

**Minutes Utah Area 69 Area Committee Meeting May  
16, 2015 – Hosted by District 9  
711 S Main (Moab Valley Inn)  
Moab, Utah**

**Welcome Matt D., Chair:** Meeting opened with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer, Preamble, Anonymity Statement and Responsibility Statement. Several newcomers attended the meeting. Defined Service Sponsor and identified those willing to serve in this capacity. Introduction of Panel 65 Area Officers and Area Standing Chairs.

**Minutes of the 2015 Area 69 Pre-Conference Assembly Minutes – Treesa J.:** Approved as read.

**Matt discussed Deanna B stepping down from Area 69 Grapevine Standing Chair. Frank B stood at the 2014 Area 69 Elections and has agreed to fulfill the remaining Grapevine term. Matt asked Area 69 to affirm Frank B. PASSED**

**Treasurer's Report** – My name is Kurt and I'm an alcoholic. I am grateful to be your Area 69 Treasurer. My sobriety date is April 21, 1994. My home group is the Monday Night Men's group in Logan, Utah. We meet every Monday night at 6:00 pm at a cabin in Logan Canyon. Today I would like to share a short article from the Box 4-5-9, Winter 2014. "The Seventh Tradition in Action - 'I recently had the privilege of attending an A.A. Conference in another country, where I was also able to attend a few local A.A. meetings. While at one meeting, I had the opportunity to talk with an old-timer about A.A. in his country over the last 25 years. "Stressing to me how vital the availability of A.A. literature in their language was to the growth of A.A., he described the tears members had in their eyes after receiving the first shipment of Big Books in their native language. He shared with me that while it might not seem that important to others, for those dying of alcoholism, it was like the hungry getting a supply of food and water. "This conversation, which occurred thousands of miles from where I live, reaffirmed for me the sacred obligation we have to carry the message and to help the next sick and suffering alcoholic. Translating A.A. literature is one of the life-saving actions — an action made possible by your contribution to the General Service Office.' An anonymous A.A. Member" So far this year Area 69 has received over 150 contributions from over 90 groups and individuals for a total of \$9,228.29. Thank you to all of the groups that contribute to Area 69!

I love Alcoholics Anonymous. I love general service. My life is changed and sobriety enhanced in so many ways thanks to you. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Kurt Jensen [area69treasurer@utahaa.org](mailto:area69treasurer@utahaa.org) 435-764-2122 Approved as read. (Motion Linda, Jill second).

**Assembly/Agenda – Pete G.:** My name is Pete and I am an alcoholic. It is my privilege to serve as you as your Assemblies / Agenda Chair. I want to say what a great job District 9 has done in providing this place for us to meet this weekend. It is always great to be in Moab; Sober. During the short time between the Pre and Post Conferences, I have had the opportunity to be a part of the District 2 Pre Assembly Workshop planning meetings that are being held each month immediately before the District GSR meeting. The host committee is well staffed and on schedule. District 11 also continues to have regular planning meetings for the Fall Assembly. I had the privilege of attending the District 12 elections. The energy at this election was amazing. I attended this event with our Immediate Past-Delegate, the Alt. Delegate, the Area Chair and the Area Registrar. The Past Trustee of the Pacific Region was also there. Prior to the elections, two visitors from the the Las Vegas vicinity spoke regarding their experiences with the General Service and Inter-group activities. Our Area Chair, Alt. Delegate, Past Delegate and Past Trustee all shared on Fellowship, Autonomy and Carrying the Message. After much amoroso, discussion anamida (loving, spirited discussion), all positions were filled. The spirit of service was very high. My hat is off to Tito, who translated through the entire event and was very tired by the end of the event. My report today is intended to highlight the great event happening in Area 69. Serendipity can best describe it. Serendipity is defined as "an unexpected, fortunate event". Area 69 is enjoying a renewal of interest from all our districts and this includes our linguistic district. The area has had translation equipment over a decade and I am putting out a call for translators to help us use it. The guidelines for the host committees includes a section for translation. I believe the districts are the best sources for providing this skill. Go back to your groups and districts, put out the call for members who are willing to translate for upcoming events, corrections, treatment, PI and Bridging the Gap. This has been a shameless plug for service work. Thank you for letting me be of service, Pete G.

**Bid for 2017 Post-Conference Assembly. (Dist 11, Dist 2, Dist 1, Dist 10) Voted: Dist. 1**

#### **Reports from Upcoming Events**

Area Bridge the Gap – District 3: Mellany for Doug L.

2015 International Convention – Walter C. (If you attend, please volunteer in the Pacific Region Hospitality Room)

Pre-Assembly Workshop – District 2: Rick H.

National Bridging The Gap Workshop – Frank B.

Fall Assembly – District 11: Laurie A.

#### **Reports from Past Events**

Pre-Conference Assembly – District 8: Bonnie H.

**Roll Call – Kristen D.:** In attendance: 7 Area Officers, 10 Area Standing Chairs, 7 Past Delegates; District 1: 1 DCMC, 2 DCM, 2 GSR, 1 Standing Chair; District 2: 1 DCMC; 3 DCM, 2 GSR, 1 Standing Chair; District 3: 1 DCM, 4 GSR; District 4: 1 DCM, 1 Alt. GSR; District 5: 1 DCM, 1 Alt-DCM, 1 GSR, 3 Standing Chair; District 6: 1 Alt. DCM; District 7: 1 District Officer, 1 GSR; District 8: 1 DCM, 1 GSR, 1 District Officer; District 9: 1 DCM, 1 GSR, 1 District Officer; District 10: 1 DCMC, 1 Alt-DCM, 2 GSRs, 3 Standing Chair, 1 District Officer; District 11: 1 DCMC, 1 DCM, 2 GSR, 3 Standing Chair, 1 District Officer; District 12: No one attended, Central Office Reps: No one attended; Interested AA's: 12 **Total = 90**

Love in Service, Kristen D

**Delegate's Report – Renae H.:** Dear Friends, My heart is incredibly full as I am writing this report. It's been two weeks since I came home from attending my first General Service Conference in New York City, and my feet are just starting to hit the ground! What an extremely special experience it was to have had, and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to proudly represent you all in service as Panel 65, Area 69 Utah Delegate at the 65<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous. Just so you know, I am having a crazy hard time trying to figure out where to begin. So I'll fall back on some words I kept hearing in my head from past Delegates and my Pacific Region Panel 64 Delegate comrades. Those words were to *"share about what you saw, what you heard, and what you felt"* while you were at the conference. Now, I'm looking at it like holy cow! How can I put all of this into words---let alone, into a report that would take no less than 8 hours to read! I'll do my best to give you a small snapshot of the conference in under 2 hours today. Let's start with the Conference weeks' agenda which unofficially started on Saturday afternoon with a hospitality gathering from 1:00-3:00pm for the conference members to greet old friends (panel 64 2<sup>nd</sup> year delegates), and to meet the "new kids" on the block (panel 65 1<sup>st</sup> year delegates). From 3:00-4:15pm, we were invited to attend the "1728 Meeting", which is a Group that was formed to help Class A trustees and other interested non-alcoholics learn more about the Alcoholics Anonymous program of recovery from alcoholism. This group meets during the quarterly General Service Board weekends and prior to the annual General Service Conference. During this meeting we heard wonderful presentations in which two Trustees shared on Concepts II (*"The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscious of our whole society in its world affairs....."*), and on Concept III (*"To ensure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.---the Conference, the General Service Board and it's service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives---with a traditional right of decision".....*). After listening to these presentations, I felt keenly aware of just how important my responsibility is on behalf of Area 69. It seemed the "gauntlet" (Conference) was before us, and the tools had just been lain at our feet. We were there to carry out the very important business of Alcoholics Anonymous worldwide. I was very moved by the sharing. (I use the term "worldwide" as this is how it was described by Phyllis H., GSO General Manager, that the US/Canada General Service Board, Office, and separately incorporated services activities, are chiefly modeled by General Service Offices that have been established in 62 Countries around the world. The New York office is like the "mothership" of A.A. to most! Pretty cool, I thought.) Next--- from 4:30-6:00pm, I attended a "Remote Communities Meeting" where conference members (Delegates and Trustees) who are interested in remote communities work join together and share experience. We learned that some remote communities can be in our very own back yards. A few of these include not only distances, but also language, ASL communities, economic and financial barriers (i.e., the inability to afford electronic devices needed for on-line remote communities meetings, AKA "technological divide"), etc. What I heard in this meeting was much love and concern for the many alcoholics we have not yet reached. The great lengths that many A.A.s go, to breach these barriers is inspiring! (During a "What's on Your Mind" sharing session on Monday night, someone suggested making Remote Communities a secondary committee.) After the dinner break we joined for the "Delegates Only Meeting" where several Panel 64 Delegates shared their Conference experience, strength and hope with us followed by a Q & A session. I felt very excited for the next day---and maybe a little bit nervous too! Sunday April 19, 2015, the 65<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous officially opened with a "Welcome" from the General Service Board Chair and Class A Trustee, Terry Bediant, followed by Phyllis H., General Manager, G.S.O. conducting the "Roll Call". We were given the choice to answer with "here" or "present"...this was my first decision to make as an official conference member. After having some time to think about how I would answer before it was my turn, I chose to say "present" not only because I was present in that moment, but I also thought of the word "present" as a "gift" that I had been blessed with by my area to even be there! Thank you all. Following roll call, we listened to a "Keynote Address" given by J. Gary L. (Class B trustee) in which he made a comment of how "the 36 Principles are the bedrock of our whole fellowship." And of course he was referencing the Twelve Steps for recovery, Twelve Traditions for unity, and the Twelve Concepts for service---the Three Legacies of Alcoholics Anonymous---and how the General Service Conference relies upon these 36 principles in conducting all its affairs. Sunday morning included a small orientation of the mechanics of the Conference, review of the Agenda Manual, and questions from Conference members, followed by 2 presentations given by US Trustee at Large Bob W. on the "23<sup>rd</sup> World Service Meeting", and by G.S.O. staff Rick W. "A.A. Around the World". I want to share with you some excerpts from both Bob W.'s and Rick W.'s reports that touched me.

#### PRESENTATION

#### THE 23<sup>rd</sup> WORLD SERVICE MEETING

The Three Legacies; Vital for All Generations

Bob W., Trustee-at-Large/US

"The 23<sup>rd</sup> World Service Meeting was held in Warsaw, Poland at the Sofitel Hotel October 12-16, 2014. Sixty-one world service delegates were in attendance, representing over 41 countries. The World Service Meeting is held every two years; one year here in New York and the other year's location is awarded by bid to a participating country so it can be held in various locations throughout the world. The purpose of the World Service Meeting is to provide a forum for countries to share their experience of how A.A. is working within their structures. This meeting provides enormous opportunities for participating countries to strengthen A.A. in their land by learning the success stories of others. Many of the countries represented sponsor other countries.

This Year we welcomed four new countries, which was heartwarming to see. They were the Czech Republic, Hong Kong, Iran and Romania. I'd like to highlight a few thoughts on Iran. Their Delegate, Ali, shared how A.A. faces many different cultural and political

barriers. Iran is an Islamic country with strict religious laws, therefore the government doesn't recognize A.A. In fact, it is referred to by many as "Nameless Sobers" in order keep under the governments' radar. Because of nonrecognition by the Iranian government, groups are not allowed to hold meetings in public buildings and are forced to hold them "underground" or outside in open spaces where temperatures range from 5 to 104 degrees in Fahrenheit. Despite these difficulties, A.A. in Iran managed to translate the Big Book into Farsi and is reaching many suffering alcoholics, growing to approximately 12,000 members and more than 300 groups.".... "Each participating country brings much of its translated literature to the World Service Meeting and it is displayed at the literature table. Seeing our literature translated into so many languages is tangible evidence of the good work of the World Service Meeting."....

#### PRESENTATION

International

A.A. Around the World

Rick W., G.S.O. Staff

"I've been asked to share with you, in five minutes, about A.A. around the world (pause and laughter). The International desk is the contact point at G.S.O. for those residing outside of Canada and the United States. It is a truly exciting assignment, where you can see A.A. springing up in places where it did not exist before. As the staff member on this desk, I'm commonly in touch with members on all continents. Even from the vantage point of this desk, what can be seen is only a small fraction of A.A.'s world activity. A.A. is at different stages of growth in countries all over the world. Currently there are 62 countries with their own general service offices, each of them autonomous.".... "A.A. literature carries the message internationally, too. The Big Book is available in 69 languages, and A.A. pamphlets in more than 90. We have pamphlets in languages that I had never heard of when I came to work at G.S.O., including Twi (spoken in Ghana) and Shan (spoken in Southeast Asia). Working through the publishing department, A.A. as a whole carries the message in ways that my group and I could not do on our own. The Publishing Department is constantly coordinating additional translation to carry the message around the world.".... During the afternoon session (following a Regional working lunch), we had presentations on this past year's Conference theme and discussion topics "Our Common Welfare Through Gratitude and Action"--- 1) Diversity in AA---Our Heritage of inclusion; 2) Safety and Respect---Practicing the Principles Begins in Our Home Group; 3) Safeguarding Our Traditions Through the Evolution of Technology; 4) Inventory---Looking Back to Move Ahead. This session was followed up with Joint Trustee and Conference Committee Meetings. My Conference Committee assignment for this year and next, is Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC). This meeting is where we gather face to face with our respective Trustee Committee members to hear their committee activity report and to review Agenda item recommendations they have made. We then have time to ask any questions we may have about the report. The Sunday session concluded at 5:45pm. From 6:00-9:00pm the "Opening Dinner and A.A. Meeting" was held. We had the pleasure to hear sharing from a G.S.O. Staff member, 2 Panel 64 Delegates, a Class B Trustee, and from our soon-to-be retiring Phyllis H., General Service Office Manager. Our first Conference Committee Meetings started at 8:30 Monday morning, where we began focused discussion on our committees' Conference Agenda items. There were seven delegates and Racy J., G.S.O. CPC staff and recording secretary, present. We met again on Tuesday morning concluding our committee business during my second working lunch. (Some conference committees met one or more times in addition to the 3 and a half hour time blocks we were allotted on both Monday and Tuesday). I know that in behalf of my committees dedicated efforts to do a thorough job, that all of the conference committees were just as committed to the very important work we were all there to do. All of the time, money and effort that goes into the annual GSC, is all time, money and effort spent in collectively developing the most effective means, ideas, and tools available in which to reach the still suffering alcoholics worldwide. Monday afternoon we listened to the General Service Board Report, the A.A.W.S. Board Report, and the A.A. Grapevine Board Report. From 3:00-4:00 David Morris C.P.A. (Class A nonalcoholic Trustee), Chairperson, trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee, delivered a presentation/discussion on Finance that was very, very well done, but in some places, was very, very over my head! I have the full financial report in tow for anyone who would like to look at it today, and I can also make it available electronically if you are interested in taking some time to digest it later. This is a 13 page report which includes the following; consolidated Statement of Financial Position; Consolidated Statement of Activity; Consolidated Statement of Functional Expense; Consolidated statement of Cash Flows; Report of the Independent Auditor; G.S.O. 2015 Operating Budget; the A.A. Grapevine, Inc. 2015 Budget; 2014 Contributions; and the 2015 Budget Highlights. (\*Note: 2014 G.S.O. records reported that Area 69 (UT) has 389 groups listed with only 161 of those contributing to G.S.O. which is 41.4%, with total group contributions coming in at \$34,893.) David Morris also put together a presentation called "Around the Picnic Table", (where the "Menu" is Finance!) It is a 69 page document/power point, complete with color graphics and charts to help visually enhance one's understanding of the million dollar figures that pay the bills and continue to provide all of the services we receive from our G.S.O.. I asked another Pacific Region Delegate afterwards, if he understood the whole presentation (because he is a business savvy kind of guy, right?), and his response was "honestly no". Even with all the highlights and graphics, he found it challenging. So, I no longer felt so dumb, and realized that probably a lot more delegates were feeling the very same way I was at that moment-- we're certainly never alone in A.A.! The presentation concluded with a "Trends" reported for **G.S.O./A.A.W.S.** : \*Membership levels are flat; \*Contribution levels are flat; \*Literature sales show slow to no growth; \*Expenses continue to grow slowly - 2%-3% per year. **GRAPEVINE**: \*Subscriptions continue to decline 4%-5% per year; \*2015 G.S.O., Grapevine and LaVina combined budgeted profit is \$23,000, following years are minimal profits or more likely losses. The final, final page of the "Around the Picnic Table" financial presentation included the following statement approved by the General Service Board in February 2014: **SELF-SUPPORT OF THE WORLD SERVICES OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** "*The A.A. spiritual principle of self-support enables us to pursue our primary purpose of carrying the message to the still-suffering alcoholic with a shared sense of responsibility for our lifesaving work and without interference or financial dependence on outsiders. From our Fellowship's earliest days, the expenses of the General Service Office, and the world services provided by it, have exceeded the amount derived from contributions of A.A. groups and members. As a result, providing these needed services has necessarily been supported in part by income from the sale of A.A. literature. It is the policy of the General Service Board that income from literature sales should only be in amounts required to allow continued provision of vitally needed services and maintenance of a Reserve Fund. We hope that the day will come when A.A. groups and members, through their contributions, will be able to fund fully the services provided by the General Service Office. If that is achieved,*

revenues from literature sales will only be needed in amounts necessary to cover the actual costs associated with literature production and to maintain a Reserve Fund.” It appears we all have our Seventh Tradition awareness work cut out for us! The remainder of that afternoon and evening was spent listening to “Panel 65 Delegate Highlights”. These highlights were presented one region at a time and were scheduled throughout the conference week. Our Pacific Region was scheduled for Wednesday morning. We then heard the “G.S.O. Relocation Study Report”. Relocation Studies have been conducted approximately every 10 years, the most recent consisting of the 2005 G.S.O. Relocation Study. These reports were conducted to determine an appropriate venue for the operations of G.S.O. and provide recommendations based on objective factors, such as financial considerations and cost effectiveness and on subjective factors that could impact G.S.O.’s ability to deliver its services to the Fellowship. The background information of this study goes back to 1977 which approved the following advisory Action as a Floor Action: “It was agreed that, as recommended by the General Service Board, it would not be in the best interest of the Fellowship to relocate the General Service Office at this time”. Again in 1988, and then in 1992, following additional investigation of low-cost office space in New York City, the General Service Office moved to its present location at the Interchurch Center and, in so doing, incurred a relocation cost of about \$3,300,00. Again it was looked at in 1997 and as a result of this review process and the recommendations accepted by the General Service Board, the A.A.W.S. Board approved extending the lease with the Interchurch Center to 2008. In regards to the history and heritage of A.A.’s services, the 1997 Ad Hoc Site Review Committee made the following comment that was also repeated in the current report: “*The history of A.A. surrounding the New York area provides an anchor point for our Fellowship. The further we grow away from the days of members who knew our founders, the more we need roots.*” In reviewing the 2005 Study, it was assessed that the current office location met the current needs of G.S.O. . . . , and it was recommended not to relocate the General Service Office. Based on the 2014 current relocation study and conclusions (and consistent with all previous studies), the recommendation was for the General Service Office to remain in its present New York City location. I have a copy of the full report if anyone would like to read it. Tuesday began with the Second Meeting of the Conference Committees until noon, (lunch) followed by two more panels of regional Delegate Service Highlights. That afternoon we were treated to a New York City subway ride to the General Service Office Headquarters located on 475 Riverside Drive. Wow! What a beautiful location it is in! I was in awe that I was actually there, in person, walking into the heartbeat of our beloved Fellowship! The General Service Office is on the 11<sup>th</sup> floor, and the A.A. Grapevine is currently on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor. Planning for the late summer/early fall 2015 construction of the co-location of the G.S.O. and Grapevine offices on the 11<sup>th</sup> floor, continues to progress. The construction will be divided into five phases, with completion anticipated by January 2016. It was amazing to me how relatively small the actual working space is compared to the enormous volume of work and services that are continually being carried out to serve our Fellowship worldwide. While going through the guided (and at times, unguided) tour, many of the Delegates were getting their picture taken in Phyllis H.’s office seated behind her desk. . . yes, I was one of them! She has a beautiful window view of the Riverside Church, (which was built with Rockefeller money in the 1930’s) with the most beautiful architecture I’ve seen since I visited San Francisco on a high school field trip with my daughter for her art class. It was a beautiful spring day with the cherry blossoms blooming and a sky as blue as a Robbin’s egg! This all added up to probably my most favorite memory I could bring home with me during the entire week. The subway ride back to the Hotel was every bit as colorful as the ride in! Ahhhh, then back to business! I attended the Delegates Dinner and Delegates Only Meeting that evening and went to bed early! Wednesday began at 8:30am, when 15 groups of five delegates and two, either Class A or B trustees and/or Staff members, were gathered together in separate rooms where we conducted the final phase of the three year General Service Inventory until 11:00am. The report backs from each group were given during Friday night’s business at 5:00pm until approximately 6:15. We will be receiving a full compilation and report on the dividends of the 2012 Advisory Action of the 62<sup>nd</sup> General Service Conference which recommended the three year Inventory begin in 2013, 2014, and be completed in 2015. (This recommendation has been paraphrased by me. Actual wording can be found in the 2012 Final Conference Report.) Pre-ordered copies will be mailed to all areas upon completion. I believe I order around 300 for our area. The inventory was directly followed by two more “Delegate Area Highlights” panels. Next on deck was “Regional Luncheons for Delegates” where 4 of our Pacific Region Delegates made “bid presentations” to host the 2018 Forum. We were one of the four areas bidding and after conducting several substantial unanimity (Third Legacy) ballot votes and a final draw from the hat, the bid was awarded to Area 06 Northern Coastal, California. (Note: Area 06 has not hosted a Forum since 1993. Area 69’s last Forum was held in 1996. We’ll just try it again at the 2017 General Service Conference---FYI for the next panel 67 Utah Delegate whoever you are out there!) From 1:30-3:15 Elections for 2 Regional Trustees and 1 Trustee-at-Large/Canada were conducted. Each Region votes separately, and are roped off into a “voters only” section. In addition to the voting regional delegates, are voting conference members serving on the Trustees/Nominating Committee. In observing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Legacy voting process for each position being filled, I couldn’t help but think about our Rod B. when he was Area 69’s candidate elect for quite a few years in which I understand he went to the hat “like a rabbit” more than once, until he was pulled out of the hat in 2010 as the Pacific Region Trustee! What a special gift he gave to us through his service to Alcoholics Anonymous---thank you Rod! Following elections, (3:30-5:30) we heard the first “Conference Committee Reports and Discussion” beginning with “Agenda”. As I had mentioned earlier in this report, the Conference Committee discussions (in which I have described as being similar to our Area 69 Round-table discussions) were 3 and a half hour sessions held on both Monday and Tuesday during the conference week (some committees met an additional 1 or more times beyond the 7 hours that were allotted on the conference schedule in order to complete their work!) This is when and where ideas, loving discussion, and thoughtful recommendations develop through this process at the General Service Conference. As a full conference body, we listen to these reports, we discuss these reports, and we shared our area’s conscience when it is needed, and then we conduct a “substantial unanimity vote” to determine which action to either “take” or “not to take” on each 2015 Conference Agenda Item. This is where everything became fascinating, frustrating, exciting, exhausting, and sometimes very confusing! What a roller coaster ride these sessions were! I have created a 19 page summary report of the 2015 65<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference Actions that I will share with you what happened during these sessions, following this written report---in which my intent has been to outline some of the highlights and information that was part of the overall Conference experience for me. Following dinner, we resumed at 7:00pm with more “Committee Reports”, wrapping up the evening with a short “General Sharing Session of What’s on Your Mind”, and we then closed Wednesday’s session at 9:30pm. Thursday started out at 8:30am with an orientation on how to use our “one day, experimental, electronic voting devices” that looked a lot like a small calculator! At the

beginning of each Conference, the body is given a choice of what procedure they want to use when voting---either by raise of hand or by ballot. In either case, manually counting and tallying the votes takes some time. Thursday's electronic voting experiment was a smash hit! Friday, when we went back to the raise of hand voting, it suddenly felt awkward to me knowing that people may have been watching how each other voted. I much prefer the anonymity of electronic voting at the Conference. I'm certain we'll hear more from our G.S.O. on the potential use of this device ("DOTS"---Data On The Spot) for future Conferences. After the dinner break, we spent the entire evening session listening to more reports, discussion, and voting, followed by a presentation on the 2015 International Convention being hosted in Atlanta, Georgia July 2-5, 2015. (If you haven't registered yet, you can go online at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) and follow the 2015 International Convention link---it's not too late!) We were then treated to a darling skit about the 2015 International, using the very, very talented actors and actresses of New York City...AKA the G.S.O. staff! It was a spoof on what you will find at the convention, and what you will not find at the convention, such as no child care services, no soliciting or peddling beautifully crafted and fashioned recovery jewelry and clothing, etc., anywhere on the convention site! It was cute how the staff became these wonderful, colorful characters. Which brings me to share about how approachable everyone was and is, that either works at the office, is a Class A or B Trustee, or directors of A.A.W.S. and the Grapevine, Inc., and of course, the General Manager, Phyllis H.. All are so willing to serve our groups, districts, areas, and anyone who needs the hand of A.A. Friday, last official day of the conference---8:30am until about 8:00 pm, the last of the Conference Committee Reports, and the longest day ever! We spent almost 4 hours on discussion, debate, making and seconding friendly amendments and some "not so friendly" motions, voting, re-voting, amendments failing or passing, creative "wordsmiths" to make a recommendation more palatable to some of us---confusion at its best, which often landed us back to square one! And this was time spent just on "one" Conference Committee's Agenda Items (we had to take our scheduled lunch break in between all of this, which actually helped us to slow down and breath a little before voting on these items). Can I say, I'm so happy to be back home to our area's simple interpretation and application of Robert's Rules in our deliberations! After the final Conference Committee report and vote, we moved right in to Floor Actions. Floor Actions may be introduced any time during the Conference except at the Sharing Sessions, and must be made without comment, submitted in writing by the maker to the Conference Secretary, and will come up for deliberation after all Committee Reports are heard,, and require a 2/3rds majority. There were six Floor Actions to be addressed, three of which were withdrawn, leaving three to be addressed. I am excited to share with you what happened with these Floor Actions as we go through the 2015 General Service Conference summary of Conference Agenda Item Actions that were handed out today. We concluded our evening session with report backs from each of the 2015 Inventory groups (Groups A-O = 15), followed by fond farewells from the Panel 64 Delegates rotating out at the end of 2015. We were finally sitting down at a restaurant at 8:45pm for dinner! We dined with most of the Pacific Region delegates and several Class B trustees, all dressed down and taking a deep sigh, knowing that we had collectively accomplished the 65th GSC world business of Alcoholics Anonymous... Saturday morning everyone joined together for the unofficial Closing Brunch and rotating Trustees' farewell remarks. It was just remarkable. The words that they used and the things that they shared came from such a deep place of love for alcoholics and Alcoholics Anonymous. It was like listening to beautiful harp strings as I was spiritually moved by each one. I am so grateful to serve you and this miraculous, life giving program of Alcoholics Anonymous---my life has been changed forever.... Thank you! Renae H., Area 69 Panel 65 Delegate, In Much Gratitude, Renae H. Area 69 Panel 65 Delegate

#### **Afternoon Activities**

**Area broke for lunch. In the afternoon, Renae completed her Delegates report from attending General Service Conference.**

#### **Remaining Area Officer's Reports**

**Alt. Delegate's report – Wade J.:** Good Morning. My name is Wade, I am an alcoholic. I have the pleasure of serving Area 69 as the Alt-Delegate and I want to thank you for that gift. Since the last time we met, I have attended some Spanish meetings and also participated in the District 12 Elections. I would like to thank the Area Officers who attended the elections. I know that our participation meant a lot to District 12. The excitement that I felt from them as wonderful. I am so excited to announce that they filled all their positions and alternate positions. I would like to thank District 9 for all their hard work and commitment to host this event. I would like to personally thank our Delegate, Renae, for her dedication and commitment while representing Area 69 at the General Service Conference. Thank you for my life and allowing me to serve. Love, Wade J., Area 69 Alt. Delegate

**Immediate Past Delegate/Newsletter Chair's report – Walter C.:** Walter C. Immediate Past Delegate, Panel 63, Area 69. Recently I attended District 12 elections and a Spanish speaking meeting. I put together the newsletter and it is available today. Please have newsletter articles to me by September 18, 2015. Walter asked for each of the following to provide an article for the next newsletter. The list included: Renae, Wade, Treesa, Matt, Kristen, Kurt, Pete, Rachael, Sheryl, Charlie T., Frank and Erin.

**Area Chair – Matt D.:** Matt D., Area 69 Panel 65

#### **Standing Chair Reports**

**Archives – Trina B.:** My name is Trina, sobriety date 01/15/1994. Very unprepared for this conference. I was in a car wreck last week. Totaled my car and my husband is being nice enough to be the storage shed but I didn't have time to go through everything to find what I needed. I am here and feel very lucky to be here. Janet emailed me her report but it happens to be in the storage shed. Luckily, we didn't have a lot to go over in the Archives except housekeeping issues such as the workbook. Janet received several items to be contributed to Archives. I received a box of information from an old DCM in

District 11, Phil, that I will turn over to Janet today. I will be more prepared at the next gathering. Thanks for allowing me to be of service. It has definitely enhanced my sobriety. I would like to thank District 9 for hosting this event. Moab is always beautiful.

**Repository Archives – Janet H.:** There were a lot of donations at the Pre-Conference Assembly. District 3 donated binders for 2009, 2010, 2013 and 2014. District 3 file box; 93 to 98; 2001, 2002, Group information, District information, district budgets, group receipts 1995-2001, district information 2004, district guidelines, information on Alano club in Provo, Binder for the Sunday Spiritual Breakfast group. Service representative handbooks, Area information Area Directory's PRAASA information 2001. Photo 12x13, SLC Central Office "Books around the World", A shoe box filled with speaker cassettes from various years, 2 Grapevine 70 year buttons, and PRAASA papers. There were several requests that have been filled. The 70<sup>th</sup> Area 69 birthday book is here for \$4.00 each. Thank you for letting me be of service to you, Janet H.

**Communications – Rachael F.:** Hi my name is Rachael and I have the pleasure of serving as the Area 69 Communications chair. Thank you district 9 for hosting this event. The position of Communications Standing Chair is challenging but I am slowly getting the hang of it. I believe that the area emails are now being delivered to the correct corresponding person. If anyone is having trouble getting or receiving emails please let me know. Now that we have the Ad Hoc committee to explore creating a Translation position I have hopes that in the near future we will have the ability to translate all documents in Spanish. Currently we are using Google translate which isn't ideal but it is getting the job done. If you know of anyone who might be willing to do some translation have them get in touch with me. As it stands right now districts 1,2,11 and 10 all have a page set up on utahaa.org. This is where we can post guidelines, minutes, upcoming events and any announcements pertinent to that district. It is my goal to have a page for all of the districts. This is something I will be working on. All districts will be set up exactly the same. Please bear with me during this process, this is part of the learning curve. To my knowledge all meetings have been updated and are accurate in the online schedule. Each district DCMC should check the meetings and let me know if any changes need to be made. I receive emails on a regular basis and am careful about changing meetings if the email is not from a DCMC, secretary of registrar I will need to verify that the email is coming someone in that district who has authority to request meeting changes. At each area event we have a Service Orientation. The outlines for those Service Orientations are now available on the website under Service Materials. You can use these materials to explain to your district service members what happens at each event. Thank you for letting me serve, Rachael F.

**Cooperation with the Professional Community – David R.:** My service position is Area Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee Chair. My job is to help the members, groups, and districts to contact and work with professionals in such fields as medicine, law, human resources, clergy and or professionals who come into contact with alcoholics. We have some pamphlets available today such as "If You Are A Professional", "AA as a Resource For the Health care Professional" and "CPC Committee". I am available to visit with your district CPC Chair or with anyone that wants to help carry the message of recovery. There are displays and materials available to show at health fairs or for presentations. Recently District 4 and Area CPC worked together to attend and display at health fairs in Fillmore and Delta. Thank you for letting me serve,

**Corrections – Sheryl T.:** Greetings fellow trusted servants & friends of AA. In early May, I received a call from an AA member in Spring City, UT requesting information about Bridge the Gap. This member takes meetings into the Mani jail. We discussed his needs and I sent him some information and pamphlets about BTG. I also invited him to attend the June 3 BTG workshop in Orem so he could learn more about the BTG process. Speaking of the June 13<sup>th</sup> BTG workshop, I want to invite everyone to attend. Shawn and I have put together an agenda for the event. There is no registration fee and there will be free food!! There will be presentations, panels and speakers including a former inmate who was 'bridged' when he left prison. The Grapevine Coordinator at GSO sent our delegate a list of 6 names of individuals in Utah who have requested GV subscriptions. Five of these individuals are currently incarcerated: 2 in Salt Lake, 1 in Gunnison, 1 in Duchesne, and 1 in Kanab. Renae, Frank and I welcome your suggestions on how best these needs can be met. Thank you for allowing me to serve you. Sheryl T.

**Grapevine – Frank B.:** Is it possible to locate an inventory? Treesa recommended checking Janet H. or Doug R.

**Rich R.:** Sold a lot of supplies at the Pre-Conference Assembly in Vernal. Monies have been turned over to Kurt J.

**Literature – Doug R.:** Verbal report given.

**Public Information – John W.:** We have had several schools and hospitals contact us with invitations and information on current and upcoming health fairs and events. We are working on which events we will be attending without our budget. We are working on a public and district notification of events and preparing to get volunteer lists within those areas. We will be represented at UVU Addiction Conference in February 2016. CPC & PI is slowing but surely comprising lists and of geographical places in our area that has requested some assistance in notification and information on getting involved in their own communities and groups. We are excited about going and sharing information and offering assistance in these areas. David R and I have tentatively scheduled some visits to give presentations on what AA does do and what AA does not do in surrounding facilities in District 4, District 7 and District 9 in June. It is hopeful we will be able to share our 2016 these topics and be most successful at working with newcomers at a public level and keeping traditions with a success rate in accordance with Higher Power plan and hopefully inspire groups conscience (where it begins) to connect with the new comer and maintain the goal of Singleness of Purpose. If any group or district would like assistance or information please contact myself or David R, DCP Chair. Than you for allowing me to serve.



**Treatment – Shawn C.:** Thank you District 9 for hosting this event. First part of year I was able to find a temporary contact for a client discharged from Red Pine Treatment Center in Ft. Duchesne, UT to Williston, ND. It was difficult because there was no BTG contact from that District. I emailed the North Dakota Delegate who responded immediately. He was able to find a temporary contact for the client. Read AA Literature that relates to Treatment Facilities, so I may make a presentation to treatment administrators, clients & staff. Sheryl, Corrections Chair, and I will co-chair the Bridging the Gap workshop hosted by District 3. Hope to see you all there. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

### **District Reports**

**District 1 – Erin B., DCMC:** All is well in District 1 with about 25% GSR participation. Open positions include PI, Corrections and Grapevine. We had a very productive meeting last month in March. Our DCM David F chaired a very well attended sponsorship workshop at the Ogden Alano Club. There were 50-60 attendees. The Valley Camp Meetings have organized into AA groups. They have a new name, "Meeting at the Mountains". I have noticed that they have made 2 contributions to Area 69. Our DCM John A has accepted an invite from the SJS to man a booth at their event "Talent in the Park" on June 20<sup>th</sup>. We also voted to send our Treatment Chair, Lisa B, to both the Area and National BTG. Our Treasurer, Frank B, resigned at our last meeting as you know. Hopefully this position will be filled soon. District 1 has too much money. We voted to contribute \$50 to BTG International. We'll have a budget review in July and likely make a contribution to OCO and then maybe GSO if we still have too much. Thanks for allowing me to serve.

**District 2 – Linda R., DCMC:** Hello all, Thank you District 9 for hosting this event. I currently serve as DCMC for District 2. My home group is the Tooele Beginners, we meet everyday at noon and 8 pm at the Alano Oasis in Tooele. Our DCM's are enthusiastically making the rounds to their meetings. They sometimes group up and all 3 attend a meeting together. Our list of GSR's is growing slowly but surely. We filled our CPC chair position. We still need 2 DCM's, 5 alt DCM's, Archivist, Newsletter, PI and Treatment Chairs. We are planning the Pre-Assembly workshop and making progress. There are fliers on the table and we will be sending it to Rachael for the website. Thank you for allowing me to serve,

**District 3 – Doug L., DCM:** My name is Doug and I'm an alcoholic. I'm not able to attend today due to opportunities given to me by this Program of Alcoholics Anonymous. The opportunity to be present as my oldest son graduates college and gets commissioned in the Army. I'm with you in spirit. I've sent the lovely and talented Mellany S Alt. DCM in my absence. (wave your hand) As for the district we are doing well. All positions are filled with motivated Alcoholics with the desire to help the struggling alcoholic. Our District is hosting Area 69 Bridging the Gap June 13<sup>th</sup> and preparations are going great. Our finances are strong with ample prudent reserve. My partner in crime, aka other DCM, Mike L is stepping down after years of service. I believe I speak for the District in thanking him for his service. Bottom line... Recovery is alive and well in District three. BAM ditty Bam Bam! (yes, Mellany you need to say that)

**District 4 – Mike G., DCM:** My home group is Fillmore, at the hospital, at 7:30 pm on Monday and Friday nights. I'm excited to report that we also started a new meeting on Tuesday night at 7:00 pm, we call it the Bon-Fire meeting, with hot dogs, marshmallows and other goodies with all our families together. It seems that half the town is there. We were also invited to the Health Fairs in Fillmore and Delta. If that wasn't awesome enough, our group put on a "Sober Softball Game". My wife hit the ball farther than I did, darn that Al-Anon! Back to serious stuff. Our GSR has been working really hard at the jails sharing the message with great success. District 4 is Rocking!! Thanks from all of us at District 4 for your service, Mike G.

**District 5 – Mike M., DCM:** District 5 is meeting monthly. Interest and attendance is increasing. We have a 24 hour hot line, 435-299-9409. Officer positions are filled except Literature. We are focused on reaching out into the community. We offer a number of meetings every day at noon, a Monday night Big Book Study in Helper, a Tuesday night meeting in Ferrin, a Thursday night Woman's meeting, a Friday night 12X12 and a Saturday night Speaker Meeting. There is a Men's meeting in the jail twice a week. We plan to begin meetings soon for the women in jail. We have a workshop in June on Understanding Service and how it can improve your recovery.

**District 6: Jim ., DCM: Verbal report was given.**

**District 7 – Bud ., Allen B gave report.** District 7 is happy to say they are doing well. Solvent in all respects. Although contributions have been down for the first quarter of this year, all groups in my north west sub district are fully self-supporting. The district itself is working in its prudent reserve at the moment but that is expected to change shortly. District 7 would like to thank District 11 for its Pink Can Donations allowing books to be purchased for the District 7 correctional facilities. As of May 7 District 7 is in possession of the books and they are currently out for distribution. District 7 is researching the feasibility of discontinuing the 1- 800 number that has been used for the last 30 years. This will reduce the district expenses. It has been predetermined that a 1- 800 number is no longer necessary because of the advent of the cell phone, but before discontinuing we need to look into the call forwarding aspects of the current line. The district still has numerous service positions open including three chair positions, treasurer and alternate treasurer and some DCM and alternative DCM positions. We were fortunate to pick up two new GSR's since the last district meeting. Jack P of the Tolerance Group will celebrate his 50<sup>th</sup> year of sobriety on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May at the Episcopal Church in St. George. Everyone is invited to attend this monumental occasion. There is a new meeting in St. George The Great Outdoor Meeting and a new meeting location in Kanab for the Come to Believe Meeting at the Search and Rescue building. I am grateful to be able to represent District seven today in Moab for this Post Conference Assembly and grateful to serve the district as the Secretary. Being involved in service and being a trusted servant has certainly enlarged my spiritual program within AA.

**District 8 – Bonnie H.:** I would like to thank District 8 for giving me the opportunity to represent our district for the upcoming 2 years. I have been told this will be an enjoyable and enriching journey which I feel privileged to have. We had our district meeting May 3, 2015 Things are going very well. Our Grapevine Representative, Frances M., has asked me to let you know the books are on the way. She had some difficulty and challenges getting them sent to her. Now she has found a loop to go through with one person. All our chair persons are doing well in their positions. I guess this wraps it up until we meet again. Thank you for your love and support, Sincerely, Bonnie.

**District 9: Danny G.: Verbal report was given.**

**District 10 – Kevin S., DCMC:** Welcome trusted servants of Area 69 to Moab. I would like to thank District 9 for hosting this event. District 10 is doing well. Open positions; 2 DCM, 3 Alt. DCM, 3 Standing Chairs, CPC, Grapevine and Treatment. At our last GSR Meeting we elected a new Archives, Athelene M. District 10 has been concerned for years with the PI Rack that is displayed at the Alano Club. The rack is located in our most attended public facility, we have finally budgeted to have those racks filled twice a year. Increasing the district budget by \$200 making it possible for the District 10 PI to be responsible for that rack. District 10 has been working on a packet for DCM's outlining their meeting and group responsibilities. We have handed out these packets and we hope to keep all DCM's involved with their GSR's and to keep it updated with all new groups and meetings. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

**District 11 – Devin C., DCM:** Hello, Friends, My name is Devin, and I am an alcoholic; currently serving as District 11 as DCMC. I am the door greeter for my home group; Serenity Happy Hour Group. We meet on Sundays at 10:00 am at the Davis Hospital, classroom 2, in Layton. Please come by for a hug when you're in the area. We'd love to have you. District 11 is slowly filling our open service positions. We'd like to welcome Debbie A as our new Treatment Committee Chairperson. Debbie thinks she is nervous about volunteering, but, as our Area Literature Chair, Doug says, excitement and fear feel much the same. I'm sure Debbie is simply excited. We are still looking to fill one DCM and three Committee Chair positions. I have been visiting meetings in the southern portion of our district in an effort to generate interest in district general service. I've had a few people approach me on the open positions. I optimistic God will send those we need our way when the time is right. I was contacted by the Treatment Standing Chair from Salt Lake Central Office about a treatment center listing their own meetings. Since we had not had a District Treatment Standing Chair to coordinate meetings, we thought it would be OK as long as they followed AA traditions if they were listing as an AA group. Thanks to Central Office for coordinating this. Our district finances are in good condition with an ample prudent reserve. With our open positions, we actually need to do a better job of spending our funds to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. The finance committee will be meeting next month to adjust our budget for the remainder of the year. District 11's Corrections Committee Chairperson, Laurie S, has been busy making sure our volunteers taking meetings into the Davis County Jail complete their yearly safety orientation. Laurie is settling into her new service position nicely. The district has two groups that were previously unrepresented at district by GSRs that are now sending representatives to have their group's voices heard. This is due, in no small part, to the efforts of our DCM, Dave VB. Dave visits each of his groups and delivers the message of the importance of having their group voice heard. We are looking forward to hearing the results of the General Service Conference from Renae about and taking the information back to our groups. Thank you for your service and allowing me to serve, Devin C

**District 12 – Carlos, :**

**Motions were discussed with the following results.**

Motion to defray Area Communications Chair to National AA Technology Workshop (cost \$300 annually). PASSED

Motion to create a Standing Chair Intergroup/Central Office Liaison for 2 years. FAILED

Motion for Area 69 to contribute \$300 for the National Bridging The Gap (hospitality expense). FAILED

**Open Mic Time**

**Motion by Walter C., Immediate Past Delegate: Request Area 69 donate \$75 to International Conference for the Pacific Region Hospitality Room. Seconded by Wade J., Alt. Delegate. Voted and PASSED**

**Is Area 69 flush or bust? Why haven't Area Standing Chairs used their budgets to carry the message to still suffering alcoholic?**

**Adjourned 4:55 pm**