

# AREA 69 NEWS & NOTES

2018 Pre-Conference Assembly April 5-7, 2018

## 2018 PRAASA SHARED EXPERIENCES

March 2-4, 2018

### "Why the Trustees' Panel Is My Favorite"

So, after sitting through amazing speakers about a myriad of topics on Friday night and all day Saturday, after attending two wonderful two hour round table sessions with other people that are doing your type of service, after all the travel, the networking, the late nights, and the emotions of hearing the AA message said so many ways - then comes Sunday morning where they saved the best for last.

The first year I went to PRAASA, the topic the Past Trustee Panel was given was how do we balance the 3rd Tradition with the 5th Tradition. I braced myself for more of the inane drivel that we usually hear from long time members that have a hard time reconciling

the fact that drug users may have a drinking problem also. Instead I was pleasantly surprised to hear things like. "The morning I woke up on-the-run, hungover, with a half-gallon on my left, my triple beam scales on my right, and a bag of

dope on my chest, I knew couldn't go on like this and I called AA". I also heard "I don't care if alcohol is your primary problem or your secondary problem. I don't even care if alcohol is your tertiary problem. I don't even care if Alcohol is your 27th worst problem. If you have a problem with alcohol, you are welcome in AA."

My second year I helped on the literature table and missed the Trustee panel.

My third year was up in Spokane and I was able to hear some clear, level headed thinking and some fiery speaking about such topics as Safety in AA, Accessibility, and Allowing People to Have Their Own Religious Beliefs, Even If They Are Atheist or Agnostic.

Sacramento was my fourth PRAASA. The part I remember best is Madeline giving the fellowship loving correction again about some of her favorite subjects. Then she finished her speech by telling us that she found the most

*"PRAASA is a wonderful experience. It is all good and I wouldn't have wanted to miss the part where they played the 12 steps in Navajo".*

### Editor's Note

My name is Renae H., I am an alcoholic and your Area 69 "News & Notes" newsletter editor. I want to thank all those who have contributed articles to Volume 1 sharing their personal stories, experience, strength and hope. I am very grateful to you all, and have thoroughly enjoyed reading and producing this 2018 Pre-Conference Assembly edition!

How do you spread the message of hope, recovery and unity to those beyond your home group? Are you ready to be of service on an area level? Contributing to the Area 69 News & Notes publication is a rewarding way to be of service and to share with fellow members around the state. Simply contact your newsletter editor, with your article or photo by emailing:

[Area69immediatepastdelegate@utahaa.org](mailto:Area69immediatepastdelegate@utahaa.org)

(See additional Newsletter article submission information on the back page of this Volume)

amazing life in AA and the only thing she did to deserve it was to drink like a pig.

This year's Past Trustee Panel was a little more pensive and calm. George talked about lawsuits, how they work, and why AA might need to use them from time to time. Other past trustees talked about the mistakes they made as trustee. Madeline told of

some of the hate mail she received from some of the members while she was trustee. She talked of the importance of Love and Tolerance.

All and All PRAASA is a wonderful experience. It is all good and I wouldn't have wanted to miss the part where they played the 12 steps in Navajo. The information I heard at the Area

Chair Roundtables last year helped me immensely. And I love seeing the many of the same PRAASA people every year. But I will always look forward to Sunday morning and the Past Trustee Panel.

Yours in Love and Service,  
David R.  
Area Chair

### "A Navajo Woman's Story"

Yá'át'éeéh!! My name is Kim B. and I am an alcoholic. I am from the "Bitterwater" clan, born for the "Many Hogans" clan. My maternal grandfathers are from "the one who walks around", my 3rd clan, and my paternal grandfathers are from the "Mexican" clan. This is what defines me as a Navajo.

I was born & raised on the Navajo Reservation, right on top of Black Mesa, AZ. I was the firstborn daughter of a single mother, who grew up poor and not having a place I can remember calling "HOME."

For a short time we lived next door to my grandma's place, which family called the "small house." After some time we left that place and would come to find ourselves, or just me, moving around living with family members - mainly my grandma or aunts.

I attended boarding school for a short time until my mother could figure out what to do with my little brother and me. Boarding school was a nightmare, but at least I had a warm bed and food to eat. Finally my mother was approved for subsidized housing in Kayenta and we moved into town when I was about 10. Living in town wasn't what I thought it would be - we were still without running water, electricity, food was

scarce, funds were none, and still no father in sight. So that meant being left behind during the summer or school breaks by my mom at my aunts or grandma's place, and that is when the sexual abuse started by a family member that I was close with and also looked up to. This continued until I was about 13 when I finally told my mom that "I was not going back up there anymore!" Nothing was done about the situation, and this is when the rebellion stage started.

I started my freshmen year

*"I want to tell my people that we don't have to live a life of demoralization and hopelessness anymore. There is hope, FIREWATER does not have to rule over us!"*

leaving sport activities and academics behind, only to pick up the bottle and drugs, which led to many days of skipping school to make "runs" to Page or Mexican Hat with friends who I thought were the greatest because they "understood" me. My first drink was with my cousin's sister who I grew up with. With her by my side, we ran, we drank and partied all over the reservation. My mother, at this point in my life, had no control over me. I did what I wanted -

running away, sleeping wherever I passed out, waking up and starting all over again.

School was of no importance to me. I did manage to get to my senior year, losing many friends along the way. At the end of my senior year, I lost my foster sister and I was devastated, blaming myself for something I had no control over - as I can say it now - but for the longest time I carried that hurt. The "if only" kicked in and my addiction took over. I was kicked out of school that year, only to bring humiliation to my family once again, but what was new? Oh boy, I was on my own for sure! I had life figured out and that's when I ended up in Flagstaff, AZ with my best friend Devo. We drank, partied and did whatever we felt like...no responsibilities but to get wasted and have fun.

I lied, cheated, stole, and did anything I could do just to feed my addiction. I was on the road to nowhere pretty much when my foster mom got ahold of me and told me to come home and help my mom out, since she just had my baby sister who was born a preemie. Back home to the reservation I went to help.

After a couple of months, I left the reservation once again in pursuit of finding something bigger and better

out there. Utah was my next stop. I started working at a ski resort and quickly became great friends with the bar tender. Ski season was over, addiction full blown, and we were both on the bus headed for Albuquerque, NM. Albuquerque was short lived and so was the bar tender...only to be back on a bus headed for Utah once again - this time, pregnant and with someone new - the father to four of my six children. Drugs intact, we only had two dollars to our name until we got to Las Vegas, finally arriving back in Cedar City, UT and with my mother once again.

I put the bottle down and started to focus on my family and changing my lifestyle. Off and on again in between pregnancies, I tried my best to live without the bottle. Depression set in and once again I turned to the bottle to deal and cope with life.

Vodka became my best friend, hiding it, lying about it to my family. Everything came crashing down when I was pulled over with all my children in the vehicle...my first DUI. That resulted in an open case with DCFS, losing my family, my marriage, and our youth ministry - and into outpatient treatment I went. I did everything I needed to do to get out of the system, and back to drinking I went! I picked up right where I left off.

I became the single mother I never ever wanted or dreamt of becoming. The mom who drove drunk with her children, the mom who went to college classes drunk and managed to graduate, the mom who drank with her unborn child, the mom who slept in storage containers so I could have that drink. The mom who showed up to parent conferences drunk, the mom who forgot to pick up her children from

school or wherever they were, the mom who let her children do anything and could've cared less. The mom who emotionally, physically, mentally, and spiritually abused her children. The mom who picked up another DUI hitting a park truck and then picking up her child from daycare. The mom who walked all over town and passed out on the grass while her kids played until the cops came and took her to jail. The mom who stole, lied, cheated and everything in between to get her addiction fed. The mom who was in and out of treatment facilities, hospitals for suicide attempts, jail, drug court and caught up with DCFS time after time - promising her children that things will get better, only to get worse.

The mom who never showed up for work and drank her business away. The mom who drank just about anything containing alcohol in. The mom who needed that drink to get moving in the morning, that drink to get through the day and the drink to put me to bed. The mom who would walk for miles to get her a bottle or even a beer. The mom who had the shakes, the jitters, and the seizures from detoxing. This is what it was like.

What happened - I was tired and hopeless - my children were heartbroken, my husband was stressed out, my family was exhausted and drained trying to keep up with me. I couldn't keep my lies in order anymore and our bank account was depleted. My children gave me my last of all last chance to change or that was it. My boy, on his birthday weekend when he left, told me, "When I come home YOU better be sober or I'm gone and that's it, NO MORE!!!" That whole weekend, I cried and prayed, "God if you are really

out there, I need you now more than ever, my kids and hubby are leaving me again!!! YOU HAVE TO CHANGE ME, THE URGE FOR A DRINK NEEDS TO GO AWAY, I CAN'T DO THIS ANYMORE!! I NEED HELP NOW PLEASE!!"

I needed to change. I had to finally surrender and tell the bottle that was it, I'm done. I needed some kind of spiritual awakening. That whole weekend I detoxed, cried, and prayed.

By the grace of God, do I sit here and share what it is like now. I have my family back in my life, they trust me once again. I have a husband who supports and loves me unconditionally, who shows me daily what faith and forgiveness look like. I get to watch my children grow up - succeed in their academics, graduate from high school, watch them play sports, and just be there for them. When they cry, I get to wipe those tears, and when they are happy, I get to share in their laughter. I know where they are today and I drive to their events sober. I also wait patiently with my Higher Power for that "one child" to call and want to come home.



Today, I go to bed sober and wake up sober without the shakes. I have a sponsor, a home group, and attend meetings. I work and apply

the steps to my life, and am able to be there for others when they reach out for help. I live in the solution today not the problem. Say the serenity prayer when there is nothing I can do. I volunteer to get out of my selfishness and give back. Most importantly, I have and keep a daily connection with my Higher Power, whom I chose to call "GOD," - without Him, I am nothing. I have to stay humble, be grateful and thankful because in a minute I can be back where I was not too long ago. Today, I am alive, happy, joyous and free.

In early March I had the opportunity to attend PRAASA 2018,

### "My 2018 PRAASA Experience"

Hello, my name is Evan and I am an alcoholic. I am grateful to be sober today and I am grateful for the life that AA has helped me to develop. I am also grateful to have a home group that supports their GSR, to represent them and to relay the message at all or any AA functions. We are a fortunate group.

I recently attended PRAASA (Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly). I cannot really explain the emotion to the feeling, but there was something in the air. Friday I flew into Sparks, Nevada - air temp was a cool 30 degrees. We, 45 AA's, shuffled to the Nugget Hotel and I started the check-in and registration process. Immediately I felt at home - recognizing familiar faces and voices.

Orientation began at noon and Mike M., PRAASA Chair, opened up with the Serenity Prayer. I don't know if you have ever heard 1,600

my first of many to come. What a spiritual experience that was for me. To hear my language spoken, the steps translated in Navajo. There's really no words to express how and what I felt. All I felt in that moment was my Higher Power - "MY MAN", "One who has all power" - was there. Then again, I felt hope for my people, the Diné. My prayers were heard and God saw my heart was broken for the natives who are caught up in this "cunning, baffling, and powerful" addiction. Taking life after life, losing brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, leaving children without their parents, grandmas grandpas, tearing family apart and

People say that prayer in unison, but this was the first of many spiritual moments. There were 10 panels throughout the event.

The Pacific Regional Trustee report blew me away. During his session, they played an audio translated version of the 12 steps in the Navajo spoken language that just rocked the house. I was instantly choked up and crushed by the devastation of this dis-ease.

Later on in the day I attended the GSR (Group Service Representative) round table. We were going over some topics and difficulties us GSR's can run into and overcome while serving. I was able to share some experiences at the mic and upon completion, while walking back to my seat, I saw an old friend. My first job was as a bus boy at the Cardiff chart house, and it was my manager that I haven't seen in 26 years.

Twenty six years ago I was 16, and this man had everything I wanted - money, power, prestige, and of course... women. Apparently we were both wrong,

leaving destruction and heartaches in its path. Enough is enough!!!

My passion and heart's desire are to one day take the AA message back to [the] Navajo Reservation and take that stand. I want to tell my people that we don't have to live a life of demoralization and hopelessness anymore. There is hope, FIREWATER does not have to rule over us!

Through my faith and AA I know life can change for the better, and things will start to materialize. I know this because I am living it now, one day at a time. Ahéhee'

and to meet again at PRAASA 26 years later, sober, wondering if we

owed each other an amends - these are the types of experiences I receive in sobriety. It was so simple, we just hugged!



Picture courtesy of Gerri B. Dist. 10

*"Abandon yourself to God as you understand God. Admit your faults to Him and to your fellows. Clear away the wreckage of your past. Give freely of what you find and join us. We shall be with you in the Fellowship of the Spirit, and you will surely meet some of us as you trudge the Road of Happy Destiny. May*

God bless you and keep you - until then."

"Page 164 "Alcoholics Anonymous"  
**"Note from the Delegate"**

As I sit and reflect the previous year, I'm thinking about all the amazing things we have been a part of. The implementation of translating all of the 2018 General Service Conference Agenda background into French and Spanish; the Navajo translation of the Big Book into audio and video; all of the new pamphlets that should hit the press and be available soon; and Area 69 representation at the first National Corrections Workshop. It's also been wonderful to see attendance at our Area Assemblies and Committee meetings increasing. Each time I have the gift to spend time in the different Districts listening to all the work being done to help the still suffering alcoholic in our communities, is very much appreciated. I look forward to the upcoming year.  
Love in service, Wade Jensen

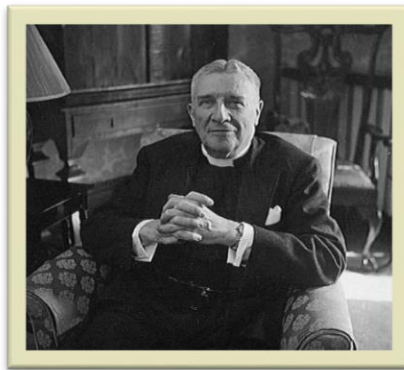
**"Archives"**

The following paragraphs are taken verbatim from the Quarterly Report from G.S.O., published in October 2017. The Quarterly Report has some updates about Archives I hope you will find interesting.  
In Love & Service,  
Sheryl T.  
Area 69 Archives Committee

**G.S.O. ARCHIVES UPDATES**

**The A.A World Services (A.A.W.S.) Corporate Board** met twice following their July 2017 meeting: September 15 and October 27. This paragraph summarizes **Archives** activity at these three

meetings. "Following a renovation project, the G.S.O. Archives exhibit area and library were reopened to visitors and tours on Friday, October 13. Archives staff has developed a new digital exhibit on Sam Shoemaker, which has been added to the 'Archives and History' portal of aa.org. A new discovery made by the senior archivist is a letter from 1976 providing significant details about an unknown 1942 film in G.S.O.'s collection in which Bill and Dr. Bob appear together."



**Sam Shoemaker: Friend of A.A.**

**The General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.,** held its quarterly meeting at the Hilton Westchester Hotel, Rye Brook, NY on Monday, October 30, 2017. Class A (nonalcoholic) Chair of the General Service Board, Michele Grinberg, presided. The chair welcomed all present. All committees met during the weekend. Highlights of committee reports are as follows.

**Archives:**

"The committee reviewed a working draft of the proposed publication, *Our Great Responsibility: Selections of Bill W.'s General Service Conference Talks, 1951-1970* (revised working title) and considered possible uses of two newly accessioned films

accepted into the G.S.O. Archives repository."

**"Commitment vs. Responsibility"**

Lately I have been thinking a lot about commitments and responsibilities. What are the differences in the words and how do they apply to my life, my sobriety, and service obligations? When first sober I heard "learn balance." This was something I thought I had mastered because I no longer have feelings of extreme Anger or Indifference.

Well, my life has a way of teaching me there is always more to learn, One Day at a Time. So, balance to me first meant that I no longer hid from the world with fear or with trepidation. Also, I don't charge around like a raging bull. There are times of sadness and joy but these feelings no longer overtake me to a point where I feel one extreme or the other becoming oblivious to all else around me. My service work is also a lesson in balance or maybe it is more organization.

Nothing is accomplished alone in this "WE" program. My life is better working with another. My duties and/or chores are less burdensome when shared with a team or committee. This includes my family, friends and co-workers.

To me, a commitment is an action and a responsibility is a feeling. I make a *commitment* to go work and earn a paycheck so I can buy groceries, because I *feel* I have a *responsibility* to cook meals for my family/kids.  
In love and service,  
Treesa J. Service Junkie

**New to General Service -**

**"Experience, Strength and Hope"**

My name is Patrick A, and I'm an alcoholic. My sobriety date is May 14, 2015. My home group is the Living Sober group in District 3 which is in Area 69, Utah. First, I would like to thank my Higher Power for giving me the gift of

sobriety. Second, for alcoholics anonymous, and lastly, for my sponsor and service sponsor for working with me thus far.

When I was new in sobriety, I had realized I'd been beaten into submission. I also knew I could not live the way I was accustomed to - like I had for 19 years. As I went through my first set of steps, my sponsor "volun-told" me to get into service. I was/am eager to do whatever it took to stay sober. The "flame" inside of me was burning bright!!! I had never felt so at peace. For the first time, I had started to feel love for myself.

As time went on, life came and I was able to use the steps in my everyday life. When it came to my second year of sobriety I started to feel bored or stagnant. It's not that I wanted to drink or get loaded, but if I stayed that way, sooner or later I would give in. I knew in that moment I had to make a change. So I did what was suggested to me. Prayer, meditation, meetings, and a butt-load of speaker tapes.

The common denominator was service. An opportunity came about and I took it. I Learned the Traditions and Concepts with a service sponsor. That flame I had in early sobriety was back. After a month or so had passed, I had to step back because of a surgery that was coming up.

The reason I bring up my surgery is because it allowed me to have some healing time, so my schedule had opened up, and I was now ready to do some of the things my service sponsor and I had talked about like attending Area events.

I attended the 2017 Area Fall Assembly. The first night, I was excited but not as much as I thought I would be. Towards the end of the night I started to feel something again. My heart, soul

and spirit was lit up again. That night when I got home my roommate asked why I was so "smiley"

The next day I came to the assembly with a goal in mind - to apply myself there. So I met and mingled with several people there. When I pulled into the parking lot I was smiling from ear to ear. I felt goosebumps and my heart was beating fast. I knew that I was in the right place. I checked in, sat down, and instantly felt the flame burst through like a wildfire!

***"MY HEART, SOUL AND SPIRIT WAS LIT UP AGAIN."***

There were at least two, maybe three times as many people there than the night before. It was, and is, amazing to see such a gathering of people here doing what is taught to us in AA... service.

I observed past and new delegates talk about things I knew nothing about, like things that made our fellowship run, locally and abroad.

As a member of AA, I have a voice and I am a part of something spectacular! Just before dinner was served, they had an open-mic session for someone like myself to stand in front of the delegates, chairs and committee chairs and other AA members to share. I want to say, "wow, just wow!" My mind is blown on the spirit that was there. I nor anyone else could measure or deny it.

To the delegates, chairs and committee chairs, thank you. Thank you for helping me realize AA would cease to exist if it weren't for this side of AA. Also, it was very clear to me that my children and many yet to come shall always have an open seat in

a meeting. I am very blessed to have God put this opportunity in front of me. I will end with this, thank you for all you do. From the bottom of my heart, thank you and I love you.



**Picture Displayed at the  
Palace Meeting Place in District 3  
Submitted by Patrick A.  
(Artist unknown)**

## **UPCOMING AREA 69 SERVICE EVENTS**

**May 18-20, 2018**

*Post Conference Assembly  
District 6 Salina, Utah*

**June 16, 2018**

*Bridging the Gap Workshop  
District 11 Bountiful, Utah*

**August 18-19, 2018**

*Pre-Assembly Workshop  
District 10 SLC*

**September 7-9 2018**

*Pacific Regional Forum  
Area 06 San Jose, CA.*

*For additional information on  
Area Service Events, please visit  
our Website at:*

**[www.utahaa.org](http://www.utahaa.org)**

# “WHAT’S ON YOUR MIND...” CORNER

## “AA Unity Across Special Interests”

I am an alcoholic named Chris H. My home group is the Living Sober Group in Orem. We have about 40 meetings per week, so if you're ever in the area please stop in for a cup of coffee. I currently serve District 3 as a DCM.

Last summer I was invited to host the Saturday noon panel at the 2017 UCYPAA Convention at Valley Camp. The panel theme was how to unify the General Service structure and UCYPAA. GSR, Sarah F., presented on questions she's had about how the two entities fit into the big picture of Alcoholics Anonymous. I spoke about the history of YPAAs in AA and how the entities serve very different roles in our fellowship. Area 69 Delegate Wade J. talked about how important both are, and how important it is that members of all ages work together. This article is based upon my panel speech.

This came about because, as DCM, part of my service responsibilities is to work with group representatives. One of the topics at the 2017 General Service Conference in New York was whether to add a YPAA subcommittee to the General Service structure. I felt it was important to hear from our local YPAAs on the matter. When I asked their opinion at one of the planning meetings, I was met with a room full of blank stares and one question: “What does that even mean?”

Over the next few days, I discovered I know as little about UCYPAA as most of them know about General Service. In fact, most people in my District don't know the difference between Central Office and District. And my home group stands tall on its autonomy but never discusses

whether its actions affect other groups or AA as a whole.

How did our fellowship come to a point where there is only one AA but so much disconnection?

*I want to make clear that I do not speak for AA. Nor do I speak for District 3, or for my home group. My opinions are my own, based upon what I've observed, experienced, researched and learned. If anything I say contradicts AA literature or anyone's experience, let's talk about it. Let's talk about it in our home groups. Let's talk about it in our YPAA committees. Let's talk about it at District and Area meetings. Let's talk about it.*

Bill Wilson described substructures within AA as “special interest” groups. The General Service Conference itself was a special interest group that began as a four-year experiment, driven by the need to secure AA's future after Bill and Bob passed away. In 1955 our founders officially transferred ownership of AA to the AA groups, and the groups delegated complete authority of world services to the Conference.

## “The 2017 UCYPAA Convention Theme was - How to Unify the General Service Structure and UCYPAA.”

Services include guardianship of our 12 Traditions; public relations policies; developing and publishing uniform literature; maintaining files for every group in the Conference; maintaining the AA Web site; publishing workbooks for local committees such as Treatment, Cooperation with the Professional Community, and Corrections; translating our literature into other languages; responding to anonymity breaks; and so much more!

Our direct connection to the Conference begins in our home group. Through our GSR, we have a voice and vote for or against

change, approval or disapproval of a proposed action, and the means to make sure our group's wishes are heard and fully considered at the District and Area levels. Our Area Delegate communicates our group conscience to the General Service Conference. In turn, through our Delegate, the Conference sends communications about its activities and ideas to our Area, Districts and GSR's, directly to us so we can participate in the decision-making process.

This General Service Structure is how AA stays AA. It is not a government; it is the collective experience, strength and hope of millions of alcoholics over 82 years made available to you and to every alcoholic who follows you through our doors. No other structure, inside or outside of AA has authority to change our fellowship



But, inside AA, many special interest groups cordially serve the needs of those who want them. There are women's groups, men's groups, LGBT groups, atheist groups, old-timer's groups, etc.

Young people's groups started appearing as early as 1945 in Los Angeles, Cleveland and Philadelphia. In 1958 young people from across the United States and Canada formed what became the International Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous, or ICYPAA. The Utah Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous started in 1983. In 1996, UCYPAA and several other state YPAAs formed the Western Area Conference.

Researching various YPAA Web sites, it seems that each entity exists for the main purpose of organizing a conference.

That's not so unusual. The GOD Campout, Campvention, PRAASA and the Pacific Regional Forum are also examples of entities within AA whose primary function is to organize specific conferences and gatherings.

As I watched my local YPAA plan this conference, it was the fundraising events leading up to this weekend that brought young alcoholics together to see that you can have a lot of fun in recovery, along with amazing spiritual meetings and doing the very hard work it took to pull this all together.

In contrast, I see few young AAs involved in General Service. Oh, they are doing plenty of service: many take meetings into treatment facilities; many chair meetings; many sponsor; some take meetings into jails.

But our District committees were nearly vacant. No one in District 3 is carrying the message to Veterans, schools, the deaf, Native Americans, retirement homes, or long-term medical care facilities. At the time, no one was taking GSO-produced videos and pamphlets into jails and treatment centers. No one is setting up booths at summer festivals and university-based recovery conventions. No one was reaching out to professionals such as doctors, lawyers, employers, professional schools or employment counselors who come in contact with alcoholics who might never find us through the legal systems or treatment centers. No one is handling our public relations with the press, including providing Public Service Announcements available through GSO.

Lack of General Service involvement has left District 3 ill-prepared to carry the message beyond our rooms.

Our Area Public Information chair asked for some help manning a booth at Utah Valley University's Conference on Addiction in March 2017. The person from our local fellowship who volunteered showed people pictures of bloody brains and talked about a lot of controversial things that are not AA. When the PI chair tried to reel her in, the volunteer left in a huff.

At a meeting in a treatment center, two AAs who were chairing the meeting got in a heated argument, in front of the clients, about whether a person is still alcoholic after they've stopped drinking.

Another treatment center no longer has a meeting brought in because the AAs who were taking it in needed to move on, and no one was willing to step in.

If we had [more] active District committees, we might have been better prepared to handle these situations. Through the General Service structure, there are workbooks available that share experience, strength and hope from across AA how to best coordinate the 12<sup>th</sup> step work of individuals and groups.

If we could attract the people involved in YPAAs to participate in General Service – bring their passion, excitement, ideas and commitment – we'd go a long way towards achieving Unity beyond our home groups and special interests. We'd do a better job of reaching the alcoholic who still suffers.

Thank you.

## We Welcome Your Articles!

This newsletter is primarily comprised of article contributions from members which may include local A.A. news, information about groups and committees, reprinted material from A.A. literature, pictures, theme topics, a "What's on your Mind" section, reports and/or presentations, general sharing, etc.

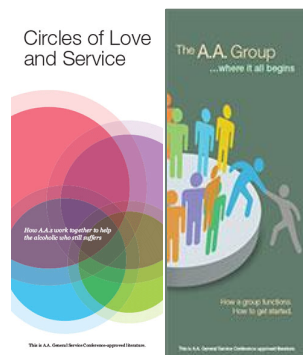
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Contributions from A.A. members are welcome and will be printed as space allows. Submissions must be e-mailed and include the writers' contact information. Submissions may be signed with first name and last initial. Anonymous submissions will be published but the author's contact information must be included.

The editors reserve the right to edit contents for length, clarity, and their relation to the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous. An effort will be made to contact the author regarding content changes.

This newsletter including any attachments are confidential. Please respect the anonymity of others when sharing this Publication. Thank you

## To Learn More...



For Additional Information about A.A. Group Services, the A.A. General Service Structure, and A.A. History, please visit:

**[www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)**

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