will be at the Quality Inn & Suites as compared to WCC:

Webster Conference Center

Event 2024 Cost 2023 Cost Increase

January Assembly \$2255 \$2195 +60

April Committee Meetings \$1395 Held at Quality Inn N/A

July Assembly \$2305 \$2245 +60

October Committee Meetings \$1385 Held at Quality Inn N/A

TOTAL \$7340

Quality Inn & Suites

Event 2025 Cost WCC Cost Decrease

January Assembly \$650 \$2255 -\$1605

April Committee Meetings \$350 \$1395 -\$1045

July Assembly \$650 \$2305 -\$1655

October Committee Meetings \$350 \$1385 -\$1035

TOTAL \$2000

Moving from WCC to Quality Inn & Suites saves Kansas Area 25 \$5340/year and helps greatly in getting our 2025 budget closer to balanced. In addition to that, not only is the hotel at the Quality Inn & Suites attached to the meeting location for convenience, but that will also be cheaper and save us money. The existing room block that we have with the Comfort Inn & Suites has been going up as well. Where we used to be able to secure a room within the block for \$99/night + tax, they have now raised that cost to \$109/night + tax. So as a result, we have secured a room block with the Quality Inn & Suites that gets us a single king room or double queen room for \$79/night + tax. This is a savings of \$40/night on hotel rooms for the assemblies and committee meetings.

A couple of things worth noting:

- This move to Quality Inn & Suites for the Kansas Area 25 assemblies and committee meetings is completely SEPARATE from the venue change ad-hoc presentation that was given at last July's assembly meeting. If the assembly wants to move our meeting location to another venue other than the Quality Inn & Suites in Salina, move it out of Salina to another location in the state of Kansas, or have rotating assembly and committee meetings at different locations throughout the state of Kansas then that of course can still be done and is entirely up to the assembly. This current move is solely for the purposes of cutting our buildings and facilities expense for the 2025 budget.

- Any future assembly and committee meeting dates that have already been set and communicated to Kansas Area 25 will remain the same...only the location will be changing.

- o January 24-26, 2025, Area Assembly, Quality Inn & Suites, Salina

- o April 4-5, 2025, Area Committee Meetings, Quality Inn & Suites, Salina

- o July 18-20, 2025, Area Assembly, Quality Inn & Suites, Salina

- o October 17-18, 2025, Area Committee Meetings, Quality Inn & Suites, Salina

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns at all please feel free to let me know. Thank you for allowing me to serve!

Will Hommertzon Kansas Area 25 Alt. Chairperson altchairperson@ks-aa.org

Area 25 Conference Chair – Lisa S.:

There were 261 people who attended the 2024 Area State Conference.

What an amazing Area 25 Conference! We had a good turnout of 261 in attendance. This was down from last year. The speakers were phenomenal. Debbie set the tone for the weekend with an energetic, funny talk. The weekend took off from there. Our hospitality room did not disappoint either. Great food and fellowship! We reintroduced the skit Saturday. They did a fantastic job! It was perfect and hilarious and completely relatable! Our Saturday night speaker was great. Cliff's story was motivational and funny as well. Sunday morning's speaker, Michael, was inspirational. We also heard from Teresa J., our SWR Trustee, and Michael from GSO. Alateen and Al-Anon speakers were great too. Now the moment everyone is waiting for. The conference was not self-supporting, but from what I hear, that is the norm. This year we paid for our SWR Trustee to be here as it was not an election year. We also had a speaker from California that increased the travel expenses. Not as many rooms were comped as last year and our hospitality was increased as well. However, attendance was down. If we are to have a self-supporting conference, our attendance must be better. We do this to stay sober and to be of service.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as the 2024 Area 26 Conference Chair. I greatly enjoyed the experience.

Kaylon J. is the 2025 Conference Chair.

Lisa S.

Discussed Items:

Proposed Budget: Melissa B.

Melissa B. gave the Proposed Budget report for 2025 to be approved at the January Assembly.

Printing Ad Hoc: Dee Y.

Committee members are Dee Y., Melissa B., Kim H., Mike R., and Tagan E.

The purpose of the Printing Ad Hoc is to look at what the cost of printing has been and to review options for reducing the cost of printing.

Some of the items we are addressing are:

- Looking into other printing companies in Salina for a cost comparison.
- Print only the business portion of the minutes for Assembly and Committee meetings.
- Considering options for the GSR binders.

The 3-year break down for outside printing:

2022 \$4,264.67

2023 \$6,578.99

2024 \$2065.64 + \$162 (as of 10/19/24) equaling a total for 2024 of \$2227.64

Drawing of Odd Districts for 2025:

Accessibilities: 17, 7

Chronicler: 19

Corrections: 31, 5

CPC: 3

GFP: 27

Grapevine: 13

Literature: 23

PI: 15,21

Treatment: 9

Web: 11