



THE 23 INFORMER

PA Area 60, District 23 P.O. Box 1698 Greensburg, PA 15601

www.aa-swestpa-dist23.org

Issue #204 – MARCH 2015

DISTRICT 23 SERVICE CONTACTS

- DCM** – Margie S-dcm@aa-swestpa-dist23.org
- Alt. DCM** – Leslie E.altdcm@aa-swestpa-dist23.org
- Secretary** – Tim G.....sec@aa-swestpa-dist23.org
- Treasurer** – Cliff F.....treas@aa-swestpa-dist23.org
- Grapevine Rep** – Lisa L.....grape@aa-swestpa-dist23.org
- Archivist** – Ralph D.....arch@aa-swestpa-dist23.org
- H & I Coordinator** – Bernie S..... h_i@aa-swestpa-dist23.org
- Webmaster** – Lisa F.webmaster@aa-swestpa-dist23.org
- Alt. Web** – Colleen Z.....altwebmaster@aa-swestpa-dist23.org
- Literature** – Andrew H.lit@aa-swestpa-dist23.org
- Special Needs**needs@aa-swestpadist23.org
- Bridging the Gap** – Karen C. bridg@aa-swestpa-dist23.org
- Public Info/CPC** – Lisa V..... picpc@aa-swestpa-dist23.org
- Answering Svc** – Jay L. answer@aa-swestpa-dist23.org
- 23 Informer** – Monica C –..... editor@aa-swestpa-dist23.org

Toll-Free 24-Hour Hotline: 866-851-8459



COMMITTEE REPORTS

DCM REPORT

Greetings Fellow AA's:

As we move into March, which has definitely arrived like a lion, I can only hope that it turns to a lamb very, very soon. Again, a huge loving "THANK YOU" for sending Leslie and I to NERAASA; our first step in preparation for the Pre-Conference Assembly. It humbles me to see that the active home groups in District 23 value having an "informed group conscience."

As with the last NERAASA I attended in 2013, I think my head is going to explode with all of the things that I learned. I have included, with my monthly paperwork for you, a complete report of what I learned about our region. North East Regional Delegate, J. Gary L. provided a wonderful report for us on the finances and the state of affairs at GSO. His PowerPoint report is uploaded to our website--please take time to read it and get a feeling for what is happening at the General Service Office. Also, please make sure that all of your home group members are aware that it is uploaded for them to review.

On that note, I encourage all of you to make good use of our District website. The Informer is uploaded and I am going to try to have different items uploaded there, such as the Trustee Report for your information and perusal. The website address is on the front of the Informer.

Secondly, the end of this month is the Get-Away Weekend, and the Pre-Conference Assembly. It is very important and strongly suggested that all GSR's attend the Pre-Conference Assembly as this is one of two times each year that each and every home group has a vote in the business of AA. The Pre-Conference Assembly is where we instruct our delegate on how to vote at the Annual General Service Conference in New York in April. This year, George K. from the World Famous Ground Hog Group in Punxsutawney is our delegate and will be carrying our message to New York.

As you will have noticed, the Conference Agenda Items have been passed out and each home group should review and discuss them prior to the Get-Away Weekend and the Pre-Conference Assembly (the purpose of the Get-Away Weekend is to give GSR's and coordinators a greater understanding of the agenda items and what will be happening at the General Service Conference in New York in April.) If you have questions on the agenda items, please feel free to call me or ask me to your group conscience. I will make every effort to attend. To be honest, I'm not sure I understand everything on the agenda yet, but I will do my best to work with my service sponsor and find out for you.

I urge all home groups to consider sending your GSR to the Get-Away Weekend. The registration is only \$20.00 and this mini-conference is practically held in our backyard the Comfort Inn right off the Parkway in Penn Hills. The registration form for the Get-Away Weekend is on our website if anyone needs to print it for registration.

Lastly, I was asked by Pastor Bob Fuehrer, at the First Presbyterian Church if we could change our General Service Meeting on April 3 due to church activities. Of course, I know that we are happy to comply with the churches request, so we will meet in April on Friday the 10th.

In love and service,
Margie S.
DCM



PI/CPC REPORT

Hello District 23. With the worst of winter hopefully behind us, it is time to emerge from hibernation!

There is work to be done, so we need to have a meeting and get organized. Panera Bread in Greensburg is a location that is somewhat centrally located in our district. If possible, I would like to call a meeting of the committee there at 6 pm on Wednesday, March 11. Please let me know if you will be able to attend.

Also, John H. has requested that I take over as chairperson and I have agreed to do that. He is willing to stay on as a member, but any requests for literature, meeting lists, or other information should be directed to me.

In love and service,

Lisa V.



COMMITTEE REPORTS CONT'D....

ALT. DCM REPORT

WOW!! WooHoo!! YeeHaw!! Whoop Whoop!! Just a few words to describe how NERAASA was for me. I can not thank the fellowship enough for the opportunity to share in the experience, strength and hope of over 800 members of AA from the North East Region, all in service. We had "signer's" for the deaf as well as interpreters for the Spanish speaking members. With the Grace of my Higher Power I hope to show my gratitude by sharing what I learned and will forever continue to learn.

We had six panels with the opportunity for comments and discussion on the hot topics around the fellowship today. The topics ranged from: How to protect anonymity in the ever growing digital age. Is social media helping or hindering our primary purpose? Are online meetings really anonymous? Transforming AA's membership survey to digital format and how this affects our non-digital communities?

Membership awareness in regards to how our lack of diversity affects our membership? Concern for safety in the rooms, ie., physically, sexually, and discrimination in our diverse world today

Do our actions before, after and during a meeting show true genuine tolerance, acceptance and love for one another to help the still suffering alcoholic gain sobriety? Is our primary purpose still relevant today?

Is there a need for literature on transgender and gender non-conforming Alcoholics; literature for safety in the rooms; a book and/or addition to the 12&12 to include the 12 concepts, being the 12&12&12?

Price increase for literature, sales of literature to outside sources, the 75th Anniversary printing of the Big Book and how all that effects the bottom line ... \$\$\$\$. How the contributions from the basket serve many purposes set by the home group, the "Birthday Envelope" is sent directly to the GSO to serve "OUR" primary purpose.

21 Roundtable sessions over 2 nights, unfortunately you can only attend one a day, due to them all being scheduled at the same time. These sessions were basically discussion groups on service related positions (DCM/alt, archives, special needs, PI/CPC, newsletter, inter-groups, corrections, secretary, chairperson etc, etc..). In my effort to gain and bring back as much information as possible I attended two sessions, the DCM/alternate and Cooperation with the professional community.

The DCM/alt discussion was on how to reach out to more home groups and GSR's. A visitation committee was suggested to reach out to our less illuminated (dark) groups. Workshops and/or discussion meetings to get more fellowship and their sponsor's involved in service. Sponsor's lead by example.

The CPC discussion revolved around inventive ways to reach the still suffering alcoholic. Ways to approach business's and the different type's of business's to approach. So much sharing of idea's that have worked in other Area's, and how they can work for us. All of which require time and service from the fellowship, "WE" have the responsibility to carry "OUR" message to the still suffering Alcoholic just as it was carried to "US". Please reach out and find out how you can help.

I have only scratched the surface of the information I collected over the weekend. So much I did not hear, I don't think any one person could not have possibly absorbed it all. Let's have some coffee, share some notes, throw idea's around and see what pop's out. Call me at home (724)668-5117 or my cell (724)333-7297, I can't wait to hear from you. Thank you again for this fabulous opportunity to be of service, for assisting in my personal and most importantly my spiritual growth. Truly Awesome Spiritual Experience ... TY

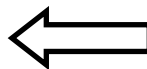
Leslie E.
alt DCM

H & I REPORT

Dear AA friends,

H & I will be hosting the annual Old Timers Spaghetti dinner on April 25th at St. Michaels Orthodox Church. We are currently in the process of planning the dinner. More information to come. Committee positions still available so if you are interested, come check us out. We meet the second Saturday of the month in Youngwood.

- Enrich your recovery
- Carry the AA message
- Reach out to prisons, rehabs, youth programs and hospitals
- Don't miss out on this opportunity to give back!!!!
- See your H & I representative or any committee member or call me (Bernie S) with questions.
724-858-9022



Thanks,
Bernie S.
H&I chairperson



SAVE THE DATES



Saturday
March 21st
9:30 registration &
fellowship
10am - 1pm?

St. Michael's Orthodox Church
1182 Ashland Street, Greensburg, PA
(Cedar Street Exit off the Rte 30 By-Pass)

PANELS

- Why a sponsor?
- How to get a sponsor?
- Do they "have what i want" ?
- Attraction?? (spiritual or material)
- Roles of sponsor/sponsee
- Who calls who?
- Do we have to meet in person?
- Do i have to have the same home group?
- Suggestions?
- Responsibility??
- How do i know if it's not working?
- Respect
- Confidentiality
- Availability
- How to "let go" a sponsor or sponsee?
- Service sponsorship
- Why?
- Role of sponsor/sponsee

TUESDAY MARCH 10TH

KEEP COMING BACK

10th Anniversary Dinner/ Speaker

Tree of Life Assembly of God Church

1005 Cedar Street

Latrobe, PA

6:30pm dinner

7:30pm speaker (Chuck B)

Covered dishes are welcome

FRI-SUN March 27-29, 2015

23RD ANNUAL AREA 60

GET AWAY WEEKEND

MINI-CONFERENCE

BEGINS 4:00PM Fri. 27th

Location

Comfort Inn & Conference Center

699 Rodi Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15235 (412) 244-1600

REGISTRATION FORM ONLINE @ AREA 60

SEEDS OF

SERVICE OR IN SEEDS OF SERVICE NEWS-
LETTER

JULY 2-5

2015 International AA

Convention

Atlanta, Georgia





YOUR PAGE....

Do you have a story or an experience that you would like to share? We would love to read it. Send it to the editor. It may be anonymous....if you wish.

Concept II

"Therefore, the General Service Conference of AA—plus any later formed sections—has become for nearly every practical purpose the active voice and effective of our whole Society in its world affairs."

--Bill Wilson, pg. 10, The AA Service Manual Combined with the Twelve Concepts for World Service, 2011-2013 Edition

Studying Concept II in March is serendipitous considering that the General Service Conference will be taking place in April in New York City and we actually get the opportunity to watch this Concept in action in our home groups, our district, and our area.

The purpose of Concept II outlines the why and how of Bill W. and Dr. Bob's plan to turn the running of AA over to us! However, the dilemma is how do the AA's in Central Westmoreland County have the time to run a World Service Office in New York, publish books, carry out our international public relations, put out the Grapevine every month, and attend to the myriad of phone calls, email and correspondence that arrive and GSO every day?

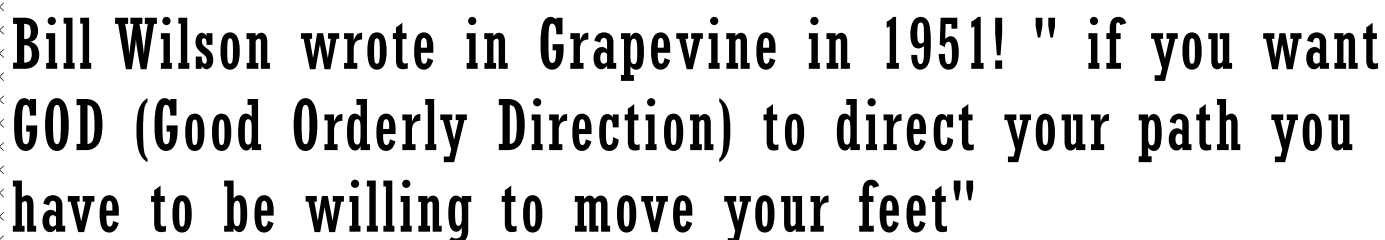
The answer to that question is, that we don't have the time, but our founders also didn't want us to run into the problems that have beset many other organizations from time out of mind, so, in order to keep those who do run our organization for us "from perilous wealth and power" AA is structured in what would be considered an upside down manner by most businesses, but for us, it works! I challenge you all to check the Service Manual, or look online for the AA Conference Structure, which is an inverted pyramid, with the AA Groups on top. That diagram shows exactly how our individual group conscience messages are carried to GSO.

This means that even though we can't oversee the day-to-day operations in New York, we have a delegate, who is a trusted servant, that will carry our home group instructions to the General Service Office every year, and who will report back to us, all the actions that happen at that Conference and how it impacts us.

In Area 60, we are fortunate to have our Get-Away Weekend, coming up the last weekend of March, where we will discuss many important items that are happening at GSO and how we think these issues should be handled. We also have the honor of hosting one of our employees from GSO for the weekend to answer questions that we have, and who will also give their lead at the Saturday evening banquet.

You do not have to be active in service to come to the Get-Away Weekend and learn about "your AA," and see Concept II in action, everyone is welcome. I hope to see many of you there as we keep "trudging the road of happy destiny."

Margie S.
DCM-District 23
2015-2016



Bill Wilson wrote in Grapevine in 1951! " if you want GOD (Good Orderly Direction) to direct your path you have to be willing to move your feet"

NEWS AND OTHER INFORMATION

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES

For Home groups mailing contributions:

Area 60 Treasurer

PO Box 266,

Monroeville, PA 15146.

(Please check the Area 60 website for the names of all the new officers @

www.wpHYPERLINK "[http://](http://www.wpaarea60.org/)

www.wpaarea60.org/" [aarea60HYPERLIN](http://www.wpaarea60.org/)

[K "http://www.wpaarea60.org/"](http://www.wpaarea60.org/) .org

(Make check payable to "Area 60 Treasurer.")

General Service Office (GSO)

P.O. Box 459

New York, NY 10163

(Make check payable to "AA World Services, Inc.")

District 23 Answering Svc

PO Box 1698

Greensburg, PA 15601

Please make checks payable to Answering Svc and put your group name on check

DISTRICT 23 NOON SPEAKER MEETINGS

**GREENSBURG WED. NOON
SECOND WEDNESDAY OF
THE MONTH OS**

OD NOON

First Presbyterian Church

300 S. Main Street, Greensburg

LATROBE OD NOON /

OS LAST WEDNESDAY

Trinity Lutheran Church

331 Weldon Street, Latrobe

THURSDAY NOON GROUP

**OD NOON / LAST THURS. IN
MONTH OS**

St. Bruno Church

1707 S. Poplar Street,

Greensburg

TO ALL HOME GROUPS:

If you wish to see your group's anniversary or other special event listed, please submit to the Editor no later than the first Monday of the month to have it appear in that month's Informer. My contact info is on the front of the newsletter.

(editor@aa-swestpa-dist23.org)

Also, if your group has any changes, please contact the Editor, and it will be listed in the Informer.

HOME GROUP FORMAT CHANGE*

THIS IS H.O.W.

Fridays 6-7 pm

Brush Creek Lutheran Church, Irwin

***Weekly open discussion**

3rd week of month 12&12 discussion

(previously 12 & 12 discussion)