

Area 74 Assembly Minutes

Saturday, May 16, 2015

Radisson Hotel & Conference Center - Green Bay WI

8:30 AM New GSR & DCM orientation – there were 5 in attendance, Thank you Steve for chairing the orientation.

Housekeeping Announcements

The Area Chair moved the WICYPAA Report to after the Delegates report per Jason's request. He will be traveling Saturday morning and wanted to make sure he was here on time.

The grapevine committee is holding a drawing, Place your name in the basket located by the registration table.

9:00 AM Opened Assembly with the 7th Step Prayer

The traditions were read by Greg.
The concepts were read by Brent
The counters were Cheryl and Jason.

Roll Call

Area Officers:

Delegate - Alternate Delegate / Area Chair Secretary/Registrar, Treasurer
Alternate Delegate / Area Chair - Kim Rainer

Committee Chairs:

Archives, Archivist, Corrections MI, Corrections WI, CPC, Finance, Grapevine Chair, Now & Then, Literature, Public Information, Structures & Guidelines, Treatment

DCM's:

01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 07, 08, 09, 10, 13, 14, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23,

Recognize Past Delegates that are present today:

Len D . Panel 26
Dave R. Panel 36
Chuck S. Panel 42
Ted L. Panel 52
Jeff C. Panel 56
Steve H. Panel 60

Other Area Delegates

Karen Area 75 Panel 39
Leo Area 75 Panel 51

A moment of silence for the loss of past members

Approval of Assembly Minutes from 3/29/15 with the following corrections: Remove the line after officer reports; make bold the delegates report with corresponding page number. Please note the 2015 Delegates Workshop Reports has a different name which is GSC committee's agenda items final, sent by email on May 1st 2015.

Corrected minutes will be redistributed and become a permanent archive.

Officer Reports

Secretary/Registrar Report (**see page 6**)

Treasurer Report (**see page 6**)

Area Chair / Alternate Delegate Report (**see page 10.**)

Delegates Report

Delegates report on the 2015 General Service Conference (Printed version emailed by MaryJo)

Delegates Report Commentary (**see page 10**)

Delegates Report Questions and Answers (**see page 12**)

Lunch

WICYPAA Report (**see report on page 17**)

Unfinished Business:

No unfinished business

New Business

Approve co- Secretary/Registrar – Char Van Deraa - The co-sec/registrar will be approved by simple majority;

Char recommended Amy S. as the co-Secretary/ Registrar.

Amy spoke about her background

Amy was unanimously approved

Discuss Grapevine guidelines for the sale of Grapevine literature – Marty L

This report is to be for information and hopefully clarification of the question of selling Grapevine Literature and other Grapevine products at A.A. Area events. Here is a short history and notations from past General Service Conferences, and discussed and confirmed by Amy Brophy, Senior Editor, on our Grapevine Conference call form March 18th of this year:

In 1944 the Grapevine Magazine was first produced and distributed to all know AA groups and over seas service personnel. As Bill W. expressed it in 1946: "The Grapevine will be the voice of the Alcoholics Anonymous movement, its editors and staff will be primarily accountable to the A.A. movement as a whole..." an excerpt from the "The AA Grapevine Statement of Purpose".

Some of the past Advisory Actions of note:

1962 – It was recommended that:

Retiring Delegates will become Grapevine Representatives and recruit other GVR's in their areas, with the objective that each A.A. group has a G.V.R.

1963 & 1973 - This 1962 Advisory Action was reaffirmed.

1986 – It was recommended that:

The 1985 Conference Advisory Action #17 be corrected to read: "Since each issue of the Grapevine cannot go through the Conference –approved process, the Conference recognizes the A.A. Grapevine as the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous".

This Advisory Action is understood to cover all Grapevine produced materials and literature.

1993 - The Grapevine Corporate Board not actively pursues the placement of Grapevine Materials for resale in commercial (non-A.A.) outlets.

This Advisory Action intimates the approval of selling Grapevine materials at our A.A. events.

2004 - The 1993 action just noted was reaffirmed by the General Service Conference.

From page S46 in our Service Manual:

Under "Other Officers ": examples of service activities of the various Areas
Committee Chairs: "a Grapevine and La Vina Committee Chairperson to
Disseminate information on the magazines and other Grapevine materials.

In conclusion, it is to my understanding with consultation of the current Senior Editor of the Grapevine, and the history just shared with you that is is not only allowable, but encouraged to display and distribute all Grapevine magazines, literature and materials. Being we as a self-supporting entity of A.A., this includes the sale of these materials at A.A. events.

Respectfully submitted

Marty Laakso

Area 74 Grapevine Committee Chair.

Motion – Timing of Delegates Workshop Weekend and Agenda – Jeff C – Past Delegate (Substantial unanimity)

"Area 74 hold its Delegate Workshop in early March and the Winter Assembly in early April prior to the Delegate attending the Annual General Service Conference"

The background information was published in the Now & Then.

Jeff C. Most Area district meetings are held first week in month. Hold the Del. workshop the second Saturday of March which would give the Area Committee and DCMs the opportunity to hear input from other groups, take it back to their groups and bring the feedback to the Assembly in April.

Now, at the Delegates Workshop, we have between 3-7 people weighing in on their opinion and we vote the next morning. We've eliminated the groups in this process. This is a byproduct of our new format. This is an unintended consequence. The groups are taken out of this process. This is where the motion came from.

Comment: Area Co-Chair–There was a time when we could go back and discuss this within our groups. Now with the new format I don't feel we discuss the agenda items at all. I think going back is a good idea.

Comment:–Area Officer–I stand in support of this motion. Delegates Workshop in early March and then Assembly in April–was productive. In March it was great for full discussion Committee's would report back so everyone would know the recommendations and have time for discussion. We would be able to take that information back to our groups/districts. It gives additional time for a group conscience. As delegate it would allow me to hear the information a couple of times for a full sense. I would stand in support of that.

Comment: Committee Chair– The delegate gets the information on the 14/15th of February. –we need more time from getting the background information, personally I would support this. More window of time to discuss the information.

Comment GSR: My home group really likes to have the information and provide as much feedback as possible back to the DCM. I would support this motion if it was the second weekend in March which would give ample time to communicate back to DCM.

Comment: GSR – It is very difficult the way it is. I have no time to read it all to my group. I get the input back and don't have any time to bring it before my group. I had to decide my group's conscience. I am in support of this

motion. It would make the GSR's job better. It would give us a chance to get more people aware of what's going on.

Comment: GSR– I would rather make two trips; if I don't have the time to rest in my recovery, what am I doing here.

Comment: DCM- In the middle of favors and opposed. Have some issues with the vagueness and rushing into it. The intent is really to get group feedback. We need thought out timing— Maximize the number of routes this information has to go through in a timely basis. Perhaps it's not achieving its intended purpose.

Comment: - What was the way we used to run it? When did we have the 4 instead of the 2? Weren't they around the same time, early March?

Jeff Past Delegate Responds – Historically, it was the second Saturday in March or first Saturday in April. That allowed 2-weeks' time to get the information out to the DCMs and groups in time for the April Assembly.

Comment: DCM – I might be bias because of not having the past experience of the way it was. Could we get information to DCM's in February? Then each committee chair has a conference call to cover what is being looked for in home groups. GSRs and the DCMs to get information could use conference calls to get the information.

Vote

In favor 46

Opposed 15

Motion passes by substantial unanimity

The minority voice was heard one person wished to change their vote.

Minority voice: Groups may have to restructure their business meeting time to get the information. It is at a cost and for some GSRs may not be able to make it. At least 4-5 weeks between the 2 meetings to make sure all GSRs have time to meet with their groups.

Minority voice: DCM we move slowly in AA with intention. We don't make quick decisions otherwise we shoot ourselves in the foot. This motion came up at the last Assembly and we are moving quickly on something that has more attention and thought put into possible implications.

Vote to reconsider (simple majority)

Yes 18

No 21

Motion to reconsider fails original motion passes

This motion will go to the Structures and Guidelines Committee.

Motion – Positioning of Central Offices in AA Service Structure Diagram – Cliff P – DCM D-11

(Substantial unanimity)

"I propose this motion: That Central Offices and a local intergroup do not belong in the Service Structure. Their main purpose is to coordinate 12-step work and provide library of literature for the groups."

Seeing no-one present at the Assembly to present, the Motion is removed from the agenda

Break

Area chair – During break I talked with the Structures and Guidelines Committee. Because the passed motion to separate the Delegates workshop and Area Assembly affects both Area 74 structure and guidelines, it will be

discussed in the Structures and Guidelines Committee and brought forward later

This statement is not in chronological order, but placed her for reference

Conference Reports & Bids

2015 Fall Conference report – District 03 – Sept 18-20, 2015, Mike M.

Fall 2015 Conference in Wisconsin Rapids –More districts are helping us out and Bob M. We have our budgets in place and are getting more volunteers. Registration - \$18, \$24 for banquet, \$89 room/tax. Going well, still pitching.

2016 Spring Conference report – Dist 13 – May 20-22, 2016, Sheryl Mc L.

Sheryl reported all is well with the spring conference. The speakers are set. The theme for the conference is A Solution for a Superior Day.

2016 Fall Conference bid

No Bid

2017 Spring Conference bid. Bids were placed by District 08 and District 20

- ✓ David J. – District 08, Wausau. All dates are open for May 2017 at this time. Went over hotel and conference cost—room rates, meal, ice cream social, etc.--Generalities of a conference.
- ✓ Dawn M. –District 20, MI and UP area; never hosted an Area 74 Conference, May 19-21, 2017. Nontraditional setting--gymnasium, school rooms for breakouts, auditorium (700). Went over hotel (\$75-100) and conference cost (\$20), catered meal (+/- \$25). District 18 will help and will reach out to other districts for help.
 - Suggestion made that other bids consider a dance.
 - Bid committees; consider what we're charging in order to make it most affordable for GSRs and DCMs to attend before finalizing the pricing.

Voting (simple majority)

District 08 –14

District 20 - 45

2017 Spring Conference will be held in District 20.

Past Delegate – Asked that District 8 to consider a fall 2016 bid.

2017 Fall Conference bid

David - District 08. Numbers are same as the spring 2017 bid. All dates are open in September 2017.

Other districts were interested in placing a bid for the 2017 fall conference

The bidding will remain open until the October Assembly at which time the bids will be voted upon.

There was ample discussion on the 2016 fall conference. There are no bids to date. The discussion centered around the conference history, options and Area 74 guidelines (Article V Section 1.03) , as well as page 14 of the Area Conference Planning Guidelines (Bidding a Conference # 1)

The Area Chair asked if anyone was prepared to bid for the 2016 Fall Conference. Hearing none, the agenda was completed.

Reports

Secretary/Registrar Report

I would like to introduce Amy S., who has agreed to be the co-secretary/registrar, pending approval from the assembly. Amy and I have worked together on the district 02 PI committee. I would like to thank Kim R for taking the time to meet with me and provide guidance in this new adventure. The current computer is in need of upgrades to software. We are currently working with Microsoft 2003. We would recommend installing Microsoft 2013. The computer needs more RAM due to the growing number of files dating back to 2008 and increased memory requirements for software currently installed. Amy has an extra license to install a current Adobe program, which will be extremely helpful in preparing the minutes. Please note that the adobe upgrade is at no cost to the area. It is our hope to make the upgrades within the 2015 budget and welcome discussion when deemed appropriate.

As of May 10, 2015, there are

New Groups 0

Pending Active 0

Pending Inactive 0

Incomplete 1

Unknown 108

Invalid address 120

Invalid email address 2

Correctional facilities 30

Active groups 624

I have reports for the DCMs on the unknown groups. Please stop by at your leisure.

Respectfully,

Char V.

Interim Secretary/Registrar

Area 74

Treasury report

The current Treasury Report is two-sided:

The 2014 YTD is on one side. It is final and will be archived. The YTD 2015 includes all accounting up to this weekend.

For the YTD we are operating at a loss of \$469.90, however group contributions are up \$2003.13 year over year (\$7880.71 2015 YTD v. \$5877.58 YTD on 05/17/14)

The total current funds on hand are \$8949.90 (bottom of the report), of which \$5948.38 is in the checking account and \$3001.52 is in the Prudent Reserve (savings account).

I continue to process contributions on a bi-weekly basis. I just sent a large batch of contribution receipts in yesterday's mail. If you sent a contribution in the last 2-3 weeks you should receive your receipt in the next couple

of days. Please remit contributions from your group to:

Area 74 Treasurer
P.O. Box 84
Paradise, MI 49768

When sending contributions, please request that your Treasurer provide the Group Name, Group # and an address, so I can remit a contribution receipt.

Any AA member may submit an individual or Anniversary contribution to Area 74. All members of the Finance Committee have committed to donate an Anniversary contribution in 2015. You may do the same!
To all Area Officers and Committee Chairs: please turn in your reimbursement forms by lunchtime. The Finance Committee will meet to approve reimbursement checks over a working lunch and we will pay all reimbursements by the end of the day today.

Respectfully submitted,
Derek Tait, Area 74 Treasurer

A request to add the contributions mailing address to the Year to Date report was made.

A Question on how to get a break down of a committee's expenses was expressed.

Derek will provide information with the committee chair approval.

Area 74 - 2015 YTD Revenue/Expense Report

1/1/2015 through 05/16/2015

CARRYOVER FROM 2014	
Carryover checking balance from 2014	6,418.77
Carryover prudent reserve	3,001.03
TOTAL CARRYOVER FROM 2014	9,419.80

REVENUE	
Group Contributions	7,880.71
Other Income*	58.34
Anniversary & Individual Contributions	127.00
TOTAL REVENUE	8,066.05
*Other Income	
Refreshment Contributions	57.85
Interest Income	0.49
	-
Total Other Income	58.34

EXPENSES	
Archive Chair Expense	(48.50)
Archive Committee Expense	(165.99)
Area Chair- Alt Del Chair Exp	(542.25)
Area Chair - Alt Del Committee Exp	(138.70)
Assembly Rent	(250.00)
Coffee and Refreshments	(91.82)
Corrections Chair Exp - MI	(107.17)
Corrections Committee Exp -MI	(30.00)
Corrections Chair Exp -WI	-
Corrections Committee Exp - WI	-
CPC Chair Expense	(112.85)
CPC Committee Exp	-
Delegate Expense	(1,000.00)
ECR Conference	-
Finance Chair Expense	(96.50)
Finance Committee Exp	(215.88)
Grapevine Chair Expense	(101.99)
Grapevine Committee Exp	(429.90)
Literature Chair Expense	(109.76)
Literature Committee Exp	(98.04)
Now and Then Chair Expense	(140.00)
Now and Then Committee Expense	(2,500.00)
Other Expenses**	(1,605.00)
Past Delegates Conference	-
PI Chair Expense	(90.00)
PI Committee Expense	-
Secretary - Registrar Chair Exp	(193.98)
Secretary - Registrar Committee Exp	-
Structures & Guidelines Chair Exp	(39.00)
Structures and Guidelines Comm Exp	(139.72)
Treasurer Chair Expense	(167.00)
Treatment Chair Expense	(111.90)
Treatment Committee Expense	(10.00)
TOTAL EXPENSES	(8,535.95)
**Other Expense	
Expense to Seat the Delegate @ GSC	(1,600.00)
Other Expense (returned check fee)	(5.00)
Total Other Expense	(1,605.00)

Net Gain (or Loss) This Period (469.90)

TOTAL ASSETS	
Balance-Checking 05/16/2015	5,948.38
Balance-Prudent Reserve 05/16/2015	3,001.52
TOTAL ASSETS 05/16/2015	8,949.90

Area 74 - 2014 Revenue and Expense YTD

1/1/2014 through 12/31/2014

CARRYOVER FROM 2013	
Carryover checking balance from 2013	6,033.97
Carryover prudent reserve	1,800.00
TOTAL CARRYOVER FROM 2013	7,833.97

REVENUE	
Group Contributions	19,243.42
Other Income*	3,760.43
Anniversary & Individual Contributions	264.00
TOTAL REVENUE	23,267.85
*Other Income	
Refreshment Contributions	186.40
Interest Income	1.03
2013 Fall Conference Gain	337.50
2014 Spring Conference Seed Money Return	1,000.00
2014 Spring Conference Gain	719.30
2014 Fall Conference Seed Money Return	1,000.00
2014 Fall Conference Gain	516.20
Total Other Income	3,760.43

EXPENSES	
Archive Chair Expense	(445.00)
Archive Committee Expense	(776.00)
Area Chair- Alt Del Chair Exp	(861.00)
Area Chair - Alt Del Committee Exp	(361.76)
Assembly/ACM Rent	(550.00)
Coffee and Refreshments	(329.47)
Corrections Chair Exp - MI	(20.00)
Corrections Committee Exp -MI	-
Corrections Chair Exp -WI	(75.00)
Corrections Committee Exp - WI	(80.00)
CPC Chair Expense	(481.81)
CPC Committee Exp	(141.00)
Delegate Expense	(1,678.00)
ECR Conference	-
Finance Chair Expense	(500.00)
Finance Committee Exp	(391.19)
Grapevine Chair Expense	(666.98)
Grapevine Committee Exp	(177.65)
Literature Chair Expense	(700.00)
Literature Committee Exp	(200.00)
Now and Then Chair Expense	(617.00)
Now and Then Committee Expense	(6,000.00)
Other Expenses**	(3,791.98)
Past Delegates Conference	-
PI Chair Expense	(242.14)
PI Committee Expense	(216.96)
Secretary - Registrar Chair Exp	(509.00)
Secretary - Registrar Committee Exp	(169.00)
Structures & Guidelines Chair Exp	(199.00)
Structures and Guidelines Comm Exp	(459.00)
Treasurer Chair Expense	(548.00)
Treatment Chair Expense	(457.50)
Treatment Committee Expense	(37.50)
TOTAL EXPENSES	(21,682.02)
**Other Expense	
Expense to Seat the Delegate @ GSC	(1,600.00)
Bank expenses/fees (checks, wire transfer & return fees)	(118.53)
2015 Spring Conference Seed Money Request	(1,000.00)
2016 Spring Conference Seed Money Request	(1,000.00)
Ad Hoc Committee - Photocopies	(9.45)
Post office (P.O. Box)	(64.00)
Total Other Expense	(3,791.98)

Net Gain (or Loss) This Period **1,585.83**

TOTAL ASSETS	
Balance-Checking* 12/31/14	6,418.77
Balance-Prudent Reserve* 12/31/14	3,001.03
TOTAL ASSETS 12/31/2014	9,419.80
*Transfer to Prudent Reserve: Jan-December 2014	1,200.00

Area Chair/Alternate Delegate

The weekend of April 17 - 19, 2015 I was invited to participate in District 23's workshop entitled "Our Common Welfare." It was an outstanding event! It was well attended and offered a diverse cross-section of presenters covering a broad range of topics all focused on "Our Common Welfare." The hospitality was outstanding, and I can't thank Jay (DCM D-23), Eileen (my hostess) her husband and my wonderful group of Northwood's friends who did so much to make the event a success. Beyond putting on fantastic AA event, they provided plenty of opportunity for food, fellowship and fun. Thank you, District 23.

On April 25, 2015, I attended District 09's annual Spring Fling. It was (as always) a great fellowship event full of friends, fun and food.

Alternate Delegate

Since the Delegates Workshop Assembly I have met with Char, our interim Secretary/Registrar, both in person and over the telephone as she jumps into her new service position with both feet.

I will be participating in several workshops in June and very much looking forward to attending the International in July. I welcome an invitation to come and participate in any upcoming events.

Thank you – from the bottom of my heart – for allowing me to be of service to Area 74.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Rainer

Alternate Delegate / Area Chair

Delegates Report Commentary

Mary Jo R. introduced herself - Panel 64 Area Delegate and thanked everyone for the opportunity. She attended the 65th General Service Conference April 19-25. She stated report was available on the table. It consists of an outline of what occurred at the Conference week. Unlike last year, she was not going to read all of the report. She wanted to do something different. She wants to share in a general way what her experience was for that week and then wanted to open the floor for questions. If she sits and talks for hours, questions people may have had are lost or they don't want to bring them up anymore.

She wants to address any specific questions someone may have on the agenda items or any others. She also wants to cover specific items that came up at the Assembly in March after the Delegates Workshop.

WE voted on a break. 10:15 or keep going – 10:15 got it. 10:30 was brought up as a better option. She asked Kim to remind her.

START of Dialogue

The Conference officially opened on Sunday but flew in on Saturday – other activities going on—secondary committees. Attended Meet and Greet Meeting - get to know one another. 1728 Meeting hosted by Class A Trustees, Remote Communities Meeting, and a Delegates Only Meeting.

Got into New York early Saturday afternoon and was able to get situated. Was able to attend the Remote Communities Meeting which was one of her favorite things about the week because it gave her a sense of the "bigness" of Alcoholics Anonymous and also a sense of the idea of going to any lengths to stay sober. I can jump in my car and in 5 minutes be at a meeting. I can attend 3 meetings a day in my District. Attend an Area Assembly in 3 ½ hours. Somehow I get focused on that idea and then realize there are other areas where this is not possible. Not even in remote countries. Canada, Montana, Wyoming—long drives. Colorado – 1 delegate for entire state. For some of those getting together is a challenge.

Distance is not the only thing that keeps a community remote: language (translators), cultural ideas, age (nursing homes, homebound—easily forgotten).

When you go back to your communities, identify places that might be remote within your cities. Bring up to interested members/District committees on ways to reach out. For help there are Area standing committees to come and assist districts on information/ideas, implementing/setup workshops, how to reach out to professionals, facilities. We don't want to become complacent in our own recovery. The founders' primary concern was how we reach out to the next suffering alcoholic. There are people in our communities who are not aware of AA or have misinformation or had a bad experience with AA. How do we repair those relationships and encourage new ones.

Sunday morning the conference opened with registration at 9 a.m.; official opening at 10 a.m. It was held at the Crowne Plaza Times Square Hotel on Broadway Street in Manhattan, New York. Terry Bedient, chair of the General Service Board, did the opening welcome and Phyllis H., general manager of GSO, did roll call. Quite the experience

with your name called. Made you feel like you're officially part of the conference. Overwhelming sense even with it being the second year attending.

Referred to who makes up the conference (refer to report). Fellowship principles--one of the principles is substantial unanimity. To ensure, delegates representing AA has 2/3+ unanimity to any item brought to the floor.

69.4 Delegates

11.2% GSO, GV Staff

19.4% Trustees, GV Directors

After opening, the Trustee at Large US, Bob W., gave a presentation on the 23rd World Service Meeting which was held in Warsaw Poland in Oct. 2014. It's always exciting and interesting to hear of its growth.

41 countries represented at World Service Meeting

4 new countries—Czech Republic, Iran, Romania, Hong Kong. New countries are starting to get a service structure. Some countries are challenged by their governments not supporting or opposing AA. Some countries have to operate underground for AA to work there.

The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer in 28 different languages. In July the opening ceremony will have a flag from every country attending. 132 countries were represented last time.

Rick Walker, who staffs the international desk, gave a presentation. There are currently 62 countries with their own GS Offices. He was currently in Japan last year helping them celebrate their 40th anniversary of the first Japanese speaking meeting. NOTE: The International trips are intended to help us carry the message and to further our relations with AA structures that express a need for shared experience. Our Big Book is now available in 69 languages; pamphlets are in 90 languages. 2013 started in Libya. When AA members are traveling outside the country, GSO wants to know if you can be of service in spreading the message of hope.

Following were the following board reports: GS, AAWS, and GV.

GS—ongoing discussions regarding Code of Conduct and Confidentiality policy, Orientation for New Trustees so they are more comfortable in positions. They are also looking for a new General Service (GS) Manager. There have been several applicants; interviews will be in June and selection/offer made by August. Phyllis is retiring in October.

There was a special meeting in February to approve some minor revisions to our Bylaws to comply with the New York State nonprofit Revitalization Act. At our Assembly we had some concerns and questions and were able to present them to Terry. I will get back to you with those.

There was an update on an initiative to strengthen the function and cooperation of our 3 Boards.

There are 6 trustees rotating out this year.

There is some pending litigation against AA. Because they are ongoing and active, Terry could not comment. He wanted to make sure we knew that we know it is going. Information will be shared as soon as we are able.

AAWS –Billy N.

Gave the definition of AAWS—AAWS is responsible for oversight of the General Service Office, group services, printing and distribution of Conference-approved literature and service material. AAWS owns copyrights on AA literature, and is responsible for translations of AA literature, including titles licensed to AA boards in other countries.

Went through bulleted items for AAWS Board Report.

She elaborated on licensing policy due to Russia having 2 licenses. There are two GSO claiming to be the "real" AA. Want our GSO to come in and decide which one. Their license has expired. Our roll--We issue a license to one of them. Russia's GSOs need to figure out which one is the true GSO for the country. Trustees (Phyllis) have been to Russia to help them discern that process and come to a cooperative way to come to a conclusion. This policy is important to reaffirm that only 1 license allowed.

As a delegate, she has been included in emails from Russia on licensing and help. The email was sent out in hope to become a big topic at the Conference. It's kind of an outside issue for us. Hopefully they can figure this out.

We are doing everything we can to help them out with this process.

Elaborated on Co-locate the GSO/GV. Every 10 years look at whether it's feasible to keep GSO in New York (found on page 4 of Delegates Report). Same for GV. Looking at combining GSO/GV. GV needs to relocate by end of November.

Visitors – be sure to stop by if/when in New York. Love to have visitors. Archives are on the same floor as GSO.

Was allowed to go into the "vault" (Tuesday tour by Steve). People have to apply to get in for research. Not available for general access. Referred to binders for all the different states which are broken down by cities.

Looked at Wisconsin binder which contained the first member letter from Eau Claire to GSO dated Feb. 1940. The author tried to quit on his own; found an article and was hoping they (GSO) could help him.

Really cool because not sure if reading a magazine article would prompt me to write to GSO. Find it amazing it did. For a lot of people that's how AA started. Another reason why it's important to work with our PI committees and CVC committees, treatments/corrections to get the information out there.

Asked if there were any questions? – None

AA GV – Went over bullets

Andrew expressed his appreciation to Amy and staff for the work they do with the GV. GV office space is very small for the work they do.

You can call and give your story to GV and access those on the website.

Andrew stated that if our Fellowship wants the GV or LaVina to continue into the future for those who haven't gotten here yet or don't know about us, we have to support that through subscriptions (the sales of GV).

People are commenting the GV sales are getting heavy on producing income for the GV. Over the years sales have stayed very consistent so we aren't getting top heavy. The subscription is our primary way to support that. A result of that initiative was they launched a 2015 subscription campaign by state challenging states to try to increase subscriptions.

Financial

Last year I did not report on the financial information. I tried to pay closer attention this year so I can report on this. It is our responsibility/concern to pay attention and keep track of what is going on financially in our Fellowship.

Referred closely to Self-support contributions (see bullet on p. 4). Thanked the breakdown of total groups by Char. We have some growth potential after looking at our Area's contributions/support to GSO. Decline of print media sales becomes even more vital for our self-support. Thus the eBooks, future of print media, technology change discussion. How do we make up the decline in our print sales? The only way is through our contributions. \$7 is not much per person and (hardship for newcomers). Doable as a person becomes more involved in service, active sobriety. Become more aware of group's contributions and where it's going. Overall financial contribution is good. Need to be concerned about the future.

Relocation – Staying in New York

Delegates Report Questions and Answers

Q: Derek, Treasurer – So when we're looking at the percentage of groups contributing, we're looking at the 739 number which includes inactive groups?

A: Yes

Q: Why if you take the 624 number the percentage goes up to 44% and I think I suspect there would be groups contributing who are inactive so I don't know why they should be included in the total?

A: I'm not sure why. I think it could be; I'm not sure (Question as to what is the definition of an inactive group).

Asked Char: "It is because we are missing some kind of contact information."

Char – It's more than just missing information.

MJ - Even though marked as inactive, they still could still send in a contribution. We might not have the accurate information but they can still contribute.

Q: Is that the number that goes into the final report that's published--the total group number?

A: Yes

Q: Marty, GV Chair – What is the status of the underfunding of the pension fund?

A: Can I get back to you after the break.

Q: Dori, GSR – What is the GSO breakdown as to what we need for Area as well as the District? How much does it cost to be served by AA?

MJ - Bob should have that handled in the Finance area.

Sunday through Tuesday in committee meetings where I serve on the Policy Admissions Committee. GSO tour on Tuesday; had dinner which was followed by a second Delegates only meeting.

Wednesday a.m. we worked on inventory questions and I moderated for my inventory group. In the afternoon we elected trustees for the NE, SW, and Trustee at Large Canada. The NE Regional is Richard P., SW Region Yolanda F., Western Canada, Scot H., and two new Class A Trustees.

After dinner we began committee reports and discussion.

Asked for questions on Specific Agenda Items?

In our discussions at the Delegates workshop there were some questions and concerns about the changes to the Bylaws.

Q: Steve was asking if there were questions about the Bylaws.

We had some questions about some of the Bylaws changes. The overall sense of the Conference body was not any questions except from me. The general consensus was that they kind of trusted the work of the lawyers and

supported the Bylaws changes.

You sent me there with multiple questions and the Chair was kind enough to let me ask multiple questions at one time at the mic. Mary Jo presented 4 questions to them.

The first question was on p. 3 of the Bylaws and background materials it set the number of trustees at 21 and currently we have 20. There was one trustee from Canada that passed away. Because of timing and elections, they elected to not fill that position until the regular rotation. On p. 5 it said the number could be 22. My question was "Does this create a conflict in that document?" The response was this does not create a conflict. The number 22 would come into play if a Class B trustee would become the Chair of the GSO Board.

One trustee did a make floor motion in regards to this wording but at the time of the floor action when the actions were heard he withdraw his statement that the correct submission of this request would be for it to go directly to the GS board. What Terri added to my notes was that the coordination for the Bylaws changes was simply to address the things our attorney determined needed to be changed in order for us to be in compliance with the new Not for Profit Law in the state. When the trustees proposed the floor action, it may have corrected a technical issue but I (Terri) believe it was appropriate for him to withdraw because the issue has not been fully discussed by the conference committee or trustees.

He made a note to "trust the process."

The other question is that if the proposed changes were not approved, would that in any way affect our Not for Profit status in the state of New York? It does not affect our status; these changes had more to do with technicality and wording.

Q: MJ - What is the difference between committees of the corporation and committees of the board and how they function or operate?

A: There is no difference. They are one in the same in AA. In some corporations there is a difference. Terri was really specific to note that the trustees are fully aware of our principles and how to operate in the spirituality of our Fellowship and they do seriously consider that in their discussions and in the decisions that they make. However, because we do have to operate under laws, we have to be in compliance with some of that wording and so that's why he kind of made it specific to say in AA they are one in the same in AA in the way they are used in the document and change. There isn't a difference on how those work.

Q: Why use the term majority instead of substantial unanimity?

A: Majority is a proper legal term. The Board recognizes the spiritual principle of substantial unanimity and would certainly give the highest regard to practice this principle in reaching its decisions. Substantial unanimity is something that we use. It's not seen in the legal or corporate world, so it's a principle that we have embraced and use.

Q: Why remove the stratification text on p. 7?

A: This text does not have a legal significance; therefore, it is not a necessary part of that document. In some organizations different classes of trustees would have different voting rights. Since this has no significance in AA, it was deleted.

That was in response to our questions on that Bylaw motion.

When the vote came for that, I did vote in favor of the Bylaws.

Q: My name is Bill. Under the last section of the GSO Report mention was made of the litigation AA is currently involved in and that at this point the Board cannot discuss details. It is at the point that it must be an active lawsuit in Federal or State court so that's public information. Do you have any information and can you share who brought the suit against AA?

A: I don't have any specific details on that but can find it out for you. When that statement was made, it was more about details--what are we doing about it, negotiations, etc. It was more about the ongoing details that they can't discuss. They were trying to say we are not having more discussion on this. If you are truly interested, it had to do with a couple of deaths of AA members. Some families are suing on wrongful deaths saying that we have a part in that and need to do more.

Q: Is that a state or federal suit?

A: I don't know. One is in California and one in New York. I will do what I can to get that information for you.

Q: Jeff – You voted for. Any other votes against or totally unanimous?

A: It was not totally unanimous.

Q: So you chose to vote even though I believe we determined we were against bylaw changes. What changed your mind?

A: The vote was 124 favors, 6 opposed. There was some brief discussion on that. In my heart and perhaps that is not significant enough, but when I was meeting with the General Service staff, trustees, they tried to be as transparent as they could. They were willing to take and answer any questions they could. It doesn't seem to me they are trying to get anything over on us or have any kind of motive to change AA. There is no "plot". I got the sense that it was appropriate to trust the work of the independent lawyers and our lawyers and that the Bylaws being changed are strictly to become in compliance and not change the nature of AA or the work of the Board. That's why I voted in favor of it.

Jeff – Thanks. I appreciate that.

Q: The only thing I am concerned about is that the Chair of the Board stated "we understand the principles". I am pretty sure the Chair of the Board did not understand the principles and I can trust that you are satisfied with that.

A: Thanks, Jeff.

Q: Randy - Did they have a minority voice on that vote?

A: Yes. They had a minority voice on every vote.

Q: Did any minority voice speak on the vote?

A: No, no minority voice spoke.

Q: For Dori's earlier question, The Finance Committee Chair put together some numbers. 2015 approved budget \$35,300 / number of members 10,790 = \$3.27 per member. Divided by 739 groups = \$47.76 a group.

Dori – Thanks

Q/A: Marty's question regarding underfunding of the Pension Fund: Several years ago companies had to make sure they had funds set aside that would cover the cost of their employees' pension benefits. They had to set aside money to cover those expenses. AA is included in that. Right now we have what our Treasurer refers to it as unfunded--figure is \$8.3 million. Page 54 of the report. Mary Jo referred to the emailed report. She elaborated on the slide and gave figures from the slide.

The next exposure increased from \$6.6 million Dec. 31, 2013 and to \$12.5 million Dec. 31, 2014. This net increase exposure was the result of the interest rate used for discount. Planned assets grew. If everyone retired, we'd have enough to cover pensions.

Are there some other questions? - None

Mary Jo referred to Committee Reports starting on p. 5.

4 documents were emailed to her.

1. Committee Recommendations – recommendations that are voted on and approved.
2. Committee Considerations – review of the motions; no action taken but suggestions and actions taken on those motions.
3. Recommendations that did not pass; in the entire conference only 2 failed
4. Floor actions

Corrections which Had No Recommendations were where no motions were brought forward and there was nothing to vote on. The conference process is a yearlong process. Discussions, suggestions, recommendations, etc., brought forward--our trustees will be working on those throughout the year.

Q: Steve H. – Could you share with us how your electronic voting procedure went?

A: It was fabulous. Pad with a series of numbers—1 yes, 2 no. There were big screens where you could see the votes in real time. It went very smoothly. We did this on Thursday. On Friday we did hand votes---oh my gosh.

Q: The reason I ask is that when I served I was a vote counter. It was very easy for me. ¼ of the room. I was in favor of this electronic voting. I know this was a trial. Do you feel this will be an ongoing thing?

A: If we were to put it to vote, it would have passed this year because everyone was very pleased with the way it worked.

Q: Do you feel it will eliminate the popularity vote?

A: I don't know how much that happens. I know that was a big part of the discussion last year. Concern about staff not voting their own conscience because they were in the room with their bosses. Staff really expressed that they never felt inhibited to vote and felt encouraged to vote. They did not have repercussions after voting. I didn't feel that it diminished the spiritual nature of the conference.

Q: Jeff - I was wondering on behalf of our home group. I know we voted unanimously to send a letter to GSO regarding the literature increase and didn't receive much of a response. I was just curious if there was any talk on that or delegate concern?

A: There was some discussion. I think in Billy's report he mentioned that there was some discussion. There still was concern on the floor on that decision. He said that the course of the discussion was that it was a difficult discussion within the Board because they periodically review prices and decided whether or not there should be an increase. In 2009 prices increased. At the next review 2012-2013 they found that the financial condition was good enough that they did not need to adjust prices. The reserve fund was at its top level. In 2014 we were looking ahead and projecting. As expenses increased and we started to have a concern about the print literature, they started to talk about price increases. There were some on the Board who thought the increase was not enough or too much, and some felt it should not change at all. There was some serious discussion and timeouts. They felt that an overall increase was necessary looking into the future. They tried their very best and hoped that by doing an overall increase they could minimize the increase on the Big Book.

Bill, Chair of AAWS, said that if we did have any additional concerns or did want to speak on that, he would be happy to come to our Area. Just invite him.

Q: Jim – What about the 75th Big Book Edition?

A: The 75th Anniversary Book--177,888 books were sold. What happened is that when that first was released, the sales skyrocketed. They thought at this rate we would go through that amount before the ending date of the sale. There was some question if it was set on auto reorder, etc. It was found to be just human error from someone within GSO. They looked at the ways things were going and based the decision on the reorder. As soon as the order was placed, we were past the point of no return and sales crashed. There was a write-off. Books are still available. There were 125,000 written off for accounting purposes. They still are physically in our possession and if sold can be accounted for through that process. The gross revenues on the initial sale as \$1,888,880. The gross profit was about \$985,000. The write-off was \$823,000 which left a net project of \$162,000. Because we still have the books and have extended the sale through 2015, we may be able to go through the reserve. There wasn't any talk what they would do with the overstock at the end of 2015. It was addressed in the sense that they reviewed that very seriously and have implemented policies and procedures to make sure that this never happens again.

Q: Jeff – Was there a reason for the write-off?

A: I don't know the answer to that question. Mary Jo reviewed the information on the slides.

Q: Being a nonprofit organization I assume it would be tax purposes?

A: I don't know why it was necessary.

Q: Derek – Was the write-off taken because the books weren't expected to be sold in the year we ordered them?

A: (She read from the report slide.) Nearly 90% of the 177,888 books were sold in the first half of 2014. Given the initial sales, a reorder was made in late summer. However, during the second half the sales suddenly dropped to 3,000 or less per month. The first quarter of 2015 sales were even lower. It says given this massive decline sales volume, generally accepted accounting principles required AA to examine its year-end inventory levels of 165,000 printed and completed books along with its work in process inventory and determined whether a write down of value was necessary for slow moving or obsolete items.

Q: Jeff – I thought that the law requires that by Dec. 31 to be sure you have closed the books. That's the accounting principles. They have to close the books at Dec. 31. (He's very hard to understand from here on.)

A: Thank you, Jeff. This is highlighted because it was a screw up?

Jeff – It was a special project. They had to clear out the books.

Q: Nicholas – The report has information on exploring new media technology where we get scared in AA. What is the sense in the discussion on this and what is your opinion on where the Fellowship is going on addressing them?

A: I was surprised cause PI had a lot of items but one of the things that was a huge discussion topic was PSA doors that have been completed and is ready to be launched out.

Here's some of the discussion: moving into the future. A couple things trying to implement using cooperation between GV and AAWS and using some of the materials back and forth. Part of that new technology is recording the audio GV has. They use some recorded messages on that video and some of the discussion was 1) hard to understand. They talked about rerecording the dialogue. Some of the other questions it sounded like phone calls being recorded. They are trying to move into to some new technologies. I think the Fellowship as a whole is a little resistant to move with them.

That PSA got dissected. Their first proposal had two bullet points under it and we discussed that for about 5 hours.

Things that I didn't even think of like one of the statements "Is AA works". Someone said AA doesn't work for everybody. It should be taken out.

The voice and the sound...hard to hear. We should have real people, real stories. If we use actors to records the voices, then it's not real AA people. We should have real stories. Those are kind of lead-ins and hooks to keep people watching. They made us dissect, vote on and failed.

The minority voice spoke and brought up the point that if we don't pass this after years of development, this is done. They are going to take back and rework it and bring it back. It's done. We will never hit every individual. One PSA isn't going to do it.

Q from Committee she covered: If a PSA is not recorded originally in high definition, it can't be operated. It has to be redone.

They are really trying to move into new technology and using it to our advantage. She talked of 10 cent phone call, to television, etc. We have always been in some of kind transition and keeping up. These days technology is growing faster than you can imagine. There's more technology in your cell phone than in the first spaceship to the moon. We have to move forward. People are using cell phones, new technologies, etc., and that's how they're exposed to us these days.

Someone at a forum was talking about our patience. At a meeting someone was on an iPad and appeared they were not paying attention and it turned out they were reading the Big Book on their phone. It's a whole mindset and embracement. We can't be afraid of it but need to be knowledgeable of it and very respectful of its power. There is a new IT manager and special projects. They have appointed committee members to seek from the Fellowship that will come on to the Trustees committee for their professionalism that they can bring to into it. They are looking for people in the technology field to help us be more progressive but hold true to our spirituality. There's fear, resistance. We don't want to lose sight of its "one alcoholic speaking with another alcoholic". That's starting to look different. That can look like Skye. Those are all real challenges.

The delegates are trying to keep that up front. The trustees are working hard in exploring that.

Couple other things. There was a lot of discussion in the Literature Committee pamphlet AA for Women. There's a need to update. There was support. Starting to gather information to update. Will be brought back up next year. As you read through some of this stuff, the items that are recommendations and considerations those things are things we can be talking about as committees, as districts, as groups and agenda items can come from an individual AA member, group, and committee. If we see these things, if there's something we feel really important and want included, we can put that together and send it to them. They encourage the Fellowship to take an active role in this.

There was a lot of discussion from the Finance Committee on the translations—7 hours of discussion. One of the things was a hold up--a year deadline date put into one of the motions. There's two ways of thinking on that: 1) they wanted a date because they didn't want it to fall by the wayside. They wanted it to be kept in front of the Trustees and have the GS staff working on it and keep it in the forefront and show it's a priority. The felt by taking out the 2016 date it might lose some priority.

The other thing was 2016 is unrealistic because of the amount of work. They did pass that Phase 1 which is what we also agreed upon would be a good place to start. It's a lot of material and money. Another consideration for the Fellowship is the cost. You hate to put a price on spirituality, inclusiveness, participation. On the other hand we have to pay for it. The motion passed increasing expenses \$80,000 to \$120,000 which is the cushion in our budget. We now have spent most of our cushion on one motion. This is what the committees fully consider before working on stuff.

We talked about the Service Manual piece of including the diagram of the Intergroup. The committee took no action on that as far as putting that in there. They did put a consideration with that they know that local intergroup and central offices are not a part of the service structure, a chart would be misleading. That change will not be made.

Agenda: For your information, the 2016 theme for the GS Conference "Our Spiritual Way of Life: Steps, Traditions and Concepts". The presentation discussion topics will be connecting with the Newcomer,--All Inclusive, and Never Exclusive. I think that a lot of this comes from the discussion from the Literature Committee on the updating of the Gay and Lesbian pamphlet and to address bisexual and transgender.

There was a lot of discussion on transgender. Do we have enough information about that? How do they feel about being grouped in with the gay, lesbian, bisexual communities? Are they agreeable to that? Do we need to get more information about that? There was also talk about that in the pamphlet for women. We should include stories from transgender women. There are a lot of challenges in being inclusive with that particular sect. These are all things we need to give thorough consideration to.

Brought up presentations and workshop topics for next Conference.

In 2016 as we move forward and districts are starting to plan, you can use these presentation topics if you want to be in line with what's going to be happening at the GS Conference.

There were several floor actions none of which went anywhere. No need to talk about them.

Is there anything else you want to know about? I don't want to miss anything.

It's a pretty full week. A lot of things are covered. As you go home and read through some of these materials, you can call me; email me if you have questions or concerns about anything you've looked at.

I want to mention that I did email to the DCMs correspondence from our Region about the International. We are going to have Hospitality Room at International and they are seeking volunteers to man that. If you can, please put it out to your groups. Anyone can fill in/volunteer at the Hospitality Room.

She refers to handing out other information. Our region is hosting a forum in Milwaukee in November. There are pamphlets on what a regional forum is. No cost to attend forums. Can register online. Opportunity to meet GS manager in November, staff, and great place to ask questions and learn more about GSO. It is put on by the GSO. It is a wonderful opportunity to attend. I would strongly encourage you to participate and plan for it.

There is an opening for a nontrustee appointed committee member for the trustees committee for Corrections. They are accepting applications. You can see Mary Jo on that.

After I finish my rotation sad delegate, my husband is retiring. Our plan is that we're moving to South Dakota so I will not be accepting the nomination of GV Chair. We will have an election in September for that position.

Q: Gary – Are we the plaintiff or defendant in the litigation that AA is involved in?

A: We are the defendant.

Q: Jay –General question: Could you send out your report electronically?

A: Yes

Q: Jay – Specific question: Corrections service piece aimed at encouraging participation in corrections meetings. Do you know what that is?

A: It's newly developed material so I think it will probably be developed into some sort of pamphlet, brochure to be included in the Corrections kit.

Q: Dave – Talked about his trip to New York. What did you do on your day off?

A: We didn't really have a day off. Tuesday had time to go to GSO but it was kind of planned. I did get down to Central Park every morning – run/walk. Saw the naked cowboy in Times Square. Beautiful city. I was able to go out on my own and enjoy the city. I felt safe. It was clean. People were very helpful. Thousands of people around all the time. It was vibrating with energy.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve in this position; I've grown a lot. I think I've grown closer to God for sure. If you want me to come and do the delegates report or talk about my experience, I would love to come to your district. I love being out in the districts and meeting you. That's important. For a delegate to know and be a part of your Area, you have to know what's going on. You have to know people and understand the struggles and the joys. That we're making a difference. She stated how fortunate we are to have so many meetings so close. We try to bring a collective sense of our Fellowship so we can make decisions. In order for that to happen, you have to let your delegate experience who you are and where you're at. The way that happens is by inviting us. It's up to you to invite us and welcome us.

Thank you. Happy to come and answer any questions.

WICCYPAA Report

In the winter of 2012 I was at my lowest part of my sobriety. I had been sober for 4 years, GSR, sat in many rooms. Enjoyed that a lot. Somewhere along the line my disease told me that I was good now--sober 4 years. I was just angry, irritable and discontent. I was stark raving sober in AA. I was still going to meetings and that was it. I wasn't sponsoring anymore. I couldn't get it together.

In Jan. 2014 got together with some other people to place a bid on a conference.

Here I am crazy and wanting to leave, not feeling useful. These people said come with us to Wisconsin. Please be a part of this.

I learned service. They knew it would be beneficial for me. They kept asking for me to come with them. I kept saying I'm good, I'm fine but they dragged me into it. I didn't want to be there. I don't need to do this program at all.

The Fellowship I craved was with me in those 40 people. We formed a committee and I was asked to stand for the chair. I started to "feel". This conference absolutely saved my mind. When I was in Michigan some kids shared my story. I told my story and they thanked me for sharing my story. I felt useful again. I had something to give. Over the year we hosted a lot of events. There are a lot subcommittees formed for the events going on at the conference. There were people who didn't want to abide by the traditions but were shown these traditions were here for a reason and purpose and they needed to abide by them. They were people who never had anything to

do with the Traditions. They came out stronger and to be of service and to know what's going on. There were fears—will there be enough money, enough attendees. This conference was supposed to hold 700 some people. We hosted 578 people at the conference. We want to thank the Area 74 General servants who showed up and supported us. It made the conference for me to see you.

One of the common chants after a bid forms are "Where's it going?" That's a chant the crowd does to know where the conference is going next year. The conference this year will be held in Madison. There is a very active, vibrant, energetic bid committee. It will be midway in January. There are hotel contracts to be signed so there really isn't any set date yet.

They are hosting events all summer. He will try to get those posted to the Area 74 Website.

One last thing. The last night of the conference when it was pretty well over I looked out over the room and I saw young people that had come into the Fellowship higher than the spirit they came into it with. Some stayed for a day or two but some of them are still here through the work of the conference and they felt part of. We used some of those kids and they did work for us. They did such a good job. There are a lot that stayed in that spirit--the Fellowship. They are doing good things. They are staying and sponsoring. That was one of the most rewarding things for me. I made friends in this Fellowship all over the country.

There is a lot of buzz right now about social media and anonymity. I stayed in contact with friends all over through social media Facebook via WYPPA pages. We have a great time on there. I can carry the message to people I've never met or will never meet again.

I thank you all for allowing me to dress as Ryan today. I am the Area 74 Liaison for WICYPAA and on their Advisory Committee. Any questions, please contact us. Ask how we can be of service to you. Someone from the committee who lived in Michigan now lives in Eau Claire. She would be happy to answer any questions.

If you have any questions, please ask.

Q: I would like some contact information.

A: I would be happy to give you that information.

Q: Derek – How do you define young?

A: I shouldn't have said that. We define young as anyone with room to grow. We don't exclude. Anyone is welcome at this conference.

Q: Jim – Comment: I have gone to a WICYPAA. I was told that before I went the only way you can know what this is like is to experience it. Having experienced it, I understand why I was told that. It rocks. It is probably the most energizing experience I've ever had as a member of AA. I was really struck in particular with the countdown. The first guy with most sobrieties had 44 years, so it's not just for young. In particular were the people under a month--it struck me that lives were being saved. There was a young woman with 1 day. She was the final member of the countdown and she was hoisted up on her chair and carried up to the stage and presented with a Big Book from the guy with the most sobrieties. It struck me that this can be the difference between making it and not making it. I really congratulate our Area for becoming more involved in WICYPAA. Get to one because you'll never know how uplifting it is if you don't attend.

A: Thanks for your support and being at our conference. That young lady has been sober since that time. As you said, we save lives. I couldn't do this if I was drunk.