

**Area 53, Panel 57**  
**Minutes of Area Assembly**  
**Sunday, December 9, 2007**  
**Holiday Inn Airport, Zanesville, Ohio**

**Opening:**

Glen P., DCM Chair, opened the Assembly at 10:04 AM, with the Serenity Prayer and explained the Ask-It-Basket. All in attendance introduced themselves. The short form of the Concepts was read by Sanna S.

**GSR Reports (District)-**

**Three Legacies Group (36)** -- Bob R., GSR  
**Westerville AA of AA (10)** -- Brett G., GSR  
**2 for 1 Group (15)**-- Jeff W., GSR  
**Winter Street Group (10)** -- Fred M., GSR  
**Tradition III Happy Hour Group (32)** -- Mark S., GSR  
**North Group (23)** -- Tony K., GSR  
**Clintonville Big Book (29)** -- Dan M., GSR  
**Athens Regular Sunday Lead Group (16)** -- AJ., GSR  
**Monday Midday (26/27)** -- Darla Q., GSR  
**Westerville Saturday Night Big Book Discussion Group (25)** -- Andi A., GSR  
**Dogs Without A Roof (37)** -- Dave K., GSR  
**Two is Enough Group (40)**-- Sylvester S., GSR  
**Poindexter Group (40)** -- Joe, GSR  
**Brookside Group (22)** -- Sue B., GSR  
**Lode Star Group (29)** -- Kerry M., GSR  
**If We Work For Them (22)** -- Fran F., GSR  
**Hand in Hand Group (15)** -- Marlene D., GSR  
**Monday Night Steps and Traditions (30)** -- Tom B., GSR  
**Sunday Morning Big Book (7)** -- Rick L., GSR  
**After Hours Group** -- Kurt, GSR  
**Choice is Ours Group (26/27)** -- Constance C., GSR  
**Women's Butterfly Group (7)** -- Nanette L., GSR  
**Heath 24 Hour Group (9)** -- John B., GSR

**DCM Reports**

- District 4** – Kasie A., DCM -- District meets every other month on the second Saturday. Continue to maintain the intergroup office in downtown Mt. Vernon, only open during meetings due to lack of volunteers. However the telephone message line is maintained by volunteers who return calls in a timely manner. Four groups are active in supporting the CFC. Alkathons planned for Christmas and New Years. Contributions being down we now mention at meetings where the money goes and what Area and CFG money goes to. District tabled a decision to host GSR school but will continue to work towards a resolution on this.
- District 16** -- Tom C., DCM -- Monthly district meetings are the 1st Sunday of each month. Our District participated in the Area 53 CFC Re-Entry Workshop at Hocking Correctional Institution, 40 inmate alcoholics attended. Attended quarterly CFC meeting. Contribute regularly to the literature fund and picked up literature for jail groups. New DCM is A.J. M.
- District 7**-- Mark S., DCM -- Meet every 3rd Saturday at the IRC in Zanesville at 10:00 am. Have a new meeting list and have sent out to public facilities. Will host a GSR School in the future. Will host the 12th Tradition play in the next couple of months. Have developed a trifold on contribution awareness to be distributed to groups.
- District 25** – Susan T., DCM (outgoing)-- We meet monthly but will be changing the time in January. We have two new GSRs. Elected a new DCM, Erin L.
- District 15** – Kelly C., DCM – The Woman's High Noon Group in our district was discontinued due to lack of attendance, GSO has been notified. We hosted the Area 53 Planning Committee Oct. 21. The District continues to carry the message into the Noble County Correctional Institution, as well as the Chemical Dependency/Pain Unit at Marietta Memorial Hospital. At our last district meeting we discussed how we could better educate the AA community about commitment to support the district.
- District 30** – Jennifer D., Alt.DCM – The District has been meeting regularly on the first Wednesday of each month at the Bethel Pres. Church at 6:30 pm. We have new GSRs from Districts 30, 22 and

23 with some attending GSR school in December. Chris E. is our new DCM and I am now the alternate. Michael will be the acting DCM for District 23 but will continue meeting with our district. We are continuing our effort at having a web page where GSRs can post reports. We will help with the hospitality room at the Mini Conference. Future events may include a hosting GSR School. We continue to read out of the service manual at our meetings.

**District 8&9** -- John B., DCM -- We meet the third Sunday of the month at 4:00 p.m. at the Licking County Intergroup Office. The district has: a treasurer, CFC chair, PI chair and 7 to 10 active GSRs. We take meetings into institutions. We are looking for a DMC for District 8.

**District 10** -- Brett G., DCM -- We are a recently revitalized district and have four groups represented. We hosted GSR School in December and some new GSRs attended. About 15 people attended including Garwood who is from Area 56. I will be getting in contact with the GSRs to set up a regular meeting time and to look into planning workshops

**District 21** -- Jim F., DCM -- District has had a high turnover of DCMs, 2 in the last 6 months and low attendance of GSRs. Jail meetings include a weekly men's and a weekly women's in the Scioto Co. Jail. and a meeting every other week at Stark Community Justice. We will host an alkathon on December 31 in Portsmouth.

**District 7** -- Mark S., DCM -- The district continues to be very active in many area's of service, particularly carrying the message to detention facilities, however, there is a need for women to take in meetings in the women's detention facility. The district will host the GSR school in January and are discussing the possibility of putting on the "12th Tradition" play. The district approved an allowance for The DCM to attend the East Central Regional Forum in Chicago. The Friday Night Zane State group will now be open on holidays. The district is doing great considering past performance and we are continuing to develop more interest in service work.

**District 19**--Bob B., DCM -- The district will host the Area 53/DCM Committee Meeting in January in Hillsboro. A newsletter will be published and distributed starting in December. Articles include: sobriety, anniversary dates, upcoming events and more. Communication within the district is the keystone of this newsletter. Also being published is a booklet of all meetings in District 19, consisting of Clinton, Fayette, and Highland Counties. Hillsboro groups are sponsoring an alkathon on Christmas.

#### **Standing Committee Reports--**

**Cooperation with the Professional Community & Public Information Committee**-- Suzan T., Chair--Committee meets the second Saturday of every month at 11:00 AM at COGF. Activity this past quarter: Presentation at Worthington Middle School; call with clergy member wanting information on the steps; planning of a speaker event for this spring at Riverside Hospital. Current focus: speak to groups about electing a CPC/PI representative; putting together contact lists of AAs who are willing to speak at schools and members of the professional community.

**Group Services Committee** -- Dave C. -- The committee meets at 10 a.m. the 2nd Saturday each month in the Area 53 room, at COGF (RAC Building) except on GSR School Saturdays. GSC has participated in the following; Rule 62 Day: CFC Convention information meeting; CFC Convention; GSR School, Waverly; meeting with registrars, Westerville; Area Planning Committee meeting, Marietta; GSC public meeting Nov. 10&Dec 8; Gratitude Sunday; GSC planning meeting Nov. 24; GSR School Delaware. We are planning seven GSR Schools in 2008. GSR Schools for 2007 had 92 attendees. Districts that have attended: 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 25, 26/27, 28/29, 30, 34, 36, 39.

**Correctional Facilities Committee** -- Constance C. -- Quarterly meeting held on December 1. We have been contacted by Rachel's House a halfway house for women associated with Marysville Correctional for information on working with AA. New DVD from GSO on Corrections facilities and the value of working with AA. We have a copy. We have requested from Area 53 \$400 for the 2008 budget. This money goes toward administrative costs and all of the "jug" money goes to by literature for institutions. Will be meeting with Akron Intergroup and Area 55 on their CFC activities. We have created and approved a outside sponsor signup sheet and anyone wanting to take a meeting into a facility. Packets are available with guidelines for taking in meetings and working with corrections officials (available on the web site.) Have new temporary contact forms for taking recently released inmates to meetings. Also available is a new correspondence form, the Department of Corrections number will be on that form. Terry Collins with the Department of Corrections opened our Conference so we sent him the DVD for his participation. Approved \$4000 for literature that will be ordered. Conference held in October was not as well attended as we had hoped. No conference is planned for 2008, however, there will be a workshop at Maple Grove Church April 26. We have left open October 5, 6, and 7 for the possibility of having a conference.

**Informational Segment** -- Jean S., Alt. Delegate

"How the group conscience is transmitted from the group to GSO."

**Area 53 Panel 57 Officers Reports – Carl D., Chairperson**

**Recording Secretary** - Gretchen T. – Minutes and agenda now available on the web site for download. Minutes of the September 9, 2007 Area 53 Assembly approved as submitted.

**Treasurer** – Kay H. – Group contributions still down from last year. Report dated December 9, 2007 - Approved.

**Registrar** – Heather S., Alt. Reg. – Entered as of 12-01-2007 there has been 64 Group Change Forms entered and accepted by Fellowship New Vision. After attending the meeting regarding the FNV system several questions were able to be addressed. If you mail your group change to GSO they will send it back to the Area, which will delay the process. GSRs should receive packets from GSO within 2 to 3 weeks of entering the group information into the system.

**Chairperson** – Carl D. -- I attended: the Mini-Conference planning meetings; two Grapevine meetings (it appears we will have a greater presence at AA events by that committee); ad hoc meeting to select a location for the 2009 State Convention; GSO School in December; East Central Reg. Forum; and the DCM/Area Committee Meeting in Marietta. At the DCM/Area 53 committee meeting a goal was set to pass on a working model of all jobs to the next committee. Jean S. put a flyer of the Mini Conference in the COGF packet. Paul did the same for the Unity Day flyer. The budget committee met and put together the 2008 proposed Area 53 budget. At the State Committee meeting we were informed that the 2007 State Convention turned a profit. This is the last assembly in Zanesville. The next assembly will be held at Salt Fork in conjunction with the Mini Conference in March. Future Assemblies will be held in Columbus at the Midwest Hotel and Conference Center.

**Delegate** – Sharon F., - The AAWS directors moved “intellectual properties” (copywrite) matters to a law firm with more experience in that area to protect AAs interests. During the last quarter I attended: East Central Regional Conference in Manitowoc, Wisconsin; East Central Regional Forum, Chicago, Ill.; CFC Conference, Columbus; Ohio State Planning meeting; Mini Conference planning meetings; Rule 62 Day; and presented my report on the General Service Conference to several groups in Delaware, Oh.

GSO News: Resumes for two Class B Trustees from West Central US and Western Canada are being reviewed. These trustees will be elected at the General Service Conference in April. The Nominating committee continues to review Procedure No. 9. which relates to the term of the General Manager. A final report is expected to be completed and presented to the Board in January. The Records Department continues to process the group updates/changes using the Fellowship New Vision program. Regional Directories have been distributed.

Grapevine News: Combined subscriptions to the print and audio versions are up by 4%. La Vina subscriptions have increased by 9.34%. Grapevine is searching for a new art director. The Keep It Simple Challenge reports increases in all regions.

Literature: Available in February 2008 (drafts): “A.A. *Member-Medication and other Drugs*” and “A.A. *for the Native North American*” Both will be available at our Mini-conference for review.

Corrections Department: The new DVD “A.A. *in Correctional Facilities*” is now available ( a resource for non-AA professionals working in corrections. The publication “A.A. *in Prison; Inmate to Inmate*” did not meet the standards set for easy reading, a larger print version will be distributed when existing stock is depleted.

Public Information: 2007 PSA “ *A Force of Nature*” has been distributed in the U.S. and is currently being distributed to French TV stations in Canada. 2007 Membership Survey questionnaires are being compiled and in the data entry stage. They should be out soon.

International Committee: Trustees at Large Jo Anne L., and Dorothy W., traveled to Mongolia for the 1st General Service Conference. Both also traveled to the Meeting of the Americas in Brazil. Some GSO staff and Board members traveled to Russia to celebrate the 20th anniversary of AA in that country.

Financial: Gross sales of literature are up 8% over the budgeted amount. Contributions are up 4% over budget. AAWS goes on to state that instead of a \$145,000 loss that was budgeted for this time of year, the budget is showing a profit of \$444,800. Our Area contributions are up by 1%.

AAWS Publishing: DVDs priced at \$10.00: *Young People in AA; Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous; Bill's Own Story; Bill Discusses the 12 Traditions;* CDs priced at \$6.00: *Bill Discusses the 12 Traditions; Three Legacies by Bill;* and *Voices of Our Cofounder*. The CD *Pioneer of AA* is priced at \$8.50.

**Future Events:**

January 20 Unity Day  
Feb 8-10 Delegates Past Delegates Conference hosted by Area 23 (Indianapolis)  
Feb29-Mar 2 Area 55 Mini-Conference  
March 7-9 Area 53 Mini-Conference  
March 28-30 Area 56 Mini-Conference  
April 11-13 Area 54 Mini-Conference  
July 25-27 Ohio State Convention (hosted by Area 54) and East Central Reg. Convention

### **Old Business** Carl D., Chairperson

1. Web site standing committee proposal -- Carl D. for Bill L., Web Site Co-chair - "Guideline Proposal - that the Web Committee becomes a committee within the Standing committees. The title of the Committee would be the Web Committee." After discussion at the September Assembly, the Assembly voted to table the motion until the December 2007 Assembly. Dave C. presented a recap of the process this proposal went through up to December 2007. The floor was opened for discussion and then Sharon F. called for the question. The vote was taken and the motion failed.
2. Mini Conference Update-- Jean S., Alt. Delegate - Mini-Conference will be held at Salt Fork, March 7-9, 2008. The theme of our Mini-Conference and the 2008 General Service Conference is "*Communication and Participation - the Keys to Unity and Self-Support*". Our speakers will be Irene K., GSO Staffer, and Dorothy W., Trustee-at-Large. The Conference will begin with a GSR School on Friday from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM. The next planning meeting is March 13 at 6:30 PM at the RAC Building. The 2009 Mini-Conference is expected to be held at Shawnee Conference Center near Portsmouth, Ohio.
3. Unity Day Update - Paul H., Alt. Chairperson- Unity Day will be held at Whitehall Park. It will be held Jan. 20, 2008, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Set up 9-10 tear down 2-3. There will be two panels in the morning on Traditions 1 and 7. We need Districts to help set up.
4. East Central Regional Forum - Brett. G. shared his experience with workshops he attended. Carl D. shared his experience(first forum he attended) with the workshop "*Rituals and Chanting*" and "*Home Group*". Sharon F. reported that there were many Ohio attendees and that there will be a final report.
5. 2009 State Convention Planning Update - Carl D. - An ad hoc committee has been formed to search for hotels. There are only eight in Columbus that can handle it.

### **New Business** Carl D., Chairperson

1. New Committee Chairs - Carl D. - Susan T. CPC/PI and Phil R., Grapevine
2. 2008 Area 53 Budget - Kay H., Treasurer, presented the 2008 budget. She noted that the Voice Mail cost was deleted due to lack of use. A motion was made by Brett G. to "Cancel the Area 53 Voice Mail Service" the motion was seconded. After discussion Brett G. withdrew his motion. Motion was then made by Paul H. to "Amend the proposed 2008 budget to include the Voice Mail budget of \$150", the motion was seconded. After discussion the Assembly voted and the motion passed. There was no minority discussion. Mark S. made a motion to "Amend the 2008 proposed budget by moving the \$140 Web Site/Web Services budget amount to the CPC/PI Committee budget", the Assembly voted and passed the motion. After minority opinion was heard, a majority of the Assembly had changed their opinion, so the motion was open for discussion again. After discussion Mark S. amended his motion to "Accept the proposed 2008 budget with the following amendment: Move the \$140 Web Site/Web Services budget amount to the Area 53 Voice Mail budget". The Assembly voted and the motion passed. Minority Opinion was heard, however, none in the Assembly changed their opinion, the motion passed.
3. Birthday Club- Carl D. At the DCM/Committee Meeting it was suggested that we let the Assembly know that the Area has an Anniversary/Birthday Club and to send in your contributions.
4. Need for DCMs - Carl D. - We are still in need of DCM's.
5. DCM/Area Committee Meeting for January - Note: this was announced by District 19 during their DCM report.
6. Set up at the *New Year of Acceptance Conference and Spring Round Up* - Carl D. - We will get the word out and be there.
7. State Convention - the 2007 Convention made a profit after money was deposited to the prudent reserve (\$3000). Approximately \$300 came back to our area. After discussion on what to do with the money Mark S. made the motion to "Send the money to the General Service Office". The motion was seconded, the Assembly voted and passed the motion. There was no minority discussion.
8. Fellowship New Vision - Sharon F., would like more information on FNV in the Registrar's report to the Assembly.

### **Ask-It-Basket** - Carl D., Chairperson

1. *Why aren't GSR's reports included in the minutes?*  
Gretchen T., the minutes would get too long.
2. *Why aren't there more committee displays up today?* Carl D.-They are in the back of the room, some have already been taken down.

**Adjourned at 4:00 pm with Lords Prayer**