

## **Area 74 Assembly Minutes October 17, 2015---Three Lakes Wisconsin**

**8:30 AM** – New GSR / DCM Orientation

8 GSR were in attendance and 1 DCM in attendance

**9:00 AM** – Welcome and Opening Remarks

Welcome new GSRs Jody, David, Rob, Spencer, Tim, Dannie, Brian, Jay, Laura,

Welcome new DCMs elect, Diane 07 , Norm 09, Brian 05

I apologize for to those who were not recorded

Housekeeping/Announcements

There are a few slight adjustments to the agenda

Happy Birthday to Derek T

Happy 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary to Laura C

Mary Joe and Amy will not be joining us for health reasons. Cards are on front table for each of them

**Opened Assembly with the third step prayer**

The traditions were read by Roy

The Concepts were read by Dannie

The counters were Jonathon, Jason, Tim, and April

The timer was Cheryl

The tally was done by Derek.

**Roll Call**

**Officers** Secretary/Registrar, Treasurer, Alternate Delegate/Area Chair,

**Area 74 Committee Chairs**

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

**DCMs**

02, 03, 04, 05, 07, 09, 13, 16, 18, 20, 21, 23

**Past Delegates present**

Panel 26 Len D

Panel 50 Bob M (also past ECR Trustee)

Panel 56 Jeff C

Panel 60 Steve H

Panel 62 Marty L

**There were 24 GSRs present (data taken from sign in sheet)**

**Approved September 19, 2015 assembly minutes**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes as submitted (no corrections)

*Passed by substantial unanimity*

**Area Officer Reports** (see page 08)

**Area 74 Committee Chair Reports:** (see page 13)

**WICYPAA Report**

Jonathon shared that the next conference will be in Madison Jan 8-10 in Madison. They will be placing a bid to hold the 2017 conference in Eau Claire, Wisconsin,

**Conference Updates & Bids**

*2015 Spring Conference Wrap-up Report – D-01, Tom Y*

No Report

*2015 Fall Conference wrap-up report – D-03, Mike M.*

The conference made money. We will be paying back the \$1,000 seed money to the area. There were 255 registrations and 148 dinners. The full report will appear in the Now and Then Newsletter (Final report in separate attachment).

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

All is well with the planning. We are looking for a DJ, not to worry there will be a dance.

*2016 Fall Conference report – D-23 – Sept 16-18, 2016, Jay H.*

Planning meetings have started, Seven sub committees were formed. We are looking at having a live band, three key speakers. We will be requesting the \$1, 000 seed money from the area today.

*2017 Spring Conference Report – D-20 – May 19-21, 2017, Dean C.*

The planning meetings have started. We elected a conference chair and treasurer.

*2017 Fall Conference Bid*

Brian Alternated DCM Elect District 05 placed bid to hold the 2017 Fall conference in Eau Claire, WI at the Plaza hotel the third weekend in September. The estimated cost of registration is \$15.00 with a dinner price of \$22-25 (225 max for people). Room rates may be in the \$85.00 range.

Vote taken to approve- substantial unanimity

***Congratulations District 05***

**Unfinished Business**

**Approve 2016 Dates to Remember – Area Chair Kim R.**

A motion was made and seconded to approved the date to remember as printed

***Passed by substantial unanimity***

Lunch Break 1 hour 10 minutes

**Approve Treasurer Report – Treasurer – Derek T.**

*(Note: this is item is out of the usual order on the agenda)*

Motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurers' report as presented

***Passed by substantial unanimity***

**Approve 2016 Budget- Finance chair – Bob D.**

***2106 budget spread sheet (see page 24)***

Bob presented the 2016 Budget by section and asked for question after each section.

Steve, past delete, referred to last line under Area Officer/Committee Chair Expenses where it states committee chairs—perhaps put 11 in parentheses (referencing 11 committee chairs) to give a better understanding

Kevin W GSR- the average amount spent vs the budgeted amount is less than what was spent.

Bob stated the responsibility of the Finance Committee is to compile the numbers brought forth and to add to the budget sheet. He agreed there are monies being budgeted that are not being spent. Workshops not being held accounted for leftover money

Marty L., Grapevine asked if the committee discussed caps on the chairs expense. He also asked for clarification on the *Now & Then* carrying over money.

He also stated that individuals are getting excited about service work and delivering the message. Setting caps might be shutting the door on people wanting to get involved. He suggested possibly deferring the topic for committee discussion in December and in turn taking it back to the districts for group discussion.

Marty asked why there is a ceiling on committee chair positions. Someone in one area may have a real challenge with the committee expense in order to meet their responsibilities vs. someone who lives in a more central location. Put it to vote.

Bob Stated the committee discussed it for about 30-45 minutes

Bob, co-editor, *Now & Then*, stated the year he took it over the *Now & Then* was not printed/mailed 2 months in a row equating to \$700 which was some of the overage. The following year the *Now & Then* was afforded \$5,000 and were told to spend it. We didn't use it all and carried it over to the next year and applied it. Last January a DCM pointed out it wasn't correct for us to carry it over and to spend it down, thus we did. The carryover was the cushion to allow for the rotation of the treasurers, so we will need a check immediately in January because we're using our own money to publish it in January. It is just the way the books are kept. January is about \$1,000 due to the bulk rate payment, everything is due at that time. The carryover took care of this. But we took the advice of the Assembly and spent down and now only have \$200 this year. He offered to put the description in the newsletter.

Jeff D., Area Committee Chair- asked for a break down of the finance committee expense

Bob D., Area Committee Chair-Treasurer \$150, Postage \$70, Copies \$75, office supplies, \$350 workshop, \$420 travel, \$60 post office box, \$75 software upgrade.

Jeff D., Area Committee Chair asked for an estimate of group contributions for the remainder of the year.

Derek T., Treasurer replied the average contribution is \$375 a week, 10 weeks we are estimating close to \$4,000.

Committees have not spent money yet.

Jeff – Disappointing that committees do not spend all the money asked for and that this is brought back to every Assembly for approval of the money. This equates to 2,000 committees not spending their money. The Finance Committee's job is to approve requests if they are inside their budget.

Derek stated he will receive a request today for the conference.

Cynthia, GSR, asked for clarity on unused funds – total of \$9,400?

Bob stated that was correct and that it included the prudent reserve.

Cynthia wondered about committees not spending their budgets and understood that we're all volunteers, that things happens, and we cannot all achieve our goals. As a body if there are leftover monies, what can we do with that amount which should be "0". If she went back to her group and showed them this, they would wonder why they would give anything to the Area since they don't need it and aren't using it. If the committees don't have the opportunity to spend the full amount, what can the body do get the message out to the still suffering alcoholic...whether that be free Grapevine subscriptions, dropping off Big Books. It seems that we should be doing something with that excess money.

Derek stated he thought that was a real good question because it can appear that there is a large amount of money not being utilized; however, there are periods of expense and big chunks

of outlay. Expenses are bunched up in the fall and spring and there needs to be enough operating funds in the account to cover these large expenses. He feels that the number we're at is a good operating budget.

He also commented that every other year committees are budgeting for someone else. There is a mismatch there.

Jodi, GSR – Use excess funds to promote interest and service on committees and attending conferences.

Cynthia stated it seems like we are counting on committees not to do the work in order to have an operating budget. She thought it would make more sense to have a specific line as an operating budget instead of counting on us having that access.

Derek stated we don't count on people not spending their budgets. He would love to spend more and help more. I really do feel spiritually our contributions would match. There is another area in our region that budgets by activity.

Jeff D. asked do chairs need the \$700? Should it be budgeted?

Bob M. asked a hypothetical question. If we were to submit a bill where we purchased a printer for \$500 because we knew we could cut printing down and we presented the bill to be reimbursed by the Finance committee, what would be the process? Would you approve it?

Dean C., DCM - asked for accuracy of question and stated if it's in your budget, not a lot will be said. Budgets are set so that every purchase doesn't have to be brought before the Committee.

Jason, GSR, talked about fear as it relates to money. He shared a personal story. It is GOD'S money, He allows us to spend it.

Sara P., DCM, commented that we asked the same questions two years ago. People do budget and don't use it all.

Jeff C., Past Delegate, asked if the committee looked into requests outside of principles such as buying property. The responsibility of the Finance Committee is to look into the principles of the purchases.

Derek wrapped it up by saying it's your budget.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2016 budget

*Vote 2/3 majority needed to pass*

In favor 43 (81 %)                      Opposed 10

### **2016 Budget passes**

#### *Minority voice heard*

Len D. expressed an unfair burden on the Finance Committee that we're going to force them to second guess the committee chairs and how they may or may not place their expenditures. How can you place that unfair burden on the Finance Committee?

No one wished to change their vote- **budget stands**

## **New Business**

### **Approve Chair/Alternate/co recommendations:**

*Finance Committee Chair*– Current Chair - Bob D.

Bob D. brought forth Cheryl D. as the new Finance Chair

*Structures & Guidelines Chair* – Current Chair – Joel S.

Joel S. brought forth Jason L. as the new Structures and Guidelines Chair

*Alternate Secretary* – Incoming Chair – Michelle Z.

Michelle Z. brought forth Vicki A. as the Alternate Secretary

*Alternate Registrar* – Incoming Registrar– David J.  
David J. brought forth Joel S. as the Alternate Registrar

*Co Treasurer* – Incoming Treasurer – Kim R.  
Kim R. brought forth Char V. as the Co Treasurer.

*Past delegate assignments*

Marty L will be doing the GSR orientation  
Jeff C moves to the Archives committee  
Len D moves to the finance committee  
Marty L moves the structures and guidelines committee

**Approve WICYPAA Letter – Area Chair, Kim R.**

Randy , GSR, Came to Believe Group in Wausau - Concerned as to what was meant by support—need money or using us as a reference for a facility?  
Kim stated that Area 74 supports their efforts. There is no mention of financial support. He is not satisfied with the language...very open ended.  
Kevin, District 23 – Doesn't know why they need a letter from Area 74. They are part of the AA service structure.  
Kim – They want to make sure that they have the support of the Fellowship behind them. We are spiritually and physically supporting them and their efforts.  
Kathy, Co-Editor of *Now & Then* - Are they going to give it to the hotel to show our support?  
Jason, GSR – This letter will not be shown in the hotel. It will only be shown to the advisory counsel in a mid packet.  
Dori, GSR, Bridgewood – Group wanted to know why and do other conferences to the same thing and feels they do not have enough information and/or why this was not presented some time ago.  
Kim – Information was submitted to her in July and presented at the Area Committee Meeting in September to bring back to groups. There was an explanation given along with the letters. It is a standing procedure for WICYPAA.  
Len – Historically there have been different roundups in the *Now & Then* but he would be disturbed if we were asked to financially support a roundup outside of the Area.  
Gary – Alt DCM 18 – Reminded everyone we made a decision to support WICYPAA.  
Jay, District 23 – Personally has nothing against it and can't wait to get there. Admitted he was confused over this. He wrote a similar letter for endorsement of a conference bid from GSO. GSO thanked Jay for the request but replied they unfortunately can't write a letter of support without writing similar letters to all other districts.  
Brent, Alt-DCM, D02 – 1) Does WICYPAA Area 75 have a group number; if so, they are part of AA. 2) They not a part of AA in Area 75 we probably should not. Is Area 75 asking for a letter from us?  
Jason had no answer for that.  
Brent – Asked if there is a precedent in Area 75 with a supporting letter?  
Kim – There is a precedent and referred to a letter in Area 74 dated August 29, 1998.  
Jay –They are a conference and not a group and are not in the service structure. The 1998 letter is clear; this letter does not identify its intent.  
Mary, GV Chair – Supports this conference.  
Bob, past Chair – Addressed the history of the 1998 letter—was written to show endorsement of the conference by a reputable group. There was no letter needed for

the January 2015 WICYPAA conference. He questioned what is warranting the need to have this letter.

Kim – Letter (vagueness of content) was written in response to the information given in the request. There was a letter for the conference in January 2015.

Jim, Literature Chair – Sold literature at last conference. Agrees with Marty to attend. It is a very energizing and enthusiastic conference.

Steve H-past delegate called the question

*Vote 2/3 majority needed to pass*

*In favor 19      opposed 28*

*Minority voice was heard*

Jason, GSR – Group is in support of WICYPAA movement. Not looking for money, just support of carrying the message. Never saw letter used as credibility.

Derek – The undertones (fear) in comments feels like we are not being supportive.

Terri – People are dragging their feet out of fear. WICYPAA saves lives.

Cheryl – Endorses WICYPAA (the young alcoholics).

Point of order was called. The question is do we send the letter.

No one wished to change their vote.

Area 74 will not send the letter

**S&G Assembly Actions of Area 74 Recommendation – Joel S**

Article V

Len D., asked for a friendly amendment to change the word business to service.

The word appears three times

Joel accepted on behalf of the committee

Gary, Alt DCM, asked if there was any thought on holding the October Assembly later (Section 1.50)

Dori GSR, Birchwood, asked why we would have two back to back assemblies in non voting years?

Steve H., Past Delegate, commented that section 1.40 and 1.50 did not change

Joel replied that only the numbers have changed.

Kim R., Area Chair, suggested passing the information regarding Assembly changes on to the incoming committee.

*Vote 2/3 majority needed to Pass*

*In favor 49      Opposed 0*

***Motion passes***

Article IV

Bob M., Past Delegate asked for a friendly amendment to include the include the words “to the Area Assembly” so it shall read

.....If a passed motion requires changes to the area guidelines, the Structures and Guidelines Committee will bring forward to the Areas Assembly the necessary recommendation to implement the passed motion.....

*Vote 2/3 majority needed to pass*

*In favor 47      Opposed 0*

***Motion passes***

### Booklet of Actions

Joel stated to approve draft and make it an Area 74 document for future committees to update

Len D., Past Delegate, asked for a friendly amendment to change the word business to service.

Joel declined.

Bob M., Past Delegate, addressed formatting concerns. He recommended listing actions under committees rather than by date

Joel stated that due to time constraints, this was for the next committee to look at.

Len D- past delegate made a motion to table this motion.

*Vote- simple majority  
In favor 30 Opposed 17*

### **Approve overage –Archives Committee Expense**

Approved overage of \$136.99 to purchase a scanner and software

Discussion-

Marty L asked if the trip to Ohio for the archive event came out of committee budget.

Pete W., Archivist, No it did not. We went on our own.

*Vote – 2/3 majority needed to pass  
In favor 45      Opposed 1*

**Motion passes**

*Minority voice heard*

*He asked the question if the purchase was approved. Yes it was*

*He then retracted his vote*

### **Discuss *Now and Then* return labels- Char**

Char V., Interim Secretary/Registrar asked the Assembly body if it would be OK to use the forwarding addresses that the post office supplied to update the mailing labels for the *Now and Then* Newsletter to help reduce the cost of returned postage.

The body felt it was the responsibility of the individuals along with the DCM to keep information update.

### **Oversight of Materials**

No comments

### **Contribution by EACYPAA-**

Bob, Finance Chair, went over a contribution received by the committee and is questioning its validity and asked for the body's direction.

Jason asked if the body wanted clarification on the contribution.

Body – Yes.

Keith – Clarified what EACYPAA is—regional conference of WICYPAA. Wisconsin has not been awarded bids thus far. Last year it was due to not making it entire state event. When the EACYPAA bid committee disbands, following the bylaws, money left over is used as SEED money for next year and thus split in two to delegate areas. They do not hold a group number with GSO.

Keith - The money was raised through fundraisers (potlucks, dances, etc.)  
 Derek – If the Treasurer finds the contribution valid, even though it may be outside the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition, he/she presents the contribution to the Finance Committee. He feels this a gray area since it's coming from outside AA.  
 Bob? - The 7 Tradition states we do not accept ambiguous funds. What does that mean? He doesn't feel we should accept funds from outside our structure; however, this is within the 74 Area structure.  
 Dave N. – Referred to Box 459 of May 2005 stating GSO thinks EACYPAA is impregnating AA by reaching out to newcomers regardless of age. Sounds like AA members to me.  
 Jason, GSR, Eau Claire – Feels EACYPAA is contributing to the service structure like any other service structure. They are trying to help carry the same message. We should accept the money.  
 Cynthia, GSR, Step Sisters, Stevens Point – Asked if the Finance Committee contacted GSO for their opinion and thought it might be good idea. Hope we can find a way to have WICYPAA be part of the service structure.  
 Jay, District 23 – Everyone is part of the service structure.  
 GSR– Can we endorse the check and forward/donate it to GSO?  
 Bob – We can discuss that.  
 Bob, past delegate – This is Deja vu. They have a service number. The number is just a number for contributing. Not in favor because they are beyond our boundaries. They have bylaws to give money that are not set by us but we have to determine if it's in line with our principles.  
 Steve – Opposed to accepting their contribution but suggest it be forwarded to EACYPAA.

***Motion:***

Does Area 74 accept and deposit the check from EACYPAA in the amount of \$265.54?

*Vote*

*In Favor 3            Opposed 40*

*Minority voice heard  
 No one wished to change their vote  
 Check will be returned*

**4:23 PM Closed with the Responsibility Declaration**

**Officer Reports**

**Secretary/Registrar**

We have purchased a computer for the Registrars use. It is a Dell Inspiron 15 with an Intel Pentium processor, 4 GB memory, 500 GB hard drive, numeric key pad, windows 10, 1 year limited hardware warranty. We also bought a wireless mouse and carrying bag. Additional software includes Microsoft Office 16 and AVG Virus protection. We are working on back ups of both computers. The cost is \$660.13. It came in under the budget of \$750.00 allotted from the 2015 budget.

An additional 4GB of RAM was added to the Secretary's computer at a cost of \$123.27 A Microsoft outlook account was created for managing the software. This information will be passed on two the incoming officers. The computers will be turned over in December.

We are working on back ups of both computers.

Thank you to the DCMs and Brent who helped with address updates for the Now and Then Newsletter returns. I suggest all DCMs ask their groups if they are receiving the Newsletter and get all address changes that have been



made over the last year. I would like to ask the assembly body if it is ok to change the addresses of members according to what is on the returned label form the US post office regarding Now and Then Newsletter returns. I continue to do group changes as they come in and track the changes that have been sent to GSO. I have been working on the 2016 contact directory. It will be emailed within a few days. of this assembly Thank you for letting be of service. This has been an amazing experience.

Respectfully Submitted

Char V

Interim Secretary/Registrar

Area 74

*The question on using the forwarding address provided by the USPS would be ok was moved under the new business section of today's assembly*

## **Treasurer**

### ***YTD expense sheet (see page 23)***

Hard copies of the year to date Expense & Revenue Report are located on the entry table if you need one.

- The YTD 2015 includes all accounting up to this weekend
- Group contributions YTD are \$15,337.45; up from \$14,702.26 at the same time last year. This represents an increase of just over 4%
- Note that anniversary and individual contributions are up sharply this year. We are currently at \$668 year to date. Highest level in the last five years was \$264 in 2014
- We are currently operating at a \$1,354.39 loss for the year to date (see the line item outside the box near the bottom of the page). We were at an \$813 gain last year at the same time, but this year the Now & Then Committee has taken an earlier draw on operating expenses (\$2,000 more than at the same time last year)
- Area 74's total cash on hand can be found at the bottom of the page. \$5063.26 in checking and \$3002.15 in prudent reserve
- I have included the total # of groups contributing YTD and the total % of groups contributing YTD on the back of both the YTD Treasury Report and the 2016 Budget Document. 172 of 673 active groups or 25.5%

I have attended all Finance Committee meetings since the last Assembly via conference call. Per our discussions on the Finance Committee:

- I will be submitting a brief article to the Now and Then to remind the groups that members may make individual and anniversary contributions to Area 74 as a symbol of gratitude for their sobriety. I like to think of November as Gratitude Month. As mentioned earlier, our individual and anniversary contributions are way up; much higher than they've been in the last five years. I might attribute this to the Finance Committee's reminders AND their example – all members made a commitment to make anniversary contributions to Area 74.
- Expenses for refreshments and coffee at Area Committee Meetings and Assemblies continue to exceed the refreshment income (at least for 2014 and 2015). We are not fully self-supporting with refreshments for our service meetings. Please remember to make use of the contribution can on the refreshment table ☺

I continue to process contributions on a bi-weekly basis. A batch of contribution receipts went out this past Tuesday. If you or your group 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. Remember that this address will change as of the first of the year with the

new rotation. Forwarding of the P.O. Box will be implemented and the new address will appear in the Now & Then as soon as it becomes available.

I have provided Area Officers and Standing Committee Chairs with reimbursement request forms. Please remit your completed forms to Bob D. or myself by lunchtime so the Finance Committee can review and approve reimbursements today.

When preparing your reimbursement requests, please check your YTD expenses against your 2015 budget. We are approaching the year's end and some chairs and officers may be approaching an overage. You can easily check your YTD spending against your budget on the budget document located on the entry table. Committee expense budgets are line-itemed in the center of the budget document; each standing committee chair's travel expense budget is \$700 and Area Officer travel budgets vary (see me at the break if you have any questions). Any overages will need to be approved by the Assembly body.

I also have extra copies of reimbursement request forms in case you plan to take the \$75 reimbursement for attendance at the East Central Regional Forum in Milwaukee. You can remit that to me at the Area Committee Meeting in December.

I will be participating in the District 21 workshop in Houghton next Saturday, October 24.

I look forward to working closely with the incoming Treasurer Kim R., and assisting in any way I can for a smooth transition. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your Treasurer. Fear has been replaced by faith in regards to this position for sure 😊

I also look forward to serving as your Panel 66 Delegate. I am honored and humbled by the opportunity to serve the groups of Area 74 and the Fellowship in this manner. Please keep me in your prayers over the next two years as I do the same for you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Derek Tait  
Area 74 Treasurer

### ***Question and Comments***

Bob B, Finance Chair – Asked if the reimbursement of up to \$75 is allotted for the first 10 people.

Diane, GSR, D7 - Suggested pre addressing envelope for contributions.

Joel, Structures and Guidelines, questioned the negative balance.

Derek stated that the starting balance vs the end of year negative will be addressed in the budget approval.

Jason asked if the prudent reserve was fully funded at \$3, 000.

Derek – Prudent reserve is growing in very small increments and is fully funded at \$3,000. Jeff C. encouraged participation in the upcoming ECR Forum in Milwaukee; it is being hosted by the state of Wisconsin. You might share the \$75 in travel expenses in order to attend.

Bob M asked if the contributions being 10% less is a result of the literature increase and the conference not looking at the Area 74 motion on the increase.

Derek - Yes it is. The reserve is slowing growing with an interest rate of .01 as it is in a savings account

## **Delegate**

Good morning. I would like to begin by thanking Kim for presenting my report. At the end of September I had a series of heart attacks and was in the hospital for a few days. When I was released my doctor asked that I do no out-of-town traveling until I saw him again on November 5<sup>th</sup>. I have decided to follow his instructions and that is why I am not with you today. I have excellent doctors and an established treatment program, so I am feeling stronger every day and look forward to seeing you in December at the Area Committee meeting.

**Final Reports:** The General Service Conference Final Report is a full report of what happened at this year's General Service Conference in New York. I know some of you were able to pick them up at the Fall Conference, but if you haven't gotten yours they are here today on the front table. DCM's should take enough to hand out to the groups in your districts. If you are a GSR please take one and share it with your group. **Please remember that these reports contain full names and addresses of the conference members, and are considered confidential. They are not for review of the general public, so be mindful of where they are left.**

**Quarterly Contribution Report:** DCM's the quarterly contribution report for the period ending July 31<sup>st</sup> is available. I have a printout for each DCM. Please pick them up at the front table. Area 74 has a total of 641 active groups. Our Area has sent \$7,975.92 to GSO. The percentage of groups contributing is 15.46%. Last year at this time our percentage was 25.63%. Please remind your groups of the importance of supporting our General Service Board and the work that they do for us. No contribution is too small each one is important, so please consider them as a regular receiver of 7<sup>th</sup> tradition funds when distributing group monies. If you would like some literature to take to your groups on Self-support and the AA Group, please see Jim at the literature table, or talk to Bob D., our Finance Chair and plan a finance workshop in your district in the coming year. The finance committee has some great ideas and would love to come to your district and share them.

When I receive these reports I also get a list of groups that GSO needs district numbers for, can the DCM's for the following town's please see Char so she can get the district number for these groups: A Few Simple Rules, Marquette / Early Risers Group, Omro / Sisters in Sobriety Group, Oshkosh / and United Hope Group, Dollar Bay.

**Regional Forum:** The East Central Region will be hosting a Forum on November 13-15 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This is an AA event for all members. It is an opportunity to meet our General Manager of the General Service Office in New York along with other staff members, trustees and directors. The following are schedule to be present:

Steve Smith, staff member who is our Regional Forums' Coordinator  
Julio Espallat, staff member who serves at our Nominating Coordinator  
Greg Tobin, General Manager  
Ami Brophy, Executive Editor & Publisher of the Grapevine  
John Fromson, Class A Trustee  
Bob Wilcox, Class B who serves at US Trustee-at-Large  
Paz Precidado, a Grapevine Director  
David Morris, Class A Trustee who serves as the General Service Board Treasurer  
Terry Bedient., Class A Trustee who is serving as the General Service Board Chairperson

If you have ever read through your Service Manual and wondered how all this works, here is the perfect opportunity to get your questions answered and put names and faces together with descriptions. I have a few brochures here today, otherwise you can also go to the AA website: [aa.org](http://aa.org) and register.

**GSO Staff Assignments:** In September the staff members at GSO made their traditional assignment rotation. I have a list of the new staff assignments. You can pick them up on the front table It is a nice resource for your groups, districts and chair people to have access to in case you need to contact GSO with any questions, to relay any group experience in a particular area, or need some resources to help with committee work.

As with all rotations, I would encourage GSR's and DCM's to fill out your change forms so that those who are replacing you are kept in the communications loop. Also, to DCM's be sure that your new district committee chairs submit their names and full contact information to GSO so that they also can be kept up-to-date.

In closing, I want to thank you for the privilege and opportunity to serve Area 74 as delegate. It has been an experience that will continue to shape me for the rest of my life. As with any service position when the end is near, I think, if I could do this a little longer I could really do a better job. But, I hope that you know that I have tried to give my best to serving as delegate, knowing that I have fallen short many times. I thank you for the grace that has allowed me to serve anyway.

If you are here you know that the most important service we will ever do is carrying the AA message to those who are still suffering from the disease of alcoholism. General Service allows us to do that in a structured, uniform, and consistent way. It may seem tedious, but it is important. Because of general service we are able to reach out not only in our communities but also to the world and you are a part of that. So, as you rotate out of your current service position, I would ask you to help and be available to those who follow you and stay active.

In the words of Archbishop Oscar Romero, paraphrased - *“We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God’s work. Nothing we do is complete. No set of goals and objectives include everything. This is what we are about. We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for God’s grace to enter and do the rest.”*

To our incoming panel 66 servants I say “thank you” and “congratulations”. We will be well served by these individuals and as an Area we have much to look forward to.

Respectfully submitted  
Mary Jo Rone, Area 74 Delegate

*No Questions or Comments were shared*

## **Alternate Delegate/Area Chair**

Let me start by telling you since May, I have participated in AC Meetings, Assembly’s, S&G Committee Calls, ad Hoc committee calls and DCM calls. I had the privilege of visiting Districts 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 07, 09, 10, 12, 14, and 24 for various recovery, service and fellowship events; and it has been an honor and privilege to work and play among you. I need to extend my regrets to Cliff, and District 11 for my inability to participate in your October 12 event. It is the only invitation extended to me during my service to Area 74 as Alt Del/Area Chair that I was unable to accept, and I am sorry to have missed that chance to get to know you all a little better.

In July, I had the pleasure of traveling and spending time with many of you as we celebrated 80 years of Alcoholics Anonymous at the AA International Conference in Atlanta Georgia. Seeing fellow servants of Area 74 on panels, in hotels and hallways, on streets, shuttles and trains was heart-warming. I was reminded over and over that no matter where I am, as long as I stay plugged in, I’m never too far from home.

Serving as Area Chair is the most visible and challenging service position I have held to date in Alcoholics Anonymous; it has stretched me in ways I could never have imagined. The view from here is different from any other place in the room, and many of you will never see it from this vantage point. So, with my remaining time I’ll share some of the things I have seen and learned from this podium.

First, you can’t make everyone happy – and you’ll drive yourself crazy if you try. The responsibility of a servant is to meet the obligations of the assigned tasks in the best way available to them at the time they serve. Our ways may be different, but if we keep to the principles of our beloved Fellowship, create space for God, as we each understand him, and treat each other with the respect we deserve, we can find common ground and get the job done.

We alcoholics are a passionate lot; and our ability to communicate our passion varies from person to person and sometimes from day to day. In the last two years, passion was sometimes interpreted as criticism, dislike, irritation, disapproval, contempt, and frustration. I’ve watched faces glaze over, eyes roll, arms cross when a vocal member of our fellowship comes to the microphone one more time to discuss their passion. I’ve also watched the light come on in the

eyes of our newest members as the details of the topic we've been discussing and nausea finally clicks, because that vocal member did. Area 74 is well served, and at its best when we listen open heartedly to each other's passions with the intent to understand rather than disprove.

We talk often of the Principles of AA and according to Oxford Dictionary online, "A principle is a fundamental truth or proposition that serves as the foundation for a system of belief or behavior or for a chain of reasoning." In Appendix I, paragraph two of the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous, it says, "We alcoholics see that we must work together and hang together, else most of us will finally die alone." From here, it seems if we can find a way to live by this principle, AA will not only survive, but we will thrive.

Every opinion counts! Over the last twenty-two months, many of you have come privately to express an opinion on one topic or another. It seems because your opinion appeared to be different from the majority (or different from the most vocal of us) you were uncomfortable sharing it publicly. Just because we are the loudest, doesn't mean we know what is best; and if you are "feeling it" chances are so is someone else. The principle of the minority opinion doesn't just apply to when we are voting. If we really take the time (as tedious as it may seem) to hear ALL the opinions and discuss them thoroughly, we have a much better chance of making decisions in the best interest of our common welfare.

Sometimes we get so wrapped up in the "business" of AA that we forget that we are recovering alcoholics dealing with life, just like the people in our Home-groups. We have health issues, relationship, work and financial problems; we have family members transitioning from one phase in life to another; we do jobs with little or no training or understanding. I can't help but wonder what Area 74 Service would look like if we took the time to know each other in Recovery and Unity as well as we know each other in service.

The end of a service commitment is always bittersweet. I typically spend time reflecting on what worked and what didn't work. Let me assure you, the last two years have provided plenty of opportunity for me to reflect!

It seems impossible, that this is my last report to the Assembly as Alternate Delegate / Area Chair. Over the last 22 months, I have grown skin! I have learned to keep my mouth shut and to speak up. I have been put in my place and received accolades; I have been criticized and congratulated, and oddly enough sometimes for the same thing. I have been vulnerable and guarded; I've been confident and fearful; I have been excited and disappointed. But most of all I have been sober. And no matter what room or chair you sit in, that is the reason we come together.

Thank you Panel 64 servants for a job well done! It has been my delight and pleasure playing, working and traveling with you; and congratulations and welcome to the incoming servants of Panel 66. Alcoholics Anonymous and Area 74 is in good hands.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your Alternate Delegate and Area Chair, Thank you for the experience!

## **Area Committee Chair Reports**

### **Archives**

Hi, I'm Gloria Osmanski, recovering alcoholic, Area 74 Archives Chair. I would like to quote somebody—unknown-- "You can't know where you're going unless you know where you've been." Welcome to Archives!

I would like to thank Area 74 for giving me the opportunity to serve as Archives chair, even though I wasn't sure I would even like my job, much less love it and learn so much. I would also like to express my gratitude to those who served on my committee—Pete W., archivist, Gail Z. and Jay H., and others, and those many AA folks who served as contacts for their districts and discussed their knowledge of their AA histories with me. There are still many of you who haven't, so please, do not let this drop. Continue to keep AA alive—both in the past and in the present for the future.

I am also asking for help from our outgoing chairs: Please consider getting your materials (what won't be vital to your incoming chair) to the Archives committee.

I would like to relate some of our accomplishments of the past rotation. We had conference calls every month to keep in touch and updated; we have formed a Mission Statement and Purpose, and will be working on a Vision Statement; Pete our Archivist and Charles from District 23 attended the National Archives Workshop held in Ohio in September and learned many helpful things; we have collected group histories—a beginning; we held a workshop in Crivitz and learned some interesting techniques; we have a start on an Archives Handbook.

All of the above are on-going projects and will continue under the chairmanship of Gail Z. who was active on my committee. The Area 74 History—from the 40s-80s—will be updated with your help. If you would like a copy, please see me today as we have copies available. We will also be working on methods of retrieval by AAs for using our Archives.

Please help: I have a few things to ask of each of you as AA Area 74 family. Please be a contact or find an interested party in your district. We would like at least one contact per district. Please, also watch the Now & Then for an upcoming list of Area Committee Meetings and Assemblies whose minutes are missing. Then please check your stashes—in the basement, the garage, your files—for what we can use to plug the holes between 2000-2013. Let's keep our history alive! In the words of Carl Sandburg, "Whenever a society or civilization perishes, there is always one condition present: they forgot where they came from." Don't let this happen to Area 74.

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to serve you.

### **Questions and Comments**

Steve H asked if she found it helpful to have a past delegate on the committee.

Gloria stated yes. Have a different perspective on things.

Marty L asked about the budget and wanted to know what they were going to do with the excess.

Gloria responded that the budget will not be unused as Pete W will be asking for an overage for the software/scanner purchase to digitize the archives to make it more assessable.

Bob D Finance Chair commented that the overage is \$136.99. This will be an added item under new business today

Derek asked if there is any additional in terms of committee expense; Gloria responded no

Jeff C Past delegate asked for clarification on the role the past delegate has in the Archives Committee.

Gloria stated the past delegate is a different stabilizing force and physical proximity is not necessary

### **Corrections MI**

I. Of the five State correctional facilities in the Upper Peninsula I have been in contact with four.

- a. Newberry
- b. Marquette
- c. Baraga
- d. Alger

II. I have had the opportunity to correspond with an individual that was in the process of being release from the re-entry and placed on parole in one of the districts.

III. Traveling to the Moose and Goose wild game feed fundraiser was a real treat first because I was able to spend time with my sponsor that moved to Appleton.

IV. Traveling throughout the Upper Peninsula has some benefits as well, as a lot of timely runs can be time consuming. I say that because as many of you may know the U.P has a lot of area to cover in area 74. There is a monthly intergroup that meets 10 times a year at various places throughout the U.P and this is one way I am able to stay in contact with the various districts without having to go and frequent there district meetings for example to name a few.

- a. From my place in Marquette to Newberry one way is 102 miles.
- b. From my place in Marquette to Hancock one way is 94 miles
- c. From my place in Marquette to Escanaba one way is 66 miles.

In closing I would like to say this has been a very rewarding way to be involved in the service structure of this wonderful area. Mainly because it gets me out of myself and I love giving back to something that has given me so very much.

Yours in Service- Brian McRae

Area 74 Corrections Upper Michigan

PH: 906-235-8643

No Questions or comments

## **Corrections WI- report given, not sent electronically**

### **CPC Cooperating with the Professional Community**

Greetings fellowship members, these past few months have been kind of slow there was not a lot going on CPC. Whys, I obtained the addresses of most of the drug courts in our area. I sent out letters to 16 of them. So far I have received one reply for more information and two that said they already have a relationship with our fellowship. I am going to participate in a workshop on service work up in the Houghton Michigan next Saturday. I am looking forward to it. I think it's going to be a fun day, little bit of a drive, but you got to do what you got to do.

I was asked by a group in Area 75 to give a talk about CPC at their intergroup meeting, as they were willing to throw a few bucks my way I thought the experience would do some good. It turned out to be a fun thing. I think they got something out of it and I learned a lot.

Respectfully submitted by James Mood CPC Chair. Its been a good ride, sorry its coming to a close, but I think I'll survive. Thank you again for your respect and allowing me to your CPC chairman.

### **Questions and Comments**

Marty L., past delegate, asked about the 2015 budget not being used  
James stated he did not hold a workshop.

## **Finance**

Finance Committee Servants:

Mary Jo R. (Delegate)

Steve H. (Past Delegate)

Derek T. (Treasurer)

Michelle Z. (GSR & Committee Secretary)

Sheryl D. (Past GSR)

Bob D. (Committee Chair)

The Finance Committee (FC) has met by phone conference at least once per month and sometimes twice per month since January 2015. We also met at the Delegate's Workshop/Assembly, the end of March 2015, and at the Spring and Fall Conference/Assemblies.

The FC is charged with reviewing and reimbursing financial requests at Area 74 functions to ensure that those expenses fall within the Guidelines of each Officer & Committee Assembly approved budget expense. It takes a 2/3 majority vote within the committee to approve an expense and to issue a reimbursement.

In one of our discussions as a committee we talked about the idea of a Prudent Reserve and how it ties into the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition. With the Committee's approval our Delegate polled the current 93 Area Delegates, gathering information about how their Areas handle their Prudent Reserves. Of the 93 Areas, our Delegate received 52 responses. 50% of those stated that they do have a Prudent Reserve and the other 50% said they do not for various reasons. Of the 50% who did, some keep their money in interest bearing accounts, and even some with

large amounts of cash keep it in a high yield Money Market where the interest rate of return is greater. One response came back in Spanish and thankfully our Secretary was able to interpret it for us. Safe guarding funds and making sure there are accountability measures in place was stressed countless times in the replies we had received. Some of the Areas also needed to file tax return forms because of the interest they earned on their accounts. The poll was for Information gathering only and no action was taken.

We as a committee, along with the recommendation of the Area 74 Structures & Guidelines, submitted a Motion to clearly state how the Finance Committee Chair is appointed by its committee. It was then presented it to the Assembly for approval. This Motion was approved by the Assembly and can be viewed in our Area 74 Guideline packet.

Our Committee is charged with notifying Area 74 Officers and Committee Chairs in June of each year, to work on and present a budget for the following year. Those Area 74 Budget Request Forms need to be filled out and sent back to the Area 74 FC by the end of July of each year. That way the FC can prepare a statement that will be discussed at the August Committee Meeting. Once discussed, the Budget Statement is then prepared so that it can be presented to the Area 74 Fall Assembly for its review and approval. This Fall Assembly is held in October of each year.

This committee has discussed what should be done to oversee and account for money or property that belongs to the Area 74 fellowship. Though we are not charged with this responsibility, we are prepared to make a recommendation if asked.

As our approved Budget for Area 74 states, we are operating on a projected budget deficit. As individuals in AA we looked at how we can be self-supporting as a committee and to our area. We can help by contributing a dollar amount that represents each year of sobriety. This gets donated to Area 74 as a Birthday/Anniversary contribution. The amount can be \$1.00, \$2.00, \$5.00 or \$10.00 or \$\$\$ for each year sober. Each of us agreed that we spent a lot of money to keep ourselves supplied with the drink. We also keep our contributions anonymous.

Area 74 provides the financial support to assist the committees in carrying the message of AA. Looking at the budgets vs actual expenses of each committee for this year, one will notice that most committee's are under budget. Some will exhaust their funds but some will not.

The FC is interested in doing a work shop. If there is a District willing to host a workshop we would be glad to work with you. A suggested theme could be "Where does your money go".

The FC also has made a small revision to the expense reimbursement form to reduce confusion over what may be an Officer or Chair Expense vs a Committee Expense. So take the time to look it over and share your thoughts and suggestions.

It has also been brought to the attention of the FC that the acting Secretary/Registrar is moving forward with securing a new computer. That new device will be used by the incoming Registrar in 2016. The existing computer we now have will be used by the Secretary beginning in 2016. These two Area Officer positions were once combined however, in 2016 these positions will operate on their own budgets.

The Archives Committee has purchased the document scanner that was budgeted for this year. They incurred unexpected costs related to software which was needed to operate it.

And as a last note to my fellow AA Members. It has been a privilege to have served on the FC for the last two years, my first year as a Committee Member and my second as the Finance Chair. I would not have been able to do it anymore effectively had it not been for the other FC Members walking along side me. It has allowed me to develop deep relationships within and outside the walls of AA. Relationships that I will cherish for a life time. My encouragement to the new comer is to not allow fear to hold you back. Do it in spite of the fear. Work thru it and the rewards will be great. I have learned the value of listening to and sharing with those whom have gone this path before me. This is not an "I" program but a "WE" program. And no one will shame or criticize you if an honest effort is given towards your service work. That's just what I have learned. I have also come to value that if I don't know something, then I better ask. That approach has saved me a lot of frustration in my service work. I am



grateful that those who have the experience are more than willing to come along side and help one through it, whatever that may be.

Please: If you have any questions about budgets or budget preparation or anything that may be Area 74 Finance related, contact us. We are here to serve you! Making this day a step forward from yesterday!

The Area 74 Finance Committee  
Bob D. Finance Chair

### **Questions and Comments**

Kevin GSR asked about the 2016 budget of \$1,200 vs \$400 spent.

Bob - The question will be deferred to 2016 budget agenda item later.

Len asked about oversight of computers--how are the computers to be used on a rotational basis and who will be overseeing this?

Bob – We are not charged with this but have a suggestion. We can share what we discussed at the Assembly if asked. There is paper/electronic accounting for each rotating position.

Kim reminded everyone to have questions relating to Finance Committee and not the operations.

This will be moved to new business

### **Grapevine**

The Grapevine Committee for the Panel 64 rotation consisted of April E. Jan K. David J. Dave K. Joe W. John O. and myself as Grapevine Committee Chairperson. I want to thank this committee for the participation throughout the year. We participated in three District workshops and had our display in an additional two Home Group events as well as the four Area Assemblies.

This past year we were provided up to \$500 to purchase a Grapevine book inventory and sell these items at the Area events. Year to date we have purchased \$ 409 worth of inventory and sold \$ 316.00, which I have in cash. We have 21 books in stock now, which is a combination of the inventory I got as Grapevine Chair, new books complimentary from Grapevine and the remainder from our inventory order. I'll be forwarding the display, book inventory and cash on hand to John O. in December during the Area Committee meeting. These numbers will change after the workshop in District 02 next week. Come join us Saturday October 24<sup>th</sup> at the Genesis Club in Appleton from 1 to 3pm for an informational sharing session on Grapevine Story contributing.

The Grapevine Committee Chair expenses are and will remain less than the \$700 approved budget; the Grapevine Committee expenses are also under our projected budget for 2015.

The Area display was updated and the books mentioned purchased for your pleasure to look through and purchase. Our goals as a committee were to encourage Home Groups to register a GVR and increase subscriptions to your online Grapevine version or hard copy magazine as well as encourage contributors to send stories, photos, jokes and editorials to the Grapevine for consideration of print.

The Grapevine Subscription Challenge is still on until December 20<sup>th</sup>, the winner will be based on % increase of subscriptions, and the winning State/Territory will have a Grapevine issue highlighting stories of members from the winning area. As of August, Missouri is leading this challenge; you can see the progress by going to [www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org) and checking out our position in this event

I thank you and your Home Groups for this fun committee to serve on to encourage and promote the utilization of Grapevine materials in your recovery tool box.

My sincere gratitude to have been able to serve another two years in an Area capacity sharing and supporting the future of AA and Grapevine.

In Service,  
Marty L  
Panel 64 Area Grapevine Committee Chair

### ***Questions and Comments***

Diane DCM elect asked if the were alcoholic editors/staff on the Grapevine. Bob replied Yes. All staff, with the exception of the secretary, are alcoholic. The editorial advisory board are also alcoholic.

Terry GSR asked for more information (incentives) on the Grapevine challenge to increase subscriptions.

Marty shared some detail and the winning state has an issue dedicated to stories from that state.

Len D past Delegate- asked to contact him about oversight

### **Now and Then Newsletter**

My name is Bob M your co-editor of the "Now And Then". Along with Kathy L, the other Co-Editor, we are responsible to assemble and print our Area newsletter.

Up to Date Information:

#### **Printing:**

- Printed 6,090 Newsletters with an average of 609 per month (increase over 2014)

#### **Distribution:**

*Hard Copy:*

- GSR's of 5,992 with an average of 599 per month
- Two Past Delegates
- Subscriptions by hard copy average six per month

*Electronic:*

- All Area committee members receive electronic distribution therefore all area officers, area committee chairs, and DCM's
- About 50 GSR's
- 14 past delegates
- 130 other AA members including the current ECR Trustee, Past Trustees, and adjacent Area Delegates.

#### **Finances:**

*Expenses through October 17:*

- Printing -Total \$3,590 with an average expense of \$359 per month
- Postage to mail – Total \$1,825 with an average expense of \$183 per month
- Postage for returned newsletters – Total \$173 with an average expense of \$17/month (an increase over last year)
- Other Costs – Total \$413 with an average expense of \$41 per month
- Total Expenses - \$5997 with an average expense of \$599 per month

*Revenue:*

- \$7,430 including carryover (\$1,255)
- \$6,000 in Area funds and \$175 from flyers and subscriptions
- Do not anticipate needing any more Area funds for the rest of year
- Our 2015 budget is \$7,000. We anticipate only requesting \$6,000 of our budget. This is \$1,000 lower than our budget as we will be depleting our carryover to cover expenses and our carryover balance should be around \$200 at the end of 2015.

**Budget request for 2016:**

- Continuing with the current practices of printing and distribution we anticipate our expenses to remain at about \$7,000 for 2016.

Cost per newsletter average is \$.93 cents per month per issue (Down from \$.98 cents last year) The newsletter averages 12 pages per month. Regularly submitted articles are usually punctual and arrive by the due date. We had fewer articles from Area standing committee chairs than past years.

We still receive very little feedback from the area on the content of the newsletter. The feedback we do receive usually has to do with the mailing and changing addresses for GSR's and group contacts. This year there was some discussion and concern, not at the Assembly, about the choice and content of submitted articles. To explain misunderstandings and gather feedback we offered a history presentation of the newsletter at the August Area committee meeting. This presentation included answering questions, listening to concerns, and a sharing session. We continue to use the same printer as in past years. We have a good working relationship with them and they have a clear understanding of our needs.

Our working relationship with the Post Office continues to be a challenge. We discovered that rates for bulk mailings to certain zip codes in the Area have changed. This provided us with a savings for about 100 newsletters. Due to the implementation in the near future of "Intelligent Mail for Small Business" program, we continue to be of concern of its use for the anonymity of our members. We will keep you informed.

We continue to use the labels provided by our Area Secretary / Registrar. We are providing the returned labels to them and they update the group records with this information.

We continue to look at ways to more efficiently produce and distribute a quality Area newsletter. After hearing comments and thoughts from the sharing session we are considering trying the following:

- Printing only Area and Regional functions in the newsletter
- Other flyers we would normally publish in the newsletter we would announce in an expanded "Upcoming Events" section
- Pass a copy of the flyer to the Area 74 webmaster and ask him to place it on the Area 74 website calendar. Provide a link to the Area 74 website calendar
- Ask the Area Registrar to provide us with an updated copy of the Area labels quarterly
- In the December "Now and Then" an update form will be placed in the newsletter for groups to fill out who would like to receive the newsletter by email only and we would remove their labels from the hard copy mailing for this rotation. We would remind them that it would be their responsibility to notify us of any changes in GSR's or email addresses because if they don't they would no longer receive an electronic copy of the newsletter.

Thank You for allowing Kathy and I to continue to be of Service to you. It is a very challenging, but yet rewarding service position.

There are extra newsletters available. Just ask Kathy or I and we can get you some.

Kathy L and Bob M

Area 74 Co-Editor of the "Now and Then"

**“Now & Then” Report to Assembly  
Area 74 Fall Assembly 10/17/15**

Area 74 Now & Then										
2015	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October
<b>Newsletters Printed</b>										
Area Copies	600	654	605	583	592	592	593	564	560	649
Paid Subscriptions	5	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	5
Total printed	605	660	620	610	600	600	600	570	570	655
<b>Expenses</b>										
Printing	\$373.60	\$397.32	\$373.67	\$370.64	\$367.61	\$367.61	\$229.03	\$358.70	\$359.02	\$392.44
Postage	\$181.00	\$195.26	\$182.69	\$175.77	\$178.53	\$183.56	\$183.66	\$174.66	\$171.45	\$198.66
Returned mail	\$27.44	\$31.85	\$16.17	\$15.68	\$6.28	\$15.19	\$23.52	\$6.59	\$6.00	\$24.01
Pages	12	12	12	12	12	12	8	12	12	12
Strapping kit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tape/mailling seals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mailing Labels	\$28.34	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$28.99	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cost per newsletter	\$1.01	\$0.95	\$0.92	\$0.92	\$0.92	\$1.00	\$0.73	\$0.95	\$0.94	\$0.94
Permit fee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Annual Fee	\$220.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PO Box fee	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other (Copies, stamps, gas)	\$9.80				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$920.18</b>	<b>\$624.43</b>	<b>\$572.53</b>	<b>\$562.09</b>	<b>\$552.42</b>	<b>\$601.20</b>	<b>\$476.21</b>	<b>\$539.95</b>	<b>\$536.47</b>	<b>\$615.11</b>
<b>Income</b>										
Beginning Balance 2015	\$1,255.92									
Area Funds			\$2,500.00				\$2,000.00		\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Flyers		\$25.00	\$50.00					\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Subscriptions		\$10.00	\$10.00						\$30.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,255.92</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>	<b>\$2,560.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>	<b>\$1,555.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Monthly Balance</b>	<b>\$335.74</b>	<b>(\$253.69)</b>	<b>\$1,733.78</b>	<b>\$1,171.69</b>	<b>\$619.27</b>	<b>\$18.07</b>	<b>\$1,541.86</b>	<b>\$1,026.91</b>	<b>\$2,045.44</b>	<b>\$1,430.33</b>

**Questions and Comments**

Jay DCM asked if they will publish events from out of the area or events out of the service structure.

Bob stated they plan on expanding the upcoming events area. Currently, the newsletter publishes events within the area, regional sponsored events. The upcoming events (flyers) have included group events and EACYPAA.

Brent asked about the intel mail and the anonymity.

Bob responded it's not mandatory yet but the label addresses will reside on the Post Office website for bulk mailings for automatic printing. We will need to provide the labels. We are currently not doing this, so no anonymity issues at this time.

Jan K, GSR, asked how to get copies. Bob reviewed the methods (groups registered with GSO, email request, pay a subscription fee for hard copy).

Steve H., past delegate, asked about cost saving to publish totally electronically.

Bob stated it would be a major cut, basically the cost of printing and postage. \$3,580?

Chuck, past delegate - 659 GSRs discrepancies in some of the numbers (10 extra prints)

Bob stated there are duplicates. Every registered group receives a hard copy.

Chuck stated there are 673 groups and 659 mailings and asked if the difference was because there was no address to mail it to.

Bob referred the question to the Registrar for further explanation.

Chuck stated that since the newsletter is sent to GSRs and not groups, did we poll if members are seeing the Now and Then Newsletter at their meetings?

Bob stated he has gotten very little feedback.

Chuck asked about having an informal survey in the *Now & Then*.

Cynthia, GSR, Step Sisters, asked who should have the cost of printing the hard copy if the GSR receives it electronically.

Bob stated the Area thought the newsletter was the best way to communicate to the groups.

## **Literature-Sent as separate attachments**

### **Public Information**

Gary K. resigned at beginning of year and Jeff D. (me) was voted in as Interim Chair at the Delegate's workshop weekend Assembly. Sara P. (DCM 09 and PI committee member) informed me that a lot of the focus prior to my coming in had been the implementation of password protection for Assembly minutes on the website. That was completed and Assembly minutes can be accessed on our website by typing in the address bar area74 org/service then use the user id: area74all, and password: billandbob4e. Inquiries into all manner of things have been very heavy for the webmaster and getting updates to the website in a timely manner has been difficult. In order to alleviate some of this, it was set up for initial inquiries to the website to go to Sara and distributed from her to the appropriate channels. This system has freed up the Webmaster somewhat and postings have been getting done in a more timely fashion. I personally want to thank Sara once again for all she has done in this regard. I made several attempts to bring the full committee together via phone conference to discuss pertinent matters and to get some activity going within the committee. Unfortunately for various reasons we were only able to get together once via phone conference.

GSO has put out a new video PSA and has distributed it to over 900 media stations worldwide. The video is called "Doors" and can be viewed on the GSO website in the Public Information window. I was asked to come up to Houghton to help put on a service workshop. Unfortunately I had a scheduling conflict, but was able to send to them several pamphlets, books, and Service manuals, all of which fell well under the PI committee's budget. That is all to report for now.

Thank you for letting me be of service.

Jeff D. Interim PI guy

### **Questions and comments**

Bob M., Past Delegate, asked how many hits the website has gotten

Jeff D., Area Committee Chair, He does not know if website has a counter and will check on this with the webmaster.

## **Structures and Guidelines**

Greetings to Area 74 from the Structures and Guidelines Committee,

The Structures and Guidelines committee has been busy over the summer. Today there are three items from the Structures and Guidelines committee that will be up for assembly debate and vote.

At the Area 74 assembly May 16th 2015 the following motion was passed. "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 first item from the Structures and guidelines committee is a recommendation to change Article V, implementing the passed motion from May 16th into the Area 74 guidelines.

The second item, a recommendation to change the duties of the Structures and Guidelines committee, Section 11 of Article IV. This recommendation is simply an outline of how the Structures and Guidelines committee has evolved over the last several rotations, and found a process by which the committee can hopefully best serve the Area. If the area is pleased with the service it has received from the Structures and Guidelines committee, the recommendation explains how that is being accomplished.

The third item is a drafted list of assembly actions named, Assembly actions of Area 74. The list starts with the assembly actions or in other terms, passed motions of Area 74 from the September 27th assembly in 2014. Since then the Structures and Guidelines committee has kept adding assembly actions to the list, and the continuing list is provided today as a draft. It is being brought before the assembly body today for approval. If approved it would become a document of Area 74, and hopefully be continued and saved for future generations.

In closing, we have had the two newly elected incoming S&G committee members on our last conference call, and will be inviting the incoming delegate and incoming area chair to listen in on our next one. There are still things to be discussed before the winter assembly 2016, but alas, that will be for the new committee to undertake with Gods help.

Thank you for allowing this committee the honor and privilege to be of service,

Sincerely,

Joel S.

Area 74 Structures and Guidelines committee chair

Committee Members,

Jason L, Kim R, Mary Jo R, Jeff C.

***No questions or comments***

## **Treatment**

I would like to thank Area 74 for the opportunity to serve as treatment Facilities Chairperson for the last two years. Having a service position at the area level has kept me involved with the assemblies, conferences, and my favorite event, the delegates workshop, where we examine the agenda items to be considered at the General Service Conference in New York.

As the treatment Chair, I was able to facilitate at the delegates workshop each year. During this process, we review, discuss, and make recommendations regarding the workbooks, pamphlets, and films which are produced by GSO for the treatment committees; I set up a monthly conference call for any interest4ed persons.

While we were not a very active as a committee, we were always willing to help whenever asked or needed.

As I am stepping away from serving at the Area level, I will continue to be busy within my home group as well s District 05. Each one of you has become a part of my recovery and I will certainly see you at conferences and other area and district events

Yours in loving Service

Gary S

***No questions or Comments***

**Area 74 - 2015 YTD Revenue/Expense Report**

1/1/2015 through 10/17/2015

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

<b>REVENUE</b>	
Group Contributions	15,337.45
Other Income*	2,241.45
Anniversary & Individual Contributions	668.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>18,246.90</b>

<b>*Other Income</b>	
Refreshment Contributions	84.57
Seed Money Return Spring 2015 Conference	1,000.00
Spring 2015 Conference Gain	1,156.88
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>2,241.45</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Archive Chair Expense	(203.50)
Archive Committee Expense	(576.99)
Area Chair- Alt Del Chair Exp	(777.25)
Area Chair - Alt Del Committee Exp	(274.68)
Assembly/ACM Rent	(350.00)
Coffee and Refreshments	(139.64)
Corrections Chair Exp - MI	(496.17)
Corrections Committee Exp -MI	(58.97)
Corrections Chair Exp -WI	(215.00)
Corrections Committee Exp - WI	(60.94)
CPC Chair Expense	(363.85)
CPC Committee Exp	(16.00)
Delegate Expense	(1,110.00)
ECR Conference	-
Finance Chair Expense	(566.50)
Finance Committee Exp	(419.88)
Grapevine Chair Expense	(574.19)
Grapevine Committee Exp	(452.90)
Literature Chair Expense	(399.56)
Literature Committee Exp	(181.60)
Now and Then Chair Expense	(624.00)
Now and Then Committee Expense	(6,000.00)
Other Expenses**	(2,900.31)
Past Delegates Conference	-
PI Chair Expense	(445.00)
PI Committee Expense	(80.60)
Secretary - Registrar Chair Exp	(527.98)
Secretary - Registrar Committee Exp	(49.06)
Structures & Guidelines Chair Exp	(440.80)
Structures and Guidelines Comm Exp	(288.69)
Treasurer Chair Expense	(477.00)
Treatment Chair Expense	(506.35)
Treatment Committee Expense	(25.00)
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>(19,602.41)</b>

<b>**Other Expense</b>	
Expense to Seat the Delegate @ GSC	(1,600.00)
ECR Hospitality Suite @ International Conference	(350.00)
ECR Trustee Travel Expense	(945.31)
Other Expense (returned check fee)	(5.00)
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>(2,900.31)</b>

**Net Gain (or Loss) This Period** (1,355.51)

<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	
Balance-Checking 10/17/2015	5,063.26
Balance-Prudent Reserve 10/17/2015	3,002.15
<b>TOTAL ASSETS 10/17/2015</b>	<b>8,065.41</b>

Income								
						As of 10/17/15		
Income	2011(Actual)	2012(ACTUAL)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Budget)	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Budget)	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Budget)
Group Contributions	\$14,928.72	\$17,242.53	\$16,038.30	\$17,300	\$19,243.42	\$18,000.00	\$15,337.45	\$19,000.00
Other Income	\$3,485.88	\$3,895.38	\$8,066.27	\$2,000.00	\$3,760.43	\$2,000.00	\$2,241.45	\$2,000.00
Personal Anniversary	\$107.00	\$50.00	\$151.00	\$75	\$264.00	\$150.00	\$668.00	\$200.00
Yearly Beginning Balance	\$15,022.11	\$7,974.03	\$6,518.39	\$6,500.00	\$6,033.97	\$6,500.00	\$6,418.77	\$6,500.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$33,543.71</b>	<b>\$29,161.94</b>	<b>\$30,773.96</b>	<b>\$25,875.00</b>	<b>\$29,301.82</b>	<b>\$26,650.00</b>	<b>\$24,665.67</b>	<b>\$27,700.00</b>
Area Officer and Committee Chair Expenses								
Officer Expenses	2011(Actual)	2012(ACTUAL)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Budget)	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Budget)	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Budget)
Delegate	\$2,600.00	\$1,773.55	\$2,233.94	\$2,600	\$1,678.00	\$2,600.00	\$1,110.00	\$2,600.00
Area Chair-Alt Delegate	\$1,139.50	\$435.00	\$976.80	\$1,300.00	\$861.00	\$1,300.00	\$777.25	\$1,300.00
Treasurer	\$799.36	\$521.80	\$627.50	\$700.00	\$548.00	\$700.00	\$477.00	\$700.00
Registrar								\$700.00
Secretary								\$700.00
Secretary- Registrar	\$719.50	\$415.73	\$669.75	\$700.00	\$509.00	\$700.00	\$527.98	\$0.00
Committee Chairs	\$6,188.47	\$4,707.67	\$5,425.18	\$7,700.00	\$4,404.43	\$7,700.00	\$4,834.92	\$7,700.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$11,446.83</b>	<b>\$7,853.75</b>	<b>\$9,933.17</b>	<b>\$13,000.00</b>	<b>\$8,000.43</b>	<b>\$13,000.00</b>	<b>\$7,727.15</b>	<b>\$13,700.00</b>
Committee Expenses								
	2011(Actual)	2012(ACTUAL)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Budget)	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Budget)	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Budget)
Archives	\$401.80	\$487.48	\$551.00	\$850.00	\$776.08	\$1,025.00	\$576.99	\$1,330.00
Area Chair/Alt Delegate	\$246.10	\$228.08	\$252.60	\$350.00	\$361.76	\$400.00	\$274.68	\$400.00
Corrections Committee MI	\$0.00	\$99.07	\$322.28	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$58.97	\$515.00
Corrections CommitteeWI	\$72.13	\$70.00	\$79.00	\$125.00	\$80.00	\$125.00	\$60.94	\$515.00
CPC Committee	\$0.00	\$108.40	\$61.00	\$125.00	\$141.00	\$1,105.00	\$16.00	\$1,155.00
Finance Committee Expenses	\$652.40	\$382.22	\$452.59	\$500.00	\$391.19	\$950.00	\$419.88	\$1,200.00
Grapevine Committee	\$186.90	\$24.00	\$163.63	\$400.00	\$177.65	\$900.00	\$452.90	\$372.00
Literature Committee	\$0.00	\$88.88	\$35.76	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$400.00	\$181.60	\$400.00
Now & Then Committee	\$5,050.45	\$5,338.18	\$5,500.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$7,000.00
Public Information Committee	\$219.50	\$145.84	\$179.50	\$300.00	\$216.96	\$300.00	\$80.60	\$490.00
Registrar Committee								\$400.00
Secretary Committee								\$400.00
Secretary Registrar Committee	\$344.00	\$147.06	\$188.74	\$400.00	\$169.00	\$400.00	\$49.06	\$0.00
Struc & Guide Committee	\$34.50	\$333.36	\$373.28	\$400.00	\$459.00	\$500.00	\$288.69	\$600.00
Treatment Committee	\$0.00	\$90.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$37.50	\$100.00	\$25.00	\$200.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$7,207.78</b>	<b>\$7,542.57</b>	<b>\$8,259.38</b>	<b>\$10,050.00</b>	<b>\$9,010.14</b>	<b>\$13,330.00</b>	<b>\$8,485.31</b>	<b>\$14,977.00</b>
Other Expenses								
	2011(Actual)	2012(ACTUAL)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Budget)	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Budget)	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Budget)
Seat Delegate	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
Registrar Internet		\$0.00	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$120.00
Assembly & ACM rent			\$350.00	\$300.00	\$550.00	\$600.00	\$350.00	\$600.00
Assembly & ACM expenses			\$205.23	\$300.00	\$329.47	\$400.00	\$139.64	\$400.00
Conference seed money	\$2,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Other\Misc Expenses	\$4,437.89	\$636.91	\$115.00	\$300.00	\$191.98	\$300.00	\$5.00	\$300.00
ECR Conference			\$608.44		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
ECR Trustee Travel (Election Assembly)						\$1,200.00	\$945.31	\$0.00
East Central Regional Forum		\$225.00	\$148.97	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Conf. of Delegates past/present Trustee election every 4 years			\$200.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
International Convention		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
International Convention Hospitality Room donation						\$500.00	\$350.00	\$0.00
Sec/Reg computer/onetimeexpens						\$750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Prudent Reserve		\$600.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,201.03	\$0.00	\$0.00	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$7,637.89</b>	<b>\$6,161.91</b>	<b>\$6,547.64</b>	<b>\$5,820.00</b>	<b>\$5,872.48</b>	<b>\$8,970.00</b>	<b>\$3,389.95</b>	<b>\$5,020.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$26,292.50</b>	<b>\$21,558.23</b>	<b>\$24,740.19</b>	<b>\$28,870.00</b>	<b>\$22,883.05</b>	<b>\$35,300.00</b>	<b>\$19,602.41</b>	<b>\$33,697.00</b>
<b>End of Year Balance</b>	<b>\$7,251.21</b>	<b>\$7,603.71</b>	<b>\$6,033.77</b>	<b>(\$2,995.00)</b>	<b>\$6,418.77</b>	<b>(\$8,650.00)</b>	<b>\$5,063.26</b>	<b>(\$5,997.00)</b>
<b>Prudent Reserve</b>		<b>\$600.00</b>	<b>\$1,800.00</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>	<b>\$3,001.03</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>	<b>\$3,002.15</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>



